

CENTRE FOR CROSS BORDER STUDIES

ANNUAL REPORT

2018

Our Vision

The Centre for Cross Border Studies will build further upon its reputation as an authoritative advocate for cross-border cooperation and a valued source of research, information and support for collaboration across borders on the island of Ireland, Europe and beyond.

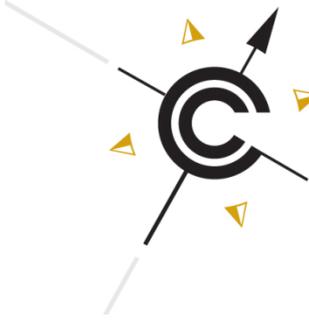
Our Mission

The Centre for Cross Border Studies empowers citizens and builds capacity and capability for cooperation across sectors and jurisdictional boundaries on the island of Ireland and further afield. This mission is achieved through research, expertise, partnership and experience in a wide range of cross-border practices and concerns.

Our Values

The Centre for Cross Border Studies:

- *Is committed to the principles of partnership, equality and mutual respect as the basis of relationships between people and governments;*
- *Is dedicated to contributing to social cohesion, economic development and environmental sustainability through cross-border cooperation on the island of Ireland and beyond;*
- *Is independent and takes no position on the constitutional question;*
- *Supports the protection of civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights and advocates the core values of human dignity, freedom, democracy, peace-building, and social justice; and*
- *Acts in recognition of the fundamental importance of non-partisanship, the pursuit of excellence, openness and transparency, and the value of local experience.*



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**The Centre for Cross Border Studies is an independent
company limited by guarantee founded in 1999**

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and
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INTRODUCTION

2018 has proved a particularly challenging year for the Centre for Cross Border Studies. The ongoing 'Brexit' negotiations have overshadowed all political, social and economic life on the island of Ireland and continued to dominate the work of the Centre. Meanwhile, our work promoting and supporting cross-border cooperation has been further constrained by the continued absence of fully functioning institutions established by the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement of 1998 – the Northern Ireland Executive under Strand 1 and the North South Ministerial Council under Strand 2. The dysfunction of the institutions established under the 1998 Agreement has been a challenge to everyone engaged in public administration and public policy, north and south.

We are very grateful for the continued generosity of the Irish Government, which has consistently demonstrated its confidence and support for what we do by providing core funding over many years. Additionally, in 2018, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Reconciliation Fund once again funded our flagship Border People project and our research project, *'Bringing the Agreement Home: In all its parts'* that concludes in 2019. Thanks also to the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Community Relations Council Northern Ireland, who have supported important activities over the past year.

The Centre also benefitted from the contributions of the post-graduate interns who have worked with us this year – Tobias Heyduk, from the University of Applied Sciences in Kehl; Clothilde Raspail, from Strasbourg University; Béibhin Gallagher, from Utrecht University; Martina Řádová, from Technical University of Liberec; and Dominik Knappe, from Ludwigsburg University of Applied Sciences. We are very appreciative that the EU Erasmus+ programme has made it possible for the Centre to offer post-graduate placements that are mutually beneficial to CCBS and the students involved. CCBS was pleased to also host one volunteer this year: Hollie Keating Akehurst, who is completing her MSc at the University of Bristol.

The Belfast/Good Friday Agreement

Our 2018 Annual CCBS Conference, *The Good Friday Agreement in All Its Parts: Safeguarding the totality of relationships*, brought together more than 100 participants – some of whom were centrally involved in drafting and implementing the 1998 Agreement and the Devolution settlement for Northern Ireland. Safeguarding the totality of relationships has been a consistent theme for us this year. The *'Bringing the Agreement Home: in all its parts'* project started in January and will conclude in March 2019.

Civic Engagement

Likewise, we have focussed strongly on supporting ‘hard to reach’ and ‘seldom heard’ groups and communities to engage with public policy, particularly in respect of developing a grassroots agenda for cross-border cooperation. With funding from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Community Relations Council, our Deputy Director, Dr Anthony Soares has worked since 2015 with participating groups to develop and agree a ‘New Common Chapter for cooperation within and between these islands.

Our Public Lecture Series gave us an opportunity to move slightly away from our public policy and practical support to cross-border cooperation and to initiate conversations with new audiences.

Promoting and Supporting North-South Cooperation

Border People, our cross-border mobility information service is a partnership with the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) Joint Secretariat. Throughout 2018, Welfare Reform – and of course Brexit — drove most of the demand for Border People’s services.

The Centre continues to provide secretariat services for two important cross-border networks: Universities Ireland and the Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South (SCoTENS).

In June, at the request of the Association for Health Promotion Ireland (AHPI), CCBS hosted a roundtable of health promotion practitioners to explore key areas for collaboration and cross-border work including networking, training and CPD opportunities. The Centre is also participating in an informal network for CEOs of cross-border bodies that was initiated this year by the Institute of Public Health in Ireland.

CCBS has continued to convene the North South Social Innovation Network Steering Committee that undertook to begin work on a Social Innovation mapping exercise, led by Dublin City University early in the year. CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon also continued in her role as Chair of the Graduating to Success Cross-Border Team under the auspices of the Department for the Economy (NI). Ruth Taillon is also a member of the Oversight Group for Ireland’s Second National Action Plan (NAP 2) on Women, Peace and Security. Following the final review of NAP 2 (2011-2013), a NAP 3 Working Group has been established, to which Ruth Taillon has again been appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Over the course of the year, the Centre shared its expertise and brought a cross-border perspective to some important research projects led by others: The Next Generation Ireland Taskforce ; the Commission for Victims and Survivors PEACE IV-funded research programme; and YouthPact, the Quality and Impact body for the EU PEACE IV Children and Young People’s Programme.

Brexit

Of course, while we have remained committed to a broad agenda of policy issues, Brexit was the dominant factor shaping the Centre's policy interventions over the past year. Members of the Centre's staff and board have participated in numerous conferences and seminars that have considered every imaginable aspect of how Brexit will impact on social, economic and political life in both jurisdictions of Ireland and among different communities and sectors. Similarly, we responded to many requests from press and broadcast journalists from around the globe and closer to home for our views; most of these related to what is or might be happening with the Brexit negotiations and their impacts. The Centre also made a number of written and oral submissions to several public policy consultations related to Brexit.

At the beginning of the year, we began a new Briefing Paper series, '*Brexit and the UK-Ireland border*'. The series, published on our website, offers an overview of the expected likely and varied effects of Brexit on the future of the UK-Ireland land border. Additionally, we published a number of opinion papers related to the Brexit negotiations. . All CCBS publications related to Brexit have been included in the Northern Ireland Assembly's regularly updated "*Brexit and Northern Ireland: A Reading List.*"

Cohesion Policy

For the past number of years, the Centre for Cross Border Studies has framed and given impetus to our work within two public policy imperatives for cross-border cooperation. The first is the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement and the second is EU Cohesion Policy, with its focus on social, economic and territorial cohesion. Even though the UK will be leaving the EU, Cohesion Policy post-2020 will continue to have relevance for Northern Ireland; not least because its neighbour will continue to be an EU Member State.

Our first policy seminar of the year – on 23 March – was on the topic, '*EU Cohesion Policy Beyond 2020*'. In March also, CCBS submitted a response to the European Commission's public consultation on Cohesion Policy that included a Position Paper on the future of Cohesion Policy. CCBS also responded to other public policy consultations.

We have now established a tradition of hosting one of our policy seminars each year in Brussels, coinciding with the DG REGIO Open Days in October. This year's event was on '*Strengthening the Partnership Principle in Border Regions: For greater cross-border cooperation*'

Looking Outward: Cooperation with other Border Regions

The CCBS Mission is to be 'a catalyst for *empowering citizens for cross-border cooperation*, across sectors and jurisdictional boundaries both on the island of Ireland and elsewhere in Europe.' Our long-standing participation in the Transfrontier Euro-Institute Network (TEIN) is an important element of this commitment.

The final study visit of the *TEIN: Platform for Dialogue* project took place on the Czech-Polish border at the end of February. A special meeting of TEIN at the office of the Permanent Representation of Ireland to the EU in Brussels was convened in September to revise the TEIN Charter and internal structures and to develop plans for future shared projects. CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon, was a speaker at a series of seminars hosted by the University of Strasbourg, in March and November and also contributed to a '*Critical Dictionary on Cross Border Cooperation in Europe*' to be published in 2019.

The Centre would like to sincerely thank our funders: in particular the Irish Government through the Department of Education and Skills and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Reconciliation Fund.

TARGETS

Our Workplan for 2018, agreed with our core funders, the Department of Education and Skills, set out a number of output targets to be achieved. All targets were met or exceeded with the exception of two which were partially achieved: one research seminar was held (target two) and there were 35 issues of Gov Watch published online (target 48).

TARGET: 1 Annual Conference (100 participants)

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1 Annual Conference (100+ participants)

8/9 March: *The Good Friday Agreement in All Its Parts: Safeguarding the totality of relationships*

TARGET: 1 in-house/commissioned research projects/reports completed

TARGET EXCEEDED: 2 research projects/reports completed

Towards a New Common Chapter Stage 3

Bringing the Agreement Home: in all its parts

TARGET: 1 report on postgraduate student flows

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1 report on postgraduate student flows submitted to the Department of Education and Skills.

TARGET: 2 research dissemination/policy seminars (50 participants x 2)

TARGET ACHIEVED: 2 research dissemination seminars

Dissemination seminars/workshops are integral elements of both the *Towards a New Common Chapter Stage 3* and *Bringing the Agreement Home: in all its parts* projects. Additional dissemination activities are planned for 2019.

TARGET: 6 seminars (total 240 participants)

TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 4 seminars for public representatives and officials (Stormont, Oireachtas, Holyrood, Brussels) on cross-border policy and practice and 1 Border People seminars on cross-border mobility issues

23 March: EU Cohesion Policy beyond 2020

27 June: 'Brexit and Me' (Joint CCBS/Youth Action Workshop)

10 October: Strengthening the Partnership Principle in Border Regions: For greater cross-border cooperation

14 November: Working for Wellbeing: Crossing sectors, crossing borders

21 November: Our Rights and Brexit: Where are we now? (Border People)

TARGET: 6 submissions to government and EU public policy consultations

TARGET EXCEEDED: 12 written and oral submissions

18 January: Task Force 50

31 January: House of Lords EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee's inquiry on Brexit and reciprocal healthcare

18 January / 31 January: House of Lords EU Select Committee Inquiry on Brexit and UK-Irish Relations

23 January: Northern Ireland Affairs Committee inquiry on the implications of the EU Withdrawal Agreement and the backstop for Northern Ireland

8 February/21 February: NIAC: Devolution and Democracy in Northern Ireland: Dealing with the deficit

21 February: Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

6 March: EU funds in the area of Cohesion Policy

8 June: House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee Dispute Resolution Inquiry
12 April: Government of Ireland. National Risk Assessment. Overview of Strategic Risks
6 July: House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee
28 August: APPG on Post-Brexit funding Inquiry
10 Nov: UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights

TARGET: Ongoing participation in NAP Women Peace and Security Oversight Group

TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: 4 public lectures/events

TARGET ACHIEVED: 4 public lectures

25 April: Spring Lecture in partnership with the Robinson Library – *Interpreting the treasures of two eighteenth Century libraries: maps from the collections of Armagh Robinson Library and Marsh’s Library, Dublin*
21 June: 3rd Annual George Quigley Memorial Lecture – *The economic geography of the Island of Ireland*
25 July: CCBS Talk at the Hewitt Summer School – *An Ulsterman considers his passport*
12 December: *Human Rights, Equality and Citizen’s Rights: the potential impact of leaving the European Union*

TARGET: 6 Briefing Papers published

TARGET EXCEEDED: 13 Briefing Papers published

30 January: *Citizens’ Rights and the UK-Ireland Border*
31 January: *Co-Operation across the Swiss-German Border*
February: *Areas of Concern for Users of the Border People Project*, updated February 2018
March: *Changing Trade Relations and Regulations*
13 June: *The Secretary of State’s Changes to Amendment 25 to the EU (Withdrawal) Bill*
19 July: *Response to UK Government White Paper: The Future Relationship Between the United Kingdom and the European Union*
2 August: *Response to UK Government White Paper: Legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union*
31 August: *The Belfast/Good Friday Agreement and the negotiations on the UK’s withdrawal from the EU*
October: *Brexit and cross-border workers on the island of Ireland*
6 November: *Strengthening the Partnership Principle in Border Regions: For greater cross-border cooperation*
20 November: *Statement on draft Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union*
23 November: *Brexit and the UK-Ireland Border: What We Need to Remember*
23 November: *Statement on the draft Political Declaration Setting out the Framework for the Future Relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom*

TARGET: Border People website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: 4 Border People Advisory Meetings

TARGET ACHIEVED: 4 Advisory Group Meetings

TARGET: 1 Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1 Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland published

TARGET: Continued membership of Transfrontier Euro Institute Network
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: Continued role as convenor of North-South Innovation Network
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: CCBS website hosted, updated and maintained
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: 12 monthly Border-Zine electronic newsletters
TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 10 Border-Zine newsletters

TARGET: Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter profiles maintained
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: 48 issues of Gov Watch
TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 34 issues of Gov Watch

TARGET: 48 issues of Media Watch
TARGET EXCEEDED: 50 issues of Media Watch

TARGET: 2 applications for research project funding submitted
TARGET EXCEEDED: 10 applications submitted (4 successful)

TARGET: 9 presentations/papers to external conferences and seminars
TARGET EXCEEDED: 23 presentations/papers to external conferences and seminars

TARGET: Participation in relevant conferences and seminars – frequency and numbers determined by other bodies
TARGET ACHIEVED: 76 conferences, seminars and other events attended by CCBS staff

TARGET: Journal/press articles – numbers determined by other bodies
TARGET ACHIEVED: 1 Journal article; 2 publications

TARGET: Press and media interviews numbers determined by other bodies
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: Continued membership of European Citizen Access Service
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: 4 Quarterly progress reports to CCBS Board
TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: Reports to funders as required
TARGET ACHIEVED

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018



The 2018 Annual CCBS Conference, *The Good Friday Agreement in All Its Parts: Safeguarding the totality of relationships*, on 8-9 March, brought together more than 100 participants – some of whom were centrally involved in drafting and implementing the 1998 Agreement and the Devolution settlement for Northern Ireland – and many others who have since had responsibility for its implementation along with others whose work as peacebuilders and cross-border cooperation

practitioners has given life and substance to the ethos and objectives of the Agreement through good times and bad.

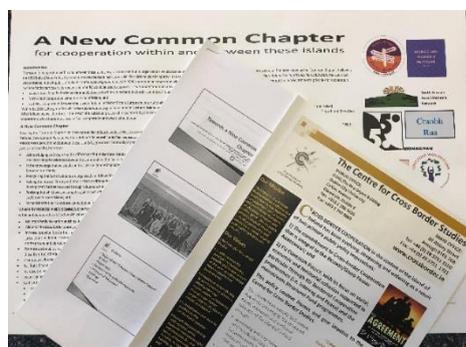
Our opening keynote speaker on Thursday morning was Dr Martin Mansergh, a key architect of the 1998 Agreement, addressing *“Brexit: The constitutional issues for the UK, Ireland and Northern Ireland”*. Mr Hugh Logue, former special advisor to OFM/DFM and a former EU Commission official opened the afternoon session on Thursday with a talk on *“Cooperation under the Good Friday Agreement: past, present and future”*. The pre-dinner speaker on Thursday evening was Mr Tony Connelly, Europe Editor for RTE. Our keynote speaker on Friday morning was the Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP, on the topic, *“How do we continue to moderate each other’s views through the Brexit process?”* The Conference also featured panel discussions on *“Human rights and the Good Friday Agreement”*; *“Devolution agreements from the Good Friday Agreement to Brexit and beyond”*; *“Building and maintaining relationship”* and *“Safeguarding the totality of relationships”*.



<http://crossborder.ie/ccbs-annual-conference-2018-good-friday-agreement-parts-safeguarding-totality-relationships/>

RESEARCH

Towards a New Common Chapter



As part of its third stage, the *Towards a New Common Chapter* project continued to hold dissemination events with community groups and other projects such as the PEACE IV 'The Next Chapter' project, Community Dialogue and Holywell Trust. The *New Common Chapter* was presented to women's groups in Magherafelt on the 9th of May, with the presentation being led by participants of the *Towards a New Common Chapter* project. The final dissemination of this stage of the project was held in

Holywell Trust on 29 June. This event included a presentation from Derry City & Strabane District Council on the Council's Community Plan reflecting the complementarity of the Carnegie Trust's *Embedding Wellbeing in Northern Ireland* initiative, aimed at local authorities, and the *Towards a New Common Chapter* project. The event on 29 June was included in the Council's successful bid to Carnegie, as part of a longer-term process of developing cross-border engagement with community groups.

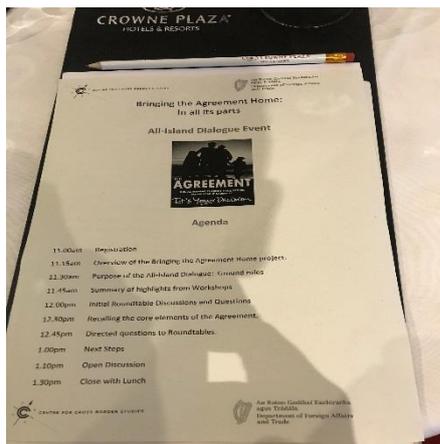
Alongside the work relating to Stage 3 of the project, several funding applications were developed and submitted in relation to the project's final stages, which will see the participating groups engage with counterparts in England, Scotland and Wales, before representatives from all the groups enter a process of engagement with policy-makers on the island of Ireland and Great Britain.

With the confirmed support of the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, and some additional funding from the Community Relations Council, the final stages of the *Towards a New Common Chapter* began with a meeting of representatives of the participating groups from the island of Ireland on 28 September. This meeting agreed a dissemination plan, and confirmed the plans for Stages 4 and 5 of the project. Following this kick-off meeting with representatives of the participating groups from the island of Ireland, the dissemination plan was finalised and communicated to all the groups.



As part of the process of preparation for engagement with community groups in Britain, project lead Anthony Soares attended a Carnegie UK Trust event in North Shields to mark the end of their Twin Towns UK programme, where he established contacts with groups from England, Scotland and Wales. The timetable now established for workshops as part of the project's penultimate stage in January and February 2019 will see the participating groups from the island of Ireland visiting Edinburgh and Cardiff and Newcastle. The final stage of the project will involve representatives from all the participating groups in a process of engagement with policy-makers on the island of Ireland and Great Britain

Bringing the Agreement Home: In all its parts



There has been renewed interest in the 1998 Belfast/Good Friday Agreement (GFA) twenty years since it was endorsed by significant majorities in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland. The GFA has become a core issue in the negotiations over the UK's withdrawal from the EU, with all the main negotiating parties expressing their desire to avoid undermining it as a result of Brexit. Indeed, the directives guiding the European Commission's approach to the negotiations state that "Nothing in the [Withdrawal] Agreement should undermine the objectives and commitments set out in the Good Friday Agreement *in all its*

parts and its related implementing agreements" (emphasis added).

Through our analysis of relevant policy and position papers, discussions with Westminster Committees and organisations based in Great Britain – and especially through our work with grassroots community groups in Northern Ireland and Ireland – CCBS identified a lack of understanding of the GFA in all its dimensions: "in all its parts". The GFA is often seen principally as a solution to a Northern Ireland problem (Strand 1 of the GFA), with the Irish and UK Governments as its co-guarantors, divorced from its other dimensions. Whereas there is a level of awareness of the cross-border or all-island dimension of the GFA, this is not necessarily translated into knowledge of the institutions and areas of cooperation under Strand 2. There is even less understanding of how the GFA links the island of Ireland and Great Britain under Strand 3. Brexit has brought this situation into focus, with the challenges it poses being seen as potentially affecting the GFA in general terms, but without necessarily seeing how it may do so in terms of all of its interrelated parts.

Supported by the DFAT's Reconciliation Fund, at the end of 2018 the project came to the end of its research phase, which involved analysing the progress of implementation of the 1998 Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, and of subsequent related agreements. The results of the analysis will be used as material for a series of workshops across the island of Ireland, finishing with an 'all-island conversation event' early in 2019.

POLICY SEMINARS

TARGET: 4 Policy Seminars delivered

TARGET ACHIEVED: 5 Policy Seminars delivered

23 March:

EU Cohesion Policy beyond 2020



Our seminar in the European Commission Office in Belfast, *EU Cohesion Policy beyond 2020* was organised as the EU's Cohesion Policy's future priorities, geographical scope, and its funding were being discussed throughout the European Union. The decisions taken by EU leaders will affect the capacity and extent to which the European Union will operate beyond 2020, and doing so in the context of an EU of 27 Member States following the UK's departure. Although the UK may be leaving the EU, it does not

necessarily mean that Cohesion Policy post-2020 will no longer have relevance for Northern Ireland; not least because its neighbour will continue to be an EU Member State. This seminar offered an important opportunity for those attending to take part in and contribute to this major debate.

<https://bit.ly/2sHIWHL>

28 June: *'Brexit and Me'* (Joint CCBS/Youth Action Workshop)

This workshop, in partnership with YouthAction Northern Ireland, involved 50 young people aged 16-25 from border communities exploring what Brexit means and the potential implications for young people living in border areas. The event was followed by the official launch of the Amplify project, currently being delivered throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Counties.

10 October:

Strengthening the Partnership Principle in Border Regions: For greater cross-border cooperation

CCBS hosted our third annual Policy Seminar in Brussels at the Northern Ireland Executive Office on 10 October. The seminar was attended by approximately 50 public officials, elected representatives and others from Ireland North and South, Britain and other EU Member States. On this occasion, we were able to draw upon the contributions of colleagues from a number of European border regions who were in Brussels for the EU Commission's Open Days. Following a warm welcome from Andrew Elliott, Director of the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive, speakers included Ms Anne Hofmann, Training Manager at the Euro Institut in Kehl, Germany; Ms Annika Daisley, Project Manager, Svinesundskommittén (Sweden/Norway). Contributors from the island of Ireland were Ms Pamela Arthurs, Pamela Arthurs, Chief Executive, East Border Region; and Shane Campbell, Chief Executive, Irish Central Border Area Network; and CCBS Director and Deputy Director Ruth Taillon and Anthony Soares. . <https://bit.ly/2CCrWXw>

14 November:

Working for Wellbeing: Crossing sectors, crossing borders

In times of constant change and challenges facing our populations' wellbeing today, there is an ever greater need for decision-makers at all levels of government to work together, not only within their own jurisdictions, but also with their counterparts in neighbouring countries. A cross-border approach can reveal opportunities to achieve greater degrees of sustainable wellbeing. It is therefore time, as we move into uncertain chapters in our future, to focus on the wellbeing of border regions, including the extent to which cross-border cooperation may be necessary to guarantee that wellbeing. CCBS brought together at St Columb's Park House representatives from the local authority-led cross-border networks on the island of Ireland, as well as representatives from community organisations from both sides of the border and the Carnegie UK Trust to share their experiences of the application of the concept of wellbeing, and to discuss what is needed to achieve wellbeing more properly in border regions in future. <https://bit.ly/2GKxtLQ>

21 November:

Our Rights and Brexit: Where are we now? (Border People)

The CCBS Border People project and the Human Rights Consortium jointly hosted a *Brexit & Our Rights* workshop in Armagh on 21 November. The evening session gathered together local community activists, concerned citizens and migrant workers. The workshop began with an explanation of the Brexit process and a lengthy discussion took place about the practical implications for individuals, their rights and their communities.

CONTRIBUTING TO PUBLIC POLICY & PRACTICE

SUBMISSIONS TO PUBLIC POLICY CONSULTATIONS

31 January:

House of Lords EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee's inquiry on Brexit and reciprocal healthcare

Following oral evidence given by CCBS Deputy Director, Anthony Soares, to the House of Lords EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee as part of its Brexit and Reciprocal Healthcare inquiry, CCBS was invited to submit supplementary written evidence, which it did on 31st January 2018. This followed Anthony's appearance before the Committee on 15 November 2017. <https://bit.ly/2CTZwoE>

18 January / 31 January:

House of Lords EU Select Committee Inquiry on Brexit and UK-Irish Relations

CCBS had previously submitted written evidence to the Inquiry (January 2017) <https://bit.ly/2oFzl6M> as well as to the committee's Devolution Inquiry (March 2017) – <https://bit.ly/2nm8swZ>. Ruth Taillon was invited to give oral evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Union session on "Brexit: UK-Irish relations" at Stormont. The committee were interested in how people on both sides of the border see Brexit and on the implications for north/south relations on the island of Ireland. <https://bit.ly/2DLuyke>. The full session is available to watch <https://bit.ly/2G1qj6w>

8 February/21 February:

NIAC: Devolution and Democracy in Northern Ireland: Dealing with the deficit

CCBS submitted written evidence to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee's inquiry, Devolution and Democracy in Northern Ireland: Dealing with the deficit. Ruth Taillon was subsequently invited to appear before the Committee to provide further evidence on 21 February. <https://bit.ly/2EaApkT>

21 February:

Northern Ireland Affairs Committee

Ruth Taillon was invited to present evidence to the NI Affairs Committee following our written submission <https://bit.ly/2EaApkT>. The proceedings can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/2BbQIA2>

6 March:

EU funds in the area of Cohesion Policy

CCBS submitted a response to the European Commission's public consultation. Our submission included a Position Paper on the future of Cohesion Policy. <https://bit.ly/2FkF3t9>

8 June:

Dispute Resolution Inquiry

CCBS submitted written evidence to the House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee's inquiry into dispute resolution and enforcement in the draft Withdrawal Agreement. CCBS's submission focused primarily on dispute resolution and enforcement mechanisms relating to the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland. <https://bit.ly/2Tq5ZhZ>

12 April:

Government of Ireland. National Risk Assessment. Overview of Strategic Risks

The National Risk Assessment (NRA) provides an opportunity to identify and debate strategic risks facing Ireland over the short, medium and long term. It is an exercise in ‘horizon scanning’ and while not aiming to provide a systematic overview of strategic risks, is seen by the Irish Government as an important part of the overall process of risk management. MK attended the National Risk Assessment Seminar in Dublin on April 12, 2018. The CCBS response highlights the need for the NRA to focus on the specific risks which Brexit posits to the future of the Good Friday (Belfast) Agreement (GFA) and to cross-border cooperation within and between these islands. These risks include: erosion of the protections for citizens’ and human rights embedded in the Agreement; undermining the equivalence of a rights regime north and south of the border; the risks to social cohesion and peace posed by a divergence of rights between British, Irish and other EU citizens in both the UK and in Ireland as a result of Brexit; and the recently passed changes to Lords’ Amendment 25 to the EU (Withdrawal) Bill which undermine the capacity of the Bill to protect the British-Irish Agreement (as a part of the GFA) against any breaches arising from Brexit, to prevent the diminution of ‘any form of North-South cooperation’, and to safeguard against the creation of additional border checks and infrastructure. <https://bit.ly/2G1ucbl>

6 July:

House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee

CCBS’s evidence to the House of Commons European Scrutiny Committee’s inquiry into dispute resolution and enforcement in the draft Withdrawal Agreement focused on issues relating to scrutiny of the implementation of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland, and highlighted areas where there are crucial details missing from the draft Agreement that need to be provided urgently in order for a proper assessment to be made. One of the critical areas is the composition of the proposed Specialised Committee on Ireland/Northern Ireland, which would have an important role, including on matters of North-South cooperation. Among its recommendations, CCBS stressed the need for any such committee to have representation from Northern Ireland and access to relevant, first-hand expertise. <https://bit.ly/2PlbkoZ>

28 August:

APPG on Post-Brexit funding Inquiry

CCBS submitted a response to the Inquiry of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Post-Brexit Funding for Nations, Regions and Local Areas. The APPG was particularly interested in views on the proposed Shared Prosperity Fund. <https://bit.ly/2PjCnkn>

10 Nov:

UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights

Ruth Taillon participated in a roundtable meeting with Prof Philip Alston, UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, hosted by LawCentreNI and the Human Rights Consortium. The conversation focused on core issues around welfare reform, failure to protect economic and social rights, the need for a NI Bill of Rights and the economic and human rights implications of Brexit. In his report, Prof Alston noted that “Brexit could also have particularly harsh consequences for people

living in Northern Ireland, with people living on the border and dependent on trade or cross-border employment.” He also raised a concern that if the European Charter of Fundamental Rights becomes no longer applicable in the UK, the level of human rights protections enjoyed by the population will be significantly diminished. <https://bit.ly/2N4JU00>

NORTH SOUTH SOCIAL INNOVATION NETWORK

The North South Social Innovation Network brings together practitioners, academics, beneficiaries and policy makers to decisively drive forward the cross-border social innovation agenda. Based in Dublin City University, the network includes Ulster University, Dundalk Institute of Technology, and the Centre for Cross Border Studies, in association with The Wheel, Probation Board NI, Probation Service, Queens University Belfast, Fab Foundation Ireland, Creative Spark, Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown, and The Young Foundation. These organisations have wide experience in the fields of social innovation, community development and North-South cooperation and have arrived at a common understanding of the need to develop the potential of cross-border cooperation in various sectors (health, education, justice, culture and the economy) and to promote the north-south social innovation agenda.

At its first meeting of the year in early February, the North South Social Innovation Network Steering Committee concluded that there was a need to refocus the Network’s strategy, and subsequently, a strategic planning session, facilitated by CCBS, was convened at the end of April. The aim of this session was to reflect on the Network’s progress to date, its strategic aims, and what measures needed to be taken in order to achieve those aims. Members were positive in relation to the Network’s role in providing valuable insights into relevant policy developments in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland, and the opportunities it provided for sharing best practice in the area of social innovation. The following meeting of the Committee confirmed a work plan for the next year taking these discussions into account. A central project for the Network is ongoing work to develop an interactive mapping tool that will identify areas of shared interest and potential collaboration, avoid duplication of efforts and resources and allow organisations to find each other in order to share knowledge and develop new innovative ideas. The mapping tool is an ongoing process and will allow for the impact of the network and the levels of collaboration to be measured over time. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1r7zBfxXIs2v5oDBIhyRFMVXNn4eMTgN8LzAuCU1-cOM/edit>

On 9 November, CCBS Deputy Director was one of the speakers at a joint event with the Cultural Policy Observatory Ireland in Monaghan, entitled “Exploring Cross-Border Cultural Policy in Practice”. This event brought together those engaging in the amateur, voluntary, commercial and publicly-subsidised cultural sector to explore a range of questions on cross border exchange in cultural policy and practice. <http://crossborder.ie/invitation-dialogue-exploring-cross-border-cultural-policy-practice/>

RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PEACE IV VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS RESEARCH PROGRAMME

The £250,000 PEACE IV Victims and Survivors Research Programme, managed by the Commission for Victims and Survivors (CVS) is intended to further the three interrelated areas at the centre of the Strategy for Victims and Survivors: development of high quality services delivering measurable improvements in the wellbeing of victims and survivors; dealing with the past; and building for the future. The programme, which runs until December 2020, is based around three research studies that are being conducted by independent research teams from Queens University Belfast and Ulster University: 1) Review of Trauma Services; 2) Transgenerational Legacy and Young People; and 3) Effective Advocacy Services. The Research Programme will support the wider strategic work involved in building a better future for victims and survivors. CCBS Director Ruth Taillon is a member of the Research Advisory Committee for these studies and the 2018 Journal of Cross Border Studies includes an article by CVS Research Officer, Dr Neil Foster, detailing the project and its purpose. <https://bit.ly/2D10CPy>

GRADUATING TO SUCCESS CROSS-BORDER TEAM

This project team, convened under the auspices of the Department for the Economy and chaired by CCBS Director Ruth Taillon, brings together officials responsible for the Higher and Further Education sections of the Department and from the Department of Education and representatives from Ulster University, Queen's University Belfast, North West Regional College, the Technological Higher Education Association (THEA – the representative body for Institutes of Technology and the Technological University); the Higher Education Authority, and NUS/USI. The team met in January to discuss the barriers to student mobility arising from issues related to qualification equivalencies and also the uncertainties about fee structures after Brexit and continuing access to the EU Erasmus programme. Erasmus was discussed again in April when the team was hosted at Letterkenny Institute of Technology. Highlights of the meeting were two presentations; on the Cross Border Further and Higher Education Cluster in the North West and the MSc Innovation Management in the Public Service. DfE reported on its response to a call from the Migration Advisory Council (MAC) on the economic and social benefits of international students. Issues around the border were highlighted together with the benefits international students provide to Northern Ireland institutions, including diversity on campus and enabling NI students to be more outward looking. It is hoped the information in the DfE response will help inform future UK government decisions. At its meeting in November, the team discussed plans for a cross-border student recruitment survey to be circulated through Universities Ireland and THEA.

YOUTH PACT

YouthPact, the Quality and Impact body for the EU PEACE IV Children & Young People's Programme (Action 2.1), was officially launched on 7 March. YouthPact is a cross-border partnership of four regional organisations: Co-operation Ireland (CI - Lead Partner); Ulster University (UU); National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI); and Pobal. The role of YouthPact is to engage with the delivery agents and their partners in the projects funded under Action 2.1 to enhance the quality and maximise the impact of their work with young people by supporting a high-quality youth work approach, and nurturing a strong change and outcomes focus.

CCBS Director Ruth Taillon is a member of the Advisory Group, which met in April and September. In June, she facilitated a training day for 10 children's and young people's projects focussed on planning for evidence-based results, using the CCBS *Impact Assessment Toolkit*.

NEXT GENERATION IRELAND TASKFORCE

The Next Generation Ireland Taskforce was a British Council research project that took the two moments of the 20th anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, and Brexit – both of which have had and will continue to have an effect on the lives of young people across Ireland and Northern Ireland. 1000 young people across the island were surveyed, seeking to analyse the conditions that support young people and allow them to reach their potential as fulfilled, productive and active citizens. The Next Generation Ireland-Northern Ireland report has now been published and can be downloaded at <https://bit.ly/2FiVXeF>

NAP OVERSIGHT GROUP ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Ireland's 2nd National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) covered the period 2015-2018. An Oversight Group for the Plan involved representatives from several government departments, balanced by representatives from civil society organisations from both sides of the border. Ruth Taillon was a member of the Oversight Group, which was supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Conflict Resolution Unit. Following the publication of the Mid-Term Review and Indicators Report in 2017, much of its activity in 2018 was focussed on the Final Review of the 2nd NAP. Subsequently, Ruth Taillon has been appointed to the NAP 3 Working Group. A call for Public Submissions regarding what should be considered as issues and priorities in the development of the Third NAP opened in November.

PUBLIC LECTURES

TARGET: 4 Public Lectures

TARGET ACHIEVED: 4 Public Lectures

25 April:

Spring Lecture in partnership with the Robinson Library

Interpreting the treasures of two eighteenth century libraries: maps from the collections of Armagh Robinson Library and Marsh's Library, Dublin

Dr Annaleigh Margey, Lecturer in History and Digital Humanities, Dundalk Institute of Technology presented the 3rd Annual Spring Lecture on Thursday 3 May 2018. Dr Margey is currently working on a cross-border project with Armagh Robinson Library and Marsh's Library, Dublin to digitise, and exhibit the map holdings of the two eighteenth-century libraries. She has written several articles on early modern mapping in Ireland, particularly on Ulster, and on the 1641 depositions. The Library was almost filled to capacity by the audience of 49 people, who enjoyed a reception afterwards in the Keeper's drawing room. <https://bit.ly/2tMLosY>

21 June:

3rd Annual George Quigley Memorial Lecture

The economic geography of the Island of Ireland

The 3rd Annual Sir George Quigley Lecture on 21st June in Queen's University Belfast was attended by more than 50 people. CCBS Chair Dr Helen Johnston, paid tribute to Sir George Quigley, who throughout his extensive career in public service and his later prominent business role championed the concept of an 'island economy' – through cross-border cooperation – as an essential means for peace and reconciliation in Ireland.

In his lecture, *The economic geography of the Island of Ireland*, Professor Edgar Morgenroth, Professor of Economics DCU, presented an analysis of economic data at an All-Island sub-national level, examined the population spread and the accessibility of transport infrastructure on the island of Ireland. His analysis showed the significant heterogeneity both within Northern Ireland and Ireland and also shows significant cross-border spillovers. <https://bit.ly/2wG2gGr>

25 July:

CCBS Talk at the Hewitt Summer School

An Ulsterman considers his passport

Prof Arthur Aughey, Emeritus Professor of Politics at Ulster University was this year's speaker for the CCBS Talk at the John Hewitt Summer School. Introducing his lecture with John Hewitt's poem 'The Frontier' Professor Aughey focused on the themes of language, identity and migration. Approximately 70 people attended the lecture by Prof Arthur Aughey, Emeritus Professor of Politics at Ulster University. After the presentation, a short question and answer session was held, with Professor Aughey fielding several questions from the large audience. <https://bit.ly/2U9DhCu>

12 December:

Human Rights, Equality and Citizen's Rights: the potential impact of leaving the European Union

The 2018 Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland was launched by Les Allamby, Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission in the Moot Court, QUB School of Law, Belfast. Les discussed the potential ramifications of Brexit on rights issues including the loss of the EU Fundamental Charter of Rights, citizens' rights, the protection of existing rights and the development of future rights and the role played by the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement. The floor was then opened up to a Q&A session which involved great interaction between those in attendance. CCBS Director Ruth Taillon brought an end to the event. <https://bit.ly/2XwMirp>

BRIEFING PAPERS

TARGET: 6 Briefing Papers published

TARGET ACHIEVED: 13 Briefing Papers published

30 January:

Citizens' Rights and the UK-Ireland Border

In this paper we examine the relationship between citizens' rights in Northern Ireland after Brexit and the

UK-Ireland border. We first explain the significance of changing citizens' rights for the future of the UK-Ireland border and then outline current areas of agreement between the UK and the EU in negotiating the future of reciprocal EU-UK citizens' rights and protections after Brexit. We further discuss how Brexit may affect citizens' rights associated with the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement and the Common Travel Area, before summarising the main implications for the UK-Ireland border. Full text can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/2S0zFWj> Executive Summary at <https://bit.ly/2G14EeH>

Northern Ireland Assembly Library

Brexit reading list

On March 7th 2018 the Northern Ireland Assembly produced an updated version of its "Brexit and Northern Ireland: A Reading List", which now includes nineteen documents from CCBS (pp.50-51):

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/globalassets/documents/raise/publications/2017-2022/2017/brexit/2917.pdf>

31 January:

Co-Operation across the Swiss-German Border

Co-operation between Switzerland and its EU-neighbour states is framed by bilateral agreements with both the EU as a whole, and individual states such as Germany. Switzerland's membership of the Schengen Area enables people to cross from one state to another without having to pass through passport controls at the border. Nevertheless, different duties and limits on the import of goods requiring customs controls, different administrative systems, and the usage of different currencies and taxes all of which impact on cross-border movement are some examples of the different facets of the borders between Switzerland and its EU neighbours. Bilateral agreements between the EU and Switzerland reduce the effect of non-membership. The freedoms of the European internal market and the bilateral agreements between Switzerland and the EU are to some extent slowly removing the border's ability to represent an obstacle to cross-border mobility and co-operation, but differences in the legal and administrative systems, mentalities and cultural preferences persist. In view of this, many different approaches are used to establish, encourage and simplify cross-border collaboration. These can be discerned at different levels and with respect to various subject areas. This Briefing Paper provides an overview of the institutional framework for co-operation established at various levels. <https://bit.ly/2E5BObP>

February:

Areas of Concern for Users of the Border People Project, updated February 2018
<https://bit.ly/2tkh6xz>

This Briefing Paper, first published in December 2017, provides information on seven key areas of concern to border region residents:

1. Free movement of people; Common Travel Area; EU right to free movement of people; EU rights or CTA rights
2. Hard Border
3. Diverging rights of Irish and British citizens
4. Cross-border students
5. Cross-border workers
6. Cross-border social security co-ordination
7. Cross-border healthcare

March:

Changing Trade Relations and Regulations

The political decision of the UK Government to leave both the Single Market and the Customs Union are widely viewed as de facto negating the possibility for the UK-Irish border to remain as open and 'invisible' as it presently stands. This Briefing Paper develops an overview of the proposals that have been put forward to address the border challenges of Brexit, querying the capacity of proposed measures to avoid a 'hard' border on the island of Ireland and questioning the substance of the notion of a 'hard' border itself. Full text can be accessed at <https://bit.ly/2CYS5N1> Executive Summary at <https://bit.ly/2S2iHaj>

13 June:

The Secretary of State's Changes to Amendment 25 to the EU (Withdrawal) Bill

This Briefing Note reflects on the proposed amendment to the EU (Withdrawal) Bill introduced by Lord Patten and others and the accepted changes by Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union David Davis. <https://bit.ly/2sVmO9t>

19 July:

Response to UK Government White Paper: The Future Relationship Between the United Kingdom and the European Union

The White Paper, *The Future Relationship Between the United Kingdom and the European Union*, published by the UK Government (12 July 2018) goes some way to clarifying the UK Government's position for the forthcoming negotiations with the EU Commission. Our review of the contents of the White Paper focuses on those proposals for future relationships that are particularly relevant to the island of Ireland. <https://bit.ly/2Pprrlz>

2 August:

Response to UK Government White Paper: Legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union

The White Paper, *Legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union*, published by the Department for Exiting the European Union (July 2018) set out how the UK Government proposed to legislate for the transposition of the Withdrawal Agreement (which will be an international Treaty between the EU and the UK) – which will be implemented as the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill. <https://bit.ly/2NuLxZB>

31 August:

The Belfast/Good Friday Agreement and the negotiations on the UK's withdrawal from the EU

This Briefing Paper questions the extent to which the negotiations over the UK's withdrawal from the EU have been able to accommodate all of the dimensions encompassed by the 1998 Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, and suggests that approaches to the negotiations have been flawed from the outset due to the 1998 Agreement being seen as one among a number of separate issues.

<https://bit.ly/2NAuc2h>

October:

Brexit and cross-border workers on the island of Ireland

As the Brexit negotiations continue, so do the lives of people living along the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland. Thousands of individuals crisscross the border each day as they go about their lives. Their reasons for crossing the border are not extraordinary – taking the kids to school, using the closest airport, going to work, visiting family, attending sporting events, buying the weekly groceries. For most people the open border is not a hindrance and often not even a consideration, the biggest inconvenience possibly being the need for two purses: one for Euros and the other for Sterling. These and many other issues arise daily for thousands of families, and in order to manage their cross-border lives they need access to information. That's where the Border People project helps out. It provides online information on cross-border issues, tailored to suit the needs of UK and Irish citizens, as EU citizens. It is commonplace for thousands of workers to cross the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland every week. Over the course of a working lifetime it is possible for individuals to have worked for numerous employers on both sides of the border, switching between jobs without regard for the border. These workers need a wealth of information to navigate the implications of their cross-border careers. <https://bit.ly/2RL5Fgl>

6 November:

Strengthening the Partnership Principle in Border Regions: For greater cross-border cooperation

The European Commission's *White Paper on the Future of Europe* prompted renewed discussion about the future of cohesion policy and its partnership principle. In the current debates there is widespread agreement that the partnership principle must be further improved. In the view of the Centre for Cross Border Studies, the required improvement of the partnership principle relates to the need for greater active participation of citizens in the development, implementation and evaluation of Cohesion Policy, leading to a truer bottom-up approach that can ensure the policy's full potential is enabled. It is our contention that a Partnership Principle with greater active citizen participation will contribute to bringing citizens closer to the structures of governance, including the institutions of the European Union. However, it is also a principle that needs to have a much clearer cross-border vision where it operates in border regions, enabling citizens to participate on a cross-border basis in its application. This can only be achieved through improved communication between governance structures and citizens in general, but – in the case of border regions – through better cross-border communication between those structures in the different jurisdictions, and between these and their citizens. <https://bit.ly/2DKd0VN>

20 November:

Statement on draft Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union

The Centre for Cross Border Studies published this response following the publication on 14 November of the draft Agreement on the UK's withdrawal from the EU, and in light of its Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland, <https://bit.ly/2ziS59l>

23 November:

Brexit and the UK-Ireland Border: What We Need to Remember

CCBS published a Position Paper that makes ten essential points on the present and future of the UK-Ireland border.

<http://crossborder.ie/ccbs-position-paper-brexit-uk-ireland-border-needremember>

23 November:

Statement on the draft Political Declaration Setting out the Framework for the Future Relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom

The Centre for Cross Border Studies, while welcoming the initiative in principle, raises its concerns regarding the reference to a proposed PEACE PLUS programme in the draft political declaration on the framework for the future UK-EU relationship, which fails to make clear how it will support cross-border cooperation. <https://bit.ly/2AcuXcg>

BORDER PEOPLE

TARGET: 4 Border People Advisory Group Meetings

TARGET ACHIEVED: 4 Border People Advisory Group Meetings: 23.01.2018; 11.05.2018; 22.10.2018; 18.12.2018

TARGET: 2 Border People Briefing Papers

TARGET ACHIEVED: 2 Border People Briefing Papers:

Areas of Concern for Users of the Border People Project <https://bit.ly/2tkh6xz>

Brexit and cross-border workers on the island of Ireland <https://bit.ly/2RL5Fgl>

TARGET: Journal Articles

TARGET ACHIEVED: Blog Post: “Brexit: Implications for cross-border lives” Blog Post in *UK in a Changing Europe*, May 2018 <https://bit.ly/2TJ7VCA>

TARGET: Border People Website Developed & Maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED: 203,143 page views during 2018

TARGET: Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter profiles maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED: 532 Border People Facebook followers; **1,357** Twitter followers, **96.6k** twitter impressions and **9,386** profile visits

TARGET: 2 Border People seminars on cross-border mobility issues

TARGET ACHIEVED: 4 Border People seminars on cross-border mobility issues:

22 October: Newry

15 November: Enniskillen

21 November: Armagh

29 November: Belfast

TARGET: Applications for project funding submitted

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1 Application for project funding submitted: DFAT, Reconciliation Fund submitted March 2018, successful June 2018

TARGET: Presentations/Papers to external conferences and seminars

TARGET ACHIEVED: 8 Presentations/Papers to external conferences and seminars

11 Apr Delegation of Democrat and Republican District Directors from the US Congress

18 Apr Northern Ireland Council for Racial Equality (NICRE), Derry

3 May Delegation of UK Think Tanks, NSMC, Armagh

4 May Department of Foreign Affairs, First Friday morning briefing, Belfast

27 June Facilitated Brexit workshop with Youth Action, Armagh

19 Sept Next Chapter Monaghan meeting

9 Oct Women and the Border workshop, Armagh

12 Oct GUE/NGL, Martina Anderson MEP Conference – On the Verge: The Final Withdrawal Agreement, Warrenpoint

TARGET: Participation in relevant conferences and seminars

TARGET ACHIEVED: Participation in 7 relevant conferences and seminars

25 Jan DCU Brexit Institute, Brexit Conference and official Launch, Dublin
7 Feb Cross-Border Brexit Conference, Dundalk and Newry Chambers of Commerce
13 Feb Brexit Conference: The Implications of Brexit for migrant workers, STEP Dungannon
8 Mar Cross-border business seminar, EURES Cross-border Partnership, Castlebellingham
27 Mar Universal Credit briefing session, Department for Communities, Newry
27 Sept NICVA Brexit Roundtable Series: Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, Belfast
2 Oct NICVA Brexit Roundtable Series: Ethnic Minorities Sector

TARGET: Continued membership of European Citizen Access Service

TARGET ACHIEVED: Continued membership of European Citizen Access Service

RECONCILIATION FUND TARGETS (2018-2019)

TARGET: 2 policy seminars:

TARGET ACHIEVED: *to take place in 2019*

TARGET: 2 information/training sessions for advisors:

TARGET ACHIEVED: 4 information/training sessions for advisors:

15 Nov; 22 Nov; 21 Nov; 29 Nov

TARGET: 4 podcasts

TARGET ACHIEVED: *to take place in 2019*

With welfare reform and Brexit continuing to dominate the agenda, the Border People project began the New Year much as the old year ended – by continuing to assist citizens with complex cross-border enquiries via telephone, email and Facebook. While many of these queries are now coming through citizens’ advisors – rather than directly from the individuals affected – they included a wide range of issues. Not always Brexit related these included questions about pension entitlement, healthcare, employer payroll, student finance, illness benefit, married persons’ tax allowance, taxation of teacher pensions, housing benefit, importing a car, medical cards and posted worker status.

Alongside its public Facebook (FB) presence, a new FB discussion group was created early in 2018 to facilitate discussion on cross-border challenges and Brexit concerns. Starting with 30 members in January, the group had grown to 94 members by the end of 2018.

With a view to preparing for the anticipated demands on the website – although limited information was (and at year end continued to be) elusive, efforts focused on restructuring the Border People website and ‘flagging up’ areas of concern for project service users. These areas of concern were also the topic for briefing papers available to download on the [Border People website](#)

The development of the website was generously funded by the Irish Government’s Reconciliation Fund. It went live at the start of May for a period of testing and will be officially launched IN 2019. The new site will highlight the practical implications of Brexit for citizens.

Through 2018, the Border People project continued to build its 'face-to-face' relationships with other experts and practitioners addressing citizens' concerns about Brexit through participation in conferences, seminars and other events on issues such as free movement, migrant communities, cross border businesses, and human rights. Likewise, Border People – in the person of Annmarie O'Kane, who manages the project as part of her duties as CCBS Information manager – was frequently called upon to share its expertise with others. Among those to whom Annmarie made presentations on Brexit were a delegation of Irish and German officials (Irish Embassy in Berlin, German Ambassador to Ireland, Ambassador Deike Potzel; Peter Ptassek, Brexit Coordinator and DG of the EU Affairs Division Berlin; Cornelius Huppertz, Counsellor, German Embassy to Ireland and UK lead); a delegation of UK Think Tanks (British Influence, Chatman House, the UK in a Changing Europe, Open Europe, Institute for Government and Centre for European Reform); and the Monaghan meeting of the Next Chapter project.

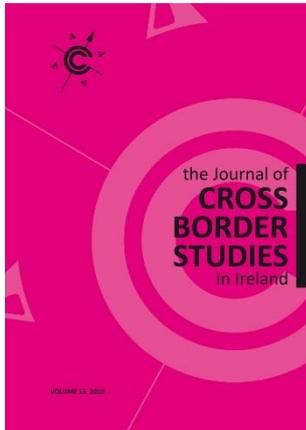
In June we were notified that the project's application to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Reconciliation Fund was successful. This made it possible for a new phase of the project, involving podcasts tailored for citizens and training and policy seminars for advisers to commence.

The first of two information seminars for advisors, focussed on cross-border social security co-ordination and the practical implications for individuals and workers who cross the border; the effects of Brexit; and the UK's EU Settlement Scheme took place on 22 October in Newry. Minister Regina Doherty addressed the attendees, thanking them for their cross-border activities and encouraging ongoing cooperation. The second session took place on 15 November in Fermanagh Citizens Advice offices, based in Enniskillen.

On 21 November, in collaboration with the Human Rights Consortium, the project held a *Brexit & Our Rights* information session in Armagh. The evening session gathered together local community activists, concerned citizens and migrant workers. The workshop began with an explanation of the Brexit process and a lengthy discussion took place about the practical implications for individuals, their rights and their communities.

In Belfast on 29 November, the project delivered a bespoke cross-border training session for advisors of EURES Cross-border Partnership. The training focussed on the implications of cross-border employment and explored the impact on social security and healthcare entitlement and taxation obligations. The session enhanced the skills of EURES advisors who are based in both jurisdictions.

JOURNAL OF CROSS BORDER STUDIES IN IRELAND



As we were publishing the 2017 *Journal*, we noted that there had been no Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly in place for almost a year, with no prospect of their reestablishment. At the time of publication of the 2018 *Journal* there was still no prospect of a restoration of the devolved institutions nor clarity about the Brexit ‘deal’ (or ‘no deal’). The confluence of these two prolonged and inter-linked political crises has seen increased uncertainty over the future of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement. In this edition of the *Journal*, therefore, we continued our focus on the ‘Brexit’ debate.

Brian Ó Caoidealbháin, Co-operation Ireland’s Research and Evaluation Officer, noted that the voices of younger generations, in particular, have been largely absent.

Les Allamby, Chief Commissioner, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, set out the current position on protecting human rights and equality as the negotiations between the EU27 and the UK government reach a critical phase. European Union law has provided significant rights protections for people living in Northern Ireland. He analyses a number of key issues which will have a significant impact as a result of the UK government’s decision to leave the European Union.

Daniel Holder and Amanda Kramer noted that although Northern Ireland’s land and sea frontiers have become centre stage in Brexit discussions, the focus has been primarily on the freedom of movement of goods, trade and customs; while that in relation to the freedom of movement of people has been marginal. Their article argues that post-Brexit free movement and border arrangements carry a significant risk of facilitating widespread racial discrimination. They question the assurances about the Common Travel Area (CTA) – which provides for free movement of Irish and British citizens but requires ‘non-nationals’ to carry documents.

In his article, Michael Potter examines how people settling in this geographical space encounter different frontiers – both seen and unseen – and how they are viewed through the prism of the conflict. He draws here on two pieces of research: a 2009 study looking at how minority ethnic and migrant worker populations encounter the phenomena associated with the conflict in Northern Ireland; and another undertaken in 2015 that investigated whether power-sharing systems designed to manage conflicts between specific communities exclude ‘other’ identities.

Neil Foster reports on the ongoing PEACE IV Victims and Survivors Research Programme under the auspices of the Commission for Victims and Survivors. In the context of the Strategy for Victims and Survivors, three research studies will inform the coordination of services for victims and survivors and others affected by the conflict’s legacy: Review of Trauma Services; Trans-generational Legacy and Young People; and Effective Advocacy Services. His paper focuses on how each of the three studies builds on existing knowledge and practice around the often complex and varied conflict-related needs of victims and survivors and the different strategic, policy and service orientated responses to address them.

A core purpose of the Centre for Cross Border Studies is to build capacity and promote good practice in cross-border cooperation on the island of Ireland and further afield. The Centre provides secretariat services for the cross-border network SCoTENS (the Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South). In their article, Dr Lesley Abbott and members of the SCoTENS Steering Group examine the value created by a unique network of teacher educators from north and south of the Irish border which was first conceived following the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement (GFA) in 1998.

Mátyás Jaschitz and Gyula Ocskay share the 'cohesion-based cross-border planning' methodology they have developed at the Central European Service for Cross-Border Initiatives (CESCI) where their work focuses on cooperation across Hungarian borders. They note that, "the main mission of cross-border cooperation in the EU consists of weakening separating effects of borders, strengthening the spirit of partnership and mutual understanding and enhancing social, economic and territorial cohesion between the member states and at the level of the European Union."

We also included in this year's *Journal* a number of reviews of books and other publications related to borders and cross-border cooperation.

COOPERATION ACROSS BORDERS NEAR AND FAR

Evaluation of Interreg V-A (Upper Rhine)

While in Germany for a TEIN meeting in March, Ruth Taillon was interviewed by Clarisse Kauber of the Euro Institute (Kehl) who is undertaking the evaluation of the INTERREG V A programme for the Upper Rhine, having previously contributed factual information from SEUPB on the programme here.

US Congress District Director Study Tour

On 14 April, CCBS briefed a delegation of Democrat and Republican District Directors from the US Congress as part of their study tour to Ireland and Northern Ireland. CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon, Deputy Director Anthony Soares, and Border People Manager, Annmarie O’Kane made presentations on the potential impact of Brexit on citizens’ socio-economic rights, particularly in their cross-border dimension. These were followed by a lengthy roundtable discussion with the delegation of 10 District Directors and accompanying Congressional staff. While the question of the future of nature of the Ireland-Northern Ireland border dominated much of the conversation, there was also significant interest from the delegation on how Brexit may affect migration policy and social cohesion in Northern Ireland, and the overall peace and reconciliation process. Our American visitors subsequently expressed how the session helped them to understand the multi-layered impacts of Brexit on people, their families and smaller companies, and the complexities of preparing for the new context ahead. <https://bit.ly/2GGypks>

Irish Embassy in Berlin and German delegation

On 25 May, at the request of DFAT, Annmarie O’Kane made a presentation on CCBS and Border People to representatives of the German Government – the German Ambassador to Ireland, Ambassador Deike Potzel; Peter Ptassek, Brexit Coordinator and DG of the EU Affairs Division Berlin; Cornelius Huppertz, Counsellor, German Embassy to Ireland and UK lead.

Cross-Border CEOs network

In July, CCBS Director Ruth Taillon attended a meeting hosted by the Institute of Public Health for CEOs of cross-border voluntary organisations. It was agreed that the meeting had been mutually useful. CCBS convened the second meeting of CEOs of cross-border organisations in October. It was agreed then to establish an informal network to discuss issues of common concern and interest operating under Chatham House rules that would meet occasionally.

Health Promotion Roundtable

On 14 June, CCBS, at the request of the Association for Health Promotion Ireland (AHPI), hosted a roundtable of health promotion practitioners to explore key areas for collaboration and cross-border work including networking, training and CPD opportunities. AHPI is the only professional association in Ireland specifically for people interested or involved in the fields of health promotion practice, health promotion education and research. The meeting was attended by representatives of AHPI, the Public Health Agency, CAWT, IPH and NSMC.

TEIN

The Centre for Cross Border Studies has been an active partner in the Transfrontier Euro Institute Network since its founding in 2010. TEIN now brings together 15 partners from 9 border regions in Europe. Its partners are universities, research institutes and training centres which are dedicated to the practical business of cross-border cooperation in Europe, all with deep knowledge of their borders' specificities.

TEIN Steering Group

The TEIN partners met in Brussels on 17 September to discuss its strategy, structures and operation. Ruth Taillon attended this special meeting at the office of the Permanent Representation of Ireland to the EU in Brussels at which the TEIN Charter was revised and progress on shared projects and future plans for the network were discussed. Before commencing discussion on internal TEIN business, TEIN members were privileged to hear a short presentation by the Irish Ambassador to the EU, Mr Declan Kelleher, who explained the Irish Government's perspective on the Future of Europe and provided an update on the Brexit negotiations.

Reflecting both the changing political context and challenges for cross-border cooperation and the development of TEIN since it was established in 2009, the meeting reviewed its Charter and agreed its central objective is *"to build capacity in cross-border and transfrontier contexts to strengthen European integration."* It was further agreed to formalise the internal structures and decision-making process of the network to ensure that TEIN is in the strongest possible position to develop joint initiatives and meet future challenges. Importantly, it was agreed to open new categories associate and individual membership of the network to others who are willing to work with TEIN for achievement of its objectives.

At the TEIN meeting in Strasbourg on 8 November, a revised Charter was adopted and it is planned to launch this with an event at the EU Parliament early in 2019. The Euro Institute in Kehl will continue to act as network coordinator, but will now be supported by a Steering Group. A number of ideas for joint projects were introduced and there will be further discussion on these before deciding which ones will proceed and what TEIN member groups will participate in them.

TEIN Platform for Cross-Border Dialogue project

In 2018, the TEIN completed the "Platform for Cross-Border Dialogue" project, funded by the Micro-projects strand of the CZ-PL INTERREG IVA programme, also involves participants from the Poland/Czech Republic, France/Germany, Austria/Slovenia and France/Spain (Catalan) border regions; all of which, like CCBS, are members of the TEIN. At the end of February, CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon travelled to Cieszyn, on the Czech-Polish border at for the final study visit of the project. (Previous study visits, all on the theme of 'Good Practice in Cross-Border Cooperation' took place in Ireland and Germany/France in 2017.) The aim of the project is to create a positive change in Polish-Czech relations related to the historical and political context of Cieszyn Silesia. The project is based upon the use innovative methods of cooperation based on an exchange of experience between the Polish-Czech borderland and other European border regions in terms of developing solutions for cross-border problems, most of which have political, historical or ethnic/national roots. Our Polish and Czech partners presented conclusions they had drawn from the analysis of documentation from

each of the participating border regions and learning from the other study visits along with recommendations for the Cieszyn Silesia and wider Czech/Polish border region. This was followed by discussion of potential future cooperation projects among TEIN members.

‘Engaging civil society in border regions for the future of Europe.’

Following the TEIN meeting in Poland in February, an application was submitted to Europe for Citizens for a project involving TEIN partners in Poland, Germany, France, Austria, Slovenia, Spain, the Czech Republic and CCBS. Lead partner is the Euro Institute. This application has been successful and the project will commence with a conference in Belfast in March 2019. Consisting of five forums taking place between 2018 and 2020 in the five border regions of the 9 project partners, the project will enable citizens not only to deepen their understanding of the EU but also voice their opinion about current trends and EU policy making processes. Each forum will gather local and EU level stakeholders, NGOs and experts from other borders together with 50 to 120 citizens from different social-economic backgrounds and with diverging opinions about European integration.

Jean Monnet / Castle Talks

The *Cross-Border Cooperation: Conflict and Cooperation at EU Borders (Castle Talks)* project, led by TEIN partner University of Strasbourg, continued throughout 2018. Ruth Taillon was a keynote speaker at the Castle Talks conference (19 -20 March), the theme of which was *Do Borders help to foster intercultural understanding?* Ruth spoke on the topic, “Fostering Inter-cultural Understanding through Cross-Border Cooperation”.

Following the great success of the six conferences organised as part of the Jean Monnet Project *Castle Talks on Cross Border Cooperation – Conflict and Cooperation at EU Borders*, new European funding to continue work on borders and European integration. Under the title *European Crises and Border Regions*, a new cycle of four conferences will be held at the Château de Pourtalès (the Castle) in Strasbourg during 2019-2020. The Castle Talks conferences are resolutely multidisciplinary: bringing together renowned researchers from several disciplines such as history, geography, political science for two days.

The first of the new round of Castle Talks, *The Identity Crisis of Europe: Euroscepticism in Border Regions*, took place on 5-7 November. The Talks included panel discussions on “Euroscepticism in Border Regions: a deeply rooted phenomenon?” and “Frustration, disillusion and disengagement with the European idea at EU borders”. Discussions were interspersed with presentations from student groups, each followed with feedback by a discussant. Ruth Taillon was one of the speakers during the final session of the seminar – a roundtable on the topic, “No to Europe? The rise of Euroscepticism in European border regions” and also acted as discussant for the three CEPA working groups.

The proceedings included the launch of the new Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence – a partnership between the University of Strasbourg (France) and Hochschule Kehl (Germany), at the initiative of Professors Sylvain Schirmann, Birte Wassenberg and Joachim Beck. This event was a celebration at Strasbourg City Hall – in the presence of the Mayor and many personalities from the Upper Rhine.

Ruth Taillon was also a speaker on the subject “The implications of Brexit on local government and on devolution in the UK” at a seminar at University of Strasbourg on 6-7 December, bringing together European and Japanese academics for a seminar under the auspices of another Jean Monnet project : *The Consequences of Brexit: Crossed Japanese-European Views*.

Jean Monnet / Critical Dictionary on Cross Border Cooperation in Europe

TEIN colleagues at University of Strasbourg, the Euro-Institute and MOT are leading on the *Critical Dictionary on Cross Border Cooperation in Europe* to be published in the Euroclio collection with Peter Lang (Brussels) in 2019. Ruth Taillon was a member of the project scientific committee and lead author of the entry on the Irish border region. Martina Radova, who was an intern with CCBS early in the year, assisted with research and production of a map for the section on the Irish Border Region.

SECRETARIATS

UNIVERSITIES IRELAND

Universities Ireland Council Brexit Working Group

Following the appointment of Prof Paddy Nixon (Ulster University) as Chair of Universities Ireland in November 2017, the Universities Ireland Council agreed that going forward into 2018, Brexit would be a core priority. The Council formed a Brexit Working Group chaired by Professor Richard English, Pro Vice-Chancellor Internationalisation and Engagement, QUB, to develop a Brexit position for Universities Ireland. The Working Group met on 20 April and again by conference call on 7 June.

In her capacity as Secretary of Universities Ireland, CCBS Director Ruth Taillon also attended a meeting between Universities Ireland, Universities UK and the Irish Universities Association in London on 10 May. The three organisations agreed that a joint statement would be drafted to express their shared commitment to continuing and further developing collaboration between Irish and UK universities irrespective of the outcome of the Brexit negotiations.

North/South Postgraduate Scholarships and History Bursary

Applications for the 2018/2019 awards closed on 3 May 2018. There were 33 applications received for the 2018 North South Scholarship. There are four scholarships of €15,000 available for the academic year 2018-2019. Four scholarships of €15,000 were awarded:

- Billy Vaughan will complete a MA Global Security and Borders in QUB
- Claire Morrison will complete a PhD in Philosophy in TCD
- Grace O'Mahony will complete a MSc in Bioinformatics and Computational Genomics in QUB
- Tiarnán Ó Muilleoir will complete a MA in UCD

There were six applications received for the 2018 History Bursary. Four scholarships of €6,500 were awarded as follows:

- Caitlin White will complete her PhD in TCD. The title of her research is *The Photographer and the City: The work of A.R. Hogg in recording social conditions in early twentieth-century Belfast*.
- John O'Donovan will complete his PhD in UCC. The title of his research is *The All-For-Ireland League 1890-1932: Conference Conciliation and Consent in Context*.
- Kevin Egan will complete his PhD in UCD and the title of his research is *History -Iveagh, the paternalistic peer: social improvement, political revolution, and industrial development in the age of emerging democracy, 1868-1927*.
- Sean Bolger will complete his PhD in UCD and the title of his research is *Establishment, Emergent Forces and Municipal Politics in Britain and Ireland, 1899 – 1914*.

History Conference: Votes for the people: 1918, Ireland's first democratic election?

The Universities Ireland Historians Group met in Queen's University Belfast on 17 May. It was agreed that the theme of the 2018 conference, *1912 -1923: Reflecting on a decade of war and revolution in Ireland* would be *Votes for the people: 1918, Ireland's first democratic election?*

This conference, which took place at Ulster University, Belfast on 1 December, was the seventh in a series of annual conferences that will continue until 2023. It is part of a multi-annual programme of activities led by the Universities Ireland Historians Group to reflect on the 1912-1923 period in Irish history.

The post-war general election of December 1918 is one of the most important events in modern Irish history. Constitutional nationalism was swept away by the reborn republicanism of Sinn Féin in three of Ireland's four provinces. It was not, however, an unvarnished triumph for the more radical Irish nationalism forged by Easter 1916 and the conscription crisis of 1918. The Unionist position in North-East Ulster was further entrenched, and the outlines of a future partitioned island became apparent from the electoral map. While the revolutionary outcomes of the election have dominated historical analysis, it was also the most democratic election seen in Ireland up to that point. For the first time all men could vote, as could most women over thirty years of age. The electorate swelled from 800,000 to two million voters, providing a unique opportunity for radical political change.

The aim of this conference was to explore both the high politics of the moment and its wider social context. Why did Sinn Féin triumph? How did the enfranchisement of women shape the election and the status of women in society? How did Unionists and Britain respond to the republican challenge? How was the election shaped by local and global concerns during a period of rapid revolutionary change? It brought together some of Ireland and Britain's leading historians of the period, including Dr Diane Urquhart; Ms Claire McGing; Dr Colin Reid; Dr Helga Woggon; Lord Bew; Professor Michael Laffan; Professor Fearghal McGarry and Dr Eamon Phoenix.

Scholars At Risk (SAR)

The Scholars at Risk Ireland Committee participated in a conference call on 18 June. They discussed future priorities and events for the upcoming academic year. At its next meeting on 1 October 2018, it was agreed to organise an event in University College Cork late 2018/early 2019. This event will include moderated panel discussion of refugees now in the undergraduate program at UCC in the Sanctuary University Program, and a talk/discussion by a member of the Academic Refuge Program.

Scholars at Risk Europe, hosted at Maynooth University, is the new European office of the global Scholars at Risk network. Its establishment represents the culmination of nearly two decades of partnership between European higher education institutions and the global Scholars at Risk Network. The European office will support and coordinate the activities of Scholars at Risk national sections and partner networks across Europe to strengthen our collective voice at the European level and contribute to informed policymaking for the greater protection of scholars and increased respect for academic freedom worldwide.

SCOTENS

Steering Committee

The SCoTENS Steering Committee met on 2 February, 27 April, 15 June, and 14 September. At the June meeting the Committee discussed a paper on “raising the profile of SCoTENS” and it was agreed to form a task group which will propose action points to be taken forward.

Throughout this year, alongside its role as the governance body for the SCoTENS network, members of the Steering Committee have been engaged in an action research/self-evaluation exercise, *Reimagining SCoTENS using a Wenger-Treyner Value Creation framework*.

The research addresses the question: *What is the value of the intervention for relevant stakeholders?* Papers based on the research findings were presented at the American Education Research Association Conference in New York in April and the International Professional Development Association conference in November. An articles was also published in the 2018 Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland.

Seed Funding

Each year, SCoTENS provides Seed Funding to support a number of collaborative research projects and professional activities in teacher education in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. This year, the seed-funding committee allocated £20,000 of funding to be shared amongst seven cross-border projects:

- *Integrating children’s literature in numeracy education;*
- *Island Systemic Learning of the Environment;*
- *Readiness and Practice: An investigation of ITE Students’ Readiness for Teaching and Learning in a Digital World;*
- *Leadership Learning in Initial Teacher Education;*
- *Knowing Your Neighbour: Educating in Multi-belief contexts in Northern and Southern Ireland;*
- *Student Teachers and Retired Teachers Together Project and Learning from Fighting Words;*
- *Fostering creativity among students in post-primary education: A blended CPD programme supporting teacher professional development and generating cross border communities of practice.*

Annual Conference: ***Education as a Common Good: the Role of Teacher Education***

18 and 19 October, Canal Court Hotel, Newry

The 16th SCoTENS annual conference, Education as a Common Good: the Role of Teacher Education, took place on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 October in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry. The 2018 SCoTENS Annual Conference invited debate on how ‘the common good’ – an alternative conception to ‘the public good’ – can help us think about our approaches to teacher education. The main conference attracted a registration of 79 people, who debated these kinds of questions and many related and practical ones stemming from their own experiences and perspectives. Keynote speakers were Professor John Furlong and Professor Meabh O’Brien. The audio recordings and presentations are available on the SCoTENS website, www.SCOTENS.org.

The 3rd SCoTENS Doctoral Workshop was held in conjunction with the Conference. This roundtable brought together doctoral researchers working on topics relating to teachers, teaching, and teacher education in its broadest readings on the island of Ireland. Ten doctoral students participated at the roundtable and discussed their work with like-minded peers and SCoTENS network colleagues.

CCBS ONLINE

TARGET: CCBS website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED: CCBS website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET: Border People website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED: Border People website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET: Facebook and Twitter profiles maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED: Facebook and Twitter profiles maintained

TARGET: 12 monthly Border-Zine electronic newsletters

TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 10 Border-Zine electronic newsletters

TARGET: 48 issues "Gov Watch"

TARGET ACHIEVED: 34 issues "Gov Watch"

TARGET: 48 issues "Media Watch"

TARGET EXCEEDED: 50 ISSUES "Media Watch"

TARGET: 12 issues "Border-Zine"

TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 10 issues "Border-Zine"

	Visitors	Site Visits	Page Views
Crossborder.ie			
Jan - Mar	3612	5174	13133
April - June	2745	3713	9134
July-Sept	2386	3168	7400
Oct-Dec	2784	3715	8649
Borderpeople.info			
Jan - Mar	27819	32085	52810
April - June	26107	27368	49974
July-Sept	27077	31122	57684
Oct-Dec	26522	30620	56317

Border-Zine

Ten editions of the electronic newsletter, Border-Zine were published in 2018. . These are archived at <https://bit.ly/2DKINaf>

Gov Watch & Media Watch

Gov Watch provided a regular summary of discussions in the Oireachtas and the NI Assembly related to the Ireland / Northern Ireland border, cross-border bodies and cross-border issues. However, with the continuing suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Ministerial Council meetings, use of this service declined. In 2018, 34 issues of Gov Watch were published. Issues of Media Watch are archived at <https://bit.ly/1Yg46SM>.

50 issues of Media Watch, summarising news items related to Ireland / Northern Ireland border, cross-border bodies and cross-border issues were published online in 2018. Issues of Media Watch are archived at <https://bit.ly/1W4X8ht>

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

TARGET: 9 presentations/papers to external conferences and seminars

TARGET EXCEEDED: 23 presentations/papers to external conferences and seminars

Throughout 2018, there continued to be a strong demand for CCBS participation in events organised by a wide range of academic, not-for-profit and public bodies in Ireland, Britain and other EU member states. As in recent years, many of these events addressed issues arising from Brexit.

10 Feb	Cooperation Ireland Brexit event for young people – “Together Apart” https://bit.ly/2NO03fe
1 Mar	CO3 Conference https://bit.ly/2EnjbOv
12 Apr	Ideas for Europe
13 Apr	The Belfast ‘Good Friday’ Agreement and the Challenges of Brexit
18 Apr	North West Foyle Racial Equality Forum
20 Apr	NICRE Brexit conference
3 May	Presentation to Delegation of UK Think Tanks
4 May	DFAT First Friday Morning Briefing
8 May	IBIS event: 20 Years after GFA
17 May	Cooperation Ireland Brexit Event
25 May	German Ambassador et al /NSMC
1 Jun	Reintroducing the Irish Border: conflict, creativity and customs posts (UCL)
26 Jun	Youthpact training
27 Jun	Youth Action – presentation on Brexit
21 Aug	PUL Brexit Info Session
13 Sept	Diagnosing Brexit Impacts on Health
19 Sept	Next Chapter Monaghan, Brexit presentation
12 Oct	GUE/NGL event on free movement
18 Oct	PUL Brexit Info Session
5-7 Nov	Castle Talks
16 Nov	Navigating Brexit: What Next for the NHS?
18 Nov	Brexit Roundtable, CO3
6-7 Dec	The Consequences of Brexit: Crossed Japanese-European Views

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND EVENTS ATTENDED

In addition to the many speaking engagements undertaken by CCBS staff members throughout 2018, the Centre was represented at some 76 conferences, seminars and other events. These provided us with many valuable opportunities to network, explore opportunities for collaboration, share expertise and information about issues of concern north and south of the border. Importantly, CCBS brought a cross-border perspective where in some cases this might otherwise have been missing. Inevitably, ‘events’ dictated that many of these were on topics related to Brexit. In the first part of the year in particular, there were also numerous events reflecting on the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement in its 20th anniversary year.

22 Jan	Employers for Childcare webinar	27 Apr	Access Europe
25 Jan	Bordering on Brexit	30 Apr	All-Island Civic Dialogue on Brexit
25 Jan	DCU Brexit Institute, Conference and official Launch	4 May	DFAT Brexit event
5 Feb	NICVA Seminar – Updated MDM	9 May	Brexit and Rights in Northern Ireland
6 Feb	Charities Across Borders	10 May	Brexit: Higher Education & Research
6 Feb	Gender and Planning	14 May	Budgetary Impact Analysis
7 Feb	Post-Brexit International & Cross Border Trade	15 May	IPPR Event
10 Feb	Cooperation Ireland Brexit event with youth	18 May	Civil Society & Europe’s Future Webinar
10 Feb	Sinn Fein Ard Fheis	18 May	Brexit, Customs Union & Single Market
12 Feb	Roundtable with MEPs on future of EU budget	22 May	TBUC Event
13 Feb	The Implications of Brexit for migrant workers	23 May	British-Irish Association Reception
13 Feb	Social Media Conference	24 May	Cohesion Conference Brussels
15 Feb	DCU Brexit Institute event	25 May	NILGA Conference
27 Feb	Ireland Funds grant workshop	30 May	QUB Brexit Clinic
8 Mar	EURES Cross-border business seminar	13 Jun	ICR Brexit and eYou roundtable
15 Mar	Probation Board NI seminar	13 Jun	President’s Garden Party
16 Mar	GDPR, data reform information session	14 Jun	DCU Brexit event
20 Mar	IPPR Roundtable, Delivering Prosperity through Devolution in Northern Ireland	14 Jun	NICRE
27 Mar	Universal Credit briefing session, Department for Communities	20 Jun	InterTradeIreland Dinner
20 Feb	QUB Brexit Seminar	21 Jun	What does Brexit Really Mean for Us?
21 Feb	Business, Enterprise & Innovation Brexit event	21 Jun	Taoiseach’s Dinner in honour of J-C Juncker
22 Feb	Navigating Brexit roundtable	29 Jun	USA Independence Day Reception
27 Feb	UI Brexit Working Group	6 July	Future of Social Policy and British-Irish Council
9 Apr	A Further Shore -- DFAT event for GFA Anniversary	16 Aug	Institute of Directors roadshow
10 Apr	GFA 20 Years on: A Community Reflects	7-9 Sept	British-Irish Association
10 Apr	Brexit Law NI – GFA event	11 Sept	ABC council event - Building an online presence
10 Apr	QUB GFA event	1 Sept	Pursuing the Common Good– Community Dialogue
10 Apr	Peace & Beyond Conference (British Council)	31 Aug	The Future of UK Borders after Brexit
10 Apr	Bill Clinton & George Mitchell Freedom of Belfast	14 Sept	Launch of the Brexit Law NI Report
12 Apr	National Risk Assessment Seminar	21 Sept	EU Settlement Scheme, Home Office Engagement with NI Stakeholders
18 Apr	NISRA training NIMDM	27 Sept	NICVA Brexit roundtable
24 Apr	Alliance for Useful Evidence Conference	18 Oct	NILGA/Commonwealth Local Government Forum
25 Apr	RIA – GFA Young People’s Guide	1 Nov	Building Change Trust Final Celebration Event
26 Apr	GDPR event	7 Nov	Home Office briefing– EU Settlement Scheme
26 Apr	ICLRD Conference: Rural Society in Transition	15 Nov	NERI seminar
		29 Nov	Scottish Govt. St Andrew’s Day Reception

30 Nov ICBAN event
4 Dec NICVA Policy Forum
4 Dec ESPON
5th Dec British-Irish Intergovernmental Secretariat
Christmas reception
6th Dec NIRWN Women and Brexit working group

PRESS AND BROADCAST MEDIA

Politiken (Denmark)
Globo TV (Brazil)
L'Express news magazine (France)
BBC Business and Brexit panel
Czech Radio
Le Vif (Belgium)
CBC (Canada)
Sky News (UK)
NVTV (Belfast)

JOURNAL ARTICLES & PUBLICATIONS

Women in Business: An article by Anthony Soares, “*Brexit: The current, the possible, the likely*”, was published in the Women in Business members’ magazine (February 2018), following a request from that organisation.

<http://www.womeninbusinessni.com/Home.aspx>

Komarova, M. and Svašek, M. (2018)

Ethnographies of Movement, Sociality and Space: Placemaking in the New Northern Ireland.

Oxford and New York: Berghahn

<https://bit.ly/2N86pap>

Exploring the complex dynamics of twenty-first century spatial sociality, this volume provides a much-needed multi-dimensional perspective that undermines the dominant image of Northern Ireland as a conflict-ridden place. Despite touching on memories of “the Troubles” and continuing unionist-nationalist tensions, the volume refuses to consider people in the region as purely political beings, or to understand processes of placemaking solely through ethnic or national contestations and territoriality. Topics such as the significance of friendship, gender, and popular culture in spatial practices are considered, against the backdrop of the growing presence of migrants, refugees and diasporic groups.

Komarova, M. and Hayward, K. (2018)

‘The Irish Border as a European Union Frontier: The Implications for Managing Mobility and Conflict’ *Geopolitics*,

<https://bit.ly/2BCCxOY>

The 1998 Good Friday (Belfast) Agreement defined the conflict in Northern Ireland as being over the border between this part of the United Kingdom (UK) and the Republic of Ireland. This article defines and understands the Agreement as one of a number of ‘border regimes’ that operate between the two jurisdictions on the island of Ireland and, in doing so, seeks to explain how it is that Brexit has such significant implications for the management of conflict and mobility here. Against the backdrop of the European Union’s (EU’s) external border regimes, the authors argue that the most significant

point about border regimes is not inclusion/exclusion across a state border but hierarchies of rights and treatment *within* a jurisdiction. This helps illustrate why it is that the UK's withdrawal from the EU holds such significance for the peace process in Northern Ireland and for mobility within and across the islands of Ireland and Great Britain more broadly.

This research was supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada with funding from the Borders in Globalization research programme (<http://www.biglobalization.org/>), led by the Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria in British Columbia.

Blog Post: Annmarie O'Kane, "*Brexit: Implications for cross-border lives*" in *UK in a Changing Europe*, May 2018 <https://bit.ly/2TJ7VCA>

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

TARGET: 2 Applications for research project funding submitted

TARGET ACHIEVED: 10 Project Applications Submitted / 4 Successful

In 2018, as part of our sustainability strategy, the Centre continued to pursue project funding alongside our efforts to secure additional core funding. Applications were made to the Economic and Social Research Council and philanthropic funders the Friends Provident Foundation, Polden Puckham, WA Cadbury, the Big Lottery and the Ireland Funds. Unfortunately, none of these applications were successful.

The DFAT Reconciliation Fund did support both the Border People project and along with the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and the Community Relations Council, provided part-funding for the *Towards a New Common Chapter* project.

MEMBERS OF THE CCBS BOARD 2018

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Dr Walt Kilroy, Associate Director, Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction and Assistant Professor, School of Law and Government, Dublin City University

Two vacancies