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European Centre for the Study of Hate

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Challenging Hate:

Protecting Human Rights and Strengthening Democracy

Conference Programme



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Challenging Hate: Protecting Human Rights and Strengthening Democracy

Conference hosted by the European Centre for the Study of Hate in association with the Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

Conference Programme

Day 1 – 28 May 2026

Time	Details
9am	**Registration, tea and coffee**
9:30am–9:35am	**Welcome to the University of Limerick** Professor Colin Fitzpatrick, Vice-President Global and Community Engagement, University of Limerick Professor Jennifer Schweppe, Director, European Centre for the Study of Hate
9:35am–10:15am	**Introductory Panel** ***Speakers:*** Judge Úna Ní Raifeartaigh, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights Käthlin Sander, Chairperson, Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) Dr Wolfram Bechtel, Head of the Standards and Intercultural Inclusion Division and Secretary of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) ***Moderator:*** Professor Jennifer Schweppe, European Centre for the Study of Hate
10:15am–11:15am	**Plenary Panel 1: Combating the Continuum of Hate**. ***Speakers:*** Professor Barbara Perry, UNESCO Chair in Hate Studies, Ontario Tech University Dr Stephanie Öner [online], Chairperson, former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Hate Crime

Time	Details
	Dr Ebun Joseph, Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism, Ireland ***Moderator***: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe **Closing comment:** Professor Shane Kilcommins, President of the University of Limerick
11:15am–11:45am	Tea and coffee
11:45am–1.15pm	**Parallel Sessions – Green** [click to see details] 1. Critically interrogating Strasbourg's stance on criminalising hate speech and its approach to intermediary liability compared to the Digital Services Act - Roundtable 2. European understandings of hate 3. Gendered experiences of hate (1) 4. Preventing Hate (1) 5. Representations of hate 6. Hate and human rights
1.15pm–2.15pm	Lunch
2.15pm–3:45pm	**Parallel Sessions – Blue** [click to see details] 1. Identifying, Exposing and Transforming societal, institutional and policy responses to Hate Crime 2. Experiencing hate 3. The politics of hate 4. Preventing Hate (2) 5. Addressing hate online

Time	Details
3:45pm–4:00pm	Tea and coffee
4:00pm–5.15pm	**Plenary Panel 2: Victims and Victims' Rights** ***Speakers:*** Professor Mark Walters, Honorary Professor, Sussex University Dr Klára Kalibová, Director, In Iusticia Dr Sindy Joyce, Lecturer in Traveller Studies, University of Limerick Marion Adam, Vice-Chair, former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Hate Crime ***Moderator:*** Ambassador Caitríona Doyle, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg
6:30pm–7.30pm	**Launches – Castletroy Park Hotel** *De Gruyter European Handbook on Hate Crime* – to be launched by Professor Katie McBride, Co-Director of the International Network for Hate Studies *Simply Human: A Guide to Understanding and Combating Hate* – to be launched by Professor Barbara Perry, UNESCO Chair in Hate Studies, Ontario Tech University *Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities – SHINE* – to be launched by Dr Puneet Saidha, Director of Research, University of Limerick *Musical entertainment:* Traditional Irish Harp by Isla Vaughan Mitchell and Fiadh Nicholas
7.30pm	**Conference dinner** **Castletroy Park Hotel**

Day 2 – 29 May 2026

Time	Details
9am	Registration, tea and coffee
9:30am–10:45am	**Plenary Panel 3: Increasing trust and promoting inclusion** ***Speakers:*** Nadejda Hriptievschi, former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech Rachael Moore, ILGA Europe Ciarán O'Connor, Institute for Strategic Dialogue Professor Kehinde Andrews, Birmingham City University ***Moderator:*** Dr Wolfram Bechtel, Head of the Standards and Intercultural Inclusion Division and Secretary of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)
10:45am–11:15am	Tea and coffee
11:15am–12:45pm	**Parallel Sessions - Purple** [click to see details] 1. We own our own words: Tackling Hate Speech and Online Academic Incivility Through Educative Approaches - Roundtable 2. The Cure for Hate — Film Screening and Discussion Panel 3. Hate crime in the criminal justice system (1) 4. Gendered experiences of hate (2) 5. Communicating hate 6. Understanding hate online
12:45pm–1:45pm	Lunch

Time	Details
1:45pm–2:30pm	**Plenary Panel 4: Growing up in an Inclusive Europe** ***Speakers:*** Mariam Tartousi [Online], Bureau member of the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) of the Council of Europe, Member of *No Hate Speech Network* Robert Örell, Executive Director of TRANSFORM and Board President of Violence Prevention USA Aoife Lawlor, Katie O'Sullivan, and Nurjahan Islam, University of Limerick ***Moderator***: Dr Viktor Kundrák, Vice Chair, Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)
2:30pm–4pm	**Parallel Sessions - Red** [click to see details] 1. Criminalisation of hate speech 2. Hate crime in the criminal justice system (2) 3. Understanding and addressing hate speech 4. Preventing Hate (3) 5. The continuum of hate
4pm–5pm	**Plenary Panel 5 – Challenging Hate Conference closing remarks** ***Speakers:*** Dr Matteo Tracchi, Hate Speech and Hate Crime Unit, Council of Europe Käthlin Sander, Chairperson, Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) Professor Jennifer Schweppe, University of Limerick ***Moderator:*** Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe
7pm	Conference BBQ, University Pavilion *Musical entertainment:* "Sessiún Ceol"

Challenging Hate: Protecting Human Rights and Strengthening Democracy

Conference hosted by the European Centre for the Study of Hate in association with the Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

Parallel sessions

Day 1, 11:45am - 1.15pm Parallel Sessions 1: Green

1. **Critically interrogating Strasbourg's stance on criminalising hate speech and its approach to intermediary liability compared to the Digital Services Act – Roundtable**

   Room: KBG10

   Professor Gavin Phillipson, Dr Natalie Alkiviadou, Dr Eliza Bechtold

   Moderator: Dr Luke Danagher, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

2. **European understandings of hate**

   Room: KBG11

   i. Hate speech in European Law: Between the Council of Europe and the EU

   Stevi Kitsou

   ii. The Legal Defence of Tolerance: How Article 2 TEU Can Confront State-Driven Intolerance in the EU

   Dr Sara Benedi Lahuerta

   iii. Systemic Deficiencies Hindering the Effective Challenge of Hate Speech and Hate Crimes in Bulgaria

   Dr Deyana Marcheva, Associate Professor, New Bulgarian University

   Moderator: Professor Anca Minescu, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

Gendered experiences of hate (1)

Room: KBG13

i. Instrumentalizing Anti-LGBT Sentiment: The Impact of "LGBT-Free Zones" in Poland

Dr Ewa Milczarek

ii. Online Gender-Based Violence Against Female Journalists in Ethiopia: Patterns, Responses, and Implications

Dr Muluken Asegidew Chekol

iii. Transphobic hate crime & manifestations of hate speech: the murder of Cuban trans woman by Bangladeshi man in Greece

Dr Dimitra Filippou

iv. Gendered Hate in Digital Ecosystems: Evidence from the Italian Manosphere

Giovanna Vingelli

Moderator: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe

4. **Preventing Hate (1)**

Room: KGB14

i. Building an Empathy Surplus in the European Union

Chuck Watts

ii. Hot and Cold: Can increasing cognitive flexibility decrease inter-group hatred?

Dr Arun Bokde, Dr Jan de Vries and Dr Simon McCarthy-Jones

iii. The Foundations of Modern Society: Reclaiming Universal Values through Education for Democratic Culture in the Real, Digital, and AI-Mediated World

Violeta Vlajkovic Bojic and Zlatko Grusanovic

Moderator: Natasha Walsh, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

5. **Representations of hate**

Room: KGB15

i. The Problem of Enduring Symbols of Hate

Robert Tynes

ii. Unmasking Code-Mixed Bengali Memes: A Hierarchical Multimodal Hate Detector Beyond the Surface

Suzad Mohammad, Md Saimul Haque Shanto, Md Samiur Rahman, Shamima Akter Eti, Naeem Mia, and Sadia Sharmin

iii. When Inaction Hurts: Social Norms and the Public Meaning of Hate Speech

Dr Jimena Zapata and Dr Ana Isabel Leal Lobato

iv. Othered at First Sight: Lookism, Ableism, and the Aesthetics of Exclusion

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Moderator: Dr Yianna Liatsos, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

6. **Hate and human rights**

Room: KGB16

i. State-Driven Stigmatization as Hate Speech: Implications for European Human Rights Law and Strategic Litigation

Professor Dr Hüseyin Demir

ii. “Are We Safe Here?” Migrant Women, Hate, and the Urgent Call for Action 25 Years After Durban

Dr Salome Mbugua

iii. From Hate to Harmony: Formulating a pan-European approach to hate crime across the European human rights framework?

Natalie Gunthel

Moderator: Dr Stefano Angeleri, European Centre for the Study of Hate University of Limerick

Day 1, 2.15pm - 3.45pm Parallel Sessions 2: Blue

1. **Identifying, Exposing and Transforming societal, institutional and policy responses to Hate Crime: British Society of Criminology Hate Crime Network Panel**

   Room: KBG11

   Dr Jane Healy, Der Ferhat Tura, Dr Amy Clarke, Emily Wertans, Professor Jon Garland, Alannah Graham, Dr Maria Sapouna, August Ramsay

2. **Experiencing hate**

   Room: KGB10

   i. Victim-centred, Comprehensive Approach to Hate Crime and Hate Speech: Recent Experience with Reflecting International Standards and Best Practices in Czechia

   Dr Viktor Kundrák

   ii. Racist Hate Crime in Football

   Dr Leon Moosavi

   iii. Breathing Hate: Affective Atmospheres and the Embodied Experience of Prejudice

   Professor Katie McBride and Professor Zoë James

   Moderator: Eoin Quill, School of Law, University of Limerick

3. **The politics of hate**

   Room: KGB13

   i. The impacts of harassment and hate on Sami politicians in Norway

   Professor Tore Bjørgo, Mikkel Berg-Nordlie, and Benedicte Nordahl Berntsen

   ii. Hate Speech and Minority Rights in Serbia: The Case of Minister Vulin

   Ragmi Mustafi

   iii. Genocide and hate crime: Exploring hate offending through an alternative lens

   William Bergstroem

   iv. Exonationalism – Imperialism Reborn: International influences on populist nationalism, The case of Ireland

   Dr Lindsey Garratt

   Moderator: Dr Nita Mishra, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

4. **Preventing Hate (2)**

   Room: KGB14

   i. Breaking the Loneliness-Hate Pipeline: Evidence-Based Youth Work Responses

   Dr Eeva Sinisalo-Juha

   ii. The Consultation Black Box: Tracing Public Input in Ireland's Hate Speech–Hate Crime Reform

   Dr Luke Danagher and Professor Jennifer Schweppe

   iii. Networking to fight underreporting in hate crimes. The Zero Hate Network

   Marina González

   iv. Performative Diversity or Genuine Inclusion? Rethinking Equity in Canadian Higher Education

   Dr Wendy Fletcher

   Moderator: Sinead Eaton, School of Law, University of Limerick

5. **Addressing hate online**

   Room: KGB15

   i. Democratising Online Hate Speech Governance: A Proposal for Independent Public Authorities and Civil Society Observatories

   Professor Federico Oliveri

   ii. Leveraging the Digital Services Act - Introduction to Appeals Centre Europe

   Sophie-Charlotte Walter, Anna McCarthy Adams and Leo Twiggs

   iii. Media and Online Hate: Implementing the Council of Europe Recommendations

   Lavinia Pedol

   iv. Algorithmic Political Hate Speech: A Conceptual Framework

   Dr Gizem Yardimci

   Moderator: Dr Emma Dolan, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

Day 2, 11.45am - 12.45pm Parallel Sessions 3: Purple

1. **We Own Our Words: Tackling Hate Speech and Online Academic Incivility Through Educative Approaches: Roundtable**

   Room: KBG10

   Dr Wannette Van Eg Dom-Tuinstra and Bryony Gilbert

2. **The Cure for Hate: Film Screening and Discussion Panel**

   Room: KGB12

   Peter Hutchison and Tony McAleer

3. **Hate crime in the criminal justice system (1)**

   Room: KGB15

   i. Albanian practice of the use of CoE Recommendations on combating hate speech and hate crime

   Dr Robert Gajda and Magistrate Gëzim Spahiu

   ii. Bridging the Divide: Survivor, Police, and Community Perspectives on Collaborative Hate Crime Response in Canada

   Kassandra Roul and Dr Michael Woodworth

   iii. Understanding and Responding to the Impact of Hate Crime on Trust

   Dr Anne-Mai Flyvholm and Rasmus Mortensen

   iv. Psychological Profiles of Perpetrators in the Context of Hate Crime

   Selen Soysal-Kazanç

   Moderator: Natasha Walsh, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

4. **Gendered experiences of hate (2)**

   Room: KBG13

   i. 'It's the Women': Antifeminist Hate and Digital Violence as Democratic Threats.

   Grit Marti Lange

   ii. Necropolitical Relationality and Material Transition: A Case for Monstrosity.

   Dr Yianna Liatsos

   iii. Transphobia and the Production of Fatal Violence: A Cross-continental Analysis of Anti-Trans Homicide in the US and Europe

   Mark Walters

iv. Computational Analysis of Immigration Narratives: Studying Gendered Experiences of Immigration and Integration in Ireland

Deepak John Reji

Moderator: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe

5. Communicating hate

Room: KGB14

i. The Politics of Hate: IDF Soldiers' Videos and the Linguistic Making of Genocidal Violence

Dr Siti Nurnadilla Mohamad Jamil

ii. Online Hate Speech as a threat to freedom of expression. The case of public space in Poland.

Dr Anna Leszczuk-Fiedziukiewicz

iii. Artificial Intelligence Equity, Equal Protection, and Ethics

Dr Marc Brenman

iv. Crafting the Undeserving Victim: Hate Speech and Narrative Warfare in State Repression

Dr Fikret Demirçivi

Moderator: Dr Nita Mishra, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

6. Understanding hate online

Room: KGB16

i. Everyday Offence: The Overlooked Side of Online Communication

Dr Vahid Parvaresh and Dr Tahmineh Tayebi

ii. Beyond the Explicit: Characterizing Direct and Indirect Online Hate Speech Targeting Marginalized Groups in Portugal

Dr Rita Guerra and Dr Paula Carvalho

iii. Antisemitism and Islamophobia in online far-right subcultures: A cross-disciplinary approach to understanding online hate on TikTok and X

Nanna Ellen Amer

Moderator: Dr Pablo de Tezanos-Pinto, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

Day 2, 2.30pm - 4pm Parallel Sessions 4: Red

1. **Criminalisation of hate speech**

   Room: KGB11

   i. Fighting hate speech, protecting hateful speech

   Professor Massimo Durante and Dott. Jacopo Ciani Sciolla

   ii. When Hate Speech is Hate Crime: Identifying and Sanctioning Severe Forms of Hate Speech

   Dr Audrey Fino

   iii. Cross-border Impacts of Hate Speech and Hate Crime: How to Mitigate Harm Emanating from Another Jurisdiction

   Abdulkerim Balci

   Moderator: Agata Lynch, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

2. **Hate crime in the criminal justice system (2)**

   Room: KGB15

   i. From Law to Practice: Hate Crime Prosecution in Serbia

   Jelena Jokanovic

   ii. Typology and characteristics of perpetrators and victims of hate crimes - experience in the former Yugoslavia

   Adrian Borka

   iii. Transformations in thinking about hate: relationships, domestic spaces and conditions

   Dr John Clayton

   iv. Improving the Police Response to Hate Crime: Police Officer Perspectives and the Potential of Procedural Justice

   Luke Hubbard

   Moderator: Professor Mark Walters, Adjunct Professor, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

3. **Understanding and addressing hate speech**

   Room: KGB13

   i. Hating the poor, hating the Roma: hate speech against the 'socially assisted' in Romania

   Dr Andreea Carstocea

   ii. Hate Speech Legislation in Iceland: Legal Developments and Parliamentary Discourse

   Dr Eyrun Eythorsdottir and Hildur Fjola Antonsdottir

   iii. The Implications of Xenophobic Social Climate the UK's Policy-Making: How the Labour Party is now led by Nigel Farage

   Saff Coskun

   Moderator: Dr Stefano Angeleri, European Centre for the Study of Hate, UL

4. **Preventing Hate (3)**

   Room: KGB14

   i. Hate Crime and Restorative Justice in Spain: A Legal Approach

   Professor Dr Beatriz Souto Galván

   ii. The ethics of combating hate

   Associate Professor Birgitte Johansen and Dr Thomas Brudholm

   iii. Living Through and Beyond Racism

   Debbie Allen

   Moderator: Dr Niloufar Omidi, European Centre for the Study of Hate, UL

5. **The continuum of hate**

   Room: KGB16

   i. Preventing social media platforms from promoting extreme opinions and hate speech in Horn of Africa, promoting pluralistic digital space

   Abdifatah Hassan

   iii. Hate Speech and Misrepresentation as Catalysts for Ethnic Driven Violence: Cross Generic Reading of Post Rwandan Genocide Francophone African Testimonies

   Dr Nicholas Osita Okolie

   iii. Direct Provision from a Hate Speech Perspective

   Dr Soraya Afzali

   Moderator: Dr Xosé P. Boán, European Centre for the Study of Hate, UL

Challenging Hate: Protecting Human Rights and Strengthening Democracy

Conference hosted by the European Centre for the Study of Hate in association with the Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

Plenary panels: Speakers

Day 1, 09:35-10:15

Introductory Panel

Judge Úna Ní Raifeartaigh, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights



Úna Ní Raifeartaigh has been serving as a Judge of the European Court of Human Rights since July 2024. Prior to this appointment, she was a Judge of the Court of Appeal from 2019 to 2024 and a Judge of the High Court from 2016 to 2019. Before that, Úna had a career as a practicing barrister for 23 years and, in that capacity, practiced primarily in the areas of criminal, public/administrative and constitutional law. She was also involved in a number of public inquiries as well as cases before the ECtHR. As a judge, Úna was involved in a wide range of civil and criminal cases, including international child abduction cases, company, land law, tort and public law/administrative cases.

Úna studied at University College Dublin, earning a Bachelor of Civil Law degree in 1988 and later trained at the King's Inns, graduating as Brooke Scholar (1991). She began her career as a research assistant at the Law Reform Commission (1988-91), was appointed Reid Professor of Criminal Law at Trinity College Dublin (1991), before deciding to pursue a full-time career at the Bar from 1995 onwards. She is married with two adult sons and has many interests and pursuits outside the legal arenas.

Käthlin Sander, Chairperson, Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)



Käthlin Sander is the Chair of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI). She has an LL.M in Human Rights and has, in different roles, been working on promoting equality, including gender equality, for more than 20 years. During this time, her main responsibilities as a policymaker have included developing national legislative and strategic framework for equal opportunities and equality, participating in planning and implementation of policy measures, but also building partnerships with civil society and state institutions, and taking actively part in international co-operation. Presently, she is the Head of Equal Opportunities Policy at the Equality Policies Department in the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications.

Dr Wolfram Bechtel, Head of the Standards and Intercultural Inclusion Division and Secretary of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)



Dr Wolfram Bechtel is a lawyer and Secretary of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion of the Council of Europe (CDADI). CDADI steers the Council of Europe's intergovernmental work to promote equality for all and build more inclusive societies that offer effective protection from discrimination and hate, that ensure equal participation in political and public life for all without discrimination on any ground, and where diversity is respected. Wolfram Bechtel is also Head of the Standards and Intercultural Inclusion Division of the Council of Europe. Previously, he carried out country monitoring for the Council of Europe's European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI). Before joining the Council of Europe, Wolfram Bechtel has worked as a judge, a public prosecutor and a consultant in the German judiciary and administration. He has a Ph.D. in international and comparative private law of the University of Heidelberg.

***Moderator*: Professor Jennifer Schweppe, University of Limerick, Director of the European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities**



Dr Jennifer Schweppe (she/her) is a Professor in the School of Law the University of Limerick . Her research focuses on the intersection of law and social justice, and her commitment to understanding and addressing the challenges faced by marginalized groups in law has been a driving force throughout her career. Her research particularly explores these issues through the lens of hate crime and access to justice and she has published widely in the area, including as co-editor of major collections *De Gruyter European Handbook on Hate Crime* (De Gruyter, 2026) (with Mark Walters, Imran Awan, Mika Hagerlid, and Alexander Kondadov); *Critical Perspectives on Hate Crime* (Palgrave, 2017) (with Amanda Haynes and Seamus Taylor); and *The Globalisation of Hate* (Oxford University Press, 2016) (with Mark Walters). She was co-PI on the ground-breaking project *Irish Travellers Access to Justice* (European Centre for the Study of Hate, 2026) (with Sindy Joyce, Olive O'Reilly, Margaret O'Brien, David Joyce, and Amanda Haynes). With Professor Mark Walters, she was co-founder (in 2013) of the International Network for Hate Studies and she its Co-Director from 2013-2023. She now sits on its Advisory Board. Jennifer was appointed by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe as Independent Expert on Hate Crime to its Committee of Experts on Hate Crime.

Day 1, 10:15-11.15

Plenary Panel 1: Combating the Continuum of Hate

Professor Barbara Perry, UNESCO Chair in Hate Studies



Dr Barbara Perry is a Canadian criminologist and academic recognized for her work on hate crime, extremism, and social justice. She earned a BA in Social Behaviour (1985) at Queen's University, followed by a Master's degree in Sociology at the same university (1987). She later completed her PhD at Carleton University under Alan Hunt, publishing her dissertation on the Canadian Charter of Rights and hegemonic politics in 1992.

Perry began focusing on hate crime research in 1993, motivated by a rise in anti-gay activism and violence in the state of Maine in the United States where she began her career at the University of Southern Maine. In 1996, she joined the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Northern Arizona. In 2004, she returned home to Canada to join the fledgeling Ontario Tech University as an associate professor in what is now the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, soon becoming a Full Professor. She gained international recognition for her scholarship, including being named Critical Criminologist of the Year in 2007 by the American Society of Criminology for her work *Advancing Critical Criminology*.

In 2018, she founded the Centre on Hate, Bias and Extremism, aimed at advancing research and public awareness in the field. She was appointed UNESCO Chair in Hate Studies in 2020 and has received multiple academic honors. In 2024, she was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada for her contributions to research and advocacy.

Dr Stephanie Öner, Chairperson, former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Hate Crime



Stephanie Öner has served as Deputy Head of Unit in the Directorate General for Criminal Law at the Ministry of Justice of Austria since 2024. She is also a lecturer at the Fachhochschule Wiener Neustadt (study program on business and cybercrime). In the past she worked as an assistant (prae-doc and post-doc) and a lecturer at the Institute of Criminal Law lectured at the University of Vienna. She is an author of numerous publications and lectures in the field of criminal law, focusing *inter alia* on online-hate and hate crime. Between 2022 and 2023 she was the Chair of the Committee of Experts on Hate Crime of the Council of Europe. She holds a PhD from the University of Vienna (2006, Title: "European Union and Austrian Criminal Law").

Dr Ebun Joseph, Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism, Ireland



Dr Ebun Joseph is a leading Inclusion and race relations consultant, and the founder and CEO of the Institute of Antiracism and Black Studies (IABS). She serves as Ireland's Special Rapporteur on Racial Equality and Racism and is the module coordinator and lecturer for Black Studies at University College Dublin (UCD)—a pioneering course she established in 2018 as Ireland's first. Dr Joseph is also the founder of the African Scholars Association Ireland (AfSAI), which she chaired from 2018 to 2022. Her previous roles include Career Development Consultant at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), Teaching Fellow at Trinity College Dublin (TCD), and Training and Employment Officer with the EPIC programme. An accomplished author, TV panellist, and equality activist, Dr Joseph's research focuses on race, labour markets, and structural inequality. Her publications include Critical Race Theory and Inequality in the Labour Market (Manchester University Press, 2020); Equity in the Workplace series: Stories of Black Irish Women in Ireland (2024); Stories of Black Irish women in academia (2025), and Challenging Perceptions of Africa in Schools (Routledge, 2020). Dr Joseph is the award winning author of the IRJ Prize awarded to the paper adjudicated to represent the best original contribution to the journal in a given year. *'Composite counterstorytelling as a technique for*

challenging ambivalence about race and racism in the labour market in Ireland. She is also a documentary Executive producer of '*Equity in the workplace' a*nd *ECHOES OF 2004*.

***Moderator*: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe**



Charlotte Gilmartin is Head of the Gender Equality Policy Unit of the Council of Europe and Secretary of the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Commission. The Policy Unit and the Commission work to ensure that gender equality is integrated into all Council of Europe policies and to bridge the gap between international commitments and the reality for women in Europe. The Commission, whose members are appointed by member states, provides advice and support to other Council of Europe bodies and member states. The Gender Equality Commission supports the implementation of the six objectives of the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029.

Charlotte was previously Co-Secretary to the Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), specialising in work on hate speech, hate crime, artificial intelligence and intersectional discrimination. Charlotte started her career as a barrister qualified in England and Wales. She has also previously worked as a lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights and as judicial assistant to the President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

Day 1, 16:15-17.15

Plenary Panel 2: Victims and Victims' Rights

Professor Mark Walters, Honorary Professor, Sussex University; Adjunct Professor of Criminal Law and Hate Studies, European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities, University of Limerick



Professor Mark Walters is an internationally recognised scholar in criminal law and criminology whose research focuses predominantly on hate crime studies. He has authored or edited five books and over 50 academic publications, including *Criminalising Hate* (Palgrave), which was the recipient of the 2023 British Society of Criminology Sophie and Sylvia Lancaster Prize, and is the lead editor of the recently published *European Handbook on Hate Crime* (De Gruyter). His scholarship has been supported by various external funders, including projects funded by the European Commission, British Academy, HEFCE, the College of Policing, and the Leverhulme Trust. An elected Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, Mark combines rigorous socio-legal and criminological scholarship with real-world impact. He regularly advises governments, NGOs, and international organisations on legal frameworks to address hate crime offences – most recently serving as lead draftsperson for Seychelles' 2024 Penal Code (Amendment) Act, Africa's first law to provide comprehensive hate crime protections for LGBTQ+ individuals. Mark currently works as an independent consultant and trainer. He also holds the affiliated positions of Honorary Professor of Law, University of Sussex, and Adjunct Professor of Criminal Law and Hate Studies, University of Limerick. Mark previously served as Deputy Head (Research) at Sussex Law School, University of Sussex (2021-2025) and as Unit of Assessment Lead for REF2029 preparations.

Dr Klára Kalibová, Director, In Iusticia



Dr Klára Kalibová – Director of IN IUSTITIA, lawyer, analyst, author. Her main focus and expertize is hate crime, hate speech and victims´ rights. She has implemented research on hate crime (Forgotten Victims, 2010; Hate Crime Study for Fundamental Rights Agency 2013; Sexual Violence in the Czech Judiciary Practice 2013). Recently her

work focuses on victims´ rights. She was a member of preparation group on victims' rights act within the Ministry of Justice, as well as the member of working group – Security within the Agency for Social Inclusion (2011). She is a member of the Czech Society for Criminology, RAN Voices of Victims of Terrorism and the Czech Chamber of Attorneys. She is a co-founder and the chair of the Association of Victim Service Providers, an umbrella organization dedicated to advocacy on behalf of victims' rights. In 2014 she was awarded the Alice G. Masaryk Human Rights Award for her commitment to protection of bias crime victims.

Dr Sindy Joyce, Lecturer in Traveller Studies, European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities, University of Limerick



Dr Sindy Joyce is a Mincéir/Traveller from Newcastle West, County Limerick. She is a Human Rights Defender (HRD), a sociologist and a member of President Michael D Higgins Council of State. Her research focuses on Human Rights, racism, hate crime, ethnicity/identity, and social/political constructions of Irish Travellers. Her PhD thesis 'Mincéirs Siúladh: An ethnographic study of young Travellers' experiences of racism in an Irish city' addressed the original and important question of how anti-Traveller racism shapes young people's use of and movement through public space. Sindy is also on the anti-racism committee for the National Action Plan Against Racism. In 2019, Sindy was part of the Irish delegation to present evidence to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the treatment of Travellers in Ireland.

Marion Adam, Vice-Chair, former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Hate Crime

Former Vice-Chair of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Hate Crime, Head of the National Unit for Combating Online Hate (PNLH) from September 2024 to September 2025, and Acting Head of the Press, protection of freedoms and combating online hate (AC2) from February 2025 to September 2025 at the Paris Public Prosecutor's Office. Marion was part of a team of seven magistrates, supported by five clerks and three qualified assistants, working primarily on issues relating to online hate speech at national level, as well as, in Paris, on hate crimes and offences, discrimination, press offences, breaches of confidentiality, and offences committed by law enforcement officers in the course of their duties.

A magistrate since 2009, Marion has held various posts in different public prosecutor's offices across France before joining the Directorate of Criminal Affairs and Pardons at the Ministry of Justice in 2015, where she worked in particular as a drafter within the office responsible for drafting legislative and regulatory standards for special criminal law (organised crime, criminal labour law, public health, integrity, etc.). Marion then joined Section AC2 of the Paris Public Prosecutor's Office in 2019 and was involved in the establishment of the PNLH in 2021. Since September 2025, she has been a Deputy Advocate General at the Court of Cassation and has joined the Social Chamber of the Public Prosecutor's Office. Her day-to-day work involves civil cases, particularly in labour law, which raise complex legal issues.

***Moderator*: Ambassador Caitríona Doyle, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg**



Ambassador Doyle has served as Ireland's Permanent Representative to the Council of Europe since September 2023. Ambassador Doyle has previously served in Chicago (Vice-Consul), Washington (First Secretary, Political Affairs), and Paris (Deputy Head of Mission), and was most recently Director of Security, Corporate Compliance, and Coordination in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. She is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin (LLB, LLM).

Day 2, 09:30-10:45

Plenary Panel 3: Increasing trust and promoting inclusion

Nadejda Hriptievschi, former Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech



Nadejda Hriptievschi is a lawyer, specializing in human rights. She is a member of the Prosecutor Vetting Commission since 1 February 2024. She served as member of the Independent Evaluation Commission for assessing the integrity of candidates for the position of member in the self-administration bodies of judges and prosecutors between 4 April 2022 and 7 November 2025. Nadejda is a co-founder of the non-governmental organization Legal Resources Centre from Moldova where she worked between 2010 and 2022 focusing on monitoring the justice sector in Moldova. Between June 2021 and July 2024, she was a member of the Independent Anti-Corruption Advisory Committee. Between September 2020 and December 2021, Nadejda was a member and Co-Rapporteur of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech and between 2013 and 2018 she was a member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI). Nadejda is a member of the Bar Association of Moldova since June 2011 (suspended license since 2015).

Nadejda's primary areas of expertise include judiciary, legal aid, and non-discrimination. She served as a consultant for different national and international organizations. Since April 2025 she is a national member of the European Network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination, jointly managed by Human European Consultancy, the Migration Policy Group (MPG) and Utrecht University (UU) on behalf of the European Commission. She was closely involved in the legal aid reform in Moldova since 2003 and worked with the first Public Defender Office in Moldova from 2007 to 2011. She worked as Junior Legal Officer for Open Society Justice Initiative, Budapest, Hungary during 2003 – 2006, mainly focused on legal aid reforms. Nadejda received a Master of Laws in Comparative Constitutional Law with additional specialization in Human Rights at the Central European University in July 2001 and a law degree at the State University of Moldova in June 2000.

Rachael Moore, Rainbow Nation and ILGA Europe



Rachael Moore is an LGBTQIA+ activist based in Brussels, Belgium, with a background in community-led activism, mental health advocacy, and years of experience in bi+ spaces. Her experience at the European Parliament has deepened her understanding of discrimination faced by Black people and people of colour. In 2018, she co-founded Rainbow Nation Brussels, which advocates for the visibility and wellbeing of queer, trans, Black, and brown individuals, promoting diversity and inclusivity beyond whiteness and white supremacy. The organisation takes a "Nothing about Us without Us" approach to address racism, transphobia, and xenophobia within the LGBTQIA+ community. Rainbow Nation offers tools for QTBPOC and organises activities for those facing intersectional oppression.

Being on the board of ILGA-Europe means having the responsibility to ensure that marginalized voices, particularly those at the intersections of race, migration status, and sexual orientation, are not just heard but actively centered in European LGBTQI+ advocacy work. Rachael contributes by leveraging her experience from Rainbow Nation Brussels and the ILGA World Bisexual Committee to strengthen intersectional approaches in our movement, while bringing strategic planning skills and a commitment to transparency that ensures we're building sustainable, inclusive frameworks for change.

Ciarán O'Connor, Institute for Strategic Dialogue



Ciarán O'Connor is a Senior Analyst with the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, an NGO that researches online hate, extremism and disinformation. Ciarán conducts research and investigations that focus on technology, extremism, and AI. Outside of ISD, Ciarán regularly speaks to Irish and international media about these topics, and his writing has appeared in the Irish Times, TheJournal.ie and the Irish Examiner.

Prior to joining ISD, Ciarán previously worked as a journalist on the investigations team at Storyful. He is an ongoing contributor to Media Literacy Ireland's 'Be Media Smart' campaign.



Professor Kehinde Andrews, Birmingham City University

Dr Kehinde Andrews (born January 1983) is a British academic, author, and leading voice in Black Studies. Of British African-Caribbean heritage and raised in Birmingham, he earned his PhD in Sociology and Cultural Studies from the University of Birmingham in 2011, with a thesis exploring Black radicalism and the supplementary school movement. A Professor of Black Studies at Birmingham City University's School of Social Sciences, Andrews holds the distinction of being the first Black Studies professor in the United Kingdom. He led the establishment of the first Black Studies programme in Europe at Birmingham City University and serves as Director of the Centre for Critical Social Research. He is also the founder of the Harambee Organisation of Black Unity and co-chair of the UK Black Studies Association.

Andrews is a prolific public intellectual and media commentator, regularly contributing to outlets including The Guardian, The Independent, New Statesman, and CNN, as well as appearing frequently on the BBC. His work spans issues of race, racism, colonialism, slavery, and Black radicalism, and he has been a consistent critic of institutional racism in British universities and society. Through his scholarship, media presence, and community leadership, Andrews remains one of the UK's most prominent and influential voices on race and equality.

Moderator: **Dr Wolfram Bechtel, Head of the Standards and Intercultural Inclusion Division and Secretary of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)**

See Panel 1 for biography

Day 2, 13:45-14:30

Plenary Panel 4: Growing up in an Inclusive Europe

Mariam Tartousi (Norway), Bureau member of the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) of the Council of Europe, Member of *No Hate Speech Network*



Mariam Tartousi is an elected Bureau member of the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), a Council of Europe committee composed of youth civil society representatives that advises the Committee of Ministers and the Council of Europe as a whole on youth policy issues and youth perspectives. She built her activism through podcasting in diaspora communities, leading anti-hate speech campaigns, and advocating for accessibility with blind youth in Norway. Dedicated to turning differences into dialogue, Mariam champions inclusion by promoting democratic participation and digital resilience, striving to counter online hate speech and ensure safer, more inclusive digital spaces. Her commitment is rooted in both personal experience and professional impact, collaborating with NGOs and youth organizations across Europe. During her mandate, she works to advance effective youth participation and amplify underrepresented voices, inspiring others to reimagine a more accessible and equitable future for all.

Robert Örell, Executive Director of TRANSFORM and Board President of Violence Prevention USA



Robert Örell has more than two decades of experience in the P/CVE field working with the rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremists. For more than fifteen years he provided interventions with clients in exit work. For over ten years, he worked as a director and manager of exit programs. Currently, he works as a senior international expert focused on capacity development, training, and setting up exit programs. Robert is the Executive Director of TRANSFORM and the board president of Violence Prevention USA. His recent work includes advising policy guidelines and recommendations, research interviews with former members of violent extremism, online counselling, and understanding radicalisation in online gaming communities. He advises on several projects

around the world. Robert co-teaches an academic course on the psychology of violence and hate, addressing violent radicalisation and violent extremism.

For 12 years (2011-2024), he was a member of the Steering Committee of the European Commission's Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN), co-chairing the working group on Exit/Rehabilitation. Robert was the director of Exit Sweden for ten years and the program director at Exit USA for three years. In 2020-2021, he advised and contributed to the Council of Europe's counter-terrorism strategy. In 2016, Robert held a TEDx at TEDx Vilnius. He holds a master's degree in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding from the University of Oxford Brooks/UNITAR, and has studied psychotherapy and social pedagogy.

Aoife Lawlor, Researcher (Cooperative Work Placement), European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities, University of Limerick



Aoife Lawlor is an undergraduate Bachelor of Arts Student studying Digital Culture and Communication with sociology. Her main academic interest is the importance of social interaction in regard to both a sociological perspective and a technological perspective. During Aoife's academic progression she was an ambassador for UL Dignity and Respect where she developed a stronger understanding of discrimination and how it can take place at universities. She is currently working as an Intern at the European Centre for the Study of Hate and aims to apply her knowledge of her degree so far to support the faculty. This role provides her with valuable experience in a research focused environment which will strongly aid her academic development. After she completes her undergraduate degree Aoife plans to continue working in the area of equality and social research.

Katie O'Sullivan, Researcher (Cooperative Work Placement), European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities, University of Limerick



Katie O'Sullivan is a second-year undergraduate student studying sociology and geography in the University of Limerick. She has a strong interest in how social structures shape peoples lived experiences. Her academic interests include the intersections of inequality, and how marginalised communities navigate the structures within society, and their access to supports. Through her coursework of sociological theory and human geography she has developed an understanding of how the factors at play within society affect the people within that society. Currently completing an internship with the European centre for Hate Studies, in UL is an opportunity for Katie further her understanding of how social systems affect different people, and how those systems are being shaped to include more inclusivity for minority communities. Katie finds the commitment of this centre to understand and address the challenges faced by these minority communities admirable and an inspiration to understanding the world from every perspective. In the future Katie wants to combine her interest in social equality and geography with renewable energy. She wants to create something that is affordable, attainable for everyone and doesn't negatively affect the earth. She wants to be part of a more comfortable and sustainable world for everyone, and to influence people to take a step in the right direction, both socially and sustainably.

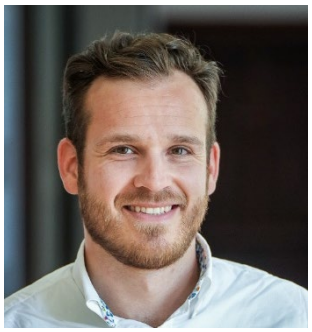
Nurjahan Islam, Researcher (Cooperative Work Placement), European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities, University of Limerick



Nurjahan Islam is a second-year Arts student at the University of Limerick, majoring in Economics and Mathematics. Throughout her studies, Nurjahan has taken modules in Sociology, Politics and International Relations, broadening her interdisciplinary knowledge within the Arts faculty. As part of her Economics coursework, she has worked with statistical software such as R to analyse data and create visualizations for research projects. Her academic background also includes advanced coursework in algebra, linear algebra, and calculus. Alongside her academic and professional pursuits, Nurjahan has been actively involved in volunteering and student life. She received a

Gold President's Volunteer Award for completing over 60 hours of volunteering, including participation in the International Buddy Programme and various clubs and societies. Following her placement, she hopes to continue developing her research skills while contributing to meaningful social impact initiatives.

***Moderator*: Dr Viktor Kundrák, Vice Chair, Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) -**



Viktor Kundrák is an international human rights lawyer and the Director of the Human Rights and Protection of Minorities Department in the Government Office of the Czech Republic. He currently serves as the vice-chair of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), and represents Czechia in the same committee. Previously, he had served as a Hate Crime Officer at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) where he also took up the role of the Senior Advisor on Freedom of Religion or Belief. In the former role, Viktor Kundrak has led a globally most comprehensive hate crime data collection, myriad training efforts for law enforcement, prosecution, judiciary and civil society across the region, advised governments on hate crime legislation and policies. He holds two master's degrees – in law, and human rights and democratization, respectively – as well as a Ph.D. in international public law from the Charles University in Prague.

Closing Panel

Challenging Hate Conference – closing remarks



Dr Matteo Tracchi, Hate Speech and Hate Crime Unit, Council of Europe

Dr Matteo Tracchi is senior advisor on Hate Speech, Hate Crime, and Artificial Intelligence at the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI). He is responsible for the implementation of the Mission-Driven Initiative "Enhancing multi-stakeholder responses to hate speech and hate crime", funded by the EEA and Norway Grants, which aims to combat hate crimes, curb online hate speech, and counter disinformation, including by using human rights and fact-based narratives. Prior to joining the Council of Europe, Matteo worked as Human Rights and Child Protection Officer for the UN in Albania. He also previously worked for Amnesty International, advised local government administration on human rights issues and held research positions within academia. Matteo holds an International Joint PhD in Human Rights, Society, and Multi-level Governance from the University of Padova, Italy.

Käthlin Sander, Chairperson, Council of Europe Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) *(see Introductory panel for biography)*

Professor Jennifer Schweppe, European Centre for the Study of Hate/Centre for the Study of Hate and Inequalities, University of Limerick *(see Introductory panel for biography)*

Moderator: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe *(see Panel 1 for biography)*

Challenging Hate: Protecting Human Rights and Strengthening Democracy

Conference hosted by the European Centre for the Study of Hate in association with the Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

Moderators – Parallel sessions

Day 1, 11:45am - 1.15pm Parallel Sessions 1: Green

Panel 1: Dr Luke Danagher, European Centre for the Study of Hate, UL



Luke Danagher is a legal academic at the University of Limerick and a researcher with the European Centre for the Study of Hate. His research centres on hate crime and hate speech, with a focus on criminalisation and the principles that should constrain it, the design and implementation of hate crime legislation, and the legitimacy of law reform processes. He has particular interest in how evidence, consultation, and civil society advocacy shape legislative outcomes, and in the procedural standards that should govern criminal justice policymaking where reforms affect minoritised communities. His work combines doctrinal analysis with socio-legal attention to institutions, policy narratives, and the practical operation.

Panel 2: Professor Anca Minescu, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Anca Minescu is a social psychologist who works in the broad field of ethnic relations, looking at people's attitudes and interactions with members from different ethnic or political groups. She researches social and political change, migration, diversity and inclusion from a social-psychological and cross-cultural perspective, using different research methodologies to capture the interaction between social context and individuals. She wants to contribute to a better world by increasing intercultural competence and acceptance of diversity and reducing prejudice and marginalization.

Panel 3: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe



Charlotte Gilmartin is Head of the Gender Equality Policy Unit of the Council of Europe and Secretary of the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Commission. The Policy Unit and the Commission work to ensure that gender equality is integrated into all Council of Europe policies and to bridge the gap between international commitments and the reality for women in Europe. The Commission, whose members are appointed by member states, provides advice and support to other Council of Europe bodies and member states. The Gender Equality Commission supports the implementation of the six objectives of the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029. Charlotte was previously Co-Secretary to the Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI), specialising in work on hate speech, hate crime, artificial intelligence and intersectional discrimination. Charlotte started her career as a barrister qualified in England and Wales. She has also previously worked as a lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights and as judicial assistant to the President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

Panel 4: Natasha Walsh, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Natasha Walsh is a serving member of An Garda Siochana, the Irish Police Force, holding the rank of Sergeant. She is currently studying toward a PhD at the University of Limerick, examining police attitudes toward domestic abuse. She has previously held specialised roles in victim service provision which has guided her research interests. She is the recipient of a research scholarship funded by the Doctoral College at the University of Limerick. Natasha completed an MSc in Criminology and Criminal Psychology at the University of Portsmouth (2022), a BA in Public Management (Law and the Administration of Justice in the Institute of Public Administration (2016) and a BA in Policing Studies in the Garda College in Templemore accredited by the University of Limerick (2008).

Panel 5: Dr Yianna Liatsos, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Yianna Liatsos is an Associate Professor of English at the University of Limerick, Ireland. She teaches African and Postcolonial Literatures with an emphasis on Indigenous and Refugee writing. Her current research explores narratives of temporal dissonance in medical and environmental humanities, and more specifically, the relational dynamics and social orientation of texts associated with terminality.

Panel 6: Dr Stefano Angeleri, European Centre for the Study of Hate University of Limerick



Dr Stefano Angeleri is an Assistant Professor at the UL School of Law. Dr Angeleri previously held a Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA) postdoctoral fellowship at Queen's University Belfast and Universidad del Rosario, Bogotá (2021–2024), and visiting scientist position at the François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB) Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University (2023-2025). Angeleri's work focuses on health, migration, and social rights, examining the complexities and inconsistencies of human rights law and rights-based approaches through both doctrinal and sociolegal research. His scholarship bridges academic inquiry with intersectoral initiatives, integrating interdisciplinary perspectives and amplifying the voices of diverse actors and stakeholders.

Day 1, 2.15pm - 3.45pm Parallel Sessions 2: Blue

Panel 2: Eoin Quill, School of Law, University of Limerick



Eoin Quill is an Associate Professor in the School of Law at the University of Limerick. His principal area of research interest is the law of torts, with a focus on methodology and structure in the analysis of the legal principles governing compensation claims. He also has a broader interest in civil obligations, encompassing contract, torts, and restitution.

Panel 3: Dr Nita Mishra, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Dr Nita Mishra is a lecturer in the Dept of Politics & Public Administration of University of Limerick. Her research interests lie in feminist research methodologies, rights-based approaches to development, grassroots governance, women & empowerment processes, and the right to food. Her poetry, widely published, is critically acclaimed as the future of Irish feminisms. Dr Mishra is the current Chair of Development Studies Association of Ireland, and a Director on the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes.

Panel 4: Sinead Eaton, School of Law, University of Limerick



Sinead Eaton is an Associate Professor in the School of Law at the University of Limerick. Sinead's research interest lie in the area of Company and Competition law. Sinead graduated from National University of Ireland, UCD with a BCL in 1988 and, having graduated from The Honorable Society of Kings Inns with a Degree of Barrister at Law, was called to the Irish Bar in 1990. On foot of an award of a scholarship by the Department of Education Sinead completed a bilingual postgraduate course in EU law at the College of Europe in Bruges, following which she did a stage at DG Competition of the European Commission in Brussels. Sinead then spent a total of eight years working as a legal adviser to major Irish financial institutions.

Panel 5: Dr Emma Dolan, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Emma Dolan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Politics and Public Relations at the University of Limerick. Before coming to UL, she completed her PhD in Politics and International Relations and took up a one-year Teaching Fellowship at the University of Aberdeen. Emma works on themes of International Relations, Gender and Feminist Politics, Critical Military Studies, and Peace and Conflict Studies. She is currently researching conflict-related sexual violence, cultural militarisation and war commemoration in Scotland, public safety and gender inequality in Limerick City, and the negotiation of secrecy and accountability by organisations through public apologies.

Day 2, 11.45am - 12.45pm Parallel Sessions 3: Purple

Panel 3: Natasha Walsh, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick [See biography above, Session 1, Panel 4]

Panel 4: Charlotte Gilmartin, Head of the Gender Equality Policies Unit, Secretary to the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe [See biography above, Session 1, Panel 3]

Panel 5: Dr Nita Mishra, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick [See biography above, Session 1, Panel 3]

Panel 6: Dr Pablo de Tezanos-Pinto, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

Pablo de Tezanos-Pinto is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Limerick. His research focuses on the consequences of contextual levels of social integration, such as those in a particular neighbourhood or classroom, and how people may establish and maintain meaningful relationships across social groups. More recently, he has also studied the way people behave in public or shared spaces, topics related to social exclusion and marginalisation such as bullying, and also the study of political participation, with a special interest in how and when marginalised groups may engage in political movements and protests because of their discontent with the political system.

Day 2, 2.30pm - 4pm Parallel Sessions 4: Red

Panel 1: Agata Lynch, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Agata Lynch is a Doctoral Researcher in Sociology at the University of Limerick (UL), with expertise in mixed-methods research and the sociology of education. Her doctoral research project focuses on gender and education, particularly within STEM fields. Agata qualified as a Polish attorney-at-law in 2012 after earning a Master of Law (Magister Prawa) from the University of Warsaw (2005). She later transitioned into the social sciences, completing an Honours Master of Arts in Gender, Culture, and Society at UL in 2018. She holds a keen academic interest in the intersections of qualitative and mixed-methods research, ethics and research integrity, spanning the full range from paradigms to ethical dilemmas and practical solutions, including those arising from the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). She is also interested in the study of social conflict and hostility, and in the reciprocal relationship between these phenomena and public discourse and social relations.

Panel 2: Professor Mark Walters, Adjunct Professor, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Mark Walters is a an Adjunct Professor in Criminal Law and Hate Studies at the University of Limerick, and Honorary Professor of Law at Sussex Law School. His research interests are focused primarily on hate crime studies, as well as criminal law and criminal justice reform with a special emphasis on restorative justice practice and theory. Mark's research has a particular focus on anti-LGBTQ+ hate and LGBTQ+ rights more broadly. Mark completed his doctorate in law (criminology) specialising in hate crime and restorative justice at the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford (2012). He has also completed an MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice (Research Methods) at the Centre for Criminology University of Oxford (2008), an LLM specialising in criminal justice at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia (2006), and an LLB, at the University of Sussex (2002).

Panel 3: Dr Stefano Angeleri, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick

[See biography above, Session 1, Panel 6]

Panel 4: Dr Niloufar Omidi, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Niloufar Omidi is the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Policy and Project Development Officer at the University of Limerick (UL). Holding a Ph.D. in International Human Rights Law from the Irish Centre for Human Rights, School of Law, University of Galway, and an LLM in International Law, she specialises in the right to peace as a prerequisite for equitable, peaceful, and inclusive societies. Dr Omidi is a ministerial appointee to the Advisory Committee on Racism and Racial Equality which is dedicated to monitoring the implementation of the National Action Plan Against Racism (NAPAR), alongside the Special Rapporteur for Race Equality in Ireland. Niloufar developed and authored the UL Dignity & Respect Policy and serves as Chairperson of the Ethnic Diversity Forum (EDF) at UL.

Panel 5: Dr Xosé P Boán, European Centre for the Study of Hate, University of Limerick



Xosé P Boán is an Associate Professor in Iberian Studies and Course Director of the BA in European Studies. His research interests comprise Iberian literature, film, and graphic narratives & Southern Cone cinemas with a focus on narratives of crises; memory; migration; masculinities; violence; ruralism; and Galician studies. Xosé earned his PhD at Tulane University (New Orleans, 2017) and previously taught at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN and at the State University of New York, Oswego. He is the co-editor of Netflix' Spain: Critical Perspectives (Routledge, 2023) and his most recent scholarly work has appeared in venues such as the Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics(2024), Studies in Comics (2021), Quarterly Review of Film and Video (2020), Romance Studies (2019), Transitions: Journal of Franco-Iberian Studies(2018), Revista de Estudios Hispánicos(2018), and Variaciones Borges (2016).

Challenging Hate: Protecting Human Rights and Strengthening Democracy

Conference hosted by the European Centre for the Study of Hate in association with the Council of Europe Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion

Scholarship Recipients

Through the Higher Education of Ireland *Path 4 Phase 1 Inclusive Environment Fund*, the Office for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Limerick along with the European Centre for the Study of Hate was successful in securing funding for six scholarships for the conference. These scholarships were designed to ensure that early career and underrepresented researchers could attend and participate in the conference and pay for the travel, accommodation, and registration for scholarship awardees. We would like to thank Dr Niloufar Omidi of the University of Limerick Office of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion for her work in securing this funding and supporting scholars in this way.

Our HEA Scholars are:

- Adrian Borka
- Dr Dimitra Filippou
- Grit Lange
- Dr Muluken Asegidew Chekol
- Natalie Gunthel
- Dr Nicholas Osita Tiko
- Dr Ana Isabel Leal Lobato

Given the large number of applications, the European Centre for the Study of Hate made a decision to partially match the funding, and so a second set of scholarships was awarded, which paid for the accommodation and registration for these scholarship awardees.

Our European Centre for the Study of Hate Scholarship recipients are:

- Lavinia Pedol
- Dr Siti Nurnadilla Mohamad Jamil
- Stevi Kitsou
- ellen stohl

In total, we awarded seven HEA Scholarships, and four ECSH Scholarships, along with 45 stipends funded by the Council of Europe, the Permanent Representation from Ireland to the Council of Europe, and the European Centre for the Study of Hate.


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS