

# IRELAND AND THE EUROPEAN UNION AT 50: POLITICS, POLICY AND TRANSFORMATION

**THURSDAY 11TH MAY & FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2023**

MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY SOCIAL SCIENCES INSTITUTE,  
MAYNOOTH CO. KILDARE



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## **THURSDAY 11 MAY 2023**

- 8.30a.m.** *Attendee Registration - coffee on arrival*
- 9.30a.m.** *Opening Welcome by Professor John O' Brennan, Maynooth University and Alex White, IIEA*
- 9.45a.m.** *Opening Welcome Address:* Professor Eeva Leinonen, President Maynooth University
- 10.00a.m.** *Former Taoisigh reflect on Ireland and the EU*
- Bertie Ahern
  - John Bruton
- In interview with Professor John O' Brennan
- 11.15 a.m** *Coffee Break*
- 11.30a.m.** *EU Policies*
- Chair:** *Dr Barry Colfer, Director of Research, IIEA*
- Dan O' Brien, IIEA
  - Professor Frances Ruane, ESRI
  - Dr Diarmuid Torney, Dublin City University
- 12.30p.m.** *Lunch*
- 1.30p.m.** *Social Europe*
- Chair:** *Frances Byrne, Early Childhood Ireland*
- Paul Ginnell, EAPN Ireland
  - Professor Seán Ó Riain Maynooth University
  - Professor Mary P Murphy, Maynooth University
- 2.30p.m.** *'Communicating Europe' in Ireland*
- Chair:** *Dr Patricia Conlan, University of Limerick*
- Barbara Nolan, European Commission Representation, Ireland
  - Dr Emmanuelle Schön-Quinlivan, University College Cork
  - Professor John O' Brennan, Maynooth University
  - Noelle O' Connell, European Movement Ireland
- 3.30pm.** *Coffee Break*
- 4.00.p.m.** *Reporting Europe*
- Chair:** *Dr Paul Gillespie, UCD/The Irish Times*
- Gavin Esler, Former host, BBC Newsnight
  - Dr Suzanne Lynch, Politico Europe
  - Shona Murray, Euronews
- 5.00p.m.** *Wine Reception and Keynote Academic Address:*  
Professor Desmond Dinan, George Mason University, Washington DC



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## FRIDAY 12 MAY 2023

- 9.30a.m.** **Education, Research and Science**  
**Chair:** Professor Linda Connolly, Maynooth University
- Professor Ellen Hazelkorn, TU Dublin
  - Professor Philip Nolan, Director General, Science Foundation Ireland
  - Dr Edward Walsh, Founding President, University of Limerick
- 10.30a.m.** **Keynote Address**  
Mairead McGuinness, EU Commissioner for Financial Stability, Financial Services, and the Capital Markets Union
- 11.30a.m.** **Coffee Break**
- 11.45am.** **The Ministerial Experience**  
**Chair:** Dr Mary C. Murphy, University College Cork
- Barry Andrews MEP & Former Minister of State for Children
  - Alan Dukes, Former Minister for Finance
  - Alex White, Former Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
  - Lucinda Creighton, former Minister for Europe
- 12.45p.m.** **Lunch**
- 1.45p.m.** **The Brussels Experience**  
**Chair:** Francis Jacobs, Former Head, European Parliament Office, Dublin
- Marian Harkin, TD and former ALDE MEP
  - Proinsias De Rossa, former S & D MEP
  - John Cushnahan, EPP MEP
- 2.45p.m.** **How Ireland was/is perceived in Brussels and in other Member States**  
**Chair:** Marie Cross, IIEA
- Dr Eoin Drea, Martens Centre, Brussels
  - Ambassador Mari Skåre, Ambassador of Norway to Ireland
  - Rory Montgomery, former Irish Ambassador to France and Permanent Representative to the EU
  - Ambassador Laurentiu-Mihai Stefan, Ambassador of Romania to Ireland
- 3.45p.m.** **Coffee Break**
- 4.00p.m.** **Gender and Intersectionality**  
**Chair:** Dr Pauline Cullen, Maynooth University
- Professor Maura Adshead, University of Limerick
  - Dr Muireann O' Dwyer, St Andrews University
  - Professor Delia Ferri, Maynooth University
  - Dr Sindy Joyce, University of Limerick
- 5.00p.m.** **Northern Ireland, Ireland and the EU on the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement**  
**Chair:** Flor McCarthy, Oireachtas TV
- Dr Giada Lagana, Cardiff University
  - John McGrane, British Irish Chambers of Commerce
  - Dr Mary C. Murphy, University College Cork
  - Dr Lisa Claire Whitten, Queens University Belfast
- 6.00p.m.** **Closing Address**  
Professor John O' Brennan, Maynooth University



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