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[Skip to content...](#)

text size:  

[Skip to content...](#)

- [links](#)
- [contact me](#)
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- [documents](#)
- [press releases & speeches](#)

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25 February 2009

Statement from Traditional Unionist Voice MEP Jim Allister:

“Nigel Dodds and the DUP are trying to bluff the people in pretending that they are determined to change the definition of victim to exclude perpetrators of violence. This is a Stormont matter, the DUP claims to control Stormont so why in the last two years have they not changed the definition? Quite simply, because they have surrendered an absolute veto on this matter to IRA/Sinn Fein and so long as Belfast Agreement devolution continues so long will this veto exist.

“The bill establishing the Victims Commission, if adequately drafted, could have made the change but as part of their deal with Sinn Fein the DUP did not press the issue. They failed then and they continue to fail to deliver on this vital issue for innocent victims.”

 **NI politics**

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- [Allister responds to latest milk auction results](#)
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- [100 days to Verdict on Terrorist-inclusive Government](#)
- [Dodds trying to bluff electorate on victims](#)

Topics

- [2009 EU election](#)
- [Agriculture and Environment](#)
- [Archive](#)
- [Elections](#)
- [EU Constitution](#)
- [EU Parliament](#)
- [Fishing](#)
- [General](#)
- [NI politics](#)
- [Peace Funding](#)
- [Terrorism](#)

Archive

- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)

- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)
- [December 2006](#)
- [November 2006](#)
- [October 2006](#)
- [September 2006](#)
- [August 2006](#)
- [July 2006](#)
- [June 2006](#)
- [May 2006](#)
- [April 2006](#)
- [March 2006](#)
- [February 2006](#)
- [January 2006](#)
- [December 2005](#)
- [November 2005](#)
- [October 2005](#)
- [September 2005](#)
- [August 2005](#)
- [July 2005](#)
- [June 2005](#)
- [May 2005](#)
- [April 2005](#)
- [March 2005](#)
- [February 2005](#)
- [January 2005](#)
- [December 2004](#)
- [November 2004](#)
- [October 2004](#)
- [September 2004](#)
- [August 2004](#)
- [July 2004](#)
- [June 2004](#)
- [May 2004](#)
- [April 2004](#)
- [March 2004](#)

- [Top](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Accessibility](#)