



**The Centre for
Cross Border Studies**

Annual Report

2016

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.

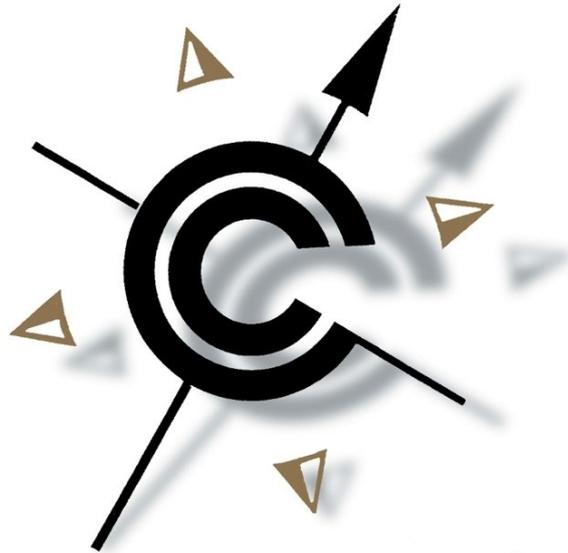
Our Mission

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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Introduction

This report details the activities of the Centre for Cross Border Studies during the period 1 January to 31 December 2016.

Brexit

The work programme of the Centre for Cross Border Studies (CCBS) in the first half of 2016 focused on addressing the issues raised by the (then) forthcoming Referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union. Following the vote and throughout the second half of 2016, the Centre's activities have thus been dominated by 'Brexit'. CCBS has responded to numerous requests from a range of media and press outlets (page 50) as well as many invitations to speak at seminars and conferences (page 36). We also held a number of meetings with public officials and representatives of political parties (although these meetings were on a variety of issues as well as Brexit) (page 21).

Our Annual Conference for 2016 – ***Bordering Between Unions: What Does the UK Referendum on Europe Mean for Us?*** (page 8) – set the agenda for the first half of the year, leading up to the Referendum on 23 June. We recognised then that a referendum result taking the UK out of the EU would have enormous consequences for everyone living on this island.

In partnership with Cooperation Ireland, CCBS produced a series of Briefing papers (page 18). All of the briefing papers and our submissions are available on our website. We were very pleased that the CCBS website has been identified by the National Library of Ireland as one of scholarly, cultural and political importance and selected for inclusion in its Web Archive. The National Library is creating a collection of sites relating to the EU Brexit referendum. It will be made available through the Library's website www.nli.ie.

In April, CCBS Deputy Director Anthony Soares was the speaker at a policy seminar for the Advisory Board and other stakeholders of SafeFood on "The Potential Implications of Brexit for Cross-Border Bodies" (page 22). In October, the CCBS annual seminar in Brussels on the topic, *The Future of Cross-Border Cooperation: on the island of Ireland, between the island and Great Britain, and beyond* provided a vital opportunity to debate how cross-border cooperation can continue to contribute to the socio-economic development of border regions in the wake of the Referendum (page 20).

In addition, CCBS has made submissions to the Inquiries by the House of Lords and Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and to the Joint Oireachtas Good Friday Agreement Implementation Committee and the Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Committee (page xx). CCBS also joined with others in the Taoiseach's All-Island Civic Dialogue events in November and December (page 33). A full list of the submissions that CCBS made to public policy consultations is available at (page 37).

While the shadow of Brexit looms over us, nevertheless, other work continued throughout the year.

We made two submissions to the consultations on the Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government and participated in a number of ongoing consultation processes.

CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon, was a member of an expert advisory group for an EU DG REGIO Cross-Border Review project that is examining the administrative and legal obstacles that persist along EU internal borders (page 30). CCBS also submitted



two written responses to the public consultation exercise linked to the review.

The CCBS Director is also a member of the Oversight Group of Ireland's second *National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2015 – 2018)* (page 32). At the request of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ruth Taillon made a presentation in February about UNSCR 1325 and the Irish National Action Plan to participants in the Shades Negotiation Program, "a unique platform for negotiation and leadership training and practice engaging promising mid-career men and women in the Middle East".

The cross-border project team supporting the Northern Ireland Executive's Higher Education Strategy is chaired by Ruth Taillon. Previously under the auspices of the Department for Employment and Learning, the team has recently been reconvened under the auspices of the new

Department for the Economy (page 22).

CCBS is working also with our founding universities – Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and Dublin City University (DCU) – to maximise the potentially mutual benefits of our relationships. In recent months, this has been principally focused through both institutions' membership of the North-South Social Innovation Network Steering Committee convened by CCBS (page 29). The Centre also collaborated throughout the year with academics from QUB on initiatives to develop meaningful engagement between the academy and civil society (page 25).

Training and Capacity-Building

The Centre also delivered training on cross-border project planning to border region community groups and specialist training on cross-border family benefits issues to citizens' advisors (pages 40 & 48).

Border People

The Border People project (page 38), while no longer giving advice directly to cross-border commuters and other individuals, improved our online access and delivered training and direct support to citizen advisors. The Border People project continues to be an invaluable source of evidence on the continuing problems faced by cross-border commuters that CCBS is able to share with policy- and decision-makers.

Research

In June we published a key piece of research, led by CCBS Deputy Director, Dr Anthony Soares – *A study of cross-border flows within the agri-food sector* – offering a detailed analytical snapshot of cross-border activity within the agri-food sector, focusing on small-scale enterprises in four border counties. A research dissemination seminar in June was well attended by Departmental officials, economists and industry leaders. (page 47).

Deputy Director Anthony Soares is also leading on an action research project, *Towards a New Common Chapter*, phase one of which concluded in December 2016 (a second phase commences 2017) (page 44). CCBS is working with civil society organisations from both sides of the border – involving in particular, the active participation of women, young people and Protestant community organisations – to produce a New Common Chapter that voices the needs of civil society.

In December, we delivered our annual review of Southern Irish Postgraduates for the Department of Education and Skills (page 23).

Public Lectures

CCBS and Armagh Public Library jointly hosted a lecture by Dr Richard Clarke, Archbishop and Primate of All Ireland (CoI), whose topic was *The Stranger at the Gate*, on 25 May. The Archbishop

examined what our response should be to the refugee crisis and concluded that the greatest challenge is to our generosity of spirit, quoting Primo Levi, “If we can relieve torment and do not, we become tormentors ourselves.” (page 24)

The first annual George Quigley Memorial Lecture, delivered by Dr Frances Ruane, explored the importance of competitiveness for the two open economies on the island of Ireland and the process whereby both parts of the island are benchmarking their competitiveness performances to those of their global competitors (page 43).

CCBS once again hosted a lecture at the John Hewitt Summer School in July. Contributing to the conversations around this year’s theme, *A Role in History: the Rising, the Great War and a Shared Past* Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland presented the CCBS-sponsored lecture, *How have we remembered 1916?* (page 28)

Our final public lecture for 2016, *Cross-Border Collaboration in the US-Mexico Border Region* was presented by Chuck Matthews, Director, Health and Human Services, County of San Diego. Chuck presented the Centre with a Proclamation from the San Diego Board of Supervisors, that declared the occasion “Centre of Cross Border Studies Live Well San Diego Day” (page 27). This lecture coincided with the launch of the 2016 *Journal of Cross Border Studies*, on 22 November in Belfast and 24 November in Dublin (page 16).

An important element of the Centre’s work (and a valuable funding stream) is our support to cross-border networks, Universities Ireland, comprised of the 10 universities on the island and the Standing Conference on Teacher Education North and South (SCoTENS) and CCBS provides secretariat services to both.

Universities Ireland

In September, President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins launched the digitised versions of the 1916 leaders' courts martial (page 50). Since 2012, the Centre has worked with the Universities Ireland Historians Group to organise annual conferences on the theme, *1912-1923 Reflecting on a decade of War and Revolution in Ireland*. This year's conference, *Historians on 1916*, was held in Dublin's Mansion House on 22 October (page 51). A second important strand of Universities Ireland's work is its role as the Irish section of Scholars at Risk (SAR). Scholars at Risk is an international network of higher education institutions dedicated to protecting threatened scholars, preventing attacks on higher education communities and promoting academic freedom worldwide. We were honoured that President Higgins addressed a special SAR-Ireland event on 29 November (page 53). The Centre for Cross Border Studies also administers the

North South Post-Graduate Scholarship and History Bursaries schemes on behalf of Universities Ireland (page 51).

SCoTENS

SCoTENS is a network of 37 colleges of education, university education departments, teaching councils, curriculum councils, education trade unions and education centres on the island of Ireland with a responsibility for and interest in teacher education. The October 2016 SCoTENS conference, *Communities of practice: Learning together to teach together*, was on the theme of teachers' collaborative learning (page 54). CCBS administers the SCoTENS Seed Funding Programme that promotes and funds a range of research-based initiatives with a view to establishing sustainable North-South partnerships and projects (page 55). The Centre also organises the annual North South Teacher Exchange (page 55).



FROM LEFT: Mr Trevor Holmes, Ms Caitriona Crowe; President Michael D Higgins; Mr Michael Curran; Ms Ruth Taillon; and Dr Helen Johnston at launch of Civil War Archives, Richmond Barracks, on 22 September.

Targets

Our Workplan for 2016, agreed with our core funders, the Department of Education and Skills (Ireland) and The Executive Office (Northern Ireland), set out a number of output targets to be achieved. However, unanticipated demands on our staff time and resources – such as requests for presentations on Brexit at conferences and seminars organised by other organisations – meant that some other activities could not be delivered. While we hosted only three policy seminars rather than the planned six, we did hold five public lectures instead of the planned three. Although two research dissemination seminars were anticipated, the nature of the *Towards a New Common Chapter* project precluded a dissemination event at the end of phase one. However, it is expected that ten dissemination events will be integral to phase three.

All other targets were met or exceeded.

TARGET: 8 submissions to government and EU public policy consultations

TARGET EXCEEDED: 11

1. Obstacles to Cross-Border Cooperation (DG REGIO Review)
2. Oversight Group on Ireland's 2nd National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2015 – 2018
3. All-Island Civic Dialogue on Brexit
4. Scotland's Future Relations with the UK and the EU
5. Inquiry into Northern Ireland and the UK's referendum on EU membership.
6. Consultation on the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021
7. Implications of the UK Referendum for the Good Friday Agreement and Institutions
8. Future of the land border with the Republic of Ireland:
9. Economic Implications of the UK Referendum Decision
10. Inquiry into UK-Irish relations and Brexit
11. Consultation on the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021

TARGET: 8 Briefing Papers

TARGET EXCEEDED: 9

1. *The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: What does it mean for us?*
2. *The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: Potential Constitutional Consequences*
3. *The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: Cross-Border Cooperation, Peace-Building and Regional Development,*
4. *EU Referendum Briefing Note: Informing the Debate*
5. *The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: Freedom of Movement of People*
6. *Free movement of people and the UK EU Referendum*
7. *The UK Referendum on EU Membership: Economic Development*
8. *Brexit and UK-Irish Relations*
9. *The possible implications of repealing the Human Rights Act 1998*

TARGET: 2 applications for research project funding submitted

TARGET EXCEEDED: 3

1. *Towards a New Common Chapter, Phases 2 & 3 (approved)*
2. *Micro-Project Fund of the INTERREG V-A Czech Republic-Poland within the Cieszyn Silesia Euroregion (pending)*
3. Polish Ministry of Infrastructure and Development within the EU ESF framework with Krakow University of Economics (*unsuccessful*)

TARGET: 10 days' capacity-building training/ mentoring for cross-border projects

TARGET EXCEEDED: 12 days

TARGET: 12 presentations/ papers to 'external' conferences and seminars

TARGET EXCEEDED: 29

TARGET: 2 in-house/ commissioned research projects/ reports completed

TARGET ACHIEVED: 2

1. *Towards a New Common Chapter 1*
2. *A Study of Cross-border Flows within the Agri-Food Sector*

TARGET: 3 public lectures/events (total 120 participants)

TARGET EXCEEDED: 5 (156+ participants)

1. *The Stranger at the Gate (33)*
2. *Cross-Border Collaboration in the US-Mexico Border Region (40)*
3. *Cross-Border Collaboration in the US-Mexico Border Region*
4. *Competitiveness on the Island of Ireland (23)*
5. *How have we remembered 1916? (60+)*

TARGET: 1 Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland – 300 printed copies; electronic version

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1

TARGET: 1 report on postgraduate student flows

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1

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

TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 1 (43 participants)

1. *A Study of Cross-border Flows within the Agri-Food Sector*

TARGET: 6 seminars for policy makers

TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 3

1. *The future of cross-border cooperation on the island of Ireland and between the island of Ireland and Great Britain (60 attendees)*
2. *The Potential Implications of Brexit for Cross-Border Bodies (25 attendees)*
3. *NI Social Security: Welfare Reform & Brexit (43 attendees)*

TARGET: 1 Annual Conference (120 participants)

TARGET ACHIEVED: 1 (112 participants)

TARGET: CCBS website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: Border People website hosted, updated and maintained

TARGET ACHIEVED

TARGET: 2 Border People Advisory Meetings

TARGET ACHIEVED: 2

TARGET: 12 monthly cross-border Ezines

TARGET ACHIEVED: 12

TARGET: 48 issues of Gov Watch information bulletins on CCBS website

TARGET ACHIEVED: 48

TARGET: 48 issues of Media Watch information bulletins on CCBS website

TARGET ACHIEVED: 48

TARGET: CCBS Annual Report 2016

TARGET ACHIEVED



At the 2016 CCBS Annual Conference:
Dr Helen Johnston; Mr Dáithí O'Ceallaigh; Dr Katy Hayward; Dr Martin Mansergh; and Dr Mary C Murphy

CCBS Funding and Sustainability

Since 2006, the Centre for Cross Border Studies has relied on the support of the Irish Government, through the Department of Education and Skills (DES), for substantive core funding (currently €180,000 per annum).

Until January 2014, Centre was able to sustain its core activities with substantial EU INTERREG and PEACE programme project funding. However, changes to these programmes meant that CCBS was unable to devise projects that matched the 2014-2020 programme criteria. We were extremely grateful, therefore, for the continued generosity of the Irish Government, which provided €50,000 'emergency' funding through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Reconciliation Fund to enable the Border People project to operate (on a scaled down basis) for the first six months of 2016.

Likewise, the Reconciliation Fund supported the CCBS 2016 Annual Conference with a grant of €10,000. A Reconciliation Fund grant of €10,000, received in 2015 also contributed to the George Quigley Initiative, and covered the costs of our study of the agri-food industry that was completed this year.

Nevertheless, the sustainability of the Centre requires an additional source of core funding. We were therefore delighted when, in August 2016, we received approval of our application for £130,000 to The Executive Office for core funding to match our core funding from the Irish Government. This funding from DES has once again been approved for the calendar year 2017. However, while the Centre has submitted an application for continued core funding to The Executive Office, at time of writing,

there is no certainty about the 2017 budget or indeed, when or whether there will be Ministers in post to consider our application. This is a worrying situation for the Centre, particularly as the challenging political uncertainty has increased demands on our existing resources significantly over the past year and our policy analysis, advocacy and practical support for cross-border cooperation will be increasingly relevant once Article 50 is invoked.

We of course are acutely aware of the need for a diversified funding base and an important element of this is the income we generate for activities and projects. An important additional source of funding is the income derived from the secretariat services provided to two important cross-border networks, Universities Ireland and the Standing Conference on Teacher Education, North and South (SCoTENS). While CCBS is fully supportive of the objectives and activities of both networks, they are self-governed by the Universities Ireland Council (comprised of the 10 Presidents and Vice-Chancellors) and the SCoTENS Steering Committee, with logistical support from the Centre. The work for these networks in 2016 is reported on [pages 22-22](#). The Centre would welcome additional opportunities to provide similar practical support to cross-border projects, programmes and networks.

It is also essential that the Centre is able to attract project funding to support programme costs for research projects. An important part of the research work of the Centre in 2016, led by Deputy Director Dr Anthony Soares was the *Towards a New Common Chapter* project that we report on [pages 22-22](#). This project was made possible with the generous support of the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust that offered an initial grant of £29,800 for the first phase of the project and additional funding of £4,090 from the Community

Relations Council for Northern Ireland. We are very pleased that JRCT have expressed their confidence in the project by recently approving additional funding of £33,515 for phases two and three of the project going forward in 2017.

Additionally in 2016, the Centre has been involved in a number of conversations with potential project partners within and beyond these islands. Over a number of months, we have been engaged with partners in Scotland, the North East of England and Wales to develop a major three-year research proposal, provisionally titled, *Rediscovering Borders in the UK*. It is expected that this proposed project will be submitted to a funding body in 2017.

We are also partners in a project funded by the Micro-Project Fund of the INTERREG V-A Czech Republic-Poland within the Cieszyn Silesia Euroregion. In this case, the lead partner is the Olza Association of Poland. The other partners are all, with CCBS, members of the Transfrontier Euro Institute Network: EuroSchola (Czech Republic); Euro Institute (Germany); Carinthia University (Austria) and University of Perpignan (Catalonia).

Another project, in this case led by the University of Strasbourg, *Conflicts et coopérations dans les régions frontalières de l'UE* also involves a number of TEIN partner organisations. While this project will cover the costs of our participation only, it provides an opportunity for the Centre to share our experiences and learn from those of others involved in cross-border cooperation in other European border regions.

Early in 2016, CCBS was also a partner in a project application led by Krakow University of Economics that unfortunately was not successful. During the year other exploratory conversations about potential collaborations have taken place with potential partners, although none of these has developed to application stage.

Annual Conference 2016



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2016

BORDERING BETWEEN UNIONS:

What does the UK Referendum on Europe mean for us?

*A full report of conference proceedings is online at:
<http://crossborder.ie/centre-for-cross-border-studies-2016-annual-conference/>*

Bordering Between Unions: What Does the UK Referendum on Europe Mean for Us?

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk – 18/19 February



This year's annual conference was held in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dundalk on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th of February 2016. It facilitated wide-ranging and informed discussions on the likely economic, social and political implications of a UK withdrawal or the possible reforms leading to its continuing membership upon these islands and upon the wider future direction of Europe. The Centre was delighted to welcome speakers and attendees from across Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and beyond.

More than half (61) of the 112 conference attendees were from Northern Ireland, and 34 from the south; the remaining 17 from Britain, the rest of the EU and elsewhere. While the venue of the conference had been chosen with a view to maximising attendance from both jurisdictions, it is likely that the conference focus on the then forthcoming referendum would have naturally attracted a greater interest from residents of Northern Ireland. It is likely also, that the Irish general election campaign going on then had a negative effect on the numbers of

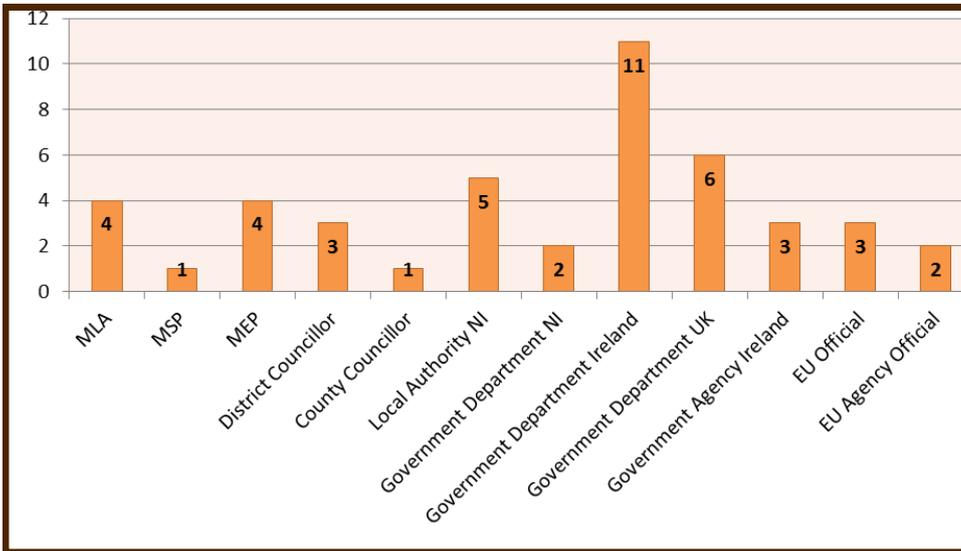
politicians and political activists attending from the Republic of Ireland. There was also a gender imbalance, with 64% men and 36% women attendees. However, this may have reflected the gender gap that persists in wider society, and in particular in political parties and public bodies, because our analysis shows that the conference was successful in attracting the participation of politicians and public officials from all levels of government. Forty percent of all those participating in the conference (speakers and attendees) were politicians and public officials.



ABOVE LEFT: Dr Mary C. Murphy, University College Cork addresses conference.

ABOVE RIGHT: Humza Yousaf MSP, the Minister for Europe and International Development, Scottish Government (centre) with CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon, and Deputy Director, Anthony Soares.





The conference was successful in attracting the participation of politicians and public officials from all levels of government. Forty percent of all those participating in the conference (speakers and attendees) were politicians and public officials.

The Conference opened with a keynote address from Dáithí O’Ceallaigh, Former Irish Ambassador to the UK, whose task was to provide his perspective on how the European Union has changed Ireland, North and South.

Dr Martin Mansergh, Former Minister of State at the Department of Finance continued the theme of observing the role of the EU in Ireland,

both north and south.

Dr Mary C Murphy of University College Cork warned that a vote to leave the EU would trigger political and economic uncertainty and would

directly threaten policies and financial commitments to Northern Ireland and it would impact upon the broader international environment.

“The EU has had a very big influence on the relationship between North and South. The EU has been incredibly helpful in supporting cross-border projects. The EU has also been very helpful in supporting the peace process.”
Mr Dáithí O’Ceallaigh,
Former Irish Ambassador to the UK



Mr Dáithí O’Ceallaigh, Former Irish Ambassador to the UK, with Ruth Taillon and Dr Anthony Soares



Ms Annmarie O'Kane, CCBS Information Manager, Mr Jerome Mullen, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland, Mr Jeremy Harding, Ms Bernadette McAliskey, STEP, Dr Lee McGowan, Queen's University Belfast

“A BREXIT would almost certainly be privately welcomed by Putin’s Russia, particularly as it would encourage other centrifugal forces in the EU on both the hard right and the hard left.”

Dr Martin Mansergh

The second session of the conference was designed to attempt to tease out some of the constitutional and political implications of a UK withdrawal from the European Union. The keynote speech was delivered by Humza Yousaf MSP, the Minister for Europe and International Development, Scottish Government.

Former Director of the Centre for Cross Border Studies, Andy Pollak chaired a subsequent panel discussion on the Constitutional and Political Implications of Withdrawal from the EU. The first speaker was Dr Adam Lazowski, Professor of Law at the University of Westminster, who explained the

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH		FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH	
9:00	Registration and refreshments	9:30	KEYNOTE: What Europe Do We Want? MEP Vice-President of the European Parliament Mairéad McGuinness
9:30	Welcome by Chair Dr Helen Johnston, Chair, Centre for Cross Border Studies	10:00	PANEL DISCUSSION: The Economic Reform Agenda (CHAIR) Philip McDonagh, Independent Economist Dr Edgar Morgenroth, Associate Research Professor, Economic and Social Research Institute
9:45	KEYNOTE: How the European Union has changed Ireland: North and South Dairbhí Ó'Ceallaigh, Former Irish Ambassador to the UK	10:30	ROSS MARTIN CSD, Scottish Council for Development and Industry Nigel Smyth, Director, CBI Northern Ireland
10:15	PANEL DISCUSSION: How the European Union has changed Ireland: North and South (CHAIR) Dr Katy Hayward, Senior Lecturer at Queen's University Belfast Dr Martin Mansergh, Former Minister of State at the Department of Finance Dr Mary C Murphy, Lecturer, University College Cork	11:00	TABLE DISCUSSIONS: The Economic Reform Agenda
10:45	Q&A	11:30	REFRESHMENTS
11:00	REFRESHMENTS	12:00	PANEL DISCUSSION: The Institutional Reform Agenda (CHAIR) Jane Morrice, Former Vice-President European Economic and Social Committee Prof Hugh Quigley, Visiting Professor on EU Regulatory Affairs, University of Ulster Pat Colgan, Former CEO, Special EU Programmes Body
11:15	KEYNOTE: Constitutional and Political Implications of Withdrawal from the EU Humza Yousaf MSP, Minister for Europe and International Development, Scottish Government	12:30	COLETTE FITZGERALD , Head of the EU Commission Regional Office in Northern Ireland
11:45	PANEL DISCUSSION: Constitutional and Political Implications of Withdrawal from the EU (CHAIR) Andy Pollak, Former Director, Centre for Cross Border Studies Prof Adam Lazowski, Professor of Law, University of Westminster Dr Lee McGowan, Senior Lecturer, Queen's University Belfast Paul Brannen MEP, Labour Party Member of the European Parliament	13:00	TABLE DISCUSSIONS: The Institutional Reform Agenda
13:00	TABLE DISCUSSIONS: Constitutional and Political Implications of Withdrawal from the EU	13:30	LUNCH
13:30	LUNCH	14:30	KEYNOTE: Free Movement of People Jeremy Harding, Author of Border Rights and Refugees at the Rich Man's Gate
14:30	KEYNOTE: Free Movement of People Annmarie O'Kane, Information Manager, Centre for Cross Border Studies Jessica Mullen, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Northern Ireland Yasen Georgiev, Executive Director, Economic Policy Institute, Bulgaria Bernadette McAliskey, Director, South Tyrone Empowerment Programme	14:30	PANEL DISCUSSION: The Political Reform Agenda (CHAIR) Dr Helen Johnston, Chair, Centre for Cross Border Studies Stewart Dickson, MLA, Alliance Party Jennifer McCann, MLA, Junior Alliance, Sinn Féin Jill Evans, MEP, Plaid Cymru Marian Harkin, MEP, Independent Member of the European Parliament Pádraig MacGiolla, MLA, SDLP Mike Nesbitt, MLA, Leader of the Ulster Unionist Party
15:00	PANEL DISCUSSION: Free Movement of People (CHAIR) Annmarie O'Kane, Information Manager, Centre for Cross Border Studies Jessica Mullen, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Northern Ireland Yasen Georgiev, Executive Director, Economic Policy Institute, Bulgaria Bernadette McAliskey, Director, South Tyrone Empowerment Programme	15:30	TABLE DISCUSSIONS: The Political Reform Agenda
15:45	TABLE DISCUSSIONS: Free Movement of People	16:00	CLOSING REMARKS Ruth Talton, Director, Centre for Cross Border Studies
16:15	END OF DAY 1 SUMMARY Dr Anthony Soames, Deputy Director, Centre for Cross Border Studies	16:15	CONFERENCE CLOSES
16:00	RECEPTION		
16:00	DINNER		

legal process of a member state withdrawing from the EU.

Dr Lee McGowan, Senior Lecturer at Queen's University Belfast, followed with a contribution looking at the implications of a UK withdrawal from the EU.

Paul Brannen MEP, Labour Party Member of the European Parliament, provided the conference with his views on the likely political and constitutional implications of a UK withdrawal from the EU.

The third conference session was dedicated to shedding light on the important issue of the "Free Movement of People". The keynote speech was delivered by Mr Jeremy Harding, best known as the author of *Border Vigils* and *Refugees at the Rich Man's Gate*.

Jerome Mullen, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Northern Ireland, followed with a contribution noting that immigrant communities are not a burden on the British Exchequer as one is

"EU regulations certainly provide us with a lot of benefits. The regulations do protect our market. ... Beef production in the US is largely dependent on the use of hormones, which are banned here. ... in the States they spray chicken carcasses with chlorine, which is a chemical we don't allow into the food chain... In the European Union we have a voice over rules, and as part of the EU we have a voice over global rules."

**Ivor Ferguson
Deputy President, Ulster Farmers Union**

often led to believe.

Ms Bernadette McAliskey, Director of the South Tyrone Empowerment Programme, similarly noted the need for migrants to meet Europe's social, political, economic and cultural development over the next 50 years.

Having on Day One considered the role of the EU in Ireland, north and south, as well as the possible socio-economic, legal, political and constitutional implications of a UK withdrawal from the UK upon these islands, Day Two opened with a session which examined the future shape and direction of the European Union. The session was opened with a



keynote speech from the Vice-President of the European Parliament, Mairead McGuinness MEP.

Following Mairead McGuinness' keynote address, a panel comprising Dr Edgar Morgenroth, Associate Research Professor at the Economic and Social Research Institute; Ross Martin, CEO of the Scottish Council for Development and Industry; Nigel Smyth, Director of CBI Northern Ireland; and Ivor Ferguson, Deputy President, Ulster Farmers Union considered the current economic reform agenda.

The following panel discussion sought to provide the conference with an informed debate on the case for and against institutional change within the European Union. The panel included Professor Hugh Quigley, Visiting Professor on EU Regulatory Affairs, University of Ulster; Pat Colgan, Former CEO

Special EU Programmes Body; and Colette Fitzgerald, Head of the EU Commission Regional Office in Northern Ireland.

The closing event of the conference was dedicated to discussing the political reform agenda, which comprised a panel of elected representatives from

“The Europe we want is essentially a Europe where people feel comfortable, where they believe that not just their economic interests are being looked after, but more importantly that their children get jobs; that they can have access to health; that they have a sense of wellbeing and community.”

**Mairead McGuinness MEP,
Vice-President of the European Parliament**

across these islands. The panel included: Stewart Dickson MLA, Alliance Party; Jennifer McCann MLA, Junior Minister, Sinn Féin; Jill Evans MEP, Plaid Cymru; Marian Harkin MEP, Independent Member of the European Parliament; Patsy

McGlone MLA, SDLP and Mike Nesbitt MLA, Leader of the Ulster Unionist Party. The elected representatives spelled out both their party's perspectives in addition to their own individual perspectives on Brexit.

LEFT TO RIGHT:

Ms Ruth Taillon, Dr Mary C Murphy, Dr Martin Mansergh, Dr Helen Johnston, Dr Katy Hayward, Mr Dáithí O'Ceallaigh,





The 2016 Annual Conference offered an early opportunity for informed discussions on the likely economic, social and political implications of a UK withdrawal or the possible reforms leading to its continuing membership upon these islands and upon the wider future direction of Europe. The Centre was delighted to welcome speakers and attendees from across Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and beyond.



The closing event of the conference was dedicated to discussing the political reform agenda, which comprised a panel of elected representatives from across these islands.

FROM LEFT: Mr Mike Nesbitt MLA, Leader of the Ulster Unionist Party; Mr Patsy McGlone MLA, SDLP; Ms Marian Harkin MEP, Independent Member of the European Parliament; Ms Jennifer McCann MLA, Junior Minister, Sinn Féin; Ms Jill Evans MEP, Plaid Cymru; and Mr Stewart Dickson MLA, Alliance Party.

The Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland

Our 2016 *Journal* is dedicated to the memory of our former Board member, Ann McGeeney and CCBS Chair, Helen Johnston reflects in her Foreword on Ann's contribution over many years to challenging poverty and disadvantage – particularly in the border region – and her valuable work in supporting peacebuilding initiatives, particularly with grassroots communities on both sides of the border, but also on a wider international context (she travelled in her role with the Cadbury Trust to Palestine and elsewhere). We are pleased to also publish here Kathy Walsh's personal tribute to Ann, "cross-border peacebuilder". Kathy writes evocatively about Ann's approach to working with border communities and her strong commitment to social justice. Kathy's article also provides information about the Ann McGeeney Trust Fund. The Centre for Cross Border Studies is honoured to cooperate with the Trust by providing administrative support to the new Ann McGeeney Awards for peacebuilding and cross-border cooperation.



The Ann McGeeney Trust Fund operates in keeping with Ann's principles and life. It offers small one-off grants to:

- ◆ Support community groups to build peace across and within communities and to establish cross-border contacts;
- ◆ Support women and women's groups seeking to make a positive difference to their lives and the lives of others;
- ◆ Support minority groups, both indigenous and those newly arrived in Ireland.

The Fund is being managed by the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland on behalf of the Trust.

It you are interested in contributing to the Fund or running a fundraising event for the Trust please email:

jimmymurray56@hotmail.com

Donations can be made at **<https://localgiving.org/charity/annmcgeeneytrust/>**

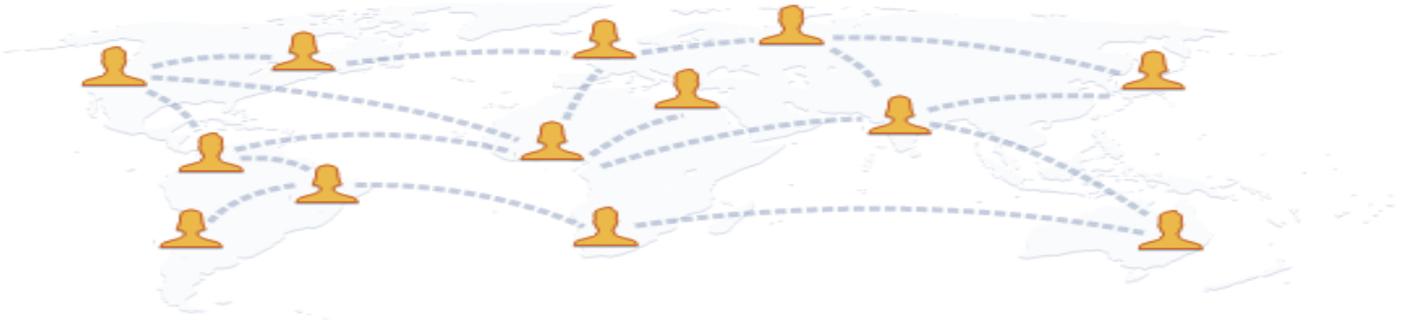
If you or indeed someone you know is interested in accessing support from the Fund, a short expression of interest form can be downloaded from the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland website at: www.communityfoundationni.org

CCBS Online



@CCBSCrossBorder

Border People @BorderPeople



The Centre for Cross Border Studies and our Border People project maintain a high profile online through social media sites such as Twitter and Facebook.

www.crossborder.ie

The CCBS website is an important source of information on the activities of the Centre and on cross-border issues generally. All CCBS briefing papers, research reports and the Journal for Cross Border Studies are archived there. The website also contains news about forthcoming and previous events.

Gov Watch provides 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. An archive of past issues is at <http://crossborder.ie/gov-watch/>

Media Watch is a regular summary of news items related to Ireland/Northern Ireland border, cross-border bodies and cross-border issues. It is archived at <http://crossborder.ie/media-watch/>

Border-Zine

The CCBS electronic newsletter, Border-Zine, is published monthly. During 2016 the E-zine was read, on average, by 1511 people per month. The highest spike in readership was in February when the CCBS Conference occurred and in November when the Centre was involved in the All-island Civic Dialogue on Brexit in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham and the CCBS Annual Journal Launch. The E-zine is an important way of highlighting the work on the Centre on a monthly basis. Along with Facebook and Twitter it is a vital platform for keeping the work of the Centre in the spotlight.

The website www.borderpeople.info is recognised as an important online source of *cross-border* citizens' information and advice on the island of Ireland. During 2016 the Border People website averaged 15,500 page views each month. In total, it had 84,094 visitors who visited the site 100,897 times. They viewed 183,648 pages during the 12 month period. An archive of past issues and a subscription form are found at <http://crossborder.ie/publications/border-zine/>

In 2016
www.crossborder.ie
had 11,846 visitors.
They visited the site
16,417 times and
viewed 42,427 pages.

Briefing Papers

Recognising the significance of the (then) forthcoming Referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union, the Centre for Cross Border Studies and Cooperation Ireland agreed to produce a series of briefing papers on the implications of 'Brexit' to inform the debate prior to the 23 June referendum. The decision on EU membership was arguably the single most important decision that UK citizens have been asked to make in a generation. CCBS explained on our website our decision to commit so much of our limited resources to the debate:

“Regardless of one’s position, either pro-Brexit, pro-remain or undecided, the choice made on the ballot paper on 23 June 2016 will have profound and lasting geo-political, socio-economic and cultural implications. Accordingly, the debate leading up to the referendum must be of a standard proportionate to the significance of the decision. To this end, the accessibility of relevant, reliable and accurate information is imperative to facilitating a well-informed decision from the electorate.”

Published in February, ***The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: What does it mean for us?*** outlines some of the central issues that were then examined in more detail in subsequent editions. <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/CCBS-and-Cooperation-Ireland-EU-Referendum-Briefing-Paper-1.pdf>

The second paper, published in March, ***The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: Potential Constitutional Consequences*** considers what implications UK departure from the EU may have for key political and legal instruments underlying the Northern Ireland peace settlement, including the Belfast Agreement itself. <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/EU-Referendum-Briefing-Paper-2.pdf>

In June, with the referendum imminent, an additional six Briefing Papers were added to the series.

The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: Cross-Border Cooperation, Peace-Building and Regional Development, considers the role the European Union has played in supporting cross-border cooperation that has contributed to peace-building and regional socio-economic development. <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CCBS-Cooperation-Ireland-EU-Referendum-Briefing-Paper-31.pdf>

EU Referendum Briefing Note: Informing the Debate signposts primary evidence under four broad themes, particularly as they pertain to Northern Ireland. These include: the constitutional issues, citizen mobility issues, EU funding and the wider economic and trade issues. <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CCBS-EU-Referendum-Briefing-Note.pdf>

The UK Referendum on Membership of the EU: Citizen Mobility considers the issue of the free

movement of citizens within the EU and how a UK withdrawal from the European Union may impact on the ability of people to move across the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/CCBS-and-Cooperation-Ireland-EU-Referendum-Briefing-Paper-4.pdf>

The Border People project published an additional Briefing Paper on the subject, *The Referendum on UK Membership of the EU: Freedom of Movement of People* in May (see page 41). The Border People document is available at: <http://borderpeople.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Briefing-5-revision15June2016.pdf>

The UK Referendum on EU Membership: Economic Development sets out the past and current performance of key economic actors relevant to the debate, before offering an overview of some of the possible models the UK may adopt in terms of formal trading relations with the EU after leaving the EU, including the option of not having any formal relation at all. <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/EU-Referendum-Briefing-Paper-5.pdf>

On 23 June, 2016, the people of the United Kingdom voted in a referendum that decided the UK would leave the European Union. That decision by citizens in all parts of the UK determined that the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland will become an external border marking the boundary between a state belonging to a club with another 26 members and a region of a UK seeking its future outside it. That decision will have consequences for future generations, throughout these islands.

Brexit and UK-Irish Relations is a background document to the evidence the Centre gave the House of Lords EU Select Committee inquiry into UK-Irish relations and Brexit, which can be accessed at <http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Brexit-and-UK-Irish-Relations-v2.pdf>



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BRIEFING PAPER**October 2016**

Brexit and UK-Irish Relations

THIS BRIEFING PAPER is a more detailed analysis of the potential consequences of the UK's decision to leave the European Union on UK-Irish relations, which acts as a background document to the Centre for Cross Border Studies' submission to the House of Lords EU Select Committee inquiry into this topic. The issues it addresses are in line with the questions posed by that Committee, namely: how Brexit may undermine the present 'soft border arrangements'; North-South relations during Brexit; the Common Travel Area; how Brexit may affect the rights of UK and Irish citizens who live in each other's countries; and the trading relations between Ireland and the UK. These are also some of the issues explored in the Briefing Paper Series published by the Centre for Cross Border Studies, in collaboration with Cooperation Ireland, in the run-up to the referendum of 23rd June 2016.¹

In addition to the Briefing Paper series on Brexit issues, a complementary policy briefing paper, *The possible implications of repealing the Human Rights Act 1998* was published in January 2016. This report elucidates the possible implications of Conservative proposals for reforming the UK's human rights laws and specifically the repeal of the Human Rights Act 1998, with particular reference to Northern Ireland and cross-border interaction within the context of the conditions of the 1998 Belfast/Good Friday Agreement. http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Briefing-Report_Implications-of-HRA-Repeal.pdf.

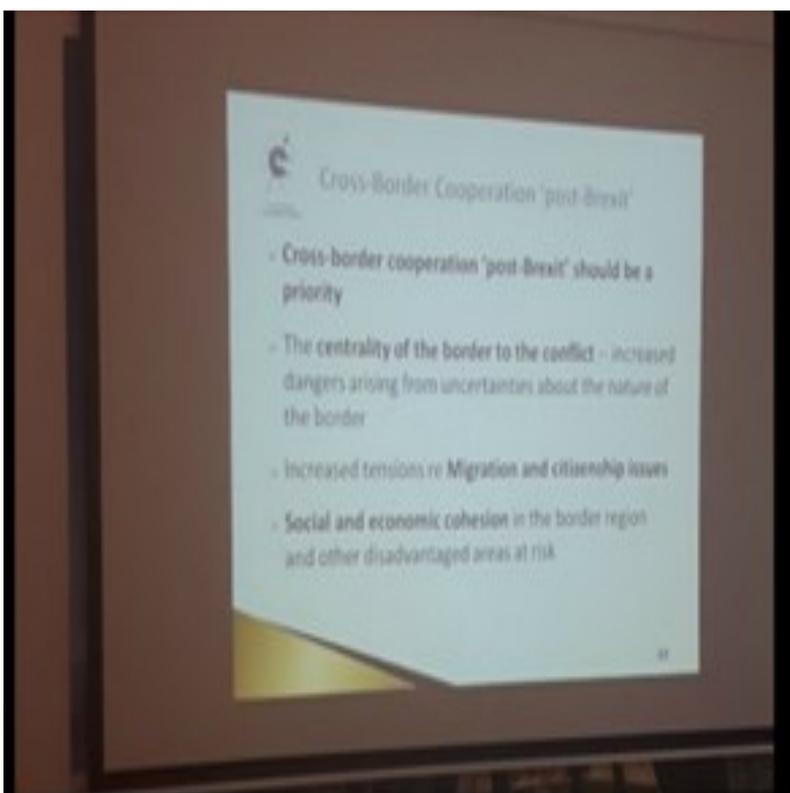
Policy Seminar:

The future of cross-border cooperation on the island of Ireland and between the island of Ireland and Great Britain

To coincide with DG REGIO Open Days, CCBS hosted a seminar, ***The future of cross-border cooperation on the island of Ireland and between the island of Ireland and Great Britain*** at the NI Executive office in Brussels on 10 October. The event considered how cross-border cooperation can continue to contribute to the socio-economic development of border regions and focused on three core issues:

- ◆ **The role of cross-border cooperation in supporting peace and reconciliation**
- ◆ **Cross-border collaboration between local authorities**
- ◆ **Active citizen participation in cross-border cooperation**

Attended by 60 people, including government representatives from Scotland, Gibraltar, the EU Commission as well as local government officials and elected representatives, the seminar provided a vital opportunity to debate how cross-border



cooperation can continue to contribute to the socio-economic development of border regions. In addition to Ruth Taillon and Anthony Soares, speakers included Gina McIntyre, Chief Executive, SEUPB and Pamela Arthurs, Chief Executive, East Border Region.



A full report of the event, including downloadable presentations, is available at <http://crossborder.ie/the-future-of-cross-border-cooperation-on-the-island-of-ireland-between-the-island-and-great-britain-and-beyond/>

Meetings with Political Parties

With a view to establishing relations with a range of political players (and in the case of NI parties, as part of our efforts to secure Executive funding for 2017), we held a series of meetings with representatives of political parties. These included: Sinn Fein, Ulster Unionists and the Alliance Party.

Meetings with Public Officials

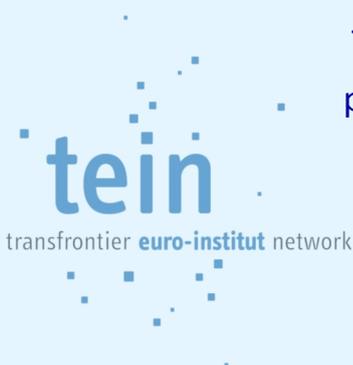
Throughout the year, the Centre met on different occasions with public officials. In most cases, these meetings were intended to ensure that the officials and the bodies they represent were aware of the work of the Centre. We also took the opportunities presented to discuss the potential for developing collaboration on shared objectives or issues of concern.

- ◆ Mr Paul Doran, Deputy Director of PBNI and Ms Ita Burke, Deputy Director of the Probation Service.
- ◆ Mr Roger Cope, Clerk of the NI Affairs Committee, Westminster.
- ◆ Mr Colm Shannon and Mr Shane O'Neill, North South Ministerial Council Deputy Joint Secretaries
- ◆ Mr John Webster, Head of the Scottish Government Innovation and Investment Hub in Ireland
- ◆ Mr Ben Wallace, MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
- ◆ Mr Daniel Lawton, US Consul General

Assisting peacebuilding in Cyprus

In September, CCBS was approached by Northern Ireland Co-Operation Overseas (NICO) to assist in its work with the EU and the British Embassy in Cyprus as it attempts to secure a European Peace Package for Cyprus similar to the PEACE programme. As a result, CCBS hosted two senior academics – one from the Turkish Cypriot community and one from the Greek Cypriot community – in order to acquaint them with the role of CCBS in supporting cross-border cooperation and to discuss the impact of the PEACE programmes.

Transfrontier Euro Institute Network

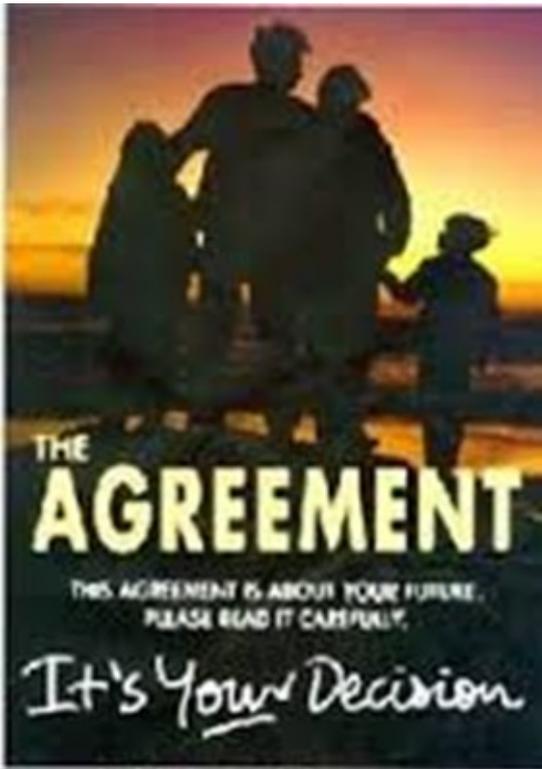


The Centre has continued to maintain and develop its links with partners in the [Transfrontier Euro Institute Network](#). Much effort in the past year was committed to developing funding applications for the EU Jean Monet programme and Horizon 2020, both led by the University of Strasbourg, although these were ultimately unsuccessful.

We are continuing to keep in touch with other TEIN partners – particularly with a view to developing bilateral or multilateral projects with some of the non-academic partners.

Policy Seminar:

The Potential Implications of Brexit for Cross-Border Bodies



Dr Anthony Soares, CCBS Deputy Director, was the speaker at this event in Dublin on 28 April. Hosted by SafeFood, the seminar was attended by 25 members of the Advisory Board of SafeFood, as well as stakeholders of the cross-border implementation bodies.

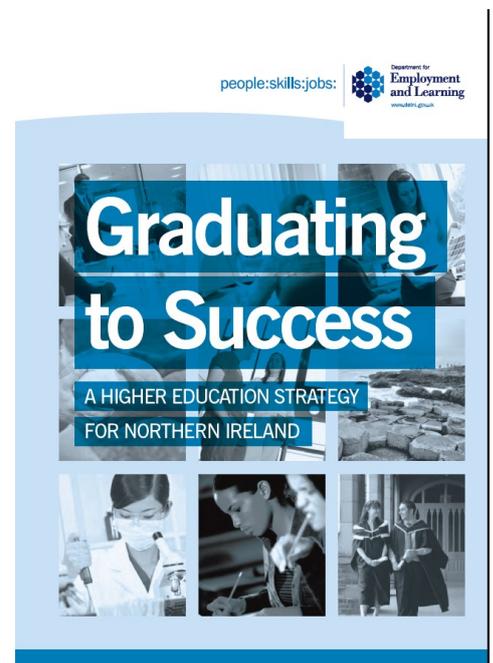
The seminar examined the extent to which policy and regulatory divergence between the two jurisdictions on the island of Ireland as a result of the UK's possible departure from the EU could affect the operational effectiveness of cross-border or all-island bodies. It also identified ways in which, where relevant, the research capacity of HEIs that informs the work of some of the cross-border bodies may be affected if the UK does not retain

Higher Education Cross-border Project Team

Cross border co-operation and undergraduate mobility between institutions in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are identified, in *Graduating to Success*, as important from an economic, social and cultural perspective. Such activity has the potential to drive the growth of the all-island economy, broaden the pool of graduates both north and south and support the ongoing peace process.

As part of the implementation plan for *Graduating to Success*, a project team was established in 2015 to take forward recommendations in relation to cross-border cooperation and student mobility. Under the auspices of the Department for the Economy, the two main objectives of the cross-border team are to promote North/South student mobility and increased North/South collaboration between institutions.

CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon remains as Chair of this cross-border team, which includes representatives from the Higher Education Authority, Ulster University, Queen's University, Open University, Colleges NI, NUS/USI, Technological Higher Education Association, Department of Education and Department for the Economy.



Southern Irish Postgraduates in Northern Ireland Review

In December, the Centre for Cross Border Studies carried out an eighth annual review of its January 2008 paper for the Department of Education and Skills on flows of Southern Irish postgraduates to higher education institutions in Northern Ireland (previous annual reviews were carried out in December of each year from 2009 to 2015).

The 2008 paper was in the context of the DES deliberations on whether it should continue to provide financial support to Southern Irish students wishing to undertake postgraduate courses in Northern Ireland, both in terms of paying their fees and providing maintenance support. Northern Ireland is currently the only jurisdiction outside the state where the Irish Government provides such support.

The authors of the 2008 paper, Andy Pollak and Professor Robert Osborne concluded that financial support to Southern postgraduates at Northern Ireland higher education institutions would help to:

- ◆ Promote greater tolerance and understanding between the people of Ireland and Northern Ireland by maintaining the flow of high-achieving young Southerners to Northern HEIs
- ◆ Promote the exchange of ideas between the people of Ireland and Northern Ireland
- ◆ Promote a greater understanding of, and respect for, the diversity of cultures on the island (and good relations between those cultures)
- ◆ Promote greater integration and cooperation between the people of Ireland and Northern Ireland, and maximise opportunities for cross-border and all-island mutual understanding and reconciliation.

The 2016 review

The overall conclusion of the 2016 review is one which

records a sustained trend in decline of the number of Republic of Ireland domiciled postgraduates attending Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The total number of Southern postgraduate students at NI HEIs decreased from 1,215 in 2013/14 to 1,160 in 2014/2015, representing a rate of decrease of 4.5%; this is an acceleration from the previous year, where the rate of decrease was 3.6%.

No direct correlation can be made between the introduction of higher undergraduate fees at universities in England and Wales universities (with much lower increases in Northern Ireland) in the academic year 2012/13 and the downward trend in Republic of Ireland domiciled postgraduates studying at Northern Ireland HEIs. To establish any such correlation would require a broader analysis.

The importance of pro-active support for Republic of Ireland domiciled postgraduates studying at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions will almost certainly increase moving forward. Crucially, the socio-political climate on the island of Ireland will undergo significant changes, which were not foreseen in the period since these reports began. The UK's decision to leave the European Union represents a considerable challenge to supporting the cross-border movement of postgraduate students on the island of Ireland. This challenge comes in the wake of a general decrease in the numbers of Republic of Ireland domiciled postgraduate students in Northern Ireland HEIs during a period of relative socio-political stability that represented an opportunity to reverse that trend.

Faced with this situation, the case for the Department of Education and Skills to continue to provide financial support to Southern postgraduates going to study in Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions, and to seek in collaboration with colleagues in Northern Ireland to identify other means to encourage the cross-border flow of students, has become stronger than ever.

Public Lecture:

The Stranger at the Gate

CBS and Armagh Public Library jointly hosted a lecture by Dr Richard Clarke, Archbishop and Primate of All Ireland (Col), whose topic was “The Stranger at the Gate” on 25 May. The lecture received good coverage in the Armagh newspapers and was very well received by the invited audience.

In his address, the Archbishop examined what should be our response to the Refugee crisis and commented that all major religious value systems embrace humanity, caring and respect and the tradition of granting protection to those in danger. Furthermore he said that the principles of modern refugee law have their oldest roots in these ancient texts and traditions.

These were not restricted to Christianity or Judaism, but explicitly drew foundations also from Islam (in the Koran) and from Hinduism and Buddhism.

Archbishop Clarke referenced the Christian Scriptures and particularly Matthew Chapter 25 verses 35 and 36: *“for I was hungry and you gave*

me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.”

In conclusion Archbishop Clarke commented:

“the greatest challenge is to our generosity, not simply a financial generosity (which may in fact not be of a particularly major nature), but a generosity of spirit, that for which we can neither legislate nor regulate, but which we can nurture and foster, in ourselves as in others.

But I leave the last word with Primo Levi, the Italian novelist and holocaust survivor who wrote so eloquently of his own harrowing experiences during the Second World War – “If we can relieve torment and do not, we become tormentors ourselves.”

The full text of Archbishop Clarke’s talk can be downloaded at:

<http://crossborder.ie/the-stranger-at-the-gate-lecture-given-by-archbishop-richard-clarke-at-armagh-public-library/>





Archbishop Richard Clarke, Shaykh Dr Umar Al-Qadri (Irish Muslim Peace and Integration Council) and Dean Gregory Dunstan

The Academy and Civic Society

Early in the year, the Centre was involved in a stakeholders' group in support of Queen's University Belfast academics (led by CCBS Board member, Dr Katy Hayward and Dr Cathal McCall) to develop a module for post-graduate training to provide students with a concise introduction to the fundamental principles of planning and conducting research that has a meaningful engagement with civil society. The goal of such research is to have an 'impact' that is beneficial to organisations working in the field, not only to the scholar/her/himself. The imperative on university researchers to ensure their research has a meaningful and useful impact holds particular challenges and opportunities for those working with civil society; this is particularly true in the complex field of conflict transformation. This one-day workshop brought together a wide range of groups and individuals from civil society and academic organisations to discuss how greater collaboration can be developed to ensure that resources for conflict transformation are used most effectively; in particular, how academic research in the broad area of conflict transformation can be most effectively utilised for public benefit. As part of the consultation process, QUB drafted a set of *Guidelines*

for Community Impact.

CCBS Deputy Director Anthony Soares was a participant in a master class, *Peace Formation and Social Forms of Agency: Unique approaches and sensitivities for researchers*, involving academics and practitioners on 26 May, delivered by Prof Oliver Richmond (Manchester).

Anthony also represented CCBS at a practitioner/researcher workshop on 27 May at QUB. This workshop brought together researchers, community organisations and funding bodies to discuss the ways in which their various priorities can be made complementary.

Anthony Soares has also been liaising with Dr Katy Hayward on the work of a QUB Policy Forum in relation to Brexit.



Collaboration for Conflict Transformation University Engagement with Civil Society

6 College Park, Queen's University Belfast
Friday 27th May 2016, 9.30am-4pm

A PRACTITIONER/RESEARCHER WORKSHOP

Public Lecture:

Cross-Border Collaboration in the US-Mexico Border Region



Chuck Matthews, Dr Martin Mansergh, Ruth Taillon and Michael Farrell at the launch in Dublin on 22 November.

The Centre was delighted to welcome Chuck Matthews, Director, North Regions, Health and Human Services for the County of San Diego as our guest speaker at the launch of the 2016 Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland on 22 and 24 November. With so much of Donald Trump’s election campaign focused on “building the wall” along the USA-Mexico border, this lecture could not have been more timely. Focusing on a number of examples of the successful cross-border cooperation impacting upon wellbeing – particularly



that of the diverse populations that live and work in the US-Mexico border region – Mr Matthews described the political and operational intersection of cross-border collaboration in the delivery of health and social care to border residents, including both legal and undocumented immigrants. He talked about some of the differences along the border in legislation, policy and practice attributable in part to the effects of the physical environment on the approach and the culture of ‘embracing’ of the border and provided some insights into approaches and programmes in the Ireland-Northern Ireland border region that could be implemented in the US-Mexico border region. He outlined also how some of the tools developed by CCBS have already been used in developing cross-border cooperation in his region.

Centre for Cross Border Studies Live Well San Diego Day

The San Diego Board of Supervisors proclaimed 22 November 2016 as “Centre for Cross Border Studies Live Well San Diego Day” throughout the County of San Diego California for our “outstanding service, leadership and commitment to the health and wellness of San Diego county residents.” A copy of the Proclamation was presented to the Centre on behalf of San Diego County by Chuck Matthews.



CCBS Chair, Dr Helen Johnston and CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon receiving the Proclamation from the San Diego Board of Supervisors from Chuck Matthews.

“Whereas, CCBS has created various cross-border collaborative toolkits focusing on cross-border leadership, project management, evaluation and border impact assessment; and

“Whereas, CCBS is committed to sharing their research, expertise and cross-border toolkits with the County of San Diego to enhance border relations and encourage a healthy, safe and thriving border region; and

“Whereas, the CCBS-Ireland is the first European Live Well San Diego partner; and

*“Whereas, the County of San Diego is committed to recognizing and honouring organizations who strive to support the Live Well San Diego vision to achieve healthy, safe and thriving communities that improve quality of life for all and the Centre for Cross Border Studies is one such worthy organization; **NOW THEREFORE,***

***BE IT PROCLAIMED** by Chairman Ron Roberts and all members of the San Diego Board of Supervisors on this 22nd day of November 2016, that they commend the Centre for Cross Border Studies for its outstanding service, leadership and commitment to the health and wellness of San Diego county residents, and do hereby declare this day to the “Centre for Cross Border Studies Live Well San Diego Day” throughout the County of San Diego.”*

Public Lecture:

How have we remembered 1916?

This year's John Hewitt Summer School was organised around the theme, **A Role in History: the Rising, the Great War and a Shared Past**. Contributing to the conversations around this theme, Catriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects at the National Archives of Ireland presented the CCBS-sponsored lecture, **How have we remembered 1916?**



The commemoration of the events of 1916 this year is for many people the high point of the Decade of Centenaries – from the anniversary of the third Home Rule Bill and the Ulster Covenant to the end of the Civil War (2012 to 2023). Reflecting that she had warned in 2012 that the decade of commemorations is “capable of all kinds of uses, abuses, interpretations, misinterpretations, illuminations, mischiefs, sublime new understandings and ancient bad tempers”, Catriona concluded that “on balance we have had more sublime new understandings than ancient bad tempers” over the past four years.

In conclusion, Catriona Crowe expressed her hopes that the difficult remainder of the decade of centenaries will go as smoothly, but also that we

do not go through these years with a soft-centred aspiration to please everyone. Rather, we should aim for “a new understanding, well supported by good archival evidence, with no concessions to sacred cows.”

The text of Catriona's talk can be found at

<http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/1916-reflection-for-website-Crowe-text.pdf>



The North South Social Innovation Network

The official launch of the North-South Social Innovation Network took place on 2 November, during the conference “Social Innovation: from Lagan to Liffey”, organised by the North-South Social Innovation Network Steering Committee, which is chaired by CCBS Board Member, Michael Curran and coordinated by CCBS Deputy Director, Dr Anthony Soares.

The conference brought together over 70 participants and delegates, with keynote addresses made by Glenys Thornton (CEO of the Young Foundation) and Deirdre Garvey (Chief Executive of The Wheel), as well as a joint presentation by Belfast City Council and Dublin City Council. A range of social innovation initiatives from throughout the island of Ireland were presented by practitioners and academics at the conference, organised into four principal streams:

- ◆ Social Innovation and Justice;
- ◆ Social Innovation and Community Regeneration;
- ◆ Social Innovation and Health; and
- ◆ Social Innovation and Education.



Informed by the success of the conference, the North-South Social Innovation Steering Committee is currently considering the future development of the Network.



Michael Curran, Chair of the North South Social Innovation Network Steering Group, Glenys Thornton, Chief Executive, the Young Foundation and Deirdre Garvey, Chief Executive of The Wheel

For us a social innovation is a novel solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable, or equitable than current solutions. The value created accrues primarily to society rather than to private individuals. Social innovations are new strategies, concepts, ideas and structures that meet the social needs of different groups in society. Social innovation includes the social processes of innovation, such as open source methods and techniques.

The North-South Social Innovation Network also understands social innovation as a community driven process of developing new solutions to address social needs. This means working collaboratively with communities, social enterprise and others committed to the development of social capital in disadvantaged communities.

Social Innovation: from Lagan to Liffey

Dundalk Institute of Technology
Wednesday, 2 Novmeber 2016

North-South Social Innovation Network



Obstacles to Cross-Border Cooperation

The cross-border cooperation unit in DG REGIO cross-border review project is examining the administrative and legal obstacles that persist along EU internal borders, despite many years of INTERREG investments

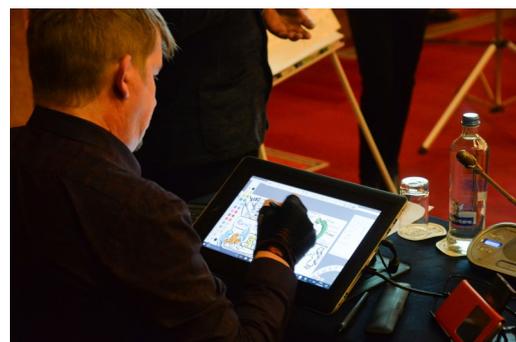


or long-standing cooperation. Certain key local issues faced by citizens and businesses crossing borders on a daily basis need further reflections and actions. Crossing borders to find employment, receive better healthcare, make use of public facilities or receive emergency support can still cause difficulties. Taxation or pension rights issues, non-recognition of rights or standards, impossibility to operate joint emergency services are still problems that exist today. Most of the remaining obstacles stem from **diverging national legislations** on either side of the border (national legislation is "border-blind"), **incompatible administrative processes**, or simply **lack of common territorial planning**.

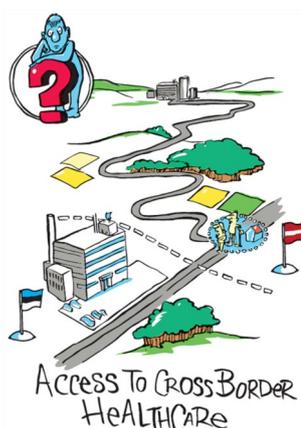


The DG REGIO review, which commenced in 2015, was structured around three pillars:

- ◆ A study, to provide an **inventory of critical border obstacles** together with examples **of how these have been addressed** on certain borders
- ◆ An extensive **public consultation**
- ◆ **Four workshops with key stakeholders**



Discussions at Workshop 3 were captured in a series of graphics



The study was carried out by a European consortium led by the Austrian consultancy firm METIS. Over 200 well-documented border obstacles have been collected, impacting the daily life of cross-border citizens and businesses. One of the case studies for the review is on obstacles concerning the 'Exportation of goods and cross-border provision of commercial services' and related issues, with a focus on the cross-border region of Ireland/Northern Ireland. Ruth Taillon and Anthony Soares participated in a telephone interview and attended a meeting in April at InterTradeIreland with the consultant who is working on the case study.

the consultant who is working on the case study.

CCBS Director Ruth Taillon was a participant in the stakeholders' workshops, three of which took place in January, September and December 2016.

The outcome of the study, the 2015 public consultation and the stakeholders' workshops held in 2015 and 2016 will help in the drafting of conclusions and recommendations on possible steps for actions at different levels of government.





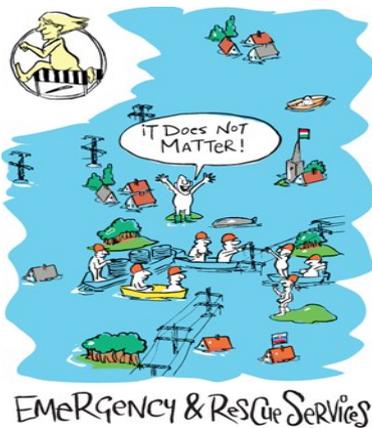
Plenary session at the third stakeholders' workshop in Brussels

In early 2017 a selection of case studies on identified obstacles in EU border regions will be published. Copies of the Review, CCBS and Border People responses to the consultation and a DG Regio video (with Ruth Taillon) are available on the CCBS website:

<http://crossborder.ie/border-obstacles-in-the-eu-experts-have-their-say/>

More details about the Review, including videos and photos from the stakeholders' workshops are available at

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/european-territorial/cross-border/review/#2



CCBS Director Ruth Taillon (centre) was a participant in the Stakeholders' Workshops



Oversight Group on Ireland's Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2015-2018

The Oversight Group on Ireland's second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2015–2018 was established in October 2015. Chaired by former Irish Justice Minister, Nora Owen, membership of the Oversight Group includes representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Conflict Resolution Unit – which also provides secretariat support; Development Co-operation Division; Ireland, UK and Americas Division); the Department of Justice and Equality; Department of Defence; the Health Services Executive (Social Inclusion Unit); the Defence Forces, An Garda Síochána and the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the EU. CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon is one of nine Civil Society, academic and independent experts who are members of the Oversight Group at the invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.



Ireland's second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security
2015–2018

The role of the Oversight Group (OG) is to:

- ♦ oversee the regular and systematic reporting and review of progress on achieving stated objectives, actions and targets across all pillars as set out in Ireland's second National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security 2015-2018, including the publication of an evaluation of progress two years after the adoption of the NAP and again at the end of the period of implementation of the NAP.
- ♦ revise existing actions and targets in light of emerging issues and policy agendas in women, peace and security, and in response to lessons learned and challenges identified in the monitoring process.
- ♦ work with the appropriate Oireachtas committees to ensure involvement by parliamentarians in the monitoring of implementation of the National Action Plan.
- ♦ develop and use outreach and communications mechanisms to ensure regular dissemination of updates to wider communities of stakeholders and make sure, in particular, that the perspectives of women affected by conflict are incorporated into the ongoing work of the Oversight Group .

There were four meetings of the Oversight Group in 2016. More information on the Oversight Group (including membership and meeting minutes) can be found at <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/international-priorities/peace-and-security/women-peace-and-security/oversight-group/>

More general information on Ireland's Women, Peace and Security agenda can be found at the DFAT website: <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/international-priorities/peace-and-security/women-peace-and-security/>

Members of the Oversight Group at Iveagh House, Dublin. CCBS Chair Helen Johnston was representing the Centre.



All-Island Civic Dialogue on Brexit

CBS Director, Ruth Taillon, was one of the invited speakers at the All-Island Civic Dialogue on Brexit event held at Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Dublin on 2 November. This event brought together almost 300 representatives from North and South to discuss the challenges posed by the UK's decision to leave the EU. Hosted by Taoiseach Enda Kenny and Foreign Affairs Minister Charlie Flanagan, the Civic Dialogue events are an important part of the Government's ongoing preparations regarding Brexit. A video of the plenary session in the Great Hall, including Ruth's talk is available at http://www.merrionstreet.ie/en/News-Room/News/Taoiseach_Minister_Flanagan_to_host_All-Island_Civic_Dialogue.html#sthas.Slrxmly2.dpuf



Following this event, there have been a number of sectoral consultations (with further sectoral sessions and another plenary planned for early 2017). At the request of the Department of Education and Skills, the Centre for Cross Border Studies acted as rapporteurs at the sectoral consultation for the Higher Education sector on 19 December at Dundalk Institute of Technology.

Scotland's Future Relations with the UK and the EU

At the invitation of the University of Edinburgh, Anthony Soares participated in a high-level workshop on 12 and 13 December looking in some detail at key issues for Scotland in the context of Brexit. The workshop was hosted by the University of Edinburgh's Europa Institute with the support of Charlie Jeffery, Senior Vice-Principal, University of Edinburgh, Anton Muscatelli, Chair of the Standing Council on Europe and Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Glasgow, and Professor Drew Scott, Director of the Europa Institute, University of Edinburgh and Member of the Standing Council on Europe. The objective of the meeting was to produce an agreed series of recommendations for submission to Scottish Government prior to the triggering of Article 50. The emphasis of the workshop was on practical implications and opportunities. The Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe, Michael Russell also attended.



This workshop took place as the Scottish Government was drafting its White Paper, *Scotland's Place in Europe*, which was published a few days later. This document presents the Scottish Government's proposals for mitigating the impact on Scotland of the UK's exit from the EU. The paper sets out the importance of continued European Single Market membership for Scotland and demonstrates that this is also the best outcome for the UK as a whole. It then sets out the Scottish Government's strategy for ensuring Scotland can remain a member of the European Single Market even if the UK Government chooses a different outcome, before laying out the impact of the EU referendum on the current devolution settlement and the new powers which will come to Scotland.

Speaking Engagements 2016

The UK's referendum on EU membership continued to be a major focus. During 2016, almost all seminar presentations at events in Ireland and Northern Ireland, both before and after the Referendum, were on the implications of a decision to leave.

Date	Event	Host Organisation	CCBS Speaker
5 Feb	EU Debate NI Event	EU Debate NI	Anthony Soares
6 April	European Congress of Local Government, Krakow	Instytut Wschodni/Foundation Institute for Eastern Studies	Ruth Taillon
7 April	Brexit Conference	NI Council for Voluntary Action	Anthony Soares
27 April	Brexit Seminar	NI Women's European Platform	Anthony Soares
10 May	Brexit Seminar	Hope Community	Anthony Soares
2 June	ANHPS Monthly Meeting— Implications of Brexit for Ireland	Armagh Natural History and Philosophical Society	Ruth Taillon
2 June	Brexit Conference	EU Debate NI	Anthony Soares
10 June	Brexit Conference	Institute of International and European Affairs	Anthony Soares
22 June	Armagh Citizens Advice AGM	Armagh Citizens Advice	Annmarie O'Kane
4 July	Danube Region Conference	Donaubüro gemeinnützige GmbH	Anthony Soares
7 July	Roundtable on economic consequence of Brexit for Northern Ireland	Ulster Unionist Party	Anthony Soares
21 July	Potential consequences of Brexit on labour mobility and skills	North East Regional Skills Forum	Ruth Taillon
22 July	The Programme for Government and Brexit	Strategem	Anthony Soares
6 Sept	Brexit: Making sense of the crisis conference	Agenda NI	Ruth Taillon
7 Oct	Brexit Policy Forum	Queen's University Belfast	Anthony Soares
28 Oct	ITEM Conference, Maastricht	University of Maastricht	Anthony Soares
2 Nov	All-Island Civic Dialogue	Taoiseach Enda Kenny	Ruth Taillon
2 Nov	Youth Councils Brexit Conference	Cross-border Youth Councils	Annmarie O'Kane
4 Nov	Brexit Panel	Fianna Fail Annual Youth Conference	Anthony Soares
7-9 Nov	Conflict and Cooperation at EU Borders: Open or Closed Borders?	Global Institute for Values and Education, Strasbourg	Ruth Taillon
8 Nov	Brexit event	Chatham House/Queen's University Belfast	Anthony Soares
8 Nov	Members meeting	Federation of Small Businesses	Annmarie O'Kane
9 Nov	LEADER conference	Rural Development Council	Anthony Soares
10 Nov	Brexit event	NI Council for Voluntary Action	Anthony Soares
10 Nov	RCN AGM	Rural Community Network	Ruth Taillon
12 Nov	Brexit: Issues & Impact	Fianna Fail	Ruth Taillon
2 Dec	International Workers in Ireland and Ethnic Entrepreneurship	Creative Spark	Anthony Soares/ Annmarie O'Kane
13 Dec	Brexit Roundtable	University of Edinburgh	Anthony Soares
16 Dec	Brexit seminar	Queen's University Belfast/TUIN	Anthony Soares



RIGHT: Dagmar Shiek, Queen's University Belfast; Jane Morrice, European Economic and Social Committee; and Ruth Taillon, Centre for Cross Border Studies



BELOW: CCBS Deputy Director Anthony Soares engaged in conversation at agendaNi conference.



Start360 @Start360org Follow

Excellent panel at @nicva #EUrefNI event inc @janemorrice @JeffreyPeel and @antsoares67



FFWomen'sNetwork @FFWomensNetwork · Nov 12
Ruth Taillon of @CCBSCrossBorder speaking now on issues like migration and integration of communities. #FFBrexit

Seminars and Conferences Attended

Date	Event	Host Organisation	CCBS Representative
14 Jan	Masculinities, Violence and (Post) Conflict	INCORE	Ruth Taillon
22 Jan	Launch of PEACE IV and INTERREG V	SEUPB	Anthony Soares
25 Jan	Open Europe Brexit Wargames	Open Europe	Anthony Soares
28 Jan	Launch of Report on All-Island Economy	Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation	Anthony Soares
28 Jan	Law Centre NI AGM	Law Centre NI	Annmarie O’Kane
11 March	Launch of PBNi Corporate Plan	Probation Board NI	Ruth Taillon
7 April	Brexit Conference	NICVA	Annmarie O’Kane
18 April	Programme for Government and Department for Communities Cohesion Group	NICVA	Annmarie O’Kane
21 April	Department for Communities (DfC) Stakeholder Workshop	Department for Communities (DfC)	Annmarie O’Kane
28 April	PEACE IV Public Consultation event	AB&C Borough Council	Annmarie O’Kane
9 May	Europe Day Reception	EU Commission	Ruth Taillon
9 May	Lecture on Brexit	EU Commissioner Phil Hogan	Anthony Soares/ Ruth Taillon
26 May	Restorative Connections		Ruth Taillon
26 May	Seminar on Free Movement and EU Social Security Coordination	FreSsco	Annmarie O’Kane
3-5 June	Corrymeela and Irish Association residential	Corrymeela and Irish Association	Ruth Taillon
5 July	Prospect Research Seminar	NICVA	Martin McTaggart
6 July	Brexit Seminar	SDLP	Martin McTaggart
21 July	ABC Community Plan	Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council	Anthony Soares
29-31 Aug	Summer University on European Citizenship European	Citizens’ Rights, Involvement and Trust Foundation	Ruth Taillon
14 Sept	Social Inclusion Forum	Department of Social Protection	Ruth Taillon
22 Sept	SDLP Brexit Conference	SDLP	Annmarie O’Kane
23 Sept	North South Immigration Forum	Law Centre NI	Annmarie O’Kane
27 Sept	Brexit and Rights	Ulster University/Committee on the Administration of Justice	Anthony Soares
28 Sept	NI Wellbeing Framework	Carnegie Foundation	Anthony Soares/ Ruth Taillon
12 Oct	Outcome of the European Referendum: A Northern Ireland Perspective	KESS Seminar	Annmarie O’Kane
14 Oct	Social Innovation Seminar	NICVA	Anthony Soares
14 Nov	Brexit and Education Seminar	Department of Education & Skills	Ruth Taillon
15 Nov	TIUN Brexit Seminar	Royal Irish Academy	Ruth Taillon
6 Dec	North West Region Brexit Conference	Derry City and Strabane District Council & Donegal County Council	Annmarie O’Kane
12 Dec	Donal Nevin Lecture	Nevin Economic Research Institute	Ruth Taillon
12 Dec	Launch of House of Lords Committee report on Brexit	House of Lords Committee	Ruth Taillon
13 Dec	Brexit International Seminar	Labour Party & Party of European Socialists	Ruth Taillon
13 Dec	Citizens Advice AGM	Citizens Advice NI	Annmarie O’Kane
14 Dec	Reconciliation Forum	Dept of Foreign Affairs & Trade	Anthony Soares

Submissions to Policy Consultations

In 2016, the Centre had a number of opportunities to contribute our views to legislative committees and other public policy consultations on both sides of the border and Westminster. Reflecting the impact of the 23 June Referendum on public discourse, the majority of these consultation submissions, in written and/or oral form, were on different issues arising from both the decision to call a referendum and then on issues arising from the decision to leave the EU.

February

Inquiry into Northern Ireland and the UK's referendum on EU membership. House of Commons Northern Ireland Affairs Committee
<http://crossborder.ie/northern-ireland-affairs-committee-publish-centre-for-cross-border-studies-evidence-to-inquiry/>

July

Consultation on the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021
Northern Ireland Executive
<http://crossborder.ie/submission-to-the-northern-ireland-executives-consultation-on-the-draft-programme-for-government-framework-2016-2021/>

October

Oral Evidence: Implications of the UK Referendum for the Good Friday Agreement and Institutions Joint Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement.
<http://crossborder.ie/oral-evidence-economic-implications-of-the-uk-referendum-decision/>

Future of the land border with the Republic of Ireland: NI Affairs Committee Inquiry
<http://crossborder.ie/submission-to-the-ni-affairs-committee-inquiry-future-of-the-land-border-with-the-republic-of-ireland/>

Oral Evidence: Economic Implications of the UK Referendum Decision
Joint Oireachtas Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation
<http://crossborder.ie/oral-evidence-economic-implications-of-the-uk-referendum-decision/>

Oral Evidence: Inquiry into UK-Irish relations and Brexit
House of Lords EU Select Committee
<http://crossborder.ie/site2015/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Brexit-and-UK-Irish-Relations-v2.pdf>

December

Consultation on the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021
Northern Ireland Executive
<http://crossborder.ie/submission-to-the-northern-ireland-executives-consultation-on-the-draft-programme-for-government-framework-2016-2021/>

Border People

Since 2007 the Centre for Cross Border Studies, in partnership with the North South Ministerial Council (Joint Secretariat), has managed the Border People project which provides *cross-border* information and advice to citizens who cross the border to live, work, study or to retire.



Crossing the Irish border can be complex for citizens as they try to understand their rights, entitlements and obligations. Differences in social welfare systems, complicated cross-border taxation requirements, lack of recognition of qualifications and accessing healthcare are among the issues regularly encountered. The overall aim of the project is to remove obstacles to mobility by providing access to clear, practical citizens' information.

Border People was funded as part of the Centre's INTERREG IVA-funded INICCO-1 and INICCO-2 programmes until this EU funding ended in January 2015. Following several months in which CCBS was able to sustain only a minimal level of activity, it secured funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Reconciliation Fund to support the Border People project for the June 2015-June 2016 period. With this funding period now expired, from July 2016, the basic core project costs for the second half of 2016 were included in the Centre's core funding from the Irish Government and the Northern Ireland Executive.

The website www.borderpeople.info is recognised as an important online source of **cross-border citizens' information and advice** on the island of Ireland. It provides **practical information** for people crossing the border to live, work, study or retire and acts as a portal to a wide range of information

sources in both jurisdictions. When possible, the website explains the overlapping cross-border issues in each topic, for example where frontier workers should pay income tax, where they should claim illness benefit, how they should apply for their State Pension and where they should tax their car.

The Centre has built up considerable expertise in the provision of cross-border information, but the success of the project owes much to the commitment and engagement of project partners and Advisory Group members: Over the years strong relationships have been built up between the membership, comprising North South Ministerial Council (Joint Secretariat); Citizens Advice NI; Citizens Information Board; EURES Cross Border Partnership; Law Centre NI; Department for Social Development – SSA; and Department of Social Protection. Meetings of the project Advisory Group took place in May and September.

“The Border People project is considered a useful resource for the Department of Social Protection when dealing with particularly complicated cross-border situations. It has proved to be an important resource in gaining knowledge and direction with many of the aspects of UK/NI law which are involved in cross-border issues affecting welfare entitlements and Family Benefits, in particular. The Department has benefited from the level of expertise available from the Border People project in this area.”

Department of Social Protection

The evaluation prepared for the Reconciliation Fund noted a number of impacts resulting from the activities undertaken:

- ◆ A high quality cross-border citizens' information website containing information relevant to each jurisdiction and explaining complex cross-border issues was provided, with an increased number of visitors to the website – *enhancing citizens' cross-border knowledge*;
- ◆ New, enhanced cross-border training courses for citizen advisors were developed and delivered – *embedding cross-border knowledge into mainstream advice sectors, resulting in improved service delivered to citizens*;
- ◆ Direct support delivered to mainstream advisors dealing with cross-border enquiries – *citizens provided with access to specialist advice on complex cross-border matters*;
- ◆ Cross-border obstacles and emerging trends monitored and a briefing paper prepared on the most pressing emerging issues and distribute to policy and decision makers – *citizens, advice sectors and policy makers better informed about emerging obstacles to cross-border mobility*;
- ◆ Continued engagement with engage key organisations from both jurisdictions in the strategic direction and delivery of the project through meetings of the project Advisory Group – *high level cross-border collaboration and knowledge sharing fostered*;
- ◆ One high level policy seminar focussing on obstacles to cross-border mobility and highlighting potential solutions, providing networking opportunities for organisations and advisors with an interest in cross-border issues – *policy makers, decision makers and advisors better informed and cross-border networking opportunities provided*.

Throughout 2016, the project has continued to provide telephone advice and support to citizens and advice workers in both jurisdictions. The online information continues to be updated and amended and information is also circulated to the public via Twitter and Facebook.

CCBS Information Manager, Annmarie O'Kane in consultation with Training Executives from the Law Centre NI and the Citizens Information Board explored the potential of online training programmes. Online training software has recently been purchased and is being adapted to suit new Border People training initiatives which will start February 2017.

Entirely new training programmes will be designed to suit online learning.

During 2016 the Border People website averaged 15,500 page views each month. In total, it had 84,094 visitors who visited the site 100,897 times. They viewed 183,648 pages during the 12 month period.

Given the popularity of the website the project Advisory Group has agreed to explore income generation by incorporating advertising space on the site.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'borderpeople' website. The header features the logo and tagline 'crossing the border to live, work or study', along with social media icons and a language selector. A search bar is prominently displayed. The main navigation includes 'Home', 'A-Z', 'Categories', 'Life Events', 'Information for', 'FAQs', 'Policy', and 'Training & Seminars'. The 'Welcome to Border People' section provides a brief overview and four main service areas: LIVE, STUDY, WORK, and RETIRE, each with an icon. Below this, there are several categorized lists of services and events, such as 'Categories' (Banking, Education, Health, etc.), 'Life Events' (Adoption, Buying a car, etc.), and 'Information For' (Frontier workers, Motorists, etc.). On the right side, there are sections for 'Popular Articles', 'Features', and 'Brexit', each containing a list of relevant topics and a 'View all articles' button.

Capacity Building: Family Benefits Training

On 9 March, 23 advisors attended Border People training in Monaghan which focussed on Cross Border Family Benefits. A further 12 advisors attended a closed session in April, especially for EURES Cross Border Partnership and the Department of Social Protection. Both sessions were delivered by Annmarie O’Kane and participant feedback highlighted a strong demand for future training events. Other topics of interest include healthcare entitlements, taxation, pensions and social insurance contributions. The feedback noted the Border People website as a useful resource and networking opportunities provided at the training sessions were also of value.



Citizens advisors at Family Benefits training seminar, 9 March 2016

Advice Sector Survey

In March and April 2016 the Border People project carried out a survey of the advice sectors in Ireland and Northern Ireland in an effort to understand the local need for cross-border information, the expertise within the sectors and the supports required to ensure effective service provision.

35 responses were received and feedback suggests that:

- ◆ **Border counties show the greatest need for cross-border citizens information**
- ◆ **A reasonable level of knowledge is spreading throughout the networks**
- ◆ **The most common issues raised by citizens are linked to cross-border working and resulting impact on social welfare entitlements;**
- ◆ **75% respondents provide some form of advice or signposting**
- ◆ **In the absence of funding for specialist advisors, respondents requested further training to be made available for existing advisors.**



Policy Seminar: NI Social Security: Welfare Reform and Brexit

A Border People seminar which examined cross-border implications of NI Social Security: Welfare Reform and Brexit took place in Dundalk on Tuesday 14 June 2016. The event was well attended and 43 representatives from both jurisdictions learned impending changes to the Northern Ireland social welfare system. Lee Hatton, Law Centre NI, explained the complicated changes and highlighted cross-border and EU implications. With the UK Referendum on EU membership taking place nine days afterwards, the event also introduced the implications on free movement between Ireland/Northern Ireland. Anthony Soares, CCBS Deputy Director, raised issues of relevance to this region.

Briefing Paper

The fifth Border People Briefing Paper, *The Referendum on UK Membership of the EU: Freedom of Movement of People* published in May 2016, focussed on one of the key issues imbedded in the UK referendum, ie the UK's intention to limit the free movement of people, one of the EU's four principal freedoms, together with the free movement of goods, services and capital. With the island divided



by the UK's only land border, the issue of cross-border mobility is crucial to this region. For cross-border families, workers, students and pensioners currently living with an open internal EU border, the border often presents administrative challenges, most of which can be overcome through reference to EU legislation. The possibility of a UK exit from the EU, however, raises many questions.

The briefing paper is available on the Border People website: <http://borderpeople.info/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Briefing-5-revision15June2016.pdf>

The Centre welcomes Minister Charlie Flanagan

On 26 October the Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Charlie Flanagan visited the Centre. His visit focused on the activities of the Border People project which was recently supported by the DFAT Reconciliation Fund. The Minister was pleased to hear of the support provided to citizens and to the citizens' advice sectors in both jurisdictions. Potential complications for citizens on the island when the UK leaves the EU were also discussed.



Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Charlie Flanagan with CCBS Director, Ruth Taillon, Information Manager, Annmarie O'Kane and Deputy Director, Anthony Soares

Implications of Brexit

The impact of Brexit on the project will be significant. When Article 50 is triggered it is expected that citizens' enquiries will increase. To date citizens on this island have enjoyed many benefits of EU membership including opportunities to work, live, study, shop and receive health care across the border. The continuation of these benefits will be unknown until UK negotiations are complete but whatever the outcome the Minister heard of Border People's intention to provide clear and practical support to citizens and the advice sectors through these changing times. Due to the high prevalence of cross-border mobility in this region the Border People project anticipates a very busy period once Article 50 is triggered in early 2017.

The survey of the Advice Sector carried out in Quarter Two indicated an improving level of cross-border expertise among cross-border advisors however this growing expertise is linked to Border People training on EU social security co-ordination which will become obsolete upon Brexit. At a recent Advisory Group meeting it was agreed that newly developed training programmes and an overhaul of the website content will be required. Policy seminars will also be used to raise awareness of emerging issues. As issues emerge substantial work will be required to update the information providers, the websites and training materials. A potential collaborative effort, between advice providers in Ireland and the four UK regions, to jointly raise public awareness will be explored. New briefing papers to explore the impacts of Brexit for citizens and cross-border workers will also be prepared.

Public Lecture: *Competitiveness on the Island of Ireland*



At the Inaugural George Quigley Memorial Lecture (from left): David Ford MLA; Dr Helen Johnston, CCBS Chair; Ruth Taillon, CCBS Director; Prof Frances Ruane, Lady Moyra Quigley and Very Revd Gregory Dunstan, Keeper of Armagh Public Library (Photo by an Maginess)

At an event organised by the Centre for Cross Border Studies, held in the Armagh Public Library on 15 June, Professor Frances Ruane delivered the inaugural annual lecture in honour of the late Sir George Quigley. The lecture explored an issue addressed by Sir George on many occasions, namely, the importance of competitiveness for the two economies on the island of Ireland.

Professor Ruane explored the approaches being taken towards competitiveness on the island of Ireland. Professor Ruane stated that until recently the two parts of the island have adopted completely different approaches to competitiveness. The Republic of Ireland embraced national competitiveness and put it centre stage in the policy process over 20 years ago.

By contrast, according to Professor Ruane, Northern

Ireland is relatively late in exploring systematically its global competitiveness and what is needed for productivity levels to be increased. A first look at the issue was undertaken by the Economic Advisory Group (EAG) in 2013, and the EAG will shortly publish new NI competitiveness indicators. Speaking about the new indicators, Professor Ruane said:

'They represent a first and important step in providing the North with the basis for looking more objectively and systematically at its relative economic strengths and weaknesses. If taken seriously by the Northern Ireland Executive, the challenges raised by the indicators should contribute to better and more transparent policy making. It will also help to ensure that scarce government resources are deployed where they can have greatest impact on the welfare of the people of Northern Ireland'.

Research Project:

Towards a New Common Chapter

This action research project, commenced in 2015 and funded primarily by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, is intended to facilitate the development of a “New Common Chapter” representing grassroots support for collaborative and sustainable North-South and East-West relations. This work is expected to result in informed and motivated community organisations on the island of Ireland able to engage with policies and policy-makers on the value of CBC, and ensuring that it addresses the needs of civic society. Through this project CCBS is also creating the conditions at community level for independent engagement in cross-border initiatives.



Workshop in Clones: Going through the “Problem Tree”

Whereas the “old” Common Chapter represented a high-level policy dimension through its inclusion in Ireland’s *National Development Plan* and Northern Ireland’s *Structural Funds Plan (2000-2006)*, CCBS is working with civil society organisations from both sides of the border – involving in particular, the active participation of women, young people and Protestant community organisations – to produce a New Common Chapter that voices the needs of civil society. This work would result in informed and motivated community organisations on the island of Ireland able to engage with policies and policy-makers on the value of cross-border cooperation and ensuring that it addresses the needs of civic society. While achieving political support for cross-border cooperation is an important goal, CCBS expects that this project will help to create the conditions at community level for independent engagement in cross-border initiatives.

Additional funding from the Community Relations Council facilitated the involvement of some community groups from Northern Ireland in the Towards a New Common Chapter project, which then entered an intense phase of workshops with the participating groups over the March to May period. Although the primary target groups for this



Workshop in South Armagh: Women's groups looking at principles of integrated cross-border cooperation

project were Protestant community groups and women's groups, it became clear at an early stage of the project that additional efforts would be necessary to engage young people in the project. Anthony Soares in consultation with the participating groups successfully engaged the Northern Ireland Youth Forum and Craobh Rua. The first JRCT-funded phase of the project ended in December 2016, with an evaluation seminar. The most successful achievements were the critical engagement with existing policy development for cross-border cooperation and the appetite for acquiring the skills capacity for the development of integrated cross-border cooperation projects. In terms of the engagement with existing cross-border policy development, that success was due to the willingness of Protestant community groups to discuss fundamental issues (what was referred to by the groups as "the elephant in the room") inhibiting their involvement in cross-border cooperation initiatives that are not limited to

economic cooperation, and the women's groups' identification of lack of participation in political decision-making (North and South of the border) as a challenge for the recognition of grassroots needs to be addressed by cross-border cooperation. Moreover, success was also due to how these issues were addressed using the principles of integrated cross-border cooperation, which meant that significant cross-border work was undertaken by the groups to reach an understanding of what the shared core problems were (as distinct from problems affecting only one jurisdiction or the other) and developing potential cross-border strategies to address them.

In relation to the Protestant community groups, although some of the issues identified by them are long-standing ones (and ones which we were aware of from the preliminary research undertaken as part of the project's conception), it was crucial to the project's success to examine them critically and develop possible solutions. This meant, for

example, addressing the fact that a number of individuals from the Protestant community groups in Northern Ireland deliberately modified a question included in the Monitoring Form that asked: *“On a scale of 0 to 5 (where 0 indicates the lowest and 5 the highest), what importance would you give to cross-border cooperation?”* In these cases they added an additional dimension, enabling them to give a separate score for “economic” cooperation (usually scored between 4 and 5), and another for “cultural” cooperation (scored between 0 and 2). Additionally, in the first workshop with individual groups in Northern Ireland it became apparent to the participants themselves that opinions were being offered on the experiences of Protestants in the Republic of Ireland without basis in actual direct knowledge. These first opinions (and views on cross-border cooperation) began to be modified as the workshops moved to their cross-border dimension, enabling the discussions to include Protestant community groups from both jurisdictions.

The situation with the women’s groups was in some respects almost the reverse of that encountered with the Protestant community groups. Here, in answer to the same question on the Monitoring Form discussed above, scores were almost entirely between 4 and 5, with no self-made distinction between economic and cultural cooperation. However, this also meant there was some initial latent scepticism as to the value of the project as a number of the women quite correctly stated that they had been involved in cross-border cooperation activities for a significant number of years. This scepticism quickly diminished as the workshops moved to their cross-border dimension, with women from both jurisdictions not only identifying common issues, but also the lack of political support in addressing their needs on a cross-border basis where this would be appropriate. The shared

recognition from the groups that North-South cooperation by policy-makers did not in their view address their needs, and that no such cooperation existed on an East-West dimension, resulted in strong commitment to the project.

The project’s overall success in meeting its objectives with both the women’s groups and the Protestant community groups was due to the structure, pace and sequencing of the workshops, which worked extremely well. The workshops in themselves provided a space for groups to discuss relevant issues internally before doing so with other groups on a cross-border basis, and they equipped them with the necessary skills for CBC that enabled them to come towards a consensus on the value of CBC and the shared issues that could be addressed on a cross-border basis. Additionally, and as was commented upon by participants in the final evaluation seminar, the inclusion of a young people’s group drawn from the Traveller community was seen very positively.

With new funding from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Stages 2 and 3 of the Towards a New Common Chapter project will proceed in 2017. Stage 2 will require intensive CCBS involvement in the form of 10 iterations of two workshops (five cross-border iterations for each workshop) and an Evaluation Seminar that will serve to endorse the draft New Common Chapter. Stage 3 will comprise a community-led consultation on the draft Chapter, and community advocacy and promotion of the resulting New Common Chapter at 10 dissemination events. During Stage 3 CCBS will adopt a supportive role that cultivates the independence of the community groups leading the advocacy and promotion activities. CCBS will facilitate and monitor these engagement and advocacy initiatives and act as coordinator.

Research Project:

A study of cross-border flows within the agri-food sector: A snapshot of four border counties

The agri-food sector in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland serves as a vital component of the domestic economy and is the largest cross-border trading sector on the island of Ireland. With activity spanning across the supply chain, a high percentage of locally sourced materials and a substantial export market, the agri-food sector continues to be a key driver for the economies of both jurisdictions.

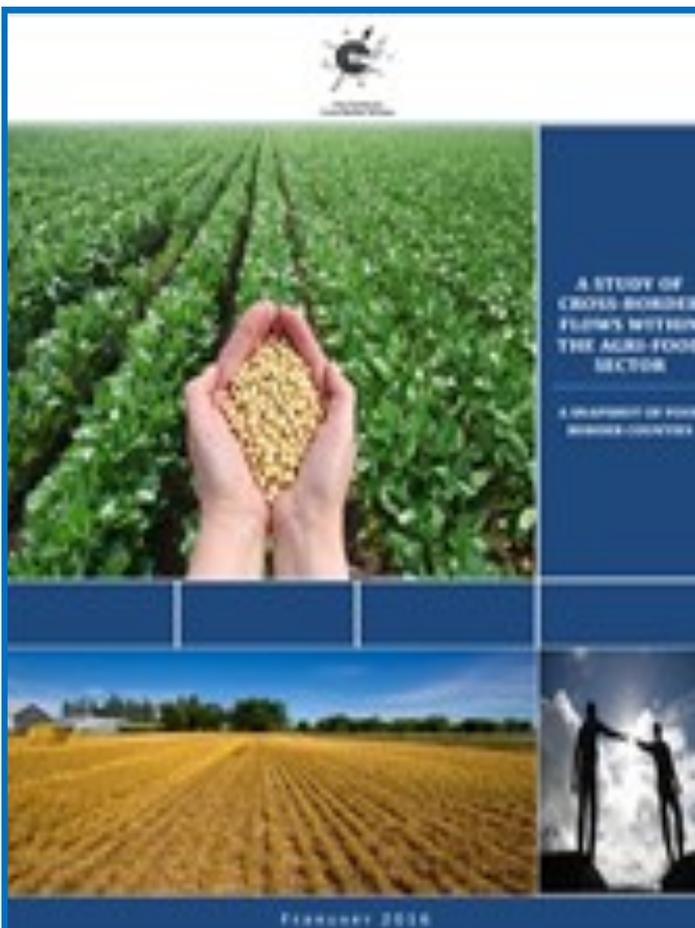
Authors CCBS Deputy Director, Anthony Soares and CCBS Research Assistant Martin McTaggart sought to assess the extent to which existing literature and policies capture the activities and trends of small-

agri-food and related businesses in counties Armagh, Down, Louth and Monaghan. Those businesses included independent producers, suppliers, processors and distributors; food retailers, restaurants, farmers, shop-owners, hauliers, restaurateurs and hoteliers.

The 68 businesses studied in this report employ a total workforce of 1,211, with less than half of these (45.3%) full time workers. 27 of the 68 businesses employed less than 10 persons.

The predominant direction of the flow of cross-border trade of agri-food produce is from North to South. On the production side, businesses in Armagh and Down involved in cross-border trade reported sustained growth in their sales to Ireland, accounting for up to 30% of their total sales. In contrast, the producers based in counties Louth and Monaghan interviewed for this report stated that their volume of trade with the market in Northern Ireland accounted in most cases for less than 1% and not more than 3% in others.

Cross-border flows of produce originating in the border counties analysed are generally destined for locations away from the border. There appears to be little trade between the border counties themselves. This could be suggestive of an island economy, or evidence of uneven economic development, with border counties seen as sites of



scale, independent operations in a specific geographical area, particularly in terms of cross-border flows – whether of produce, materials or clients. The report focuses on 68 largely small scale

production but not of consumption significant enough to make them desirable markets for producers.

Only 17 out of the 68 businesses interviewed for this report (25%) stated that they belonged to a professional network or association. There is perhaps an opportunity to encourage networking and collaborative activities, and to identify areas where this may be done on a cross-border basis. Less than one-third – 19 of the 68 businesses – stated that they had received some form of support to develop their business from a relevant agency.

A significant number of businesses across all four counties voiced frustration at missed opportunities to approach the development of tourism from a cross-border perspective. The proper development of cross-border food tourism was seen as offering smaller producers, restaurateurs and food retailers the opportunity to promote their produce to a wider audience.

Research Dissemination Seminar:

A very well-attended seminar at which Anthony Soares presented the research findings took place at the NSMC offices on 15 June. Among the 43 attendees were officials from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, representatives from InterTradeIreland, independent economists and leaders from the agri-food industry. The presentation of the research findings stimulated interesting discussions on the future of the industry and of the rural economy.

The report is available on the

CCBS website: <http://crossborder.ie/a-study-of-cross-border-flows-within-the-agri-food-sector-a-snapshot-of-four-border-counties/>

Following feedback from some of those attending the seminar, author Anthony Soares collaborated with the former Director of TEAGASC, Prof Liam Downey (UCD and NUI Maynooth) to develop a number of recommendations on how to support the sustainability of agriculture in both jurisdictions on the island of Ireland, and to identify mechanisms for all-island collaboration in the agri-food sector in facing common challenges.

Of the 39 employees identified as cross-border workers, 28 were employed in the productive sector, and eight within hotel restaurants. The predominant direction of the flow of cross-border workers is from North to South.

Capacity-building

CCBS delivered ten capacity-building sessions to community groups from both North and South as part of its citizen engagement work, these sessions offered training on the principles of integrated cross-border cooperation and the design of cross-border projects as set out in CCBS' *Impact Assessment Toolkit for Cross-Border Cooperation*. The work targeted grass-roots community organisations from border Protestant communities, women's groups and young people's groups. The capacity-building work complemented CCBS's ongoing citizen engagement efforts and addressed a specific gap identified by CCBS and the community groups with which we had been working, which was an imbalance in terms of skills between grass-roots organisations and local and central government in the design of cross-border interventions.

The Border People project also delivered specialist training on cross-border family benefits issues to 35 citizens' advisors (see page 41).

Press interviews and reports

A number of requests for information were received from a range of media and press outlets throughout the year, mainly related to Brexit.

Date	Media	Title
19 Apr	<i>Neue Zürcher Zeitung</i> (Swiss daily) http://www.nzz.ch/international/europa/wo-der-brexit-am-meisten-weh-tut-1.18728451	Wo der Brexit am meisten weh tut
19 Apr	The Food Chain (SafeFood)	
7 June	Irish TV http://www.irishtv.ie/armagh-matters-90	Armagh Matters 90
17 June	Nrc.nl digitale editie (Netherlands) http://www.nrc.nl/next/2016/06/17/ieren-willen-zachte-grens-met-noord-ierland-houden-1628168	Wo der Brexit am meisten weh tut
20 June	Deutsche Welle TV http://www.dw.com/en/fears-over-brexit-in-northern-ireland/av-19342235	Fears over Brexit in Northern Ireland
21 June	Nación (Mexico) http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/articulo/nacion/2016/06/21/el-brexit-comprometeria-proceso-de-paz-en-irlanda	Wo der Brexit am meisten weh tut
9 Aug	Australian Broadcasting Corporation http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2016/s4515203.htm	Brexit decision causes uncertainty in Northern Ireland
25 Aug	The Economist	
15 Sept	The Tablet http://www.thetablet.co.uk/features/2/8938/trouble-at-the-border-brexit-highlights-the-insecure-nature-of-northern-ireland-s-politics	Trouble at the Border: Brexit Highlights the Insecure Nature of Northern Ireland's Politics
Sep	Ambition (NI Chamber of Commerce) https://issuu.com/nichamber/docs/october_2016	What Next for Local Economic Development?
7 Oct	BBC Radio Ulster	Inside Politics
10 Oct	BBC1 Northern Ireland	BBC Breakfast News
10 Oct	An phoblacht http://www.anphoblacht.com/contents/26418	Brexit – Martin McGuinness to meet European Parliament leaders in Brussels
10 Oct	Derry Now http://www.derrynow.com/news/leaving-european-union-will-devastate-border-communities-foyle-mla-raymond-mccartney/121539	Leaving European Union will devastate border communities
11 Oct	BBC Radio 5 Live	
15 Oct	Common Space https://www.commonspace.scot/articles/9657/angus-robertson-forget-ideology-quest-scottish-independence	Angus Robertson: Forget “ideology” in the quest for Scottish independence
17 Oct	Irish Independent http://www.independent.ie/business/governments-allisland-brexit-forum-risks-becoming-a-talking-shop-35136975.html	Government's all-island Brexit forum risks becoming a talking shop
25 Oct	RTE http://www.rte.ie/news/2016/1025/826823brexit-bruton-ahern/	Ahern, Bruton warn of negative impact of Brexit on Ireland
1 Nov	Common Space Media, Glasgow	
2 Nov	BBC Radio 4 Today Programme	
3 Nov	The Asahi Shimbun (Japan)	Not yet published
4 Nov	Irish Examiner http://www.irishexaminer.com/viewpoints/columnists/alison-oconnor/we-	We should be glad Kenny is willing to get involved in Brexit talks
11 Nov	LMFM Radio, Dundalk	
7 Dec	Czech Radio	
30 Dec	Play RSI Swiss Television News http://www.rsi.ch/play/tv/telegiornale/	
	Northern Sound Radio	
	The Economist	
	Newsnight	
	Spanish National Radio	

Secretariat Service: Universities Ireland

In 2016 www.universitiesireland.ie had 10,964 visitors. They visited the site 12,886 times and viewed 23,977 pages

Reflecting on a decade of War and Revolution in Ireland 1912-1923:

Courts martial records of 1916 leaders

With financial support from Universities Ireland the official courts martial records of the leaders of the Easter Rising are now available online to the public. Papers relating to the 1916 courts martial have been acquired from the UK's National Archives and will be published on several websites, including that of the National Archives of Ireland.

The records, which include the prisoners' last letters to their loved ones, were officially launched by President Michael D Higgins on Thursday 22 September 2016 at Richmond Barracks in Inchicore, Dublin where the proceedings of the courts martial were recorded.

The documents can be viewed on www.nationalarchives.ie



ABOVE RIGHT: Caitriona Crowe, Head of Special Projects, the National Archives

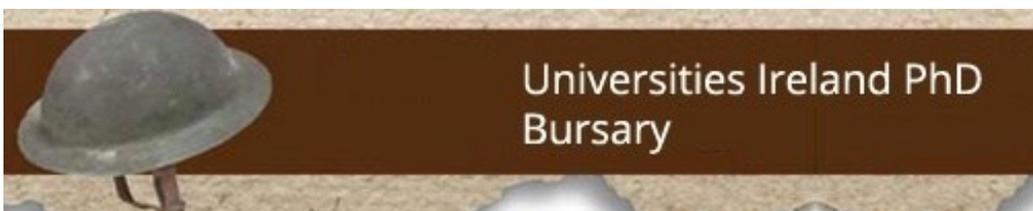
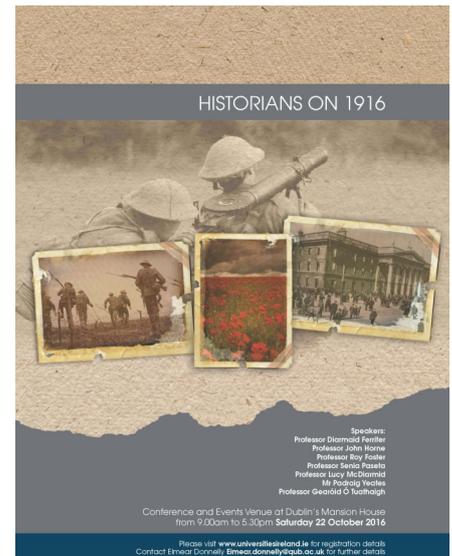
BELOW: (Front) Caitriona Crowe and President Michael D Higgins with members of the CCBS Staff (back) Mairead Hughes, Anthony Soares, Eimear Donnelly and Ruth Taillon.



Reflecting on a decade of War and Revolution in Ireland 1912-1923:

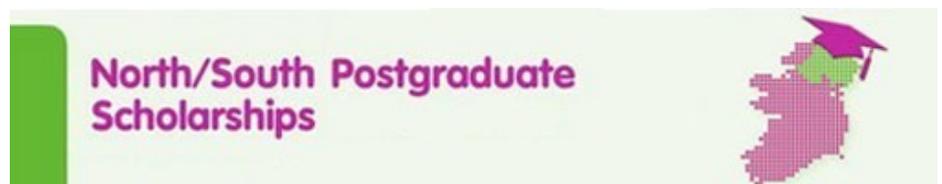
Historians on 1916

On Saturday 22 October 2016, Universities Ireland, the all-island coordinating body for Ireland's ten universities north and south, organised a major conference at the Conference and Events Venue at Dublin's Mansion House entitled 'Historians on 1916'. Following the wave of commemorations on Ireland's two great foundation narratives, the Easter Rising and the Somme, this conference brought together historians as practitioners to reflect on what has passed in this monumental year of commemoration. The event featured keynote addresses from leading historians from across Ireland and Britain and with panels specifically addressing class and gender.



In 2016, three bursaries of €6,500 were awarded to students undertaking postgraduate study on a topic relating to the 1912-1923 period in Ireland, the decade of the First World War and the division of the island into the states of Ireland (Irish Free State) and Northern Ireland. The recipients were:

- ◆ **Emma Dewhirst, West Yorkshire** – commencing a PhD at University College Dublin titled 'The Roots of Radicalism: Networks, Organisation, and the Irish Revolution'.
- ◆ **Conor Heffernan, Dublin** – commencing a PhD at University College Dublin titled 'Ireland's Physical Culture Movement 1898-1930'.
- ◆ **Shane Browne, Waterford** – commencing a PhD in University College Dublin titled 'Moore's Military: Understanding Maurice Moore and the National Volunteers in Irish History, 1914-1918'.



The aim of this scheme is to encourage outstanding students from the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland to cross the border to undertake postgraduate study and experience life in the other Irish jurisdiction. In 2016, there were 30 applications and four scholarships of €15,000 were awarded to:

- ◆ **Adam Bradley, Bangor, Co. Down** – commencing a MRes in Arts and Humanities (Composition) in Queen's University Belfast.
- ◆ **Jonathan Green, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh** –commencing a LLM in Trinity College Dublin.
- ◆ **Yvonne Kennedy, Celbridge, Co. Kildare** –commencing a LLM (Human Rights & Criminal Justice) in Queen's University Belfast.
- ◆ **Carmen Ortiz Granero, Belfast, Co. Antrim** – commencing a PhD in Philosophy in Trinity College Dublin.

SCHOLARS AT RISK NETWORK

universities ireland

Around the world today, scholars are attacked because of their words, their ideas and their place in society. Those seeking power and control work to limit access to information and new ideas by targeting scholars, restricting academic freedom and repressing research, publication, teaching and learning. The Scholars at Risk Network responds to these attacks. Scholars at Risk (SAR) is an international network of higher education institutions dedicated to protecting threatened scholars, preventing attacks on higher education communities and promoting academic freedom worldwide.



Universities Ireland is the SAR-Ireland Section and partner of the Scholars at Risk Network.

The partnership between Universities Ireland and the Scholars at Risk network provides support to threatened academics around the world, including by arranging temporary placements in Ireland to allow them to safely continue their work. Member institutions of the Ireland Section include: Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, NUI Galway, Maynooth University, Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University, University of Limerick, University College Cork, Dublin City University and the Open University.

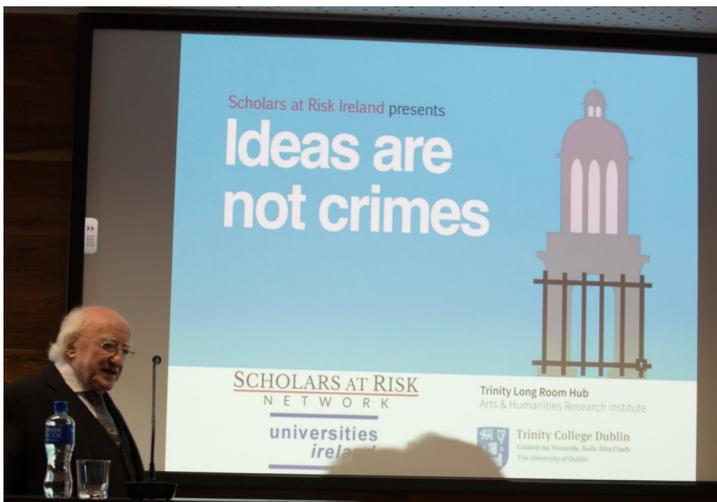
Scholars at Risk Regional Tour

'The role of women's movement in the democratic movement in Iran'

Seminars were organised at Ulster University, Belfast (26 April) and Derry (28 April) and Queen's University Belfast (27 April) with Dr Rezvan Moghaddam, a women's rights activist and researcher. One of founders of the International Campaign Against Violence in Iran, she has been involved with establishing numerous associations, groups and committees to empower women on issues of peace, environment, health and gender in Iran and more recently while living and working in Europe. For her work as co-founder of the One Million Signature Campaign in Iran, she was a recipient of the Quadriga award in Germany in October 2009. Dr Moghaddam has published numerous articles, participated in conferences, seminars and international gatherings, where she has presented papers on women's issues. Dr Moghaddam is now teaching at Maynooth University.



Ideas are not crimes

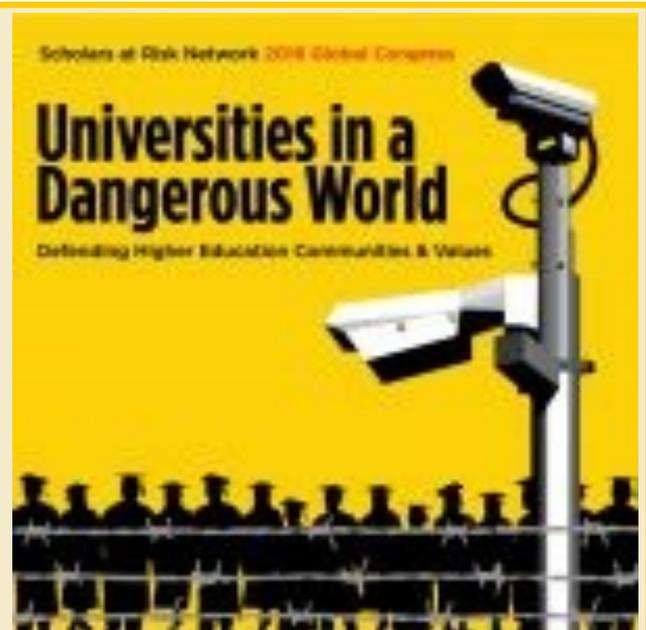


On 29 November the Scholars at Risk Ireland Section (Universities Ireland) presented a special event featuring an opening address by President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins.

The President's address was followed by dialogues with scholars from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Sri Lanka, moderated by Senator Ivana Bacik, Dr Roja Fazaeli and Dr Jude Lal Fernando of Trinity College Dublin.

The dialogues focused on current conditions for academics and higher education communities in the scholars' home regions, and the role of the global higher education community in protecting the human rights of scholars and promoting academic freedom worldwide.

Dr Patrick Prendergast, Provost and President of Trinity College Dublin provided welcoming remarks and Professor Patrick O'Donovan, Head of the College of Arts, University College Cork spoke on behalf of Universities Ireland. Speakers also included Sinead O'Gorman, European Director of the Scholars at Risk network.

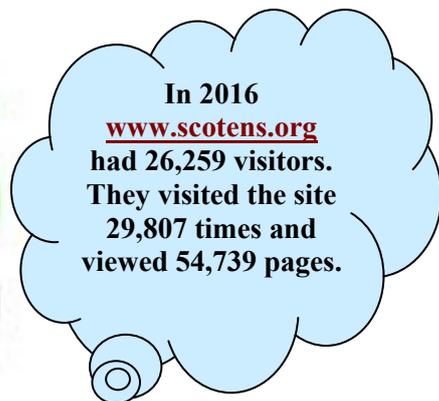


SAR Global Congress

SAR Ireland was represented at the SAR Global Congress, *Universities in a Dangerous World*, in Montreal, Canada, from June 8 - 10 by Chandana Mathur from Maynooth University. Chandana attended the pre-Congress workshop on Wednesday 8 June and presented a progress report on the Ireland Section's activities to the Network Meeting on Friday 10 June. Chandana also contributed to a working group (coordinated by SAR) to take SAR's project to promote values in international education partnerships (the MOU project) forward.



Secretariat Service:



SCoTENS was established in 2003 to create a safe space for teacher educators – North and South – to come together and discuss issues of common interest and explore ways of co-operating closely together. A part of the broader peace dynamic that was gathering momentum on the island of Ireland at the time, it has always been rooted in the deepest commitment to quality teaching and learning for all. We believe that SCOTENS is the only network of its kind operating across a contested border in the world. It has been involved in supporting a wide range of research, conference and exchange projects since it was founded in 2003

2016 Annual Conference:

Communities of practice: Learning together to teach together

The SCoTENS annual conference is a key fixture in the education calendar on the island of Ireland. The conference provides a forum where teacher educators across the island of Ireland can engage in open, critical and constructive analysis of current issues in education with a view to promoting a collaborative response to these issues.

Communities of practice: Learning together to teach together, took place on 13-14 October at the Armagh City

Hotel, on the theme of teachers' collaborative learning. Keynote speakers were Prof Etienne Wenger and Dr Graham Donaldson. Etienne Wenger is an educational theorist and practitioner, best known for his formulation of the theory of

situated cognition and his more recent work in the field of communities of practice.

Theoretically, his work focuses on social learning systems. Graham Donaldson was Chief Executive of HM Inspectorate of Education and Chief Professional Adviser to the Scottish Government on all aspects of education outside the university sector. He is the current President of the Standing International Conference of Inspectorates (SICI) and has also undertaken country reviews of education on behalf of the OECD.



Workshops were built around cross-border partnerships and will seek to develop our understanding of collaborative professional learning. The conference recordings are available at <http://scotens.org/conferences/aok-test-conf-2018/>

North-South Student Teacher Exchange



Eimear Donnelly, SCoTENS Administrator, with staff and students participating in the 2016 North South Student Teacher Exchange.

The colleges that participated in the 2015-2016 exchange were: Stranmillis University College Belfast, Church of Ireland College of Education, Dublin, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin and Froebel College of Education, Maynooth.

The annual North-South Student Teacher Exchange is managed for SCoTENS by the Centre for Cross Border Studies, in partnership with the participating colleges. The project is run by a steering group drawn from CCBS and the colleges of education, and all travel and accommodation costs of participating students are paid by SCoTENS.

The participating student teachers spend three weeks in colleges of education and on school placements in the other jurisdiction. The Southern students were hosted and accommodated by Stranmillis University College, Belfast and in turn, the Northern students were hosted and accommodated by Marino Institute of Education, Dublin.

Participating students are required to prepare fully for work/lessons in accordance with the requirements of the home college and giving due

recognition to the curriculum requirements of the placement school. Both written preparation and classroom performance are assessed. Grades awarded are collated in the normal way in the home college and contribute to the participating student's overall year result as appropriate.

Students on teaching practice during the North-South Student Teacher Exchange Project are assessed by both the host college in the other jurisdiction and their home college. This involves a minimum of two supervisory visits to the placement school and the instrument of assessment normally used by the home college is used. The host college and the home college make one visit each and supervision takes into consideration the complexities, pressures and preparation required of students in a different jurisdiction.

Each student has an Observation Day/Days in their placement school in advance of the exchange. This gives students an opportunity to get to know their placement school and its teachers, observe its teaching and learning methods and prepare teaching materials in advance of their placement.

SCoTENS Research Seed Funding

SCoTENS provides Seed Funding to support a number of collaborative research projects and professional activities in teacher education in Northern Ireland and Ireland. The sums allocated are usually in the region of £3,000 – £6,000 (approximately €3,750 – €7,500). All proposals must be submitted by North-South partnerships and the two lead partners must be from institutions that are fully-paid up members of SCoTENS.

To date, 108 research, conference and exchange projects have been funded. Information about funded projects that are now complete (including downloadable reports) can be found on the SCoTENS website: www.scotens.org.

Twenty three applications were received for the 2016 Seed Funding programme. Thirteen projects received a combined allocation of £50,000. Further details of the projects that were allocated funding are available at the following link - <http://scotens.org/research-projects/>

Each year, one research report is chosen by the SCoTENS Steering Committee for publication in printed format and this report is launched at the annual SCoTENS Conference. Launched at the 2016 conference, *Managing Early Years Inclusive Transition Practices* compares the transition policies and practices employed by mainstream schools for young children with special needs in the North and South of Ireland. Specifically, the project documents the policies (at government, local authority and school level) that direct and influence the transition process; explores the differing practices and strategies employed by schools to support the transition process in both jurisdictions; establishes how teachers interpret these policies at classroom level, to identify the factors that support or impede successful transitions; and identifies the importance of parental involvement in the transition process and the role of other agencies. The report is available online at <http://scotens.org/managing-early-years-inclusive-transition-practices-2/>



Managing Early Years Inclusive Transition Practices was launched by Professor Paul Conway, Professor of Education, University of Limerick; pictured here (second left) with Tomás Ó Ruairc, Director, the Teaching Council and co-Chair SCoTENS; authors of the report Dr Colette Gray, Stranmillis University College, Belfast; Dr Anita Prunty, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin; Dr Anna Logan, St Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin; Dr Geraldine Hayes, Stranmillis University College, Belfast and Professor Linda Clarke, Professor of Education, Ulster University and co-Chair SCoTENS.

CCBS Board Members

Dr Helen Johnston (Chair), Senior Social Policy Analyst, National Economic and Social Council

Dr Anna Bryson, Senior Research Fellow, School of Law, Queen's University Belfast

Michael Curran, Business Development Manager, Hanley Energy Ltd

Dr John Doyle, Director of the Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction and Executive Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dublin City University

Dr Katy Hayward, Senior Lecturer, School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, Queen's University Belfast

Trevor Holmes, Vice President, External and Strategic Affairs, Dublin City University

Tony Kennedy, OBE, Director, John Hewitt Society

Prof Daire Keogh, Cregan Professor of History and Deputy President, Dublin City University

Dr Maurice Manning, Chancellor, National University of Ireland

Philip McDonagh, OBE, Independent Economist, Chair of the NI Statistics Advisory Committee and Charity Commissioner for Northern Ireland

Colin Stutt, Colin Stutt Consulting

Margaret Connolly, Head of Management Accounts in Queen's University Belfast, is the Centre's Company Secretary.

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

Our founding partners are Queen’s University Belfast and Dublin City University.

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