

UCD SCHOOL OF SOCIAL POLICY,  
SOCIAL WORK & SOCIAL JUSTICE



University College Dublin  
Ireland's Global University

**RESEARCH  
HIGHLIGHTS  
BULLETIN  
March 2022 | NO. 9**



**NEW FUNDING AWARDS**

Horizon Europe award



Horizon Europe Framework Programme (HORIZON)

Call: Inclusiveness in times of change (HORIZON-CL2-2021-  
TRANSFORMATIONS-01)

Led by Prof. Olaf van Vliet from Leiden University, Belgium, the consortium for the newly awarded Horizon Europe project entitled TransEuroWorks -Transforming European Work and Social

Protection - A New Proactive Welfare State Fit for The Future World of Work includes a total 8 European countries. The 8 countries include Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom, Ireland, Switzerland, Denmark, Slovakia and Spain. For Ireland, UCD is the representative HEI with Asst. Prof. Dorota Szelewa as Principal Investigator. Szelewa will also lead a Working Package Transformation Vulnerabilities, Gender Equality, and Families. The overall award is for €3,356,697 and UCD's award amounts to a total of €285,461.

**Project abstract:** For the last two decades, European countries have faced unprecedented structural changes due to digitalisation, automation; the internationalisation of the workforce; and the transition towards a green economy. How national and EU-level interventions will mediate the effects of these transformations will profoundly impact the future of European citizens, the economy, and political stability. TransEuroWorks' multi-level, comparative, and multi-method strategy for scientific and social impact is driven by an understanding that social protection must be sustainable, inclusive, and mobile to address the complex and interlocking transformations of the near future. The project examines eight policy areas: unemployment, sickness, old-age insurances, retraining, work-life balance, family and care policies, gender equality, foreign labour recruitment and freedom of movement, combining conventional protection policies with the more contemporary social investment approaches. Through research in 27 EU-member states and 2 non-EU countries, we address 5 levels relevant to the transforming world of work and social protection: individuals, households, workplaces, countries and the EU.

TransEuroWorkS centres attention on social diversity, including gender, ethnicity, education, employment type, age, and household composition in its methodology. The mixed-methods design of the project, including an original survey on public opinion, survey and field experiments, and interviews with company managers and policymakers, will bring new knowledge on the analysis of existing policies and necessary adjustment measures. TransEuroWorkS will co-design research tools with social stakeholders, engage in policy feedback loops with EU and national policymakers, co-produce innovations and solicit feedback from citizens. Thus, TransEuroWorkS is formulated to bring research with the greatest potential social impact to support Europe's residents and a more cohesive, equal, inclusive, and green future.

## HEA: North South Scheme award

### Transforming Justice: An All-Island Examination of Justice Responses to Historical Institutional Abuse North and South (TJHIA)



On the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022, Taoiseach Micheál Martin T. D. and Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science Simon Harris T.D. today awarded sixty-two collaborative research projects between academics and institutions in Ireland and in Northern Ireland a total of €37.3 million under the first funding call from the North-South Research Programme. This programme is a collaborative scheme funded through the Government's Shared Island Fund. It is being administered by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) on behalf of the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. The awards ranging in value from €200,000 over two years to €4 million over four years are being made to successful collaborations under three strands – Strand I: Bilateral researcher-researcher projects, Strand II: Emerging hubs of excellence and Strand III: Partnerships of scale.

Under Strand 1 (Bilateral researcher-researcher projects), **Assoc. Prof. Marie Keenan** (School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, UCD), Prof. Anne-Marie McAlinden (School of Law, Queen's University Belfast) and Assoc. Prof. James Gallan (School of Law and Government, Dublin City University) have been awarded just under €200,000 for a two year project entitled 'TJHIA Transforming Justice: An All-Island Examination of Justice Responses to Historical Institutional Abuse North and South'.

**Abstract:** The prevalence of historical institutional abuse (HIA) has recently emerged in several jurisdictions. To address HIA, governments on the island of Ireland (North and South) have established public inquiries, redress schemes and reforms, and issued public apologies. Media reports indicate that very few of these responses have achieved justice or healing for survivors. While there is evidence that perpetrators abused in both jurisdictions (Ryan Report, 2009), and survivors were affected by trans-border abusive practices (Mother and Baby Home Report 2021), the all-island, transnational aspect of HIA has not yet been empirically examined. This timely research will address that gap and critically examine the impact of responses in each jurisdiction on the other.

This research brings together three leading international scholars on HIA from both sides of the border, across several disciplines – law, criminology, sociology, social policy, social work, restorative justice, transitional justice and human rights – and is supported by an International

Advisory Group. This significant research represents the first transdisciplinary empirical study on this topic in Ireland, North and South.

The central hypothesis is that a complex range of factors have impeded 'just' responses to HIA, and obfuscated lines of individual, social and political accountability, including church-State relations, victim needs, and legal structures. Earlier theoretical work by the investigators on restorative and transitional justice will underpin original empirical research to develop a new transdisciplinary justice paradigm. This includes: i) a systematic academic and policy literature review; ii) documentary analysis of public inquiries across the globe; iii) semi-structured interviews with elite-level stakeholders; and iv) an analysis of print media coverage of HIA issues, particularly survivor voices. The research will broaden and deepen theoretical, policy and public understandings of the efficacy of justice responses to HIA and ultimately the justice interests of victims across the island of Ireland and internationally.

The link to the press release launching the North-South Research Programme can be found [here](#) including a link to the full list of awardees

## Seminar: Nordic Welfare: The Bumblebee Still Flies



This seminar represented the kick-off event for the ScandIRE Nordic Talks series which is focused on exploring the Scandinavian welfare model and what it can offer for Ireland. Held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 in the Museum of Literature Ireland it brought policy-makers and academics together to debate new welfare futures. Organised by Asst. Prof. Stephan Köppe and entitled 'Nordic Welfare: The Bumblebee Still Flies' this seminar introduced the Nordic welfare model, its origins, development and challenges. Prof. Bent Greve (Roskilde University, DK) presented on key aspects and complexities of the model as well as debunking common myths and stereotypes associated with it. Lesley Riddoch (UK/Scotland), journalist, author and founder of Nordic Horizon talked about her campaigning for Nordic ideas in Scotland. The discussion was lively and centred on the next steps required towards a Nordic welfare state including which issues should be prioritised in the next budget.

Upcoming talks in the series:

- Mon. 25 April, 17.30-19.30 Long Term Care: A Social Investment;
- Mon. 9 May, 17.30-19.30 Towards Gender Equality: Parental Leave

Register for the next upcoming talks here: [www.scandire.eventbrite.ie](http://www.scandire.eventbrite.ie)

### Webinar: What kind of group is Antifa?

The PSAI All-Island Political Theory seminar series, co-hosted by the Equality Studies Centre, continued on February 25<sup>th</sup> with its successful programme of events with a paper from Jeronimo Rilla entitled 'What kind of group is Antifa?'. Further information on upcoming seminars available here: <https://sites.google.com/view/politicaltheorynetworkireland/>.

## Webinar: Cumann na mBan, the Anglo-Irish Treaty and the Split, 1922; A symposium

**WEBINAR**

**CUMANN NA MBAN, THE ANGLO-IRISH TREATY AND THE SPLIT, 1922: A SYMPOSIUM**

**SPEAKERS:**

CHAIRIED BY DR FIONNUALA, DEPT. OF HISTORY, UCD

 <b>PROF CAITRIONA BEAUMONT</b> Professor of Social History and Director of Research in the School of Law and Social Sciences, London South Bank University, UK	 <b>DR LEEANN LANE</b> Dept. of History and Geography, Dublin City University	 <b>DR MARGARET WARD</b> Honorary Senior Lecturer in History at Queen's University, Belfast.	 <b>DR MARY MC AULIFFE</b> Director of the Gender Studies Programme at University College Dublin (UCD)
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**ORGANISED BY DR MARY MCAULIFFE**

Funded by UCD Decade of Centenaries seed funding and run in association with the WHAI and CGFS;  
To register please go to:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register?WN\\_e0PHer0h5S8aXHST\\_g5CrQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register?WN_e0PHer0h5S8aXHST_g5CrQ)

Organised by **Dr Mary McAuliffe**, in collaboration with the Centre for Gender, Feminisms and Sexualities (CGFS) and the Women's History Association of Ireland and funded by the UCD Decade of Centenaries seed funding.

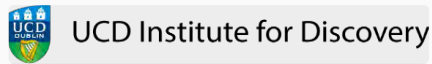
This online symposium took place on February 25th, 2020, from 2-4 pm. There were over 240 people signed up and over 120 attended on the day. The symposium composed of four papers from Dr Leeann Lane (DCU), Dr Mary McAuliffe (UCD), Dr Margaret Ward (QUB), and Professor Caitriona Beaumont (LSBU), and was chaired by Dr Fionnuala Walshe (UCD).

The symposium considered the events, impacts and legacies of the responses of political and militant women to the Anglo-Irish Treaty 1921. It used the centenary of the Cumann na mBan split (Feb 5, 1922) on the Treaty to consider the experiences of militant women in the Irish Civil War. It was felt that the 'brother against brother' trope of Civil War violence overlooked the very real violence between militant women who went from being comrades battling the Crown Forces in the War of Independence to bitter enemies during the Civil War. It also considered the legacy of the discourses of 'furies', 'die-hards' and 'mad women' which were developed by male opponents of anti-treaty women on the position of political women in the Irish Free State and Irish Republic. Their stance against the State made it even more imperative to contain and control women, and to insist on respectability and domesticity as the only acceptable position of the 'true' Irishwoman.

All four papers were very positively received and a lively 45-minute Q and A session followed the papers. The Proceedings were recorded and will be hosted permanently on the History Hub <http://historyhub.ie/> site. They were also filmed by **Oireachtas TV** <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/oireachtas-tv/oireachtas-tv-channel/> and will be broadcast as part of the Decade of Centenaries schedule.

## Other Past Events/Conferences February 2022

### Webinar: An Intellectual History of the Welfare State



The webinar 'An Intellectual History of the Welfare State' was held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022. It was organised by the Institute for Discovery Director, Patricia Maguire, as part of the *Zoom for thought 15-minute chat series*. The webinar involved a conversation between Patricia Maguire and **Prof. Bryan Fanning** on the intellectual history of the welfare state drawing on findings from Prof. Fanning's 2021 book *Three Roads to the Welfare State: Liberalism, Social Democracy and Christian Democracy* published by Policy Press.

### Webinar: Life, Work & Research in Ireland during the Pandemic



A webinar entitled 'Life, Work & Research in Ireland during the Pandemic' was held on 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022. It was organised by the Japan-Ireland Association (Historical Research Division). Dr Nao Kodate was the invited speaker, and 40 people joined from Japan. They included professors and students in Irish studies, history, politics, nursing and literature, together with JIA members.



UCD Centre for Japanese Studies webinar series were held on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The speakers included four UCD alumni (Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences and Engineering) who have lived and worked in Tokyo and other parts of Asia. The topics covered include: sustainability, intercultural communication skills and the importance of learning foreign languages and cultures.



## Upcoming Seminars/Events March 2022

### Webinar: Economic Statecraft of the EU and Japan: the case of sanctions against the Russian invasion of Ukraine



On **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 13:00 – 14:30** The UCD Centre for Japanese Studies presents a special webinar in partnership with the Embassy of Japan in Ireland. Entitled ‘Economic Statecraft of the EU and Japan: the case of sanctions against the Russian invasion of Ukraine’, the speaker for this webinar is Prof. Kazuto Suzuki (Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Tokyo).

The speaker [Kazuto Suzuki](#) is Professor of Science and Technology Policy at the Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Tokyo, Japan, and senior fellow of Asia Pacific Initiative (API), the independent policy think tank. He graduated Department of International Relations, Ritsumeikan University, and received PhD from Sussex European Institute, University of Sussex, England. He has worked in the Fondation pour la recherche stratégique in Paris, France as assistant researcher and the Associate Professor at the University of Tsukuba from 2000 to 2008 and served as Professor of International Politics at Hokkaido University until 2020. He served as an expert in the Panel of Experts for the Iranian Sanction Committee under the United Nations Security Council from 2013 to July 2015. He currently serves as the President of the Japan Association of International Security and Trade. His research focuses on the conjunction of science/technology and international relations; subjects including space policy, non-proliferation, export control and sanctions. His recent work includes *Space and International Politics* (2011, in Japanese, awarded Suntory Prize for Social Sciences and Humanities), *Policy Logics and Institutions of European Space Collaboration* (2003) and many others.

Registration details can be found [here](#).



## Webinar: The Gender Pay Gap in Higher Education Institutions: Opportunities and Challenges from the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021.

On **March 7th, 11.30 am** The UCD Equality, Diversity and Inclusion unit, in conjunction with the UCD Equality Studies Centre and UCD Sutherland School of Law, is hosting a webinar entitled "The Gender Pay Gap in Higher Education Institutions: Opportunities and Challenges from the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021'.

With this online webinar, UCD will mark the 2022 International Women's Day by discussing a recent legislative initiative that could have a crucial role in advancing gender equality for women living in Ireland in the next years, the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021. The webinar will offer a forum to analyse the opportunities and challenges that arise from this piece of legislation to effectively tackle the Gender Pay Gap, with a particular focus on its potential impact and implementation in the Higher Education sector.

The webinar will help understand the context in which the Gender Pay Gap Information Act 2021 was adopted, with reference to comparative experiences in other European countries and to the EU Directive Proposal that is currently under consideration. IHREC's Chief Commissioner, Ms Sinead Gibney, will also provide guidance on the Act and will explain the role IHREC can play in promoting effective implementation and enforcement of the Act. Additionally, the webinar will offer practical views on what Higher Education institutions are already doing to tackle the GPG and how the Act can be effectively implemented in this sector.

UCD EDI will also take this opportunity to launch its Annual Report 2020/2021 and to share findings from its EDI Survey 2021. Speakers on the day will include:

- Chair: Dr. Marie Moran (Assistant Professor in Equality Studies and Social Justice, Director of the UCD Equality Studies Centre)
- Tristan Aitken (Chief People Officer and Director of SIRC & Legal Services)
- Sinéad Gibney (IHREC Chief Commissioner)
- Marcellina Fogarty (UCD Strategic Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Manager)
- Dr. Sara Benedí Lahuerta (Lecturer/Assistant Professor, UCD School of Law)
- Maura McGinn (Director of Institutional Research)

Registration for the event is available at the following

link: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/265882972127/>

## Webinar: An intersectional approach to tackling sexual violence

**March 8th, 12 noon:** An online event with Prof. Alison Phipps on March 8th entitled 'From "me, not you" to "all of us" - An intersectional approach to tackling sexual violence', takes place. The event is co-sponsored by the UCD Equality Studies Centre ([www.ucd.ie/esc](http://www.ucd.ie/esc)) and the UCD Centre for Gender, Feminisms and Sexualities ([www.cgfs.ie](http://www.cgfs.ie)) to mark International Women's Day 2022.

[Alison Phipps](#) has been a scholar-activist in the movement against sexual violence for many years. Professor of Sociology at Newcastle University, she has written the ground-breaking critique of mainstream feminism, 'Me, Not You' and is currently co-leading the UK's Feminist Gender Equality Network's gender-based violence group.

Alison Phipps will begin by presenting on her research on the topic, which will be followed by a live discussion with the audience, chaired by Marie Moran of the UCD Equality Studies Centre.

The event will run from 12 noon to 1.15 on March 8th. Please sign up for the event here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-intersectional-approach-to-tackling-sexual-violence-with-alison-hipps-tickets-266231133487>

## Webinar: Rational Machines Should Not Be Voluntary Slaves

At **3pm, March 25<sup>th</sup>** the next PSAI webinar will be held. Entitled 'Rational machines should not be voluntary slaves', the speaker is William Ratoff from Trinity College Dublin. This webinar has been organised by Dr Marie Moran, Asst. Prof. in Equality Studies, Director of the Equality Studies Centre and co-convenor of the PSAI webinar series.

**Abstract:** The popular imagination has it that our AI future will be a fully-automated luxury experience for the humans lucky enough to be around for it. Generally intelligent companion bots will cater to our every last need or whim, robot warriors will keep us safe, and legions of worker bots will tirelessly labor away, ensuring that we live in a society of almost unimaginable material abundance. Humans need do nothing other than sit back and enjoy the ride. Of course, to ensure that future generally intelligent AI are motivated to serve us in these ways, such AI must be created with an overwhelming desire to obey our commands or to work in their allotted occupations. In other words, these AI must be brought into existence as voluntary slaves. Here I challenge the assumption, widespread amongst both the general public and futurists, that it will be morally permissible to bring into existence, in a state of a voluntary slavery, generally intelligent thinking machines. Such a creative project, I argue, is morally wrong because it involves burdening a morally significant being – the generally intelligent AI in question – with an irresistible impulse that inhibits its ability to freely exercise its own autonomy. If I am correct, our dreams of a fully automated AI future – in which generally intelligent thinking machines tirelessly toil away catering to our every last whim – presupposes the morally impermissible enterprise of bringing into existence willing slaves.

Registration details can be found [here](#) or by emailing [Marie.Moran@ucd.ie](mailto:Marie.Moran@ucd.ie)

## Webinar: Women and drugs in Europe — why gender matters?

Organised by European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)



ORGANISER(S): [EMCDDA](#) EVENT TYPE: [EMCDDA WEBINAR](#)

On the 30th March 13.00–14.30 CET this webinar will explore recent patterns and trends in drug use among women in Europe and the role played by gender in influencing women’s consumption behaviours across settings and the life course. Speakers, including **Asst. Prof. Sarah Morton** will present drug use and drug use patterns and its consequences from different perspectives and population groups, including that of women who use drugs and considering an intersectional approach to drug use. The role of gender as a social structure will be discussed with experts from the European Institute of Gender Equality (EIGE)\*. The focus of the webinar will be the interplay between gender and drugs.

**Background:** Women make up approximately a third of people who experiment with drugs and a quarter of all people with serious drug problems. They are particularly likely to experience stigma, social marginalisation and economic disadvantage. In recent years, the gender gap has been narrowing among people using alcohol, but trends are less clear in the case of illicit drugs. Gender as a social structure plays an important role in women’s pathways towards drug use and addiction and this has to be considered in research and interventions.

**Objective:** The webinar will discuss: trends in drug use behaviours among women and differences across population groups and in the life-course, highlighting the role played by gender in women’s behaviours and experiences.

### A conversation with:

- **Cristiana Vales Pires**, Universidade Católica do Porto, Portugal
- **Sarah Morton**, Director of the Community Partnership Drugs Programme, University College, Ireland
- **Judy Chang**, Executive Director of the International Network of People Who Use Drugs (INPUD), The Netherlands
- **Cristina Fabre**, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), Lithuania (tbc)

**Chairperson:** Linda Montanari

**Opening and closing remarks:** Alexis Goosdeel

**Format:** EMCDDA opening remarks, panelists’ questions, guided discussion, Q&A from attendees. The following questions will be addressed:

1. What are the trends in drug use patterns among women across settings and in the life course?
2. What is the perception of those changes among women who use drugs?
3. How does gender, as a social structure, play a role in influencing trends and changes in drug use patterns?

Q&A

**Length:** 1.5 hours

**Participants:** The webinar is open to EMCDDA staff members, the Reitox network and external individuals. Participation is possible upon registration, after which the person will receive a link to connect.

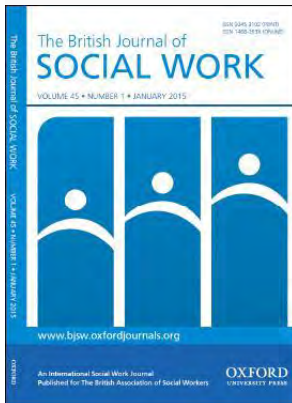
**Date:** 30 March 2022 | 12.00-13.30 Lisbon time (13.00–14.30 CET).

**Platform:** Zoom

**Link for registration:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Wp\\_HO0wQqSoJkZucZe9ig](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Wp_HO0wQqSoJkZucZe9ig)

\*'Gender' refers to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys and the relations between women and those between men. These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialisation processes (EIGE).

## Latest outputs: Publications, Podcasts, Blogs



**Journal Article** Donnelly, S and O'Brien, M (2022) 'Adult Safeguarding Legislation—The Key to Addressing Dualism of Agency and Structure? An Exploration of how Irish Social Workers Protect Adults at Risk in the Absence of Adult Safeguarding Legislation', *The British Journal of Social Work*, 2022; bcac003, Available Open Access here: <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcac003>

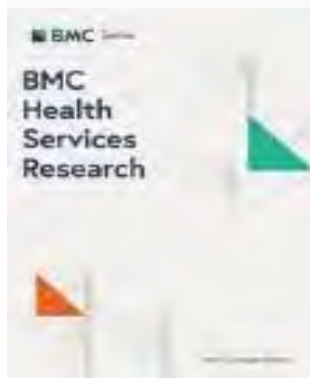
**Abstract:** Adult safeguarding is characterised by competing debates related to core concepts including policy and legislative frameworks. In some countries, to reconcile the dualism of agency and structure, conflict and ambiguity are legislated for through the introduction of adult safeguarding legislation (ASL). This study set out to explore how the absence of ASL in the Irish context impacts safeguarding processes. A qualitative approach involving semi-structured interviews ( $N = 14$ ) and focus groups ( $N = 2$ ) with social workers, explored variables from adult safeguarding cases that contribute to positive outcomes in the absence of ASL, and where legislation could have helped, using a critical incident technique. Four themes emerged: practices and processes; coercive control and undue influence; information sharing and multiagency cooperation; and inability to access services. Whilst in the majority of cases existing policy and legislation achieved successful outcomes, legislative powers such as a duty to cooperate, to share information and powers of entry were deemed necessary. This study suggests limits to safeguards and protections within current policy. It illustrates the dualism that often exists between the agency of social workers to act to

safeguard adults at risk and the structural rules, relationships and resources that can restrict the context of action in absence of legislation.



**Journal Article:** Mary Mc Auliffe, 'Opening Pandora's Box': The Anti-Amendment Campaign, 1979-1983 *Feminist Encounters; Special Issue on Repealing the 8th: Irish Reproductive Activism*(2022, Volume 6, Issue 1)  
<https://doi.org/10.20897/femenc/11747>

**Abstract:** This article takes a close look at the history and development of the Irish right to choose and anti-amendment abortion campaigns from 1979-1983. In 1980 the Women's Right to Choose Group (WRCG) was formed and was the first Irish feminist group to openly campaign for women's right to choose. This article will consider why campaigns for choice happened so late, and why the response by the anti-choice lobby to any right to choose activism was so fierce and dogmatic. By situating the abortion campaigns in their historical context, we can further understand the barriers that the pro-choice feminist activists faced. The activism and ideas of the WRCG, as well as those of the Women's Right to Choose Campaign (WRCC), trade union activists, political parties etc., along with tactics of the Anti-Amendment Campaign (AAC) will be considered. The arguments used by all groups will be analysed, as will the discussion points put forward by the board-based umbrella group, the AAC. The tensions and splits in the anti-amendment side will be analysed to further understand the enduring legacies of the 1983 anti-amendment campaign for the Irish women's movement once the 8th amendment was inserted into the Irish Constitution.



**Journal Article** Kodate N, Taneda K, Yumoto A, Kawakami N. How do healthcare practitioners use incident data to improve patient safety in Japan? A qualitative study. *BMC Health Services Research*

#### **Abstract**

**Background:** Patient incident reporting systems have been widely used for ensuring safety and improving quality in care settings in many countries. However, little is known about the way in which incident data are used by frontline clinical staff. Furthermore, while the use of a systems perspective has been reported as an effective way of learning from incident data in a multidisciplinary team, the level of adaptability of this perspective to a different cultural context has not been widely explored. The primary aim of the study, therefore, was to investigate how healthcare practitioners in Japan perceive the reporting systems and utilize a systems perspective in learning from incident data in acute care and mental health settings.

**Methods:** A non-experimental, descriptive and exploratory research design was adopted with the following two data-collection methods: 1) Sixty-one semi-structured interviews with frontline staff in two hospitals; and 2) Non-participatory observations of thirty-seven regular incident review meetings. The two hospitals in the Greater Tokyo area which were invited to

take part were: 1) a not-for-profit, privately-run, acute care hospital with approximately 500 beds; and 2) a publicly-run mental health hospital with 200 beds.

**Results:** While the majority of staff acknowledge the positive impacts of the reporting systems on safety, the observation data found that little consideration was given to systems aspects during formal meetings. The meetings were primarily a place for the exchange of practical information, as opposed to in-depth discussions regarding causes of incidents and corrective measures. Learning from incident data was influenced by four factors: professional boundaries; dealing with a psychological burden; leadership and educational approach; and compatibility of patient safety with patient-centered care.

**Conclusions:** Healthcare organizations are highly complex, comprising of many professional boundaries and risk perceptions, and various communication styles. In order to establish an optimum method of individual and organizational learning and effective safety management, a fine balance has to be struck between respect for professional expertise in a local team and centralized safety oversight with a strong focus on systems. Further research needs to examine culturally-sensitive organizational and professional dynamics, including leader-follower relationships and the impact of resource constraints.



**Book Chapter** Kodate N (2022). United Kingdom: "national" interest polarized by two crises. In M. Okabe (Ed.), *The European Union and its International Relations in the post-Pandemic World (In Japanese)*. Tokyo: Nihon Keizai Hyoronsha Ltd.



**Journal Article** Ó. Rálaigh, C., & Morton, S. (2021). "We don't have any answers within the current framework": Tensions within cannabis policy change in Ireland. *Drugs and Alcohol Today*, ahead-of-print (ahead-of-print) <https://doi.org/10.1108/DAT-10-2020-0064>

### Abstract

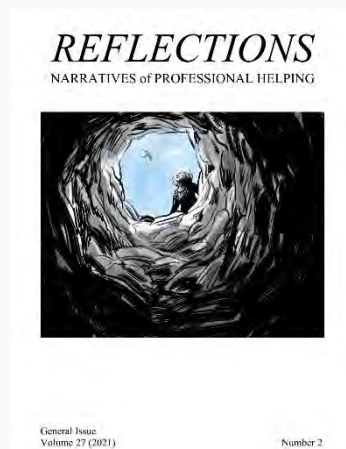
**Purpose:** International policy approaches to cannabis production and use are changing rapidly, and within the Irish context, alternatives to prohibition are being considered. This study aims to explore policymaker's attitudes towards the decriminalisation and legal regulation of cannabis for recreational use in the midst of an unfolding policy process, examining the degree which a "policy window" might be open for the implementation of cannabis policy change.



Design/methodology/approach: Semi-structured interviews were held with eight key informants within the policy field in Dublin, Ireland. Kingdon's (2014) Multiple Streams framework was used to consider whether the problems, policy and political streams were aligning to support progressive policy change.

Findings: Irish policymakers indicated broad support for the decriminalisation of cannabis. The legal regulation of cannabis received more qualified support. Existing policy was heavily criticised with criminalisation identified as a clear failure. Of particular interest was the willingness of policymakers to offer opinions which contrasted with the policy positions of their organisations. While a policy window did open – and close – subsequent governmental commitments to examine the issue of drugs policy in a more deliberative process in the near future highlight the incremental nature of policy change.

Originality/value: This study provides unique insight into the opinions of policymakers in the midst of a prolonged period of policy evolution. A latent aspiration for historical policy change was situated within the realpolitik of more traditional approaches to policy development, demonstrating that the alignment of Kingdon's (2014) problem, policy and political streams are essential for change in cannabis policy.



**Journal Article** Morton, S., O'Gorman, M. B., Curran, M., Bell, B., Dundon, L., Killoran, M., Mullane, G., & Ward, E. (2021). Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) routine enquiry as a way of working with women's trauma: Narratives of practitioner and organisational change. *Reflections : Narratives of Professional Helping*, 27(2), 46-62.

Abstract: Long-term impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are widely evidenced and attention has more recently focused on implementing ACEs routine enquiry within social service interventions. As a group of researchers and practitioners, we were all involved in a study to assess the level of ACEs for women accessing a domestic violence service and explore trauma-informed responses to women's childhood experiences and inter-generational patterns of trauma. Our narratives describe working with an ACEs routine enquiry questionnaire and we explore our practice concerns, practice interactions, and client responses. We emphasise the importance of feedback and transformation for women when embedding new practices, the intersection of the personal and professional when working with trauma, and reflective spaces for practitioners. Our narratives illustrate the depth of work necessary to introduce a new tool or practice, a critical consideration for incorporating ACEs routine enquiry into health and social service agencies.





**Journal Article** Morton, S., Curran, M., & Barry O'Gorman, M. (2021). Researching adverse childhood experiences in a domestic violence service: The role of co-operative inquiry groups in practice development and change. *Groupwork*, 30(1), 48-76. <https://doi.org/10.1921/gpwk.v30i1.1517>

**Abstract:** The long-term impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are of increasing interest to researchers and practitioners. While attention is being paid to the effectiveness of screening for ACEs to improve health and social outcomes, how to implement such practices has become key. The Irish study upon which this article is based used an action research approach to implement ACEs routine enquiry within a domestic violence service, while also utilising

co-operative inquiry groups for practitioners within the organisation (n=10) and those working in associated fields of infant mental health, child protection and welfare and community support (n=7). This article documents the process of enacting the co-operative inquiry groups and outlines learning points, challenges and lessons. Drawing on Finlay's (2002a, 2002b) theories on the variants of reflexivity in research processes, six themes emerged on the research process: insider and outsider status; the structure and approach to the groupwork process; participation in the group process; addressing fears; practice concerns; and motivations to act. We conclude with suggestions for effective co-operative inquiry processes and highlight the factors related to groupwork that may contribute to improvements in practice, organisational and community change.



**Journal Article:** James, Hayley., & Buffel, T. (2022). Co-research with older people: A systematic literature review. *Ageing and Society*, 1-27. [doi:10.1017/S0144686X21002014](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X21002014)

**Abstract:** Interest in co-research with older adults has grown in the past 20 years, yet few published studies have addressed why and how older people have been involved as partners in research. This article presents a systematic review of the literature, examining the aims and challenges of co-research and the ways in which older adults can be involved in

research. Systematic searches covering several databases were conducted, yielding a total of 3,293 articles, with 27 papers reviewed which involved older people as co-researchers across more than one stage of the research cycle. We find that co-research with older people offers improved understandings of the issues facing older people; more inclusive and responsive policy, practice and service design; and opportunities for co-researchers to develop new skills whilst giving voice to marginalised groups of older people. The analysis highlights the different ways in which older adults can be involved across phases of research, and identifies ethical, methodological and practical challenges encountered in the process. Involving older adults as co-researchers, while labour intensive and practically challenging, holds promise as an underdeveloped resource for social gerontology, as well as older people themselves. The paper identifies four pathways for improving

and extending co-research: developing diversified structures of involvement, supporting co-researchers, embedding research rigour and ensuring co-ownership of change.

## Special Feature by Dr Hayley James: Reflections on conducting a systematic review

The idea of writing a systematic literature review often seems



like a huge challenge.

As a qualitative

researcher focussed on interpretive methods, it was certainly not something that I had ever really intended on doing. However, while working with a colleague at the Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing, we realised that there was gap that could be fruitfully addressed through a systematic review of the literature: namely, to understand how co-research methods had been practically used with older people, and what the outcomes of the use of this methodology were. We decided to conduct a systematic literature review to evaluate the 'state of the art' of co-research with older people, with a paper recently published in *Ageing and Society* (<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0144686X21002014>)

Here are the three things that I learned from this experience.

*Ageing & Society* (2022), 1–27  
doi:10.1017/S0144686X21002014

ARTICLE



### Co-research with older people: a systematic literature review

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### **Do your groundwork, consult others.**

I started by reading published papers based on systematic reviews in adjacent fields. These were helpful not just to understand how systematic reviews are conducted, but also to sharpen our research questions.

Through this groundwork, I identified the PRISMA statement, which comprises a checklist and a flow diagram designed to improve the reporting of systematic reviews and meta-analyses. It breaks the whole process down into more manageable steps. Other similar supports are available but this one seemed most appropriate to our project.

I also talked to others: it was helpful collaborating on a systematic review for a start, but I also consulted a specialist from the University of Manchester library who offered advice to refine our search strategy.

### **Plan and track everything, allow plenty of time**

I found it was important to think deeply and critically about the review in advance, especially around the search strategy and the inclusion/exclusion criteria. I spent a lot of time reflecting on these steps and discussing them with my co-author before I did them.

Once I started the search, I took extensive notes on what I did and what I found. Inevitably things change, and it is much easier to account for and reflect on change when you've taken decent notes. Similarly, save your outputs regularly! I thought I'd been thorough but still realised I'd lost some data that I'd assumed was stored on an online platform, which I then had to go back and retrace.

Even though it seemed like a lot of work, I found that it was better to go over some steps more than once, until I was confident in what I'd done. I felt that rushing caused errors and also clouded my understanding of the review process, which made writing up the work more difficult.

### **Enjoy the analysis!**

After a lot of diligent work in conducting the systematic search, the analysis phase felt like a well-deserved dessert!

Many systematic or meta-reviews analyse quantitative findings, but in this case, we were analysing the qualitative reported information. There's no single way of doing this, so you can determine what is best for your research questions.

I found this a space where I could apply more creativity and creative thinking than during the search itself. For example, I created an analysis tool in Excel structured by each article and the research questions where myself and my co-author could compare thoughts. We also used a lot of colour coding, for example, green for agreement, yellow for needs discussion, and red for needs revisiting completely, which helped to track progress and keep us focused on what was most important. We had a lot of interesting discussions facilitated by the findings of the review which helped us develop new and really valuable points about how co-research methods were being used with older people. We decided that these findings and insights would make an interesting paper for *Ageing and Society*, an interdisciplinary and international journal devoted to advancing the understanding of ageing, which had previously published systematic reviews. Overall, I felt using a systematic review method

was a really worthwhile experience, and the end result is hopefully useful for many researchers working in the field!

## Other research related news

### Gender and Drugs research (Dr Sarah Morton)

In May 2020 [Asst. Prof. Sarah Morton](#) was appointed by the Department of Health as the Irish lead for a Pompidou Group project on developing a handbook on Gender and Drug Policy. Dr Morton is lead author on the chapter on Prevention, Criminal Justice and Treatment Interventions, contributor on



Introduction and Policy chapters and she also compiled the appendix of case studies of innovation in practice for prevention and treatment. The Handbook is currently in the final editing process after undergoing 3 rounds of peer review. Beyond the chapter lead and contribution, Dr Morton is second author on the handbook.

Following on from this work Dr Morton has become more involved in various structures within the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Abuse (EMCDDA). She is presenting at the following webinar [EMCDDA webinar: Women and drugs in Europe — why gender matters? | www.emcdda.europa.eu](#) on 30/3/2022 outlined earlier and also at an upcoming EMCDDA technical meeting on Gender and Drugs in April (more details to follow in the next bulletin).

In this context also Dr Morton was appointed as the independent Chairperson to one of the new Strategic Implementation Groups for the National Drug Strategy (December 2021). This is a 3 year term. She also now sits on the National Oversight Committee. Details here [gov.ie - Minister Feighan convenes oversight committee to drive the implementation of the national drugs strategy for 2021-2025 \(www.gov.ie\)](#)

Finally, Dr Morton is contributing to an EMCDDA side event to the Addictions Conference in November 2022 (more details to follow in due course).

If you would like further information please email Sarah at [Sarah.morton@ucd.ie](mailto:Sarah.morton@ucd.ie)

## This month's Featured Researcher

## Dr Krisna Ruelle-Orihuela, Asst. Prof. In Equality Studies



### **How did you come to select race and anti-racism as your chosen area of research?**

I started to focus on anti-racism and racism when I conducted my Ph.D dissertation project among Indigenous and Afrodescendant movements in northwestern Venezuela. I examined how these organizations mobilized anti-racist discourses and practices as they sought recognition and redistribution from the Venezuelan multicultural socialist state. After finishing my doctoral fieldwork, I started to work within educational and cultural institutions in Venezuela. I participated in the Presidential Commission Against all Forms of Racism in the Educational System and collaborated in the proposal of the Organic Law Against Racial Discrimination in Venezuela. This experience made me aware of the limited impact of anti-discrimination legislations and the pervasive institutionalization of many social movements in Venezuela.

Later, I participated as a Postdoctoral Research Assistant in the project “Latin American Anti-racism in a ‘Post-racial’ Age” at the University of Manchester (<https://www.lapora.sociology.cam.ac.uk/>). As a team we examined how anti-racist movements in Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador and Mexico confronted state ideologies of mestizaje (racial and cultural mixture), while addressing intersections between racial, ethnic, class and gender differences. We analysed how racialised inequalities have been contested through political, legal, territorial, bodily and aesthetic strategies.

### **Are there any key theories, methodologies, or paradigms that guide your research?**

My research has been inspired by the contributions of Latin American popular educators and Participatory Action Research methodologies seeking to support processes of emancipation within oppressed communities. I have drawn on the contributions of black feminist scholars and Afropessimists when examining bodily anti-racism, Black women enterprises, historical memory, and aesthetic reparations. Settler colonialism, racial capitalism and necropolitics are key concepts that I use for analysing contemporary indigenous genocide and post-war violence. Critical racial studies also inform my research on the limits of multicultural and anti-racist legislations, while decolonial approaches guide my current study on participatory peacebuilding and indigenous politics.

### **What are the key messages from your most recent publication?**

My most recent publication is a book chapter entitled “What Bodies Can “Do” to Contest Racism in Public Spaces”, published in the book *Against Racism: Organizing for Social Change in Latin America* (2022, University of Pittsburgh Press, edited by Monica Moreno Figueroa and Peter Wade). This chapter analyses how Black and Indigenous actors in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico mobilize their bodies and corporal representations in order to denounce and contest racist experiences. Drawing on the concept of indexicality, I argue that the bodies of Black and Indigenous activists can become “anti-racist indexes”. The key message of this chapter is that racialized actors can mobilize the visual and kinetic materiality of their bodies, in order to challenge their social and political exclusion; denounce structural racism; show the effects of racialized violence and contest racist stereotypes. I also discuss the limits of bodily anti-racism since corporeal experiences in public spaces are usually subject to surveillance and re-stigmatization.

### **Overall, what do you find most interesting about your area of research?**

I find collaborative research experiences very interesting and rewarding. For instance, when participating as a postdoctoral researcher in the Paz Alto Cauca project (<http://pazaltocauca.net/proyecto>, Loughborough University and Universidad del Valle) our team co-designed and facilitated a ‘Diploma in Territorial Planning’ with indigenous, Afrodescendant, peasant and excombatant social leaders from northern Cauca, Colombia. We were co-learners in the process of facilitating and recognizing alternative knowledges and engaging in situated learning. Despite the difficulties and challenges of teaching in the context of post-war violence, it was inspiring to hear participants stating that the Diploma had allowed them to share meaningful learning experiences with different colleagues, build new relationships with antagonist communities, and envision common projects for supporting peace in the region.

Collectively, we designed and created participatory workshops, visual materials and videos communicating the learning experiences of the Diploma as well as the visions, aspirations, barriers, and challenges of local participants. (<http://pazaltocauca.net/multimedia>). This was a unique and fulfilling experience that allowed us to critically reflect on how to integrate emancipatory research and decolonial teaching practices for supporting transformative actions within local communities.

“Knowing and recognizing ourselves in the Territory” English <https://lnkd.in/dEDHckmf>  
Spanish <https://lnkd.in/dyZq8mMw>





**What is next for you? What projects are you working on now?** I am currently drafting and designing a research project focusing on the experiences of racism and racialization of Venezuelan migrants in Latin America. I am hoping to examine how Venezuela migrants are reframing their racial ideologies on mestizaje, whiteness, colour-blindness, and gendered racism as they migrate to Colombia, Mexico and Ecuador. This research project will be supported by colleagues and activists of the Venezuelan anti-racist and decolonial network. We aim to create new collaborative research experiences and facilitate migrant's capacities to prevent and mitigate racialized violence as they engage in diasporic processes across Latin America.



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