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**January**, 2008 Sinn Féin Mid Ulster MLA Francie Molloy has said that the war is over and encouraged people to focus on winning the peace including addressing key issues such as victims and survivors and how we deal with the past.

Mr Molloy was commenting on reports that the group set up to examine ways of dealing with the past may recommend that the British government acknowledge that it was involved in a war.

Mr Molloy said:

"Few will deny the reality that we lived through terrible times in which the lives of many thousands of people were lost. This hurt and suffering will not be addressed by denying the reality of our history.

"There is no dispute that the British government fought a war, it was a key protagonist in the war and should rightly acknowledge its role.

"It is hypocritical of unionists, who have been fixated on the words 'the war is over', to now try and claim that we have lived through anything other than a war.

"The war is over, now our focus should be on winning the peace including addressing key issues such as victims and survivors and how we deal with the past." ENDS

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