

UCD SCHOOL OF SOCIAL POLICY,
SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL JUSTICE

**RESEARCH
HIGHLIGHTS
BULLETIN
Sept 2022 | NO. 12**



Focus On New Research

Irish Research Council (IRC) Postgraduate Employment Partnership award, 2022



Dr Joe Mooney, Asst. Prof. (Social Work) is acting as supervisor to Ann Ryan who has been awarded an Irish Research Council Postgraduate Employment Partnership award. This IRC programme provides a unique national initiative linking researchers with workplace experience in an employment partner – in this case, Tusla, Child and Family Agency – with the opportunity to pursue research in collaboration with a higher education institution while based in, and employed by, their employment partner. Ann is undertaking a doctoral study entitled "Developing Survivor-Led Child Abuse Intervention and Practice: The EU Victims Directive, Retrospective Child Sexual Abuse Disclosure and Social Work Procedure". Prior to admission to the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice PhD programme, Ann was coordinator of domestic, sexual and gender based violence services at Tusla.



Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate and Prof. Steve Gordon (Veterinary Medicine), Erasmus+ ICM funding with counterparts in Hokkaido University (HU), Japan

This successful Erasmus+ ICM funding led by **Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate** and Prof. Steve Gordon (Veterinary Medicine), will bring together the UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice (SPWJ), the UCD College of Health and Agricultural Sciences (CHAS) and the Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Public Policy (HOPS) and the Graduate School of Infectious Diseases under the theme of 'One Health'. One Health is a globally used conceptual approach (<https://www.who.int/features/qa/one-health/en/>) which seeks to maximise the health and well-being of humans, animals and the environment through academic excellence, collaborative research, education and outreach. The need for such a holistic approach has been starkly highlighted by the emergence of SAR-CoV2 and COVID-19. One Health is a key research focus of UCD's strategy and underpins our mission to deliver on UN SDG targets through synergising research strengths in biomedical, environmental and policy research; creating strategic academic partnerships; communicating One Health activities across academia and society. One Health is also a HU research priority, with a dedicated graduate school and research centre, and the recently created HU International Institute for Zoonosis Control. This application is aiming to consolidate research and teaching linkages with HU (ranked 139th internationally and 8th in Japan in QS 2021 Ranking), creating a partnership that delivers our ambitious One Health goals.

Our School has been closely linked to HU's Public Policy Graduate School (HOPS), which since 2013 has funded Masters students to study at UCD for three-month periods on the International Shamrock Scholarship Programme. In 2016, UCD established the multidisciplinary academic group 'UCD Japan', and HU sent 20 undergraduate students to UCD. Erasmus+ ICM funding in 2017 enabled both universities to carry out undergraduate and staff exchanges.

In 2020, the multidisciplinary UCD Centre for Japanese Studies was established in the School, creating a new elective module called 'Gateways to Japan'. Academic leads at SPWJ and HOPS hope to advance joint study/research in One Health policy through the following mobilities. The proposed mobilities are: one incoming and one outgoing PhD mobilities for three months each, and one teaching staff in each direction for one week each.

By building partnerships with a highly-regarded research intensive university such as Hokkaido, the desired impact at individual researcher level, institutional level and societal level is to foster future researchers, practitioners and leaders in the areas of exchange of One Health, eldercare, gender, social work, and Japanese studies. Another desired impact of this mobility project is to institutionalise research networks between Japan and Ireland and to encourage innovation in the field of One Health. The SPWJ is ideally located to offer an English-speaking hub for social science-based knowledge exchange and innovation across EU, Asia, and US public policy streams in One Health.

Swedish Research Council Grant (SRCG) awarded to EXCEED Research Network Researchers including UCD Dr Alan Maddock

The Swedish Research Council has awarded research funding to a team of five international



Swedish
Research
Council

researchers including [Dr Alan Maddock](#) for a project which focusses on supporting the mental health and wellbeing of people with physical disabilities in Cambodia.

This project is a follow up to a pilot research project, co-led by Dr. Maddock, which was funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (UK Research and Innovation). The four other

researchers for the SRCG award include Professor Neriolin Ramstrand, Jönköping University, Sweden; Dr Nil Ean, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Sisary Kheng, Exceed-Worldwide, Cambodia and Dr. Paul Best, Queen's University, UK.

The research project in Cambodia aims to implement mental health screening at the three Exceed Worldwide Comprehensive Physical Rehabilitation Centres in Cambodia and to support clients' mental health through peer support programs. Cambodia has had the highest proportions of disabled people in the world because of political conflicts that left the country with a high number of landmines in the 1960s and 70s. These have since remained for decades and injured a large part of the population. People with disabilities also have a greater risk of experiencing a secondary health, physical or mental health problems. These people are often among the poorest of the poor. Therefore, researchers will address the poorest and most vulnerable individuals who have a combination of physical and mental disorders.

COST Action Parental Leave Policies and Social Sustainability



Dorota Szelewa, Asst. Prof. in social policy, is participating in a new funded COST Action Parental Leave Policies and Social Sustainability (Sustainability@Leave).

Dorota is a Management Committee member representing Ireland. See the link to the action's website here:

<https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA21150/>

The Action aims to advance and disseminate research and knowledge about the significance of paid parental leave (PPL) for the social sustainability of societies. Our aim is to set the scene for future PPL research from the new perspective of social sustainability while making the field more coherent across disciplines and beyond academia. The main challenges are to build the network, identify and fill gaps in PPL research, develop a future-oriented and cross-disciplinary PPL terminology, and facilitate future research by closing the PPL data gap. Five Working Groups (WGs) will be established to focus on: (1) The development of a theoretical framework; (2) the identification of social inequalities through PPL policies; (3) the relevance of PPL for child development; (4) providing a future-oriented PPL terminology and (5) the expansion of PPL data.

The initial network will consist of 32 members from 22 countries. The Action is dedicated to making the network more interdisciplinary, involving more Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC), Near

Neighbour Countries (NNC) and International Partner Countries (IPCs), and attracting participation from Young Researchers. The network will actively engage in efforts to minimize the gender gap in European PPL research and also ensure timely and close collaboration with Specific Organisations relevant to PPL research and policymaking. To fill the PPL data gap, stakeholders from European survey organizations will be approached. The network will disseminate knowledge of PPL policy as a component of social sustainability for academics at all career stages as well as for stakeholders from Specific Organisations, policymakers, companies, and the broader public.

New Appointments

New lecturer in Social Work: Dr Alan Maddock has been appointed as an Ad Astra Fellow/Assistant Professor in Social Work at the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice. Alan is a professionally qualified social worker who worked for a number of years as a mental health social worker with persons experiencing homelessness, and subsequently as youth mental health social worker with a large voluntary agency which supports the mental health needs of young people. In 2014, Alan was awarded a prestigious Health Research Board funded PhD Scholarship with the Structured Population and Health-services Research Education (SPHeRE) programme. From this programme, Alan was awarded his PhD in Psychology from Trinity College, Dublin in 2018. Alan's PhD research questions focussed on, if, and how mindfulness-based programmes improve psoriasis, anxiety, depression and psychological wellbeing. Prior to joining UCD, Alan worked in Queen's University, Belfast (2018-2021) and Trinity College, Dublin (2021-2022) as an Assistant Professor in Social Work.

Alan's research expertise spans the topics of Mental Health, Mindfulness, Health and Social Care Professionals and the Populations they serve based on research undertaken in Cambodia, the United Kingdom, and the Ireland. Alan is currently principal investigator on two internationally funded research projects: 1) the development and implementation of a mental health screening and intervention programme for persons with physical impairments in Cambodia, funded by the Swedish Research Institute, and 2) the effectiveness of the mindfulness-based social work and self-care programme (a programme developed by Alan based on his PhD research) in supporting stress, burnout, anxiety, depression, psychological wellbeing and reflective social work practice of social workers in Northern Ireland, funded by the Office of Social Service, the Department of Health, Northern Ireland. Alan's latest publications can be found here: [Alan Maddock Publications | University College Dublin \(ucd.ie\)](#)

New Board appointment for Dr Aisling Swain: Aisling Swaine was appointed to the Board of the Foyle Family Justice Centre in Derry/Londonderry, Northern Ireland. The first of its kind in the UK or Ireland, the Foyle Family Justice Centre is a multiagency and multidisciplinary 'one-stop' service to provide support to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. It opened with a launch on September 1st, 2022. See further information at the following link:

https://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2022/09/02/news/centre_for_domestic_and_sex_violence_victims_opened_in_derry-2816195/

New Editorial Board appointment for Dr Dorota Szelewa: Dorota Szelewa was appointed an Editorial Board member of the Journal of European Social Policy, which is a leading journal in the field of social policy

Past Conference/Other Events: June – Sept 2022

3rd UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022), Barcelona (18th – 22nd May 2022)

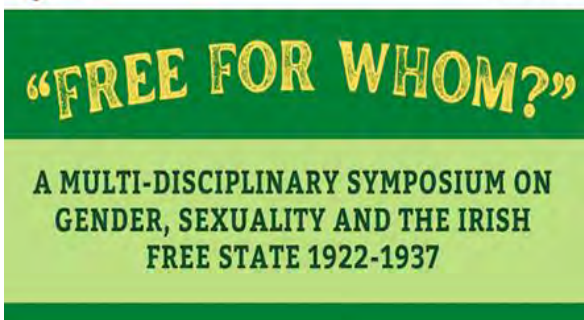


Orla Kelly and her project collaborators gave an invited presentation entitled 'Coping with Catastrophe through Collaboration: Reflections from the WUN consortium 'Education in a Warming World' (Worldwide University Network and University College Dublin) on the role of Institutes of Higher Education in the era of Climate Breakdown to the 3rd UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022) which gathered 2,500 higher education stakeholders and government leaders in Barcelona, Spain, from 18 to 22 May 2022. (See conference website for more information: <https://www.unesco.org/en/education/higher-education/2022-world-conference>).

'Free For Whom?': A Multi-disciplinary Symposium on Gender, Sexuality and the Irish Free State 1922-1937, Maynooth University (Monday, June 20, 2022)



Maynooth University
Sexualities and
Genders Network



Dr Mary McAuliffe was the plenary speaker - giving a talk entitled 'The public and private afterlives of Irish revolutionary women in the first decades of the Irish Free State' at 'Free For Whom?': A Multi-disciplinary Conference on Gender, Sexuality and the Irish Free State 1922-1937' hosted by Maynooth University on 20th

June, 2022. The symposium addressed from various perspectives the role of genders and sexualities in the Irish Free State, formed in 1922. Bringing together these various disciplinary perspectives, it explored the lived reality, particularly for women and sexual minorities in the new State, and the values, policies, laws, practice, and literature to genders, gender identities, and sexualities. While acknowledging the often restrictive (and indeed oppressive) values of the new State, it also highlighted acts of creativity, dissent and resistance, alongside diverse experiences of living, loving and being in the new State (and outside it, given the emigrant experience of many Irish people of that era). The multidisciplinary conference included attendees from all fields including, for example, politics, history, sociology, literature, law, education, media studies, and gender studies (amongst others). See full conference details [here](#)

Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, Northern Ireland Executive Office (TEO), Innovation Lab (21st June 2022)

On June 21st [Dr Aisling Swaine](#) presented her research: 'Northern Ireland Troubles: Considering the Nuance of Gendered Harm' to a briefing session to inform the development of a new Strategy on Violence Against Women in Northern Ireland. The objective of the workshop was to share insights from current research on VAWG, and for the information provided to be included in the literature review by the Innovation Lab to inform the development of Northern Ireland's Strategy on VAWG.

International Workshop & Symposium: 'Future Technologies and Integrated Care' Nihon Fukushi University, Tokyo, Japan (Hybrid), (19 June 2022)

[Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate](#) together with his HarP Team hosted the International Workshop & Symposium, Nihon Fukushi University, Tokyo, Japan (Hybrid), 19 June 2022. The HarP:RoCS team includes Dr Sarah Donnelly, Dr Hasheem Mannan (UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems) and Dr Diarmuid O'Shea (St Vincent's University Hospital). The symposium was attended by approx.. 100 people (30 in-person attendees & 70 online).

Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) Conference on Human Trafficking (June 21st, 2022)

The [inaugural conference of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission \(IHREC\)](#) was held on June 21st to coincide with the publication of its' National Anti-Trafficking Report. The conference saw Europe's leading anti-trafficking figures from the EU, OSCE and Council of Europe speaking about the State's anti-Trafficking response. Ruth Breslin, researcher on UCD's [SERP](#) spoke on the theme of compensation for victims of trafficking and presented findings from their study [Confronting the Harm](#) on the impacts of commercial sexual exploitation on women and girls' physical, sexual, reproductive and mental health. The Conference launched the Rapporteur's Evaluation of the Implementation of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive in Ireland, which acknowledges and cites SERP's work – more details [here](#).

On 19th September UCD [SERP](#) team including Assoc. Prof. Marie Keenan and researcher Ruth Breslin participated in the National Rapporteur's stakeholder consultation on recent developments in addressing human trafficking and, particularly, the General Scheme of the forthcoming Criminal Justice (Sexual Offences and Human Trafficking) Bill.

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) Conference, 34th Annual Meeting; Amsterdam, the Netherlands (9 – 11 July 2022,)

Three Social Policy colleagues gave a presentation at the SASE conference in Amsterdam:



Anderson K (2022) Greening Pension Finance in Denmark. Panel: Pension Funds and Sustainable Investment.

Köppe S (2022) A House to Live and Pay for Care: Wealth and Nursing Home Policy. Panel: The Policies and Politics of Gendered Wealth Accumulation.



Kodate N (2022) Can care robots support ageing in place? Key stakeholders' perspectives on enabling assistive technology and users' quality of life. Panel: Care-Led Innovation: The Case of Eldercare in Japan, France and Ireland.

For further information please refer to the following website: <https://sase.org/event/2022-amsterdam/>

Workshop "Eurasian research team on Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health" (CTSH) (12th July 2022)



Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate gave an invited talk at the symposium 'Science and Technology Studies – Europe versus Asia' at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, EHESS, Paris, France, on the 12th of July, 2022. It was held as part of a week-long workshop "Eurasian research team on Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health" (CTSH). This project has members from France, Germany, Ireland, Canada, India, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan, and will continue until 2024 For further information see . <https://ctsh.hypotheses.org/>

Men's Development Network New Conversations Symposium (28th July 2022)

On the 28th of July Ruth Breslin presented at the [New Conversations Symposium](#) to mark 25 years of the Men's Development Network by exploring how men can be agents of change in creating a safer, healthier, more respectful and equal society. Ruth spoke on the role of sex buyers in fuelling the expansion of the commercial sex trade, drawing on our research on sex buyers' attitudes and behaviours. You can watch the playback of her contribution [here](#).

All-Party Working Group on UNSCR 1325, Women Peace and Security, Northern Ireland Stormont Assembly. 'Barriers to women's participation in public life in Northern Ireland: Findings from research with women in public office' (6th Sept, 2022)

Aisling Swaine and co-author Catherine Turner were invited to brief the 'All-Party Working Group on UNSCR 1325, Women Peace and Security' at the Northern Ireland Stormont Assembly on 6th September, 2022. Members of the Assembly (MLAs), the Police Service of Northern Ireland, civil society, and public sector actors were present. Research was presented with a view to influencing the inclusion of violence against women in public life in the forthcoming Strategy on Violence Against Women for Northern Ireland.

Sexualised Violence in the Troubles: Briefing to The Troubles Permanent Disablement Scheme - Victims' Payments Board (31st Aug, 2022)

Aisling Swaine was invited to brief Mr Justice McAlinden, the President of the Victims Payments Board and board members on understanding sexualised harm in the context of Northern Ireland's Troubles to inform the board's decision-making with respect to claims for reparation and payments. This was a significant opportunity to inform the board's understanding of the ways that gendered and sexualised harm directly and indirectly related to the Troubles took place. The presentation was based on over a decade of research on these issues in Northern Ireland and the recent publication *Resurfacing Gender: A Typology of Conflict-Related Violence Against Women for the Northern Ireland Troubles*.

Tackling Harassment of Women in Public Life

Hosted by MLA Cara Hunter at the Stormont Assembly, the event was co-organised by the Women's Resource and Development Agency, 50:50 NI, Durham University and University College Dublin. Professor Aisling Swaine and co-author Dr. Catherine Turner presented their research [At the Nexus of Participation and Protection: Protection-Related Barriers to Women's Participation in Northern Ireland](#).

Algeria – Ireland: Resistance Cultures Festival, Dublin (16-18 September 2022)



Dr Mary McAuliffe was one of the speakers at the 3-day Algeria Ireland 2022 Resistance Cultures Festival which was curated by Professor Martin Evans (Sussex University), Dr Mairéad Ní Bhriain (MIC, Limerick), Dr Dónal Hassett (UCC) and Dr Aoife Connolly (TU Dublin). 2022 marks one hundred years since the independence of the Irish State and sixty years since Algerian independence. Bringing together Algerian and Irish photographers, filmmakers, musicians, dancers, scholars and writers for the first time, this three-day festival will explore the common anti-colonial resistance histories across these two key moments in the global end of European Empires. Exploring identities, violence, memory, futures, and women's histories, this unique cross-cultural conversation of rare screenings and performances.

Launch of IRC-funded research – Gender Equality and Sexual Consent in the Context of Commercial Sexual Exploitation (Sept 21st, 2022)

Funded by the Irish Research Council *New Foundations Grant Scheme*, and headed up by Assoc. Prof. Marie Keenan, this project is a collaborative initiative between civil society and academia, bringing together Ireland’s largest representative organisation for women, the National Women’s Council (NWC), and UCD [SERP](#), to explore commercial sexual exploitation, with a view to building evidence to strengthen the advocacy goals of NWC and its members on this critical issue. Specifically, the study aimed to develop a theoretical framework on prostitution with NWC which is compatible with their goal of achieving gender equality, respects individual choice and sexual autonomy, and recognises how individuals are constrained in their choices by structural, socio-economic and cultural forces. In consultation with NWC members and directly informed by their views and experiences, this study aimed to develop a critical understanding of consent within the prostitution contract and whether the buying of sexual access to some women’s bodies undermines the movement for meaningful sexual consent for all.



The study was launched on 21st September by Deputy Ivana Bacik TD, Chairperson of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Gender Equality and welcomed by a panel of speakers chaired by Noeline Blackwell, CEO of Dublin Rape Crisis Centre. Chair of SERP Assoc. Prof. Dr Marie Keenan and Ruth Breslin, Lead Researcher, introduced the study and presented its findings. The final report can be accessed [here](#).

Community Foundation for Ireland’s All-Island Convening, Dundalk (Sept 27–28, 2022)



Ruth is picture here with US Ambassador to Ireland, Clare D. Cronin

On September 27th & 28th, researchers from UCD [SERP](#) attended the [All-Island Convening](#), Dundalk funded by the Community Foundation for Ireland. This event brought together thought leaders, changemakers as well as donors and funders from both home and abroad to share and celebrate 30 cross-border civil society partnerships which are strengthening communities with the support of the Community Foundation for Ireland’s All-Island Fund. Ruth Breslin, SERP researcher contributed to a panel discussion on tackling gender-based violence from an all-island perspective, alongside contributors from Belfast & Lisburn Women’s Aid, AkiDwA and the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre.

Upcoming Seminars/Events

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (UCD-JaSt) 'Mediatization of Japanese Politics: the changing nature of political communication'

Speaker: Prof. Iwao Osaka (UCD-JaSt / Komazawa University, Tokyo)

Discussant: Mr Paul Murphy (RTE)

Date/Time: Thu 13 October 2022, 6-7:30pm

Venue: SCIH 1.37 – Lynch Th F (O'Brien Centre)

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies
Hybrid Event - Seminar

UCD Japan

UCD Japan Fair 2022

Mediatization of Japanese Politics: the changing nature of political communication

遠坂 巖著
日本政治とメディア
テレビの登場からネット時代まで

Prof. Iwao Osaka
UCD Centre for Japanese Studies
Komazawa University, Japan

Thursday 13th October 2022 at 6:00pm [IST]

Register at [fbc](#)

experience japan
UCD JAPANESE SOCIETY
IRELAND JAPAN ASSOCIATION

Futures Thinking: From the predictive to the productive

October 20th and 21st 2022, TCD (open to public) and UCD (invitation only)

The Equality Studies Centre (specifically Marie Moran and Karen Smith) has been centrally involved in the organisation of a large cross-institutional event on futures thinking.

Futures Thinking

20th October 4-7pm, Trinity College Dublin

A Public Event with leading thinkers on how to imagine and prepare for the future

Speakers

Geoff Mulgan (University College London)
author of *Another World is Possible*.

Zoltán Simon (Bielefeld University) and **Marek Tamm**
(Tallinn University) Co-directors of the *Historical Futures Project*.

Julie Ramirez Blanco (University of Barcelona) on *Real Utopias*

Sophie Howe (Future Generations Commissioner for Wales)
on *Future Generations Legislation*

Panel on *Intergenerational Dialogues*:

John Barry, (Queens University Belfast), **Rebecca Braun** (University of Galway),
Fionn Fitzpatrick and **Toto Daly** from *Fridays for Future*

Registration Free: eventbrite.com/e/futures-thinking-tickets-425353231967

Sponsorship

UCD Earth Institute
UCD Geary Institute
UCD Humanities Institute
UCD School of Business
Trinity Centre for Environmental Humanities
Trinity Business School

Trinity Centre for Social Innovation
UCD Centre for Innovation, Technology
and Organisation
UCD Centre for Business and Society UCD Research
UCD Equality Studies Centre

Overview: We are living in an era of cross-cutting crises – political (the emergence of powerful forms of authoritarianism and the renewed threat of fascism), economic (the continued growth of extremes of inequality coupled with run-away financialisation), cultural (an explosion of conspiracy theories, ‘echo chambers’ and a public sphere wrought by ‘culture wars’), bio-political (pandemics and the threat of new ones) and environmental (the already-happening global warming, biodiversity loss and ensuing climate chaos). There is a wide-spread awareness of these crises, with many people not only acutely conscious of current and impending disasters, but actively disabled by a sense of impotence in face of their almost certain inevitability.

This conference does not therefore seek to impress

upon us the scale of the crises facing us, but rather offer an intervention in ‘futures thinking’ that will enable us to better address some of these challenges. It engages centrally with the question of why it is that social, political and economic thinking seems to be beset by short-termism and immediate interests. And it asks: How can we think about the future across values, philosophies, disciplines, and generations, in a way that is not simply predictive but productive?

The conference will be free. The Thursday evening part of the conference will be a public event and held in Trinity, while the Friday event (all day) will be invite-only and held in UCD (c. 50 attending). The Thursday event is a scene-set for Friday which will be more discursive and open-ended. We’re keen on having speakers from different disciplines and want to facilitate cross-disciplinary conversations about the future.

Please email marie.moran@ucd.ie if you would like to attend the Friday event, but please be aware that places are limited.

Dublin Festival of History, October 1, 2022 (5-6pm)

Sister Against Sister: Women and the Irish civil war (Big Weekend)

Organised by Dublin City Council

Panel Discussion: Dr Leeann Lane (DCU); [Dr Mary McAuliffe \(UCD\)](#); Dr Margaret Ward (QUB) and moderated by Dr Fionnuala Walsh (UCD)

Overview: The civil war in Ireland was not only ‘brother against brother’. Cumann na mBan, the nationalist women’s organisation was the first to vote against the Treaty after it had been passed by Dáil Éireann while in the Dail, the 6 female TDS all voted for rejection with Mary MacSwiney’s lengthy speeches a notable feature of the debate. Why did Cumann na mBan reject the Treaty and what role did women play in a war where their contribution led to over 500 women being imprisoned by their former comrades? Why were women denounced as ‘furies’, with measures enacted by the Free State to force their return to the home.



Leading historians of Irish women’s history will reflect on events leading to civil war and the contribution made by women to the war – from both sides of the divide. Gender-based violence, trauma and the legacy of war are new areas of study, enhanced by archival evidence and the writings of former activists. Has the Decade of Centenaries fully acknowledged the complexities and extent of women’s participation?

In addition to the contribution of the panellists the audience will be invited to ask questions and reflect on what they have heard.

All Big Weekend Tercentenary Hall events will be live streamed on the Dublin City Libraries YouTube page. No booking required for online attendees. This event will be live streamed [here](#) Even listing [here](#)

Upcoming Conferences/Workshops/Symposiums



IRAAL Conference 2022 “Building bridges through Applied Linguistics” –
30 September -1 October 2022, Cork & Tralee, Munster Technological University.
<https://www.ittralee.ie/en/IRAALConference2022/>

Ijichi N (2022) So, who’s in charge of Japanese language teaching and knowledge dissemination in Ireland?

Kodate N (2022) Cultures, languages and patient safety: Healthcare practitioners’ attitudes to incident data in England and Japan.

18th EuGMS (European Geriatric Medical Society) International Congress 2022 "Better together: Multidisciplinary team working" - 28-30 September 2022, London (hybrid).

Obayashi K, Kodate N, Kondo H, Okamoto Y, Ishii Y, Nonoda T, Yasukawa T, Masuyama S (2022) Do enhanced assistive technologies lead to better quality of life in nursing homes? The case of improved remote monitoring system with interactive communication function. Poster.

ISCP (Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists) Annual Conference 2022 – 14 October 2022, online.

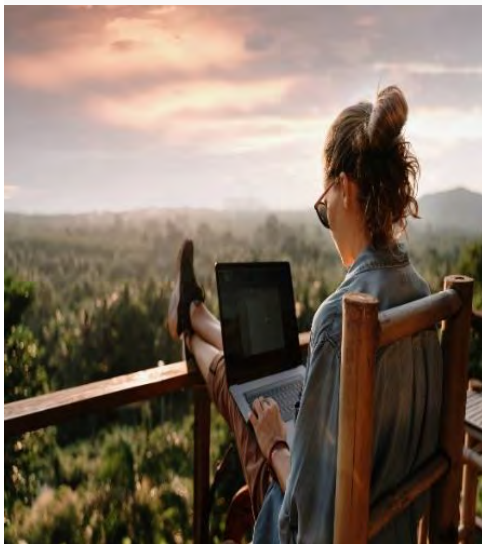
Kodate N, Ross E, Kohli P, McGinn C, Scott R, Maeda Y, Treusch P, Donnelly S, Leonard C, Cogan L, Mannan H, O’Shea D, Obayashi K, Masuyama S (2022) Understanding the use of assistive robots in care settings: A case of an original air disinfection robot in Ireland. Poster.

Latest Media reports: Newspapers/Radio/TV

 THE IRISH TIMES

‘Let’s Work Less and Save the Planet’ Four-day work week allows people to engage in less carbon-intensive consumption

Dr Orla Kelly, Irish Times ‘Opinion’ (Fri Jun 10th, 2022)



This is the critical decade for climate action. Meeting our overdue emissions reduction targets will require energy transitions and technological advances but also sociocultural and lifestyle changes, social organising, and increased public engagement with environmental issues. A key challenge for our society will be finding ways to meet these environmental targets while protecting and promoting wellbeing. The international 4-day week movement — which centres around the 100-80-100 model: 100 per cent of the pay for 80 per cent of the time in exchange for 100 per cent productivity — offers an opportunity to do just that.

First, evidence suggests that working less improves our wellbeing. Unsurprisingly, there are direct health benefits associated with working less. Namely, those with shorter

working hours have more time to sleep, eat better and exercise, thereby improving health outcomes. Those who work fewer hours also report increased subjective wellbeing, such as life satisfaction. One potential explanation for gains in wellbeing is that those who work less have more “time affluence”, which is associated with better social relations, increased time spent on physical and leisure activities and, ultimately, increased happiness. For example, recent evidence from the city of Gothenburg’s “right to part-time” policy found that working less improved quality of life through gains in time affluence, energy, health and time spent on strengthening social ties for both higher- and lower-income groups.

Work-time reduction may also be particularly good for working women. Because of caring responsibilities, women tend to favour more flexible work arrangements. However, in many cases, part-time work has been found to limit women’s career prospects and reinforce inequalities within the home. A universal work time reduction policy may offset these disadvantages because the programme applies to all employees regardless of gender or parental status, thereby increasing the “unpaid” labour force and decreasing the stigma associated with flexible work. This is particularly relevant in the Irish context, where more than half of working women avail of part-time working arrangements.

Not only is reduced work time not tied to increases in environmental stress, there is considerable evidence that reducing work time might lead to emissions reductions. Research has shown that longer working hours are positively associated with a state's ecological footprint, carbon footprint, carbon emissions and energy consumption. Relatedly, national household-level studies have revealed a positive relationship between hours worked and energy-intensive consumption, conspicuous expenditure and non-sustainable lifestyles. Conversely, working less creates opportunities for people to engage in less carbon-intensive consumption and more pro-environmental behaviours such as meal planning to reduce waste or even growing food. There are also opportunities for people to engage in circular economy practices, such as learning how to upcycle clothes or furniture.

Perhaps most significantly from an environmental perspective, reduced work time provides individuals and communities more time to engage in climate action. Recent research from the Environmental Protection Agency shows that a large majority (85 per cent) of Irish people are worried about climate change, and more than half are willing to volunteer time to an organisation working on climate change or engage in political actions to limit climate change. Political engagement can take many forms. For some, it might involve becoming involved in nonviolent civil disobedience, such as supporting our youth in the Friday's for the Future strikes.

For others, political activism could take a more traditional form, such as contacting local representatives or attending public consultations on environmental-related matters. Such forms of public participation can drive policy implementation, keep public representatives accountable for their political commitments, and provide progressive leaders with a mandate for change. Others may spend their free time engaging in environmental education or community greening initiatives. Such activities build social trust and community cohesion and can help offset feelings of eco-anxiety.

Regardless of what form of climate action people may take on their day off, if any, reduced work time offers our society the opportunity to prioritise our wellbeing while creating the necessary space to make the behavioural, sociocultural and institutional change needed to help address the intensifying environmental crises.

'Is it time for Ireland to consider degrowth?'

Dr Orla Kelly, Irish Times 'Opinion' (Wed Aug 10th, 2022)

The logo for The Irish Times, featuring the letters 'IT' in a black square followed by the text 'THE IRISH TIMES' in a bold, sans-serif font.

Achieving the low-carbon transition without exacerbating social inequality is a considerable challenge for Governments. As debates about how best to undertake this process intensify across high-income nations, three divergent policy pathways are emerging.

The first and most common approach to transitioning to a low carbon future relies heavily on so-called "green growth" policy proposals. These policies usually involve a combination of market-incentive tools, such as carbon taxes, cap-and-trade schemes and subsidies for resource-efficient innovation. Such approaches are positioned as a viable way to maintain economic growth while mitigating its environmental impact. This ecomodernist-inspired approach tends to rely heavily on market forces and the promise of future or imagined technological innovations to create a pathway

to a sustainable future. It was recently exemplified by the focus on the role of technology in reducing the scale of the agriculture sector's pollution in debates concerning sectoral emissions targets in Ireland.



The approach is often framed as a Just Transition in the Irish context — the concept that no one — particularly affected workers — should bear a disproportionate share of the burden of shifting to a low-carbon economy

However, implementing technical fixes without adequate consideration of the existing underlying social inequalities tends to burden the most disadvantaged in society further. The Government recently learned this lesson with the home car changing grant. In July, they loosened the terms of eligibility for home electric vehicle (EV) chargers, having previously excluded those renting and living in apartments from the scheme.

Such oversights can be costly. They erode trust in the Government and create opportunities for interest groups to misrepresent social and ecological objectives as contrary to the interests of wider population. Further, the overarching issue of the inadequacy of market and technological innovation to negate the problematic relationship between a growth-orientated economy and the planet's environmental limits remains unaddressed with such policies.

Of course, many policymakers are attentive to social considerations when proposing changes to environmental policy. Approaches that overtly attempt to align social and ecological objectives from the outset are sometimes called the “Green New Deal” (GND) approach. The Green New Deal approach is inspired by US president Franklin D Roosevelt’s New Deal in the 1930s which involved a range of projects and initiatives aimed at rebuilding the US economy. The Green New Deal is widely embraced as a policy platform by a coalition of progressive politicians, policy think tanks, and non-profit groups in the US and, more recently, in Europe. The approach is often framed as a Just Transition in the Irish context — the concept that no one — particularly affected workers — should bear a disproportionate share of the burden of shifting to a low-carbon economy. While social considerations and public participation form part of this agenda, successful implementation remains a considerable challenge.

Recent research into the low-carbon energy transitions among peat workers in County Offaly — who will lose their jobs as a result of a policy shift away from the use of peat as a fuel — revealed that there are considerable challenges in translating the theory of a just transition into practice, primarily due to the absence of a structured process. While this approach tends to be more attentive to questions of social justice such as employment and inequality, it usually stops short of questioning viability of the current economic system.

The degrowth perspective couples socio-ecological policy intervention with an emphasis on cultural transformation

Degrowth is the third emergent policy paradigm. The central premise of the approach is that high-income nations should plan for a slower economic growth rate by focusing on those sectors of the economy that promote wellbeing while downscaling resource-intensive productive and consumptive activities. Proponents maintain that economic growth makes it more difficult, if not impossible, to accomplish emissions reductions within the necessary timescale and highlight the unsustainability of the consumption of raw materials associated with a growth-orientated global economic system.

In addition, advocates of degrowth argue that the reduction in environmental stress related to slower growth in higher-income nations makes space in the global carbon budget for those in low-income countries to raise their standard of living. In contrast to the green growth and GND approaches, the degrowth perspective couples socio-ecological policy intervention with an emphasis on cultural transformation, such as less intensive consumption and grassroots community initiatives. Examples include community currencies, time banks, open software collectives, and cohousing and eco-communities.

While the notion of reorientating our national economy may seem radical to some — the term emerged from a counterculture movement in France — the approach is gaining traction in more mainstream arenas. For example, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s second working group, “Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability,” released in February of this year, explicitly mentions degrowth 15 times. Further, many of the central tenants of the degrowth approach are reflected in the underlying principles of the Wellbeing Economy Governments, a collaboration of national and regional governments committed to re-centering economies around wellbeing as opposed to growth.

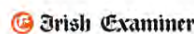
While the real-world implementation of economic, social and environmental policies does not fit neatly into one of these three approaches, we must be reflective and deliberative on how we might best track our path to a low carbon future. Doing so allows us to take the interdependence of social and ecological goals seriously. Conversely, politicised siloed and reactive environmental policies risk undermining the trust in our institutions and negate the possibility of securing the public buy-in needed to make the far-reaching technological, economic, and social changes required to secure a liveable future.

Op-Ed, Irish Examiner, Wed 27th July 2022



Ruth Breslin, researcher with UCD [SERP](#) published an Op-Ed in the Irish Examiner on Wed 27th July, 2022, entitled 'Zero tolerance for off- and online pimping as trafficking hits the headlines'. A link to the article can be found [here](#)

'Women are not seen as human beings' - Sex trade impacts gender equality Sally Gorman, journalist with the Irish Examiner (Wed 21st Sept 2022)



Based on: Gender Equality and Sexual Consent in the Context of Commercial Sexual Exploitation: A study by the Sexual Exploitation Research Programme UCD, in collaboration with the National Women's Council) launched on Sept 21st, 2022

"Women – they are not seen as human beings, but more as a product. And the reality is that once you see something as an object as opposed to another human being, it takes away the humanity in women and presents them as that object that can be paid for, that can be bought. There is no way a man will see an object as being equal to him, a man." That is the conclusion of one migrant support provider who took part in a roundtable discussion on prostitution organised as part of a study by the National Women's Council and [UCD's Sexual Exploitation Research Programme \(SERP\)](#).

The study explores attitudes to the sexual exploitation of women and girls in the commercial sex trade in Ireland, and its impact on gender equality. Aspects that participants were keen to dispel are that prostitution helps to lift women out of poverty or that sexual consent is something that can be bought. The study found that "entering the sex trade might provide a 'temporary fix' for women in dire financial circumstances by giving them access to cash quickly but say in the long term it is an unlikely escape route from poverty."

Participants admitted that "while the sex trade may provide a woman with money, it can take many things away from her at the same time – such as her physical and mental health, her relationships with family and friends and sometimes even how she values herself."

A migrant rights advocate said: "I don't think it really helps [women] get out of poverty.

"Instead, it pushes them into more poverty levels and at the same time leaves them with lifetime consequences as well, which are both physical and psychological."

In terms of consent it found that the sex trade, including pornography, "actively promotes the view of women as products or assets and cements a sense of male entitlement to sexually access women's bodies".

A gender-based violence service provider said: "We are constantly talking about consent.

“We talk about it in terms of reproductive rights, in terms of bodily autonomy, in terms of choice, in terms of ‘you’re not allowed to touch me’, consent, consent, consent.

“And if you put money into the transaction, effectively you are trying to buy consent.

“And when you have somebody who’s in a precarious situation where they are economically desperate, or whether they’re under third-party control, or whatever those circumstances are, that is a really unequal power dynamic.”

The report states that there was a “firm agreement” amongst participants that prostitution is a form of gender-based violence due to the “power imbalance” that exists between the buyer and the seller.

Several participants highlighted the fact that the number and nature of acts involved in prostitution are “traumatic” and cause “harm to their physical, sexual and psychological health”. Others noted that “desperate circumstances such as poverty drive women to take risks they never normally would, within a trade that is rife with violence.”

A minority ethnic support service provider who took part said: “I think a lot of time the easy thing for society or government or education to do is to concentrate on telling young girls or women how to be safe.

The Roundtables lasted over two hours and were recorded over Zoom for the purposes of transcription.

The sex trade is heavily gendered, and migrant women make up an average of 84% of women in prostitution across 13 European countries. In Ireland, the profile of women in the sex trade, estimated to be 1,000 women at any one time, is of young, vulnerable migrants from the Global South and impoverished regions of Central and Eastern Europe.

You can read the full article [here](#)

**Woman describes four years in sex trade as ‘being willingly raped for money’,
Ellen Coyne, Irish Independent (Wed Sept 21st 2022)**

Irish Independent 

Based on : Gender Equality and Sexual Consent in the Context of Commercial Sexual Exploitation: A study by the Sexual Exploitation Research Programme UCD, in collaboration with the National Women’s Council) launched on Sept 21st, 2022

Websites that let men rate and review women that they have paid for sex should be shut down, a National Women’s Council (NWC) event has heard.

Mia Doring, who spent four years in the sex trade up until her early 20s, said she would describe her experience in the trade as being “willingly raped for money, for four years”.

Ms Doring, who was speaking at the launch of a NWC report on sex work, said one of Ireland’s biggest escort websites let men “rate” her out of five stars for “value for money” and “satisfaction”.

“That is horrible, and people in general don’t know that that’s a thing,” Ms Doring said.

“They’ll rate you out of five stars, and then write their little comments saying what they thought of the experience. And whether it’s positive or negative comments, it’s all disgusting.”

Earlier this year, Justice Minister Helen McEntee criticised such websites after it emerged that an escort service encouraged men to live out their “war-inspired” fantasies by paying for sex with Ukrainian women.

After the outbreak of the war, the website reported a 250pc increase in searches for Ukrainian women. It was on the same website where Ms Doring was “rated”.

Ms McEntee said the Government wanted to shut down such websites, but this proved difficult as their servers were often based abroad.

Speaking at the same event today, Tanya Ward of the Children’s Rights Alliance said she believed that upcoming legislation to regulate online media and service providers should be able to block “illegal” websites to help “disrupt” the sex trade.

“The tech industry will be able to devise a solution,” Ms Ward said, adding that the technology to do so “does exist”.

Since 2017, it has been illegal to pay for sex in Ireland. The legislation that banned the purchase of sex is currently under review by the Department of Justice.

Proponents of it say that it is designed to eliminate demand for sex work, but opponents argue that it makes sex work more dangerous by driving it underground.

The 2017 law also doubled the penalties for “brothel keeping”. But this has been criticised by those who argue that two sex workers who chose to live together for safety reasons face prosecution for brothel keeping.

Ruth Breslin, one of the lead researchers at the Sexual Exploitation Research Programme at UCD, and who led the NWC report, said the number of people who were prosecuted for brothel keeping was small. Ms Breslin said that in her view, when someone was convicted of brothel keeping it was often a “genuine case” of a pimp.

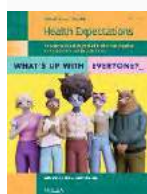
Last week, Independent.ie reported that women who were prosecuted for brothel keeping will not have their offences expunged under a Department of Justice plan to erase 600 “sale of sex” convictions to help those who were exploited or trafficked.

While organisations like the NWC and Ruhama support the 2017 law, sex work advocacy and human rights groups have campaigned against it.

Speaking at the NWC event, Danielle McLaughlin of Ruhama said the 2017 law needed time to be implemented and show that it works because we were “only a few years in, and had a pandemic in between”.

“Where there’s naysayers, there’s usually a vested interest in the naysayers in criticising the law,” Ms McLaughlin said.

Latest outputs: Publications, Reports, Podcasts, Blogs



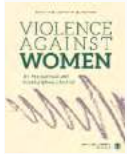
Journal Article Louise Locock, Deirdre O'Donnell, **Sarah Donnelly**, Liz Ellis, Thilo Kroll, Éidín Ní Shé, and Sara Ryan (Sept 2022) 'Language has been granted too much power' Challenging the power of words with time and flexibility in the pre commencement stage of research involving those with cognitive impairment. Health expectations : an international journal of public participation in health care and health policy. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/hex.13576>

Abstract: Meaningful and inclusive involvement of all people affected by research in the design, management and dissemination of that research requires skills, time, flexibility and resources. There continue to be research practices that create implicit and explicit exclusion of some members of the public who may be 'seldom heard' or 'frequently ignored'. Our focus is particularly on the involvement of people living with cognitive impairment, including people with one of the many forms of dementia and people with learning disabilities. We reflect especially on issues relating to the precommencement stage of research. We suggest that despite pockets of creative good practice, research culture remains a distinct habitus that continues to privilege cognition and articulacy in numerous ways. We argue that in perpetuating this system, some researchers and the institutions that govern research are committing a form of bureaucratic violence. We call for a reimagining of the models of research governance, funding and processes to incorporate the time and flexibility that are essential for meaningful involved research, particularly at the precommencement stage. Only then will academic health and social science research that is truly collaborative, engaged, accessible and inclusive be commonplace.



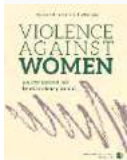
Journal Article Orla Kelly, Sam Illingworth, Fabrizio Butera, Vaile Dawson, Peta White, Mindy Blaise, Pim Martens, Geertje Schuitema, Maud Huynen, Susan Bailey and Sian Cowman (07 July 2022) 'Education in a warming world: Trends, opportunities and pitfalls for institutes of higher education' Front. Sustain., Sec. Sustainable Organizations <https://doi.org/10.3389/frsus.2022.920375>

The article illustrates a number of trends, examples, and reflections on how third-level educational institutes can act sustainably. We highlight the potential of five strategies HEI could employ to support the creation of a more sustainable future namely, (i) innovative approaches to climate change education; (ii) research agendas for societal transformations; (iii) providing climate change education for professional development; (iv) supporting public intellectuals; and (iv) investing in whole-systems approaches to greening the campus. The insights are the product of an interdisciplinary working group with members from across Europe, Australia, and the UK. These international examples provide insight and a sense of possibility for future application.



Journal Article Aisling Swaine. Resurfacing Gender: A Typology of Conflict-Related Violence Against Women for the Northern Ireland Troubles. *Violence Against Women* [online first August 2022] <https://doi.org/10.1177/107780122211149>

The “Troubles” in Northern Ireland are often assumed to represent an outlier in respect of contemporary global discourse on conflict-related violence against women (CRVAW), and particularly “strategic rape.” CRVAW has neither commanded the narrative nor imagery of that conflict nor specifically recognized globally as part of women’s experiences of it. A composite and comprehensive analysis of CRVAW for that context has been absent. Based on primary and secondary research, and analytically advanced through gender and critical harm theory, the article presents the first typology of CRVAW for the Northern Ireland Troubles. The article maps and evidences a range of gendered harms directly and indirectly resulting from the conflict enacted by state and nonstate actors. It argues that a *resurfacing* of gender is required to ensure current global debates on CRVAW are informed by a reconsideration of what constitutes “strategic” harm in armed conflict.



Journal Article Murphy M, Contreras-Urbina M, Spearing M, Swaine A. Socioecological Framework for Drivers of Conflict and Post-conflict Violence Against Women and Girls *Violence Against Women*, [online first August 2022] <https://doi.org/10.1177/10778012221094065>

This article advances our understanding of the drivers and multidimensional nature of conflict-related violence against women and girls (CRVAWG). It presents an adapted socioecological model, which supports research, analysis, and programming and can be further adapted as the empirical evidence base grows. Although models to help explore violence against women and girls generally have advanced over recent decades, these have not addressed the specific dynamics of conflict-affected settings. This article makes a unique contribution by bringing together research on CRVAWG and presenting a new model for deepening current approaches to understanding and preventing CRVAWG.



Journal Article Szelewa, D. (2022). When family policy doesn't work: Motives and welfare attitudes among childfree persons in Poland. *Social Inclusion*, 10(3S1), 194-205. <https://doi.org/10.17645/si.v10i3.5504>

Abstract: The primary goal of this article was to analyse the welfare attitudes of people self-declaring as childless by choice alongside the exploration of their social experience as childfree persons in the context of a rapid increase in the generosity of pro-natalist public policies in Poland. The analysis is based on semi-structured interviews conducted with 19 respondents recruited via Facebook network groups. Thematic analysis was applied identifying six general themes: 1) “satisfied and never had the need”; 2) “dealing with social pressure”; 3) “family measures—yes, but not this way”; 4) “unfair treatment of the childfree”; 5) “towards welfare state for all”; and 6) “change my mind? Never, even if offered one million dollars.” The research demonstrated that childfree persons present favourable views on state support for families with children. While critical of cash-based family support, respondents have a clear preference for investing in services enabling women to participate in the labour market. Finally, if public policies aimed at removing barriers to parenthood were strengthened, this would not change the respondents’ minds about procreation.



Book Chapter: Szelewa, D. and M. Polakowski (2022). Explaining the weakness of social investment policies in the Visegrád countries: the cases of childcare and active labor market policies. *The World Politics of Social Investment*, J. Garritzmann, S. Häusermann and B. Palier (eds.). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 186-208.

<https://academic.oup.com/book/41905/chapter-abstract/354762818?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Abstract: This chapter analyzes the politics of social investment in the Visegrad (V4) countries: the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. It shows that and explains why social investment has hardly developed in the region. While the Baltic countries, with which the V4 countries share a common historical state-socialist legacy, kept compensatory social policies at a minimum in a liberal tradition but installed several social investment policies, the V4 countries, in contrast, have largely focused on compensatory social policies while social investment policies have not been developed. More specifically, the chapter traces this non- development in three phases: 1) after regime transition in the early 1990s, there was a strong trend toward refamilialization and deinvestment in the V4 countries, breaking with the state- socialist legacy of dual- earner families that was perceived by many as “forced commodification”; 2) with EU accession, the V4 countries further developed some active labor market policies (ALMPs) as these were pushed for and financed by the European Union’s European Social Fund (ESF), but more often than not, these ALMPs followed a workfare-oriented direction and can hardly be regarded as a classic social investment; 3) after 2004, we witness an increasing repoliticization of social investment but by social investment antagonists rather than by protagonists: the right- wing (populist) parties that have become increasingly powerful in the V4 countries either explicitly voice criticism against or reinterpret social investment policies, further contributing to a weak development of social investment in the region.

Policy Report Paul Kirby, Hannah Wright and Aisling Swaine **The Future of the UK’s Women, Peace and Security Policy**, LSE Centre for Women, Peace and Security Policy Brief Series. For full report see <https://www.lse.ac.uk/women-peace-security/assets/documents/2022/W922-0167-WPS-Policy-Paper-7-V4-SINGLES.pdf>



This briefing evaluates the UK’s contribution to the Women, Peace and Security agenda over the last fifteen years. Addressing strengths and limitations, it analyses successive thematic priorities, maps WPS spending, and considers common criticism. It draws out recommendations for future plans on infrastructure and monitoring, domestic applications and policy ambition.

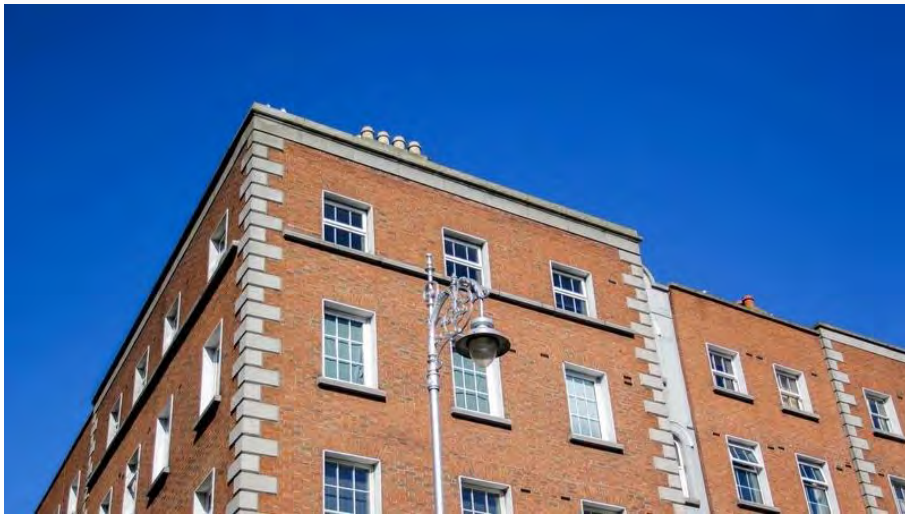
Aisling also provided a brief to the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office earlier this year to inform the development of the UK’s national action plan on women, peace and security, focused on the domestication of UN Security Council resolutions within the Northern Ireland context.

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/women-peace-security/assets/documents/2022/W922-0167-WPS-Policy-Paper-7-V4-SINGLES.pdf>



An accompanying **Blog**: Doing Women, Peace and Security Better: Opportunities for the Next UK National Action Plan Paul Kirby, Hannah Wright and Aisling Swaine. For link click [here](#)

Dr Michael Byrne's essay '[What's behind the negative perception of landlords in Ireland?](#)' gives a rare opportunity to engage the wider public in a political economy approach to understanding contemporary housing issues.



"The division between the 'housing haves' and the housing 'have nots' has become a major fault line in our society"

Linking together the ideas of classical liberal economists, the activism of early 20th century public intellectuals, and a discussion of today's housing crisis, the piece explores the growing divide between the 'housing haves' and the 'housing have nots'. It draws on theoretical research Dr Byrne has pursued over recent years, published in the following academic articles:

Byrne, M. (2019). The political economy of the 'residential rent relation': antagonism and tenant organising. *Radical Housing Journal*, 1

Byrne, M. (2020). Towards a political economy of the private rental sector. *Critical Housing Analysis*, 7(1), 103.

Norris, M., & Byrne, M. (2021). The Political Economy of Housing in Ireland. In Farrell, D., Hardiman, N.(eds.). *The Oxford Handbook of Irish Politics*. Oxford University Press.

[RTÉ Brainstorm](#) is a site where the academic and research community can contribute to public debate, reflect on what's happening in the world around us and communicate fresh thinking on a broad range of issues.

News from the UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (UCD-JaSt)



This year's Annual Report is out!

Available from:

<https://www.ucd.ie/japan/newsevents/ucdcentreforjapanesestudies202122annualreport/>

Welcoming Mr Naoki Furukawa MP (House of Representatives, Japan)

Together with this year's Auditor of the UCD Japanese Society, UCD-JaSt members welcomed Mr Naoki Furukawa MP (House of Representatives) from Japan on Friday 2 September 2022 in the UCD Research (Impact Room).

Dr Kodate was contacted by the Embassy of Japan in Ireland, and asked to welcome a Japanese politician (a member of parliament and also a member of the Japan-Ireland Parliamentary Friendship League), who was visiting Ireland. The reason given was that the Centre is the most research active unit in Ireland (in the area of Japanese Studies).

Ireland's longstanding diplomatic links with Japan (dating back to the 1950s) are strong and have recently gained new impetus from the government's Global Footprint 2025 Strategy (and of course the challenges of Brexit). On the 20th of July 2022, Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD and Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida issued a joint statement "Taking Forward Partnership with Shared Ambition", which outlines a roadmap to strengthening ties between Ireland and Japan over the next number of years.

The JaSt members (including our School's affiliated researchers and PhD student: Adjunct Prof. John Neary, Prof. Iwao Osaka, Nobuko Ijichi) outlined the activities and achievements of the Centre, and its future plans. Mr Furukawa's particular interest is in secondary and tertiary education in Ireland, and he had a meeting with senior officials at the Department of Education, while visiting a few secondary schools in North Dublin and Wexford during his three-day visit.



Other events in October: 6th UCD Japan Fair

Online Event: JET Program Information Session

Speaker: Mr Sean Gillis (Embassy of Japan in Ireland - former JET)

Date/Time: Thursday 20th October 2022 at 1:00pm [IST]

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies
Information Session - Webinar

UCD Japan

UCD Japan Fair 2021

JET

Japan Exchange & Teaching Programme

Mr Seán Gillis
JET Programme Coordinator
Embassy of Japan

Thursday 20th October 2022 at 1:00pm [IST]
Register at <http://bit.ly/JET-2022>

Logos for UCD, Embassy of Japan, and JET are visible at the bottom.

To register: <http://bit.ly/JET-2022>

In-Person Event: Japanese Scrolls and the Art of Storytelling

Speaker: Dr Mary Redfern (Chester Beatty Library)

Date/Time: Thursday 27th October 2022 at 1:00pm [IST]

Venue: Veterinary Sciences Room 114

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies
Seminar

UCD Japan

UCD Japan Fair 2022

Japanese Scrolls and the Art of Storytelling

Dr Mary Redfern
Chester Beatty

Thursday 27th October 2022 at 1:00pm [IST]
Veterinary Sciences Room 114
Register at https://bit.ly/Japanese_Scrolls

Logos for UCD, Embassy of Japan, and Chester Beatty are visible at the bottom.

To register: https://bit.ly/Japanese_Scrolls

News from the UDC Equality Studies Centre

The Equality Studies Centre organised and ran two successful and well-attended seminars in September, both in association with the UCD Centre for Human Rights:

'Indigenous land rights in Latin America', Ricardo Henrique Rao; Wednesday 21st September, 1-2pm; in association with LASC L246 UCD school of law (in person event with zoom viewing-only option available)



'Indigenous Land Rights in Latin America'

Speaker:
Ricardo Henrique Rao, indigenist-in-exile

Chair: Marie Moran, Director of the Equality Studies Centre

21 September 2022, 13.00 – 14.00 hrs
L246, School of Law, UCD

In person event, with zoom option available:
<https://ucd-ie.zoom.us/j/65634836106>

Hosted by:
The UCD Equality Studies Centre (www.ucd.ie/esc/)
The UCD Centre for Human Rights (www.ucd.ie/chr/)
In association with LASC, the Latin America Solidarity Centre (www.lasc.ie/)

LASC is funded by Irish Aid. This seminar does not necessarily represent Irish Aid views and opinions, nor those of the host centres at UCD.

Overview: We are living in an era of cross-cutting crises – political (the emergence of powerful forms of authoritarianism and the renewed threat of fascism), economic (the continued growth of extremes of inequality coupled with run-away financialisation), cultural (an explosion of conspiracy theories, 'echo chambers' and a public sphere wrought by 'culture wars'), bio-political (pandemics and the threat of new ones) and environmental (the already-happening global warming, biodiversity loss and ensuing climate chaos). There is a wide-spread awareness of these crises, with many people not only acutely conscious of current and impending disasters, but actively disabled by a sense of impotence in face of their almost certain inevitability.

This conference does not therefore seek to impress upon us the scale of the crises facing us, but rather offer an intervention in 'futures thinking' that will enable us to better address some of these challenges. It engages centrally with the question of why it is that social, political and economic thinking seems to be beset by short-termism and immediate interests. And it asks: How can we think about the future across values, philosophies, disciplines, and generations, in a way that is not simply predictive but productive?

The conference will be free. The Thursday evening part of the conference will be a public event and held in Trinity, while the Friday event (all day) will be invite-only and held in UCD (c. 50 attending). The Thursday event is a scene-set for Friday which will be more discursive and open-ended. We're

keen on having speakers from different disciplines and want to facilitate cross-disciplinary conversations about the future. Please email marie.moran@ucd.ie if you would like to attend the Friday event, but please be aware that places are limited.

To register for the Thursday event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/futures-thinking-tickets-425353231967?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

'Care and Capitalism', a symposium with Kathleen Lynch and guest speakers Prof. Diane Reay and Prof. Jonathan Herring; September 26th, 5pm, online

Moving beyond capitalocentric thinking about social change

- Capitalocentric thinking puts capitalism at the centre of all meaning-making (Gibson-Graham)
- Even alternatives to capitalism are thought of in terms of capital-labour relations
 - Resistance to injustices are framed primarily in terms of changing market relations- focus is purely on the political-economic areas of human life
- Meaning-making, and life itself are not only produced on the market; they are also produced and reproduced through care relational life
- Caring is an ever-ongoing social process, involving caring for oneself, for others, for non-human animals and other species, and for the Earth itself
- Sites of care (our affective care relational lives) are also sites of politics, and sites of resistance to injustice

Vertical strip of speaker thumbnails (from top to bottom):
1. Prof. Kathleen Lynch
2. Marie-Louise Ryan
3. Prof. Diane Reay
4. Prof. Jonathan Herring
5. Robert Ebers

This month's Featured Researcher

Dr Aisling Swaine



Aisling Swaine is Professor of Gender Studies in the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice. She was named by A-Political as one of the world's 100 Most Influential People in Gender Policy 2021.

How did you come to select your chosen area of research?

I initially studied and then began working in humanitarian and peacebuilding settings in contexts affected by armed conflict in the late 1990s – my roles all focused on advancing women’s rights, and more specifically on addressing gender-based violence affecting women and girls. I left Darfur, Sudan in 2007 with a million questions – particularly about the narrow and reductive ways the lived experience of mass conflict-related sexual violence was being responded to by actors like the UN. That led to a PhD on this issue - so the focus of my work comes from being a practitioner providing services to women and girls which informed the questions pursued in my later academic research.

Are there any key theories, methodologies, or paradigms that guide your research?

Ultimately my research is located within gender, and specifically feminist, theories. The bodies of thinking and frames that I draw from have changed over time. Most of my work on violence has drawn from feminist critical legal theory within the fields of international law and transitional justice. My other area of work on global security policy draws from feminist security studies and feminist IR, as well as gender planning theory in the gender and development fields.

My main focus currently is using and expanding feminist harm theory to onward expand theoretical and empirical understanding of mutating and evolving forms of gendered harm across armed conflict and peacebuilding settings. I’m trying very much to draw feminist decolonial theory into my work – there are fantastic existing and emerging works that challenge pre-dominant ‘global north’ ways of conceiving and using theory to understand conflict-related harm. I think that’s the future of these fields and hope I can draw that into my work in ways that serves that critical movement.

Can you describe what the process of writing your most recent article/chapter was like. What are the key messages from your most recent publication?

I just published an article in *Violence Against Women* titled: ‘Resurfacing Gender: A Typology of Conflict-related Violence Against Women for the Northern Ireland Troubles’. That article is the result of research that I have undertaken over a 15 year period. It has very much been a cumulative effort at research - mapping and piecing together existing archival and contemporary evidence with my own primary research to map forms of gendered harm. I spent a long time attempting to categorise the typology so that it is not confined by existing political definitions but exposes the fulsome landscape of gendered violence related to the Troubles.

Its messages are a two-fold attempt to first, expand scholarly understanding of what constitutes conflict-related gendered harm, and second to offer the first comprehensive typology of this kind for the Troubles. Recently, I was invited to present the typology to the Victims Payments Board of the Troubles Permanent Disablement Scheme to help them devise their response to reparations claims for Troubles-related sexual harm – the motivation behind the article was to inform processes for dealing with the past in Northern Ireland, so I was really delighted to be asked to do that.

What is next for you? What projects are you working on now

I am interested in exploring coercive control in armed conflict settings – how non-state actors exert subtle controls over women in the context of political violence. Hoping I can get some funding for it!

To contact Aisling please email Aisling.Swaine@ucd.ie; See UCD profile for Dr Aisling Swaine [here](#)

