

Killarney Economic Conference

Annual dialogue between economic, civic and political leaders from Britain and Ireland

Former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern to share thoughts on Brexit

It is 12 months since DUP leader, Arlene Foster, made the symbolic and conciliatory gesture of addressing the inaugural Killarney Economic Conference but one year on, the Irish border backstop remains the key issue in the Brexit withdrawal process.

The second Killarney Economic Conference has been confirmed for The Brehon/INEC complex on January 17/18 next and, once again, it will concentrate on Brexit.

This highly anticipated gathering of economic, civic and political leaders, from Britain and Ireland, is aptly timed with the UK parliament poised to vote on Theresa May's withdrawal deal that same week. The outcome, impact and implications of that vote will be discussed by the expert panel of speakers, drawn from business, academia and politics.

Specific topics for discussion include an exploration of the legal issues raised by Brexit, building a collaborative and open political future, the challenges posed to businesses and how to respond and the regulatory fall-out in banking and finance.

"Our conference this year takes place in a critical and historic week and there is still so much uncertainty," said conference organiser and historian Dr William Sheehan.

"Our goal is to bring some light to the way ahead for businesses and organisations and, given the calibre of our speakers, I know we will do that."

The full list of speakers for the Killarney Economic Conference 2019 includes Bertie Ahern, former Taoiseach; Mark Kennedy, Mazars; Ed Sibley, Central Bank; Prof. Eilis Ferran, University of Cambridge; Dr. Stephen Kinsella, University of Limerick; Prof. Ursula Kilkelly, UCC; Dr. Georges Baur, ex-EFTA, Liechtenstein Institute; Prof. Catherine Barnard, University of Cambridge; Dr. Holger Hestermeyer, Kings College London; Dr. William Sheehan, Conference Organiser; David Clarke, Scottish Irish Finance Initiative; Mícheál Ó hÉanaigh, Údarás na Gaeltachta; Ruth McCarthy, Fexco Corporate Payments; Moira Murrell, Kerry County Council; Dr. Mary C. Murphy, University College Cork; Prof. Brigid Laffan, European University Institute; Henry Newman, Open Europe; Dr. Edward Burke, University of Nottingham; Denis McShane, UK Labour; Mark Hennessy, *The Irish Times*; Doug Beattie, Ulster Unionist Party; John McGrane, British Irish Chamber of Commerce; Lisa Chambers, Fianna Fáil; Lucinda Creighton, Vulcan Consulting; Dr. Simon Kingston, British Irish Association; Peter Bellew, COO, Ryanair; Dr. Orla Flynn, Cork Institute of Technology; Michael Russell MSP, Scottish Government and Micheál Martin, Leader, Fianna Fáil.

The conference will begin at lunchtime on Thursday, January 17 with a half-day forum followed by dinner that evening. On Friday, January 18 the debates and discussions continue for a full day conference. All events take place in The Brehon/INEC complex in Killarney.

The Killarney Economic Conference is organised in partnership with the Killarney Convention Centre and The Brehon.

The combined gala dinner and full day conference tickets costs €295. The conference ticket costs €250 and the gala dinner costs €80. Discounts are available, on request, for students, NGOs and public sector employees.

For more information or to book a ticket visit www.killarneyeconomicconference.com.

Editor's Notes:

Speakers' Biographies

Mark Kennedy

Managing Partner Mazars Ireland

Mark Kennedy has been a partner with Mazars in Ireland since 2004. He is a practicing auditor and leads the firm's financial services industry practice, working with banking and Insurance clients in Ireland, the UK and the EU. Mark contributes regularly to journals and newspapers on a range of business topics, including the likely impact of Brexit on business and the financial services sector. He is a regular contributor to the debate about the development of the Audit profession. In 2009 he co-authored, with Maire Whelan and Feargus O'Raghallaigh, *The National Asset Management Agency (NAMA) Act 2009 – A Reference Guide*. Mark is a member of the Global leadership team of Mazars, working with an international team of partners to develop the global business of Mazars across key sectors. Mazars is one of the fastest growing professional services firms in Ireland, employing 400 staff in Limerick, Galway and Dublin. Services include audit, assurance, tax, consulting, payroll and financial outsourcing, insolvency, corporate finance. Mazars is a single international integrated partnership with over 20,000 professionals in 86 countries.

Micheál Martin T.D.

Leader of Fianna Fáil

Micheál Martin TD is the current Leader of Fianna Fáil and the party's spokesperson on Northern Ireland. Deputy Martin was born in Turners Cross, Cork, in 1960 and educated locally, at Scoil Chríost Rí and Coláiste Chríost Rí. He attended University College Cork where he qualified with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He then completed his Master of Arts thesis in Political History. It was at UCC that he developed a keen interest in politics and he has been a member of the Fianna Fáil National Executive since 1988. He also served as Chairman of Ógra Fianna Fáil and as a member of the Commission on the Aims and Structures of Fianna Fáil. He was first elected to Cork Corporation in 1985 and was subsequently elected as Lord Mayor of Cork in 1992-93. Since entering national politics in 1989, Deputy Martin has represented the Cork South Central Constituency. He has served on the Fianna Fáil front bench and in four cabinet posts: Minister for Foreign Affairs (2008-2011), Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment (2004-2008), Minister for Health (2000-04) and Minister for Education (1997-2000). Deputy Martin was elected Uachtarán Fhianna Fáil on the 26th of January 2011.

Ronan McCrea**Professor of Constitutional and European Law at University College London**

Ronan McCrea is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin (LL.B.) and the London School of Economics (M.Sc., Ph.D.). He is currently Professor of Constitutional and European Law at University College London and a recurring visiting professor at the Central European University in Budapest. He is a former référendaire (judicial clerk) at the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg and a member of the Bar of Ireland and the Bar of England and Wales. He has been a Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, a visiting scholar at the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Prof. Ursula Kilkelly**Professor of Law, University College Cork**

Professor Ursula Kilkelly is a professor of law at University College Cork where she has been Dean since 2012. Her academic work concerns the rights of children in international law and she is the author of many books and articles on a range of topics. In addition to her scholarly work, Professor Kilkelly chairs the Board of Management of Oberstown Children Detention Campus, appointed by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. Since 2013, Ursula has been Head of the College of Business and Law at UCC, overseeing the establishment of the University's Business School in 2014. Since her appointment to the role for a five-year term in April 2018, Ursula has responsibility for the development of both the Business and the Law Schools, and is overseeing the integration of the Irish Management Institute, an executive education provider acquired by the University in 2016, into the University.

Simon Kingston**Head of the Non-Profit Sector for Russell Reynolds Associates**

Simon Kingston is Co-Curator of the Killarney Economic Conference. He leads the non-profit sector for the leadership advisory firm Russell Reynolds Associates. He advises clients in the government and global development sectors on chief executive and board appointments and related matters. He has served clients across Europe, North America, and Africa. Simon is co-founder of the West Cork History Festival, an annual event which engages with local, national, and international history through talks, debates, music, and film. He sits on the executive committee of the British-Irish Association. Simon received his B.A. in history from Trinity College Dublin. He received his D.Phil. in history from the University of Oxford. He was subsequently a post-doctoral scholar at the University and a tutor and retained lecturer at a number of its colleges.

Stephen Kinsella**Associate Professor of Economics, University of Limerick**

Stephen Kinsella is Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Limerick and Senior Fellow at the University of Melbourne. He is an award-winning weekly columnist for the Sunday Business Post and a hub leader for the ESRC-funded Rebuilding Macroeconomics Project. He has won competitive funding of over €40 million. Stephen's first PhD is from NUI, Galway, and his second PhD is from the New School for Social Research.

Mark Hennessy**News Editor, Irish Times**

Mark Hennessy is the current news editor of the Irish Times. He has formerly served as political correspondent, where he covered most of the significant developments in Irish and Anglo-Irish politics during the 1990s and 2000s, and London editor of the *Irish Times*, where he reported, in detail, from Scotland during its independence campaigns and the opening chapters of what turned out to be the United Kingdom's decision to depart the European Union; and before that as news editor, political correspondent and Europe editor of the *Irish Examiner*. A frequent broadcaster, he has appeared on domestic and international channels, including the BBC, Sky and CNN.

Deputy Governor Ed Sibley**Deputy Governor, Prudential Regulation, Central Bank of Ireland**

Ed Sibley was appointed Deputy Governor (Prudential Regulation) in 2017. He is an ex-officio member of the Central Bank Commission and is also a member of the Supervisory Board of the ECB's Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM). As Deputy Governor (Prudential Regulation) Ed is responsible for leading the supervision of banks, credit unions, insurance firms and the asset management industry in Ireland. Prior to this appointment, he was responsible for overseeing the Central Bank's supervisory work for all banks and credit unions operating in Ireland. He joined the Central Bank in 2012. Ed has more than 20 years' experience in financial services. His previous experience includes working for the UK Financial Services Authority (FSA) leading the supervision of European banks operating in the UK and a variety of risk management roles in Bank of Ireland and PwC. Ed has an MBA from Smurfit Business School, and a first-class honours degree in Economics.

Dr. William Sheehan**KEC Conference Organiser and Military Historian**

Dr. William Sheehan is a military historian and the author of *British Voices from the Irish War of Independence* (2005), *Fighting for Dublin* (2007) and *Hearts and Mines: The British 5th Division in Ireland* (2009), *A Hard Local War: The British Army and the Guerrilla War in Cork, 1919 -1921* (2011) and *The Western Front: Irish Voices from the Great War* (2011). He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and the Higher Education Academy. He has lectured in Griffith College Cork, UCC, Maynooth University and with the Open University. He is a member of the Ferguson Centre for African and Asian Studies at the Open University. He is currently working with the Gleneagle Hotel group to develop a third level institution in Killarney dedicated to the hotel industry.

Henry Newman**Director of Open Europe**

Henry joined Open Europe in 2017 having worked as a special adviser to Michael Gove in the Ministry of Justice and Francis Maude in the Cabinet Office. Open Europe is a think tank specialising in UK and EU Relations. He has taught politics at the School of Oriental and African Studies and elsewhere, and studied at the University of Oxford, Harvard University, and the London School of Economics.

Dr. Mary C. Murphy**Lecturer in politics, University College Cork**

Dr Mary C. Murphy holds a Jean Monnet Chair in European Integration and is a lecturer in politics in the Department of Government and Politics, University College Cork. She is the President of the Irish Association for Contemporary European Studies (IACES), a former Fulbright-Schuman Scholar and a fellow of the Centre on Constitutional Change at the University of Edinburgh. Mary specialises in the study of the European Union relationship with Ireland, north and south. She has published extensively and most recently is the author of *Europe and Northern Ireland's Future: Negotiating Brexit's Unique Case* published by Agenda Publishing in 2018. Mary is currently working on a three-year ESRC project '*Between two unions: The Constitutional Future of the Islands after Brexit*' with colleagues across the UK.

Prof. Brigid Laffan**Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute**

Brigid Laffan is Director and Professor at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, an inter-disciplinary research centre at the European University Institute. The Centre's mission is to contribute to research on the major issues facing contemporary European society. Previously she was Vice-President of UCD and Principal of the College of Human Sciences from 2004 to 2011. Brigid Laffan is recipient of numerous awards: in 2005 she was elected Member of the Royal Irish Academy and in 2010 received the Ordre nationale du Mérite from the President of the French Republic. Her scholarship has been recognised by the THESEUS Award for Outstanding Research on European Integration in 2012 and the Lifetime Achievement Award for contribution to the development of European Studies in 2014 by UACES. Brigid's research focuses on the dynamic of European integration. Recent publications include her co-edited book *Core-periphery Relations in the European Union* (London: Routledge, 2016, 311pp) and '*Europe's Union in Crisis: Tested and Contested*', *Special Issue, West European Politics*, 2016, 39:5.

Dr. Orla Flynn**Vice President for External Affairs at Cork Institute of Technology**

Dr. Orla Flynn has twenty years' experience in education management roles at CIT, where she led the CIT Crawford College of Art and Design for 8 years following successful chapters as Head of School of Humanities and Head of Department of Media Communications. Prior to this she was a lecturer in Computer Science at CIT for 13 years. Orla's current responsibilities as Vice President include external engagement, research and innovation, alumni and internationalisation – each of these are pivotal institutional priorities for Cork Institute of Technology. Orla is a director on the boards of Cork Chamber of Commerce, CIT Innovation Centre (Rubicon), HEAnet, and Cork Midsummer Festival. She holds undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in Mathematical Physics and Computer Science from University College Cork, an MA in Management in Education from Waterford Institute of Technology, and a PhD from the Kemmy Business School at the University of Limerick.

David Clarke
Independent Financial Analyst

David Clarke CFA is a writer, commentator and consultant. After studying philosophy at TCD and an initial career in music, he developed a focus on finance and investment while working for Bloomberg, the world's preeminent financial data and news service. There he was the main fund management reporter, while latterly he served as an editor-at-large, dealing with newspapers around Europe, and as an editor on bonds and foreign exchange. In recent years he has helped fund managers and related parts of the industry with their communications and marketing, and part of his work is as head of marketing for MoneyMate Group, a Dublin-based regtech platform. He is a CFA charterholder and takes a strong interest in the future of fund management, and helped write the CFA Society of the UK's recent report on the value of the investment industry. He's also the founder and policy director of the Scottish Irish Finance Initiative, a government backed project to encourage the finance industries in both locations to work together, and the vice chairman of the European Movement in Scotland.

Dr. Georges Baur
Research Fellow with the Liechtenstein-Institute

Georges Baur currently holds a fellow research post with the Liechtenstein-Institute, a university institute in Liechtenstein. He has been Assistant Secretary-General of EFTA from 2012 to 2018, based in Brussels. He was responsible for the management of the practical functioning of the EEA Agreement. He also dealt with other third country relations of the EU and with Brexit. Previously he held the post of Deputy Head of Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the EU in Brussels. From 2000 to 2003, Mr. Baur served as Advisor to the Government of Liechtenstein on matters concerning the financial centre and financial services. Between 1989 and 2000 he worked as a lawyer in a Bank and in a law firm. Georges holds a doctorate from the University of Zurich and is admitted to the Swiss Bar as an attorney. He has published on various issues of European and international law.

Prof. Catherine Barnard
Professor of European Union Law, University of Cambridge

Catherine Barnard is Professor of EU law and Employment Law and senior tutor and fellow of Trinity College. She is the author of *EU Employment Law* (Oxford, OUP, 2012, 5th ed.), *The Substantive Law of the EU: The Four Freedoms*, (Oxford, OUP, 2016, 5th ed), and (with Peers ed), *European Union Law* (Oxford, OUP, 2017, 2nd ed). Catherine is currently a Senior Fellow in the UK in a Changing Europe (<http://ukandeu.ac.uk/>) project. This is an authoritative, non-partisan think tank which does research and provides information about all aspects of Brexit. Part of its remit is to make that information accessible to the general public, by doing public engagement, especially with the media. She has appeared on the main news channels – BBC, ITV and Sky – as well as some of the more specialist programmes such as *Law in Action*, *Woman's Hour* and *the Briefing Room*. She has also written for *The Guardian* and *The Telegraph*. Catherine has also given evidence to numerous select committees on the legal issues connected with Brexit, immigration and the European Union (Withdrawal) Act. She has her own podcast, 2903cb, and she blogs on Brexit, mainly for the <http://ukandeu.ac.uk/>.

Michael Russell MSP

Cabinet Secretary, The Scottish Parliament

Michael Russell was appointed Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations in June 2018. As Cabinet Secretary, Michael is responsible for the UK's exit from the European Union; government and parliamentary business and constitutional Relations and intra-governmental affairs. Mr Russell was previously Minister for Environment from 2007 until 2009 and then served as Minister for Culture, External Affairs and the Constitution before moving to the role of Cabinet Secretary for Education which he held until 2014. He was appointed Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe in September 2016. Michael was brought up in Troon in Ayrshire and educated at Edinburgh University, he has lived in Argyll for over 20 years. He is the Constituency Member of the Scottish Parliament for Argyll and Bute.

Peter Bellew

Chief Operating Officer, Ryanair

Peter is a veteran in the tourism and aviation industry with over 30 years of experience in related fields. In his early career he worked at CIE Tours as a manager in charge of its London operations. He subsequently founded Drive Ireland, Irish Cottage Club and ventured into online travel management with Vbnets/Waprofit in 2001. Bellew's first venture into the aviation industry in a management capacity was in 1993 with Kerry Airport. Under his tenure as Director and General Manager, he was credited with being able to substantially increase passenger volume. In 2006, Bellew joined Irish low-cost airline Ryanair as Deputy Director of Flight Operations, and subsequently held various roles, including Head of Sales and Marketing, Director of Flight Operations and Director of Training and Recruitment. In 2015, Bellew joined Malaysia Airlines from Ryanair as Chief Operations Officer and he took up the CEO position in 2016. Peter returned to Ryanair as Chief Operations Officer in 2017.

Prof. Eilís Ferran

Pro-Vice-Chancellor & Professor, University of Cambridge

Professor Eilís Ferran, FBA is Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Institutional and International Relations and Professor of Company and Securities Law at the University of Cambridge, and a Professorial Fellow of St Catharine's College, Cambridge. Professor Ferran has written extensively on UK, EU and international financial regulation, company law and corporate finance law. Her publications include *Brexit and Financial Services* (Hart Publishing, 2017 (forthcoming) co-authored), *The Oxford Handbook of Financial Regulation* (OUP, 2015, co-edited) *Principles of Corporate Finance Law* (OUP, 2104, co-authored) and *The Regulatory Aftermath of the Global Financial Crisis* (CUP 2012, co-authored). She has advised UK Parliamentary committees and served as an academic member of the Stakeholder Group of the European Banking Authority. She is a non-executive director of Euroclear SA/NV. She is a Fellow of the British Academy and an Honorary Bencher of Middle Temple.

Lisa Chambers T.D.**Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Brexit**

Lisa Chambers is a Fianna Fáil TD from Mayo. Lisa was first elected to Mayo Local Authority in 2014 and was subsequently elected to the 32nd Dáil in the 2016 general election. She was formerly the party's Spokesperson on Defence having served 13 years in the Reserve Defence Forces and is now the party's Spokesperson on Brexit. Lisa is a qualified barrister having been called to the bar in 2011. She holds a Commerce and Law Degree from NUI Galway and a Masters in Commercial Law from University College Dublin. Before entering Dáil Éireann, Lisa ran her own legal practice on the western circuit. She is a member of the Irish parliamentary delegation to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly where she sits on the Political Affairs and Security Committee and the sub-committee on Countering Terrorism. Lisa is also a member of the Oireachtas Budgetary Oversight committee, the Business and Enterprise committee and the Children and Youth Affairs committee.

Dr. Holger Hestmeyer**British Academy, King's College London Max Planck Institute, Heidelberg**

Dr. Holger Hestermeyer is a mid-career fellow at the British Academy, the Shell Reader in International Dispute Resolution at King's College London and a Senior Research Affiliate at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg. He has served as a Specialist Adviser to the House of Lords External Affairs Sub-Committee of the EU Committee on post-Brexit trade and has written and spoken extensively on Brexit, most recently giving testimony on the Draft EU Withdrawal Agreement and the Political Declaration to the House of Commons Select Committee on Exiting the European Union. Dr. Hestermeyer is a past co-Executive Vice President of the Society of International Economic Law and has worked as a Référéndaire in the Cabinet of Advocate General Cruz Villalón at the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Dr. Edward Burke**Director of Centre for Conflict, Security & Terrorism, University of Nottingham**

Dr. Edward Burke is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Centre for Conflict, Security and Terrorism at the University of Nottingham specialising in the study of insurgency, terrorism and British/EU foreign and defence policy. Prior to joining the University of Nottingham in September 2017 he was a Lecturer in Strategic Studies at the University of Portsmouth attached to the Royal Air Force College. From 2010 to 2011 Dr Burke was Deputy Head of the International Police Coordination Board in Kabul, Afghanistan; previously he served as a Strategy, Planning, Analysis and Reporting Officer at the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan. He also worked as a Foreign Policy Fellow at FRIDE (Fundación para las Relaciones Internacionales y el Diálogo Exterior) in Madrid and at the Centre for European Reform in London.