New IBIS Publications

Christopher Farrington launched his new book, *Ulster Unionism and the Peace Process in Northern Ireland*, published by Palgrave MacMillan, at a conference hosted by the Institute for British-Irish Studies on 15th June. The book is the first study to examine the political positions of Unionists in relation to the Northern Ireland peace process and to explain the changing dynamics of Ulster Unionist politics. It addresses why Unionists have been so reticent about political change and how this affects the search for a lasting settlement in the Northern Ireland conflict.

Other Publications

Meanwhile, IBIS researchers have published in: *Theory and Society; Political Studies; Irish Political Studies; Ethno-politics and other journals*

Mailing List: Would you like to receive regular information on IBIS activities, publications, lectures, etc.

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The IBIS Annual Conference on ‘Human Rights and Security: Lessons from the Past for the Future’ was held on 27 April 2006.

The conference was opened by Mr Michael McDowell, Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, who was welcomed by the President of the University, Dr Hugh Brady.

The Minister gave a wide-ranging opening address in which he discussed the dangers of international terrorism and the Irish response. Mr McDowell emphasised the strong human rights protection in the Irish Constitution, the ways in which the Irish government has learned from its earlier experience in dealing with terrorism, both in the methods that are effective and in the need to revise aspects of early legislation that breach contemporary liberal standards. Mr McDowell also gave an expansive analysis of the contemporary Northern Ireland situation, while condemning the disruption of the loyalist march in Dublin in February. After a substantive contribution, he answered questions from the audience.

Noel Dorr chaired the first academic session, where Ted Honderich discussed the definitions of terrorism and the moral principles by which it should be assessed. Developing the notion of ‘principle of humanity’, he argued that the foundation of Israel was justified, 9/11 was unjustified, Palestinian resistance to present Israeli policies is justified, and that whilst 7/7 was understandable, it was unjustified.

Attracta Ingram questioned whether Honderich’s ‘principle of humanity’ was sufficient for the moral job to which he put it. She argued for introducing the notion of dignity of humanity. She pointed out that resistance to ethnic states might be better justified on non-ethnic and non-national (cosmopolitan) than on ethnically-grounded grounds. A lively interchange with the floor followed, with the audience willing to dispense with their coffee break in order to participate in the discussion. In the next panel, Colin Harvey (QUB) outlined the process of ‘mainstreaming’ human rights in Northern Ireland, arguing that substantive arguments today take place in the language of human rights.
Graham Ellison (QUB) gave a detailed discussion of the changes in the policing system, drawing lessons from Northern Ireland: that there are no quick security solutions:that Northern Ireland exemplifies both international best practice, and worst practice. Christopher Farrington as discussant raised the question of the relational character of rights, and – as the conference was running overtime – Ciaran Cuffe had to leave – chaired the ensuing discussion. After lunch, a lively roundtable addressed the tensions and potentially contradictory imperatives of human rights and security. Monica McWilliams, Chief Commissioner with the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, argued that the rights were at the core of institutions for conflict transformation and that an understanding was to address human rights violations in the past. She argued that the mainstreaming of human rights in education was of particular importance. Barry McSweeney of the CRDP pointed out the effect of counter-terrorist measures on the criminal justice system in the Irish State. Catherine Frost of McMaster University, Canada, argued that there could be unexpected effects of human rights discussions which start from a two ‘communities’ perspective, and not the more general issues, as happened in Canada.

Elizabeth Meehan, of QUB and UCD, pointed out the deliberate attempt to enshrine universal human rights, above nationalism and unionism, in the Good Friday Agreement. In the final panel of the day, Paddy Hillyard of QUB and William de Burgh of the CRDP on comparative qualitative research involving extensive interviewing to argue that there is a clear gender difference in conflict memory, which is often seen as a ‘man’s word’. Colm Campbell of the Transitional Justice Institute UUJ, discussed the interaction of power and law in the international arena, with a major impact on how international law is framed and framed in turn. He focussed on the conflict. Graham Finlay of UCD discussed the normative assumptions implicit in the papers. During the reception which followed, the preliminary report of the research project on Intergenerational Transmission and Ethnordial Identity in the Irish Border Area was launched by Elizabeth Meehan, with Karen Trevv of QUB thanking her. The conference was supported by the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation of the European University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation. Professor Attracta Ingram was the Academic Convener of the conference.

**Latest Working papers**

The IBIS pre-publication working paper series is based on work in progress. Individual papers are available from IBIS (a small charge applies to multiple orders). Since last issue, the following additional working papers have appeared:


56. - John Coakley, Brian Ó Caoidhealbhán and Robin Wilson, *The Operation of the North-South Implementation Body*.

57. - Stephen Roper, Cross Border and Local Cooperation on the island of Ireland: an Economic Perspective.

58. - Jennifer Todd, *A Puzzle Concerning Border Communities and Identities: Towards a Typology of Attitudes to the Irish Border*.


60. - Cormac Ó Gráda & Brendan M Walsh, *Did (and does) the Irish Border Matter?*


62. - Kevin Howard, Diasporas and Ambiguous Homelands: A Perspective on the Irish Border.

63. - Eoin Magennis, Patricia Clarke & Joseph Shiels, Funding Support for Cross Border and North-South Cooperation on the Island of Ireland, 1982-2005: an Overview.

64. - Alessia Cividin, Rich Cross Border Cooperation: The Case of the Northwest Region.

65. - Elizabeth Meehan, Borders and Employment: Opportunities and Barriers.

66. - Kevin Howard, Nationalist Myths: Revisiting Heslinga’s ‘The Irish Border as a Cultural Divide’.


68. - Brian Ó Caoidhealbhán, Citizenship and Borders: Irish Nationality Law and Northern Ireland.

69. - Katy Haywood, Contention, Competition and Crime: Newspapers’ Portrayal of Borders in the North-West of Ireland.

70. - Kevin Howard, Continuity and Change in a Partitioned Civil Society: Whyte Revisited.

71. - Kevin Howard, *Territorial Politics and Irish Codetermination*.

72. - John Bradley, *An Island Economy or Island Economies? Ireland after the Belfast Agreement*.

73. - John Bradley, *Industoral Development in Ireland, North and South: Case Studies of the Textile and Information Technology Sectors*.


**IBIS Update**

Dr Peter McLaughlin was recently awarded an IRCHSS Post-doctoral Fellowship with the Institute for British-Irish Studies commencing on 1st October 2006. His area of study is John Hume and the Revision of Irish Nationalism. The project will critically assess the efforts of the former SDLP leader, John Hume, to revise certain tenets of traditional Irish nationalist thinking.

Michael Anderson has been awarded a Government of Ireland Doctoral Scholarship with the Institute for British-Irish Studies.

Susan Muldoon was appointed the new IBIS Administrator in December 2005. She is a UCD graduate and has worked as an administrator in UCD for eleven years.

Dr Kieran Rankin, former Post-doctoral Fellow at the Mapping Frontiers Project successfully completed his PhD entitled “The evolution and entrenchment of the Irish Border, 1911 - 1926: a political Prior to joining AIB, he was Assistant Secretary to the Revisiting Heslinga Fellowship. He was Secretary to the Commission on Taxation 1980-1985 and a member of the Barrington Committee on Local Government Reorganisation and Reform (1990). He was a member of the Commission of Financial Management and Control Systems in the Health Service.

Dr Noël Doir is Former Secretary General, Department of Foreign Affairs. As one of the most outstanding civil servants in the history of this state, Noël Doir has continued to play a key role in international affairs. He was chair of the IBIS Board 1999 - 2005.

Professor Ronan Fanning is acting Professor of Modern History in UCD where he teaches an MA on the history of British-Irish relations in the School of Politics and International Relations and, to that end, was recently a Visiting Fellow at Peterhouse, Cambridge. He is a member of the Governing Authority of UCD and a member of the Senate of the National University of Ireland and of the Governing Authority of University College Dublin.

Ms Inez McCormack, recently retired as Regional Secretary of Unison Northern Ireland, has been active in the Northern Ireland civil rights movement for many years. She has played a key role in the labour union and human rights movements as a activist and campaigns nationally and internationally in particular the field of economic and social rights.

Professor Monica McCullagh is currently the Director of the Irish Human Rights Commission. She was a former member of the Assembly when she was part of the Women’s Coalition, South Belfast.

Sir George Quigley is the Chairperson of the Board. He obtained a PhD in a medieval ecclesiastical history from Queen’s University, Belfast. Entering the Northern Ireland Civil Service in 1960 he was Permanent Secretary, successively, of the Departments of Manpower Services, Commerce, Finance, and Personnel. In 1989 he became Chairman of Ulster Bank. He also served on the Main Board of Nat West and as Chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Mr Tony Reilly has been Director of the British Council in Ireland since 2002. He Commissioned “Through Irish Eyes” in 2003. He has a first degree in Sociology & English.

The Lord Ballyedmond, Dr Edward Haughey, is a Northern Irish businessman and politician. He was educated by the Christian Brothers in Dundalk, County Louth. He has been Chairman of the Newry based Norbrook Laboratories and Norbrook Holdings since 1980.

Mr Conor Brady served as the editor of The Irish Times for 16 years. He is currently the Ombudsman for the Garda Commission and Chairperson of the British-Irish Association.

Dr Maurice Bric is Chairperson of the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences and a Member of the Higher Education Authority and the Royal Irish Academy. He lectures in History at UCD specialising in the history and culture of 18th century Ireland and America.

Professor John Coakley is one of the founding directors of the Institute for British-Irish Studies. He is principal investigator in the Mapping Frontiers Plotting Pathways Project which was funded by the Peace II Programmes for Peace and Reconciliation, under the North-South initiatives by the HEA and SEUPB.

Professor Mary E Dally is the Principal of the College of Arts and Celtic Studies in UCD. Her doctoral research was carried out at Nuffield College Oxford. She has been a member of the UCD Faculty since 1973, and has also held visiting positions at Trinity, Cambridge, and Boston College.

Dr Dónal Ó Buíligh is General Manager, Office of the Chief Executive, AIB Group.