Political Studies Association of Ireland

Annual Conference

Programme

16-18 October 2026

Metropole Hotel Cork

Fáilte go Corcaigh

Welcome to Cork

#PSAI2026

Conference Overview

Friday 16 October

Morning specialist group sessions 10.00 – 13.00

Introduction to Text Annotation with CodeBook Lab and CodeBook Studio - *Wilde*

Introduction to Advanced Agentic AI Tools for Social Sciences - *Yeats*

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting 11.00-13.00 - *Beckett*

IPS Editorial Board Meeting 13.00-14.00 - *Beckett*

Session one: 14.00 – 15.30

1.1 The Political Economy of Conflict: From Local Fragility to International Response – *Mary Elmes*

1.2 Attitudes and Voting Behaviour – *Beckett*

1.3 Parliamentary Politics - *Yeats*

1.4 Political History - *Wilde*

1.5 The Political Theory of Emotions - *Joyce*

1.6 The Politics and History of Northern Ireland I – *Douglas Vance*

Coffee: 15.30-16.00

Session two: 16.00-17.20

2.1 Roundtable on the 2025 Presidential Election in Ireland - *Beckett*

2.2 Roundtable: The World and the Second Trump Revolution – *Douglas Vance*

2.3 Evaluating AI: Audits, Validation, and Human–AI Comparison - *Wilde*

2.4 Human Rights, Conflict, Humanitarian Crises and Repression – *Yeats*

2.5 Defending and reviving democratic agency – O'Casey

2.6 International Politics I – *Mary Elms*

2.7 Politics in Northern Ireland - *Joyce*

Peter Mair Roundtable 17.30-19.00 – *Douglas Vance*

Artificial Intelligence, Elections and the Future of Democracy

Welcome drinks reception and opening of the 2026 PSAI annual conference by Cllr. Dan Boyle, Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork.

Council Chamber, Cork City Hall 19.15-20.00

Saturday 17 October

Session three: 09.30 – 11.00

3.1 Policy Texts, Accountability, and Political Authority - *Wilde*

3.2 Political Psychology I: Socialisation, Gender, and Norms - *Joyce*

3.3 Reforms of the judicial and political systems in the Republic of Ireland - *Yeats*

3.4 Politics and History of Northern Ireland II - *Beckett*

3.5 Political Education – *Mary Elmes*

3.6 International Politics II – *O'Casey*

Coffee *11.00-11.30*

Session four 11.30-13.00

4.1 Parliamentary Debate, Representation, and Political Appeals – Wilde

4.2 Conflict, Peace and Identity – *Mary Elmes*

4.3 The Irish electoral system – *Douglas Vance*

4.4 Political Psychology II: Identity, Belonging, and Polarization - *Joyce*

4.5 Author Meets Critics: Intelligent Democracy: Answering the New Democratic Scepticism by Jonathan Benson – *O'Casey*

4.6 Politics of China - *Beckett*

4.7 American Political Science Association - *Yeats*

Lunch *13.00-14.00 - The Merchant Lee Restaurant (Ground Floor)*

Specialist Group Meetings 13.30-14.00

IR and Area Studies – *Douglas Vance*

Participatory and Deliberative Democracy - *Beckett*

Peace and Conflict Studies - *Joyce*

Public Policy – *O'Casey*

Teaching and Learning – *Mary Elemes*

Voters, Parties and Elections - *Yeats*

Computation Methods - *Wilde*

Session five 14.00-15.30

5.1 Media, Migration, and Public Discourse – *Wilde*

5.2 Candidate characteristics and locality in Irish elections – *Douglas Vance*

5.3 Innovating Democratic Infrastructure: Bridging Civic Voice and Policy Design - *Yeats*

5.4 Conflict Studies and War – *Mary Elmes*

5.5 Public Policy I - *Joyce*

5.6 Gender and politics in the Republic of Ireland - *Beckett*

5.7 The Northern Ireland Peace Process – *O'Casey*

Coffee *15.30-15.45*

Session six 15.45-17.15

6.1 Authoritarianism, Far-Right Politics, and Illiberal Communication – *Wilde*

6.2 Teaching and Learning in Politics – *O'Casey*

6.3 An Coimisiún Toghcháin / The Electoral Commission – *Douglas Vance*

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

6.5 Environmental Politics - *Joyce*

6.6 EU Politics – *Mary Elmes*

6.7 The Northern Ireland Peace Process - *Beckett*

AGM 17.30-18.15

Douglas Vance

PSAI Fellowship lecture 18.15-19.15

Douglas Vance

Book launch and drinks reception 19.30 – first floor lobby

Before the Vote: planning for a united Ireland by John Doyle (DCU).

Dinner 20.15

Ballroom

Sunday 18 October

Session seven 10.00-11.30

7.1 Conflict, Diplomacy, and Political Violence: Corpora and Measurement – *Wilde*

7.2 Conflict, Security and Migration: Theory and Practice – *O'Casey*

7.3 Electoral politics in the Republic of Ireland - *Joyce*

7.4 Irish Defence and Security - *Beckett*

7.5 Gender and Politics II - *Yeats*

7.6 Public Policy II – *Mary Elmes*

Coffee *11.30 – 11.45*

Session eight 11.45 – 13.15

8.1 Responding to the Climate Crisis in Theory and Practice - *Wilde*

8.2 Political Communication – *O'Casey*

8.3 US Politics - *Joyce*

8.4 European Politics - *Beckett*

8.5 Radical Right, Far Right and Populist Right - *Yeats*

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting 11.30-12.30 – *Mary Elmes*

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

Session one: 14.00 – 15.30

1.1 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)

1.2 Attitudes and Voting Behaviour

Chair: David Farrell (UCD)

Tolerance for Abuse Towards Politicians in Ireland

Cassandra 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)

1.3 Parliamentary Politics

Chair: Philip Murphy (UCC)

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)

1.4 Irish Political History

Chair: Féilim Ó hAdhmaill (UCC)

Irish Strike or International Struggle? The Dunnes Stores Strike Revisited

Dr Connal Parr (Northumbria University)

Peelers and Politics: 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)

1.5 The Political Theory of Emotions

Chair: Philip Warncke (UL)

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)

1.6 The Politics and History of Northern Ireland I

Chair: Richard Hargy (Ulster 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)

Conditional Support and Secessionism: Constitutional Attitudes in Northern Ireland

Ross Wilson (University of Liverpool)

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

David Mitchell (TCD)

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)

Billy Kelleher MEP (Fianna Fáil), Gary Murphy (DCU), Gail McElroy (TCD), 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 (UCC)

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

Chair: Lorcan McLaren (UCD)

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)

2.4 Human Rights, Conflict, Humanitarian Crises and Repression

Chair: Niamh Reilly (Galway)

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

Niall Ó Dochartaigh (Galway)

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)

2.5 Defending and reviving democratic agency

Chair: John McGuire (UCD)

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)

2.6 International Politics I

Chair: Tobias Heyduck (UCC)

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

Ibrahim Natil (DCU)

Jin, Jiyan, Azadî: Decolonising the Iranian Nation

Rojîn Mûkrîyan (UCC)

Restricting movements constraining protests

Tareq Sydiq (Coordinator Centre for Conflict Studies, Marburg)

Claiming Their Right to Possess: How Coordinations Are Rewriting Resistance in Morocco

Tara Lihi (University of Ottawa)

2.7 Politics in Northern Ireland

Chair: Tim White (Xavier)

The first membership survey of the SDLP in over two decades

Marisa McGlinchey (Coventry University)

Reforming Stormont: what changes do electors want?

Jon Tonge (University of Liverpool), Sean Haughey (University of Liverpool) Ben Rosher (University of Gothenburg)

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

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

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

Elizabeth Healy (UU)

Peter Mair Roundtable **17.30-19.00**

Artificial Intelligence, Elections and the Future of Democracy

Chair: Art O'Leary (An Coimisiún Toghcháin)

Panelists: Barry O'Sullivan (UCC), Jane Suiter (DCU), James Cross (UCD)

Welcome drinks reception and opening of the 2026 PSAI annual conference by Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Dan Boyle

Council Chamber, Cork City Hall 19.15-20.00

Saturday 17 October

Session three: 09.30 – 11.00

3.1 Policy Texts, Accountability, and Political Authority

Chair: Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink (UCD)

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

Fabian Pioch, IDHEAP (University of Lausanne)

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)

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

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

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

Chair: Philip Warncke (UL)

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)

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

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

Chair: Jennifer Kavanagh (SETU)

Decision-making on the court of appeal in Ireland

Jolly A. Emrey (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: Cera Murtagh (Vilanova University)

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)

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: Philip Murphy (UCC)

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

Fahmeda Naheed (DCU)

The 1983 law on the use and teaching of Valencian and it's political consequences

Ruben Llorens Poblador (TCD)

3.6 International Politics II

Chair: Niall Duggan (UCC)

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

Sabina Kozłowska (University of the National Education Commission in Krakow) 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 (UL)

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

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

Beyond resource scarcity: developing an integrated framework for analysing farmer-herder conflicts in the Global South

Evans Amoako Amoah (MIC, UL), Julian Bloomer (MIC, UL) 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 Parliamentary Debate, Representation, and Political Appeals

Chair: Mafalda Patacão Zúquete (UCD)

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)

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)

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 (Galway)

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

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

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)

Non-monotonicity at PR-STV elections in Ireland 1922–2026: how worried should we be?

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. Larner (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)

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

Noah Buckley (TCD)

4.5 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)

4.6 Politics of China

Chair: Niall Duggan (UCC)

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 Panel

Chair: Manindra Nath Thakur (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Culture, Knowledge and quest for new national identity- Discourse of decolonisation and Hindutva politics in contemporary India

Satish Kumar Jha (University of Delhi)

Hindutva-Neoliberalism as Governmentality and Development as Civilisational Project

Aryaman Pratap Singh (Independent Researcher)

Neo-liberal Policies, Right-Wing Politics and Logic of Mass Movement

Manindra Nath Thakur (Jawaharlal Nehru University)

Lunch *13.00-14.00*

Sponsored by the Department of Government and Politics at UCC

Specialist Group Meetings **13.30 – 14.00**

IR and Area Studies

Participatory and Deliberative Democracy

Peace and Conflict Studies

Public Policy

Teaching and Learning

Voters, Parties and Elections

Computational Methods

Session five 14.00-15.30

5.1 Media, Migration, and Public Discourse

Chair: Alona O. Dolinsky (University of Birmingham)

Gendered Mediation in Personalised Campaigns: Media Bias Across Four Countries

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

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

Mert Ugur (Bilkent University)

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

Shekhar Kedia (TCD)

5.2 Candidate characteristics and locality in Irish elections

Chair: Theresa Reidy (UCC)

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)

A Lot done, More to Do!" Leaflets and Campaign Messaging in the 2024 Irish General Election

Liam Kneafsey (TCD), Sarah Wagner (QUB), Michele Crepaz (QUB) and Alan Duggan

(University of Nottingham)

5.3 Innovating Democratic Infrastructure: Bridging Civic Voice and Policy Design

Chair: Clodagh Harris (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)

Democratic Infrastructure for Citizen Participation: Rethinking Computational Text Analysis in Public Consultations

Valesca Lima (DCU)

A Human-rights based approach to participation

Nicholas McMurry (Griffith College Cork)

5.4 Conflict Studies and War

Chair: Dawn Walsh (UCD)

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

Ulrich Beck's Risk Society and Western Strategies in Conflict

Eoin Micheál McNamara (Finnish Institute of International Affairs)

5.5 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), Ger Mullally (UCC) and Bernadette Connolly (The Environmental Forum)

5.6 Gender and politics in the Republic of Ireland

Chair: Lisa Keenan (TCD)

Gender quotas in Spain and Ireland (Title and further details TBC)

Yvonne Galligan (TUD) and Ainhoa Novo-Arbona (EHU)

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 (TUD)

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)

5.7 The Northern Ireland Peace Process

Chair: Marissa McGlinchey (Coventry)

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 Sherbooke)

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

Lucia Piani (Ulster Universlty)

Coffee *15.30-15.45*

Session six 15.45-17.15

6.1 Authoritarianism, Far-Right Politics, and Illiberal Communication

Chair: Nikita Khokhlov (UCD)

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)

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)

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)

The Electoral Ecology of Far-Right Support in Ireland

Jonathan Arlow (UL) and John Humphreys (Land Use and Transport Planning Researcher)

6.2 Teaching and Learning in Politics

Chair: Clodagh Harris (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)

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

Philip Murphy (UCC)

Reflection by the PSAI Teaching & Learning in Politics Award Recipient'

Melanie Hoewer (UCD)

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

Anthony Trindle (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: Timothy J. White (Xavier University)

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: Fiona Buckley (UCC)

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) and Ojokolo Olawale Gbolabo (National Theatre Nigeria)

Mapping authority asymmetry in European subnational cooperation

Tobias Heyduk (UCC)

6.7 The Northern Ireland Peace Process

Chair: Sarah Wagner (QUB)

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)

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

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

AGM 17.30-18.15

PSAI Fellowship lecture 18.15-19.15

Iseult Honohan (UCD)

Where is birthright citizenship going?

Chair: Theresa Reidy (UCC)

Book launch and drinks reception 19.30

Launch of *Before the Vote: planning for a united Ireland* by John Doyle (DCU).

The book will be launched by Jon Tonge (Liverpool).

Master of ceremonies: Gary Murphy (DCU).

Dinner 20.15

Sunday 18 October

Session seven 10.00-11.30

7.1 Conflict, Diplomacy, and Political Violence: Corpora and Measurement

Chair: Constantine Boussalis (TCD)

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 Chadefaux (TCD), Yohan Park (TCD)

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

Stephanie Dornschneider-Elkink (UCD) and Abess Benissmail

7.2 Conflict, Security and Migration: Theory and Practice

Chair: Clodagh Harrington (UCC)

What's the Point of Protecting Refugees? Why Humanity and Legitimacy Both Underpin Duties to Refugees

B. Daniel Hickey (UL)

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

Ciarán Ó Briain (UCD)

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)

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

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

7.3 Electoral politics in the Republic of Ireland

Chair: Lisa Keenan (TCD)

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

Luke Field (Independent Scholar)

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 Mannheim/University of Southampton), Michael S. Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa) and Dieter Stiers (KU Leuven)

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: Guy Gerba (UCC)

'Vertical Contestation: How Military Personnel Navigate Strategic Narratives in Ireland's Defence Forces

John J. Hogan (VU Amsterdam)

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 Gender and Politics

Chair: Fiona Buckley (UCC)

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

7.6 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: Conor Little

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)

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

Jeanette Garcia Kola (UCD)

8.2 Political Communication

Chair: Eileen Murphy Jallali (DCU)

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

Eileen Murphy Jallali and Abhishek Kaushik (DKIT)

Mapping Research on negative news: a computational scoping review

Lucas Paulo da Silva, (University of Zurich), Anne Schulz (University of Zurich), Marina Schenkel (TUD/TCD) and Maud Reveilhac (LUT University)

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: Niall Duggan (UCC)

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: Fiona Buckley (UCC)

‘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: Olajumoke. O. Igun (UCC)

The foreign policy of populist radical rice 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)

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

Lisanne van Vucht (TCD)

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

Tamara Kolarić (DCU)

PSAI Executive Committee Meeting	11.30-12.30
CLOSE OF CONFERENCE	13.15

Fáilte Ireland



Taylor & Francis
Taylor & Francis Group



UCC
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
University College Cork, Ireland

Cork City Council