**Rethinking Political Authority**

**Politics, Law and Freedom**

This two day workshop probes the concept of political authority. Its underlying concern is the question of individual freedom in relation to law and politics. It asks whether authority can be non-authoritarian and, if so, under what conditions. In doing so, it addresses questions of political obedience and disobedience. It also considers the changing contours of political authority in the contemporary world.

Confirmed Speakers/Panellists: Eoin Carolan (UCD), Maeve Cooke (UCD), Eva Erman (Stockholm), Carol Gould (CUNY), Laurence Davis (UCC), Adam Kelly (York), John McGuire (UCD), Paul McLaughlin (Limerick), Bill Scheuerman (Indiana), Quentin Skinner (Queen Mary, UL), Tracy Strong (Southampton)

**Programme:**

**Friday:**

9.45am: Welcome address: Maeve Cooke

10am-11.10am: Quentin Skinner, “How Should We Think about Freedom?” (Chair, Maeve Cooke)

11.10am-11.30am: Coffee/tea

11.30am-12.40pm: Maeve Cooke, “Political Authority and Freedom” (Chair, Brian O’Connor)

12.40pm-2pm: Lunch

2pm-3.10pm: Group discussion of text led by Adam Kelly (Hannah Arendt, “What is Freedom?”)

3.10pm-3.30pm: Coffee/tea

3.30pm-4.40pm: Carol Gould, “Relational Freedom and the Sociality of Authority” (Chair, Iseult Honohan)

4.45pm-5.55pm: Tracy Strong, "Authors and Authorities" (Chair, Joseph Cohen)

*Dinner for speakers/panellists/chairs*

**Saturday:**

10am-11.20am: Panel Discussion: "Freedom and the State" (Laurence Davis, John McGuire, Eoin Carolan) (Chair, Brian O’Connor)

11.20am-11.45am: Coffee/tea

11.45am-12.55pm: Bill Scheuerman, “Civil Disobedience in the Shadows of Postnationalization and Privatization” (Chair, Maeve Cooke)

12.55pm-2.15pm: Lunch

2.15pm-3.25pm: Eva Erman, “Global Political Legitimacy beyond Justice and Democracy?” (Chair, Richard Collins)

3.25pm-3.45pm: Coffee/tea

3.45pm-5.15pm: Roundtable Discussion: "Political Authority and Freedom": Concluding Reflections: Quentin Skinner, with response by Paul McLaughlin

*Dinner for speakers/panellists/chairs*

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