



School of  
Social Policy,  
Social Work  
and Social  
Justice

**MAY 2023, NO. 18**

**RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS  
BULLETIN**

**Website:**

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





# New Projects

## Low Paid Young Workers: Who, Where and Why?

**LOW PAY**  
COMMISSION

**Principal Investigator: Dr Micheál Collins;** Funding Organisation: Low Pay Commission Research Bursaries 2023.

### Abstract

Low pay is strongly associated with younger workers, with those aged under 25 carrying the highest risk of low pay among all age groups (63.9% in 2018). Above this threshold it declines (to 20.2% for 25-49 years) yet low pay persists for many. This research explores the nature and experiences of low pay among employees just above this highest risk group, those aged 25-34. This group has been selected as they represent a cohort of relatively young employees, who are likely to have completed most of their education and training, and have entered the labour market in pursuit of opportunities to earn a living.

Initially the study adopts quantitative methods to profile the individual and household characteristics of these workers. Using SILC data, it examines the groups risk and incidence of low pay, compares it to the labour force and establishes their gender and sectoral profile. Subsequently, the research uses qualitative interviews to explore if these individuals see low paid employment as a stepping-stone, a trap, or a choice driven by other personal circumstances. Together the findings will assist policy makers in developing a more detailed understanding of the contexts and challenges that arise in determining policy around low pay.

### Aims, Objectives and Central Research Question


The aim of this research project is to provide a heretofore absent insight into one group of low paid workers in Ireland, those aged between 25 and 34 years. Working in a low paid job remains the reality for a large number of employees above 25 years of age and this project focuses on those in the decade above this threshold.

Given the extent of low pay in Ireland, and its persistence across the age groups, this group is interesting. The desire to understand them better, both in terms of their profile and in terms of the factors influencing them becoming/remaining a low paid employee, frames the research questions being pursued.

These questions are:

- Who are these low paid workers – profiling them by gender, completed education level, location, and household characteristics;
- Where are these low paid employees – profiling them by sector of employment, size of firm, duration of working week, and full-time/part-time status; and
- Why have these employees ended up in low paid employment – what are the experiences, choices and circumstances that have influenced their pathway to becoming and remaining a worker in a low paid role.





The research approaches these questions using both quantitative and qualitative methods. The former will provide a robust numerical insight into the who and where questions and examine the individual, household and industry/sectoral characteristics of these workers. The latter will explore the factors that have shaped individual outcomes and choices via a series of interviews with approximately twenty low paid workers. It will also examine employee's perception of their low paid status; do they see this as a stepping-stone to better paid employment or do they feel trapped in these roles?

The results of the research serve three purposes:

1. It will enhance our understanding of the low pay experiences of workers in Ireland.
2. It will provide a detailed insight into the context and choices of an age group of the Irish labour force where many exit low pay, yet a sizeable proportion remain.
3. Its findings will contribute to the consideration and formation of public policy on low pay and broader labour market policies on participation, skills and retraining.



# Awards



**Dr Matthew Donoghue** has been awarded the **UCD Geary Institute's BICS visiting scholar programme**. During the Autumn Trimester in the 2023-4 academic year, Dr Donoghue will be hosting Dr. Adam Standring (De Montfort University, Leicester, and Orebro University, Sweden) as part of their joint ongoing research looking at moral politics and transformative change. Adam will be giving a talk for the Geary Institute during his research stay. In addition, details of a planned workshop on this research will be announced in due course. For more information please email [Matthew.Donoghue@ucd.ie](mailto:Matthew.Donoghue@ucd.ie).

## About the project:

**Moral Politics In, For and Against Transformative Change** is an innovative collaborative project co-developed by **Dr Adam Standring (De Montfort University)** and **Dr Matthew Donoghue (University College Dublin)** that aims to better understand the function of morals – broadly understood as sets of social values – in (re)producing and contesting social order in the current crisis-ridden conjuncture. In particular, the project is interested in how moral frames are employed in public/social policy paradigms, and how this enables and constrains policymaking, implementation and evaluation. Building on two co-authored pieces (Soundings and a chapter in 'The Crisis and Future of Democracy' collection) the project recently organised a successful cross-disciplinary workshop at the ECPR Joint Sessions which will provide the foundation for an international research network of scholars looking at morals from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds and across empirical fields. The project is aiming to host a second workshop in 2023 with scholars from Ireland and the UK.

**Dr Adam Standring** is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Fellow at the Centre for Urban Research on Austerity (CURA) at De Montfort University, UK and an associate researcher at the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Social Science (CESSS) at Örebro University, Sweden. He is currently undertaking the MSCA funded project 'Crisis, Housing and Austerity: The Emergence of a New Moral Politics?' (CHAMP). His research interests focus on the politics of knowledge and expertise in complex and contested policy areas. Recent projects have examined climate change, Covid-19, and austerity policies and his work has been published in *European Journal of Political Research*, *Policy & Politics*, *Environment & Planning C: Politics and Space*, *Dialogues in Human Geography* and *WIREs: Climate Change*.





# MAY/JUNE SCHOOL EVENTS

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## Webinar (May)

**Organised by Dr Sarah Donnelly**, 1st of 2 webinars 'Understanding Carer Harm' involving a presentation followed by a panel discussion focusing on the implications for policy and practice responses in the Irish context. Panel involving Family Carer Representatives: Celine O'Connor, Principal Safeguarding and Protection Social Worker and Project Steering Committee Member; Dr Sarah Donnelly, UCD Research Principal Investigator; & Dr Nikki Dunne, FCI Senior Research Manager. For more information see: <https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/sarahdonnellyunderstandingcarerharmmay24/>

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## Seminar (May)

**Organised by Dr Joseph Mooney**, 'When the invisible become visible' with Speaker Dr Lee Sobo-Allen, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, Leeds Beckett University, UK. For more information see: <https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/schoolseminarleemay262023/>

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## Webinar (June)

**Organised by Dr Sarah Donnelly**, 2nd of 2 webinars 'Understanding Carer Harm'. This webinar explores the concept of carer harm taking more of a global perspective to broaden out the conversation beyond the Irish context. Involves 2 presentations: 1) Dr Sarah Donnelly on her recent work examining carer harm and 2) Amanda Warburton Wynn ([www.awdaconsultancy.com](http://www.awdaconsultancy.com)) on her recent work on carers and domestic abuse. Webinar 2 will be chaired by Nikki Dunne FCI Senior Research Manager and panellists will be: 1) Professor Alisoun Milne, Emeritus Professor in Social Gerontology and Social Work, University of Kent; 2) Professor Elizabeth Hanson, Professor of Caring Sciences, Linnaeus University, Sweden; 3) Dr Sarah Donnelly, Assistant Professor of Social Work, UCD; and 4) Amanda Warburton Wynn. For more information see <https://www.ucd.ie/socialpolicyworkjustice/latestandupcomingotherevents/sarahdonnellyunderstandingcarerharmmay24/>

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## Report Launch (July)

**Organised by Dr Joe Mooney**, 'Pathways to Social Work - Report Launch' is a morning event (Tue, 11 Jul 2023 10:00 - 11:30 IST) to launch of a DCEDIY-Commissioned study examining pathways into the social work profession in Ireland. Location: MoLI - Museum of Literature Ireland 86 Saint Stephen's Green D02 XY43 Dublin. For more information go to this link: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/pathways-to-social-work-report-launch-tickets-658372950217?aff=oddtcreator>



# Past Events

## RESEARCH SEMINAR & WORKSHOP



**Attended by Dr Naonori Kodate** "Critical discussion on digitalization and robot technology in care for older persons" as part of Reassembling Care for Older People (RECOPE) Network. Copenhagen, Denmark, 16 May 2023. This new Network brings together leading researchers (primarily from Nordic countries) in the area of digitalization of care for older people. It was funded by NOS-HS (The Joint Committee for Nordic research councils in the Humanities and Social Sciences).



Dr Naonori Kodate gave a talk entitled "Human-robot interactions and the meaning of care", followed by film screening "Circuits of Care: Ageing and Japan's Robot Revolution" (with Prof. David Prendergast, Maynooth University).





# Research Project Launch

New interdisciplinary research project "Establishing Toyota-style Person-centered, Robotics-aided Care System (TP-RoC-S)" launch (24-26 May 2023)

**Dr Naonori Kodate**, Prof. Sebastien Lechevalier (EHESP, Paris) and Prof. Mayuko Tsujimura (Shiga University of Medical Science) joined forces and launched a new research project "Establishing Toyota-style Person-centered, Robotics-aided Care System (TP-RoC-S)" in collaboration with engineers at Toyota Frontier Research Center and Toyota Central R&D Labs., Inc. and care professionals at Toyota Memorial Hospital.



The project examines the impact of a brand new transfer robot (POTARO) on the way multidisciplinary care professionals work in a brand new hospital, which was just opened in May 2023.



On another note, **Dr Naonori Kodate** (PI)'s previous international project, "Harmonisation towards the establishment of Person-centred, Robotics-aided Care System (HARP: RoCS)" (2019-2022), was successfully completed this spring, and two Programme Officers from the funding body, the Toyota Foundation, visited the UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice in April.





# Webinars (May & June)

## Understanding Carer Harm

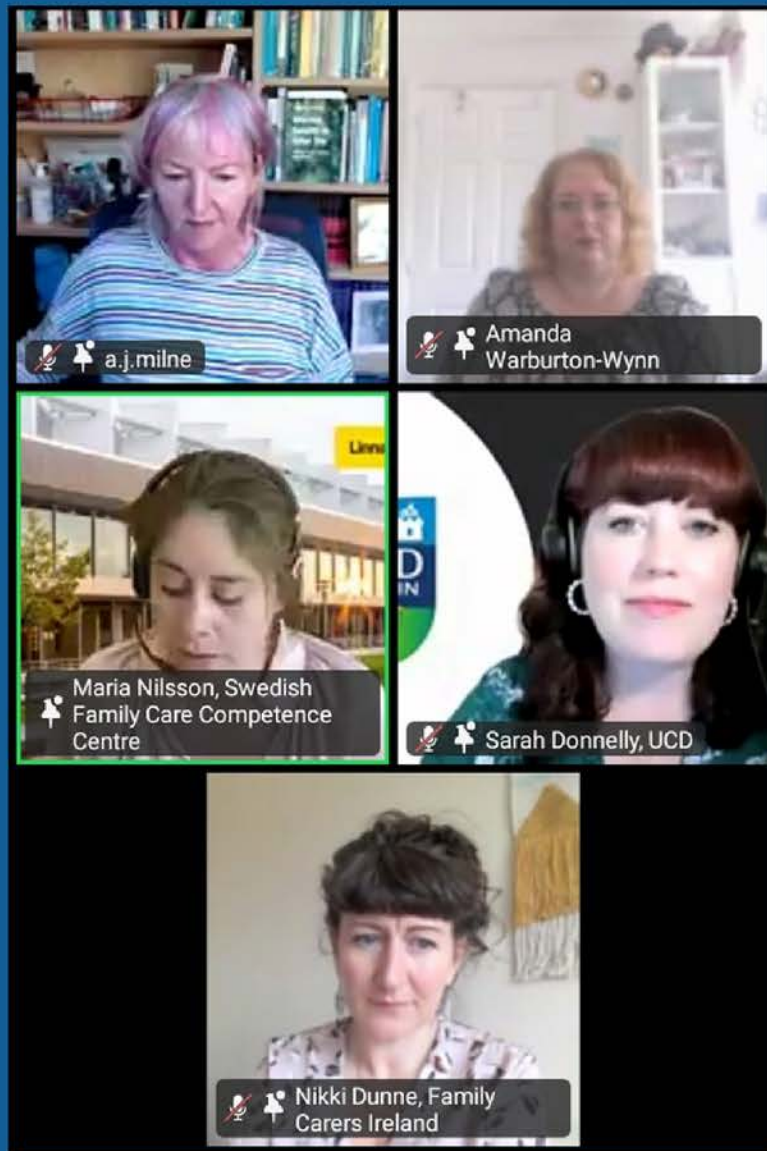
**Dr Sarah Donnelly**, Assistant Professor of Social Work, School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice in partnership with Family Carers Ireland recently launched their 'Understanding Carer Harm' research report along with a number of information booklets for family carers and best practice considerations for professionals- this project was funded by an Irish Research Council New Foundations Award. In order to continue the conversation on this important topic, we hosted two webinars in May and June. The webinars were well attended by practitioners, family carers, service providers, policy makers and researchers with 60-80 in attendance at each.

**Webinar 1** was held on Wednesday 24th May and focused on the topic of 'Understanding Carer Harm.' Sarah presented findings from the research and this was followed by a panel discussion focused on the implications for policy and practice responses in the Irish context with the following panellists:

- Dr Sarah Donnelly, UCD Research Principal Investigator
- Dr Nikki Dunne, FCI Senior Research Manager
- Lourdes Sanchez, Autsim Family Carer and Susan Crampton, Dementia Family Carers.
- Celine O'Connor, Principal Safeguarding and Protection Social Worker and Project Steering Committee Member







**Webinar 2** took place on Thursday 8th June. This webinar explored the concept of carer harm taking more of a global perspective to broaden out the conversation beyond the Irish context. Sarah gave a brief presentation on her recent work that examined carer harm. This was followed by a presentation by Amanda Warburton Wynn ([www.awdaconsultancy.com](http://www.awdaconsultancy.com)) who presented on her recent work on carers and domestic abuse. This was followed by a panel discussion with the following panellists:

- Dr Sarah Donnelly
- Amanda Warburton Wynn
- Professor Alisoun Milne, Emeritus Professor in Social Gerontology and Social Work, University of Kent  
<https://www.kent.ac.uk/social-policy-sociology-social-research/people/1950/milne-alisoun-j>
- Maria Nilsson, Lecturer in Department of Caring Sciences, Linnaeus University, Sweden  
<https://lnu.se/en/staff/aria.y.nilsson/>



# Seminar organised by Dr Joe Mooney

UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work,  
and Social Justice Seminar



## Silent agents affected by legislation:

*from an insufficient knowledge base to  
inclusive solutions*

SILE-research project focuses on diverse groups of “silent agents,” whose lives are heavily influenced by law and whose positions are sensitive to conflicting tensions. In our work package, we focus primarily on children and young people in child welfare, especially in foster care. We explore the following topics: the preparation of laws that relate to children and define childhood; the involvement of children and inclusion of their voice in the preparation of legislation, and the effects of legislative changes on the well-being of children. We aim to develop research-based solutions and policy recommendations that address how to promote the inclusion of vulnerable children in law-making.

## SPEAKERS



TIMO HARRIKARI,  
PROF. SOCIAL WORK  
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI,  
FINLAND.




ESSO JULIN  
POST. DOC.  
RESEARCHER



LINDA MÄÄTTÄ  
RESEARCHER

 Tue June 6th

 10am – 12pm

UCD GEARY  
SEMINAR ROOM,  
BELFIELD



School of  
Social Policy,  
Social Work  
and Social  
Justice

This seminar is organised by Dr Joseph Mooney, UCD  
Asst. Prof. Social Work  
For more information email: [Joseph.Mooney1@ucd.ie](mailto:Joseph.Mooney1@ucd.ie)



# Oireachtas Briefing



An Oireachtas briefing chaired by Senator Hoey and including **Dr Orla Kelly** was held on Wednesday 21st June.

According to Senator Hoey:

- There is global evidence now that four day weeks are good for workers and good for businesses bottom lines.
- 83% of organisations that took part in a recent pilot programme have agreed to keep the four day week in place. Women report a significantly higher improvement in life satisfaction: an increase of 1.56 points and women also indicated that their sleep time increased by over one hour as a result.
- “All workers reported higher work-life and work-family balances including fewer sleep problems, higher job satisfaction and lower turnover intentions.
- The shift to flexible work overnight during Covid opened up the workplace to many women, people with disabilities, people with caring responsibilities. A four day work week can do the same.
- A four day week can go further in addressing the gender inequalities that remain in our workplaces. Right now, 30% of women workers are in part time work, compared with just over 10% of men part-time workers. If we are serious about trying to challenge gender inequalities in the workplace and addressing the gender pay gap, a four day work week must be seriously on the cards.
- The world of work is rapidly changing and all the evidence suggests that we are ready for our next step in securing a better work life balance for people – the introduction of a four day week.”

See write up on the event by Labour.ie at the following link:

<https://labour.ie/news/2023/06/22/labour-backs-call-for-four-day-week-pilot-in-public-service/>;

See write up on the event in Dublin People at this link:

<https://dublinpeople.com/news/jobs/articles/2023/06/22/labour-four-day-working-week/>



# Conference Papers May – August

25th  
May

## 11th Annual NERI Labour Market Conference

23/05/2023, in association with Queen's Management School at Queen's University Belfast. It 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 Stephan Köppe** with D. Muñoz-Higueras, R. Granell Perez, A. Fuenmayor Fernandez.

Paper title: Non-take-up of in-work benefits: *The labour market, indexing and automatic-enrolment*. 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-market-conference-presentations-and-videos>

8th  
June

## Decriminalization at 30: A hybrid conference on the 30th anniversary of the decriminalization of homosexuality in Ireland,

Thursday, 8 June 2023, 9am – 6pm, Trinity Long Room Hub Arts and Humanities Research Institute

**Dr Mary McAuliffe:** Invited speaker. Paper title: *Gender and the LGBTI+ Archive: Researching Queer Femininities*. The conference was live-streamed by GCN – Ireland's national LGBTQ newspapers to a large national and international audience. For more information see:

<https://www.tcd.ie/trinitylongroomhub/whats-on/details/event.php?eventid=166926918>

14th  
June

## Nordic Association of Schools of Social Work/Forsa 2023

conference in Bodo, Norway, June 14-15. For more information see this link: <https://atlanticmice.eventsair.com/forsa-2023/>

**Dr Alan Maddock** is presenting the following 3 papers:

- 1) A randomised trial of Mindfulness-based Social Work and Self-Care with social workers.
- 2) The clinically modified Buddhist psychological model for social work practice and self-care
- 3) The Mindfulness-based social work and self-care programme: A Focus Group Study.

15th  
June

**Colloquium at Federal Institute for Population Research (BiB)**, 15 Jun, Wiesbaden, Germany

**Dr Stephen Köppe.** Paper Title: Large Families in Germany: Prevalence and Disadvantage in the National Educational Panel Study

16th  
June

**Climate Action & International Education Seminar** – 16th June hosted by UCD Global and ICOS

**Dr Orla Kelly:** paper emphasizing the need for real action on climate change including the area of international education.

27th  
June

**ICPP6, International Public Policy Association – IPPA** (with A. Hamoudi), 27-29 Jun, Toronto, Canada

**Dr Stephen Köppe** with A. Hamoudi. Paper: Measuring Multidimensional Accountability in Iraqi Civil Society Organisations. For more information see this link:

<https://www.ippapublicpolicy.org/conference/icpp6-toronto-2023/17>



# Conference Papers May – August

30th  
Aug

**AAATE 2023 Assistive Technology: Shaping a sustainable and inclusive world, August 30–September 1st, 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** will give 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”.

See this link for more information:  
<https://aaate2023.eu/>



# Upcoming events

## Research Workshop

**'Afterlives: uncovering the life stories and contributions of activist women in the wake of revolution and civil war: Ireland, Finland, Germany 1918-1980s'**  
**19th June 2023**

**Dr Mary Mc Auliffe** will be participating in this Afterlives workshop based on research funded by the United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) External Participatory and Collaborative Research Fund (EPaC) Allocation 2022/23 distributed by London South Bank University (LSBU) and led by Professor Cairíona Beaumont (London South Bank University) **Dr Mary McAuliffe (UCD)** and Dr Fionnuala Walsh (UCD).

## Invited Lecture

**Housing Wealth and Political Attitudes: Beyond Left and Right**  
**June 21, 2023**

**Dr Stephan Köppe** has been invited to give the Hanse Fellow hybrid lecture 'Housing Wealth and Political Attitudes: Beyond Left and Right' at the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg (HWK) Institute for Advanced Studies, Germany. The organiser is Wolfgang Stenzel, Hanse Science College. See this link: <https://hanse-ias.de/veranstaltungen/veranstaltung-detail-uebersicht/event/369> or email [Stephan.Koeppe@ucd.ie](mailto:Stephan.Koeppe@ucd.ie) for more information.

## Summer Workshop

**'Euro-Asian project: Capitalisms, Technologies, Society and Health'**  
**10-13 July 2023 (9-11am (CET) / 4-6pm (JST)).**

**Dr Naonori Kodate** will return to the 2nd workshop in Paris and present his ongoing research projects. This is a three-year project with leading scholars based in France, Germany and East Asia. You can find more information here - <https://ctsh.hypotheses.org/>



# UCD Centre for Japanese Studies (JaSt) News



To mark and celebrate its first very successful three years, JaSt will hold its Annual General Meeting on the 19th of June with its extended members – internal and external academic advisors as well as its all members (JaSt and the UCD Japan Group). Also, recently, the Centre Director, **Dr Naonori Kodate** met with the Irish Ambassador in Japan, H.E. Mr Damien Cole.

The UCD Centre for Japanese Studies ran a competition, for the first time, to offer a Tuition Scholarship [from International Christian University (ICU) – one of the top-class private universities in Tokyo/our partner for more than 20 years] and a travel grant [from JaSt] for one UCD student to participate in this year's short-term summer programme in ICU Tokyo from 4 to 28 July. There was a strong field of candidates, and Ms Jacqueline O'Keeffe (2nd year undergraduate student at UCD's Medicine programme) won the scholarship. The JaSt Selection Panel (which had three judges with expertise relevant to the Program) decided to offer the second-place student a scholarship to join our another partner institution, Showa Women's University (SWU)'s online language programme this summer.

Furthermore, 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).

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





**Dr Naonori Kodate** met and discussed future research collaborations with Prof. Toshie Nakajima (Faculty of Humanities, University of Toyama), Mr Akira Kinoshita (President, Toyama Prefecture Artistic and Cultural Association / Deputy Director, Toyama Yakumo / Lafcadio Hearn Association) and Mr Kazuhiro Hayashi (Research Promotion Department / Academic Contents Division, the University Library, University of Toyama). The University of Toyama holds an amazing collection of (English, French and Japanese) books that Patrick Lafcadio Hearn owned. The LH Library was founded at the university in 1924.

[http://www.lib.u-toyama.ac.jp/chuo/hearn/hearn\\_index.html#hearn\\_en](http://www.lib.u-toyama.ac.jp/chuo/hearn/hearn_index.html#hearn_en)

Prof. Nakajima is coming to UCD this September and JaSt will host a seminar at the Museum of Literature Ireland (MOLI) on 25 September, together with Ambassador of Japan in Ireland, H.E. Mr Norio Maruyama, Prof. Mary Gallagher (UCD School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics), Mr Paul Murray (Hearn researcher / former Irish Ambassador to the Republic of Korea and the DPRK (North Korea)), Ms Mary Ruane (University College Cork) and **Adjunct Prof. John Neary** (SPWJ).



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

Three members of JaSt (Yurie Maeda, Nobuko Ijichi and **Naonori Kodate**) will give 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** will speak 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".



# Media Focus



**THE  
IRISH  
TIMES**

The following article by Barry Roche based on **Dr Mary McAuliffe's** research on gendered and sexual violence in the Irish Civil War was published in the Irish Times (June 11th, 2023)

*Gender-based violence was "brutal, persistent and continuous" during the War of Independence and the Civil War and was used particularly by the National Army against anti-Treaty women, an authority on gender studies said.*

*Historian Dr Mary McAuliffe, Director of UCD Gender Studies, said the extreme treatment of militant anti-Treaty women during the Civil War was a continuation of the physical and sexual mistreatment of women by all armed male groups during the War of Independence.*

*In a paper entitled Unmitigated Blackguardism – The Treatment of Militant Anti-Treaty Women in Kerry by the National Army during The Irish Civil War, presented at a recent conference in Co Kerry, Dr McAuliffe looked at the physical and sexual violence perpetrated on women by Free State soldiers.*

*Among the most notorious was "the Kenmare Incident" when, early on the morning of June 2nd, 1923, a party of armed men in trench coats went to the home of Dr Randall MacCarthy at Erinville in Kenmare and dragged his two daughters, Flossie and Jessie from their bedrooms into the garden. "Both women were dragged out to the garden where they were flogged with a Sam Browne belt and had 'thick motor grease' or 'dirty motor oil' rubbed into their hair and faces – the effect of the motor grease subsequently caused their hair to fall out in clumps," said Dr McAuliffe.*

*"The three men identified in the attack were Major General Paddy O'Daly, Captain Edward Flood and Captain Jim Clarke," she said.*

*The Kenmare incident, while "an outlier" because it targeted a pro-Treaty family, was notable in that it exemplified the misogyny of O'Daly and most of his men in their treatment of women in Kerry during the Civil War, said Dr McAuliffe.*

*"I would argue that violence against women in Kerry, from the arrival of the National Army and especially the Dublin Guard, was brutal, persistent and continuous, being a specific tactic of the army to contain the threats posed by militant anti-Treaty women," she said.*

*"Therefore, violence against militant women in the Civil War has also to be understood as part of a systemic and fundamental process of gendered violence in war and as being on a continuum of gendered and sexual violence which marred both the War of Independence and the truce period."*

*Dr McAuliffe said the majority of Cumann na mBan women in Kerry were anti-Treaty and as most of the urban centres in Kerry fell to the Free State, many of these women remained in their homes watching the barracks, providing intelligence and carrying dispatches for the anti-Treaty side.*

*The Free State troops quickly recognised the importance of women to the anti-Treaty cause and treated members of Cumann na mBan callously. One member, Kathleen Walsh – who had written the note that lured a party of National Army troops to an anti-Treaty IRA landmine at Knocknagoshel in which five soldiers were killed and a sixth badly injured – was later arrested for questioning about the booby trap device.*

*Although the Free State interrogators were unable to connect Walsh to writing the note, she and her sisters "had their hair shaved under torture" – forcible hair cropping having been a significant type of gendered violence during the War of Independence, said Dr McAuliffe.*

*The misogyny of the Civil War in Kerry, she said, is well summed up in a letter from O'Daly to GHQ in Dublin in May 1923 when he wrote, "a general round-up of these women is essential".*

*"Consideration for their sex should not be entertained for a moment," he said, adding they are looking for trouble and "should get it".*

The article can be downloaded at the following link  
<https://www.irishtimes.com/history/century/2023/06/11/civil-war-violence-against-women-brutal-persistent-and-continuous/>



# Media Focus



## **New History Ireland Hedge School PODCAST Recorded @ Phizzfest '23 12 May '23, Glasnevin Cemetery Museum Memorialising the Civil War**

How was the Civil War memorialized—by both sides? Who won the ‘memory war’? To address these and other questions listen to History Ireland editor, Tommy Graham, in discussion with Conor Dodd, John Dorney, Mary McAuliffe and Caitlin White.

### PANELLISTS

Conor Dodd is Resident Historian at Glasnevin Cemetery and author of *Casualties of Conflict: fatalities of the War of Independence and Civil War in Glasnevin Cemetery* (Mercier Press, 2023).

John Dorney is editor of ‘The Irish Story’ website and author of *The Civil War in Dublin: The Fight for the Irish Capital, 1922–1924* (Irish Academic Press, 2017).

**Mary McAuliffe** is Assistant Professor and Director of Gender Studies, UCD, and author of *Margaret Skinnider* (UCD Press, 2020).

Caitlin White is a postdoctoral research fellow in the School of Education, Trinity College, Dublin.

Listen to the podcast at this link <https://www.decadeofcentenaries.com/memorialising-the-civil-war/>.

This Hedge School is supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Decade of Centenaries 2012–2023 initiative and by Phibsborough Community Arts Festival (Phizzfest).



# Media Focus



**Dr Mary McAuliffe** acted as consultant and contributor to a significant three-part series for TG4 - Tráma Teaghlaigh which looked at the aftermath of the Irish Civil War through the lens of intergenerational trauma.

*Powerful storytelling forms the backbone of this documentary series Tráma Teaghlaigh looking at the aftermath of the Irish Civil War through the lens of intergenerational trauma. Using previously unseen footage, we look at unfolding family histories, uncovering new stories that have never been told on screen before. The series explores how the war impacted on both the history of the Irish state and subsequent generations of families involved in the conflict. Looking at their paths for reconciliation and how they moved beyond their trauma to create an enduring legacy in Ireland and beyond.*

- S1 E1 - Díoltas

*Explores the atrocities of Ballyseedy and the assassination of Kevin O'Higgins. These events had a profound impact on the families of the victims and left a lasting legacy of bitterness on the Irish political landscape.*

- S1 E2 - Deighilt

*Episode 2 tells the story of Ryan family of Tomcoole in Wexford. The Ryans were one of the most significant families of the Irish Revolutionary period.*

- S1 E3 - Díomá

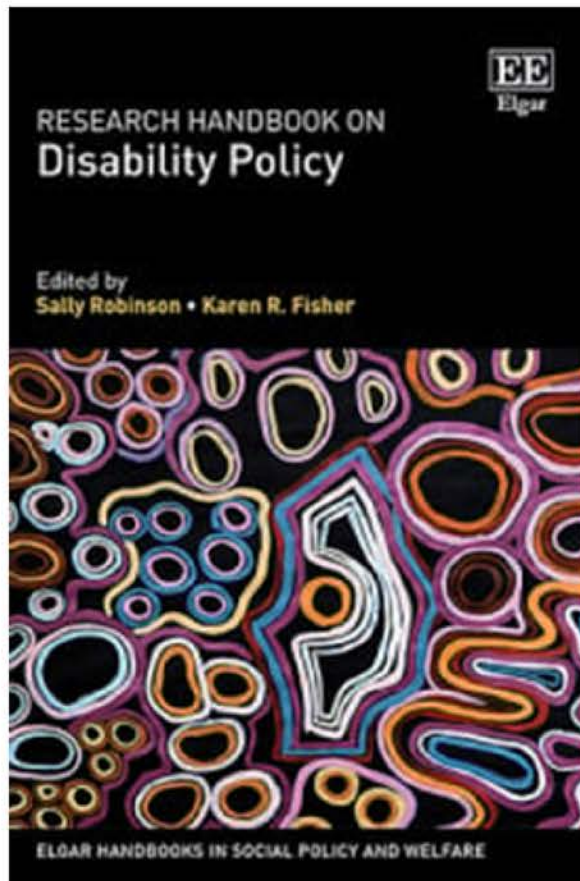
*Episode 3 Disillusionment focuses on the experiences of the Briscoe, Dalton, Mallin and MacSwiney Families. For many of those who took part in the Revolutionary period, the Ireland they hoped and fought for never materialised.*

For more information go to the following link:

<https://www.tg4.ie/en/player/categories/top-documentaries/?series=Tr%C3%A1ma%20Teaghlaigh&genre=Faisneis>



# New Publications



## Book chapter

**Kodate N**, Mannan H, **Donnelly S**, Maeda Y, O'Shea D (2023) Can care robots support ageing in place in Ireland? Key stakeholders' perspectives on enabling assistive technology and users' quality of life. In S. Robinson & K. Fisher (Eds.) *Research Handbook on Disability Policy*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, 615–631.

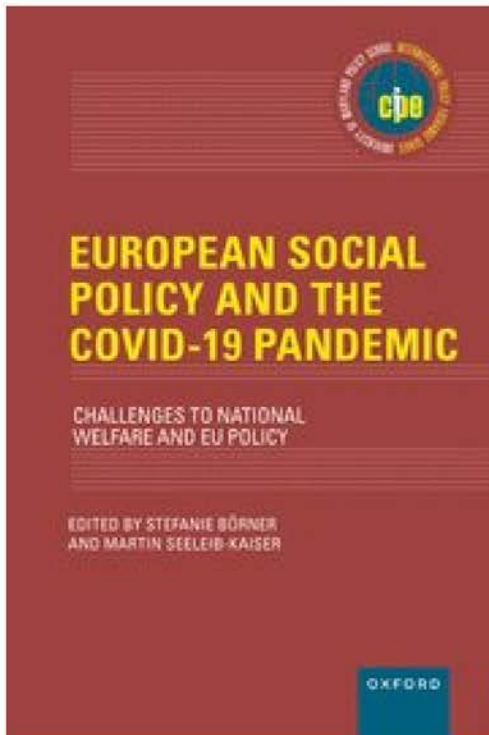
Go to this link for information: <https://www.e-elgar.com/shop/gbp/research-handbook-on-disability-policy-9781800373648.html>

More than half of the older population of the European Union–28 (people aged 65 and over) reported difficulties with at least one personal care or household activity. Furthermore, two-fifths of the older population with a difficulty in carrying out personal care activities reported a lack of assistance with those activities. Within this context, robotics, with its applications intended to improve and/or maintain people's functioning, needs to be better understood, as it has great potential for realising human rights, given the user-centred approach it employs. Care robots are becoming a potential part of the solution to the ageing population, and are deployed in care settings. Their aim is to enable active ageing as well as ageing in place with support to older persons, their families, and care professionals in providing physical, cognitive, or emotional support.

This chapter focuses on care robots as a form of assistive technology, referring to robotic assistance used in older people's care in Ireland. It is presented within the context of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and implications for disability policy and independent living. The study has a qualitative descriptive design with an inductive approach using semi-structured interviews with experts. The study explored the macro-level perspectives embedded within an ecological systems approach based on a range of key stakeholders towards introducing care robots. The analysis involves a semantic approach, whereby as analysts the authors will not be looking for anything beyond what the informants have said. The informants included technology developers, technology researchers, policymakers, advocacy group representatives, care providers, and care professionals. Given that older people are disproportionately represented in populations of persons with disabilities, an in-depth understanding of facilitators and barriers to attaining the full potential of robotics would go a long way in enabling healthy ageing and ageing in place. The Handbook examines how policy affects the human rights of people with disabilities. It presents diverse empirical experiences of disability policy and identifies the changes that are necessary to achieve social justice.



## Book chapter



**Matthew Donoghue**, "The UK in Search of a New "Imagined Community"? Social Cohesion, Boundary Building, and Social Policy in Crisis Periods", published in *European Social Policy and the COVID-19 Pandemic Challenges to National Welfare and EU Policy* Edited by Stefanie Börner and Martin Seeleib-Kaiser. Oxford University Press.

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For more information please email  
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## Journal Article

Turner, C., & **Swaine, A.** (2023). Aligning Participation And Protection In The Women, Peace And Security Agenda. *International & Comparative Law Quarterly*, 72(2), 477–508.  
doi:10.1017/S002058932300009X

This article presents the first feminist doctrinal textual analysis of cross-pillar synergies within thematic resolutions of the United Nations Security Council. Specifically, it examines the pillars relating to 'participation' and 'protection' under the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. In attempts to balance agency with victimhood, normative advancement of both pillars has until recently evolved along parallel tracks, with little acknowledgment of how protection relates to women's participation. This article identifies synergies, gaps and productive tensions as the WPS agenda begins to engage with the inter-relationship between the pillars. It outlines critical implications and considerations for any future moves towards cross-pillar congruence.

### Keywords

public international law;  
gender; participation; protection;  
thematic resolutions; United Nations;  
Security Council; Women; Peace and  
Security agenda.

See this link:

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-and-comparative-law-quarterly/article/aligning-participation-and-protection-in-the-women-peace-and-security-agenda/D2B5C284ED3B3459BC47691ECDCA0D6C>





## Journal Article

Michał Polakowski & **Dorota Szelewa**  
(2023) Labour market hierarchies within  
and beyond the EU: Poland's politics of  
migration, *Journal of Ethnic and  
Migration Studies*, DOI:  
[10.1080/1369183X.2023.2207331](https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2023.2207331)

# jems

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### ABSTRACT

This article shows how the hierarchised nature of the EU mobility regime is underpinned by member states' policies in a major country of emigration such as Poland. Drawing on historical institutionalism, this paper documents the path-dependent approach regarding policies that have contributed to the outflow of Polish workers and simultaneously to meet the demand for labour at home. While concerns about the consequences of emigration were raised already in 2005, Polish governments have kept defending the EU policies that underpin this outflow and its hierarchised nature. Rather than to improve the rights of Polish mobile workers, Polish governments have defended companies' rights to use 'wage competitiveness' as a method of increasing mobility. In response to the increasing demand in the domestic labour market, governments first tried return campaigns, but they have since turned to importing labour, especially from Ukraine. In this way, the policies of the Polish state have helped reaffirm the hierarchised nature of the EU mobility regime by exporting workers to be subjected to poor conditions abroad while importing Ukrainian workers to experience poor conditions at home. Thus, Poland occupies an unusual place in the 'migration chain', being, simultaneously, a source of as well as a destination for migrant workers.

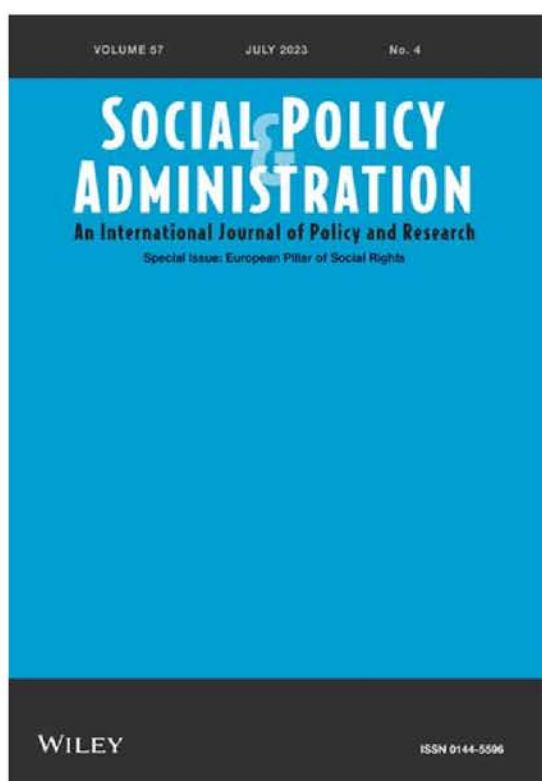


## Journal Article

De la Porte, C., Im, Z. J., Pircher, B., & **Szelewa, D.** (2023). The EU's work-life balance directive: Institutional change of father-specific leave across member states. *Social Policy & Administration*, 1– 15.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/spol.12920>

### ABSTRACT

This paper examines institutional change in father-specific leave – a centre-piece of the EU's work-life balance directive (WLBD) – from the perspective of gradual institutional change. The WLBD, a highly contentious directive, represents a litmus test for the possible impact of the European pillar of social rights (EPSR), on welfare state institutions, which are responsible for the organisation, financing and delivery of social rights in member states. The analysis comprises in-depth case studies in Denmark, Germany, France and Poland, with different combinations of family and parental leave policies prior to the WLBD. The findings reveal that the EU's directive is leading to convergence in paternity leave, but to divergence in parental leave. Our study is important because it shows that even if EU directives in social policy in principle can lead to upwards social convergence across the EU, when they are relatively weak in terms of precise constraint, for instance, for the level of remuneration for leave, this leads to differentiated integration. This could undermine the very purpose of the EPSR, which seeks to improve social rights for all citizens across the EU. Similar dynamics are likely to be present in other areas at the welfare state-labor market nexus, such as minimum wages or platform work, where the EU is also developing regulation under the auspices of the EPSR.







Comment	Articles	Series
<a href="#">Diet and physical activity in adolescents: are digital devices helping health behaviours?</a>	<a href="#">Maternal energy status, fetal stimulation, and neurodevelopmental surgery in paediatric patients with drug-resistant epilepsy</a>	<a href="#">Economic health insurance in China: lessons for other LMICs</a>

## Journal Comment

Jorge Cuartas, Amiya Bhatia, Daniel Carter, Lucie Cluver, Carolina Coll, Catherine E Draper, Elizabeth Donger, Frances Gardner, Hernando Grueso, Bess Herbert, Jamie Lachman, Najat Maalla M'jid, Frederique Seidel, **Orla Kelly** (June 2023) 'The climate crisis and violence against children' Lancet Child Adolescent Health 2023 Published Online June 12, 2023 [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(23\)00137-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(23)00137-2)

## Book chapter

Givens, J. Kelly, O. & A. Jorgenson (2023);18. Inequality and Emissions and Human Wellbeing Handbook on Inequality and the Environment: Long, M. A., Lynch, M. J., & Stretesky, P. B. (Eds.). (2023).

About this book

### **Handbook on Inequality and the Environment** Elgar Handbooks on Inequality

Edited by Michael A. Long, Professor, Department of Sociology, Oklahoma State University, Michael J. Lynch, Professor, Department of Criminology, College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, University of South Florida, US and Paul B. Stretesky, Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Northumbria University, UK

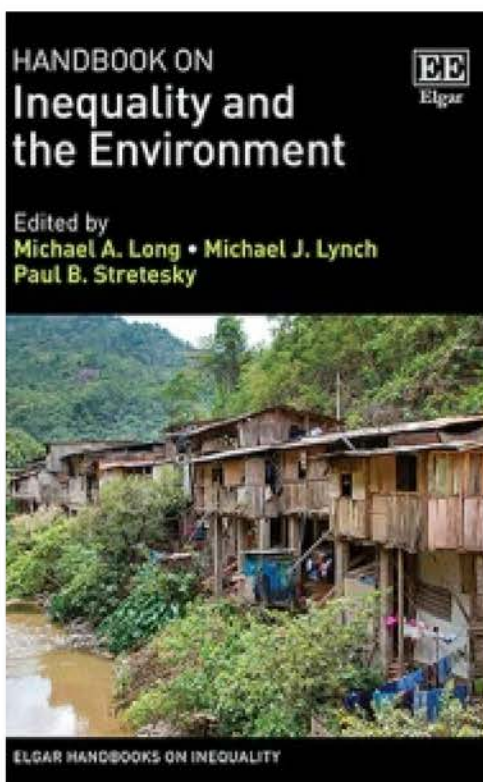
Publication Date: 2023 ISBN: 978 1 80088 112 9

Extent: 666 pp

Description:

This innovative Handbook provides a comprehensive treatment of the complex relationship between inequality and the environment and illustrates the myriad ways in which they intersect. Featuring over 30 contributions from leading experts in the field, it explores the ways in which inequality impacts three of the most pressing contemporary environmental issues: climate change, natural resource extraction, and food insecurity.

**More information:** <https://www.elgar.com/shop/gbp/handbook-on-inequality-and-the-environment-9781800881129.html>





# Featured Researcher

**Dr Muireann Ní Raghallaigh, Assoc. Prof. in Social Work**



## **How did you come to select forced migration as your chosen area of research?**

My research is situated at the intersection of migration studies and social work, with a focus on forcibly displaced populations, particularly children and families. I'm a social worker by training and when I qualified I worked for the HSE's Team for Separated Children Seeking Asylum, supporting refugee children and young people who arrived in Ireland without their parents, or 'unaccompanied minors' as they are often referred to. This experience was pivotal for my research career: I developed a deep curiosity about the experiences of these young people – about their lives before coming to Ireland, about their journeys here, about their experiences in the care system in Ireland, about their relationships with one another, with their families and with social workers, and about their future trajectories. It also alerted me to the then very inequitable care system, whereby Irish born children and young people in the care of the state received much better care and protection than unaccompanied minors. My PhD research centred on the experiences of these young people. From there I have broadened by research interests to encompass the lived experiences of refugees and international protection applicants more generally, including their experiences of the systems with which they interact, most notably the foster care and direct provision systems.

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

I'm influenced by different theoretical perspectives and have drawn on various theories in my research and writing, including theories of coping, resilience, acculturation and recognition. Methodologically, my research is qualitative, primarily utilising interviews and focus groups, and adopting a continuous reflexive approach that pays attention to the complex ethical issues involved in refugee-related research and the unequal power dynamics that are at play.

Increasingly I'm interested in more participatory methodologies and in particular how scholars of non-refugee background (like myself) and scholars who are of refugee background might work more collaboratively together in advancing scholarship in the forced migration field.

## **Can you describe what the process of writing a recent article was like?**

On foot of research funded by the Children's Rights Alliance on the needs of refugee children arriving in Ireland through the Irish Refugee Protection Programme, I led on an article published in the *Journal of Refugee Studies* entitled [Problematizing Parenting: The Regulation of Parenting Practices within Reception Centres for Syrian Refugees in Ireland](#). The research itself, conducted with Dr. Karen Smith and Dr. Jennifer Scholtz, involved interviews and focus groups with resettled refugee parents, children and young people, as well as stakeholders involved in resettlement processes. For this article, I focused primarily on the data from a small subset of the participants: those who worked in or provided services to reception centres for refugees. This involved in-depth thematic analysis of these participants' interviews and reading of literature both in relation to parenting in institutional accommodation centres for refugees and in relation to other institutional-type environments in which families reside.





# Featured Researcher

## Dr Muireann Ní Raghallaigh, Assoc. Prof. in Social Work

### What are the key messages from your this publication?

This publication highlights how staff in reception centres, who lack appropriate qualifications for working with refugees, problematise and regulate the parenting practices of refugees, through various approaches, including ‘informing and warning’; “watching and regulating”; “taking on parental roles”, and “referring”.

The research points to the undue burden placed on such staff and the negative consequences of this for refugee families. It suggests the need to ensure appropriately trained and supported staff are working in such centres but also highlights the structural issues at play and the inherent unsuitability of institutional-type settings for refugee families.

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

Through this field of research I meet refugees from all over the globe. Listening to and considering their perspectives and experiences means that I am continuously learning and developing as a researcher, as a social work educator and as a person. This research also challenges me to question my approaches to research and to research ethics. I’m particularly interested at the moment in how forced migration impacts family relationships and in the policy and practice responses that are required. The complexity of these relationships, particularly when individual family members have been separated from one another for many years, warrants further study and attention, both in order to enhance our theoretical and conceptual understanding and in order to ensure appropriate policies and practices are in place to support refugees as they resettle.

### What is next for you?

I’m hoping to pursue a few different strands of research over the coming years. Firstly, I would like to develop an international study focusing on the impact of displacement on the familial relationships of unaccompanied minors, preferably working alongside scholars of refugee background. Secondly, I would like to explore further the role, internationally, of social work and social care professionals in working with refugee children and families in the context of rising tensions in many countries in relation to refugees and international protection applicants.

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