



Political Studies Association of Ireland
Annual Conference

Draft Programme July 2026

16-18 October 2026
Metropole Hotel Cork

Conference at a glance

Friday 16 October

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting 11.00-13.00

IPS Editorial Board Meeting 13.00-14.00

Session one: 14.00 – 15.30

1.1 Computational Methods Specialist Group Roundtable

1.2 The Political Economy of Conflict: From Local Fragility to International Response

1.3 Attitudes and Voting Behaviour

1.4 Parliamentary Politics

1.5 Political History

1.6 The Political Theory of Emotions

1.7 The Politics and History of Northern Ireland I

Coffee: 15.30-16.00

Session two: 16.00-17.30

2.1 Roundtable on the 2025 Presidential Election in Ireland

2.2 Roundtable: The World and the Second Trump Revolution

2.3 Evaluating AI: Audits, Validation, and Human–AI Comparison

2.4 Human Rights, Conflict, Humanitarian Crises and Repression

2.5 Author Meets Critics: Intelligent Democracy: Answering the New Democratic Scepticism by Jonathan Benson

2.6 International Politics I

2.7 Politics in Northern Ireland

Peter Mair Roundtable 17.45-18.45

Welcome drinks reception and opening of the 2026 PSAI annual conference

Council Chamber, Cork City Hall 19.00-20.00

Saturday 17 October

Session three: 09.30 – 11.00

3.1 Beyond the Bag of Words: Narrative, Attribution, and Causal Reasoning in Political Text

3.2 Political Psychology I: Socialization, Gender, and Norms.

3.3 Reforms of the judicial and political systems in the Republic of Ireland

3.4 Politics and History of Northern Ireland II

3.5 Political Education

3.6 The Far-Right in Ireland

3.7 International Politics II

Coffee 11.00-11.30

Session four 11.30-13.00

4.1 Debate Dynamics: Argumentation, Interruption, and Emotion in Political Confrontation

4.2 Conflict, Peace and Identity

4.3 The Irish electoral system

4.4 Political Psychology II: Identity, Belonging, and Polarization

4.5 Defending and reviving democratic agency

4.6 Politics of China

4.7 American Political Science Association

Lunch 13.00-14.00

Specialist Group Meetings 13.30-14.00

Session five 14.00-15.30

- 5.1 Authoritarianism, Illiberalism, and Strategic Rule
- 5.2 Candidate characteristics and locality in Irish elections
- 5.3 Political Psychology III: Conflict, Mobilization, and Accountability
- 5.4 Innovating Democratic Infrastructure: Bridging Civic Voice and Policy Design
- 5.5 Conflict Studies and War
- 5.6 Public Policy I
- 5.7 Gender and politics in the Republic of Ireland

Coffee 15.30-15.45

Session six 15.45-17.15

- 6.1 Far-Right Politics, Migration, and Boundary-Making
- 6.2 Teaching and Learning in Politics
- 6.3 An Coimisiún Toghcháin / The Electoral Commission
- 6.4 Diaspora Diplomacy in Comparative International Perspective: Politics, Development and Security
- 6.5 Environmental Politics
- 6.6 EU Politics
- 6.7 The Northern Ireland Peace Process

AGM 17.30-18.15

PSAI Fellowship lecture 18.15-19.15

Drinks reception and book launch 19.30

Dinner 20.15

Sunday 18 October

Session seven 10.00-11.30

- 7.1 Conflict, Security, and International Risk
- 7.2 Conflict and Migration: Theory and Practice
- 7.3 Electoral politics in the Republic of Ireland
- 7.4 Irish Defence and Security
- 7.5 International Politics III
- 7.6 Gender and Politics III:
- 7.7 Public Policy II

Coffee 11.30 – 11.45

Session eight 11.45 – 13.15

- 8.1 Responding to the Climate Crisis in Theory and Practice
- 8.2 Political Communication
- 8.3 US Politics
- 8.4 European Politics
- 8.5 Radical Right, Far Right and Populist Right
- 8.6 The Northern Ireland Peace Process
- 8.7 Representation, Accountability, and Policy Influence

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting 11.00-12.00

Friday 16 October 2026

Morning specialist group sessions 10.00 – 13.00

1. Introduction to Text Annotation with CodeBook Lab and CodeBook Studio
(instructor: Lorcan McLaren, UCD)

2. Introduction to Advanced Agentic AI Tools for Social Sciences (instructor:
Eoghan Cunningham, UCD)

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting 11.00-13.00

IPS Editorial Board Meeting 13.00-14.00

Main conference opens

Coffee and biscuits on arrival at 1.30

Session one: 14.00 – 15.30

1.1 Computational Methods Specialist Group Roundtable

Chair:

Details to be confirmed

1.2 The Political Economy of Conflict: From Local Fragility to International Response

Chair: Jothsaïna Pierre

Climate Shocks, Clan Militias, and Violent Resistance: Explaining Opposition to Al Shabaab

Abdulkadir Mohamed (UCD)

Violence, disruption, and disease: Causal Pathways Between Violent Conflict and Global Health Outcomes

Angela Garvey (DCU)

Foreign Policy and Food Aid: Structural Vulnerability and Strategic Allocation in the Arab Gulf States

Heba Elsahn (UCD)

The Political Economy of Genocide Prevention in the UN Security Council

Nuzhat Tasnim Rahman Raisa (Kent)

1.3 Attitudes and Voting Behaviour

Chair: David Farrell (UCD)

Populist Sentiments, Mainstream Votes? Irish Voter Attitudes and Electoral Support for the Radical and Populist Right

Callum Craig (DCU), Jane Suiter (DCU) and Theresa Reidy (UCC)

Understanding Support for Non-Segmental Parties in Divided Places: Evidence from the 2022 Northern Ireland Assembly Election

John Garry (QUB)

Five Decades of Irish Opinion: Long-term Trends in Voter Attitudes

Rory Costello (UL), Johan A. Dornschneider-Elkink (UCD) and Kevin Sáudé (UL)

Green Rhetoric, Grey Realities? Do ‘parties matter’ for climate change mitigation policy?

Fay M. Farstad (University of Bergen), Conor Little (UL), Julià Tudó Cisquella (University of Bergen) and Neil Carter (University of York)

Voting Behaviour and Variation in Party Policy Movement: Evidence from Observational Data

Jamie McClenaghan (TCD)

1.4 Parliamentary Politics

Chair:

When the Franchise Expands: Evidence from Ireland's Voting-Age Reform 1972-1973

Stephen Quinlan (TBC) and Gary Murphy (DCU)

Should Irish public office ethics legislation just be for politicians?

Joe MacDonagh (TUD)

Ambiguity as a strategy: how leadership traits shape UK Parliamentary speech in times of crisis

Ronit Berger Hobson (QUB) and Anastasia Ershova (UCD)

1.5 Irish Political History

Chair:

Irish Strike or International Struggle? The Dunnes Stores Strike Revisited

Dr Connal Parr (Northumbria University)

An Investigation into the policing of political movements in county Wexford, 1910-1914

Aidan Mahon (TCD)

The British Rule in India (1885-1947) and its Irish response: Analysing shared experiences within imperialist discourse

Jaya Ojha (University of Delhi India) and Aashish K Shukla (University of Delhi India)

Restitution in Struggles for an independent Ireland: Continuities and discontinuities, from Home Rule finance to the Economic War

Niamh Reilly (UG)

How Fianna Fáil secured more support in Kerry than any other constituency in its earliest years

Owen O'Shea, PhD

1.6 The Political Theory of Emotions

Chair:

The Depoliticising Dynamics of Spite

John McGuire (UCD)

Inequality, Emotion Norms, and Affective dispositions

Rosella De Bernardi (TCD)

Towards a phenomenological approach to researcher reflexivity: Methodological design and implications for field-based research

Christie Nicoson (UCD)

Hope Is a Hammer: Positive and Negative Normativity in the Ethics of Anti-Genocidal Direct Action

Ciarán Ó Briain (UCD)

1.7 The Politics and History of Northern Ireland I

Chair:

Second guilt and uncomfortable dialogues: false and premature reconciliation in Northern Ireland's consociational Politics

C.K. Martin Chung (Hong Kong Baptist University)

Rewarding Violence or Defining a Generation? The Origins of the Good Friday Agreement and its impact on the constitutional deadlock of the UK

Thomas Leahy (Cardiff University) and Eleanor Leah Williams (DCU)

A new Northern Ireland flag: the History, Meaning, and Future of an Unrealised Idea

David Mitchell (TCD)

The Slow Violence of Administrative retreat: remembering vernacular peace in North Belfast

Sara Dybris McQuaid (Aarhus University)

Coffee: 15.30-16.00

Session two: 16.00-17.30

2.1 Roundtable on the 2025 Presidential Election in Ireland

Chair: Kevin Rafter (DCU)

Gary Murphy (DCU), Gail McElroy (TCD), John Coakley (UCD) and Michael Gallagher (TCD)

2.2 Roundtable: The World and the Second Trump Revolution

Chair: Clodagh Harrington (UCC)

Jivanta Schottli (DCU), Niall Duggan (UCC), Donnacha Ó Beacháin (DCU) and Andrew Cottey DCU)

2.3 Evaluating AI: Audits, Validation, and Human–AI Comparison

Chair:

CodeBook Studio and CodeBook Lab: A Validation-First Workflow for Human and LLM-Based Text Annotation

Lorcan McLaren (UCD)

Predicting Cross-National Measurement Equivalence in Democratic Attitudes:

Empirics, Experts, and AI

Philip Warncke (UL) and Ryan E. Carlin (Georgia State University)

AI Chatbots as Sources of Electoral Information: Understanding Supply and Demand

Eoghan Cunningham (UCD), James Cross (UCD), Louise Luxton (University of Strathclyde), Timea Balogh (University of Strathclyde), Derek Greene (UCD)

Algorithmic Election Conspiracies: Generative AI, Electoral Falsehoods, and Democratic Trust

Zachary Baum (Rutgers University)

2.4 Human Rights, Conflict, Humanitarian Crises and Repression

Chair

Negotiating access while maintaining neutrality: The ICRC and the Northern Ireland conflict

Niall Ó Dochartaigh (UofG)

Speaking of Dangerous: The Selective Invocation of Aid Worker Security in UN Security Council Speeches

Cecilia Gimeno Veira (UCD), Tina Höflich (UCD), Callum Franco (UCD), Caitriona Dowd (UCD)

International Norms, Institutional Access, and Repression of Human Rights Advocacy at the United Nations

Rebecca Cordel (University of Pittsburgh) and Alexander Dukalskis (UCD)

The Political Imagination: Fanon's Contribution

Josh Platzky Miller, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

2.5 Author Meets Critics: Intelligent Democracy: Answering the New Democratic Scepticism by Jonathan Benson

Chair: Joseph Lacey (UCD)

Author: Jonathan Benson, University of Manchester

Respondents:

Jennie Anne Colette Moynihan (TCD)

Joanna Podgórska-Rykała (University of the National Education Commission, Krakow)

Peter Stone (TCD)

2.6 International Politics I

Chair:

Defensive Citizens: Rethinking Political Competence in an Unequal State

Jasmine English, Reed College, Portland Oregon

Barriers to digital global solidarity movement in Sudan, Palestine and South Sudan

Ibrahim Natil (DCU)

Decolonising the 'Iranian nation'

Rojîn Mûkrîyan (UCC)

Beyond liberal feminist and Islamist narratives: a decolonial feminist reading of Iran's women, life, freedom movement

Wraa Noor Haider (Quaid-i-Azam University)

Restricting movements constraining protests

Tareq Sydiq (Coordinator Centre for Conflict Studies, Marburg)

2.7 Politics in Northern Ireland

Chair:

The first membership survey of the SDLP in over two decades

Marisa McGlinchey (Coventry University)

Reforming Stormont: what changes do electors want?

Prof Jon Tonge, University of Liverpool, Dr Sean Haughey, University of Liverpool, Dr Ben Roshier, University of Gothenburg

Niche Parties and Ethnic Cleavages: Issue-driven Ethos and Constitutional Engagement in the Green Party of Northern Ireland

Louisa B. Barry (TCD) and Liam Kneafsey (TCD)

Constitutional Uncertainty and Political Identity in Northern Ireland: Young PUL Men after Brexit

Elizabeth Healy (UU)

Peter Mair Roundtable 17.45-18.45

Welcome drinks reception and opening of the 2026 PSAI annual conference

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Saturday 17 October

Session three:

09.30 – 11.00

3.1 Beyond the Bag of Words: Narrative, Attribution, and Causal Reasoning in Political Text

Chair:

Identifying attributions of causality in political text

Paulina Garcia-Corral (ETH Zurich)

Narrative and Framing: Disentangling Two Fractured Paradigms in Computational Communication Research

Jan Elfes (UCD) and Marco Bastos (UCD)

Gendered Mediation in Personalised Campaigns: Media Bias Across Four Countries

Alona O. Dolinsky, Susan Banducci, Hyerin Seo (University of Birmingham)

Informal Authority under Formal Exclusion: Causal Reasoning among Women in Hezbollah

Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink (UCD), Jos Dornschneider-Elkink (UCD), Salsabil Abdalbaki

3.2 Political Psychology I: Socialization, Gender, and Norms.

Chair: Philip Warncke (University of Limerick)

Vocal Chameleons: Gender dynamics in nonverbal expressions in campaigning

Asli Ceren Cinar (TCD)

Watching Her Work: Maternal Employment and Political Gender Attitudes in Europe

Juliane Wesselman (TCD)

Public Acceptance of Trans Healthcare Advice: Weak Liberals or Ideological Conservatives?

Miceal Canavan (UU)

A Hierarchy of Political Stability: Comparing the Persistence of Values, Attitudes, and Opinions Across Democracies

Onno Steenweg (TCD)

How Good Ancestors Make Good Citizens: Norm Legacies and the Activation of Pro-Social Behavior

Violeta Haas (Trinity College Dublin, Assistant Professor) violeta.haas@iast.fr with Mirko Wegemann (University of Muenster)

3.3 Reforms of the judicial and political systems in the Republic of Ireland

Chair: Eoin O'Malley

Decision-making on the court of appeal in Ireland

Jolly A. Emery (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Monica E. Lineberger (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater) and Wendy L. Martinek (Binghamton University)

Are gender quotas enough? Spatial inequalities, political parties and women's representation in the 2024 Republic of Ireland general election

Caoilfhionn D'Arcy (MU) and Adrian Kavanagh (MU)

Centralised state power plus local community solidarity – how fares Garvin's account of political culture in 2020s Ireland?

Paul Gillespie (UCD)

“Cubic-root Dáil size, constituency design, and floterial constituencies: a formula-based approach for electoral reform in Ireland

Iulen Tazueco Manrique (University of Zaragoza)

3.4 Politics and History of Northern Ireland II

Chair:

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Peace People (1976-2026): the evolving character of a grassroots movement for peace in Northern Ireland

Stephen Hopkins (University of Leicester) and Connal Parr (University of Northumbria)

Evaluating the 1993 Downing Street Declaration; a constitutional departure or a waymark sign?

Dr Eamonn O’Kane

Attitudes towards offensive paramilitary activity during The Troubles in Northern Ireland

Eddie Baker (INCORE, UU)

Softening sovereignty: parity of esteem in the Good Friday agreement

Jaime Villaverde Rivero (Universidad Pontifica Comillas)

Disunited Unionism: Mapping Unionism 30 years after the Good Friday Agreement: Identity, Fragmentation, and the Search for a Voice

Ronit Berger Hobson, Queen’s University Belfast, Lee Magowan, Queen’s University Belfast and Jamie Pow, Queen’s University Belfast

3.5 Political Education

Chair:

Anti-racism education as political education: learning and democratic participation in Ireland

Fahmeda Naheed

Exploring youth specific capability through participatory systems thinking on evidence from a transition year pilot

John Crowe (TUD) and Anita Doody (Independent scholar)

The 1983 law on the use and teaching of Valencian and its political consequences

Ruben Llorens Poblador (TCD)

3.6 The Far-Right in Ireland

Chair:

The Ecology of Far-Right Electoral Support in Ireland

Jonathan Arlow (UL) and John Humphreys (Independent Scholar)

Delayed convergence: housing scarcity, recognition-deficit, and the late emergence of fire-right capitalism in Ireland

Harshit Singh, (IIT Delhi)

'We' the good vs, 'they' the bad immigrants? History, memory, and migration narratives of the Irish right

Tamara Kolarić (DCU)

3.7 International Politics II

Chair:

Inclusion by Design? Migrants, representation, and local citizens' assemblies in Poland

Sabina Kozłowska (KEN Doctoral School) and Joanna Podgórska-Rykała (University of the National Education Commission in Krakow)

A Coixan Interpretation of New Regionalism: with a specific focus on the 'cusp' state Türkiye

Safiye Ergun-Kaya

Bringing justice in social justice to the forefront in the context of caste

Deosharan Suman and Sonam Kumari (Central University of South Bihar)

Beyond environmental scarcity: developing an integrated framework for analysing farmer-herder conflicts in the global south

Evans Amoako Amoah (MIC), Julian Bloomer (MIC) and Tom Campbell (Maynooth University)

Cartography, colonial governance, and indigenous political futures in the global South

Dr Aashish Xaxa (BML Munjal University)

Coffee

11.00-11.30

Session four

11.30-13.00

4.1 Debate Dynamics: Argumentation, Interruption, and Emotion in Political Confrontation

Chair:

Mining Bipolar Argumentation Frameworks from Parliamentary Debates

Eoghan Cunningham (UCD), Antonio Rago (King's College London), Derek Greene (UCD) and James Cross (UCD)

The Ideology of Interruptions: determining the impact of political ideology in interruption behavior in Portuguese televised electoral debates

Mafalda Patacão Zúquete (UCD)

Far-Right Speeches and Emotional Contagion in Parliament: Sequential and Multimodal Evidence from Germany

Christian Arnold (University of Birmingham), Andreas Kuepfer (Technical University of Darmstadt) and Christian Stecker (Technical University of Darmstadt)

Clubs in the Commons: Evidence from an LLM-based analysis of UK football club references in parliamentary debate, 1919-2025

Authors: Martijn Schoonvelde (University of Groningen), Stefan Couperus (University of Groningen), Stefan Müller (UCD)

4.2 Conflict, Peace and Identity

Chair: Niall O'Dochartaigh

Researching Peace and Conflict: Understanding Wellbeing Impacts on Social Scientists in Ireland

Caitriona Dowd (UCD), Melanie Hoewer (UCD) and Dawn Walsh (UCD)

Gender, Nationalism and Political Representation: Comparing Parties in Northern Ireland and Bosnia-Herzegovina

Cera Murtagh (Villanova University)

Decolonisation, post-sovereignty, and/or independence? How can the Irish state play a positive role in moving beyond conflict on the island?

Jennifer Todd (UCD)

4.3 The Irish electoral system

Chair: Jane Suiter (DCU)

Monotonicity and non-monotonicity at PR-STV elections

Michael Gallagher (TCD)

The perfect match? STV as an embedded institution in Ireland

David Farrell (UCD)

Random sampling in Irish PR-STV elections: quantification using historical vote data and a model-based approach

John Condon (UCC)

4.4 Political Psychology II: Identity, Belonging, and Polarization

Chair: Joseph Phillips (TCD)

Religious Salience in the Urban Space: Muslim Presence and Intergroup Outcomes

Gizem Arikan (TCD) (with Pazit Ben-Nun Bloom, Stony Brook University)

Secure and Defensive Components of (Sub)State Identity Have Distinct Effects on Constitutional Preferences: Evidence from the UK

Joseph B. Phillips (Trinity College Dublin, Assistant Professor) with Jac M. Larnier (Cardiff University), James Griffiths (University of Manchester), Aleksandra Cichocka (University of Kent), Richard Wyn Jones (Cardiff University), and Nikhil Sengupta (University of Kent)

Projected Constraint and its Implications for Polarized Democracy

Philip Warncke (University of Limerick) with Adrian Lüders (University of Hohenheim), Dino Carpentras (ETH Zürich), Mike Quayle (University of Limerick)

Not Like Them: Social Identity and Welfare Opposition Among Low-Income Groups

Ana Sofia Jesus (TCD)

4.5 Defending and reviving democratic agency

Chair:

Militant Democracy: Towards the History of an Idea

Jennie Anne Colette Moynihan (TCD) and Peter Stone (TCD)

Is deliberation a channel for combatting disengagement, polarization, and populism?

Jennifer Todd (UCD), Joanne McEvoy (University of Aberdeen) and Shelley Deane (DCU)

Moral Coping in Election Campaigns

Joseph Lacey (UCD), Michael Coleman (UCD), Jan Fabian Dollbaum (UCD), Samuel Johnston (UCD) and Leonardo Puleo (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

Fools, Cynics, and Tricksters in Contemporary Democracy

John McGuire (UCD)

4.6 Politics of China

Chair:

From partners to rivals: unilateral role change and altercasting in EU-China relations

Niall Duggan (UCC), Jörn-Carsten Gottwald (University Bochum) and Mireia Paulo (University Bochum)

The diffusion of expert opinion and the risk of echo chambers

Johan A. Dornschneider-Elknik Medina (UCD) Franziska B. Keller (University of Bern), Hans H. Tung (National Taiwan University), Artur Baranov (Northwestern University), Meadhbh Costello (UCD), Rachel Deák (UCD), Daniel Kelly (UCD)

Renminbi internationalisation and the politics of monetary deterrence: thinking secondary-power support for a dollar hegemony

Minglou Li (University of Edinburgh)

4.7 American Political Science Association

Chair:

Panelists and papers (TBC)

Lunch *13.00-14.00*

Specialist Group Meetings **13.30 – 14.00**

Participatory and Deliberative Democracy

Voters, Parties and Elections

Session five

14.00-15.30

5.1 Authoritarianism, Illiberalism, and Strategic Rule

Chair:

Dictators of Democracy: Strategic Variation in Authoritarian Democratic Rhetoric

Lisa Fan (University of Oxford), Scott Williamson, (University of Oxford), Eddy S. F. Yeung (Texas A&M University and University of Oxford), Humeyra Biricik (University of Oxford)

Ontological (In)security in Autocracies: Communicating Nationalism Against Threats

Natalie Chi-Lok Lau (University of Edinburgh)

Speaking Strongman Politics: The Determinants and Diffusion of Strategic Authoritarian Communication Among World Leaders

Nikita Khokhlov (UCD)

The Media Cordon Sanitaire: Insights from Romania

Ioan Suhov (DCU)

5.2 Candidate characteristics and locality in Irish elections

Chair:

How the local became national, and vice versa? Explaining the rise of the locale in the Irish party system

Liam Weeks (UCC)

The changing value of candidate characteristics in attracting first preference votes

Thomas Däubler (UCD), David Farrell (UCD) and Theresa Reidy (UCC)

Some euros are more equal than others: campaign spending at the 2024 General Election

Iain McMenamin (DCU) and Eoin O'Malley (DCU)

Sporting Loyalties, Political Scandal, and Candidate Support

Liam Kneafsey (TCD) and Stefan Müller (TCD)

5.3 Political Psychology III: Conflict, Mobilization, and Accountability

Chair: Joseph Phillips (TCD)

Wartime Violence and Invalid Voting in Post-Conflict Elections

Dino Hadzic (TCD)

Youth Peacebuilding Potential and Risk of Conflict Onset: Education, Information, Engagement, and Inclusion

Yul Kwon (UCD)

Beyond Persuasion: Protest's Direct Behavioral Impact on Bystanders

Violeta Haas (TCD) with Daniel Bischof, Ferdinand Geissler, Johannes Giesecke, Felix Hartmann, Macartan Humphreys, Heike Klüver, Lukas Stoetzer, and Tim Wappenhans

Off the Hook: Disasters and the Absence of Accountability in Authoritarian Russia"

Noah Buckley (TCD)

5.4 Innovating Democratic Infrastructure: Bridging Civic Voice and Policy Design

Chair: Laurence Davis, UCC

Participatory democracy: turning theory into practice

Maureen O'Sullivan, School of Law, University of Galway

Democracy without deliberation? How the development of deliberative democratic principles over time affects country-level affective polarization

Joseph D. Foley, Philip Warncke, Caroline Pena, Paul Maher, Department of Psychology, University of Limerick

Arts-based methods for inclusive democratic processes: exploring migrant women's views on their participation in politics and policymaking in Ireland'

Vanessa Liston, Independent Researcher, CiviQ, Ireland; Catherine Forde (UCC)

Co-Creating the Housing Ecosystem: The Deliberative System and the Power of Good Ideas

Valesca Lima (DCU)

A Human-rights based approach to participation

Nicholas McMurry (Griffith College Cork)

5.5 Conflict Studies and War

Chair:

Conflict transformation and refugee diplomacy: polycentric entanglements in the Syrian war

Tamirace Fakhoury (The Fletcher School, Tufts University)

Organising the anti-mercenary norm: Russian private military companies as a liberal mimicry of western contractors

Davide Colombo (University of Bologna)

Recognition of Somaliland: a path for peace or conflict?

Ibrahim Natil (DCU)

From protection to self-reliance? Gulf Security after the U.S.-Iran conflict

Gina Bou Serhal

5.6 Public Policy I

Chair: Michele Crepaz (QUB)

Beyond efficiency: AI and time in UK policy making

Marc Elliott (TCD), Muiris MacCarthaigh (QUB) and Deepak Padmanabhan (QUB)

Lobbying as a foreign policy subsidy (or tax).

Alexander Fitzpatrick (QUB)

The role of health impact assessment in embedding health in all policies: the case of Cork city

Monica O'Mullane (UCC), Tara Kenny (UCC), Kirsty Nash (UCC) Karen O'Mahony (Cork City Council) Marie Ryan (UCC), Jeanette Fitzsimons (UCC) and Bernadette Connolly (The environmental forum)

5.7 Gender and politics in the Republic of Ireland

Chair: Lisa Keenan (TCD)

Gender, Online Abuse, and Parliamentary Scrutiny: A Mixed Methods Analysis of Ten Years of Parliamentary Questions in Ireland

Kelly Fincham (Galway)

Constructing Political Identity Online: Self-Representation Strategies of Irish Female Senators on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter

Charitha Marcus (TCD)

Violence against politicians in the Republic of Ireland: exploring variation over time and between local and general elections

Fiona Buckley (UCC) and Lisa Keenan (TCD)

Voters' issue-based justifications of violence against politicians: the case of the Republic of Ireland

Lisa Keenan (TCD)

Coffee

15.30-15.45

Session six

15.45-17.15

6.1 Far-Right Politics, Migration, and Boundary-Making

Chair: Guy Gerba (UCC)

Substituting for the State? Municipal Welfare Provision and Far-Right Social Activism

Constantine Boussalis (TCD), Elena Karagianni (TCD) Lamprini Rori (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

Competing Through Frames: Measuring Parliamentary Migration Frame Dynamics in Competitive Authoritarian Turkey

Mert Ugur (Bilkent University)

The Police as Gatekeepers of Information: Immigration Salience and Selective Crime Reporting

Ashrakat Elshehawy (University College London), Arun Frey (Independent Researcher), Violeta I. Haas (TCD), Sascha Riaz (Singapore Management University), and Tobias Roemer (Nuffield College, University of Oxford)

Evolving Attitudes Toward Immigration in Ireland: A Data-Driven Study of Reddit Sentiment and Hate Speech

Shekhar Kedia (TCD)

6.2 Teaching and Learning in Politics

Chair: Clodagh Harris (UCC)

The Politics of Higher Education: Neoliberalism and its Democratic Alternatives

Laurence Davis (UCC)

“A Different Sameness”: Civic Identity Formation Among Politics and Society Teachers in Ireland

Conor Reale (Houses of the Oireachtas Service)

The Architecture of Agency in Irish Political Second-Level Education

Gerard Elwood (DCU)

Lessons for a Wise World: Global Citizenship Education in Politics & Society

Sadhbh Bhreathnach and Fiona O’Shea (WorldWise Global Schools)

Animating the Space or Spinning Plates: The Use of Active Learning Instruments in Political Education

Philip Murphy (UCC)

6.3 An Coimisiún Toghcháin / The Electoral Commission

Chair: Rory Costello (UL)

Introduction and research update

Mary-Clare O'Sullivan (Head of Research, An Coimisiún Toghcháin)

Lessons and learnings from An Coimisiún Post Electoral Event reviews

Gillian Smyth (An Coimisiún Toghcháin)

Posters and campaigning in Ireland: a systematic review

Eoin O'Malley (DCU) Dawn Wheatley (DCU) and Saoirse McGarrigle (DCU)

Review of electoral participation and inclusion –

Catherine Lynch (An Coimisiún Toghcháin)

6.4 Diaspora Diplomacy in Comparative International Perspective: Politics, Development and Security

Chair:

Transnationalism and Development: Challenges and Strengths of Afghan Diaspora Organizations (ADOs) in Germany in Promoting Development in Afghanistan

Abdullah Ammar (Institute of Sociology at University of Marburg)

Territory Across Borders: Diaspora Engagement of Ireland and Northern Ireland, 1998 to 2026

Fabrizio Leonardo Cuccu (DCU)

From Disassociation to Bridging Nations: The Transitions in India's Diaspora Policy

Eva Loreng (Central University of Gujarat)

Channels for Diaspora Security Diplomacy shaped by the home state's adversary's offensive repertoire: case of Ukrainian Diaspora in Ireland

Maksym Skrypnyk (DCU)

Mobilising Irish soft power in the diaspora: Irish-American communities in the American Midwest

Timothy J. White (Xavier University)

6.5 Environmental Politics

Chair: Conor Little (UL)

Green blindness in the geo-economic competition: EU-China green finance in Latin America

Niall Duggan (UCC), Luis Bernardo (University of Lisbon), Kim Vender (Ruhr University Bochum) and Juan Carlos Ladines Azalia (Universidad del Pacifico)

Global climate governance in an era of geopolitical contestation: strategic competition and the future of the climate regime

Hadiqa Mir (Bahria University Islamabad)

Representation of nature as a colonized subject

Umut Kaya (UL)

Where to now?: a systemised mapping literature review of climate, biodiversity and water policy and governance across the island of Ireland

Maisie McDavid (DCU)

Woke or broke – Variations in Green Parties’ electoral success programmatic strategies

Luka De Lacey (TCD)

6.6 EU Politics

Chair:

EU Enlargement: geopolitical realities meet technocratic convergence with EU norms

John O’Brennan (Maynooth University)

Cyprus’s 2026 EU presidency and the politics of selective memory in a divided state

Mustafa Savoglu, independent scholar

AU-EU Partnership, Artificial Intelligence and Immigration Policies: The Delicate Balance

Mike Omilusi (Ekiti State University)

Mapping authority asymmetry in European subnational cooperation

Tobias Heyduk (UCD)

Impacts of Referendums on politicisation of European integration in Ireland

Shane Reynolds (UL)

6.7 The Northern Ireland Peace Process

Chair:

The US state department: central to the post-conflict Northern Ireland peace process, but downgraded under the first Donald Trump administration

Richard Hargy, Ulster University

Strategic silence – external events in the Northern Ireland conflict

Eleanor Leah Williams (DCU)

The Rocky road decommissioning: visiting the decommissioning of the Irish Army weapons part 2, November 2001 to September 2005

Dr Thomas Leahy (Cardiff University)

AGM 17.30-18.15

PSAI Fellowship lecture 18.15-19.15

Iseult Honohan (UCD)

Where is birthright citizenship going?

Book launch and drinks reception 19.30

John Doyle (DCU)

Before the Vote: planning for a united Ireland

Dinner 20.15

Sunday 18 October

Session seven

10.00-11.30

7.1 Conflict, Security, and International Risk

Chair:

Looking Next Door: The Spatial Diffusion of Inclusion Provisions in Civil War Peace Agreements

Kasidech Somboonkittichai (UCD)

HERMES: A Cross-National Corpus of Historical Diplomatic Documents, 1871-1945

Constantine Boussalis (TCD), Thomas Chadeaux (TCD), Yohan Park (TCD)

Predicting armed conflict using comprehensive protest data

Christian Oswald (University of the Bundeswehr Munich), Dominik Allen (University of the Bundeswehr Munich), Maxine Leis (University of the Bundeswehr Munich), Stephanie Riedl (University of the Bundeswehr Munich)

GTA: A harmonized, longitudinal, multilingual dataset of government-issued travel advisories

Christian Oswald (University of the Bundeswehr Munich), Dominik Allen (University of the Bundeswehr Munich) and Laura Braun (Independent Scholar)

Agentive Roles of Hezbollah's Women: A Bipartite Network Analysis of Ethnographic Interviews and Educational Books

Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink¹ (UCD) Abess Benissmail

7.2 Conflict and Migration: Theory and Practice

Chair:

What's the Point of Protecting Refugees? Humanity, Legitimacy, and the Moral Basis and Normative Functions of Refugee Protection

B. Daniel Hickey (UL)

Non-Arrival and Asylum: Border Externalisation, Political Disappearance, and Abolitionist Ethics

Ciarán Ó Briain (UCD)

Ulrich Beck's Risk Society and Western Strategies in Conflict

Eoin Micheál McNamara (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

7.3 Electoral politics in the Republic of Ireland

Chair:

Supply without demand? The emotional landscape of election campaign messaging in Ireland

Luke Field (Independent Scholar)

Visualizing Political Power: A Multimodal Analysis of a sample of Irish Election Campaign Posters in 2024

María Martínez Lirola (Universidad de Alicante)

Irish and the Presidency: Language Competence, Legitimacy, and the 2025 Irish Presidential Election

Mustafa Savoglu (Independent Scholar)

Candidate Authenticity and the 2025 Irish Presidential Election

John Kenny (University of Southampton/University of Mannheim) and Michael S. Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa)

Portraits of Power: The Role of Candidate Identity in Visual Self-Presentation at the Ballot Box

Tom Paskhalis (TCD) and Jeffrey Ziegler (TCD)

7.4 Irish Defence and Security

Chair:

Vertical contestation: how military personnel navigate strategic clarities in Ireland's defence forces

John J. Hogan

Hybrid conflict and the return of the great power geopolitics: implications for Irish security policy

Eoin Micheál McNamara (FIIA, Helsinki)

The continuous struggle for popular sovereignty: divergent institutional paths to democratic resilience in interwar Ireland and Finland

Akseli Kantanen (University of Turku)

7.5 International Politics III

Chair:

Europe's Securitisation of Migration and African Reworlding Challenges to the Samoa Agreement

Mark Langan (King's College London) and Sophia Price (Birkbeck, University of London)

The business of politics: corporate engagement and electoral violence

Molly M. Melin (Loyola university Chicago) and Tricia D. Olsen (University of Minnesota)

European Security Governance in an Era of Polycrisis: The Limits of Differentiated Integration and the Search for New Forms of Cooperation

Cigdem Ustun (Istanbul Nisantasi University) and Fatma Zeynep (Ozkurt Dordduncu, Istanbul Okan University)

7.6 Gender and Politics

Chair: Fiona Buckley

Gender distancing in lobbying: how gender shapes women lobbyists' political access

Alexander Fitzpatrick (Queen's University Belfast)

Beyond gender: how Intersectionality shapes female candidates' experiences of political violence in Nigeria

Olajumoke. O. Igun, UCC

The UK-Irish borderlands as a site of gendered violence and control: towards a feminist analysis of the border

Theresa O'Keeffe (UCC) and Niall Gilmartin (Ulster University)

7.7 Public Policy II

Chair: Muiris MacCarthaigh (QUB)

Spending & procurement analysis, reporting & accountability network (SPARÁN): building a public spending ledger for Irish public procurement expenditure

Matthew Fenlon (the problem-solving association C.L.G.), Michael A.J. Mitchell (TCD and The problem-solving association C.L.G.)

Multi-solving – bringing systems thinking to public policy

Hanna-Kasia Hoppania (University of Galway)

Beyond Satisfaction: Discrete Emotions and Administrative Burdens in Citizen Feedback

Benjamin Levy (University Paris Dauphine-PSL), Marcel Guenom (French Ministry of Economy), Christophe Benavent (University Paris Dauphine-PSL)

Coffee

11.30 – 11.45

Session eight

11.45 – 13.15

8.1 Responding to the Climate Crisis in Theory and Practice

Chair:

Fundamental Change and Climate Change: Some Tensions

Kian Mintz-Woo (UCC)

Rethinking Technology in the Context of the Climate Crisis

Alexa Zellentin (UCD)

Where is Care in Environmental Peacebuilding?

Christie Nicoson (UCD) and Barbara Magalhães Teixeira (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute)

8.2 Political Communication

Chair:

From reactive fact-checking to proactive monitoring. Towards an explainable AI (XAI) framework for monitoring political disinformation in Ireland.

Eileen Murphy Jallali and Dr Abhishek Kaushik, DKIT

Mapping Research on negative news: a computational scoping review

Lucas Paulo da Silva and Anne Schulz (University of Zurich)

Which World Gets Covered? Media Ideology and the Geography of News

Lucas Paulo da Silva (University of Zurich) and Jungmin Han (TCD)

Disabling voice: the changing forms of media repression in post-war Sri Lanka

Jude Dinesh Koduthor (MIC)

Mapping Media Capture and Executive Network Effects through Multi-Entity Sentiment Analysis and BERT-Driven Agenda Profiling on Irish News Media

Josh King (DCU)

8.3 US Politics

Chair: Tim White

Midterm Reckoning? Presidential Power, Congressional Oversight and the 2026 US Elections

Clodagh Harrington (UCC)

From Reagan to Trump: Examining the Evolution of Evangelical Influence and Conservative Politics in the American South

Isabella “Gracie” Watson (QUB)

The US International “State of Exception”: How to Challenge and Destroy the International Political and Legal Order

Clémence Pellissier, TCD

8.4 European Politics

Chair: John O’Brennan (Maynooth)

‘Our brand is conflict’ – The far-right, issue entrepreneurship, and the memory of communism in Germany

Matthias Dilling (TCD) and Félix Krawatzek (ZOiS Berlin)

Migrant integration in Germany and Italy: policy design, local implementation, and political inclusion in Europe

Seyed Farzad Hosseini (Independent Scholar)

From vineyards to diplomacy: wine in Portugal’s cultural foreign policy

Nuno Morgado (UCD)

From manifesto to voter perceptions: migration, issue salience, and party competence in Germany after the 2015 refugee wave

Mohamed Moheeb (UCD)

8.5 Radical Right, Far Right and Populist Right

Chair:

The foreign policy of populist radical right parties in Europe: levels of attention and the use of popular motifs in the foreign policy agendas of the FPÖ, Lega, Fidesz and PiS

Guy Gerba (UCC)

From the margins to the mainstream? Welfare chauvinism and the contagion of radical right ideas in British social policy

Kamala Aghazada (Canterbury Christ Church University)

Does feminism activate femonationalism? Protest mobilisation, gender violence, and far-right electoral gains?

Soumiya Benaali Bakkar

Speaking up or standing down? How the parliamentary entry of the radical right reshapes the speech of under-represented MPs

Soumiya Benaali Bakkar (TCD)

In Putin's Pocket? Explaining Variation in Far-right Assertiveness Towards Russia

Lisanne van Vucht (TCD)

8.6 The Northern Ireland Peace Process

Chair:

Decolonisation, post-sovereignty, and/or independence? How can the Irish State play a positive role in moving beyond conflict in the Island?

Jennifer Todd (UCD)

Social Movements in Divided Societies: Comparative insights from LGBTQ and Irish Language Activists in Northern Ireland

Sean Haughey (University of Liverpool)

Quebec Perspectives on the Northern Ireland Conflict: The National Question and Media Representations (1969-1972)

André Poulin (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Université de Sherbrooke)

‘How do you hold that Broad Church together?’ Irish Republican community politics during the 1970s

Lucia Piani (Ulster University)

8.7 Representation, Accountability, and Policy Influence

Chair:

Wordfish in Public Administration: Scaling Professionalism and Managerialism in Evaluation Reports

Fabian Pioch, IDHEAP (University of Lausanne)

More Than Symbols: How Women’s Representation Shapes Parties’ Electoral Appeals to Female Voters

Alona O. Dolinsky (University of Birmingham), Maarja Lühiste (Newcastle University)
Lena Maria Huber (MZES, University of Mannheim) and Will Horne (Clemson University)

Blame and Gain: Does Blame Attribution after a Natural Disaster Increase Support for the Incumbent? A German case study

Elena Karagianni (TCD)

Hear Me Out : Lobbying Frames and Policy Outcomes in the European Union

Edgar Jimenez Bedolla (Paris Dauphine University PSL), Isac Olave Cruz (Université de Rouen Normandie) and Jose Carlos Romero Moreno (Audencia Business School)

Beyond the Rio Markers: A Multilingual Text Classification on Climate Aid Behaviour of Neutral Donors

Jeanette Garcia Kola (UCD)

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting	11.00-12.00
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CLOSE OF CONFERENCE	13.15
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