

Law, Revolution and Sovereignty

Reflections on the Legal Legacy of the 1916 Rising & Declaration of Independence

April 9-10, 2016

Aula Maxima, Main Quadrangle, NUI Galway

As part of NUI Galway's commemorative programme for the centenary of the 1916 Rising, the School of Law will host a conference to consider the legacy of Irish independence and sovereignty in the domain of law and of legal thought. It will address the distinctive character of the legal order that developed post-independence, the impact of revolutionary ideals in the Irish legal and constitutional system, and the constitutional experimentation and evolution of independent Ireland.

Saturday April 9

Introduction & welcome (11.00)

Dr. Maurice Manning, Chancellor of the National University of Ireland

Dr. Mary Harris, History, NUIG

Mr. Justice John MacMenamin, Supreme Court of Ireland

Panel 1: The legal context of 1916 (11.30-12.30)

John O'Dowd, University College Dublin - 'Legal Justifiability and Justifications of the 1916 Rising'

Thomas Mohr, University College Dublin - 'An Emerging Alternative - Ireland and the Evolution of Imperial Law in the 19th and 20th Centuries'

Panel 2: Revolution and independence (13.30-15.15)

Niamh Purseil - '1919 as a root of title'

Oran Doyle, Trinity College Dublin - 'Revolution, continuity and legal validity'

15.15 – Tea & Coffee

Panel 3: Consolidation & conservatism? The Irish Free State (15.30-17.45)

Donal Coffey, Max Planck Institute - 'Stepping Stone: The 1922 Constitution'

Laura Cahillane, University of Limerick - 'Democratic experimentation in the 1922 Constitution'

Gerard Quinn, NUI Galway - 'An Irish 'Tactic of Legality' - The Legal Deconstruction of the Irish Free State'

Sunday April 10

Panel 4: Popular sovereignty and nationalism in the 1937 Constitution (11.00-13.00)

Colm O'Conneide, University College London - 'Popular sovereignty post-1916'

Eoin Daly, NUI Galway - 'Popular sovereignty and the growth of judicial review post-1937'

Mairead Enright, Kent Law School - 'Gender and judging in the independent state'

Donncha O'Connell, NUI Galway - 'Ireland's engagement with the global cosmopolitan legal order'

Panel 5: Punishment, crime and social policy in independent Ireland (13.00-15.00)

Conor Hanly, NUI Galway 'Trial by jury'

Tom O'Malley, NUI Galway - 'Managing the Inheritance: Penal Policy in an Independent Ireland'

Dermot Walsh, Kent Law School - 'Policing in independent Ireland'

Ursula Kilkelly, University College Cork - 'Children's rights in independent Ireland'

15.15 – Tea & Coffee

Concluding remarks (16.15-16.30)

Emily Logan, Chief Commissioner, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission