

CENTRE FOR CROSS BORDER STUDIES

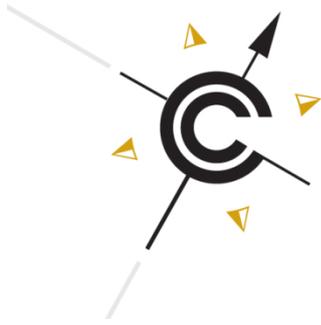
**Policy Seminar:**

# **EU Cohesion Policy Beyond 2020**

23 March 2018

## Agenda

- 10.00      **Registration and refreshments**
- 10.30      **Welcome and Introduction**  
Ms Ruth Taillon, Director, Centre for Cross Border Studies
- 10.40      **Developing post-2020 EU Cohesion Policy**  
Mr Hugh Quigley, Visiting Professor on EU Regulatory Affairs, Ulster University
- 11.00      **Ireland and Cohesion Policy**  
Dr Bríd Quinn, Lecturer in Public Administration, University of Limerick
- 11.20      **Regional Cohesion**  
Ms Caitlín Conneely, Assistant Director, Northern and Western Regional Assembly
- 11.40      **Cohering across the border**  
Dr Anthony Soares, Deputy Director, Centre for Cross Border Studies & Mr Paddy Malone, Dundalk Chamber of Commerce
- 12.00      **Discussion**
- 12.30      **Close**



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### Speaker Profiles



**Ms Ruth Taillon, Director,  
Centre for Cross Border  
Studies**

Ms Ruth Taillon is Director of the Centre for Cross Border Studies. Ruth has many years' experience working with a range of public and community-based organisations in both jurisdictions. Prior to joining the Centre, Ruth was Research Coordinator for Border Action, a partnership between Pobal and the Combat Poverty Agency, working on European funding programmes Peace and INTERREG. She was Director of the West Belfast Economic Forum and involved with the management of a number of community-based initiatives throughout the 1990s. Ruth has also worked as an independent research and evaluation consultant, specialising in gender, equality, and peace and conflict issues. She is currently a member of the Irish Government's Oversight Group for the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and an expert advisory group for a EU Commission study on obstacles to cross-border cooperation. Ruth also writes and lectures on Irish women's history, about which she has a strong personal interest.

After a short time in the Irish public service in the early 1980's, Hugh joined the European Commission in Brussels where he spent most of his career. He has worked in a number of different policy areas of the Commission including: the Directorates General for Regional Policy, Employment and Social Policy, Information and Communications, and Health

In 1989, he took charge of setting up the EU INTERREG programme, a multi-billion Euro initiative designed to promote cross border cooperation along all the EU's internal and external borders. He was also centrally involved in setting up the EU Food and Veterinary Office in the aftermath of the BSE crisis in the late 1990's.

Since his retirement from the Commission in 2011, he has worked part time as a pro-bono adviser to not-for-profit organizations in Ireland on EU policy and funding opportunities. These include The Hospice Foundation, The Immigrant Council of Ireland, Atlantic Philanthropies, The Wheel, the Irish Social Finance Fund and Access Europe.

He is also a visiting Professor on EU regulatory affairs at the University of Ulster.

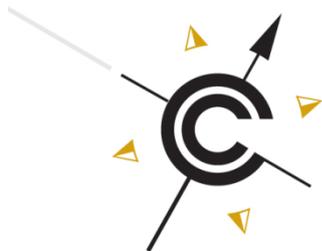


**Mr Hugh Quigley, Visiting  
Professor on EU Regulatory  
Affairs, Ulster University**



**Dr Bríd Quinn, Lecturer in  
Public Administration,  
University of Limerick**

Dr. Bríd Quinn lectures in public administration at the University of Limerick. Her current research focuses on the EU, particularly cohesion policy; local governance in Europe and partnership as a governance tool. She is co-author of *Europeanisation and new patterns of Governance in Ireland* (MUP) and has published journal articles and book chapters on EU cohesion policy. In addition to her academic work she carries out consultancy work in Ireland and abroad for development organisations, state bodies, community groups and international bodies such as the Council of Europe and EAPAA.



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***Ms Caitlín Conneely,  
Assistant Director,  
Northern and Western  
Regional Assembly***

She has established the Northern and Western Region as a platform to maximise both EU and Exchequer funding by constituent stakeholders. Her commitment to developing an iterative process rather than sequential programme delivery is ensuring a tangible connection between EU funds and regional planning. Caitlín plays a key part in connecting the strengths of an incredible region and celebrating its unique sense of place. Caitlin is also strategically exploring fund mechanisms for regional development in a post 2020 landscape. Caitlin has an ambition to create the most connected region in Europe and you can see more of that ambition on [www.nwra.ie](http://www.nwra.ie)

Caitlín holds a MBA from Dublin City University and is a former Economic Development Officer with Roscommon County Council.

Dr Anthony Soares is the Deputy Director at the Centre for Cross Border Studies, leading the Centre's Research and Policy team. His role includes the development and advocacy of policies at regional, national and European levels that support sustainable cross-border and transnational cooperation. Anthony represents CCBS on the Transfrontier Euro-Institut Network (TEIN), which brings together 14 universities and independent organisations from eight European border regions. He has also coordinated CCBS's responses to several consultations and inquiries related to the UK and Northern Ireland's relationship with the EU, including the OFMDFM Committee's inquiry into the Barroso Task Force and the House of Lords's inquiry into the UK Government's vision for EU reform.



***Dr Anthony Soares,  
Deputy Director, Centre  
for Cross Border Studies***



***Mr Paddy Malone,  
Dundalk Chamber of  
Commerce***

Paddy has held various posts within Dundalk Chamber over the last 15 years. He is a chartered accountant who has had a keen interest in cross border matters dating back to his student days. He was responsible for commissioning the McArdle Report 2011 with Louth CC and Newry/Mourne. He was the author of the submission made by Dundalk Chamber, in collaboration with both Warrenpoint and Newry Chambers to the All Island Committee of the Oireachtas. He is currently a member of the SPC Special Policy Committee of Louth cc on cross border matters. His submission to the National Development Plan saw significant changes including the prioritisation of the M1 corridor, the inclusion of Newry and the deeper analysis on BREXIT.

In his professional life he is the Principal of the accountancy firm Malone and Co. The firm provides accountancy, audit and tax planning and compliance services.