



**Maynooth
University**

National University
of Ireland Maynooth

Research Agreements & Legal Issues

Dr Miriam Ryan

Legal and Contracts
Officer

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Why legal check?

PROTECTION

- Protect you, the researcher and Maynooth University.

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When?



- From the beginning:
- **Call Document – Funding Programme, Terms & Conditions (T&Cs). Some may not be acceptable to MU.**
- Variety of Research Funding sources:
 - **Large Funding Agencies (National & European other)**
 - **Smaller agencies/charities**
 - **Tenders..(legal submission)**
 - **Industry**
- **Partnership with Industry**

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Developing the Research Proposal



If you collaborate with others as “partners”, you may need:

- NDA/Confidentiality Agreement
- Letter of Intent
- MOU
- Subcontractor agreement
- Consortium Agreement
- Declarations

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If proposal is successful, then Contracts and Agreements will follow

- If proposal is successful then a contract will be signed.
Contract – *“An agreement that gives rise to (rights and obligations) that the law will enforce.”*
- Contract *between* MU and Funder. (PI mentioned *may* be required to countersign)
- Intellectual Property (IP) agreements, licences
- Consortium Agreement

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Review of Legal and other issues (including)

Liability

Warranties

Insurance

Intellectual Property (IP) – Commercialisation Office

Confidentiality

Publication

Jurisdiction

Dispute Resolution

Payments – Financial Officer – RDO Finance

Termination

FAIRNESS

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• **A little warning!**



• **Maynooth University is the signatory to these agreements and contracts.**

• **Authorised signatory is Prof Ray O'Neill, VP Research and Innovation**

• **If you sign, then you may be *personally liable*, as you do not have authorisation to sign on behalf of the University.**

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