

International Conference
**New Ways of Engagement and the International Context:
Northern Ireland and Ireland**

Belfast, Northern Ireland

3-4 November 2022

Organisation: Faculty of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences, Ulster University in coordination with Centre for Irish-German Studies, University of Limerick and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), Dublin/London.

This multi-disciplinary conference will focus on three aspects:

- 1) A consideration of the relationship between Northern Ireland and Ireland in the context of Partition and a century of separate development, including reflections on the Irish situation in comparative international perspective.
- 2) An analysis of attitudes to Northern Ireland and Ireland, within both jurisdictions and from the UK, including in literary representations of change.
- 3) An exploration of the development of key public policy and services in Ireland and Northern Ireland, and of the extent of cross-border co-operation as well as their co-production and co-delivery.

Thursday 3 November

2.00pm Welcome and Opening of the Conference

Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Christina Black
Vice Chancellor of Ulster University, Prof. Paul Bartholomew
German Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Cord Meier-Klodt
Mariko Higuchi, Deputy Head of Department for Economic and Global Affairs, German Embassy London
Matthias Barner, Director Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung UK & Ireland
Prof. Gisela Holfter (Centre for Irish-German Studies, University of Limerick)
Prof. Paul Carmichael (Ulster University)

2.30pm – 4.00pm – Session 1 Chaired by Prof. Deirdre Heenan (Ulster University)

Understanding Cross-Border Relations in Ireland and the International Comparative Perspective - Roundtable

Dr. Anthony Soares, Director Centre for Cross-Border Studies
Anthony Harbinson, Northern Ireland Board Member for the Food Standards Agency, and the Chair of the NI Food Advisory Council
Mark Hanniffy, Joint Secretary to the North South Ministerial Council
Richard Hill, Joint Secretary to the North South Ministerial Council
Charles Flanagan, TD, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee in Dáil Éireann

4.30pm – 5.45pm – Session 2 Chaired by Prof. Katy Hayward (Queen’s University Belfast)

Public Policy I – Analysing Public Policy, North and South of the Irish border

Dr. Bernadette Connaughton (University of Limerick) – Perspectives on Environmental Policy from North and South

Prof. Paddy Gray (Ulster University) – Housing Policy in Northern Ireland and Ireland

Prof. Deirdre Heenan (Ulster University) – Health Policy in Ireland and Northern Ireland

Friday 4 November

9.00am – 10.30am – Session 3 Chaired by Prof. Fidelma Ashe (Ulster University)

Changing Ireland – Thoughts on the Future of Irish Identities and Relations

Prof. Jon Tonge (University of Liverpool) - Stabilizing Northern Ireland’s political institutions

Prof. David Phinnemore (Queen’s University Belfast) - Getting Heard on the Protocol

Prof. Katy Hayward (Queen’s University Belfast) - Identities in Northern Ireland after Brexit and the Protocol.

Prof. Pól Ó Dochartaigh (National University of Galway) - Reflections on Irish-British Identities

10.45am - 12.15pm – Session 4 Chaired by Prof. Jan Jędrzejewski (Ulster University)

Literary & Cultural Reflections on Cross-Border Relations and Questions of Identity in Ireland, North and South – Readings and Roundtable

Jan Carson, Northern Irish writer

Donal Ryan, Irish writer

Prof. Gesa Stedman (Centre for British Studies, Humboldt University of Berlin)

Prof. Liam Murray (University of Limerick)

1.15pm – 2.45pm – Session 5 Chaired by Prof. Joachim Fischer (University of Limerick)

Public Policy II - Analyzing Public Policy, North and South of the Irish border

Dr. Noel Purdy (Stranmillis University College) – Education Policy in Ireland and Northern Ireland

Prof. Anne-Marie Gray (Ulster University) – Social Care Policy in N.I. and Ireland

Caitriona Mullan Cross-border development consultant - Shared Island Report

2.45pm – 3.45pm - Concluding Roundtable Chaired by David Donoghue, former Irish Diplomat

New Ways of Engagement: Northern Ireland and Ireland

Claire Hanna, MP, SDLP

Ian Paisley, MP, DUP

Charles Flanagan, TD, Fine Gael

John Gormley, Former Leader, Green Party

Declan Kearney, MLA, Sinn Féin

Sorcha Eastwood, MLA, Alliance Party