Classified List of Acts in Force in Ireland

Updated to 17 September 2026 (Act No. 36 of 2026 and S.I. No. 477 of 2026)

30. Prisons and Places of Detention

30.1. General Organisation of Prison Service

Justice	Prisons (Ireland) Act 1826	7 Geo. 4, c. 74
Justice	Prisons (Ireland) Act 1840	3 & 4 Vict., c. 44
Justice	Convict Prisons (Ireland) Act 1854	17 & 18 Vict., c. 76
Justice	Prisons (Ireland) Act 1856	19 & 20 Vict., c. 68
Justice	General Prisons (Ireland) Act 1877	40 & 41 Vict., c. 49
Justice	Prison Service (Ireland) Act 1883	46 & 47 Vict., c. 25
Justice	Prisons (Ireland) Amendment Act 1884	47 & 48 Vict., c. 36
Justice	Prisons Act 1898	61 & 62 Vict., c. 41
Justice	Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill-health) Act 1913	3 & 4 Geo. 5, c. 4
Justice[1]	Prisons Act 1933 • Galway Prison Closing Order 1939, S.R.& O. No. 87 of 1939[2] • Waterford Prison Closing Order 1939, S.R.& O. No. 349 of 1939 • Cork Prison Closing Order 1956, S.I. No. 20 of 1956 • Sligo Prison Closing Order 1956, S.I. No. 98 of 1956 • Shanganagh Castle (Place of Detention) (Closure) Order 2002, S.I. No. 620 of 2002 • The Curragh (Closure) Order 2006, S.I. No. 634 of 2006 • Saint Patrick's Institution Partial Closing Order 2013, S.I. No. 459 of 2013 • Wheatfield Prison Partial Closing Order 2013, S.I. No. 512 of 2013 • Saint Patrick's Institution Partial Closing Order 2014, S.I. No. 85 of 2014	51/1933
Justice	Prisons Act 1956	9/1956
Justice	Prisons Act 1970 • Detention of Offenders (Shanganagh Castle) Regulations 1970, S.I. No. 313 of 1970 • Detention of Offenders (Loughan House) Regulations 1973, S.I. No. 60 of 1973	11/1970

[1] Public Exp (in part): see S.I. No. 418 of 2011.

[2] The earlier SIs made under this Act are spent and could be revoked.

	• Detention of Offenders (Training Unit) Regulations 1975, S.I. No. 251 of 1975 • Detention of Offenders (Shelton Abbey) Regulations 1976, S.I. No. 293 of 1976 • Detention of Offenders (Fort Mitchel) Regulations 1985, S.I. No. 104 of 1985 • Prisons Act 1970 (Section 7) Order 1991, S.I. No. 158 of 1991[3] • Prisons Act 1970 (Section 7) Order 1993, S.I. No. 219 of 1993[4] • Detention of Offenders (Unit A Castlerea) Regulations 1996, S.I. No. 361 of 1996 • Detention of Offenders (The Curragh) Regulations 1996, S.I. No. 390 of 1996 • Detention of Offenders (Restrictions on Privileges) Regulations 1997, S.I. No. 116 of 1997 • Detention of Offenders (Castlerea) Regulations 1998, S.I. No. 158 of 1998 • Prisons Act 1970 (Section 7) Order 2013, S.I. No. 223 of 2013[5] • Detention of Offenders (Wheatfield Place of Detention) Regulations 2013, S.I. No. 511 of 2013[6]	
Justice	Prisons Act 1972 • Prisons Act, 1972 (Military Custody) Regulations 1972, S.I. No. 138 of 1972[7] • Prisons Act, 1972 (Military Custody) Regulations 1976, S.I. No. 87 of 1976 • Prisons Act 1972 (Section 3) Order 2001, S.I. No. 461 of 2001	7/1972
Justice	Prisons Act 1977	14/1977
Justice	Prisons Act 1980	6/1980
Justice	Prison Development (Confirmation of Resolutions) Act 2008	10/2008
Justice	Prison Development (Confirmation of Resolutions) Act 2013	28/2013
Justice	Prisons Act 2015 [8] • Prisons Act 2015 (Section 24) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 52 of 2016 • Saint Patrick's Institution Closing Order 2017, S.I. No. 135 of 2017 • Prisons Act 2015 (Commencement) Order 2017, S.I. No. 134 of 2017	57/2015

30.2. Inspector of Prisons

Justice[9]	Prisons Act 2007	10/2007

30.3. Prison Rules

Justice[10]	Prisons Act 2007 • Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) Order 2007, S.I. No. 180 of 2007	10/2007

[3] Expired 28 Jun 1993, this SI should be revoked.

[4] Expired 28 Jun 1995, this SI should be revoked.

[5] Expired 28 Dec 2013, this SI should be revoked.

[6] Revoked S.I. Nos. 135 of 1989 and 218 of 1990.

[7] Responsibility of Department of Defence.

[8] Repealed Prevention of Crime Act 1908 (8 Edw. 7, c. 59), subject to commencement order.

[9] Gaeltacht (in part): S.I. No. 192 of 2011.

[10] Local Gov (in part): S.I. No. 339 of 2020. Gaeltacht (in part): S.I. No. 192 of 2011. Public Exp (in part): see S.I. No. 418 of 2011.

	• Direction Under Section 18(1) Of Prisons Act 2007, S.I. No. 251 of 2007 • Prison Rules 2007, S.I. No. 252 of 2007 • Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) (No. 2) Order 2007, S.I. No. 370 of 2007 • Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) (No. 3) Order 2007, S.I. No. 650 of 2007 • Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) Order 2008, S.I. No. 337 of 2008 • Direction under Section 18(1) of Prisons Act 2007, S.I. No. 240 of 2012 • Prison Rules (Amendment) 2013, S.I. No. 11 of 2013 • Prison (Amendment) Rules 2014, S.I. No. 227 of 2014 • Prison (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 2014, S.I. No. 385 of 2014 • Prison (Amendment) Rules 2017, S.I. No. 276 of 2017 • Prison (Amendment) Rules 2018, S.I. No. 507 of 2018 • Prison (Disciplinary Code for Officers) (Revocation) Rules 2020, S.I. No. 261 of 2020 • Prison (Amendment) Rules 2020, S.I. No. 250 of 2020	

30.4. Temporary Release and Parole

Justice	Criminal Justice Act 1960 • Prisoners (Temporary Release) Rules 1960, S.I. No. 167 of 1960 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Shanganagh Castle) Rules 1970, S.I. No. 312 of 1970 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Loughan House) Rules 1973, S.I. No. 59 of 1973 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Training Unit) Rules 1975, S.I. No. 250 of 1975 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Shelton Abbey) Regulations 1976, S.I. No. 294 of 1976 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Fort Mitchel) Rules 1985, S.I. No. 103 of 1985 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Wheatfield) Rules 1989, S.I. No. 136 of 1989 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Unit A Castlerea) Rules 1996, S.I. No. 360 of 1996 • Temporary Release of Offenders (The Curragh) Rules 1996, S.I. No. 391 of 1996 • Temporary Release of Offenders (Castlerea) Rules 1998, S.I. No. 157 of 1998 • Prisoners (Temporary Release) Rules 2004, S.I. No. 680 of 2004	27/1960
Justice	Criminal Justice (Release of Prisoners) Act 1998	36/1998
Justice	Criminal Justice (Temporary Release of Prisoners) Act 2003 • Criminal Justice (Temporary Release of Prisoners) Act 2003 (Commencement) Order 2004, S.I. No. 679 of 2004	34/2003
Justice	Parole Act 2019 • Parole Act 2019 (Commencement) Order 2021, S.I. No. 405 of 2021 • Parole Act 2019 (Establishment Day) Order 2021, S.I. No. 406 of 2021	28/2019

30.5. Visiting Committees

Justice	Prisons (Visiting Committees) Act 1925	11/1925

	• Prisons (Visiting Committees) Order 1972, S.I. No. 217 of 1972[11]	

30.6. Transfer of Prisoners Internationally

Justice	Transfer of Sentenced Persons Act 1995	16/1995
Justice	Transfer of Sentenced Persons (Amendment) Act 1997	41/1997
Justice	Transfer of Execution of Sentences Act 2005 • Transfer of Execution of Sentences Act 2005 (Designated Countries) Order 2007, S.I. No. 659 of 2007	28/2005

30.7. ECA Section 3 Statutory Instruments

Foreign	European Communities Act 1972	27/1972

[11] Made by the Minister for Defence.