This work deals with the question of whether, in the case of terrorist radicalization of Northern Irish Catholics (being both national and a religious minority in the Northern Ireland and de facto also in the UK) during 'The Troubles', was ideology only a function of Catholics' socio-economic grievances, or a standalone, individually decisive factor. The thesis explores the motivations for terrorism as they are stated in personal testimonies, group surveys, or other sources. The theory of Radicalization Puzzle, viewing the radicalization as a complex non-linear combination of four variously strong categories of reasons (grievances, ideologies, networks and support structures) is used. After establishing the definitions of terrorism and minority status, exploring the Irish-British history and the validity of minority status of Northern Irish Catholics, the paper brings together the stated reasons for radicalisation and combines them in a "mental map." Several broad categories of reasons are identified and overlaid with the Puzzle categories. It is found that grievances were a big motivational factor for terrorism, but they were overwhelmingly of social kind, mostly sectarian or state violence. Economic grievances as a dominant radicalising factor were very rare. The Republican ideology has also been a factor, being disseminated through the community. It is only to a limited extent, however, that Republican ideology can be considered a function of these socio-economic factors as it is an independently existing product of history (which could be considered a social-economic factor only in a broad sense of the term.). Thus, the Republican ideology as a radicalizing factor was not, in any significant way, a function of economic grievances, but was, along with being a sufficient radicalizing factor on its own for some, to a degree, a function of social grievances manifest predominantly in the form of various levels of sectarian and state violence, which seemed to unjustly and disproportionately target the minority community.