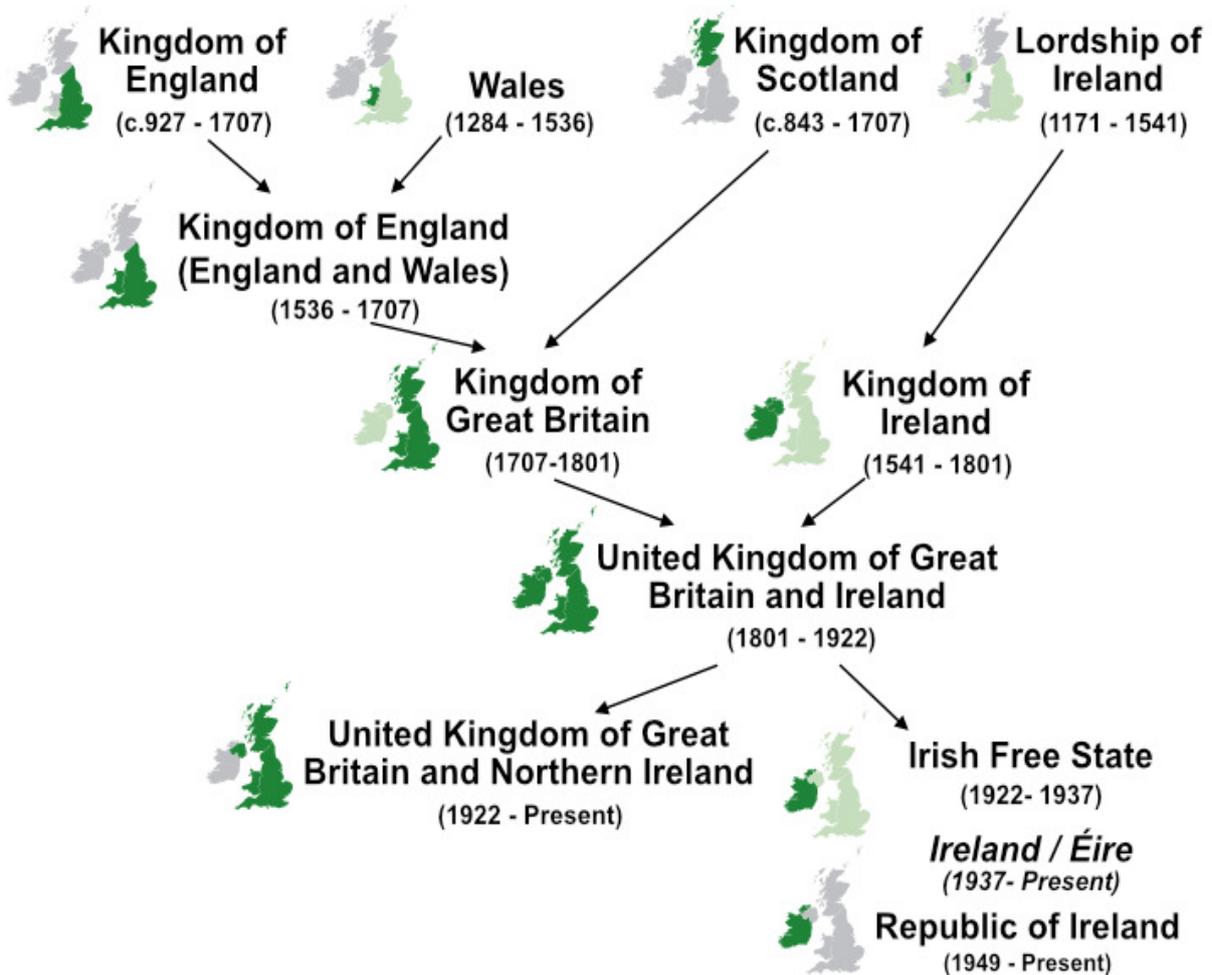


**THE HISTORY OF THE FORMATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**



The formation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has involved two major unions across the British Isles. Firstly, there were two kingdoms (the kingdom of England and the kingdom of Scotland) and two states (Wales and Lordship of Ireland). By the start of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the number of states had been reduced. Namely, the Kingdom of England included Wales; i.e. Wales became under the control of English monarchs. Besides, the Lordship of Ireland became a kingdom. After this, the Union of Crowns in 1603 which implies the union of the kingdoms of England and Scotland resulted in the emergence of the Kingdom of Great Britain. Then, the Act of Union in 1800 united the Kingdom of Great Britain with the Kingdom of Ireland. The result was the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Finally, the independence for the Irish Free State was in 1922.