



# Annual Report 2023

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# CHAIRPERSON STATEMENT



2023 was a year of consolidation, growth, and achievement for our organisation. As Interim Chairperson of the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA), I am proud to reflect on a year in which we not only embraced new opportunities but also deepened our reputation as a leading voice on policy issues both in Ireland and internationally. We have continued to act as an independent forum for debate and discussion, providing critical context, policy insight, and analysis on European and international trends. In doing so, we ensure our work informs the decisions of current and future leaders in Ireland and beyond.

One of the highlights of the year was welcoming Alex White SC as our new Director General in January. Alex's longstanding relationship with the IIEA positioned him perfectly to lead the organisation forward. Under his guidance, we have continued to grow our reputation, and his leadership has played an instrumental role in continuing the momentum we have built over recent years.

2023 presented many challenges, from ongoing geopolitical tensions to economic and environmental matters. In response, the IIEA produced timely research, offering policy solutions to these pressing issues as well as hosting a record number of speaking events in both online and hybrid formats. These achievements reflect the growing importance of the IIEA as a forum for independent debate and discussion.

Our financial performance also reflects our continued success. An increase in income in 2023 underscores the value our members, supporters, and partners place in our work. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support of our members, the operating grant from the EU Commission, and the significant contributions from our principal project partner, the Department of Foreign Affairs, along with our many other project partners. This support allows

us to maintain our independence and the high standards of insight and analysis for which we are known.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission to inform and influence public debate and will continue to act as a forum for rigorous and balanced discussion. The challenges we face are considerable, but with the strength of our team and the support of our stakeholders, I have every confidence that the IIEA will continue to play a crucial role in meeting them.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Alex and to the entire IIEA team for their hard work, dedication, and professionalism throughout the year. Their commitment to our mission is what drives our success. I also want to thank our Board members for their invaluable contributions as well as IIEA members, supporters, and partners. Together, we have strengthened the IIEA's position as a leading think tank on international and European affairs.

In conclusion, 2023 has been a year of steady progress. We have consolidated our position, embraced new opportunities, and enhanced our reputation as a go-to resource on key policy issues. The IIEA's work has never been more important, and I am immensely proud of all we have achieved together.

**Terence O'Rourke**

# DIRECTOR GENERAL STATEMENT



I was honoured in January 2023 to begin my tenure as Director-General of the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA). It is a privilege to follow my predecessors in leading the Institute. The IIEA has a well-earned reputation over decades for independent, insightful and timely analysis of trends and issues which inform key decision-makers.

2023 saw the world emerge fully from the COVID-19 pandemic. Having pivoted towards the use of online technology in the previous year, we were well positioned to offer many events in hybrid format once the restrictions were over. This has allowed the IIEA to continue to bring speakers, contributors and publications to a wider audience. In 2023, we saw over 18,000 people register for 174 events at the IIEA alongside increased engagement and brand recognition, particularly across our digital channels. In a world of growing distractions and disconnection, this highlights the continued importance of the IIEA and its programme of events and publications.

As always, significant global events helped direct the focus of our research programme in 2023, bringing in-depth analysis on key public policy areas such as the green and digital transitions, geopolitics, security, and economics. In addressing evolving issues such as the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, Ireland's place in the EU and its relations with its neighbours, the IIEA was an instigator of insightful and timely discussion. Our Young Professionals Network (YPN) series was also very successful in bringing a different focus to current affairs, attuned to its specific audience.

The IIEA's role, however, is also to look beyond the current and to reflect the dynamic and complex landscape of European and international affairs. The 2023 research programme therefore also focused on justice, migration, disability policy, health policy and the EU and Ireland's engagement with developing countries.

Similarly, the quality and breadth of research papers produced in 2023 highlights the level of output from the Research team, our working groups and expert contributors. From EU Affairs to Economics to Climate, 67 papers, briefings and blogs were published during the year, with many becoming discussion points in the media and public discourse. A particularly proud moment for us was when our research team briefed the Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence, demonstrating the impact our work has in the public policy space. Such achievements are a testament to the calibre of our team and the respect the IIEA has earned as a trusted source of expertise.

While our research programme may be considered the engine of the IIEA, our membership is certainly its backbone, and we saw incredible support from the IIEA community again in 2023. Alongside our committed members, the sponsored programmes, Global Europe with the Department of Foreign Affairs, and Development Matters supported by Irish Aid, continued to have significant impact with thought leaders.

Partnerships with the likes of the EPA and the IDA were also highly successful in 2023. Working with corporate partners such as the ESB and Amazon we gave a platform to important trends and issues in particular industry sectors. Having strong working relationships with our members and partners has always been a unique aspect of the IIEA and I would like to thank them for their continued support and commitment.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to IIEA Board members for their guidance and governance during the year and to the wider IIEA team, for all their hard work and dedication to the organisation in 2023.

Looking ahead, we are focused on ensuring sustainability and long-term impact for the IIEA. Our goal is to continue to provide a high-quality, accessible programme of events and publications that helps drive meaningful discussion on public policy, while also staying responsive to the evolving challenges facing Ireland and the wider world.

I am confident that with your continued support, we will not only meet the challenges ahead but continue to thrive.

**Alex White SC**

# DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH STATEMENT



Through a coordinated programme of research output and events, IIEA members gained access to cutting-edge analysis, some of the world's foremost thought leaders, and expert debate and discussion throughout 2023. At the heart of the IIEA's research programme is the drive to promote understanding of trends and public policy developments of importance from across the globe, and to provide a forum for discussion of these topics within an Irish context.

The IIEA is delighted to have worked with dozens of partners who supported our work throughout 2023 and who help to ensure the IIEA's research programme remains of the highest quality and relevance. An overview of the IIEA's research activities is contained in the pages which follow.

The IIEA's digital policy programme explored the ongoing digital transition and some of the main developments in EU legislation in the field of digital policy. This programme also considered the onset of Artificial Intelligence and the impact this will have for society. The climate and energy programme examined the ongoing green transition, and the challenges posed by climate change and environmental degradation.

The IIEA's geopolitics and security and defence programmes sought to make sense of the increasingly contested and unstable geopolitical context, and to identify Ireland's place within it. The war in Ukraine and ongoing instability in the Middle East formed much of the backdrop to these discussions.

The IIEA's economics programme considered some key debates and trends in monetary policy. Discussions relating to capital markets, competitiveness, and the potential impact of the US Inflation Reduction Act all featured prominently.

Our European affairs and Global Europe programmes considered the nature of the EU and Ireland's place within it in the run up to the 2024 European elections. Debates surrounding EU enlargement, institutional reform, and the EU's capacity to act independently, all featured, all against the background of Russia's ongoing invasion of Ukraine.

Our UK programme reflected on the current nature of Irish-UK relations in a truly post-Brexit world. Debates delved into the state of EU-UK relations post-Brexit, including the outworkings of the Windsor Framework, the nature of human rights post-Brexit, and the prospects for renewed Irish-UK relations.

The France and Germany programme examined political and legal developments in these countries, while the Justice programme considered debates around migration, digital rights, and the rule of law. The IIEA's health programme covered developments relating to rare diseases, cancer, and the EU's health strategy.

Our Irish Aid programme explored Ireland's engagement with the developing world while a new programme sought to shed light on the nature of EU-Africa relations. Breaking further new ground, the IIEA Disability programme considered some of the main public policy issues and debates relating to the rights of persons with disabilities.

The IIEA's Young Professionals Network (YPN) continued to go from strength-to-strength, and brought together people in the first decades of their careers as well as students to engage in debate and discussion with leading figures from the worlds of politics, industry, and public policy.

The IIEA research programme played an invaluable role in the IIEA's mission of sharing ideas and shaping policy in 2023, a mission we look forward to continuing throughout 2024.

**Dr Barry Colfer**

# RESEARCH OUTPUT 2023

**174**  
events



**67**  
publications

**18,259**  
registrations



**7,296**  
attendances

**11**  
policy areas



# PARTNERS AND PROJECT SUPPORTERS IN 2023

Amazon

Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme (CERV)

Deloitte Ireland

Department of Foreign Affairs (Global Europe and Future-Proofing Europe)

Economic Regulators Network (ERN)

Electricity Supply Board (ESB)

Environmental Protection Agency

European Parliament Liaison Office

European Commission Representative Dublin

Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Ireland

Irish Aid

Janssen Sciences Ireland



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha  
Department of Foreign Affairs



Energy for  
generations



European Parliament  
Liaison Office  
in Ireland



Irish Aid  
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha  
Department of Foreign Affairs

50 YEARS



# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## GLOBAL EUROPE

**Chairs:** Marie Cross

**Researcher:** Emily Binchy, Leanne Digney, Keelin O’Sullivan, Dylan Casey Marshall

The IIEA’s Global Europe project, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs, commenced in September 2020. Through a programme of webinars and a complementary suite of publications, the project aimed to address, analyse, and communicate debates on the future of Europe, the EU’s role in the world, and Ireland’s role in the multilateral order. In 2023, the project was comprised of analysis related to Strategic Autonomy and the EU Global Gateway; EU Migration Policy; EU Competitiveness; and Ireland and the UN.

### Ireland and the United Nations

Under the auspices of the UN suite of research, **Major General Maureen O’Brien**, Deputy Military Advisor to the UN Secretary-General for Peace Operations, discussed overcoming gender stereotypes in the field of peace and security to advance gender equality and gender-responsive leadership. **Volker Türk**, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, provided an overview of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the obstacles to the enjoyment of human rights in the contemporary world.

Publications on the UN side of the project by Global Europe Researcher, Leanne Digney, explored Ireland’s transition off the Security Council in December 2022, relationships with the UN Human Rights Council in the aftermath of its candidature for membership for the 2027-29 term, and the format and objectives of the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit.

### The EU’s Role in the World

On the EU side of the Global Europe project, **Christian Danielsson**, State Secretary for EU Affairs in Sweden, discussed the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU, with particular focus on competitiveness. Leader of the Belarussian Democratic Movement, **Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya**, spoke on the topic of *Current Threats to the Future of Belarus and the EU*. Continuing the EU strand of the project, Ylva Johannsson, European Commissioner for Home Affairs, gave a webinar address entitled *Migration and Asylum in the EU*.

## Strategic Autonomy and the EU Global Gateway

In a paper entitled *The Red Queen Dilemma and the Single Market*, Alexander Conway explored the implications of the EU’s new industrial policy for maintaining the EU’s competitiveness. His blog entitled *Industrial Policy - An EU Response to the Challenge of Competitiveness* looked at Member States’ positions on the US Inflation Reduction Act. This was followed by a blog entitled *The Future of Industrial Policy and the European Single Market*.

## EU Migration Policy

In June 2023, Keelin O’Sullivan published an analytical paper entitled *Reframing the Debate – Migration as an Essential Element of EU Foreign Policy*, in which she examined the external aspects of the EU’s New Pact on Migration and Asylum. This was followed by an explainer entitled *The EU Pact on Migration and Asylum: State of Play as of June 2023*. In August 2023, her blog entitled *Politics of Migration in the EU* explored the political conversations and responses to migration across Member States.

## EU Competitiveness

Examining the EU’s legislative proposals and reforms in reaction to a changing geo-economic and geo-political landscape, Dylan Marshall wrote an analytical paper entitled *Can the Leopard Change Its Spots? Competitiveness, Industrial Policy, and State Aid in the European Single Market*. In June 2023, he produced an explainer entitled *The A-Z of the NZIA: What the EU Industrial Policy Means for Business and Workers*.

## European Green Deal

In April 2023, Dylan Marshall published an FAQ entitled *The Green Hydrogen Bank* about the European Commission’s plan to establish a new financial institution to support private investment in the production and importation of renewable hydrogen.

## Digital Ideas Lab

In addition to the events series and publications, the Global Europe project convened two meetings of the UN Stakeholder Forum. Within the Digital Ideas Lab, Global Europe Researchers Alexander Conway and Leanne Digney produced weekly EU and UN updates, respectively.

# GLOBAL EUROPE



Major General Maureen O'Brien, Deputy Military Advisor to the UN Secretary-General for Peace Operations, with Mark Mellet, former Chief of Staff of Ireland's Defence Forces; Volker Türk, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; Christian Danielsson, State Secretary for EU Affairs in Sweden; Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Leader of the Belarussian Democratic Movement.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## FUTURE-PROOFING EUROPE

**Chair:** Marie Cross

**Researcher:** Dylan Casey Marshall

In September 2023, following the end of the three-year Global Europe project, the IIEA launched the Future-Proofing Europe project. The project, supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs, aims to address and analyse key policy issues for Ireland and the EU. In 2023, the Future-Proofing Europe project held a half-day seminar on Ukraine and a series which aimed to gain insights into EU institutional reform and enlargement of the European Union.

To launch the new Future-Proofing Europe project in September 2023, the IIEA hosted a half-day seminar entitled *Ensuring Accountability and Justice for International Crimes Committed by Russia in Ukraine*. The seminar was co-organised with the Embassy of Ukraine in Ireland and Ukraine Action in partnership with the IIEA, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and the Embassy of the USA in Ireland. During the half-day seminar, there were two panels. The first panel included diplomats, institutional actors and academic experts who discussed the possibility of creating a special tribunal for the crime of aggression against Ukraine and other legal avenues for ensuring accountability for war crimes committed in Ukraine. The second panel, which included the Deputy Minister of Justice of Ukraine, legal experts, and scholars, discussed mechanisms for obtaining compensation for damage suffered by Ukraine as a consequence of the invasion by the Russian Federation.



*Peter Burke, Minister of State with responsibility for European Affairs*

Following the launch of the Future-Proofing Europe project, the Institute hosted **Peter Burke**, Minister of State with responsibility for European Affairs and Defence, and **Jessika Roswall**, Minister of EU Affairs and Nordic Cooperation of Sweden, for keynote addresses and to provide insights and perspectives on EU reform and enlargements from Irish and Swedish perspectives.

In November 2023, following the publication of the Commission's enlargement reports, **Lawrence Meredith**, Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building in DG NEAR of the European Commission, spoke about the European Commission Report on *Enlargement: Challenges and Opportunities Ahead*, in which he outlined the outlined the main conclusions and next steps for the enlargement process.



*Lawrence Meredith, Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building in DG NEAR of the European Commission*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## EU AFFAIRS

**Chairs:** Various

**Researchers:** Naoise Kenny and Emma Richardson

Throughout 2023, the IIEA's EU Affairs programme kept members abreast of policy developments and election outcomes from across EU Member States. The IIEA's calendar of events and lectures focused on a range of important topics, such as the 50th anniversary of Ireland's accession to the European Communities, the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement, the EU's response to Brexit, and the EU's green policies.

### The State of the European Union 2023

In September 2023, the IIEA was delighted to co-host, with the European Commission Representation in Ireland, and the European Parliament Liaison Office in Ireland, an event to mark the *State of the European Union* address by Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission. This event, which took place at the offices of the European Commission Representation, featured a livestream of the President's address, followed by an expert panel discussion. Panellists at the event included: **Senator Lisa Chambers**, Leader of Seanad Éireann and Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on European and Foreign Affairs; **Catherine Day**, Former Secretary-General of the European Commission; and **Dan O'Brien**, Chief Economist of the IIEA. The panel was moderated by **Professor John O'Brennan**, Jean Monnet Chair at Maynooth University.

### Ireland and the EU at 50

In May 2023, the IIEA celebrated the 50th anniversary of Ireland's accession to the European Communities with a two-day conference co-organised by Maynooth University, which examined the span of Irish membership of the EU from the perspective of policy, politics, and transformation. The conference brought together academics, politicians, diplomats, and members of civil society to reflect on the most important themes that helped define 50 years of Ireland's participation in European integration, evaluating the highs and lows of membership and Ireland's position in the contemporary European Union.



Mairead McGuinness, European Commissioner for Financial Stability, Financial Services and the Capital Markets Union

## Ireland, the EU, and the UK

In May 2023, the IIEA supported University College Cork's event entitled GFA25 on the Island of Ireland marking the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement with the aim of developing a deeper understanding of the past, present, and future for the Agreement across the entire island and not just in Northern Ireland. In October 2023, the IIEA hosted a panel discussion with two leading Irish voices on the EU – **Declan Kelleher**, Chair of the European Policy Centre's Governing Board, and **Paul Gillespie**, Director of the "Constitutional Futures after Brexit" Project in UCD's Centre for Peace and Conflict Research – to discuss European University Institute Professor Brigid Laffan's book entitled, *The EU's Response to Brexit*, seven years after the original Brexit vote.

## Europe's Green Transition

**Pippa Hackett**, Minister of State for Land Use and Biodiversity, delivered a keynote address in June 2023 on the overarching aims of the Nature Restoration Regulations, the challenges facing Europe regarding the restoration of land and sea areas, and the significance of the legislation in an Irish context. In November 2023, the IIEA welcomed **Esther Lynch**, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation, who discussed her views on how European green industrial policy can shape Europe's success.



Senator Pippa Hackett, Minister of State for Land Use and Biodiversity with Alex White SC, IIEA Director General

# STATE OF THE UNION 2023



Photos include: **Dan O'Brien**, IIEA Chief Economist; **Catherine Day**, Former Secretary-General of the European Commission; **Barbara Nolan**, Head of the European Commission Representation in Ireland; **Alex White SC**, IIEA Director General; **Professor John O'Brennan**, Jean Monnet Chair at Maynooth University; **Senator Lisa Chambers**, Leader of Seanad Éireann and Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on European and Foreign Affairs; and **H.E. Vincent Guérend**, Ambassador of France to Ireland.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## FRANCE AND GERMANY

**Germany Chair:** Katherine Meenan (Germany);  
Various (France)

**Researcher:** Dylan Casey Marshall

The France-Germany programme aims to provide insights and perspectives from two major EU Member States in a number of key policy areas.

### France

In September 2023, **Maureen Kearney**, former Trade Unionist and Whistleblower, delivered an address entitled *Whistleblower Protection in France and the EU* in which she discussed her experiences as a whistleblower and subsequent legislative changes in France and the EU more widely. In November 2023, a panel comprising **Catherine Gegout**, Associate Professor in International Relations at the University of Nottingham, and **Ndgoni Samba Sylla**, Research and Policy Director for Africa at the International Development Economics Associates, focused on the topic of *Requiem for Françafrique? The Changing Nature of Relations between Africa and France*. In the discussion, the panellists discussed Macron's Africa-France Partnership, recent movements and coups in West Africa, and the role of the EU and other powers in Africa.



*Maureen Kearney, former Trade Unionist and Whistleblower*

### Germany

The events specifically focused on Germany mainly centred on defence and security issues and how these are impacting on Germany's economic and trade relations. **Markus Kaim**, Senior Fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, delivered an address entitled *The German National Security Strategy: It All Depends on the Implementation*. Dr Kaim gave an assessment of Germany's first ever security strategy and discussed the political and policy effects that may result from it. In December 2023, **Janka Oertel**, Director of the Asia Programme and Senior Policy Fellow at the European

Council on Foreign Relations, delivered an address based on her book *The End of Germany's China Illusion*. Dr Oertel discussed the nature of relations between Germany and China in a more uncertain global geopolitical context, Germany's first China strategy, and Germany's economic security.



*Janka Oertel, Director of the Asia Programme and Senior Policy Fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations*

### Year in Review

In December 2023, the IIEA's France and Germany programme held two webinars, chaired by IIEA Director of Research **Dr Barry Colfer**, looking back on the major political events of the year in both countries. Providing an insight from Berlin, **Derek Scally**, Berlin Correspondent at The Irish Times, gave an End-of-Year Review of German Politics. **Emmanuel Schon-Quinlivan**, Lecturer in European Politics at University College Cork, spoke on *France's 2023 in Review: What to Expect in 2024*.



*Derek Scally, Berlin Correspondent at The Irish Times*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH EPLO IN IRELAND

**Researcher:** Daire Lawler and Dylan Casey Marshall

In 2023, the IIEA held a three-part series of panel events in conjunction with the European Parliament Liaison Office (EPLO) in Ireland. Each panel gathered leading Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and scholars and addressed a thematic topic identified as key priorities in the work of the European Parliament – namely democratic resilience, a just and sustainable energy transition, and the future of work.

The first panel in the series was composed of **Daniel Freund MEP** (G/EFA-DE), **Billy Kelleher MEP** (RE-IE), and **Kalypso Nicolaidis**, Chair in Global Affairs at the School of Transnational Governance at the European University Institute. This panel was entitled *Building Democratic Resilience in the European Union* and focused on how to best protect the Union from internal and external attacks on democracy and the rule of law.



*Daniel Freund MEP (G/EFA-DE)*

The second panel was on *A Sustainable and Just Energy Transition: The Role of the European Parliament* and included **Ciarán Cuffe MEP** (G/EFA-IE), **Claudia Gamon MEP** (RE-AU), and **Lisa Ryan**, Professor in Energy Economics at University College Dublin. In this panel, the speakers discussed the pace of change in ecological transition, citizen participation, and what the European Parliament's role has been in the European Green Deal, the European Climate Act, and other landmark pieces of climate legislation.



*Lisa Ryan, Professor in Energy Economics at University College Dublin*

The third and final panel as part of the EPLO series was entitled *Digitalisation and the Future of Work in Europe* and included **Jorge Cabrita**, Research Manager in the Working Life Unit at Eurofound, and **Deirdre Clune MEP** (EPP-IE). The panel discussed recent employment legislation adopted by the European Parliament as well as topics around opportunities for up-skilling, the impacts of COVID on the world of work, and the role of the European Parliament in protecting labour rights.



*Deirdre Clune MEP (EPP-IE)*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## UK AFFAIRS

**Chair:** Daithí O’Ceallaigh

**Researchers:** Aislinn McCann, Emma Richardson

The IIEA’s longstanding UK programme continued in 2023. This programme produced three publications alongside IIEA Senior Fellow, Tony Brown’s, Brexit Brief series. The aim of the UK programme is to look at the relationship between the UK and the EU, and its implications for Ireland, the latest developments in UK politics, and the constitutional future of the UK itself.



Naomi Long MLA, Leader of the Alliance Party

Northern Ireland’s place in the UK and a return to Stormont was one of the major focuses of the IIEA’s UK programme in 2023. The IIEA welcomed **Naomi Long MLA**, Leader of the Alliance Party in September and **Claire Hanna MP**, SDLP MP for South Belfast in November to speak on the future of Northern Ireland and their political parties’ perspectives. In July 2023, **Brendan O’Leary** gave a keynote address entitled *Making Sense of a United Ireland*, discussing how unification could happen and set out potential United Ireland models. **Aoife Moore**, author of *The Long Game: Inside Sinn Féin*, also visited the IIEA to discuss her book and the state of play in Northern Ireland politics.



Aoife Moore, author of “The Long Game: Inside Sinn Féin” with Barry Colfer, IIEA Director of Research

The programme also delved into the relationship between the UK and the EU, focusing on trade, the UK’s economy, and human rights in the post-Brexit landscape. The Windsor Framework was a notable topic, which both **Tony Connelly**, Europe Editor for RTÉ News, and **Dr Andrew McCormick**, former Director General of International Relations for the Northern Ireland Executive, covered in their addresses. In addition to this, on the same topic, former researcher **Aislinn McCann** published *The Windsor Framework: A New Chapter* and, on behalf of the IIEA, **Blair Horan**, member of the UK Group, published his paper *UK Trade: Background and Future under the TCA and the Windsor Framework*.

On post-Brexit relations, in October 2023, the IIEA held a panel discussion, entitled *The EU’s Response to Brexit* with **Brigid Laffan**, Emeritus Professor at the European University Institute in Florence, and **Paul Gillespie**, Director of the Constitutional Futures after Brexit Project in UCD’s Centre for Peace and Conflict Research. **Conor Gearty**, Professor of Human Rights Law at LSE, gave his keynote address *Human Rights After Brexit*, and **Stefaan de Rynck**, former Senior Adviser to Michel Barnier spoke on the EU’s role in Brexit negotiations, entitled *Inside the Deal: The Brussels View on Brexit*. On the topic of the UK’s economy, **David Henig**, Director of the UK Trade Policy Project at European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE), outlined the UK’s economic landscape in *Where Next for the UK as an International Economy?*.

The UK programme also explored the topic of constitutional futures within the UK with **Paul Gillespie** authoring a paper *Can a new statecraft save the UK’s dysfunctional Union?*. The event programme included a panel discussion on *Scotland’s Constitutional Future: Implications for Ireland and Northern Ireland* with speakers **Mhairi Black**, SNP Member of Parliament for Paisley and Renfrewshire South; **Mike Nesbitt**, UUP Member of the Legislative Assembly for Strangford; **Nicola McEwen**, Professor of Public Policy in the University of Glasgow; **Graham Walker**, Emeritus Professor at the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics at Queen’s University Belfast; and **Dr Paul Gillespie**.



Daithí O’Ceallaigh UK Group Chair, Mhairi Black, former SNP Member of Parliament for Paisley and Renfrewshire South, Mike Nesbitt, UUP Member of the Legislative Assembly for Strangford, Graham Walker, Emeritus Professor at the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics at Queen’s University Belfast; and Dr Paul Gillespie

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

**Chairs:** Various

**Researcher:** Daire Lawler

The IIEA's Economics and Finance programme explored a range of topics in economics during 2023, namely **Financial Crashes and Recovery**, **The Future of Financial Services and Currency**, and **Foreign Trade and Investment**.

### Financial Crashes and Recovery

The IIEA welcomed **Jón Danielsson**, the Director of the Systemic Risk Centre at the London School of Economics, in the middle of March to discuss ideas from his book, *The Illusion of Control: Why Financial Crises happen and What We Can (And Can't) Do About It*. He argued that easy solutions to control the financial system are doomed to fail, and that instead it would be better to increase shock absorption by diversifying the types of financial institutions we have. In October, **Linda Yeuh**, a Fellow in Economics at St Edmund Hall, Oxford University, in gave an address to the IIEA concerning her book, *The Great Crashes: Lessons from Global Meltdowns and How to Prevent Them*. She extracted a three-step framework to help recognise the early signs of an economic crash and mitigate the effects. She also warned about where the next financial crash might come from. **Tony Murphy**, the President of the European Court of Auditors, discussed the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), which serves as a temporary instrument to support the economic recovery of Member States. Tony Murphy provided some insights into the RRF implementation process and addressed the challenges and risks from an auditor's perspective.

### The Future of Financial Services and Currency

In late May, **John Berrigan**, the Director-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services, and Capital Markets Union at the European Commission, outlined the importance of moving ahead on the Capital Markets Union (CMU) and assessed the state of play of the implementation of the CMU Action Plan. **José Manuel Campa**, the Chairperson of the European Banking Authority, argued that regulation and supervision of the banking sector have contributed to strengthening the sector and that the EU needs to continue to pursue a banking sector that supports the economy for the challenges ahead. **Katrin Assenmacher**, the Head of the Monetary Policy Strategy Division at the ECB, outlined the forces that shaped the rise of digital money and motivated the current debate. She also looked at the implications of a 'digital euro' for monetary policy and financial stability. Following on from this talk, **Christopher Calabia**, The Head of CBDC Programs at the MIT Digital Currency Initiative, shared recent research on the opportunities presented by the potential introduction of a 'digital dollar'. He also addressed the practical and policy questions that this digital asset could raise for our economies and societies.

## Foreign Trade and Investment

When addressing the IIEA in June, **Martin Shanahan**, a Partner and the Head of Industry and FDI at Grant Thornton and former CEO of the IDA, discussed Ireland's current environment as a location in which to do business and its future outlook. He also looked at the key trends in global direct and investment, and the opportunities and threats these trends present for the Irish economy. In her address to the IIEA, **Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg**, the Elihu Professor of Economics and Professor of Management at Yale University and former Chief Economist of the World Bank, discussed her book, *The Unequal Effects of Globalisation*, where she argued that the retreat from globalisation has been triggered by a perception that increased competition from global trade is not fair and leads to increased inequality within countries. She also called for exploring alternative policy approaches including place-based policies, while sustaining international cooperation.

## ECONOMISTS GROUP

**Chairs:** John Fitzgerald and Loretta O'Sullivan

**Researcher:** Daire Lawler

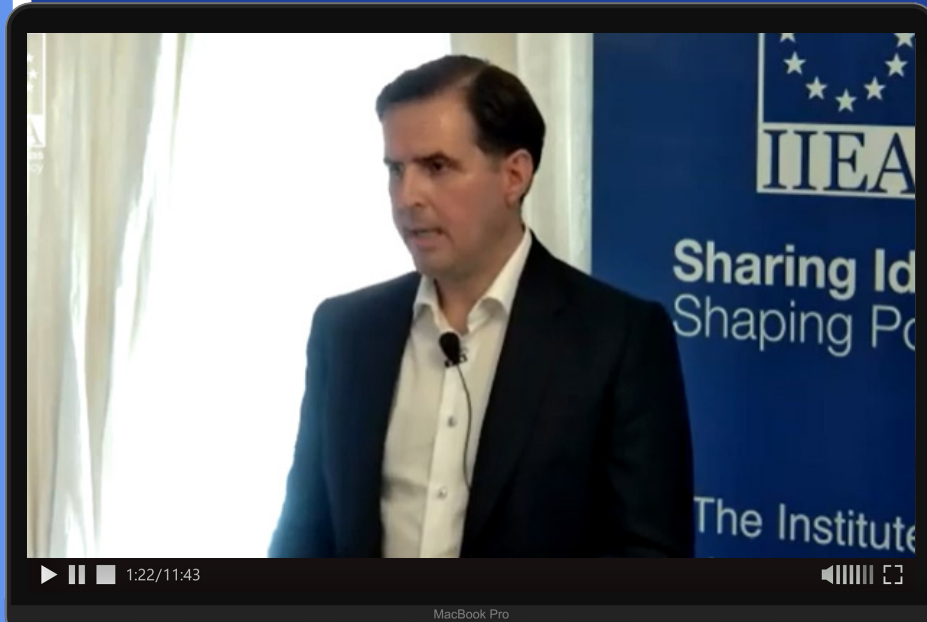
The IIEA's Economists Group is a monthly private forum attended by practicing economists from the public and private sector. It meets to discuss important issues in European and international economics with expert speakers.

In January, the group invited **Franziska Ohnsorge**, the Manager of the Prospects Group in the Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions Practice Group at the World Bank Group, who gave a presentation on the World Bank 2023 Global Economic Prospects Report. In April, **Denis Redonnet**, the Deputy Director General of the Directorate General for Trade and the Chief Trade Enforcement Officer, was invited to give a talk to the group.

In July, **Vani Borooh**, the Emeritus Professor of Applied Economics at Ulster University, gave an interesting talk that looked at the economics of schooling in a divided society and argued for shared education. **Stefan Gerlach**, the Chief Economist at EFG Bank in Zurich, gave a presentation on the European Central Bank and the global tightening of monetary policy in September.

The following month the groups Co-Chair, **John FitzGerald**, the Adjunct Professor of Economics at Trinity College Dublin, gave a presentation on Budget 2024, his reaction to it and what it meant for the country. That same month, the group also welcomed **Kozo Saiki**, the Special Advisor to the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, who discussed economic security and diversifying supply chains in critical goods. In November, **Frances Ruane**, former director of the Economic and Social Research Institute, gave a talk on Ireland's competitiveness challenge. And to finish off the year, **Frank Barry**, Professor of International Business and Economic Development at Trinity College Dublin, was invited to address the group.

# ECONOMICS AND FINANCE



**Martin Shanahan**, former CEO of the IDA, **Linda Yueh**, author of *The Great Crashes: Lessons from Global Meltdowns and How to Prevent Them*; **Christopher Calabia**, Head of Central Bank Digital Currency Programs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Digital Currency Initiative

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## DIGITAL POLICY

**Chairs:** Joyce O'Connor

**Researcher:** Seamus Allen

The IIEA Digital Policy Programme for 2023 followed some of the EU's key priorities in this area, including online content moderation, Artificial Intelligence (AI), digital rights, and the international dimension of digital policy. The programme reflected the themes of a human-centric digital transition and the importance of protecting citizens' rights.



Jacob Mchangama CEO Justitia

The year started with an address by **Jillian York**, Director for International Freedom of Expression at the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), entitled *Censorship and Free Speech in the Digital Age*. Ms York assessed attempts to counter harmful content online and the implications of these efforts for freedom of expression, especially for citizens living under authoritarian regimes. Following up on this theme, **Jacob Mchangama**, CEO of Justitia, addressed the IIEA on the topic of *The Digital Services Act, Censorship and Online Freedom of Expression*, examining the role of the Digital Services Act in strengthening online content moderation in the EU and the possible censorship risks.



Thibaut Kleiner, Director for Policy, Strategy, and Outreach at DG CONNECT

A key policy goal of the EU is to create a human centric digital transition, and in cooperation with the EU's international partners, the IIEA was delighted to welcome **Thibaut Kleiner**, Director for Policy, Strategy, and Outreach at DG CONNECT to discuss the *European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles: A Human-Centric Vision of Digital Transformation*. This was followed by an address by **Amandeep Singh Gill**, the UN Envoy on Technology, entitled *Global Digital Policy: The United Nations, International Digital Policy and the Global Digital Compact*. A key digital policy relationship was explored by **Gerard de Graaf**, the Senior EU Envoy for Digital to the US, in the event *Digital Policy Diplomacy: The EU's digital policy relationship with the United States and the digital technology sector*.

A human-centric digital transition requires citizens equipped with the skills, knowledge, and regulation to navigate this transition. The IIEA was therefore pleased to host the event *Digital Skills in Europe*, at which **Anne Bajart**, the Deputy Head of Unit for Interactive Technologies, Digital for Culture and Education at DG CONNECT in the European Commission, discussed the EU's work to promote digital skills. Explaining the reality and hype surrounding one of the key digital policy trends of the year, the IIEA welcomed **Professor Michael Wooldridge** from the University of Oxford, in *Understanding Artificial Intelligence: What It Is and Where We Are Going*. The year concluded with an address by **Helen Dixon**, the then Data Protection Commissioner, to discuss one of the key digital policy regulations to protect citizens' rights in her address: *Reflections on 5 Years of Application of the GDPR*.



Helen Dixon, then Data Protection Commissioner

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH ERN

*Safeguarding Media Pluralism and Independence in the Digital Age: Ireland in Context*

In this event, organised in collaboration with the Economic Regulators Network (ERN), an expert panel explored how media pluralism and independence can be maintained during the digital transformation and amidst deteriorating media freedom across Europe. This panel examined how the European Commission's European Media Freedom Act (EMFA) might help to protect media independence and pluralism and assessed the EMFA's implications for the digitalisation of media in both Ireland and Europe. The panel for this event included **Anna Herold**, Head of the Audiovisual and Media Policy Unit in DG CONNECT, European Commission; **Renate Schroeder**, Director of the European Federation of Journalists; **Dr Eileen Culloty**, Assistant Professor in the School of Communications, Dublin City University (DCU), Deputy Director of the Institute for Media, Democracy and Society (FUJO); and **Celene Craig**, Commissioner at Coimisiún na Meán (the Media Commission).



*Joyce O'Connor, Digital Policy Group Chair; Dr Eileen Culloty, Assistant Professor in the School of Communications, Dublin City University (DCU) and Celene Craig, Commissioner at Coimisiún na Meán (the Media Commission)*

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH IDA IRELAND

*Artificial Intelligence: The Emerging Regulatory Regime*

In this event, jointly organised by the IIEA and the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Ireland, expert panellists explored the economic and business implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI), and the EU's AI Act. The speakers discussed what recent developments in AI regulation may herald for businesses, innovation, and investment in Ireland and Europe. Panellists reflected on the current state of AI technology in Europe; the major strengths and weaknesses of the EU's AI Act for business and society; and how businesses might achieve legislative compliance with the Act in a manner that is both economical and effective.

This event featured speakers **Lucilla Sioli**, Director of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Industry in the European Commission; **Dragos Tudorache**, MEP, European Parliament Rapporteur for the AI Act; **Noelle Doody**, Managing Director for Applied Intelligence, Accenture; **Aoife Sexton**, Chief Privacy Officer & Chief of Product Innovation at Truata and Chairperson of the Open Data Governance Board; **Bronagh Riordan**, Head of Data and Analytics, Primark and Chair of the Industry Steering Board at Ireland's Centre for Applied AI (CeADAR); **Mark Kelly**, Executive Director and Founder of AI Ireland and Chief Customer Officer at Allodus International. The event was moderated by **James Farrell**, Senior Vice President for Emerging Business, Content, Consumer and Business Services at IDA Ireland.



*Noelle Doody, Managing Director for Applied Intelligence, Accenture; Aoife Sexton, Chief Privacy Officer & Chief of Product Innovation at Truata and Chairperson of the Open Data Governance Board and Bronagh Riordan, Head of Data and Analytics, Primark and Chair of the Industry Steering Board at Ireland's Centre for Applied AI (CeADAR);*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH AMAZON

**Chairs:** Dan O'Brien

**Researcher:** Seamus Allen and Andrew Gilmore

In partnership with Amazon, the IIEA organised a series of events in late 2023 on the D9+, a group of digitally advanced European states at the forefront of Europe's digital economy, and the Future of the European Single Market. This series explored Ireland's role in the D9+, with particular emphasis on the priorities and opportunities arising from its chairmanship of the group in the first half of 2024; the future development of the D9+ group; and the role of D9+ in key areas of European digital policy, and particularly the Single Market.

### Ireland and the D9+: 2024 and Beyond

The first event in the series took the form of a private roundtable discussion on the topic of European digital policy and the role of the D9+. The roundtable brought together a diverse range of stakeholders active in Ireland's digital economy with three main themes emerging: Ireland and the D9+; Regulation and Competitiveness and Artificial Intelligence. The discussion highlighted the potential for Ireland's chairmanship of the group in 2024 and underlined the D9+'s potential to foster collaborative approaches to digital governance, advance mutual learning and promote shared objectives in navigating the digital landscape.

### The Future Role of the D9+: Delivering an innovative economy fit for global leadership

A panel discussion followed in the series, bringing policy and industry experts together to assess how Ireland's presidency of the D9+ group could contribute to its long-term development; how the D9+ could align with the priorities of the Presidencies of the Council of the EU; and how it could contribute positively to EU digital policymaking in the coming years. Panellists on the day were **Dara Calleary TD**, Minister of State for Trade Promotion, Digital and Company Regulation; **Alberto Gago Fernandez**, Advisor to the Secretary of State for Digital and AI of Spain; **Lucinda Creighton**, CEO of Vulcan Consulting and former Minister of State for Europe and **Alexander Hoefmans**, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Secretary of State for Digitization, Belgium.



*Alexander Hoefmans, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Secretary of State for Digitization, Belgium; Dan O'Brien, Chair; Lucinda Creighton, CEO of Vulcan Consulting and former Minister of State for Europe and Alberto Gago Fernandez, Advisor to the Secretary of State for Digital and AI of Spain*

## Reinventing the Single Market

In the final event of the series, **Enrico Letta**, former Prime Minister of Italy, who had been recently tasked by the European Council with a report on the future of the Single Market, provided insights from his work. He was joined in discussion by **Russell Grandinetti**, Senior Vice President for International Stores at Amazon and **Brigid Laffan**, Chancellor of the University of Limerick. Key topics emerging from the session included the impact of EU competition policies on the purported fragmentation of on the Single Market, the central role of the Single Market in Europe's reputation and future prosperity alongside the financing of the Green Transition and completion of the Capital Markets Union.



*Enrico Letta, former Prime Minister of Italy; Dan O'Brien, Chair; Russell Grandinetti, Senior Vice President for International Stores at Amazon and Brigid Laffan, Chancellor of the University of Limerick*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## GEOPOLITICS

**Chair:** Padraig Murphy

**Researcher:** Cian FitzGerald

The IIEA's 2023 geopolitics programme examined emerging global challenges in a diverse range of areas. The 2023 Geopolitics programme explored the elections which occurred throughout the world, as well as the continued salience of democracy in the face of rising authoritarianism globally. It also examined changes in China's engagement with the rest of the world as well as a number of issues which emerged throughout the year.

### 2023 Elections and Democracy around the World

In 2023, the IIEA examined the elections which took place around the world during that year. **Robert Muggah**, Co-founder of the Igarape Institute discussed the implications of the Brazilian elections. Meanwhile, **Mehmet Ögütçü**, Chair of the London Energy Club discussed the implications of Turkey's 2023 elections for that country but also for European security. **Charles Dunst**, Deputy Director of Research and Analytics at the Asia group discussed his book *Defeating the Dictators: How Democracy Can Prevail in the Age of the Strongman*. Finally, **Frank Luntz**, an American Pollster, political communicator and Commentator discussed the polarisation of American politics and prospects for expanding the Centre ground.



*Robert Muggah, Co-founder of the Igarape Institute*

### War in Ukraine

The IIEA geopolitics hosted a number of events reflecting on Russia's full scale invasion of Ukraine. **Evgeny Afineefsky**, an award winning documentarian discussed his documentary *Freedom on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom*, which tracked Russia's invasion of Ukraine since 2022. **Konstantin Eggert**, Baltic States Correspondent and Commentator on Russian Affairs for Deutsche Welle, reflected on the implications of Russia's invasion of

Ukraine for Russia's own domestic politics, and **Pat Cox**, President of the Jean Monnet Foundation for Europe and Former President of the European Parliament, discussed the impact of the Russian invasion for Ukraine's accession to the European Union.

### Emerging Issues

In 2023, the IIEA examined a number of thematic issues as they emerged. In December 2023, the IIEA hosted **Paul Cunningham**, Political Correspondent at RTE, who had just returned to Ireland from reporting on the then emerging conflict in the Middle East. **Elliot Higgins**, the founder and executive director of Bellingcat, addressed the IIEA on the growing role of Open-source investigations for ensuring accountability for war crimes. **Waad al-Khataeb** and **Hamza al-Khataeb**, a Bafta award winning documentarian and activist, discussed protecting healthcare in conflict. **Mary Fitzgerald**, non-resident scholar at the Middle East Institute, discussed the evolving political crisis in Libya and



*Tara Sepehri Far, Middle East and North Africa Researcher at Human Rights Watch*

the potential for securing a lasting peace. **Tara Sepehri Far**, Middle East and North Africa Researcher at Human Rights Watch, discussed the political activism of Iranian women online and **Denis Staunton**, China Correspondent of The Irish Times, provided an update on the evolving political situation in China. The IIEA also hosted **Renad Mansour**, Senior Research Fellow and Project Director of the Iraq Initiative at Chatham House, who reflected on 20 years after the 2003 invasion of Iraq. **Kurt Bassuener**, Co-founder and Senior Associate at the Democratisation Policy Council, discussed the need for the EU to change its approach to EU enlargement and the Western Balkans.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## SECURITY AND DEFENCE

**Chair:** Marie Cross

**Researcher:** Cian FitzGerald

The IIEA Security and Defence Programme focused on the changing global security environment, and also on emerging security challenges and hybrid warfare.



*Cian FitzGerald, Security and Defence Researcher; Dr Barry Colfer, Director of Research; Marie Cross, Security and Defence Chair; General Birame Diop, then Military Advisor to the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations; and Derry Fitzgerald, Security and Defence Group member*

### Changing Global Security Environment

As part of the IIEA's work analysing the changing global security environment, the IIEA hosted a number of leading figures in international institutions as well as government representatives. The IIEA hosted **General Birame Diop**, then Military Advisor to the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, who discussed the future of UN Peacekeeping. Speaking on the changing European Security environment, the IIEA hosted **Mircea Geoană**, then Deputy Secretary General of NATO, who discussed the role of NATO in European security; and **General Robert Brieger**, Chair of the EU Military Committee, who spoke about the European Union's response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. The IIEA also hosted **Adam Bugajski**, Security Policy Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland, who discussed the Polish perspective on security in Europe in a time of war.



*General Robert Brieger, Chair of the EU Military Committee with Barrie Robinson, Chair*

## The Character of Hybrid Warfare

The IIEA also hosted a number of speakers who reflected on emerging security challenges and the proliferation of hybrid warfare instruments which often seek to disrupt target societies using both military and non-military means. The IIEA hosted **Elizabeth Braw**, Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, who discussed whole-of-society defence against grey zone aggression as well as **Sarah Lohmann**, Acting Assistant Professor in the Henry M. Jackson School for International Studies at the University of Washington, who discussed the growing threat to critical energy infrastructure in the wake of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Reflecting on Russia's War against Ukraine, the IIEA was addressed by **Sir Lawrence Freedman**, Professor Emeritus of War Studies at King's College London. Additionally, the IIEA was also addressed by **Nicholas Eftimiades**, Assistant Teaching Professor of Homeland Security at PennState Harrisburg, who discussed China's approach to espionage.

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH DELOITTE

**Researcher:** Cian FitzGerald

In 2023, the IIEA partnered with Deloitte Ireland to deliver a panel discussion on *Strategic Foresight Capabilities in a Changing Security Context*. Against the backdrop of a rapidly changing technological and geopolitical landscape, the global environment has increasingly become characterised by uncertainty. **Dr Raluca Csernatoni**, Fellow at Carnegie Europe; **Dr Florian Klein**, Founder of Deloitte's Centre for the Long View network; and **Dr Eamon Noonan**, of the European Parliamentary Research Service's Policy Foresight Unit, discussed the role of Strategic Foresight in enabling governments and private sector organisations not only navigate the greater degree of uncertainty in our world, but to identify the opportunities which these changes may bring.

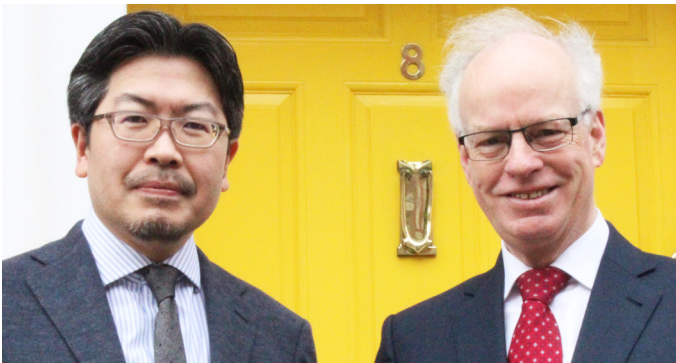


*Eamon Noonan, European Parliamentary Research Service Policy Foresight Unit; Chair Liz Carolan, Dr Raluca Csernatoni, Fellow at Carnegie Europe; Dr Florian Klein, Founder of Deloitte's Centre for the Long View network*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN, DUBLIN

In February 2023, the IIEA partnered with the Embassy of Japan, Dublin to host a discussion on the topic of *Europe and East Asia in the Wake of the War in Ukraine*. **Dr Michito Tsuruoka**, Associate Professor at Keio University, discussed the implications of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine for both European and East Asian Security. Professor Tsuruoka reflected on Japan's updated national security strategy and the challenges which Japan is facing in its immediate neighbourhood from China, North Korea, and Russia.



*Dr Michito Tsuruoka, Associate Professor at Keio University with John Neary, Chair and Adjunct Professor, UCD School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice*

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY OF GERMANY, DUBLIN

In November 2023, the IIEA partnered with the Embassy of Germany, Dublin, to deliver a discussion on Ransomware and its impacts on geopolitics. **Dr Jantje Silomon**, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg, discussed the weaponisation of ransomware technology, and the increased use of Ransomware by hostile state actors as a part of hybrid warfare.

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY OF CZECHIA, DUBLIN

In October 2023, the IIEA partnered with the Embassy of Czechia to deliver a discussion on Energy Security in Central Europe. **Václav Bartuška**, Ambassador-at-Large for Energy Security at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czechia, discussed the challenges posed by Russia's instrumentalisation of energy and the consequences of Russia's invasion of Ukraine for European Energy Security.

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA, DUBLIN

In October 2023, the IIEA hosted **Francisco Coy**, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, in partnership with the Embassy of Colombia Dublin. Vice Minister Coy discussed Colombia's *Total Peace* plan and the shared lessons from both Colombia's and Ireland's Peace processes.



*Francisco Coy, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## ENERGY

**Chair:** Various

**Researcher:** Keelin O’Sullivan & Daire Lawler

As part of the Energy programme, **Hari Vamadevan**, the Senior Vice-President and Regional Director for the UK and Ireland for Energy Systems at DNV, and **Frank Ketelaars**, the Operations Manager for the UK and Ireland for Energy Systems at DNV, addressed the IIEA in January. They discussed energy transition and looked at European and global trends.

In December, the IIEA assembled a panel of experts including **Kevin O’Sullivan**, Environment and Science Editor, The Irish Times; **Alexandra Deprez**, Research Fellow, International Climate Governance, The Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI); **Una Murray**, Lecturer and Director of the M.A. in International Development Practice, The University of Galway and **Alex White SC**, Director General of The Institute of International and European Affairs

## CLIMATE PROGRAMME

**Chair:** Fergal McNamara

**Researcher:** Various

In the 2023 Climate programme, the IIEA invited **Dr Ciaran Byrne**, the Director of National Retrofit at the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland, to give a presentation on retrofitting. At the end of November, **Timur Gül**, the Chief Energy Technology Officer of the International Energy Association, addressed the IIEA. He discussed the role of energy technology and innovation in the transition to clean energy. He outlined the challenges and opportunities arising from the new clean energy economy.

## RETHINK ENERGY (IIEA/ESB SERIES)

**Chair:** Various

**Researcher:** Various

As part of the discussion series on energy organised by the IIEA and ESB, David Newbery, an Emeritus Professor in Economics at the University of Cambridge, delivered an address on electricity in Ireland, in which he assessed the state of play of Ireland’s electricity sector, identified the core challenges facing the electricity market, and shared his insights on how to overcome them. In July, **Bill McKibben**, a contributing writer to the New Yorker and a founder of the

Third Act, shared his insights into how the negative impacts of anthropocentric climate change can be mitigated.

The IIEA invited **Laura Sandys**, CBE, the Chair of both the Green Alliance and the British Standards Institute Advisory Board on Net Zero, to speak about the digitalisation that is at the centre of the new energy system and what this means for system operators, generators, networks, and retailers. In November, **Sir Chris Lewellyn Smith**, discussed the need to complement wind and solar-generated electricity with the ability to store such electricity. That same month, **Ditte Juul Jørgensen**, the Director-General for Energy at the European Commission, addressed the IIEA and reflected on major initiatives such as the EU’s Fit for 55 package and the RePowerEU plan, as well as what the future holds for the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Energy. The following month, **Katherine Hayhoe**, the Chief Scientist for the Nature Conservancy and a Paul Whitfield Horn Distinguished Professor and Endowed Professor of Public Policy and Public Law at Texas Tech University, spoke on how we can fight climate change together through dialogue, talking and honesty.

## IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH EPA

**Chair:** Various

**Researcher:** Keelin O’Sullivan & Daire Lawler

As part of the lecture series organised with the Environmental Protection Agency, **Professor Emily Shuckburgh**, the Director of Cambridge Zero, the University of Cambridge’s major climate change initiative, addressed the IIEA and discussed the role of artificial intelligence and data science in addressing environmental risks in water systems. The following month, **Kate Raworth**, an ecological economist and the co-founder of the Doughnut Economics Action Lab, gave a presentation on the doughnut of social and ecological boundaries and gave an overview on the transformations required by every nation.

**Iain Gulland**, the Chief Executive of Zero Waste Scotland, was invited to discuss the circular economy model and how it can be made to work in practice and offered insights into the work of Zero Waste Scotland. In December, the IIEA welcome the 2018 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences and Sterling Professor of Economics at Yale University, **William D. Nordhaus**. In his address, he considered whether the world had enough time to implement policies to reverse the tide of global warming.

# CLIMATE AND ENERGY



Photos include: Hari Vamadevan, the Senior Vice-President and Regional Director for the UK and Ireland for Energy Systems at DNV; Bill McKibben, founder of the Third Act; Alex White SC, IIEA Director General; Laura Sandys, CBE, the Chair of both the Green Alliance; Kate Raworth, an ecological economist and the co-founder of the Doughnut Economics Action Lab

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

**Chair:** Nora Owen

**Researcher:** Aislinn McCann and Dylan Casey Marshall

In 2023, the IIEA's longstanding Justice and Home Affairs programme touched on a number of key areas – including migration, fundamental human rights, and the rule of law.

The first event of the Justice and Home Affairs programme of 2023 was with **Michael Gubbins**, Chief Bureau Office at the Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB), who outlined operations of CAB, its current priorities, and its cooperation with European partners.



*Alex White SC, IIEA Director General, and Emer Finnegan Director General of the Legal Service in the Council of the European Union*

**Emer Finnegan**, Director General of the Legal Service in the Council of the European Union, gave an address entitled *Representing Europe: Inside the Council Legal Service*. She discussed the specific challenges faced by the institution's legal service and had a specific focus on the role it played in the EU's response to the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine.

**Michael O'Flaherty**, Director of the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency, addressed the IIEA in September 2023 on the topic of *Protecting Human Rights in the Digital Age*. He addressed recent digital legislation in the EU, artificial intelligence more broadly, and what role the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency has in ensuring respect for fundamental rights in an era of rapid digitalisation.

In November 2023, shortly after his appointment, **Hans Leijten**, Executive Director Frontex, spoke to the IIEA on the *Challenges in European Integrated Border Management*, in which he discussed Frontex's role in overseeing EU cooperation on border management and both legal and illegal migration.



*Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency with Alex White SC, IIEA Director General and Chair.*

**Conor Gearty**, Professor of Human Rights Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science, delivered an address entitled *Human Rights After Brexit*. In his speech, he discussed divergence between the EU and the UK, as well as questions around the continued British membership of the European Convention of Human Rights.



*Conor Gearty, Professor of Human Rights Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science with Rossa Fanning, Attorney General of Ireland*

**Laurent Pech**, Professor of Law, Dean of Law, and Head of the UCD Sutherland School of Law, spoke to the Institute in December 2023 on the topic *From Rule of Law to Rule of Lawlessness in the EU?* In his address, Prof Pech specifically focused on the state of the rule of law in several EU Member States, the reactions of EU to the Member States who have undermined the rule of law, and the dangers that these trends pose for the EU.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## DEVELOPMENT MATTERS SERIES

**Chair:** David Donoghue

**Researcher:** Researcher: Keelin O’Sullivan, Dylan Casey Marshall

Development Matters is a high-level speaker programme convened by the IIEA and supported by Irish Aid, which explores critical issues in international development. The purpose of the series is twofold: to provide a platform for international policy figures and thought leaders to share their insights and expertise on development matters; and in doing so, to bring development issues which are a priority for Irish Aid to the attention of wider Irish, European, and international audiences. A particular benefit of this bespoke series is that it provides authentic insights and promotes a clear understanding of policy issues within the context of national, EU and international policy frameworks based on Irish interests and priorities in development matters.

The overarching theme of the 2023 Development Matters series was partnership and transformation. In a year beset by multiple overlapping crises, the response was a call for more proactive and targeted development. Locally led adaptation to climate impacts, gender-responsive action and reaching the most vulnerable countries first was referenced by several speakers. Another focus was the call for the international community to adequately integrate developing countries into the global trade system and the need to realign the international financial architecture towards a more inclusive and fair system and to redress the dramatic imbalance in debt financing. Partnerships with international organisations, such as the ILO, UNCTAD, the DAC in the OECD, and IFAD, were welcomed. Additionally, better representation of local communities in planning how best to redress the impacts of climate change, food insecurity and lack of funding for education culminated in a redefinition of partnerships in terms of equality and parity of esteem for representatives of developing countries who wish to proactively contribute to discussions on transforming food systems, building social protection systems, and creating viable and resilient solutions for the future, rather than being regarded as passive recipients of ODA.

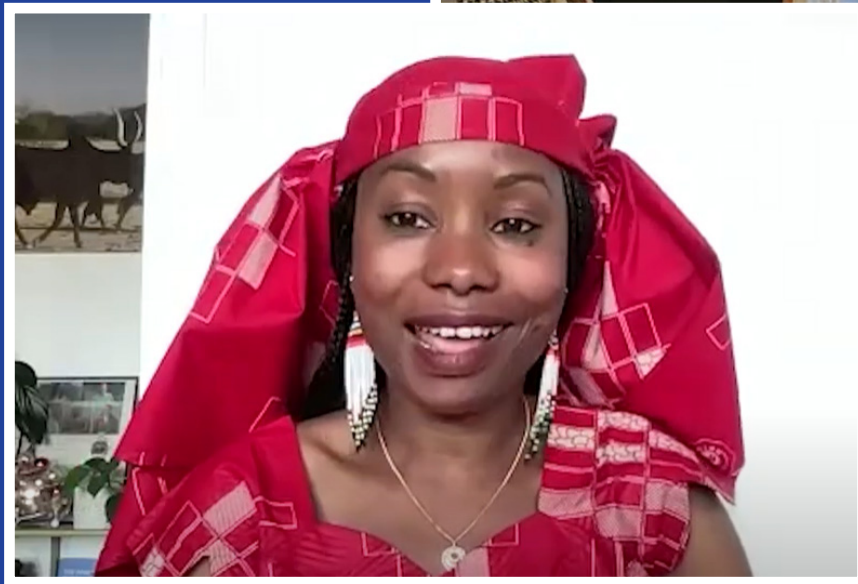
In the inaugural lecture of the 2023 series, **Seán Fleming T.D.**, Minister of State for International Development and the Diaspora, set out Ireland’s priorities for 2023 and its renewed commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by focusing on the fight

against poverty and hunger, humanitarian assistance in crisis situations, combating gender inequality, and highlighting the importance of education for women and girls. For the second lecture in the 2023 series, **Gilbert Hougbo**, Director General of the International Labour Organization, outlined the indispensability of social protection and the costs of inaction. Mr Hougbo spoke of the redistributive effect of social protection and argued that it should be seen as an investment in economic development, not as a budgetary expenditure clause.

In the third lecture of the 2023 Development Matters series, the IIEA hosted **Álvaro Lario**, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). His speech centred around the decline in food and nutrition security and the negative impact of conflict, extreme climate events and poor fiscal systems on vulnerable communities. He introduced IFAD’s ambition of transitioning small farmers from subsistence farming to commercially viable farming, enabling them to generate income that would lead to better nutrition and facilitate better education and social change. **Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim**, UN SDG Advocate and Environment and Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Activists, delivered the fourth lecture of the series and discussed the role of indigenous communities in protecting the planet, addressing the social impact of climate change, conflict and internal migration on the economy.

**Carsten Staur**, Chair of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee, highlighted, in the fifth address of the 2023 series, the topic of development assistance in a changing world, where the discussion has transitioned from whether it is needed to how it should be used. He stressed the need for integrating developing countries into an open and fair international trading system and the importance of focusing first on relieving debt in low-income countries. In the final lecture of the 2023 Development Matters series, **Rebecca Grynspar**, Secretary-General of the UN Conference on Trade and Development, delivered a keynote address on debt, trade and polyglobalisation. She argued that trade and investment in the Global South had not recovered from cascading crises, that protectionism was rising, and that only 15% of the Sustainable Development Goals have been achieved thus far.

# DEVELOPMENT MATTERS



**Photos include:** **Seán Fleming T.D.** Minister of State for International Development and the Diaspora; **Michael Gaffey**, Director-General, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland, Irish Aid; **David Donoghue**, Chair of the Irish Aid programme; **Alvaro Lario**, President of the International Fund of Agricultural Development (IFAD), **Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim**, United Nations SDG Advocate, and Environment and Indigenous Peoples' Rights Activist; **Carsten Staur**, Chair of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee with **David Donoghue**, Chair of the Irish Aid programme.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## EU-AFRICA PROGRAMME

**Chair:** Dr Barry Colfer

**Researcher:** Cian Fitzgerald

As one of the most recent additions to the IIEA's programme, the EU-Africa series of events aims to explore themes such as sustainable development, economic cooperation, governance, migration, climate change, and health partnerships between the EU and Africa.



*Professor Kevin Chika Urama, the Vice President and Chief Economist of the African Development Bank, and Mette Knudsen, the Executive Director of the African Development Bank, with Helen O'Neill, Chair and founding director of the Centre for Development Studies from UCD*

For the EU-Africa programme in 2023, the IIEA was delighted to welcome **Professor Kevin Chika Urama**, the Vice President and Chief Economist of the African Development Bank, and **Mette Knudsen**, the Executive Director of the African Development Bank. Professor Urama gave a keynote address in which he discussed the 2023 African Economic Outlook report, the work of the African Development Bank, and the wider economic challenges and opportunities facing Africa. Ms Knudsen gave the opening remarks to the event and following the address, both shared their unique insights during an interactive question and answer session.



*Professor Kevin Chika Urama, the Vice President and Chief Economist of the African Development Bank, and Mette Knudsen, the Executive Director of the African Development Bank.*

## DISABILITY POLICY

**Chair:** Dr Vivian Rath

**Researcher:** Various

The IIEA's disability programme for 2023 covered some key disability policy areas, including Ireland's obligations under international treaties relating to persons with disabilities and a consideration of how the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals interacts with disability.



*Dr Vivian Rath, PhD Researcher in Trinity College Dublin, Professor Gerard Quinn, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, with an Interpreter*

In the event, *Ireland's obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*, **Professor Gerard Quinn**, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, discussed Ireland's obligations, strengths, and shortcomings, under international human rights treaties. This was followed by an address by **Dr James Casey**, Policy Adviser for Independent Living Movement Ireland, entitled: *Disability and Sustainable Development: Integrating Policy into National Realities from a Disabled Persons' Organisation (DPO) Perspective*. Dr Casey discussed the barriers and enablers that exist to achieving full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and how disabled people can be better supported to contribute to the process.



*Dr Vivian Rath, PhD Researcher in Trinity College Dublin, Dr James Casey, Policy Adviser for Independent Living Movement Ireland with an Interpreter*

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## HEALTH PROGRAMME AND IIEA PARTNERSHIP WITH JANSSEN SCIENCES IRELAND

**Chair:** Various

**Researchers:** Leanne Digney, Seamus Allen

The IIEA held a series of events on the topic of Health and Pharma in 2023. These events focused on key healthcare issues within the EU, with events sponsored by Janssen Sciences Ireland and others, addressing significant themes such as rare diseases, cancer care, and nursing challenges



*Billy Kelleher MEP*

The IIEA organised two events sponsored by Janssen Science Ireland, *Ireland & the European Health Union: What will it mean for rare diseases?* and *The Role of the EU in Promoting Better Cancer Care and Outcomes*. The first event in the series welcomed **Billy Kelleher MEP**; **Professor Sean Gaine**, Consultant Respiratory Physician at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital; **Vicky McGrath**, CEO of Rare Diseases Ireland; and **Jennifer Lee**, Therapy Area Market Access Leader at Janssen. The speakers discussed what the EU Health Union's focus on rare diseases could mean for national healthcare in Ireland and across the EU. They also considered how Ireland compares to European peers in the care of rare diseases. The panellists reflected on what the future may hold for rare diseases, including the potential impact of the EU package of pharma legislation as well as other expected policy developments.



*Vicky McGrath, CEO of Rare Diseases Ireland; Professor Sean Gaine, Consultant Respiratory Physician at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital; and Jennifer Lee, Therapy Area Market Access Leader at Janssen*



*Averil Power, CEO of the Irish Cancer Society; Professor Ray McDermott, Consultant Medical Oncologist; Senator Annie Hoey; Dr Thorsten Giesecke, General Manager of Commercial Business at Janssen; and Barry Andrews MEP*

In the second event organised with Janssen Sciences Ireland, **Barry Andrews MEP**, **Dr Thorsten Giesecke**, General Manager of Commercial Business at Janssen, **Professor Ray McDermott**, Consultant Medical Oncologist, **Averil Power**, CEO of the Irish Cancer Society, and **Senator Annie Hoey** were invited to discuss the role of the EU in promoting better cancer care and outcomes. The panel considered how Ireland compares to other countries in Europe in terms of levels of care and outcomes, and what lessons we can learn to improve care for Irish cancer patients.

Separately from the IIEA and Janssen Sciences series, the IIEA also organised an event that looked at the Nurses Strikes in the UK, entitled *Frontline to the Picket Line: Striking Nurses and the NHS Crisis*. **Nicola Ranger**, Director of Nursing of the Royal College of Nursing, gave a keynote address on the current challenges faced by nursing staff in both the NHS and independent health care settings. She also discussed the role of the Royal College of Nursing in influencing political change in the UK.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES



## IIEA INSIGHTS

**Chair:** Dan O'Brien

The 2023 *Insights* podcast series, an IIEA members-only event hosted by IIEA Chief Economist **Dan O'Brien**, offered incisive discussions every fortnight, featuring prominent experts on key global and regional issues. Conducted live under the Chatham House rule and then an edited version is made publicly available by podcast, the series provided a platform for deep-dive conversations and audience Q&A on complex, timely topics shaping the world.

The year's highlights included a broad range of discussions: from an exploration of unionist perspectives in *Unionists on Unionism* with **Lord Paul Bew**, Member of UK House of Lords and **Ben Lowry**, Editor of the *Belfast Newsletter* to analysis by **Susan Neiman**, American philosopher and author of *Woke: historical origins and political implication*. **Professor Desmond Dinan**, professor of public policy in the Schar School of Policy and Government, shared insights into EU policy outlook while **Conall Mac Coille**, Chief Economist of Davys and chief economist designate of Bank of Ireland, examined economic prospects for Ireland and transatlantic relations. Geopolitical conflicts and security were also addressed, in discussion with **Barrie Robinson**, former Irish diplomat; and **Dr. Domitilla Sagramoso**, expert on Russian foreign and security policy; and **Fiona Hill**, former Senior Director for European and Russian affairs at the US National Security Council, focusing on the US role in European wars.

Other key sessions included perspectives from **Dan Mulhall**, Former Ambassador of Ireland to the US, on the topic of Ireland-US relations, a dialogue with **David O'Sullivan**, EU Sanctions Envoy, on European affairs, and a session with **Stefan Gerlach**, Chief Economist at EFG Bank in Zurich, on the resilience of the European economy. Scottish independence, and the future of the single market were also examined in conversations with **Stewart McDonald**, Member of Parliament of the United Kingdom,

and **Professor Stephanie Rickard**, Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics, respectively. Discussions on Ireland's public finances were held with Sebastian Barnes, Chair of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council while **Keith Rockwell**, Former Director of Information and External Relations at the World Trade Organisation, gave his perspectives on the state of world trade.

Each episode of *Insights* provided members with valuable perspectives and critical analysis on the evolving political and economic landscape.

# RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

## IIEA YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK

**Chair:** Daire Lawler

The IIEA's Young Professionals Network (YPN) works to convene young professionals (aged between 20 and 35) who are interested in foreign policy to meet, to discuss, and to build lifelong connections. The IIEA hosted a number of events at its headquarters at 8 North Great George's Street.



*Bertie Ahern, former Taoiseach of Ireland (1997-2008), with Daire Lawler, Former YPN Chair*

In March of 2023, the YPN hosted **Bertie Ahern**, former Taoiseach of Ireland (1997-2008), who discussed *The Good Friday Agreement at 25: Reflections for a New Generation*. In his reflections, Bertie Ahern reflected on the progress which the island of Ireland has made towards peace, as well as the lasting challenges the Good Friday Agreement, and peace more broadly might face over the next 25 years.

In July 2023, the IIEA hosted **Conor Gallagher**, Crime and Security Correspondent at the Irish Times, at which he discussed his then-recently published book *Is Ireland Neutral?* Conor Gallagher reflected on the ongoing discussion regarding Ireland's policy of military neutrality, and the difference between what he views as the government's narrow definition of neutrality as simply non-membership of military alliances, and the broader public view of a more all-encompassing conceptualisation of Irish neutrality.

In December 2023, the IIEA hosted its annual Christmas event entitled *New Year's Resolutions? The Landmark 2024 Political Year*. **Caitriona Perry**, Chief Presenter at BBC New Washington; **Bobby McDonagh**, Ambassador of Ireland to the United Kingdom (2009-2013) and Columnist for the Irish Times; and **Dylan Casey Marshall**, Researcher EU Affairs at the IIEA, discussed the upcoming US Presidential election, UK election and European Parliamentary election.



*Daire Lawler, Former YPN Chair, columnist for the Irish Times; Dylan Casey Marshall, Researcher EU Affairs at the IIEA; Bobby McDonagh, Ambassador of Ireland to the United Kingdom (2009-2013); and Caitriona Perry, Chief Presenter at BBC New Washington*

The IIEA also hosted events at the official residences of a number of embassies. In May 2023, the IIEA Young Professionals Network was welcomed to the official residence of the Ambassador of the United States of America. **Ambassador Claire Cronin** discussed the relationship between Ireland and the United States of America, and the importance of this partnership for both countries. She reflected on the then-recent visit of Joe Biden to Ireland and the future of the bilateral partnership between Ireland and the United States of America.

In November 2023, the IIEA's Young Professionals Network was hosted at the Residence of the Embassy of France. **Ambassador Vincent Guérend**, Ambassador of France to Ireland, discussed the relationship between Ireland and France, in particular in areas related to trade, climate change, and economic policy.



*YPN audience with Ambassador Claire Cronin, Ambassador of the United States of America, at the US Embassy in Ireland*

# 2023 PUBLICATIONS

## **The Red Queen Dilemma and the Single Market**

Alexander Conway  
6 January 2023

## **“Security, Resilience, Prosperity, Values”: The Priorities of the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU**

Alexander Conway  
13 January 2023

## **Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Humanitarian Emergencies**

IIEA Staff  
13 January 2023

## **Transitions – Ireland at the UN**

Leanne Digney  
19 January 2023

## **The Shadow of Famine: How the food crisis is impacting the Horn of Africa**

IIEA Staff  
19 January 2023

## **Silencing the Guns in Ethiopia: Implications of the Truce Agreement for the Horn of Africa**

IIEA Staff  
25 January 2023

## **Passing on the Baton – Malta, a New Voice for Small Island States on the UNSC**

Leanne Digney  
2 February 2023

## **The Future of Industrial Policy and the European Single Market**

Alexander Conway  
7 February 2023

## **Industrial Policy - An EU Response to the Challenge of Competitiveness**

Alexander Conway  
8 February 2023

## **Ireland and the UN Human Rights Council – Past, Present and Future**

Leanne Digney  
16 March 2023

## **Can the Leopard Change Its Spots? Competitiveness, Industrial Policy, and State Aid in the European Single Market**

Alexander Conway  
11 April 2023

## **The Windsor Framework: A New Chapter**

Aislinn McCann  
12 April 2023

## **Action on Poverty in Europe: Fifty Years Ago**

Tony Brown  
18 April 2023

## **FAQs on the European Hydrogen Bank**

Dylan Marshall  
21 April 2023

## **Black Swans in the Grey Zone: Defending Ireland’s Energy System Against Cyber Threats**

Cian Fitzgerald  
26 April 2023

## **Data Collection for Internet Researchers under Data Protection Regimes**

Compiled by Seamus Allen  
28 April 2023

## **Ireland’s Development Cooperation Priorities in 2023: A Renewed Commitment to Agenda 2030**

Tara Kukec  
25 May 2023

## **The Indispensability of Social Protection and the Costs of Inaction**

Tara Kukec  
3 June 2023

## **One Year on from the Russian Invasion of Ukraine: Priorities for European Security and Defence**

Cian Fitzgerald  
13 June 2023

## **Reviewing the Co-Benefits of Energy Efficiency in an Irish Context**

Marion Jammet  
14 June 2023

## **The EU Pact on Migration and Asylum: State of Play as of June 2023**

Keelin O’Sullivan  
15 June 2023

## **The A-Z of the NZIA**

Dylan Casey Marshall  
27 June 2023

## **Updating Democracy: Ireland’s Electoral Commission**

Naoise Kenny  
28 June 2023

## **Reframing the Debate: Migration as an Essential Element of EU Foreign Policy**

Keelin O’Sullivan  
29 June 2023

# 2023 PUBLICATIONS

## **Towards a Sustainable and Equitable Food Future: Reshaping Food Systems Around Small-scale Producers**

Tara Kuvec  
5 July 2023

## **Protectors of the Planet: Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples**

Tara Kuvec  
8 July 2023

## **Reflections on Russia's Invasion of Ukraine: One Year On**

Pat Cox  
11 July 2023

## **Curtailment: The overlooked challenge to meeting Ireland's renewable energy targets**

Naoise Kenny  
20 July 2023

## **Getting Past Fire: Moving Fast to a Post-Combustion Planet**

Naoise Kenny  
26 July 2023

## **A Political Ecosystem Divided: Europe's Nature Restoration Law**

Naoise Kenny  
27 July 2023

## **Politics of Migration in the EU**

Keelin O'Sullivan  
11 August 2023

## **Halfway to 2030 – Getting back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals**

Leanne Digney  
15 August 2023

## **The European Digital Agenda in 2023**

Seamus Allen  
30 August 2023

## **How Ireland can pioneer defence against greyzone threats**

Elisabeth Braw  
21 September 2023

## **Development Assistance in a Changing World**

Tara Kuvec  
23 November 2023

## **The Architecture of the New Decarbonised Energy System, Laura Sandys CB**

Emma Richardson  
23 November 2023

## **Finding the Words: The IIEA Handbook of Irish Security and Defence Terminology**

Cian Fitzgerald  
24 November 2023

## **Censorship and Foreign Propaganda in the European Union**

Seamus Allen  
30 November 2023

## **A Brief Review of the Effectiveness of Economic Sanctions**

Edgar Morgenroth  
04 December 2023

## **The Role of the EU Regulatory Scrutiny Board in the EU Legislative Process**

Tom Ferris  
7 December 2023

## **UK Trade: Background and Future under the TCA and the Windsor Framework**

Blair Horan  
8 December 2023

## **Crunch Time for Enlargement**

Tara Kuvec  
8 December 2023

## **Polyglobalisation: Debt, Trade and Geopolitics**

Tara Kuvec  
13 December 2023

## **Don't Break the Bank: Economic Considerations and Design Implications for a Central Bank Digital Currency**

Daire Lawler  
14 December 2023

## **An Overview: Disability rights and policy in Ireland and the EU**

Dr Vivian Rath  
15 December 2023

## **Brexit Brief, Issues 146 – 165**

Tony Brown  
19 January 2023 – 14 December 2023

# COMMUNICATIONS REVIEW

In 2023, the IIEA's Creative and Communications teams focused on consolidating the innovations introduced in 2022. The hybrid event model, which blends in-person and online formats, was further refined, allowing members access to high-profile speakers and enriching discussions. This approach extended the IIEA's reach, enhanced engagement, and reinforced its brand recognition. Attendance at both in-person and virtual events remained strong, supported by the IIEA's robust communication channels, including email, website, and social media, as well as its presence in print, broadcast, and online media.

## IIEA'S COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS

### Email

Email remained the core communications channel members, primarily through event invitations, the weekly Digest, and the monthly Newsletter. Engagement remained strong, with open rates (22-25% on average) and click-through rates (8% on average) reflecting high member interest in IIEA's activities.

### Website

The IIEA website recorded 233,733 sessions in 2023, a slight 10% reduction from 2022, potentially linked to the Google AdWords setup. Notably, users spent 28% less time on the site, indicating quicker access to desired information. Key pages visited included the homepage, Energy and Brexit-related sections, the Careers page, and the Publications landing page. Google Search saw an 11% increase in users searching directly for the IIEA, signalling improved brand awareness. Paid Search had over 60,000 users and remains a crucial tool.

In terms of geographic spread most sessions on the website came from Ireland, followed by the UK, China, France, the Philippines, and Belgium. Notably, China featured in the top visitor locations for the first time.

### Social Media Platforms

The IIEA saw growth across all social media platforms in 2023 with the IIEA mentioned almost 4,400 times on Twitter during the year. LinkedIn experienced consistent growth and engagement on X (formerly Twitter) remained significant. Instagram and YouTube also gained followers, with YouTube serving as a vital platform for hosting event recordings and livestreams. Some of the most popular videos centred on energy, foreign affairs, and EU policy. Soundcloud remained our key podcast platform, with 25,100 listens in 2023, however this was a decrease of 8.3% on 2022, potentially due to the rise in listenership

on our other podcast platforms. Spotify saw an increase of 19.9% in streams since 2022.

Social Media	Followers/subs 2023	Followers/subs 2022	Followers/subs 2021
LinkedIn	14k	12k	10k
Twitter/X	17.2k	16.7k	15.5k
Instagram	1.2k	1k	.8k
YouTube	16.3k	15.3k	5.5k

### Media Coverage

The IIEA maintained a strong media presence in 2023, driven by high-profile speakers and timely research. News sites, newspapers and broadcast drove the majority of media mentions through domestic publications, however, there was also coverage internationally, largely in the US and UK. IIEA media coverage hit over 460 media mentions across print and online outlets.

Coverage of IIEA speaking events included: Swedish Minister for EU Affairs, Jessica Roswall's comments reported in *The Irish Times* and *Irish Examiner*; Frederick Erixon, Director of ECIPE, featured in the *Business Post*; and NATO Deputy Secretary General, Mircea Geoana's address to the IIEA reported in *The Irish Times*.

Thought leadership within the IIEA also had a good platform in 2023 with IIEA Researcher, Cian Fitzgerald's paper, *Black Swans in the Grey Zone*, prompting an Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence briefing alongside Director of Research, Dr Barry Colfer, followed by coverage in *The Irish Times* and on *RTÉ Radio One's Drivetime*. Fellow IIEA Researcher Alexander Conway's op-ed on Qatargate was printed in *The Irish Examiner* while the same publication invested several column inches to Marion Jammet's white paper *Reviewing the Co-benefits of Energy Efficiency in an Irish Context*. The IIEA's Chief Economist, Dan O'Brien, also made regular broadcast appearances and contributed to print and online articles on a range of topics throughout 2023.

### IIEA's Creative Output

The IIEA's creative team maintained high standards across all content formats in 2023. Professional design and impactful social media graphics contributed to the organisation's consistent quality and helped drive engagement.

2023 was a successful year for the IIEA's communications and creative teams. The hybrid model and strategic media outreach boosted engagement and brand recognition, cementing the IIEA's position as a leading forum for debate on European and international affairs.

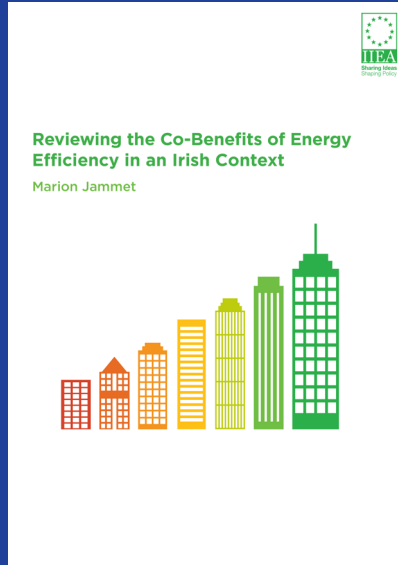
# CREATIVE OUTPUT 2023



**GLOBAL EUROPE**

**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

**Can the Leopard Change Its Spots?**  
Competitiveness, Industrial Policy, and  
State Aid in the European Single Market  
By Dylan Marshall | April 2023



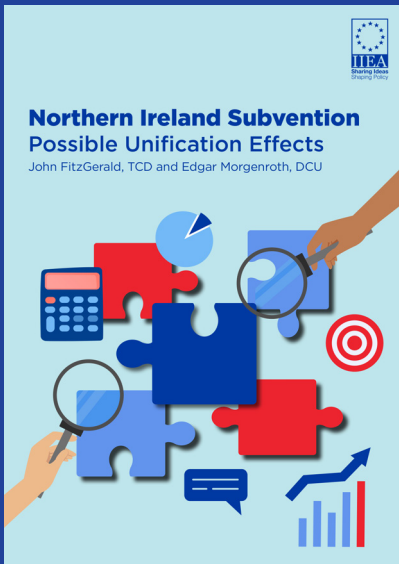
**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

**Reviewing the Co-Benefits of Energy  
Efficiency in an Irish Context**  
Marion Jammet



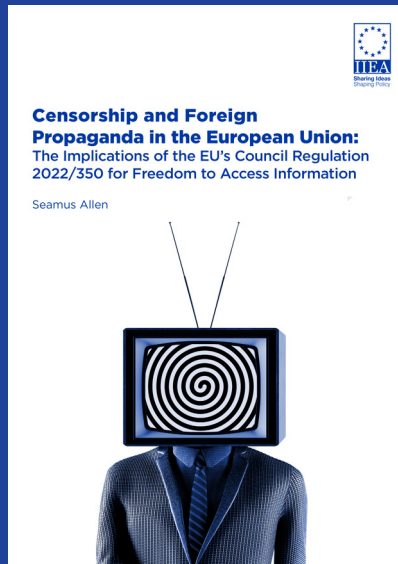
**BLACK SWANS IN THE GREY ZONE:**  
Defending Ireland's Energy System  
Against Cyber Threats  
Cian Fitzgerald

**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy



**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

**Northern Ireland Subvention  
Possible Unification Effects**  
John FitzGerald, TCD and Edgar Morgenroth, DCU



**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

**Censorship and Foreign  
Propaganda in the European Union:  
The Implications of the EU's Council Regulation  
2022/350 for Freedom to Access Information**  
Seamus Allen



**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

**Can a new statecraft  
save the UK's  
dysfunctional  
Union?**  
Paul Gillespie



**GETTING PAST FIRE: MOVING FAST TO A POST-COMBUSTION PLANET**  
by Naoise Kenny

**REthink Energy**  
A discussion series on Energy by  
the IEA and ESB

**ESB** **The Institute of  
International &  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**



**THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE NEW DECARBONISED ENERGY SYSTEM**  
by Emma Richardson

**REthink Energy**  
A discussion series on Energy by  
the IEA and ESB

**ESB** **The Institute of  
International &  
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**



**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

**How Ireland can pioneer defence  
against greyzone threats**  
by Elisabeth Braw  
Senior Fellow at American Enterprise Institute



**Updating Democracy:  
Ireland's Electoral Commission**  
by Naoise Kenny

**VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE**

**IIIPA**  
Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy

# SOCIAL MEDIA 2023

**IIEA** @iiea · Nov 17, 2023 Promote

Our Director of Research @BarryColfer spoke to the Oireachtas Committee on Wednesday on the topic of future treaty change in the European Union. Watch back here: [oireachtas.ie/en/committees/...](https://oireachtas.ie/en/committees/)



JOINT COMMITTEE Discussion on future Treaty Change in the European Union

**Institute of International and European Affairs**  
15,699 Followers  
10mo ·

"The key disadvantage of Brexit centres around the fundamental difference between trading inside a Single Market/Customs Union, which extends a country's domestic market over the entire area, and trading under Free Trade Agreements, ...more



UK Trade: Background and Future under the TCA and the Windsor Framework  
by Blair Horan

5 1 repost

You reposted

**World Vision Ireland** @WorldVisionIre · Nov 22, 2023

'ODA is at its highest ever level, over \$2bn. But \$2bn is only 5% of the total need.'

Huge pressures on ODA beyond its traditional capacity incl: Ukraine; in donor refugee costs; Covid-19; climate change.

@iiea @OECDdev @DACChairOECD



2 7 570

**IIEA** @iiea · Oct 4, 2023 Promote

Our event with General Blame Dlop, Military Advisor to the #UN Department of #Peace Operations, has just begun this morning.

Watch here: [bit.ly/46z2Npj](https://bit.ly/46z2Npj)



Sharing Ideas Shaping Policy  
The Institute of International and European Affairs

**IIEA** @iiea · Sep 27, 2023

Dr Frances Ruane 'Innovation has been mainstreamed in economics - nothing now happens without innovation.'



Sharing Ideas Shaping Policy

2 1 821

Institute of International and European Affairs reposted this

**Fergal McNamara** · 1st  
Senior Policy Director Adjunct Professor Energy Institute UCD  
10mo ·

Fabulous to hear former Italian Prime Minister **Enrico Letta** of the Jacques Delors Institute at the Institute of International and European Affairs on his work to prepare a report for the European Council on the future of the Single ...more



77 1 comment · 1 repost

**IIEA** @iiea · Jul 7, 2023 Promote

"The #ClimateChange conversation can't just be about #science and #weather it has to be about people. A key priority for Ireland is ensuring that the Loss & Damage funding will go where it is most needed" Sinead Walsh @dfatril opens our #DevelopmentMatters webinar with

[Show more](#)



Irish Aid and Irish Foreign Ministry

1 3 510

You reposted

**Vincent Guérend** @vincentguerend · Nov 30, 2023

Glad to address the @iiea group of young professionals at the French Residence. Debate around the great subject which is the guiding thread of my mission to Ireland: "France, Ireland's closest EU neighbour" ! Superb engagement and questions! 🇫🇷🇮🇪



You and 4 others

8 39 2.9K

You reposted

**Irish Green Building Council** @IrishGBC · Nov 24, 2023

While 🇮🇪 and 🇪🇺 policies have made the #EnergyRenovation of buildings a priority, their rate remains low. What are the drivers?

💡 Read more about the co-benefits of #EnergyEfficiency in an Irish Context in a new blog by @cjammert [igbc.ie/iiea-report-bl..](https://igbc.ie/iiea-report-bl..)

@iiea



2 5 587

**IIEA** @iiea · Jul 11, 2023 Promote

Kicking off our #YPN event tonight @ConorGallagher\_ outlines how our Ireland has always had a complex and flexible idea of the concept of #neutrality



Cian FitzGerald and Conor Gallagher

2 11 1.4K

# IN THE NEWS 2023

## IRISH FARMERS JOURNAL

BEEF DAIRY SHEEP AGRIBUSINESS MACHINERY TILLAGE PEDIGREE BUILDINGS PROPERTY

### Hackett says Nature Restoration Law can revitalise rural Ireland

Minister Pippa Hackett pitches Nature Restoration Law on eve of EU vote.



Lorcan Roche Kelly  
NEWS > NEWS  
26 June 2023



Minister of State Pippa Hackett.

Minister of State Pippa Hackett has said that restoring nature should not be controversial, and that the proposed nature restoration law can "revitalise and invigorate rural Ireland" and "has the capacity to breath new life into rural communities".

Speaking to the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) in Dublin on Monday about the controversial rewetting proposals, Hackett said that over the medium term, the needs could be met entirely through

## WORLD

### Le chef des affaires intérieures de l'UE déclare que les droits des migrants sont une « priorité » dans l'accord de Tunis



Published 1 an ago on juillet 18, 2023  
By Yves Laurent



La commissaire européenne aux affaires intérieures, Ylva Johansson, a déclaré que les droits fondamentaux des migrants seraient prioritaires dans le cadre d'un nouveau paquet de partenariat avec la Tunisie.

### Committee to hear of risk from cyberattacks

CONOR GALLAGHER

Crime and Security Correspondent  
Ireland may be at risk from large-scale Russian cyberattacks on its energy grid, an Oireachtas committee will hear today.

Experts from the **Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA)** will brief the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence on the nature of hybrid threats to critical infrastructure, including the communications and energy grid.

Members will hear that as Russia falters in its war against Ukraine, it will seek to damage the EU in other ways and that Ireland is a prime target due to the large amount of EU data stored here.

Ireland hosts about 30 per cent of all European data, along with cable infrastructure that is "critical to global communications", according to Cian FitzGerald of the IIEA. He said sustained and large-scale power outages would disrupt Ireland's image as a safe and stable place to do business", and also potentially cause disruption in the rest of the EU.

According to IIEA, director of research Barry Colfer, as its forces continue to get bogged down in Ukraine, "Russia may increasingly seek to utilise other means to achieve its political aims by targeting European states such as Ireland".

The threats posed by Russia include hybrid or "grey zone" warfare which is defined as threatening activity that falls below the threshold of traditional military action. Examples include cyberattacks, disinformation and election interference.

Hybrid warfare saps political and economic strength, undermines social cohesion and is often carried in an incremental, barely noticeable fashion, he says.

One example is the reported mapping of subsea cables by Russian vessels which Mr FitzGerald says is "designed to intimidate Europeans, to highlight their vulnerabilities and most importantly to undermine European support for Ukraine".

Ireland is increasingly at risk due to its poor defences coupled with its large economy and importance in global technology. The Irish energy grid may be a preferred target, either through a series of small-scale attacks or a single large operation, he believes.

Russia has already shown it is willing to take such action, Mr FitzGerald says. In December 2014, it launched a devastating series of cyberattacks against Ukraine's power grid causing nearly a quarter of a million customers to lose power.

## Reuters

World US Election Business Markets Sustainability Legal Breakingviews Technology More

European Markets

### ECB's Makhlouf says it is 'far, far' too early for rate cut discussion

By Reuters

November 8, 2023, 10:27 AM GMT - Updated a year ago



Governor of the Central Bank of Ireland Gabriel Makhlouf speaks during a press conference at the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) headquarters, in Dublin, Ireland December 5, 2022. REUTERS/Ciaragh Kilmoney/File photo Purchase Licensing Source: C3

DUBLIN, Nov 8 (Reuters) - It is "far, far too early" to start talking about when the European Central Bank might start cutting interest rates and equally too soon to rule out any further hikes, policymaker Gabriel Makhlouf said on Wednesday.

## RTÉ NEWS

NEWS BUSINESS Agribusiness Focus on Inflation Business of Climate Work Brexit Watch and Listen Analysis

### Should we be worried about a slowdown in multinational investment here?

Updated / Saturday, 8 Jul 2023 09:34



Foreign Direct Investment has been under pressure globally in the first half of the year



By Will Goodbody  
Business Editor

"Our phones are hopping and the town is overjoyed at this great news."

## RTÉ NEWS

NEWS BUSINESS Agribusiness Focus on Inflation Business of Climate Work Brexit Watch and Listen Analysis

### Should we be worried about a slowdown in multinational investment here?

Updated / Saturday, 8 Jul 2023 09:34



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By Will Goodbody  
Business Editor

HOME PAGE / NEWS

### New low-cost loans for retrofitting homes 'a game-changer', Eamon Ryan says



Mr Ryan was responding to TDs and senators, who laid out a number of examples of homeowners caught in the middle of those who are receiving full support from the Government to make their homes more efficient, and more affluent homeowners for whom upfront costs are not a big barrier.

FRI, 17 NOV, 2023 - 14:30

PÁDRAIG HOARE, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

# ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

**PATRON:** Michael D. Higgins, President of Ireland

**COMITÉ D'HONNEUR:** Enda Kenny, Mary McAleese, Mary Robinson, Pat Cox, Brian Cowen, Bertie Ahern, Máire Geoghegan Quinn, Charles McCreevy, David Byrne, Ray MacSharry

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:** Adrian Burke, Prof. Patrick Keatinge, Geraldine Byrne Nason, Dr. Con Power, Dr. David Williamson

**VICE PRESIDENTS:** Adrian Burke, Una O'Dwyer, Nora Owen, Katherine Meenan, Jill Donoghue

## **IBOARD OF DIRECTORS 2023:**

**Interim Chairperson:** Terence O'Rourke

**Company Secretary:** Marie Sinnott

**Treasurer:** Brendan Butler

Brian Daly

Catherine Day

Maeve Carton

Marie Cross

Nora Owen

Pat Cox

Peter McLoone

Sheila Nunan

Terry Neill

**Senior Fellows:** Tony Brown, Pat Cox, Marie Cross, Paul Gallagher, Eamon Gilmore, Katherine Meenan, Pádraig Murphy

## **IIEA MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**Director General:** Alex White

**Director of Research:** Barry Colfer

**Deputy Director of Research:** Andrew Gilmore

**Senior Research Advisor:** Jill Donoghue

**Director of Administration:** Tom Breen

**Director of Finance:** Janice Epstein

**Communications Director:** Hannah Deasy

**Creative Director:** Sarah Burke

**Membership Relations Director:** Paul O'Neill

**Chief Economist:** Dan O'Brien

## **IIEA COMMITTEES**

### **Finance, Audit and Risk Committee**

Brendan Butler (Chair)

Terence O'Rourke

Marie Cross

Marie Sinnott

Sheila Nunan

### **Membership Committee**

David Carson (Chair to Oct 23)

Brian Daly

Nora Owen

Terry Neill

### **Remuneration, Employment and Nominations Committee**

Peter McLoone (Chair)

Brendan Butler

Marie Sinnott

Terry Neill

Maeve Carton

### **Research Strategy Committee**

Marie Cross (Chair)

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2023

## Financial Statement Summary:

SUMMARY INCOME STATEMENT			
	Year ended 31-Dec-23 €	Year ended 31-Dec-22 €	Year ended 31-Dec-21 €
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions	962,251	1,007,490	1,037,573
Grants and Projects	780,710	653,326	593,766
Other	87,481	135,930	358,164
Non-Exchange Transactions	0	0	50,000
Subsidy	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,830,442</b>	<b>1,796,746</b>	<b>2,039,503</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Salaries & Contractors	1,416,803	1,376,572	1,230,311
Grants and Projects	80,783	98,804	114,968
Administration	300,838	343,732	376,546
Depreciation	33,914	34,391	28,959
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,832,338</b>	<b>1,853,499</b>	<b>1,750,784</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>(1,896)</b>	<b>(56,753)</b>	<b>288,719</b>
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION			
	As at 31-Dec-23 €	As at 31-Dec-22 €	As at 31-Dec-21 €
Fixed Assets	363,583	394,652	372,233
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	468,225	439,052	518,224
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>831,808</b>	<b>833,704</b>	<b>890,457</b>
Revaluation Reserve	160,099	160,099	160,099
Income & Expenditure Account	71,709	73,605	130,358
Operating Reserve	600,000	600,000	600,000
<b>Capital &amp; Reserves</b>	<b>831,808</b>	<b>833,704</b>	<b>890,457</b>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT SUMMARY



The Institute's accounts for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 were audited by Ernst & Young.

The Institute continues to participate in the Community Employment Scheme operating under the Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection albeit on a very reduced scale with 1 staff member, managed and supervised by North Wall CDP.

The Institute continues to successfully deliver a strong high-quality schedule of events, research programmes, lecture series and talks in a variety of forms - virtually, hybrid or in-person - tailored to suit our partners, stakeholders and members. Despite the reduction in membership income, by virtue of the European Commission CERV Grant funding, the project work from the DFA, the unwavering support of our current members and a healthy increase in new project work programmes we were afforded the ability to maintain our operating capacity and close the financial year with a negligible deficit.

In accordance with recommended best practice, the Operating Reserve Fund policy was approved and adopted by the Board on 7 November 2018. As agreed, the Board sets the desired level of the Fund annually, at all times cognisant of the resources and funds required for smooth operations and the budgeted operating expenditure for the coming year. This financial year, supported by our strong opening reserves, we had the capacity to absorb the negligible reported deficit and sustain our operations with the aim of delivering a surplus in the coming year.

Management remains focused on actively targeting new members and improving membership retention in the face of some external economic challenges, whilst delivering content that retains the EU grant awarded us, the DFA programme commitments and pursuing further profitable revenue generating projects. As always, cognisant of the importance of matching income with expenditure, management continues to carefully monitor the increasing cost of resources required to successfully meet all revenue generating commitments, the overall operating expenditure related to delivering high quality events and the costs of any remedial work required to the property and rationalise where possible.

**Janice Epstein**  
Director of Finance

21 October 2024

# TREASURER REPORT



The directors' full annual statutory report for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 is available on our website together with our audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31st December 2023. The main elements of that report are set out below.

## Principal activities

The principal activity is to provide context, policy insight and analysis of key European and international trends affecting Ireland's strategic direction now and into the future through extensive research and event programmes.

## Results for the year

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 reflect an income of €1.83m for the year. This is an increase of about 2% on our income of €1.79m for 2022. This continuing strong income level reflects the continuing success of the Institute retaining its relevance to our members and supporters as Ireland's leading international affairs think tank.

Our 2023 income reflects strong support from our members, with subscriptions generating almost €1m in income. We continued to benefit from the support of the European Commission CERV Operating Grant (€238k in 2023 in line with €238k in the prior year) as well as the project work commissioned from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) for the Global Europe project (€233k in 2023 compared to the €265k recorded in 2022). We also benefited from new and recurring project income reflecting the key research strengths of the Institute.

In terms of expenditure, our employment costs at 77% of our total outlays were up 3% from the prior year, a result of across-the-board cost of living salary increases. We recorded a €50k reduction in administration costs as a result of the increase in our digital and on-line facilities since 2022 reflecting the move to more effective hybrid (in house and on-line) events. These factors were the principal reasons for the relatively modest decrease in operating expenses from €1.85m in 2022 to €1.83m in 2023.

Overall, therefore we reported a deficit of less than €2,000 in 2023, almost achieving our objective of at least breaking even. This is a reflection of the continuing slender margins within which the Institute operates. However, this is a very satisfactory outcome in the context of maintaining our accumulated operating reserves of €600,000.

The Institute's balance sheet at the end of the year shows a slight decrease in net assets from €833,704 at 31 December 2022 to €831,808 at 31 December 2023 but remain in a strong position.

We continue to be very grateful and appreciative of the unwavering support of our members, the the CERV Operating Grant awarded by the EU Commission, our principal project partner (DFA) and our many other project partners. Thus, we are confident that the Institute will continue to be able to maintain the provision to our members and the wider public of a sustained high-quality schedule of research, talks and presentations and a wide range of publications.

2023 was a year in which the Institute continued to generate income and provide programmes in the following areas:

- A strong schedule of events for our members and, on many occasions, the wider public, using the successful and very popular online programme delivery facility without any significant issues. We have again seen record participation in our event programme in 2023 and the many hybrid events which were attended in person as well as being shown on our internet channels and which increased in popularity.
- The Global Europe project funding from DFA contributed €233k to our income in 2023 a reduction from the €265k received for 2022, reflecting additional activity in the prior year. The DFA funding is conditional upon agreed work plans

# TREASURER REPORT

and satisfactory bi-annual reports, and the project is being monitored closely by the Global Europe project committee and by regular contact with the DFA.

- The Institute was awarded an Operating Grant from the EU Commission up to a maximum of €250k a year for any one grant. This funding is strictly designated towards our core operational costs only and we recognised €238k in 2023 (2022: €238k) of the grant income, reflecting the costs of operating our expanded programme.

The directors expect that the Institute will continue to benefit from the support of its members and the various organisations which have commissioned projects with the Institute as well as continuing support from our two major grant funders, the EU and the DFA. Our plans for 2025 envisage that these supports and projects will continue. There is some risk that the possibility of an economic downturn or other developments might affect some of our income sources, even over the next 12 months.

However, taking into account our strong opening position with operating reserves of €600,000 at 1 January 2024, a budgeted reasonable financial operating result for 2024 (now expected to be a modest deficit) and bearing in mind our ability to adapt our programme to continue to match income and expenditures in the event of any further income shortfalls, the directors are therefore satisfied that sufficient income will continue to be available from current and prospective members, projects, grants and activities to ensure that the Institute can continue its operations for the foreseeable future.

While continuing to consider how the digitalisation of the provision of our services will impact on how we might best deliver those services to our members and wider stakeholders, the directors do not envisage any substantial changes to the nature of the business.

**Brendan Butler**

**Treasurer**

Chair of Finance, Audit & Risk Committee

21 October 2024

# 2023 PLATINUM MEMBERS



# 2023 FOUNDATION MEMBERS



BANK OF AMERICA



Bank of  
Ireland

**BlackRock**



BNY MELLON



Banc Ceannais na hÉireann  
Central Bank of Ireland  
Eurosystem



**Deloitte.**



Gas  
Networks  
Ireland



Google



For Irish Business



IDA Ireland



IFA



PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES OF  
Johnson & Johnson

**KERRY**

Matheson

**Meta**

**MetLife**



NORTHERN  
TRUST



Gníomhaireacht Bainistíochta an Chisteáin Náisiúnta  
National Treasury Management Agency



SMBC  
AVIATION CAPITAL



**ZURICH**

# 2023 CORPORATE MEMBERS

Amazon	Dochas
An Garda Siochana	EirGrid plc
American Chamber of Commerce in Ireland	Energia Group
Arthur Cox	Environmental Protection Agency
Avolon Aviation Leasing	ESRI
Aviareto Limited	EuroFound
Bar Council of Ireland	Food Safety Authority of Ireland
BNP Paribas	Forsa
CCPC	Home and Community Care Ireland
Central Statistics Office	ICHEC
Centre for Religion, Human Values, and International Relations	ICTU
Chambers Ireland	Institute Global
Chartered Accountants Ireland	INTO
Church of Ireland Working Group on Europe	Irish Funds
Citi	Irish Tax Institute
CiviQ	McCann FitzGerald Solicitors
CODEMA	Media Commission
Commission for Regulation of Utilities	Merck
ComReg	Microsoft Ireland
Concern	National Economic & Social Council
Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine	Office of the Attorney General
Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
Department of Defence	Office of the Revenue Commissioners
Department of Enterprise Trade & Employment	Oxfam Ireland
Department of Finance	Policing Authority
Department of Foreign Affairs	RWE Renewables Ireland Limited
Department of Further and Higher Education Research Innovation and Science	SEAI
Department of Health	Sky Ireland
Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage	SRI Executive Search
Department of Justice	SSE plc
Department of Public Expenditure NDP Delivery and Reform	The Institute of Banking
Department of Rural and Community Development	The Oireachtas Commission
Department of Social Protection	The Wheel
Department of the Environment Climate and Communications	Trinity College Dublin
Department of the Taoiseach	Trocaire
Department of Tourism Culture Arts Gaeltacht Sport and Media	TU Dublin
Department of Transport	Twitter
	UCD
	UNHCR Representation in Ireland
	Wells Fargo
	William Fry Solicitors

# 2023 EMBASSY MEMBERS

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Embassy of Argentina  
Embassy of Austria  
Embassy of Belgium  
Embassy of Brazil  
Embassy of the United Kingdom  
Embassy of Canada  
Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
Embassy of the Republic of Croatia  
Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus  
Embassy of the Czech Republic  
Embassy of Colombia  
Embassy of the Republic of Estonia  
Embassy of Finland  
Embassy of France  
Embassy of Georgia  
Embassy of Germany  
Embassy of Greece  
Embassy of Hungary  
Embassy of Israel  
Embassy of Japan  
Embassy of the Republic of Latvia  
Embassy of Mexico  
Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco  
Embassy of New Zealand  
Embassy of the Republic of Poland  
Embassy of Portugal  
Embassy of Romania  
Embassy of Denmark  
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands  
Royal Norwegian Embassy  
Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia  
Embassy of the Republic of South Africa  
Embassy of Spain  
Embassy of Sweden  
Embassy of Switzerland  
Embassy of the Republic of Turkey  
Embassy of Ukraine  
Embassy of the United Arab Emirates  
Embassy of the United States of America

# 2023 LIFE MEMBERS

Adrian Burke  
Alan Matthews  
Alan T. Ryan  
Andrew Clarke  
Andy O'Rourke  
Barry Desmond  
Beatrice Hughes  
Billy Attley  
Brendan Butler  
Brendan Kearney  
Brendan Lynch  
Brendan Ryan  
Brian Cawley  
Brian Cowen  
Brian Hurley  
C.J. Walsh  
Catherine Day  
Ciaran Toland  
Colin Wrafter  
Colm Larkin  
Con Power  
Cormac Neill  
Daithi O'Ceallaigh  
David Croughan  
David Griffin  
David Gunning  
Declan O'Donovan  
Denis Corboy  
Dermot McAleese  
Dermot Scott  
Don Thornhill  
Donal de Buitleir  
Donal Donovan  
Dorcha Lee  
Eamonn Thomas Walsh  
Emer Haughey  
Etain Doyle  
Eugene Downes  
Fachtina Murphy  
Faye Ioannou  
Finola Flanagan

Frances Ruane  
Francis Jacobs  
Francis M O'Donnell  
Frank Kenny  
Frank Masterson  
Frank Wall  
Gerald Fitzgerald  
Gerard Cashin  
Gerard O'Neill  
Horst Siedschlag  
Hugh Governey  
Hugh Logue  
J.Owen Lewis  
Jim Devine  
Jim Fitzpatrick  
Jim McCaffrey  
Joe Brosnan  
John Handoll  
John Kennedy  
John McKeon  
John Travers  
Johnny Ryan  
Joseph Hickey  
Katherine Meenan  
Kevin P. O'Kelly  
Liam Kelleher  
Lochlann Quinn  
Lorcan Blake  
Margaret Hennessy  
Marie Cross  
Mark Lochrin  
Mary Browne  
Mary Finan  
Michael McLoughlin  
Michael Tutty  
Neville Keery  
Niall Greene  
Niamh Haughey  
Nicki O'Connor  
Noel Dorr  
Nora Owen

# 2023 LIFE MEMBERS

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Odran Reid  
Padraic A. White  
Padraig Murphy  
Pat Cox  
Pat Farrell  
Pat McArdle  
Pat McCann  
Patrick Honohan  
Patrick Keatinge  
Patrick Kehoe  
Patrick McCaffrey  
Patrick White  
Paul Gallagher  
Paul Gillespie  
Paul Sreenan  
Paul Tighe  
Paul Turpin  
Peter Doyle  
Peter McLoone  
Phil Ryan  
Philip Lee  
Ray McGahern  
Roderick Ryan  
Ron Hill  
Ronan Tynan  
Ruairi Quinn  
Ruth Barrington  
Sean McCrum  
Stephen Vernon  
Sue Scott  
Terence O'Rourke  
Terry Neill  
Thelma Doran  
Tom Ferris  
Tony Brown  
Tony Smith  
Una McGurk  
Una O'Dwyer  
William Scally

The Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) is Ireland's international affairs think tank. Founded in 1991, its mission is to foster and shape political, policy and public discourse, in order to broaden awareness of international and European issues in Ireland and contribute to more informed strategic decisions by political, business and civil society leaders.

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**Sharing Ideas  
Shaping Policy**

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