

13th Annual NERI Labour Market Conference - Programme

Thursday 29 May 2025
Ulster University

09.45 -10.00 Registration, Networking opportunity, Tea/Coffee & Scones, Location: 3rd Floor, Atrium

10.00 -10.10 Conference Welcome.

Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115.

- Welcome: **Professor Cathy Gormley-Heenan**, University Provost, Ulster University
- Welcome: **Mr. Paul Mac Flynn**, Co-director, NERI

10.10 -10.45 Morning Plenary.

Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115 Chair: **Mr. Paul Mac Flynn**, Co-director, NERI

Morning Plenary

Title: A New Economic Model

Presentation by: **Dr. Tom McDonnell**, NERI & **Mr. Michael Taft**, SIPTU

10.50-12.05 1st set of parallel sessions (3 rooms)

Collective Bargaining [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115]

Session 1A, Chair: **Dr. Tom McDonnell**, NERI

Is Ireland in breach of the Adequate Minimum Wage Directive?

Mr. Ger Gibbons, Irish Congress of Trade Unions

Begging or Bargaining? The changing landscape of Collective Bargaining

Mr. Eoin Coates, Maynooth University & Trade Union Official & **Dr. John Carty**, University of Galway & Trade Union Official

Labour Market Trends [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206]

Session 1B, Chair: **Mr. Paul Goldrick-Kelly**, NERI

Continuity & change: Examining recent trends in the Irish labour market

Mr. Diarmuid Reidy, Department of Finance

A Systems Dynamics Approach to Identifying Intervention Levers & Enabling Analysis of Long-Term Unemployment in Ireland

Ms. Jane Morgan, Gendelity

Earnings of New Entrants to Employment

Dr. Eimear Heffernan, CSO

Northern Ireland Demographic Trends 2050

Dr. Gareth Hetherington, Ulster University

Job quality [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206A]

Session 1C, Chair: Professor Kristel Miller, Ulster University

Job search without job quality

Ms. Aisling Tuite & Dr. Ray Griffin, SETU Waterford

Social Policy Kills: the absence of Lived Experience in Irish labour market policy

Dr. Ray Griffin, SETU Waterford (joint paper with Ms. Antoinette Jordan, SETU Waterford)

Good Jobs in NI

Mr. Glenn Parker, Department for the Economy NI

What does Ireland do? A First Look at NERI's new Dashboard

Dr. Lisa Wilson and Mr. Chris Smart, NERI

12.10-13.05 2nd set of parallel sessions (3 rooms)

Skills [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115]

Session 2A, Chair: Mr Chris Smart, NERI

Empirical Investigation of Skill Gaps in Europe

Ms. Elisa Staffa, ESRI (joint paper with Mr. Seamus McGuinness, ESRI & Trinity College Dublin)

The Northern Ireland Skills Barometer: 2023-2033

Mr. Mark Magill, Ulster University

Brain Drain & Student Mobility in Northern Ireland

Dr. Áine Doran, Ulster University (joint paper with Dr. Anne Devlin, ESRI & Ms. Maureen O'Reilly, Independent Economist)

Activity, Hours & Labour Supply [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206]

Session 2B, Chair: Dr. Lisa Wilson, NERI

Economic Inactivity on the Island of Ireland

Dr. Anne Devlin, ESRI

Labour Supply & Working Hours: How Female Participation, Migration, & Tourism Shape European Work Patterns

Mr. Alban Krasniqi, TU Dublin (joint paper with Dr. Rory O'Farrell, TU Dublin)

Declining average hours worked in Ireland

Mr. Enda Keenan, Central Bank of Ireland

Pensions [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206A]

Session 2C, Chair: Mr. Paul Goldrick-Kelly, NERI

The Impact of 'Grey Power' on Public Pension Generosity in OECD Countries: Evidence from the PMG-ARDL Model

Mr. Tiago McCarthy, UCC

The Flawed Old Age Dependence Ratio should be Replaced by a Dashboard of Indicators Based on Employment Dependency Ratio to Better Inform Policymakers Concerned About Population Ageing & Future Costs

Dr. Nat O'Connor, UCD

13.15 - 14.00 Lunch break – Location: 3rd Floor, Atrium

14.05 - 14.50 – Afternoon Panel Discussion

Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115. Chair: Dr. Gareth Hetherington, Ulster University

Afternoon Panel Discussion

Title: From Theory to Practice: Skills Policy on the Island of Ireland

Panel: Ms. Kathleen O'Hare, Chair of the Northern Ireland Skills Council & Dr. Kevin Marshall, Microsoft & Chair of the Skills Council

14.55-15.30 – 3rd set of parallel sessions (3 rooms)

Children, young people & the labour market [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115]

Session 3A, Chair: Mr. Chris Smart, NERI

Child poverty on the island of Ireland

Professor Helen Russell & Ms. Eva Slevin, ESRI (joint paper with Ms. Anousheh Alamir & Mr. Bertrand Maître, ESRI)

The Labour Market Impact of COVID-19 on Young People with Disabilities: The Case of Ireland

Ms Delia Agostinelli, ESRI (joint paper with Mr. Bertrand Maître & Dr. Elish Kelly, ESRI)

Enterprise Trends [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206]

Session 3B, Chair: Ms. Ana Desmond, Ulster University

Company restructuring approaches in the context of twin transitions

Ms. Chiara Litardi, Eurofound & UCD (joint paper with Ms. Garance Hingre, Eurofound)

Trends & spread of Very Small Enterprises in ROI

Mr. Niall O'Donnellan, Independent Strategy Advisor

Public Policy [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206A]

Session 3C, Chair: Mr. Paul Goldrick-Kelly, NERI

The Road to Public Childcare

Mr. Donal Swan, National Women's Council of Ireland

Overtime Expenditure in An Garda Síochána – Analysis on Expenditure Trends & Drivers.

Ms. Emily O'Donovan, IGEEES, Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery & Reform

15.30-15.45 Tea & Coffee, Biscuits – Location: 3rd Floor, Atrium

15.45-17.00 – 4th set of parallel sessions.

AI, Platforms & Labour Regulation [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-115]

Session 4A, Chair: Professor Stephen Farry, Ulster University

Comparative study between the Irish and London taxi industries, & explores how taxi & informal platform drivers, experience algorithmic management.

Mr. Eamonn Sullivan, Maynooth University

Platform Working - A Social Justice Issue

Ms. Susanne Rogers, Social Justice Ireland

Social partners together towards a better & effective regulation of Artificial Intelligence for a just transition to the work of the future – TransFormWork 2

Mr. Kevin P. O'Kelly, TransFormWork 2 Project Coordinator

The Many About-Faces of Labour Law Reform in Ireland

Dr. Alan Eustace, Trinity College Dublin (joint paper with Professor Michael B. Doherty, Maynooth University)

Gender & the Labour Market [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206]

Session 4B, Chair: **Ms. Clare Moore, Irish Congress of Trade Unions NI**

The Evolution of Child Penalties in the UK Labour Market

Mr. Alfie Bingham, Queen's University Belfast (joint paper with Dr. Heather Dickey & Dr. Corina Miller, Queen's University Belfast)

Advancing Gender Pay Equality: Further Experiences in Pay Transparency & Work of Equal Value

Ms. Marianna Baggio, Eurofound

Intergenerational Transmission [Location: 3rd Floor, Room BC-03-206A]

Session 4C, Chair: **Mr. Paul Mac Flynn, NERI**

Maternal social origin & the Intergenerational Transmission of Advantage

Dr. Michael Vallely, ESRI (joint paper with Seraphim Dempsey, ESRI)

From Pensions to Pupils? Schooling, Resource Constraints & Old Age Pensions in Ireland 1901-1911

Mr. Tiarnán Heaney, Queen's University Belfast

Taxation, Intergenerational Fairness & Inheritance Taxes

Dr. Tom McDonnell, NERI (joint paper with Dr. Micheál Collins, UCD)

17.00 Close of conference.
