



Professor Peter Robinson



Peter Robinson was First Minister of Northern Ireland from 2008 until his retirement in 2016. Prior to this, he served as Minister for Regional Development and Minister for Finance and Personnel in the Northern Ireland Executive.

He has been involved in Northern Irish politics for over 40 years – over 30 of them as MP for Belfast East. He was a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Belfast East from 1998 until 2016, and Leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) from 2008 until 2015.

Mr Robinson began his political career as General Secretary of the DUP from 1975 to 1979. He was elected as a councillor on Castlereagh Borough Council in 1977, before being returned as MP for Belfast East in the 1979 general election.

He was elected as Deputy Leader of the DUP in 1980. He served as Chairman of the Environment Committee and elected to an earlier incarnation of the Northern Ireland Assembly in 1982.

Mr Robinson was Minister for Regional Development between 1999 and 2002, and then Minister of Finance and Personnel, 2007 to 2008, succeeding Ian Paisley as party Leader and First Minister in 2008.