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In the same way as Unionists have defined their identity in terms which transcend the confines of NI & which links & ties to the Brit. people as regards the work of gov. & payoffs as essential to the expression of that identity to the nat. community defines its identity in terms which extend beyond NI itself.

Note on "the right of the involvement of the Irish government in the affairs of Northern Ireland" (Par. 26 of our 'Analysis' document)

1. This right of the Irish government to be involved in the affairs of Northern Ireland persists in and derives from the existence of the nationalist community in that part of Ireland.
2. The nationalist community is a very sizeable section of the people of Northern Ireland; from the outset they have only reluctantly accepted the partition of Ireland (~~a minority of nationalists have never accepted partition~~) and, in the beginning, did so in the belief that partition would be a short-lived phenomenon.
3. The nationalist community identifies with the people and government of the South in the sense that it sees itself part of that wider Irish community in the rest of the island which values its Irishness in a special way and aspires to unity between all traditions of Irish people within a framework of justice and reconciliation.
4. This right of the Irish government was 'activated' most directly from the late nineteen-sixties with the onset of the civil rights movement and the political crisis that has ensued.
5. The right was clearly acknowledged by the British government of the day at Sunningdale and in the intensification of inter-governmental contacts which evolved since then, most notably from the early eighties. The most formal recognition of the right, on the part of the British government, was enshrined in the Anglo-Irish Agreement of 1985. This recognition has persisted in the development of the mechanisms for inter-governmental contact established by that Agreement.

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Nat. perceive themselves - & always have as an integral part of the indivisible family in the island & Ireland.

6. While the forms and the mechanisms for inter-governmental contact can be modified, changed and developed to suit varying circumstances and developments, ~~such changes would not and could not remove~~ <sup>the fact remains that the Dublin gov. is involved.</sup> "the abiding right of the Irish government" to continue to be involved in the affairs of Northern Ireland.

7. The existence of this right does not and should not inhibit the establishment of institutions in Northern Ireland in which both communities can play a full and effective role. The forms and the mechanisms by which this right continues to be exercised will, of course, take due account of any such developments.

As is ~~usually~~, naturalists consider the mutual  
interaction across all levels of  
life between that water "fauna"  
to stand as ~~an~~ ~~actual~~  
essential to full expression of  
their identity.