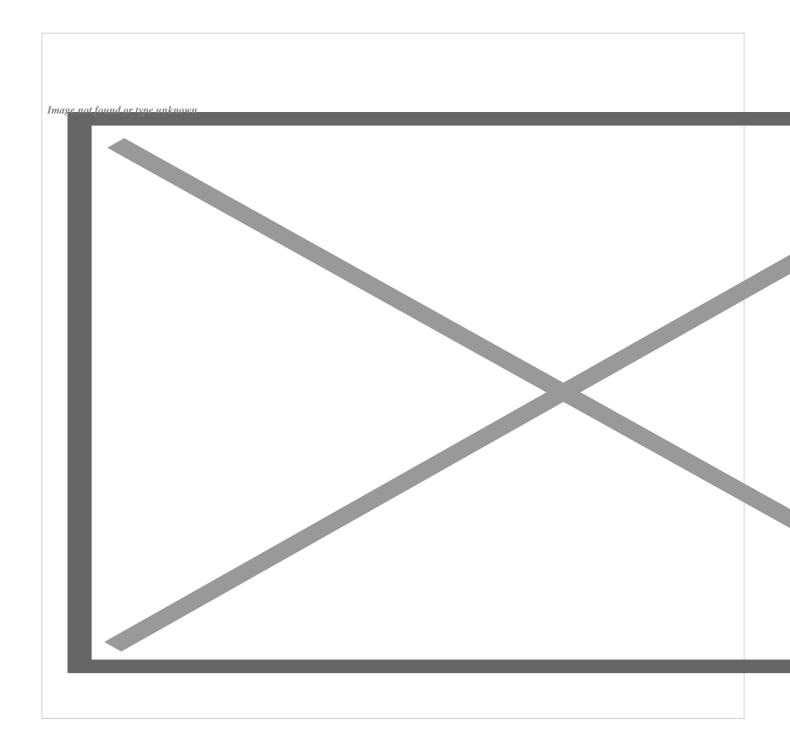
Sinn Féin's Michelle O'Neill becomes Northern Ireland's first Irish Nationalist leader



Belfast, February 5 (RHC)-- History has been made in Northern Ireland as Sinn Féin's Michelle O'Neill has been sworn in to the top post of Northern Ireland's Parliament, marking the first time the position has been held by a politician who supports the reunification of Ireland.

This comes days after the pro-British Democratic Unionist Party agreed to end its nearly two-year-long boycott of the power-sharing government.

Michelle O'Neill spoke over the weekend: "Today opens the door to a future, a shared future. I am honored to stand here as first minister. We mark a moment of equality and a moment of progress, a new opportunity to work and to grow together, confident in that wherever we come from, whatever our aspirations are, we can and we must build our future together."

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