

# Classified List of Acts in Force in Ireland

Updated to 9 April 2026 (Act No. 6 of 2026 and S.I. No. 128 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 <sup>1</sup>	Prisons Act 1933 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Galway Prison Closing Order 1939, S.R. &amp; O. No. 87 of 1939<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Waterford Prison Closing Order 1939, S.R. &amp; O. No. 349 of 1939</li> <li>• Cork Prison Closing Order 1956, S.I. No. 20 of 1956</li> <li>• Sligo Prison Closing Order 1956, S.I. No. 98 of 1956</li> <li>• Shanganagh Castle (Place of Detention) (Closure) Order 2002, S.I. No. 620 of 2002</li> <li>• The Curragh (Closure) Order 2006, S.I. No. 634 of 2006</li> <li>• Saint Patrick's Institution Partial Closing Order 2013, S.I. No. 459 of 2013</li> <li>• Wheatfield Prison Partial Closing Order 2013, S.I. No. 512 of 2013</li> <li>• Saint Patrick's Institution Partial Closing Order 2014, S.I. No. 85 of 2014</li> </ul>	51/1933
Justice	Prisons Act 1956	9/1956
Justice	Prisons Act 1970 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Shanganagh Castle) Regulations 1970, S.I. No. 313 of 1970</li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Loughan House) Regulations 1973, S.I. No. 60 of 1973</li> </ul>	11/1970

<sup>1</sup> Public Exp (in part): see S.I. No. 418 of 2011.

<sup>2</sup> The earlier SIs made under this Act are spent and could be revoked.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Training Unit) Regulations 1975, S.I. No. 251 of 1975</li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Shelton Abbey) Regulations 1976, S.I. No. 293 of 1976</li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Fort Mitchel) Regulations 1985, S.I. No. 104 of 1985</li> <li>• Prisons Act 1970 (Section 7) Order 1991, S.I. No. 158 of 1991<sup>3</sup></li> <li>• Prisons Act 1970 (Section 7) Order 1993, S.I. No. 219 of 1993<sup>4</sup></li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Unit A Castlerea) Regulations 1996, S.I. No. 361 of 1996</li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (The Curragh) Regulations 1996, S.I. No. 390 of 1996</li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Restrictions on Privileges) Regulations 1997, S.I. No. 116 of 1997</li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Castlerea) Regulations 1998, S.I. No. 158 of 1998</li> <li>• Prisons Act 1970 (Section 7) Order 2013, S.I. No. 223 of 2013<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• Detention of Offenders (Wheatfield Place of Detention) Regulations 2013, S.I. No. 511 of 2013<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>	
Justice	Prisons Act 1972 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prisons Act, 1972 (Military Custody) Regulations 1972, S.I. No. 138 of 1972<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• Prisons Act, 1972 (Military Custody) Regulations 1976, S.I. No. 87 of 1976</li> <li>• Prisons Act 1972 (Section 3) Order 2001, S.I. No. 461 of 2001</li> </ul>	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 <sup>8</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prisons Act 2015 (Section 24) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 52 of 2016</li> <li>• Saint Patrick's Institution Closing Order 2017, S.I. No. 135 of 2017</li> <li>• Prisons Act 2015 (Commencement) Order 2017, S.I. No. 134 of 2017</li> </ul>	57/2015

### 30.2. Inspector of Prisons

Justice <sup>9</sup>	Prisons Act 2007	10/2007
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### 30.3. Prison Rules

Justice <sup>10</sup>	Prisons Act 2007 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) Order 2007, S.I. No. 180 of 2007</li> </ul>	10/2007
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<sup>3</sup> Expired 28 Jun 1993, this SI should be revoked.

<sup>4</sup> Expired 28 Jun 1995, this SI should be revoked.

<sup>5</sup> Expired 28 Dec 2013, this SI should be revoked.

<sup>6</sup> Revoked S.I. Nos. 135 of 1989 and 218 of 1990.

<sup>7</sup> Responsibility of Department of Defence.

<sup>8</sup> Repealed Prevention of Crime Act 1908 (8 Edw. 7, c. 59), subject to commencement order.

<sup>9</sup> Gaeltacht (in part): S.I. No. 192 of 2011.

<sup>10</sup> 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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direction Under Section 18(1) Of Prisons Act 2007, S.I. No. 251 of 2007</li> <li>• Prison Rules 2007, S.I. No. 252 of 2007</li> <li>• Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) (No. 2) Order 2007, S.I. No. 370 of 2007</li> <li>• Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) (No. 3) Order 2007, S.I. No. 650 of 2007</li> <li>• Prisons Act 2007 (Commencement) Order 2008, S.I. No. 337 of 2008</li> <li>• Direction under Section 18(1) of Prisons Act 2007, S.I. No. 240 of 2012</li> <li>• Prison Rules (Amendment) 2013, S.I. No. 11 of 2013</li> <li>• Prison (Amendment) Rules 2014, S.I. No. 227 of 2014</li> <li>• Prison (Amendment) (No. 2) Rules 2014, S.I. No. 385 of 2014</li> <li>• Prison (Amendment) Rules 2017, S.I. No. 276 of 2017</li> <li>• Prison (Amendment) Rules 2018, S.I. No. 507 of 2018</li> <li>• Prison (Disciplinary Code for Officers) (Revocation) Rules 2020, S.I. No. 261 of 2020</li> <li>• Prison (Amendment) Rules 2020, S.I. No. 250 of 2020</li> </ul>	
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### 30.4. Temporary Release and Parole

Justice	<p>Criminal Justice Act 1960</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prisoners (Temporary Release) Rules 1960, S.I. No. 167 of 1960</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Shanganagh Castle) Rules 1970, S.I. No. 312 of 1970</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Loughan House) Rules 1973, S.I. No. 59 of 1973</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Training Unit) Rules 1975, S.I. No. 250 of 1975</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Shelton Abbey) Regulations 1976, S.I. No. 294 of 1976</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Fort Mitchel) Rules 1985, S.I. No. 103 of 1985</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Wheatfield) Rules 1989, S.I. No. 136 of 1989</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Unit A Castlerea) Rules 1996, S.I. No. 360 of 1996</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (The Curragh) Rules 1996, S.I. No. 391 of 1996</li> <li>• Temporary Release of Offenders (Castlerea) Rules 1998, S.I. No. 157 of 1998</li> <li>• Prisoners (Temporary Release) Rules 2004, S.I. No. 680 of 2004</li> </ul>	27/1960
Justice	Criminal Justice (Release of Prisoners) Act 1998	36/1998
Justice	<p>Criminal Justice (Temporary Release of Prisoners) Act 2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal Justice (Temporary Release of Prisoners) Act 2003 (Commencement) Order 2004, S.I. No. 679 of 2004</li> </ul>	34/2003
Justice	<p><b>Parole Act 2019</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parole Act 2019 (Commencement) Order 2021, S.I. No. 405 of 2021</li> <li>• Parole Act 2019 (Establishment Day) Order 2021, S.I. No. 406 of 2021</li> </ul>	28/2019

### 30.5. Visiting Committees

Justice	Prisons (Visiting Committees) Act 1925	11/1925
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prisons (Visiting Committees) Order 1972, S.I. No. 217 of 1972<sup>11</sup></li> </ul>	
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### 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transfer of Execution of Sentences Act 2005 (Designated Countries) Order 2007, S.I. No. 659 of 2007</li> </ul>	28/2005

### 30.7. ECA Section 3 Statutory Instruments

Foreign	European Communities Act 1972	27/1972
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<sup>11</sup> Made by the Minister for Defence.