



School of
Social Policy,
Social Work
and Social
Justice

SEPT 2023, NO. 19

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

BULLETIN



Website:

<https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice>

NEW PROJECTS

Jim Campbell, Emeritus Professor of Social Work

A cross European project to equip social work students and educators to meet the challenges of political conflict

In the last few decades there has been growing interest in the role that social workers play in situations of political conflict. This project is led by Jim Campbell, Emeritus Professor of Social Work and funded by the European Association of Schools of Social Work. It brings together specialists with insights and teaching and researching relationships between social work and political conflict in three sites: Northern Ireland (Professor Jim Campbell and Professor Joe Duffy, Queens University Belfast); Bosnia Herzogovina (Dr Reima Ana Maglajlic; University of Sussex and Dr Sanela Basic, University of Sarjeov), Cyprus (Dr Gregory Neocleous, University of Cyprus and Vasilios Ioakimidis, University of Essex).

The project involves three intensive seminars in Nicosia (May 2023), Belfast (November 2023) and Sarjevo (March, 2024) to explore the psychological, physical and other effects of political conflict on social work clients, the impact of social work conflict on the professional and personal lives of social workers, the types of intervention that may be used by practitioners and the development of innovative pedagogical approaches in social work education.

Jim Campbell, Emeritus Professor of Social Work, UCD, Carolyn Blair, Post Doctoral Researcher, Queens University Belfast and Rachel Leonard, Post Doctoral Researcher, Queens University Belfast

An evaluation of the Professional Support Service for Social Workers in Northern Ireland

This evaluation was commissioned by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) and funded by the Department of Health and Social Care, Northern Ireland. It was designed to explore the experiences of those participating in the Northern Irish BASW Professional Support Service (PSS) over the period of delivery from April 2022 to September 2023. A mixed methods design was utilised to examine explore participants' experiences of the service. The findings indicate that social workers were experiencing several practice related issues, including perceived loss of professional identity and skills, and high levels caseloads and work stress. The service, which involved coaching methods, appeared to enable social workers to continue in their professional role and reconnected to skills and values, but there were some organisational impediments, particularly a lack of promotion of the service, which tended to limited its effectiveness.

NEW POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW FOR HORIZON EUROPE PROJECT

transeuroworks

UCD PI: DR DOROTA SZELEWA



Ieva Žumbytė has recently joined UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice as a Postdoctoral Fellow to work with **Asst. Prof. Dorothea Szelewa** on the Horizon Europe project entitled TransEuroWorks – A New Proactive Welfare State Fit for The Future World of Work (see project website: <https://transeuroworks.eu/>).

TransEuroWorks is led by Leiden University, Belgium and includes 8 other European countries as partners in the consortium. In Ireland, UCD team leads a Work Package which examines how EU policies, namely the work-life balance (WLB) directive and equal pay/transparency, impact national gender equality policies. They will also analyze policies related to gender-specific access to digitalization at national and local levels.

Ieva Žumbytė Bio

Ieva holds a Ph.D. in sociology from Brown University, USA. (<https://www.brown.edu/academics/sociology/people/ieva-zumbyte>) Her research interests are in welfare states, political sociology and gender. In her projects, Ieva uses qualitative and quantitative methods. For her doctoral dissertation, Ieva conducted over 200 interviews and observations involving childcare workers, administrators, and parents across 15 neighborhoods in Chennai, India, to investigate why teachers deliver uneven quality in public childcare services that are intended to be standardized.

Selected Publications:

- Adhikari A., Alejandria C., Bradlow B., Heller, P., Levine A., Lopez-Portillo, M. F., Mutwafy S., and Zumbyte, I. Public Action and the Pandemic: The Role of Civil Society in Shaping State Responses, Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies, Brown University.
- Zumbyte, I. 2021. "The Gender System and Class Mobility: How Wealth and Community Veiling Shape Women's Autonomy in India." *Sociology of Development* 7(4):469–513.
- Das, M. B, Mehta, S. K, Zumbyte, I., Sasmal, S., and S. Goyal. 2019. Does Culture Matter or Firm ? Demand for Female Labor in Three Indian Cities. Policy Research working paper 8736. World Bank, Washington. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/950991549997013259/Does-Culture-Matter-or-Firm-Demand-for-Female-Labor-in-Three-Indian-Cities>
- Zumbyte, I., Short, E. S., and N. Luke. 2018. "Unpaid Work and Women's Happiness: The Relevance of Housework in Contemporary China." Pp. 233–246 in *International Handbook of Gender and Demographic Processes*, 233–246, edited by J. Brunson and N. E. Riley. Dordrecht: Springer. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-94-024-1290-1_16

- Orlando, M. B., Janik, V. L., Vaidya, P., Angelou, N., Zumbyte, I., and N. Adams. 2018. Getting to Gender Equality in Energy Infrastructure: Lessons from Electricity Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Projects. Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP) Technical Report 012/18. Washington, DC: World Bank.
<http://hdl.handle.net/10986/29259>
- Das, M. B., and I. Zumbyte. 2017. The Motherhood Penalty and Female Employment in Urban India. Policy Research working paper 8004. World Bank, Washington, D.C.
<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/417411489495483028/The-motherhood-penalty-and-female-employment-in-urban-India>
- Das, M. B., Kapoor-Mehta, S., Tas, E. O., and I. Zumbyte. 2015. Scaling the Heights: Social Inclusion and Sustainable Development in Himachal Pradesh. Washington, DC: World Bank.
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/21316>

Awards:

18 Alden Speare, Jr. Award for superior achievement in the Master of Arts thesis.

To contact Ieva please email: ieva.zumbyte@ucd.ie

11

8

20

30

SEPT. SCHOOL EVENTS

Project workshop

4

Assoc. Prof. Marie Keenan and Co-Investigators Anne Marie McAlinden (QUB) and James Gallen (DCU) to lead a 'Transforming Justice: An All-Island Examination of Justice Responses to Historical Institutional Abuse' project workshop in QUB, Belfast. The focus of the workshop is to discuss preliminary findings with a focus on questions about therapeutic law in the area of non-recent institutional abuse

18

Report Launch

11

The report of a study 'Living Well with Dementia: Ten Years of Service Implementation; Sustainability into the Future', led by **Dr Maria Pierce** was launched by Bridget Farrell, General Manger, Older Persons' Services South East on 11 September 2023 at the Memory Technology Library on the grounds of Tipperary University Hospital, Clonmel.

20

Dublin Festival of History Big Weekend

Mary McAuliffe, Liz Gillis, and Sinead McCoolle in conversation with Margaret Ward. The Irish Government launched the Decade of Centenaries in 2012 to celebrate and re-examine the major historical events during the foundation of the Irish State. At the end of the decade, this expert panel will discuss the changing nature of women's representation during the time.

<https://dublinfestivalofhistory.ie/event/representing-women-in-the-decade-of-centenaries/>. 30 September, 12-1pm, Printworks, Dublin Castle, Representing Women in the Decade of Centenaries

20

30

New Visiting Scholar Awards



UCD Geary Institute BICS Visiting Scholar Award



Dr Micheál Collins has been awarded the UCD Geary Institute's BICS visiting scholar programme. During the Autumn Trimester in the 2023/24 academic year, Dr Collins will be hosting visiting researchers from the Global Tax Expenditures Database (GTED) <https://gted.net/>. GTED co-leads Dr Agustin Redonada and Mr Flurim Aliu will visit Geary to continue their work with Dr Collins on a joint project examining the Irish tax expenditure system within the context of the fiscal welfare literature and comparable tax expenditure systems in other states. A seminar on the GTED and tax expenditures in Ireland is planned as part of this visit. For more information, please email ml.collins@ucd.ie



About the project:

The Global Tax Expenditures Database (GTED) is led by the Council on Economic Policies (CEP) in Zurich Switzerland and the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS). Launched in 2021, the GTED is the result of a multi-year engagement to increase transparency on tax expenditures and the critical role they play in tax systems around the globe. It brings together the official and publicly available data on tax expenditures, as published by national governments since 1990, and makes it available free of charge online. The GTED seeks to contribute to improving transparency, deepening analysis and fostering policy debates on the costs and benefits of tax expenditures and related reforms.

Tax expenditure remains one of the largest areas of public policy in Ireland, involving forgone expenditure of approximately €15-20 billion per annum (discretionary reliefs, Collins, 2021: 98). Little is understood, in Ireland or elsewhere, on the comparative nature and context of tax expenditures; something the GTED allows for the first time. The two proposed visitors will bring this new knowledge and experience to Ireland and the seminar and research project will add to the Geary Institutes contribution to establishing evidence to inform policy making in Ireland and elsewhere.

New website for HEA project hosted on QUB

Transforming Justice: An All-Island Examination of Justice Responses to Historical Institutional Abuse to be found at the following link:


<https://transformingjusticeproject.org/>



Transforming Justice: An All-Island Examination of Justice Responses to Historical Institutional Abuse

Over the last two decades, historical abuse in state and religiously-operated institutions has come under scrutiny around the world. The island of Ireland (Northern Ireland (NI) and the Republic of Ireland (ROI)) has had a large number of investigations, redress schemes or apologies regarding historical institutional abuse (HIA) against women and children, some of which are ongoing. Many of these efforts have been criticised by victims/survivors, in particular for inadequate or unimplemented recommendations or practices. Media reports suggest that these efforts to address past abuses have failed to bring justice or healing for survivors or hold responsible individuals and the state to account. Activist academic research and advocacy in both NI and ROI continues to collaborate with and empower survivors and seeks to inform and shape policies and practices of governments and churches, by offering significant and survivor-led alternatives.

This is an important moment to stand back and assess justice responses to HIA across the island of Ireland and how they compare to efforts across the world. The research brings together leading researchers across a range of fields – law, criminology, sociology, social policy, social work, restorative justice, transitional justice and human rights – and represents a major, wide-ranging and cross-disciplinary study focusing on Ireland (North and South).



The study will focus on range of contexts including (i) Industrial/Reformatory Schools (ii) Magdalene laundries (iii) clerical sexual abuse (iv) Mother and Baby Homes (v) symphysiotomy (vi) illegal adoption (vii) other residential institutions operated by Church and State authorities in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland. Our findings will be published in books, journals and other sources.

It examines the limitations of existing justice approaches, including public inquiries or commissions of investigation, civil cases, criminal prosecutions, redress schemes and apologies. The main argument to be examined is that a complex range of factors have prevented just responses to HIA and blurred lines of accountability. The research will involve interviews with victims/survivors and elite-level stakeholders across both jurisdictions such as lawyers and human rights advocates, judges/commissioners, politicians, policy makers, victim-advocates/representatives and members of religious orders. Drawing on restorative and transitional justice and approaches in other countries, it will outline a new framework of justice. This research will provide a guiding standard to improve official and public understanding to redress HIA across Ireland and elsewhere.

The research is supported by an International Advisory Group (IAG) comprised of leading academics/professionals in other jurisdictions with sustained experiences of HIA including Prof Kathy Daly (Griffith University, Australia); Prof Jennifer Llewelyn (Dalhousie, Canada); Dr Rosemary Nagy (Nipissing, Canada); the Honourable Peter McClelland AM QC (Chairperson, Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse); Prof Ivo Aertsen (KU Leuven); Prof Gordon Lynch (Kent); and Prof Clair Wills (Cambridge).

European Social Survey (ESS) News



About ESS

The European Social Survey (ESS) is an academically driven cross-national survey that has been conducted across Europe since its establishment in 2001. Every two years, face-to-face interviews are conducted with newly selected, cross-sectional samples. The survey measures the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of diverse populations in more than thirty nations. 2023 marks the 21st birthday of the ESS in Ireland with the current, 11th round, of the survey being co-ordinated by **Dr Micheál Collins** with funding from the Irish Research Council.

ESS11 Survey enters the field

The 11th round of the ESS entered the field during the summer. By late October, the survey plans to have collected information from almost 2,000 individuals throughout Ireland. The fieldwork is being conducted by Behaviour & Attitudes for UCD. The sample is representative of all residents of Ireland aged 15 and over. Ireland has been one of the first participating countries to enter the field and will be one of 31 countries part-taking in ESS11. The ESS11 data is planned to be published in late 2024. For more information, see: <https://ess.ucd.ie/>

ESS10 dataset for Ireland is published

Data from the 10th round of the ESS has been published for Ireland. ESS10 ran over the (pandemic) period from September 2020–August 2022 across 30 European countries. The round 10 data include results from the core ESS questionnaire, fielded in every round, alongside those for two rotating modules on 'understandings and evaluations of democracy' and 'digital social contacts in work and family life'. The Irish round also included a special Covid-19 module. The data is available to download at: https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/country/ireland/ess_ireland.html

Contact: Micheál Collins, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice. email: ml.collins@ucd.ie

Visiting Researchers

Professor Caitriona Beaumont, London South Bank University, UK



Hosted by Asst. Prof. Mary McAuliffe, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice

Hosted by **Dr Mary McAuliffe**, Professor Caitriona Beaumont from London South Bank University (LSBU) will be a visiting research scholar in the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice from September. Caitriona is an expert on the histories of female activism, gender equality & women's social movements.

Dr McAuliffe will be collaborating with Professor Beaumont and others on an 'Afterlives' project which looks at the afterlives of revolutionary and political women in the Irish Free State. Professor Beaumont has also agreed to give a seminar on Women and the 1937 Constitution considering the upcoming referendum on gender equality.

Details of the seminar will be announced in the coming weeks.
<https://peoplefinder.lsbu.ac.uk/researcher/80226/professor-caitriona-beaumont>

Professor Caitriona Beaumont Bio:

- Professor of Social History since 2020, having joined LSBU in 1998 as Lecturer in History in the School of Law and Social Sciences (LSS).
- Awarded a BA (Hons.) History and Politics Degree in 1988 and an MA Modern Irish History in 1989 from University College Dublin, followed by a PhD in Social History from the University of Warwick in 1996.
- From 2015 to 2022, Director of Research for LSS.
- Teaching across Criminology, Politics and Sociology Degrees at LSBU

See the following link for more information:

<https://peoplefinder.lsbu.ac.uk/researcher/80226/professor-caitriona-beaumont>



Prof. Caitriona Beaumont,
London South Bank University



Dr Sonata Mačiulskytė, Associate Professor in Social Sciences, Klaipeda University, Lithuania



Dr Maria Pierce, Assistant Professor in Social Policy, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice

Dr Sonata Mačiulskytė, Associate Professor in Social Sciences, Klaipeda University, Lithuania will be visiting the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice for a week, 25–29 September 2023. The visit is funded by an Erasmus Mobility Grant for Staff Training. The visit is being hosted by **Dr Maria Pierce, Assistant Professor in Social Policy** in the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice and the Geary Institute for Public Policy. Dr Mačiulskytė and Dr Pierce each have a long-standing interest in dementia policy development and implementation, research and practice, and will be exchanging information and views on dementia during the visit, and identifying lessons for policy development. The visit will provide an opportunity for Dr Mačiulskytė and Dr Pierce to meet with colleagues who have an interest in dementia in the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, and in other Schools across UCD, as well as policymakers, advocacy organisations and service providers involved in dementia-relevant work.



Dr Mačiulskytė, Chairperson of the European Dementia Carers Working Group (EDCWG)

Dr Mačiulskytė is current Chairperson of the European Dementia Carers Working Group (EDCWG) and an ex-officio member of the Board of Alzheimer Europe, with full voting rights. Sonata Maciulskyte lives in Klaipeda, a port-city on the Eastern shore of the Baltic Sea, in Lithuania. She has been a caregiver since 2014 when her mother was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, and first showed signs of pre-dementia in 2015. During the same period, she was awarded the doctoral degree in Social Sciences (Social Work), continued her academic activities and successfully pursued a professional career, becoming the vice-rector of a university, the chairwoman of the national committee that formed the higher education policy in her country. Dr Mačiulskytė and Dr Pierce are both members of the Ethics in Dementia (EDEM) COST Action CA21137, which focuses on the profound ethical dilemmas involved in caring for people with dementia.

Past Events



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

Report Launch

Pathways to Social Work – Surveying the motivations and challenges in becoming a social worker



On July 11 th , a Department of Disability, Children, Equality, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) commissioned project conducted by UCD examining pathways into social work was launched at an event in the Museum of Literature (MOLI) Ireland.

The study examined the motivations and challenges in becoming a Social Worker in Ireland. The study was conducted by Dr Joe Mooney, Dr Elaine Wilson, and Dr Joanne Kelleher and was funded by the DCEDIY. The findings and recommendations of the report were presented at the launch event to a select group of Departmental, NGO, State, and academic stakeholders with a view to discussing a wider national strategy for social work, one of the report's main recommendations. The report is hosted and available on the DCEDIY website: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f9f3f-pathways-to-social-work/>



(L to R) UCD Authors, Dr Joe Mooney and Dr Elaine Wilson



Vivian Guerin, chairperson of the National Association of Social Workers, Ireland



Dr Joe Mooney at report launch, Moli, St. Stephen's Green, D2

Report Launch

Protecting Against Predators: A Scoping Study on the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Young People in Ireland

Funded by Community Foundation Ireland, this research study conducted by Dr Mary Canning, Associate Professor Marie Keenan and Ruth Breslin (members of the UCD Sexual Exploitation Research Programme, SERP) scopes the issue of the sexual exploitation of children and young people in Ireland. The study draws on international research literature as well as practice-based evidence, interviews with 21 experts who have diverse experience of working with and representing children and young people across a variety of sectors and consultations with senior members in An Garda Síochana and Tusla, the Child and Family Agency.

The study, launched on June 22nd, presents disturbing evidence that children and young people in residential care in Ireland, or who go missing from care, are being targeted for exploitation by organised gangs or networks of predatory men. Children who are already vulnerable from previous traumas are being groomed and sexually exploited by these predators. The study makes recommendations regarding the urgent policy and practice responses required. The research has received significant media and political reaction (see for example Leader's Questions in the Dáil [here](#)) and has led to invitations for members of SERP to meet with the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Tusla – the Child and Family Agency, and the Ombudsman for Children to discuss next steps.

Some examples of the research in the media include:

Morning Ireland & RTE online:

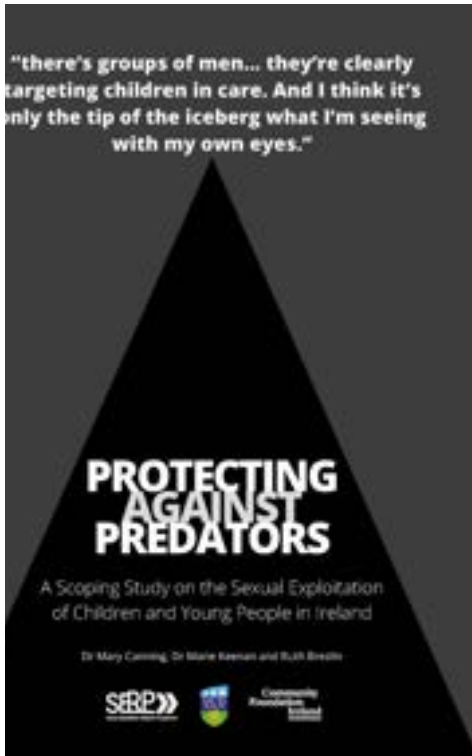
<https://www.rte.ie/news/ireland/2023/0622/1390523-sexual-exploitation/>

The Irish Times: <https://www.irishtimes.com/ireland/social-affairs/2023/06/22/grave-concern-girls-in-care-being-exploited-by-gangs-of-men-study/> and

<https://www.irishtimes.com/ireland/social-affairs/2023/06/23/report-on-exploitation-of-girls-in-care-exposes-lack-of-co-ordinated-state-response/>

The Irish Examiner: <https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-41167573.html> and <https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-41167921.html>

Sunday Independent - <https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/lured-by-love-how-gangs-of-men-are-able-to-prey-on-young-girls-in-state-care/a703097271.html>



Dr Mary Canning pictured with Minister O’Gorman



Docu-drama premiere

Premiere of the docu-drama *Croíthe Radacacha* (Radical Hearts) on which **Dr Mary McAuliffe** was a consultant and contributor was held at the 2023 Galway Film Fleadh, on 15 July, to a standing ovation.

Based on the research of Dr McAuliffe on queer femininities in the Irish revolutionary period, the documentary will now go to several film festivals before being broadcast on TG\$ in 2024.

Summary: Director Ciara Hyland explores the hidden stories of eight female couples who were at the heart of the Irish Revolution that freed Ireland from the British Empire. These women's likely lesbianism has largely remained unexamined, denied and hidden from history – until now.

These women were extraordinary in the lives they lived – they were radical in their politics, in their feminism, their socialism and their devotion to freedom and equality. In the end, many of them picked up a gun and went and fought for that freedom and equality. They suffered huge losses but ultimately lived life on their own terms – where the personal was political and their private lives were as radical as their public.

This is also the story of 'doing gay history' – the difficulties of finding evidence of love that by necessity had to fly under the radar, the glimpses we get of how people lived in the past and the burden of proof placed on examining gay relationships.

This is a documentary about 'the love that dares not speak its name' – found at the very heart of the Irish Revolution.

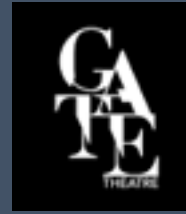
World Premiere | Post Show discussion will follow

Director/Writer: Ciara Hyland

Producers: Ciara Hyland, Ann Dalton

For more information go to the following link:

<https://www.galwayfilmfleadh.com/project/croithe-radacacha/>



Walking Tour

In July/August 2023, as part of the Fun Home (a musical by Alison Bechdel) at the Gate Theatre, **Dr Mary McAuliffe** curated a queer and lesbian walking tour of Dublin 1 with journalist Una Mullaly and participated in a concluding panel on LGBT representation in media and culture. <https://gcn.ie/gate-theatre-lesbian-events-ireland/>

Research Workshop

Research Seminar & Workshop "Eurasian research team on Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health" (CTSH)



Assoc. Prof. Naonori Kodate attended a week-long research workshop at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, EHESS, Paris, France, between 10 and 13 July, 2023. It was the 2nd workshop for the teams working on the "Eurasian research team on Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health" (CTSH) project. This project has members from France, Germany, Ireland, Canada, India, South Korea, Taiwan, Japan, and the USA, and will continue until 2024. Next year, the team is trying to present some of our findings at the SASE 2024 at the University of Limerick.

<https://ctsh.hypotheses.org/>



AAATE 2023 Assistive Technology: Shaping a sustainable and inclusive world. Paris, France, 30 August-1 September, 2023

The 17th International Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) will take place in Paris, at the Conference Centre (Campus Condorcet). Dr Naonori Kodate gave two oral presentations: "Introducing an air-disinfection robot as assistive technology into residential care homes: A proof-of-concept study in Ireland and Japan" and "Can assistive technologies improve older adults' quality of life?"



The case of remote monitoring system with interactive communication function". Irish participants were well represented, primarily joining from the H2020 SHAPES project team, based in Maynooth University.

11th Annual NERI Labour Market Conference 23/05/2023, in association with Queen's Management School at Queen's University Belfast



The 11th Annual NERI labour market conference took place in Queen's Management School at Queen's University Belfast, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5EE on Tuesday 23 May 2023 from 10:20 - 17:00.

Dr Micheál Collins presented the following papers:

- **Low Paid Older Workers: Who, Where and Why?**
- **Assessing Household's Living Standards and Income Resilience at the outset of the Cost-of-Living crisis.**

The conference provided a forum for the presentation of research papers on labour market issues (North & South of Ireland & international).

For more information see: <https://www.nerinstitute.net/events/2023/11th-annual-neri-labour-marketconference-presentations-and-videos>



On 19th August, **Dr Sarah Donnelly** participated in a panel discussion focused on inequalities in our Social Care Model as part of the Left Bank Summer School.



Sarah spoke about how Ireland’s weak policy framework has impacted on nursing home residents and family carers. The panel discussion was chaired by Róisín Shortall, TD, Professor Emma Dowling, University of Vienna and Mariaam Bhatti from the Great Care Cooperative

For more information please email Dr Sarah Donnelly. Email: Sarah.Donnely@ucd.ie

Report Launch - 11 September 2023 "Living Well with Dementia in South Tipperary"

Supported by the HSE and run in cooperation with Family Carers Ireland, "Living Well with Dementia in South Tipperary" (<https://southtipperarydementia.ie/>) is marking 10 years in September 2023. To mark the occasion, a research report, focused on the implementation of the service over a ten-year period and its sustainability into the future, was launched on 11 September by Bridget Farrell, General Manager, HSE Older Persons' Services South East. The research was undertaken by **Dr Maria Pierce, Assistant Professor in Social Policy in the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice**, and researcher, Jeremy Golden. The event took place at the Memory Technology Library, which forms part of the service, on the grounds of Tipperary University Hospital in Clonmel. At the event, Dr Maria Pierce presented the research findings, recommendations, and policy implications. Other contributors included Dr Caitriona Crowe, Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry, St James Hospital, Dublin; Professor Eamon O'Shea, Centre for Economic and Social Research on Dementia, University of Galway; Kate Brennan, Senior Project Manager, National Dementia Office, HSE; Person living with Dementia/Family Carer; and Anne Quinn, Dementia Nurse Specialist, Living Well with Dementia. The launch event included a video message from Margeurite Keating, a person living with a dementia diagnosis, and an address from a family member of a person living with dementia.



Pictured:

Back row from left: Mary Ryan, Professor Eamon O'Shea, Jem Golden, Dr Maria Pierce, Dr Caitriona Crowe, Kate Brennan

Front row from left: Emma O'Brien, Senator Garret Ahearn, Mayor of Clonmel Borough District Cllr. Richie Molloy, Bridget Farrell

Image: Courtesy of Tipperary Live

You can find out more about the research project at:

<https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/research/researchprojects/tenyearsofdementiaserviceimplementation/>

The HSE's press release on the launch event can be found at:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/media/pressrel/living-well-with-dementia-in-south-tipperary-project-marks-10-years-of-service.html>

Upcoming events



Irish
Gerontological
Society

IGS (Irish Gerontological Society) 70th Annual and Scientific Meeting, 28th– 30th September 2023, Galway

Donnelly S. et al. Using Participatory Action Research To Examine Attitudes and Awareness of Adult Safeguarding Practices In The Acute Hospital Context.

Pierce M. et al. Sustainability Of Area-based, Community Driven Post-diagnostic Support Services For People With Dementia: Evidence from a Mixed-methods Study.

Donnelly S, O'Brien M, Dunne N. Understanding Carer Harm- Insights From Family Carers of People Living With Dementia And Dementia Professionals.

Donnelly S, Rochford Brennan H, Quinlan K, et al. Adult Safeguarding, Human Rights And People Living With Dementia In Nursing Homes; Co-producing Recommendations For Best Practice.

Quinlan F, Donnelly S, O'Donnell D. Concept Analysis Methodologies to Clarify the Meaning of Filial Coercive **Control.**

Allen J, Donnelly S, Morton S, Murphy S. Advance Care Planning in Older Persons Mental Health Insights from Interdisciplinary Healthcare Professionals.

Kodate N, Obayashi K, Maeda Y, et al. Exploring professional-robot interactions in care settings: A case of adopting an Irish air-disinfection device in a nursing home in Japan. Poster Presentation.

Obayashi K, **Kodate N,** Kondo H, et al. Designing and testing an integrated community care model with a remote home monitoring-alert device: a pilot study in Japan. Poster Presentation.

UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (JaSt) News

1st ever Japanese Language Summer Camp for Secondary School Students in Ireland



JaSt won competitive funding from the Irish Government (Languages Connect Unit) to run its very first Summer Camp for Heritage and Lesser Taught Languages (Japanese). It will be held between 8-18 August and coordinated by Ms Nobuko Ijichi (JaSt/UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice). 23 secondary school students joined the Centre's activities including the Taiko drumming, Bon-odori dance, an excursion to the Japanese Gardens in Kildare, sessions on manga, care robots and of course, the Japanese language. This was the very first time any Irish HEIs hosted a summer camp for Japanese language, and JaSt has already secured funding from the Department of Education to run two Technology x Language x Culture seminars and Wadaiko experience tours in secondary schools, scheduled for November 2023.

For more information go to this link:

<https://www.ucd.ie/japan/newsevents/japaneselanguageandculturesummercampforaugust2023/>



European Association for Japanese Studies (ヨーロッパ日本研究協会) Annual Conference, Ghent, Belgium, 17-20 August 2023

Three members of JaSt (Yurie Maeda, Nobuko Ijichi and Naonori Kodate) gave presentations at the 17th International Conference of the European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS), which will be hosted in Ghent between 17 and 20 August 2023. Over 800 academics will participate in the 14 parallel sections and engage in academic discussions on Japan-related topics over four days. Nobuko Ijichi delivered her talk at the 24th Japanese Language Education Symposium in Europe (hosted by the Association of Japanese Language Teachers in Europe). Her talk is entitled "In search of a sustainable approach to Japanese language and culture education in a small, geographically distant country: the case of Ireland".

Print Media Focus

Majority of Ireland willing to allow 'care robots' to look after elderly, new study finds

UCD News and Opinion, 31 August, 2023



Led by Professor Sayuri Suwa, researchers involved with the study, including **Dr Naonori Kodate** from the UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice, conducted a cross-sectional study across Japan, Ireland, and Finland.

The team examined the ethical issues that could affect the willingness to use a care robot and conducted a survey between November 2018 and February 2019 among older people, their family caregivers, and professional caregivers.

Analysing over 1,130 responses, comprised of 664 from Japan, 208 from Ireland, and 260 from Finland, the team was able to demonstrate a correlation between ethical perceptions and social implementation of care robots across three countries with different geographies, demographics, cultures, and systems.

See full text of the article - By: [David Kearns](https://www.ucd.ie/newsandopinion/news/2023/august/31/majorityofirelandwillingtoallowcarerobotstolookafterelderlynewstudyfinds/), Digital Journalist / Media Officer, UCD University Relations - at the following link:
<https://www.ucd.ie/newsandopinion/news/2023/august/31/majorityofirelandwillingtoallowcarerobotstolookafterelderlynewstudyfinds/>.

For more information please contact Dr Naonori Kodate. Email: Naonori.Kodate@ucd.ie

Independent.ie 

Majority comfortable with 'care robots' looking after the elderly, By Darragh Nolan, the Irish Independent, Fri 1st Sept 2023



A robot performs for residents at a care home in Germany. Photo: Matthias Bein/picture alliance via Getty Images.

Darragh Nolan

More than 70pc of people in Ireland would be comfortable with "care robots" looking after the elderly, a new study has found. A team of researchers from Ireland, Japan and Finland measured the level of concern over ethical issues surrounding the use of robots among elderly people, family carers and care staff.

The team included **Dr Naonori Kodate & Dr Sarah Donnelly** from UCD's School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice. Researchers gathered 1,130 responses between November 2018 and February 2019, including 208 from Ireland, 260 from Finland and 664 from Japan.

However, just 38pc of respondents to the study in Ireland said they would like to receive care using a care robot in their own home. This is well below the international average of 58pc.

Just 5pc of people said they would never want to use a care robot at home to assist in looking after a family member.

The study was published in Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics and found that 77pc of people in Japan approved of using care robots, followed by 70pc of people in Ireland. Just 53pc of people in Finland said they were willing to let robots care for older people. Potential issues with the use of robots in care settings include privacy concerns and how personal information of those receiving care might be used, including the user's location. Another dilemma stems from whether nurses and doctors should be able to access information on the physical health of someone in care, such as vital signs like pulse and blood pressure.

Led by Professor Sayuri Suwa of Chiba University in Japan, the study found a correlation between ethical concerns around care robots

"From our results, we can infer that social implementation of care robots can be promoted if developers and researchers encourage potential users to participate in the development process, proposed in the form of a co-design and co-production concept," Prof Suwa said.

"We hope that the process of developing care robots will be improved to contribute to human well-being in a global aging society."

The development of care robots is accelerating as the proportion of people in the population aged over 65 continues to grow.

Declining birth rates and aging populations could result in a shortage of carers in the coming years with robots offering a potential solution to the deficit.

It is projected that the number of people aged 65 and older will reach 1.5 billion worldwide by 2050.

Prof Suwa said the use of care robots with monitoring cameras has become commonplace in Japan's ageing society to make up for a shortage of carers.

"However, there are no discussions among users - older people, family caregivers, and care staff - and developers regarding the willingness to use care robots, the protection of privacy, and the appropriate use of personal information associated with the use of care robots.

"The desire to improve this situation and to promote appropriate utilisation of care robots beyond Japan was the impetus for this research," she said.



Dr Mary McAuliffe was invited to comment on the activism of the late singer, Sinead O'Connor, on several national and international news media (print and radio/TV) after her sudden death. This includes the following article in the New York Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/07/28/world/europe/sinead-oconnor-changed-ireland.html>

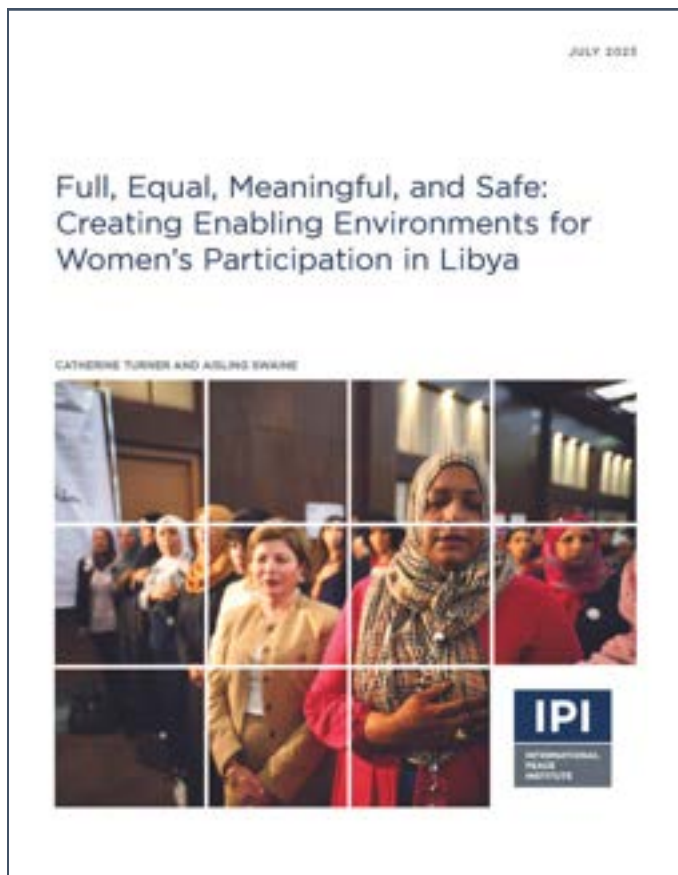
Media Focus



Donnelly, S. and Cuskelly, K. (2023). Human rights must be part of everyday practice in mental health social work. Blog can be accessed here: <https://madinireland.com/2023/07/human-rights-must-be-part-of-everyday-practice-in-mental-health-social-work/>

Social workers call on CORU to reinsert references to human rights into the Social Work Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics

New Publications



Report

Catherine Turner, **Aisling Swaine**. Full, Equal, Meaningful, and Safe: Creating Enabling Environments for Women's Participation in Libya. International Peace Institute, New York, 2023.

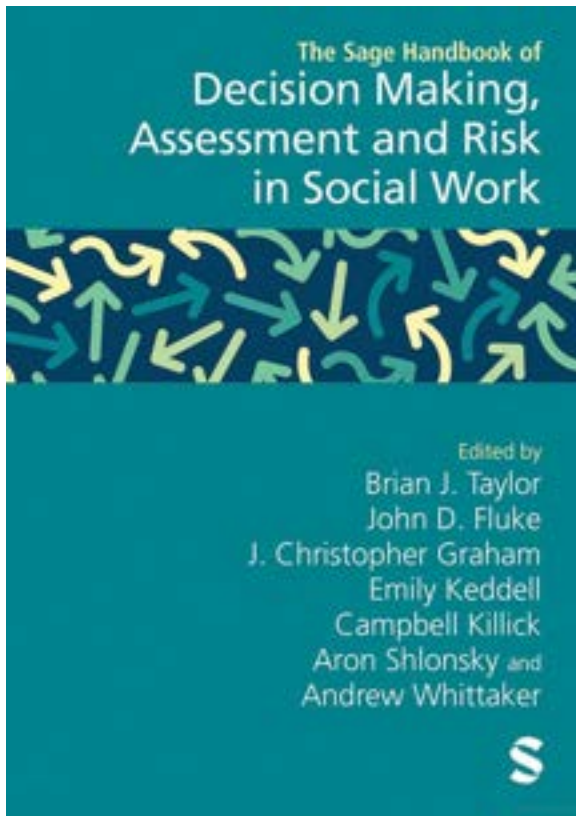
An event launching the paper was held by the International Peace Institute in New York in July 2023.

The report can be downloaded at this link: <https://www.ipinst.org/2023/07/creating-enabling-environments-for-womens-participation-in-libya-paper>

Overview: The women, peace, and security (WPS) agenda is comprised of ten resolutions and organized around four broad areas of intervention that aim to advance gender mainstreaming across the work of the United Nations Security Council. These four pillars are the prevention of armed conflict, the protection of women and girls, the participation of women in all aspects of international peace and security, and the delivery of relief and recovery in conflict-affected settings. Until recently, these pillars developed along largely separate trajectories, with the participation and protection pillars receiving the most attention and advancing the furthest in implementation

This paper furthers examination of the relationship between the participation and protection pillars. It analyzes the experiences of women in Libya who encounter obstacles when participating in peace and security and political processes. Using an ecological framework, it details the risks that women who 'participate' encounter at six levels: individual, interpersonal, community, national institutional, societal, and global institutional. Through its analysis, the report deepens the evidence for and understanding of the critical relationship between protection and women's participation, broadens analysis of and provides pointers for the mainstreaming of WPS in UN mission mandates, and provides a new framework to advance the creation of safe and enabling environments for women's participation.

for further information please contact Aisling Swaine. Email: Aisling.Swaine@ucd.ie



Book Chapters

Olaison, A. and **Donnelly, S.** (2023). Shared Decision Making with Clients in Taylor, B. and Killick, C. (eds) Handbook on Decision Making, Assessment & Risk, Sage, London. Available: <https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/the-sage-handbook-of-decision-making-assessment-and-risk-in-social-work/book276079>

Chapter 22, by Olaison and Donnelly, provides a helpful overview of the various terms that relate to supported decision making. The role of social workers in the assessment process is discussed and dilemmas of conflicting priorities are identified. Unfortunately, people who have cognitive impairments are often excluded from decisions that impact their lives and wellbeing. The chapter identifies strategies to encourage the involvement of older people including addressing organisational cultures which can empower or disempower the people that we serve.

Chapter 23, by Jim Campbell & Ross Campbell is entitled 'Decisional capacity in mental health social work'.

The SAGE Handbook on Decision Making, Assessment and Risk in Social Work provides a comprehensive overview of key strands of research and theoretical concepts in this increasingly important field.

With 49 chapters and four section summaries, this Handbook describes the 'state of the art'; discuss key debates and issues; and gives pointers on future directions for practice, research, teaching, management of services, and development of theoretical understandings.

A key aim of this Handbook is to support the development of sound, applied knowledge and values to underpin reasoned professional judgement and decision making by social workers in practice and those in management and regulatory roles.

With contributions from a global interdisciplinary body of leading and emerging scholars from a wide variety of roles, this handbook has been designed to be internationally generalisable and applicable to all major areas of social work.

This Handbook provides a field-defining account of decision making, assessment and risk in social work which is unrivalled for its diversity and strength of coverage, and will be of value to social work researchers, teachers and practitioners, as well as to those in allied fields such as health care.

Section 1: Professional Judgement

Section 2: Assessment, Risk and Decision Processes

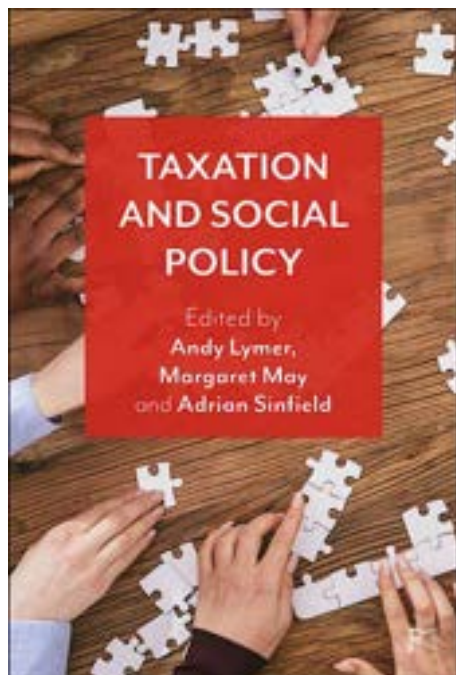
Section 3: Assessment Tools and Approaches

Section 4: Developing and Managing Practice

Section 5: Concluding Section / Afterword

Book Chapter

Andy Lymer, Margaret May and Adrian Sinfield (Editor) (2023) *Taxation and Social Policy*. Policy Press. **Published** May 31, 2023; **Page count** 302 pages; **ISBN** 978-1447364177.



Chapter 6. Pensions and Taxation by **Micheál Collins** and Andy Lymer

Pensions and pensions policy represent one of the major areas where taxation and social policy interact. Decisions impact on the current and future living standards of most individuals, involve substantial and growing state expenditure, raise questions of equity and efficiency, and grapple with questions of the long-term sustainability of current approaches given demographic trends. Pension provision has sat at the heart of the welfare state model of most countries since their emergence in the late 1800s. States intervene to provide income to individuals once they reach an age where they are no longer required to work, via a state pension scheme in conjunction with a benefit system, pursuing a policy objective of preventing poverty in old age. States also adopt policies to encourage individuals and/or their employers to save from current income during their working lives such that this income is available in retirement, pursuing a policy objective of income smoothing, and in the process creating some degree of reduced reliance on state provision alone for the costs of retirement.

This chapter examines the linkages between pensions and the taxation system in the UK and traces their evolution over time. In particular, it focuses on the current suite of tax-based incentives for occupational and personal pension savings and highlights the very significant tax-advantaged position provided for this form of long-term savings over most other forms in which capital value can be accumulated to support living costs in retirement.

Summary:

This book is about tax and social policy and how they interact with each other.

The impact of taxation as an instrument of social policy is central in influencing redistribution and behaviour. This broad-based edited collection fills a significant gap in both literatures, bringing together disparate debates in this emerging area of analysis.

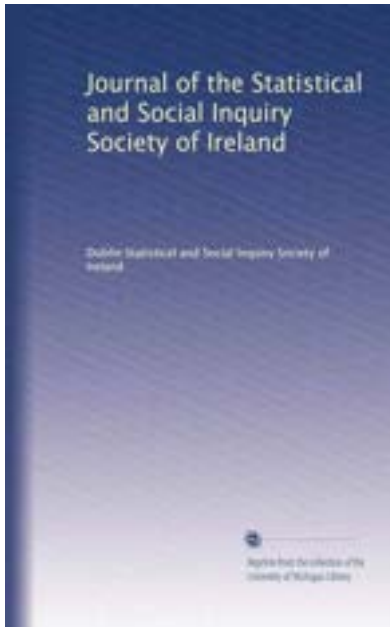
It guides readers through the key interactions of tax and social policies and the central debates and challenges posed by their effect on each other. It examines how analyses might be combined and policy options developed for more effective delivery and impact in both areas.

Contents

- Introduction – Andy Lymer, Margaret May and Adrian Sinfield
2. Fiscal and Social Policy: Two Sides of the Same Coin – Chris Pond
3. Tax and the Social Policy Landscape – Andy Lymer
4. Fiscal Welfare and Tax Expenditures – Adrian Sinfield
5. Employment, Self-Employment and Taxation – Kevin Caraher and Enrico Reuter
6. Pensions and Taxation – Micheál Collins and Andy Lymer
7. Tax, Benefits and Household Income – SD McKay
8. Taxation, Health and Social Care – Sally Ruane
9. Homes, Housing and Taxation – James Gregory, Andy Lymer and Carlene Wynter
10. Wealth Taxation: The Case for Reform – Karen Rowlingson
11. Gender and Taxation – Susan Himmelweit
12. Taxation and Local Taxes – Michael Orton
13. Corporate Tax and Corporate Welfare – Kevin Farnsworth
14. The Climate Crisis and Taxation – Paul D. Bridgen and Milena Büchs
15. Conclusions – Andy Lymer, Margaret May and Adrian Sinfield

Journal Article

Collins, Micheál L. 'Assessing Household's Living Standards and Income Resilience at the outset of the Cost-of-Living Crisis'. - Dublin: Journal of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society, Vol.52, 2022/23, pp.48-59. <http://hdl.handle.net/2262/103743>



This paper explores the living standards of Ireland's 1.9 million households at the outset of the 2021/23 cost-of-living crisis and considers the heterogeneous experience of that crisis by households across income distribution. The widespread nature of price increases, and their particular impact on areas of large recurring household expenditure (e.g. food, fuel and energy), has resulted in a cost-of-living crisis impacting all households, although some faced into the crisis with a better ability to absorb, or manage, these higher living costs.

Using data from the Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) the paper considers the living standards of households at the outset of the crisis, and based on this assesses their capacity to absorb increases in nominal living costs. Using data on the subjective assessment of household's ability to make ends meet, it classifies households into those who were already struggling, those who were unlikely to be able to absorb a marked increase in nominal living costs, and those with sufficient means to manage these cost increases despite their scale.

The paper poses three research questions:

- What were living standards like prior to the crisis?
- What ability had households to absorb large nominal increases in living costs?
- Which households were most impacted by the crisis?

Households are examined across the income distribution and within other socio-economic classifications such as household composition and tenure. The analysis therefore aims to provide a more comprehensive picture of the resilience, or otherwise, of Irish households as they faced into the cost-of-living crisis.

Keywords: Inflation, Ireland, Households, Living Standards
JEL codes: E31, D14, I30

Journal Article

Jorge Cuartas, Amiya Bhatia, Daniel Carter, Lucie Cluver, Carolina Coll, Elizabeth Donger, Catherine E. Draper, Frances Gardner, Bess Herbert, **Orla Kelly**, Jamie Lachman, Najat Maalla M'jid, Frederique Seidel, Climate change is a threat multiplier for violence against children, *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 2023, 106430, ISSN 0145-2134, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2023.106430>. (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0145213423004180>)

ABSTRACT

Background

The climate crisis is the biggest threat to the health, development, and wellbeing of the current and future generations. While there is extensive evidence on the direct impacts of climate change on human livelihood, there is little evidence on how children and young people are affected, and even less discussion and evidence on how the climate crisis could affect violence against children.

Participants and setting

In this commentary, we review selected research to assess the links between the climate crisis and violence against children.

Methods

We employ a social-ecological perspective as an overarching framework to organize findings from the literature and call attention to increased violence against children as a specific, yet under-examined, direct and indirect consequence of the climate crisis.

Results

Using such a perspective, we examine how the climate crisis exacerbates the risk of violence against children at the continually intersecting and interacting levels of society, community, family, and the individual levels. We propose increased risk of armed conflict, forced displacement, poverty, income inequality, disruptions in critical health and social services, and mental health problems as key mechanisms linking the climate crisis and heightened risk of violence against children. Furthermore, we posit that the climate crisis serves as a threat multiplier, compounding existing vulnerabilities and inequities within populations and having harsher consequences in settings, communities, households, and for children already experiencing adversities.

Conclusions

We conclude with a call for urgent efforts from researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to further investigate the specific empirical links between the climate crisis and violence against children and to design, test, implement, fund, and scale evidence-based, rights-based, and child friendly prevention, support, and response strategies to address violence against children.





Kodate N, Obayashi K, Maeda Y. et al., "Care professionals' experience of deploying an original non-autonomous air-purification robot in residential care homes in Ireland and Japan," 2023 5th International Congress on Human-Computer Interaction, Optimization and Robotic Applications (HORA), Istanbul, Turkiye, 2023, pp. 1-9, doi: 10.1109/HORA58378.2023.10156802.



Asaishi Y, Obayashi K, Masuyama S, **Kodate N** (2023) Examining the Utility of a Floor-cleaning Robot in Welfare Facilities: A Proof-of-Concept Study with Braava Jet m6 at a Geriatric Care Facility (in Japanese). *Journal of the Robotics Society of Japan*, 41, 7; 635-638.



Ide H, Suwa S, Akuta Y, **Kodate N**, Tsujimura M, Ishimaru M, Shimamura A, Kitinoja H, **Donnelly S**, Hallila J, Toivonen M, Bergman-Kärpijoki C, Takahashi E, Yu W (2023) Developing a model to explain users' ethical perceptions regarding the use of care robots in home care: A cross-sectional study in Ireland, Finland, and Japan. *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.archger.2023.105137>

Featured Researcher

Dr Matthew Donoghue, Ad Astra Fellow, Social Policy



How did you come to select your chosen area of research?

I have a long-standing interest in the ways policies are developed and why, and the political, socio-economic and ideological conditions in which these developments take place. This can be traced back to my PhD, in which I critically examined New Labour's approach to welfare reform and community cohesion, and the way in which these policy areas were used to reconfigure expectations of 'good citizenship' and participation. Since then, I have worked on socio-economic resilience, the politics of social cohesion, the further reconfiguration of social citizenship through Brexit, policy and crisis, and social rights in Europe.

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

I consider myself to work in the broad areas of Interpretive Policy Analysis and Critical Policy Studies, which are particularly focused on problematising the policy process, the role of ideas and ideology within the process, and how policies can be legitimised, contested, subverted or altered by different social groups. Alongside this, I am influenced by political economy and political sociology approaches.

I am a qualitative researcher who draws upon discourse theory a lot in my work, especially Critical Discourse Analysis. I am currently engaging more with Critical Policy Discourse Analysis. Some of my publications look at developing CDA, so I have a keen interest in the theory behind it, as well as its application. In using data from interviews and focus groups extensively in my work I employ a range of analytical techniques including thematic analysis, content analysis, phenomenological analysis, and conjunctural analysis.

Can you describe what the process of writing your most recent article/chapter (specify what this is.....) was like.

My latest publication is a chapter in the recently published OUP Open Access book *European Social Policy and the Covid-19 Pandemic* (eds. Boerner and Seeleib-Kasier). A lot of my solo authored work develops in a fairly instinctive way. The idea for this chapter actually came from walking around a supermarket in the UK and seeing an overly jingoistic mug referencing 'NHS heroes'! The original idea for the piece was to consider how Covid could be used in the process of 'nation building', which isn't something we talk about much in respect to 'old' states that have been through that process already. However, after some conceptual work, the focus changed slightly to looking at social cohesion and boundary building.



Once the conceptual frame was set, I analysed a couple of years' worth of televised briefings from the then Secretary of Health, Matt Hancock, and then PM, Boris Johnson. I tend to use an abductive approach to data analysis – I start with acknowledged preconceptions drawn from my own positions and the academic literature, and refine this through engaging inductively with the data.

The timing for the piece was fortuitous as I was asked to contribute something to the book, which is what also encouraged me to consider changing the conceptual focus, after an authors' workshop.

What are the key messages from your most recent publication?

The chapter considers how the UK government used the Covid pandemic – ironically – as a method of crisis avoidance with regards to Brexit, as an opportunity to reassert the territorial integrity of the UK as Anglo-dominated in the face of challenges from e.g. Scottish nationalism. Using Covid to promote a plea to put differences aside, the government attempted to further a laissez-faire and conservative approach to social policy, despite predictions from academics and commentators that the 'emergency Keynesianism' associated with Covid responses may spur a new era of the welfare state. As the chapter's final line states:

"The ultimate conclusion, then, is that the Covid briefings in particular can be seen largely as a co-ordinated PR exercise for the Conservative government in the UK, attempting to rebrand 'Global Britain' and re-enforce the territorial integrity of the Union, legitimised via prominent elements of the social policy response to the pandemic".

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

There is always something new to explore. Taking a critical approach often requires you to look 'under the surface' and explore potential links that at first do not seem like they should exist. It also allows me to combine my training in political studies and political theory alongside my interest in social and public policy. It certainly makes it more difficult to be known for that one thing, but having a broad area to work in also means I can respond to all sorts of developments in politics and policy.

What projects are you working on now?

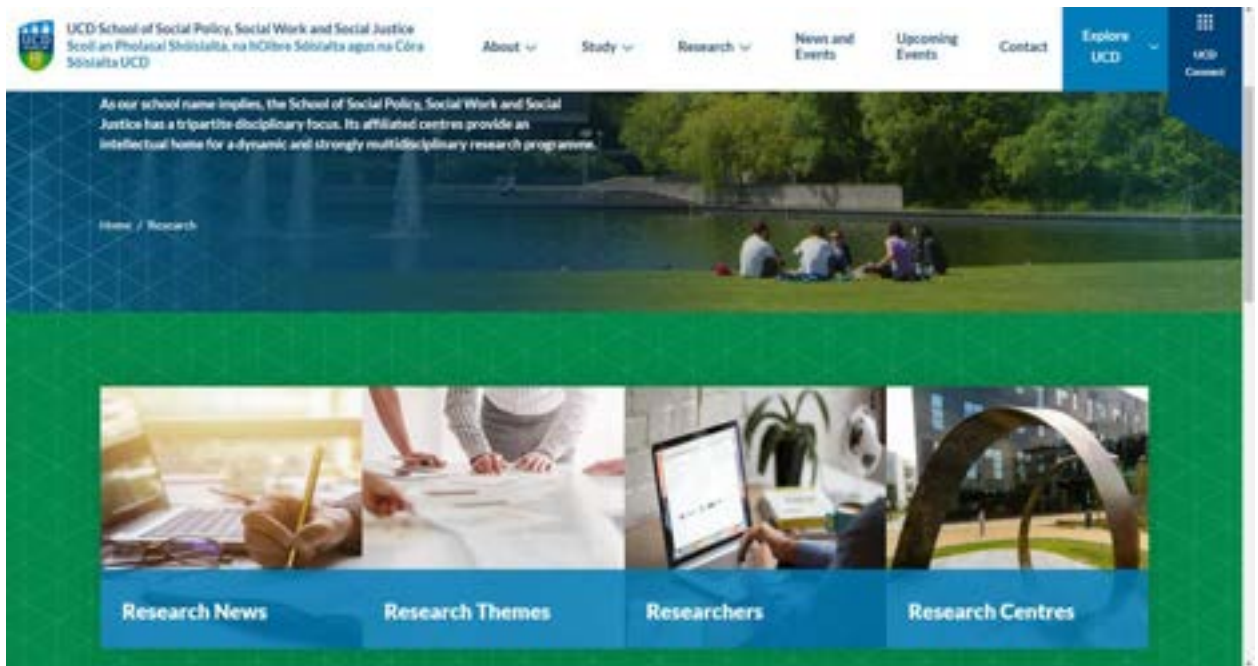
I have two main projects I am developing currently.

The first examines the role of morals and morality in facilitating or stifling (the potential for) transformative change. It considers how morals are used in policy, but also how moral critique can be developed to argue for and spur normative change. This project so far has yielded a book chapter, peer-reviewed article, two conference papers, and a workshop at the ECPR Joint Sessions. My collaborator, Dr. Adam Standring, is being hosted as a visiting fellow at the Geary Institute in October. He and I are currently working on a journal article and a book proposal.

The second is an examination into the seeming disjuncture between the salience of European social rights during and after crises, and the relative lack of success in this area. I am developing a grant proposal, while also working out which bits of desk research I can get started on.

Alongside these I also have the usual intentions to develop my ongoing work, such as a follow up to my book chapter I mentioned earlier, as well as collaborations with colleagues on papers.

School Website update of Research section



Over the summer we carried out some updates to the Research section of our school website. You can see these changes at the following link:
<https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/research/>.

The research area of the School website includes the following key sub-sections:

1. Research News
2. Research Themes
3. Researchers
4. Research Centres
5. Books published
6. PhD Research
7. Social Impact
8. Research Projects

- The main change involves the **inclusion of the School's eight research themes** which can be seen at the following link:
<https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/research/researchthemes/>
- Researchers within the School have identified these eight broad, interrelated themes as a way of capturing their broad range of interests.
- The themes include: 1) Comparative Social Policy: Local and Global; 2) Equalities, Human Rights and Social Justice; 3) Financialisation of Welfare; 4) Gender, Feminisms and Sexualities; 5) Health and Well-being over the Lifecourse; 6) Migration, Racism, Conflict and Citizenship; 7) Practice in Social Work Education; and 8) Sustainable society: Economy, Environment & Social Inclusion.
- A number of our research community have interests in more than one theme; a reflection of the school's commitment to collaborative, interdisciplinary research. This research underpins our distinctive undergraduate and postgraduate teaching as well as our long-standing commitment to public engagement.
- Opposite the listing of each theme is concise description as well as a link to an indicative selection of projects which illustrate the School's applied approach to research under the particular theme. Many of the questions asked, the methods used, and the outputs generated are frequently co-produced with stakeholders and practitioners.



UCD School of Social Policy, Social
Work and Social Justice



[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)