



17TH MARTIN TANSEY MEMORIAL LECTURE

PROF. MAGGIE O'NEILL, UCC
'WOMEN AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SYSTEM: GENDER MATTERS'

REGISTER NOW

Thursday 2 May 2024, 6pm (registration 5.30)
www.acjrd.ie/news/events



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ACJRD Events Calendar 2024

May 2nd: **The 17th Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture** (5.30pm, *Criminal Courts of Justice*) The ACJRD marks the contribution Martin Tansey made to Criminal Justice in Ireland and to this association with a Memorial lecture each spring.

June 12th: **The 27th ACJRD Annual Conference** (full day)

October 4th: **The 10th Irish Criminal Justice Agencies Conference** (full day)

Keep an eye on [our Events page](#) for updates.

Vacancy

Revenue Dublin (Senior Legal Advisor, Assistant Principal).

Based in Ship Street Gate, Dublin Castle, pay scale ranging from €75,822 to €94,491. For full details visit

www.revenue.ie/careers.

Deadline: **11/04/24, 13.00.**

To submit notices for the ACJRD newsletter and website, please email enquiries@acjrd.ie

Latest News

The 17th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture

ACJRD are delighted to announce that booking is now open for the 17th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture, with Prof. Maggie O'Neill, Professor in Sociology & Criminology, University College Cork, speaking on 'Women and the Criminal Justice System: Gender Matters' on Thursday, 2nd May 2024 in the Criminal Courts of Justice.

The lecture draws upon a long history of research with women who come into conflict with the law, who engage with the criminal justice system as victims or offenders. In keeping with Martin Tansey's life's work and the values he promoted that underpin independent criminal justice research, the lecture highlights the usefulness of interdisciplinarity and creative methods for centring the narratives of the actors involved and developing pathways to better knowledge and understanding, education and reintegration.

The Lecture will take place on **Thursday, 2nd May, 2024**, registration 5.30pm, in the Criminal Courts of Justice, Dublin 8. For further details and to register please [see the ACJRD website](#).

ACJRD Juvenile Justice Seminar

ACJRD were delighted to present to host an insightful online seminar on the theme of **Juvenile Justice** on 20 March 2024, along with **Dr Siobhán Buckley**, Ulster University School of Law, and **Caroline Rutherford** and **Michelle Kennedy** of Extern.

A recording of the seminar **available to ACJRD members only** is [available to view here](#) (please have your login details ready to view this).

Presentations are [available to download here](#).

Alternative Ways of Seeing – An exhibition of work by people in custody

'Alternative Ways of Seeing' is a national exhibition of artwork produced in prisons and curated by artist Eddie Cahill, a former prisoner himself, and an inspirational figure in the world of prison arts. Cahill together with Tom Shortt, Arts Officer for the Irish Prison Service, travelled the length and breadth of the country, selecting a body of work which spans all the prisons in Ireland and displays a wealth of skills taught within the prison education system. The exhibition runs until **27th April 2024** at Rua Red, South Dublin Arts Centre, Tallaght. For [further detail click here](#).

Cuan – new statutory agency to tackle and reduce DSGBV

The new Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (DSGBV) Agency, Cuan, was formally opened on the 23/02/24 by Minister for Justice Helen McEntee. Implementing the governments zero-tolerance policy for DSGBV is the agency's main objective. It will aim to do this by providing funding for domestic and sexual violence services, by leading public awareness campaigns, and importantly by increasing refuge spaces for domestic abuse victims. Dr Stephanie O'Keefe was announced as the agency's CEO. For a report in the [Irish Independent click here](#).

Criminal Justice (Engagement of Children in Criminal Activity) Bill 2023

New legislation, which has completed all stages of debate, will criminalise grooming children into criminal activity. The Criminal Justice Bill 2023 makes it a criminal offence to compel, coerce, direct or deceive a child into engaging in criminal activity. It also makes it a criminal offence to induce, invite, aid, abet, counsel or procure a child into engaging in criminal activity. The offence is punishable by up to 12 months of imprisonment on summary conviction and 5 years on indictment. To [view the Bill click here](#).

Proposed Family Courts Bill will create two-tier family justice system

The Bar of Ireland is [calling for urgent amendments](#) to the draft Family Courts Bill (2022) to avoid the creation of a two-tier family justice system, and in order to ensure there is fairness for all families before the courts.

The Bar of Ireland and The Family Lawyers Association are generally supportive of the Bill – but have strong concerns about the proposal to reallocate most divorce, judicial separation, and co-habitation proceedings to the District Court. This will create a two-tier family justice system.

The Bar of Ireland and The Family Lawyers Association of Ireland are holding **The Family Courts Bill Summit** on this subject at 11am on 17 April in the Alex Hotel in Dublin 2. For [information and to RSVP please click here](#).

Upcoming Events

[A Century of Courts:](#)

conference, guided tours, exhibition and music, Dublin Castle, **12 April** to mark the centenary of The Courts of Justice Act 1924 being signed into law. Free, booking essential.

[The Family Courts Bill Summit](#), **17 April** 11am, organised by The Bar of Ireland and The Family Lawyers Association, Alex Hotel, Dublin 2.

[The 6th World Congress on Probation and Parole](#), The Hague **16 to 18 April**.

[SCARS Art Exhibition](#) of artwork created by prison students in Ireland, Norway and Malawi as part of an EU-funded project. Maynooth University, **25 April** 6-7:30pm.

[Policing Empires:](#)

[Militarization, Race and the Imperial Boomerang](#)

with Professor Julian Go of the Sociology Department, University of Chicago, **25 April** 6:30-8pm, Maynooth University.

[Alternative Ways of Seeing – An exhibition of work by people in custody 2024](#) runs until **27 April** at Rua Red, South Dublin Arts Centre, Tallaght.

[Public Understandings of Hate Crime: Ireland, North and South](#), University of Limerick, **30 April**, 4-5pm.

[The Politics and Practice of Drug Policing in Ireland](#), Northern Research Police Webinar Series of Spring 2024, **3 May** 11am-12:15pm.

[Police Reform in a Changing Ireland](#), ICCL, in partnership with the Committee on the Administration of Justice (CAJ), Maynooth University, **May 16** 10am-5pm.

You may have missed...

Minister McEntee officially opens new state of the art Forensic Science Ireland campus. The facility has been described by FSI Director General Chris Enright as “the most advanced in Europe” – click [here to read](#).

Inspection of forensic services in Northern Ireland calls for strengthened collaborative working. This report highlights the need for more fully integrated and unified service delivery projects from crime scene to court and unpacks some of the “urban myths” surrounding forensic services – click [here to read](#).

Listen: Rachel Lillis on RTE Radio 1 speaks with Oliver Callan about the Probation Service and Restorative Justice – click [here to listen](#).

Listen: Criminal Justice Inspection, Northern Ireland podcast. The Head of UK NPM Sam H. Gluckstein, CJI Chief Inspector Jacqui Durkin and CJI Inspector Rachel Lindsay talk about the crucial work of the UK NPM, CJI's role within the NPM and the work of the NPM Northern Ireland Sub Group – click [here to listen](#).

Call for Articles

The Irish Criminal Law Journal

The *Irish Criminal Law Journal* has issued a call for article submissions for [2024] Volume 34 ICLJ Issues 1, 2, 3, and 4.

The Journal welcomes article submissions on any aspect of criminal law, criminal justice or criminal procedure that pertains in Ireland. Comparative research articles with a significant focus on Ireland will also be considered. Click [here for further details](#).

EU/International News

Belgium criminalises Ecocide on a National and International Level

Belgium has become the first EU country to criminalise ecocide, and to recognise it as an international crime. The federal parliament have approved a penal code which will criminalise ecocide, an offence which includes severe, large-scale and irreversible crimes against nature such as extensive oil spills. The penal code will allow for the conviction and punishment of individuals in the highest positions of decision-making power and corporations with 20 years in prison and a fine of €1.6 million. For the [report in The Brussels Times click here](#).

Recent Publications

Policing and Racial Discrimination in Ireland: A Community and Rights Perspective

This report highlights and details the perceptions and experiences of racial discrimination in Ireland of people from ethnic minority communities when interacting with members of An Garda Síochána. The report makes 18 recommendations, including six to Government, one to the Policing Authority and 11 to An Garda Síochána. They include:

- Government should immediately mandate the collection of disaggregated data pertaining to race, ethnicity, religion, gender and disability across the entire Irish criminal justice system to properly understand how racial and ethnic minorities are treated at each section of the justice system.
- Government should meaningfully implement Action 1.5 of the National Action Plan Against Racism to eliminate any type of policing practice that targets specific racial and ethnic minority groups by 2025.
- An Garda Síochána develop and deliver specific training on racial profiling that addresses, amongst other things, unconscious bias, cross-cultural communication and intercultural understanding, the different manifestations of racial profiling and the impact on individuals.
- An Garda Síochána prioritise diversity in recruitment to ensure that the diversity of Gardaí reflects the diversity of Irish society, including intersectional identities.

To view [further detail and download the report click here](#)

DNA Database System Oversight Committee Annual Report 2022

In the course of 2022, the number of persons' profiles on the DNA Database increased by 15% and the number of crime stains on the DNA Database increased by 13%. To [download the report, click here](#).

MA in Comparative Criminology and Criminal Justice in Maynooth University School of Law and Criminology
Applications are now open. The MA gives students the opportunity to develop a specialist knowledge of debates around crime causation and its control in a comparative and international context. The programme is aimed at professionals working within the criminal justice system as well as more recent graduates. The programme is offered one year full-time and two years part-time. For [further information click here](#).

LLM in Policing, Crime and Security in School of Law and Government at Dublin City University

A new LLM in Policing, Crime and Security has been launched by the School of Law and Government at Dublin City University. This is a one year full-time/two year part-time Masters programme which has been carefully devised to give students both significant breadth and depth of knowledge on matters relating to policing, criminal behaviour, security studies and responses to terrorism. For [more information click here](#).

BA in Applied Policing and Criminal Justice delivered by the School of Law, University of Limerick

The Level 8 (National Framework of Qualifications) Bachelor of Arts in Applied Policing and Criminal Justice is a two-year part-time online programme, delivered by the School of Law, University of Limerick. Click [here for further detail](#).

Policing Authority: Assessment of Policing Performance

The Policing Authority published its Assessment of Policing Performance. This report offers an assessment on progress against the Policing Plan 2023 to the end of June, and acts as a mid-term evaluation of the Garda Síochána's performance against the Policing Priorities 2022-24.

This report is an important part of the Policing Authority's work, providing transparency to the communities that the Garda Síochána serves, the Garda workforce, and other stakeholders about policing performance, the oversight of policing, and the outcomes of that work. To [download the report click here](#).

'Replacing the Offences Against the State Acts: Shaking the Security Mindset'

The Irish Criminal Law Journal (2024 34(1)) has published an article entitled '*Replacing the Offences Against the State Acts: Shaking the Security Mindset*' by Prof. Claire Hamilton, Maynooth University School of Law and Criminology. This is available in print and online at [westlaw.ie](#).

The Centre for Justice Innovation (UK) publishes new research on youth diversion

The Centre for Justice Innovation has published the latest edition of their Valuing diversion toolkit, originally published in 2015. This revised and enlarged edition is for any practitioner who is involved in, or considering creating, a diversion scheme for children in contact with the youth justice system. The toolkit lays out the research case for youth diversion generally before going into specific policy and practice considerations within youth diversion models, and finally detailing what practice support to practitioners are offered at the Centre. Click [here to view the toolkit](#).

The reasons why applicants are still required to disclose criminal records are not always clear

Charlotte Brooks presents research on the complex landscape of university admissions policies for those with criminal records - *Higher education policies for applicants with criminal records in the United Kingdom: Are universities 'banning the box'?* Charlotte Brooks is a Doctoral Researcher at the University of Nottingham. To [read the blog, click here](#).

Adolescent Addiction Service Report 2024

Click [here to download the report](#) prepared by Denis Murray of the Adolescent Addiction Service, Cherry Orchard Hospital.

Law & Criminology Studies *continued*

LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice delivered by the School of Law, University of Limerick

Applications are now open for the LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice delivered by the School of Law, University of Limerick. Details including programme structure and application portal are available on the respective programme websites:

- Campus based programme is offered 1 Year fulltime and 2 Years parttime:
<https://www.ul.ie/gps/courses/law-human-rights-criminal-justice-llm-ma>
- Online programme is offered 2 Years parttime only:
<https://www.ul.ie/gps/law-human-rights-criminal-justice-llmma-online>

ACJRD Mailing List

To sign up for the mailing list [please click here](#).

If you wish to unsubscribe, please email enquiries@acjrd.ie stating 'unsubscribe' in the subject line of the email.

An Evaluation of the Provision of Psychiatric Care within the Irish Prison System

A report by the Office of the Inspector of Prisons has been published which identified key issues in the standard and quality of psychiatric care in the Irish Prison System and made recommendations to the government based on their findings. This inspection was carried out in February and March 2023, by a team including two international experts in forensic psychiatry. Among the key issues identified by the report were a lack of staff, inadequate environmental conditions, deficiencies in treatment within prisons, and a gross lack of system-wide clinical care pathways.

Click here to [view the website](#) where an action plan and summary report are available, click here to [download the full report](#), or here to [view the infographic](#).

Neglect of prisoners with mental health difficulties exposes a prison system that is unfit for purpose

Fiona Coyle, CEO, Mental Health Reform said: *“The findings of the Office of the Inspector of Prisons are deeply disturbing. It is clear that the State is failing many people in the criminal justice system with mental health difficulties. The inhumane conditions and inadequate care in the prisons indicate serious human rights violations.”*

Click here to view [Mental Health Reform’s response to the report here](#).

ACJRD Website Updates

You may have noticed ACJRD are currently changing the way we update the [ACJRD website](#). We are adding notices of events, vacancies, research calls and articles of interest to our [News section](#) in between newsletters, so keep an eye on our website for event announcements, vacancies and other notices.

ACJRD Membership 2024

Memberships run for the calendar year January – December and entitles members to discounts for our Annual Conference, preferential bookings for certain events and invitations to a limited number of member-only events.

Three types of ACJRD membership are available: Individual Membership €35.00, Organisational Membership €155, Student Membership €25.

Click here for [further information on ACJRD Membership](#).