



Professor Bredan Murtagh - Queens University, Belfast

The social economy and urban regeneration

Date: 18th February 2021

Time: 13:00-14:00

Where: Zoom

Abstract

This presentation reviews the relationship between the social economy and urban regeneration, the contradictions embodied in its enactment and its potential as a site of economic and political struggle. Drawing on global practice as well as a research partnership on ethical development in Belfast's inner-city, the paper looks at deliberate attempts to grow the social economy in a disadvantaged and divided community, the limitations of its impact and the implications for the regulatory environment, social finance and community capacities. It also reflects on the importance of effective measurement regimes to understand the impact of social enterprises on neighbourhood economies, forms of effective advocacy and university-practitioner relations more broadly.

About the presenter

Brendan Murtagh is Professor of Urban Planning who has researched and written widely on social economics, contested cities and urban regeneration, including his recent book on Social Economics and the Solidarity City (Routledge, 2019). He is currently involved in a range of collaborative research projects including: a KTP on commercialising the social enterprise sector (Innovate UK 2019-); the social economy after war (Swedish Research Council, with the University of Uppsala 2020-); Marine Coastal Heritage (and the role of sustainable community heritage) (EU Horizon 2020, 2018-); and social enterprises and community transport in Car Dependency and Public Health (Medical Research Council, 2020-).

