

Dr Giada Lagana, FRHistS

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EDUCATION

- 2014 - 2018 **PhD in Political Science** - National University of Ireland (NUI) Galway (Ireland).
Thesis: ‘The Europeanisation of the Northern Ireland Peace Process’.
Supervised by Prof Niall Ó Dochartaigh; Examined by Prof Katy Hayward and Dr Brendan Flynn.
- 2012 - 2013 **MA in International Relations** (18/20), Université de La Rochelle (France).
Dissertation: *Il était une foi en Ireland du Nord*.
Supervised by Prof Didier Poton; Examined by Prof Michel Catala (Université de Nantes).
- 2011 **BA in Literature and Philosophy**, Università degli studi di Pavia (Italy).

EMPLOYMENT

- 2021 - Present **Lecturer in Politics**, School of Law and Politics (LAWPL), Cardiff University.
- 2021 **Research Associate**, ESRC Project ‘Youth Unemployment and Civil Society Under Devolution: A Comparative Analysis of Sub-State Welfare Regimes’, WISERD, Cardiff University.
- 2019 - 2021 **Research Associate**, ESRC Project ‘Between two unions. The Constitutional Future of the Islands after Brexit’, Wales Governance Centre (WGC), LAWPL, Cardiff University.

OTHER POSTS

- 2024 - Present **Research Associate**, Project ‘Post Agreement Reconciliation(S) in Changing Political Eras. Comparing Northern Ireland, Colombia and the Basque Country’. The Mershon Centre for International Security Studies, Ohio State University (USA).
- 2023 – 2025 **Leverhulme Early Career Fellow**, School of Law and Politics (LAWPL), Cardiff University.

VISITING POSITIONS

- May – Jul 2026 **Visiting Research Associate in Global and Area Studies**, School of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Hong Kong.
- Fall 2024 **Visiting Scholar**, Institute of European Studies (IES), UC Berkely (California).
- Spring 2024 **Visiting Scholar**, Roskilde School of Governance, Roskilde Universitet (Denmark).
- Summer 2022 **Visiting Lecturer**, Université Catholique de Lille (France).
- May - Jul 2021 **Simone Veil Fellow**, Project House Europe (PHE), Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (Germany).

TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

- 2023 UK Higher Education (HEA) Fellow.

RESEARCH EXPERTISE

My research examines multi-level peacebuilding in Northern Ireland, focusing on European, Irish, and UK strategies. It uniquely applies an organisational lens to the study of peacebuilding policy implementation, an under-explored area, using qualitative methods that bridge History, Political Science, and Public Administration.

I demonstrate flexibility in my research agenda, as shown by my work on civil society responses to youth unemployment in the UK's devolved territories.

My research has been extensively cited, with over 90 citations globally and an h-index of 5, according to Google Scholar.

Publications (Current REF)

Books	Rating
(Forthcoming) Lagana, G. (2026) <i>Civil Servants and Peacebuilding in Northern Ireland: 'Keep People Talking'</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press). *Evidence of the book contract can be provided upon request.	N/A
Lagana G. (2021) <i>The European Union and the Northern Ireland Peace Process</i> (Basingstoke, Palgrave MacMillan). *Reviews available: https://hume.foundation.org/news/the-european-union-and-the-northern-ireland-peace-process ; Cochrane, F. 'What Difference did it Make?', Fortnight Magazine @50, Issue 481, April 2021, pp. 44-45.	4*
Special Issues	
(In Press) Lagana, G. and Holmes, M. (2025) 'Ireland and the European Union: Past, Present, and Future', <i>Contemporary European Politics</i> .	N/A
Peer-Review Articles	
Williams, E. L. and Lagana, G. (2025) 'Peace by Procedure: Civil Servants, Metagovernance, and the Northern Ireland peace process', <i>International Journal of Conflict Management</i> (accepted for publication on 10 November 2025).	N/A
Lagana, G. and Pearce, S. (2025) 'The role of European Union (EU) metagovernance in supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector in Northern Ireland', <i>European Policy Analysis</i> . DOI: 10.1002/epa2.70009.	3*
Lagana, G. (2025) 'The European Parliament: A Critical Space for the Development of Anglo-Irish Politics on Northern Ireland', <i>Contemporary European Politics</i> . DOI: https://doi.org/10.1002/cep4.70011 .	2*
Lagana, G. and Sorondo, D. (2024) 'Cross Border Paradiplomacy in the Irish Sea: a socio-spatial analysis', <i>Irish Studies in International Affairs</i> , 35(2), Analysing and Researching Ireland, North and South, 204, pp. 1-22. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1353/isia.2024.a917040 .	3*
Lagana, G. (2023) "The European dimension of the 'talks process' in Northern Ireland (1990-1998)", <i>Twentieth Century British History</i> , 34(4), pp. 611-633. DOI: 10.1093/tcbh/hwad032.	4*
Lagana, G. and McLoughlin, P. (2023) 'Exploring the Genesis of EU Regional Peacebuilding through the Northern Ireland case and the Role of John Hume', <i>European Contemporary History</i> , 33(4), pp. 1243 – 1258. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/S0960777323000206 .	4*

Pearce, S. and Lagana , G. (2022) ‘Challenging scalar fallacy in state-wide welfare studies: a UK sub-state comparison of civil society approaches to addressing youth unemployment’, <i>International Journal of Social Welfare</i> , 1/15. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1111/ijsw.12572 .	3*
Lagana , G. (2022) ‘Has the EU Ireland-Wales Interreg programme empowered sub-national networks? Pre- and post-Brexit challenges of cooperation across the Irish Sea’, <i>The Journal of Cross Border Studies in Ireland</i> , 17/1, pp. 49 - 63.	2*
Lagana , G. and White, T. (2021) “Cross border Cooperation on Cultural Heritage in European Border Regions: Sites and Senses of ‘Place’ on the Border of Ireland and Northern Ireland”, <i>Anthropological Journal of European Cultures</i> , 30/1, pp. 153 - 162.	2*
Lagana , G. (2020) ‘Has the European Union empowered the regions? A pre and post Brexit preliminary investigation of the United Kingdom’, <i>European Urban and Regional Studies</i> , 28/1, pp. 34-39.	3*
Lagana , G. (2019) ‘Triangulation of Archival and Oral Sources: When Political Science meets history on a middle ground’, Sage Research Methods Cases in Politics and International Relations, DOI: https://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781526492913 .	2*
Lagana , G. (2019) ‘L’européanisation du processus de paix nord-irlandais’, <i>Relations Internationales</i> , 176/4, pp. 20 - 39.	2*
Lagana , G. (2017) ‘A preliminary investigation on the genesis of EU cross border cooperation on the island of Ireland’, <i>Space and Polity</i> , 21/3, pp. 289 - 302.	3*
Chapters In Peer-Review Edited Books	
Lagana , G. (2025) ‘Meta-governing out of conflict: the European Union Programme for Peace and Reconciliation’. In McAuley, J., Branniff, M. and Spencer, G., <i>A Companion to Conflict and Peace in Northern Ireland</i> (Oxford: Peter Lang).	2*
Lagana , G., Davies, G. and Wincott, D. (2025) ‘The Spatial Framing of Relations across the Irish Sea’. In Keating M., McEwen N. and Gillespie P., <i>Political Change Across Britain and Ireland: Identities, Institutions and Futures</i> , pp. 150-171 (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press).	3*
Lagana , G. (2021) ‘EU Structural Funds programmes on the island of Ireland: Interreg and the cross-border dimension’. In Simpson K. and Holmes M., <i>Ireland and the EU in a changing World: Crisis, Populism and Brexit</i> , pp. 214-226 (Manchester, Manchester University Press).	2*
Lagana , G. (2022) ‘Northern Ireland’. In Harley, D. and Hayter, D., <i>The Lost Tribe: British MEPS, 1979-2020. A lasting legacy – or a footnote to history?</i> , pp. 102-115 (London: Harper Publishing).	2*
Policy Reports	
Lagana , G. and Wincott D. (2020) ‘The Added-Value of the Ireland-Wales Cooperation Programme’, Wales Governance Centre, Cardiff University (https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/news/view/2441536-report-analyses-ireland-wales-cooperation-programme).	
Lagana , G. (2020) ‘Ireland’. In The UK in a Changing Europe Report, ‘The future of the European Union: New perspectives’, pp. 24 – 25 (https://ukandeu.ac.uk/reports/the-future-of-the-eu-new-perspectives/).	
Lagana , G. (2022) ‘What the EU could learn from the Northern Ireland peace process’, LSE EUROPP Blog (https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2022/03/11/what-the-eu-could-learn-from-the-northern-ireland-peace-process/).	

Lagana, G. (2019) ‘The European Union and the Northern Ireland peace process in the shadow of Brexit’, The Irish Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade & the Whitaker Institute for Innovation and Societal Change, ISBN: 978-1-908358-60-8.

Blog Posts

Lagana, G. (2024) ‘A Window on The USA 2024 Presidential Election’, DCU Brexit Blog (<https://dcubrexitinstitute.eu/2024/11/a-window-on-the-usa-2024-presidential-election/>).

Lagana, G. (2022) ‘Book Review: Europe contre Europe: Entre Liberté, Solidarité et Puissance by Laurent Warlouzet’, LSE Review of books (<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/lsereviewofbooks/2022/03/10/book-review-europe-contre-europe-entre-liberte-solidarite-et-puissance-by-laurent-warlouzet/>).

Lagana, G. (2022) ‘What the EU could learn from the Northern Ireland peace process’, LSE EUROPP Blog (<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2022/03/11/what-the-eu-could-learn-from-the-northern-ireland-peace-process/>).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘The deep roots behind the recent violence in Northern Ireland?’, RTE Brainstorm (<https://www.rte.ie/brainstorm/2021/0507/1217620-northern-ireland-loyalism-unionism-protestant-youths-rioting/>).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘The secret diary of Brexit’, The Moore Institute Blog, University of Galway (<https://mooreinstitute.ie/2021/06/08/the-secret-diary-of-brexit/>).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘How the crucial work of civil society organisations in Northern Ireland is being put at risk by COVID-19 and Brexit’, LSE British Politics and Policy (<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/csos-northern-ireland/>).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘What did the EU contribute to the Northern Ireland peace process?’, RTE Brainstorm (<https://www.rte.ie/brainstorm/2021/0204/1194976-northern-ireland-peace-process-eu/>).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘John Hume and the EU’s role in the Northern Ireland peace process’, LSE European Politics and Policy (EUROPP) blog (<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2020/11/12/john-hume-and-the-eus-role-in-the-northern-ireland-peace-process/>).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘The day I met John Hume’, The Moore Institute Blog, University of Galway (<https://mooreinstitute.ie/2020/08/04/the-day-i-met-john-hume/>).

Lagana, G. (2020) ‘Covid-19: Heading Home to Italy during the Crisis’, The Moore Institute Blog, University of Galway (<https://mooreinstitute.ie/2020/05/27/covid-19-heading-home-to-italy-during-the-crisis>).

Funded projects and awards

Awarded **£96,000** by the Leverhulme Trust (contributing 50% of the salary costs and **£6,000** per annum in research expenses to further research activities, for **36 months**) to develop the project ‘Socio- Spatial Governance between these Islands’ and write my second monograph (ongoing).

Awarded **£34,100** by the Erasmus+ - Jean Monnet Activities Support to Institutions and Associations programme. This consolidated and expanded a range of EU centred activities pursued by IACES (major events bringing together academics and practitioners, publications, annual lectures, public interviews, conferences etc; ongoing).

Awarded **£1,110** by the Ignite I Cynnu to develop the project ‘Bridging the Gap: Collaborative Approaches to Tackling Youth Unemployment, Work Insecurity, and Welfare Reform through Devolution’ (Theme: Connect). The project

explores how the UK Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) collaborates with, and learns from, the devolved governments in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland in the area of employment support. It aims to identify and address knowledge gaps in central–devolved government interactions, laying the groundwork for a larger research project with potential policy impact (ongoing).

Awarded **£20,000** by the GW4 Building Communities Programme Generator Fund to develop the project ‘Island of Ireland Contemporary History and Politics Network’. The project builds on the network previously created through a GW4 grant (see below) and aims at producing a series of filmed witness seminars with scholars, practitioners, and political actors from Ireland and the UK. These videos are publicly available and serve as a teaching and research resource (<https://www.islandofirelandcontemporaryhistorypolitics.com>; 2024-2025).

Awarded **£5,000** by the Taith Welsh Government programme to spend three months at the Institute of European Studies at Berkely University, working with Prof. Christopher Ansell to deepen my expertise on metagovernance (2024).

Awarded **£5,000** by the GW4 Development Award to develop the project ‘The past, present and future of History and Politics in Northern Ireland & Republic of Ireland network’ (PPF NI/ROI). The project aimed to establish a network between scholars working on Ireland across partner institutions (Cardiff, Bristol, Bath and Exeter). The fund was used to organise regular research seminars (2023).

Awarded **£2,400** by the Centre for Law and Society, Cardiff University (Jan. 2023) to organise three events and workshops for students and staff to mark the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement (2022).

Awarded **£8,000** by the Innovation for All, Cardiff University (September 2021 to December 2022) for the ‘[The PEACE Programmes Learning Platform](#)’ project. It contributed to create an online, publicly available, digital archive of information, providing an overview of activity and impact of over 22,500 EU funded projects from across Ireland (2022).

Awarded **£5,000** by the Communicating Europe Initiative of the Irish Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade to organise the hybrid conference ‘Relationships on these islands: the European Union peacebuilding experience’. The event featured two roundtable discussions with leading academics, including Prof. Cathal McCall, Prof. Katy Hayward, Prof. Mary C. Murphy, and Dr. Etain Tannam. It was filmed by RedBox Studio in Belfast and simultaneously broadcasted on Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom. More than 70 attendees, including EU practitioners (2021).

Awarded **£10,000** Simone Veil Fellowship by the Project House Europe (PHE), Ludwig-Maximilians - Universität München (LMU) to undertake the project and write an article on the European Community (EC) and the Northern Ireland Hunger Strikes (2021).

Awarded **£2,000** by Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to organise events for the Festival of Social Sciences: ‘Youth unemployment and civil society under devolution: a sub-state comparison’ in 2021, and ‘Peacebuilding in Northern Ireland: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives’ (2020).

Awarded **£8,000** by the Reconciliation Fund of the Irish Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade to organise the conference ‘The European Union and the Northern Ireland peace process’ at the National University of Ireland Galway (2018).

Awarded **£55,670** by the Galway Doctoral Research Scholarship at Galway University (€15,250 per annum, four years fellowship) to complete the doctoral thesis ‘The Europeanisation of the Northern Ireland peace Process’ (2013-2017).

Total Awarded: £270,280

Guest lectures and presented papers (selected)

University of Galway. Invited by the School of Political Science and Sociology to deliver two sessions. The first, on Tuesday 4th of November, entitled 'Pathways in the Academic Job Market – a conversation with Dr Giada Lagana'. The second on Thursday the 6th of November entitled 'Civil Servants and Peacebuilding in Northern Ireland'. **Invited Speaker** (4 – 6 November 2025).

28th IPSA World Congress (Seoul). Presenting the paper 'Robust Action and Bureaucratic Conflict Management in Northern Ireland' in the panel 'War, Conflict, Humanitarian Crisis and Management of Violence' (track RC44 Security, Conflict and Democratisation). **Paper presenter** (Forthcoming, 12-16 July 2025).

BISA 2025 50th anniversary conference (Belfast). Presenting the paper 'De-and re-bordering Northern Ireland: how Cross-border Cooperation Intertwines Spatial and Institutional Patterns of Exclusion and Inclusion, Subordination and Horizontality' and taking part to the roundtable 'What is the role of Professional Associations in advancing Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion in Higher Education'. **Paper presenter and speaker** (Forthcoming, 18-20 June 2025).

University of Liverpool. Invited participant to the workshop 'Federalism, Conflict Management, and the Paradox of Unity', to present the paper 'The role of European Union (EU) metagovernance in supporting the Voluntary and Community Sector in Northern Ireland'. **Paper presenter** (Forthcoming, 13 June 2025).

Universidad Deusto (Basque Country). Invited participant in the week-long research retreat 'Post-Agreement Reconciliation(s) in Changing Political Eras', where I will present the paper 'Bridging the Gap: Reconciliation and the Limits of High Politics in Post-Agreement Northern Ireland'. **Paper presenter and speaker** (Forthcoming, 31 May - 06 June 2025).

Università degli Studi di Genova. Invited by the Department of Political Science to present the book 'Il Ruolo dell'Unione Europea Nel Processo Di Pace Nord Irlandese' (in Italian). **Invited speaker** (Forthcoming, 06 May 2025).

Centre for Peace and Conflict Research, School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin. Invited to the conference and book launch organised by Dr Paul Gillespie 'Ireland, Britain and Europe: Constitutional Futures After Brexit'. Taking part as speaker to the panel 'Constitutional Futures in Ireland and Britain after Brexit: emerging research themes'. **Invited speaker** (07-08 April 2025).

Cardiff University. Invited to represent the School of Law and Politics (LAWPL) in the panel 'Northern Ireland Politics since the Good Friday Agreement'. The other speakers were: Dr Clare Rice (University of Edinburgh) and Siobhan Fenton (a writer and political commentator on Northern Irish, Irish and British politics based in Belfast). The event was chaired by Dr Jonathan Kirkup (LAWPL). **Invited speaker** (03 April 2025).

Association Protestante D'entraide De Cognac. Invited by Prof Didier Poton to deliver a presentation on 'La réconciliation entre Catholiques et Protestants en Irlande du Nord: un échec?' (in French). Seminar Series 'Les Rencontres d'Elisa'. **Invited speaker** (15 March 2025).

University of Galway. Invited by the School of Political Science and Sociology to deliver a session in the MA programme in Public Policy on 'Implementing Peace'. **Guest lecturer** (23 February 2025).

Queen's University Belfast. Invited by Dr Michele Crepez to deliver the presentation "Civil Servants and Peacebuilding in Northern Ireland: 'Keep People Talking'". **Invited speaker** (30 January 2025).

Cardiff University. Presented the paper 'Robust Action and Bureaucratic Conflict Management in Northern Ireland, 1985-1998' at the conference 'How to Talk About Peace While Waging War?'. **Paper presenter and conference organiser** (10 January 2025).

Xavier University, Cincinnati (Ohio, USA). Invited by Prof Timothy White to deliver a session of the course 'The Politics of War and Peace'. **Guest lecturer** (14 November 2024).

Ohio State University, Columbus (Ohio, USA). Invited by Prof Teri Murphy to deliver the presentation 'The Northern Ireland Office (NIO) and Northern Ireland'. **Invited speaker** (13 November 2024).

The Charles and Louise Travers Department of Political Science, UC Berkeley (California, USA). Invited by Prof. Christopher Ansell to deliver the presentation 'Routine Peace in Northern Ireland'. **Invited speaker** (18 October 2024).

Institute of European Studies, Berkeley University (California, USA). Invited by Prof Jeroen Dewulf to deliver the presentation 'The European Union and the Northern Ireland Peace Process'. **Invited speaker** (16 October 2024).

University College Dublin. Convenor of the section on Political Violence at the ECPR General Conference. Presented the paper 'Undeniable contact: the role of Irish and British civil servants in the Northern Ireland peace process'. **Section convenor and presenter** (13 August 2024).

Queen's University of Belfast. Invited by Prof Muiris MacCarthaigh to deliver the presentation 'The Civil Service and Peacebuilding in Northern Ireland' at the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics. **Invited speaker** (3 June 2024).

University of Tampere (Finland). Presented the paper "“Keep people talking”: metagoverning interactive governance arenas to negotiate the Northern Ireland peace process" at the International Research Society for Public Management Annual Conference (IRSPM). **Paper presenter** (17 April 2024).

University of Trento. Invited by Dr Emanuele Massetti to deliver the presentation 'Anglo-Irish relations and the Northern Ireland peace process', at the School of International Studies. **Invited speaker** (9 April 2024).

University of Galway. Invited by the School of Political Science and Sociology to deliver a session in the MA programme in Public Policy on 'Implementing Peace'. **Guest lecturer** (20 March 2024).

University of Notre Dame (USA). Invited by the Keough School of Global Affairs to deliver the presentation 'Ireland, the European Union, and the Northern Ireland peace process'. **Invited speaker** (13 February 2024).

University of Nantes (France). Invited by Prof Michel Catala and the Centre de Recherche en Histoire Internationale et Atlantique to deliver the presentation 'The European Union and the Northern Ireland peace process'. **Invited speaker** (13 November 2023).

Maynooth Centre for European and Eurasian Studies, the Irish Institute for International and European Affairs (IIEA), Maynooth University Social Science Institute and the Department of Sociology. Delivered the presentation 'Northern Ireland and the EU on the 25th anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement'. **Invited speaker** (25 May 2023).

The Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) World Convention. Took part to an online book panel based on my book, The European Union and the Northern Ireland Peace Process, with Prof Niall Ó Dochartaigh (NUIG), Prof Daniel Wincott (Cardiff University); Prof Timothy J. White (Xavier University) and Dr Robert Sata (CEU). **Invited speaker** (25 May 2021).

Peer-reviewer

Peer-reviewer for book proposals submitted to **Routledge Studies on the European Union and Global Order** series.

Peer-reviewer for articles submitted to *European Policy Analysis; Contemporary European Politics; Territory, Politics and Governance*; and the *Journal of Pacifism and Nonviolence*.

Peer-reviewer for the **Taith Mobility Programme** on behalf of Cardiff University (Welsh Government).

Appointments and esteem indicators

Member of the ViVa Committee; 25 April 2025. Cameron Keith Terry. PhD in Political Science at Chapel Hill University (USA). Thesis ‘Peace Out: Why Young People Are Leaving Northern Ireland.’. The candidate passed with minor corrections.

Cardiff University Nominee in the category ‘**Rising Star – Early Career Academic**’ for the Celebrating Excellence Awards 2024. Awarded in recognition of my ‘exemplary qualities as a colleague, collaborator and professional, including my commitment to research’ (Prof Stuart Allan, Head of School, LAWPL, Cardiff University).

Nominated ‘**Best Lecturer**’ of the **European Summer School (ESP)** at the Université Catholique de Lille in July 2022. Students said ‘Dr Lagana’s profound comprehension of the material she taught and her passion during each class kept us motivated. Because of her positive attitude and hospitable nature, we were also never scared to ask questions.’

President of the Irish Association for Contemporary European Studies (IACES) since 2021. IACES is Ireland’s professional association of European Studies scholars.

Nominated **Champion for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion** at Cardiff University’s Enriching Student Life Awards in May 2022 by LAWPL students.

Awarded the status of **Fellow of the Royal Historical Society** in July 2021. Recognised for having made an original contribution to historical scholarship with my book *The European Union and the Northern Ireland Peace Process*. This status entitles me to use the letters **FRHistS** after my name.

Awarded the Elocution Prize in the ‘My Thesis in 3 minutes... in French’ contest by Dr Rachid Seghrouchni from the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco in Ireland (<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/about-us/news-and-events/news-archive/2017/march2017/nui-galway-phd-candidate-awarded-prize-at-french-contest.html#>).

ENGAGEMENT AND IMPACT

My established interdisciplinary expertise is in demand at regional, national, and international levels. As President of IACES, I engage closely with evolving debates in EU and Irish politics. Ongoing collaboration with a wide range of actors, including civil society organisations, EU institutions, governments, and parliaments across the UK, Ireland, and beyond, supports the development of substantive partnerships with external stakeholders and contributes to research-informed impact.

Briefing sessions to policymakers and parliamentarians

Consulate General of Ireland, San Francisco: invited to brief Ambassador Micheál Smith and his team on Post-Brexit Anglo-Irish Relations (25 October 2024).

The Irish Embassy in Rome (Italy). Invited by the Irish Ambassador in Rome, Patricia O'Brien, to deliver a talk on ‘#EU50: 50 years of Irish membership of the European Union’ at Villa Spada (19 April 2023).

Briefed the EESC EU-UK Follow Up Committee on Welsh / UK and EU Civil Society Relations and Cross border activities and partnerships (18 October 2022).

Participation at regular closed seminars and meetings held by the Agile Cymru Team on Irish Sea Cooperation.

Oral evidence to parliaments and committees

Oireachtas European Affairs Committee: gave evidence on the EU Careers strategy being pursued by the Irish government (7 December 2022).

Wales Government Economy, Skill and Infrastructure Committee (Senedd Cymru): invited to give oral evidence on Youth Unemployment (13 October 2021).

Submitted written evidence

Northern Ireland Affairs Committee, UK Parliament, Inquiry on ‘The Government's new approach to addressing the legacy of the past in Northern Ireland’ (<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/135967/html/>; 13 February 2025). My report was singled out by the Committee Chair as one of the most original and insightful contributions received, noting it as ‘very strong’ and instrumental in informing the committee’s ongoing inquiry.

I subsequently wrote a second policy report on the new legislative framework, integrating several of the recommendations made in my initial submission. For an up-to-date overview of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act 2023, see my follow-up report submitted as written evidence to the Committee, published on 30 October 2025 and available at committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/150097/pdf/.

Cited work in policy reports

The Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Report #6 by the Community Relations Council on the Northern Ireland covering the period the 5-year period 2018/23. Evidence cited on 5 times at pp. 12; 145; 147; 169; 175 (<https://www.community-relations.org.uk/publications/northern-ireland-peace-monitoring-report>).

Organisation of international conferences and public events (selected)

Council for European Studies (CES) Annual Conference 2026. I will convene and chaired the IACES panel ‘**EU Policies and Politics at a Time of Crisis**’ and present my paper on reconciliation and EU peacebuilding in Northern Ireland. I will also convene the high-level Plenary Session ‘**Ireland, Europe, and the Changing Geopolitics of Peace and Security**’, bringing together scholars and practitioners to discuss Ireland’s evolving foreign, defence, and development policy (Forthcoming, June 2026).

Book Launch ‘**Political Change Across Britain and Ireland: Identities, Institutions and Futures**’. Organised a panel discussion to launch this book, in partnership with the Consulate General of Ireland in Cardiff. Speakers included Dr Paul Gillespie (UCD), Prof Daniel Wincott (Cardiff University), the Rt Hon Mark Drakeford MS (Welsh Parliament), and myself (as author of the chapter on Ireland–Wales relations). **Organiser and presenter** (15 May 2025).

IACES Annual Lecture with Prof Mary C. Murphy ‘Ireland and Brexit: Small state, big influence’ (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iaSTUm0jcb8>). Europe House Dublin. **Attendees:** over 70 (policymakers, bureaucrats and academics from Ireland and the UK). **Organiser and chair** (5 March 2025).

Civil Servants and the Northern Ireland Peace Process. Organised a panel discussion bringing together three senior Northern Ireland Office civil servants (Sir Quentin Thomas, Prof David Cooke and Prof Chris Maccabe) at Cardiff University. The event was not open to the public, but it has been filmed. The video is available as a resource for research and teaching (<https://www.islandofirelandcontemporaryhistorypolitics.com/>). **Organiser and chair** (3 March 2025).

UACES/IACES Joint seminar ‘**The Von Der Leyen Commission: A Midpoint Assessment**’ (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1JSm4qWPlk>). Speakers included: Dr Elena Baracani (University of Bologna); Dr Joelle Grogan (UK in a Changing Europe / University College Dublin); Prof Hussein Kasim (University of Warwick)

and Dr Jeffrey Rosamond (Ghent University). Attendees: over 100 (policymakers and academics from the EU, the UK, and Ireland). **Organiser and chair** (21 February 2025).

‘Robust Governance in Turbulent Times: a conversation with Christopher Ansell, Eva Sørensen and Jacob Torfing’ (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUwEtpMXpYc&t=16s>). Online panel discussion on the newly published book *Robust Governance in Turbulent Times* (Cambridge University Press). Speakers included three of the book’s authors. Attendees: over 70, with a geographical spread covering the whole of Europe and policymakers from Wales and the Republic of Ireland. **Organiser and chair** (22 January 2025).

‘How to Talk About Peace While Waging War?’, Cardiff University. One-day symposium aimed at reflecting on how to approach peace in contemporary times. Attendees: over 30, especially Early Career Researchers and PhD candidates from the UK. **Organiser and paper presenter** (10 January 2025).

UACES/IACES Joint seminar **‘Beyond the Ballot Box: Domestic Politics & the Future of the European Union’** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13JsfJPUljE>). Online panel discussion. Speakers included: Prof Daniela Braun (Saarland University); Dr Kathryn Simpson (Keele University); Dr Mary C. Murphy (University College Cork); Dr William Daniel (University of Nottingham). Attendees: over 80 (policymakers and academics in the UK, Ireland and Europe). **Organiser and chair** (27 March 2024).

IACES Annual Lecture with Prof Ben Torna ‘The EU Westphalian Mirage and Ireland’s Security Coma’ (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMjaOAe-r40>). Royal Irish Academy. Attendees: over 45 (policymakers, bureaucrats, and academics from Ireland and the UK). **Organiser and chair** (13 March 2024).

The Island of Ireland after Five Decades of European Union (EU) Membership (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fq3DBqRwvR8>). Press Club Brussels. IACES, the Welsh Higher Education Brussels (WHEB), the Wales Governance Centre, and UACES. organized this panel discussion with Prof Daniel Mulhall, Dr Michael Holmes, Prof Richard Corbett, and myself. Attendees: over 60 (policymakers, bureaucrats, and academics from Brussels). **Organiser and speaker** (25 May 2023).

The 25th Anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement: a public interview with Bertie Ahern (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIn_l-aw1-o&t=8s). Event aimed at marking the 25th anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement at the Royal Irish Academy. Attendees: over 25 (academics, citizens, and policymakers from Ireland). **Organiser and chair** (8 May 2023).

IACES Annual Lecture with Prof Brigid Laffan ‘Reflections on 50 years of EU membership’ (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PbvFj6OG8ko&t=1227s>). Royal Irish Academy. Attendees: over 90 (policymakers, bureaucrats, and academics from Ireland and the UK). The event was opened by the Irish Minister of State for European Affairs. **Organiser and chair** (9 February 2023).

Belfast Book Launch: The Forgotten Tribe, British MEPs 1979-2020 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hZe535uz9mo>). Organiser of the Belfast launch of this edited collection. The panel was chaired by Dr Viviane Gravey and featured Mr David Harley (editor of the book), James Nicholson (former Northern Ireland MEP), and myself (author of the chapter on Northern Ireland MEPs). Attendees: over 15 (academics). **Organiser and speaker** (23 January 2023).

The UK, Ireland & the European Union in a Time of Crisis: The Northern Ireland Protocol (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqOAcno7tOo>). Press Club Brussels. Speakers were: Dr Mary C. Murphy (University College Cork), Shona Murray (Reporter with Euronews) and Prof Simon Usherwood (Open University). Attendees: over 80 (EU policymakers, EU practitioners, Belgian journalists, Belgium-based academics). **Chair** (10 October 2022).

The Northern Ireland Assembly elections 2022: Consequences and Implications. Dr Thomas Leahy, Dr Jonathan Kirkup and me provided insights to Cardiff University students into the main consequences of the 2022 electoral results in Northern Ireland for Irish Nationalists/Republicans, Ulster Unionists/Ulster Loyalists, the British and Irish Governments and the EU. Attendees: over 20 (students and the Irish Consul in Wales). **Organiser and speaker** (1 April 2022).

50 Years after Bloody Sunday: The Quest for Truth and Justice. Organiser of this online event aimed at marking the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday. Speakers were: Prof Niall Ó Dochartaigh, professor of Political Science at the University of Galway, and Dr Charlotte Barcat, Lecturer in British History at the University of Nantes. Attendees: over 30 (students and academics from the UK and Ireland). **Organiser and chair** (15 February 2022).

Media contributions in the UK and Ireland (selected)

Guest on BBC News ‘The Context’, presented by Christian Fraser, to discuss Northern Ireland stories of the day (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0013pbw>; March 2024).

Interviewed by Dr Ian Cooper for the ‘Decades’ podcast – DCU Brexit Institute: Giada Lagana on Northern Ireland and the EU (2 episodes) (<https://rebuildcentre.eu/podcast/>; October 2023).

Interviewed by Henry White for the Modern British Political History: ‘The EU’s Role in Northern Ireland Peacebuilding - with Dr Giada Lagana’ (<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2010121/episodes/13476231-10-the-eu-s-role-in-northern-ireland-peacebuilding-with-dr-giada-lagana>; September 2023).

Lagana, G. (2021) ‘The European peacebuilding experience concluding remarks: Contributions from a conference in Belfast held on 10th September 2021’, *Fortnight*, No. 483, pp. 17-18 (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/27176222?seq=1>).

International Media (selected)

Guest on the Italian radio station *Giornale Radio* for the programme *Il Timone delle 13* with Francesco Massardo. I discussed the recent election results in the Republic of Ireland, their political implications, the dynamics behind voter behaviour, and what these developments may signal for Irish and European politics more broadly (<https://lnkd.in/dZbYzP48>)

Appeared on the French Newspaper *Charente Libre* in an article entitled ‘Le conflit entre catholiques et protestants ravivé en Irlande du Nord par le Brexit sera au cœur d’une conférence à Cognac’ (<https://www.charentelibre.fr/charente/grand-cognac/le-conflit-entre-catholiques-et-protestants-ravive-en-irlande-du-nord-par-le-brexit-sera-au-coeur-d-une-conference-a-cognac-23617888.php?csnt=1960b4be5ea>; March 2025).

Interviewed by Prof Michael J. Geary for the EU History Podcast on the EU dimension of the Talk Process in Northern Ireland (<https://open.spotify.com/show/6LaYzNzK6VedAUhOltjr2>; December 2024).

Interviewed **in French** by Juliette Demas for the French Daily Paper *Libération*: ‘Les Fonds PEACE, échafaudage de la paix Nord Irlandais’ (18 May 2024).

Interviewed **in Italian** by Agenzia Nova (Italian Press Agency) on the 25th anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement: ‘Irlanda del Nord: 25 anni dall’Accordo del Venerdì Santo, dal processo di pace all’intesa di Windsor’ (April 2023).

Radio contribution **in French** for the Épisode 4 of FranceCulture: ‘Irlande: don’t touch the status quo’ (<https://www.radiofrance.fr/franceculture/podcasts/cultures-monde/irlande-don-t-touch-the-status-quo-5067480>), par Florian Delorme (15 October 2020).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I have over five years of proven teaching experience in departments with highly demanding student cohorts. At Cardiff University's School of Sociology (SOCSI), I refined my expertise in both large-scale lecturing (350+ students) and small-group teaching at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. At LAWPL, I further developed my expertise by contributing to team-taught modules and designing new ones. My teaching is interdisciplinary, spanning rapidly evolving areas such as British and Irish Politics, Public Policy, and Research Methods. All of my modules have consistently reached full capacity, reflecting their popularity and effectiveness in engaging students.

1. School of Law and Politics (Cardiff University), 2021 – Present

UG Teaching

- Governing Modern Britain (responsible for delivering one lecture in 2025);
- Sex, Drugs and Public Policy (responsible for delivering ¼ of the module in 2022);
- The Politics of Borders: Conflict and Cooperation in modern Europe (course designer & leader);
- Politics // Law and Governance in Practice: Work Placement Module (course leader and instructor for two consecutive years);
- Parliamentary Studies (responsible for delivering the portions of the module on the northern Ireland assembly and the European parliament for three consecutive years).

PG Teaching

- International Intervention in Conflict and Peace (former course designer & leader);
- Research Methods (responsible to deliver seminars, for a total of ¼ of the module);
- Multilateralism and International Law (responsible for delivering three seminars, empirically focused, on peacebuilding).

Supervision

- PhD dissertation in European Studies by Francesco Massardo: 'European Integration and Cross-Community Relations in Northern Ireland' (co-supervised with Dr Carlotta Guasconi at the University of Genova; 2024-Present);
- UG and PG dissertations on Public Policy, Politics, and International Relations.

2. Previous Experience

- La paix en Irlande du Nord (course designer & leader at the University of Nantes);
- Introduction to European Studies: history, politics, and society (course designer & leader at the European Summer School at the Université Catholique de Lille);
- Introduction to Social Policy (responsible for delivering lectures and seminars, for a total of 50% of the module at SOCSI, Cardiff University);
- Power, Politics and Policy (responsible for delivering lectures and seminars, for a total of 1/3 of the module at SOCSI);
- International and Comparative Social and Public Policy (responsible for delivering four MA seminars, comparing youth unemployment provisions in the UK four nations at SOCSI).

COLLEGIALITY, LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND SERVICE

School of Law and Politics, Cardiff University (2021 – Present)

- **Hear of Year Three**, Politics and International Relations (POLIR) department (2025 – present). Oversight of Year Three academic management, including monitoring student progression, coordinating module leaders, and

ensuring effective delivery of final-year teaching and assessment. Lead point for student support and engagement, providing guidance on academic issues, managing pastoral concerns, and facilitating communication between students, staff, and programme leadership.

- **Chair** of the candidate presentation session for a Lecturer in International Relations post; facilitated discussion, collated feedback, and provided a summary to the main recruitment panel (October 2025).
- **Student Voice** for the POLIR department (2021-2023). Ensured a dynamic and continuous development of the POLIR Learning Community. Organised, attended, and followed-up the Staff and Students Panel (SSP). Responsible for the National Student Survey (NSS). Member of the 'Quality Team' designed to enact on the NSS feedback. Responsible for Employability.
- **Co-developer of the 2022–2023 LAWPL strategic plan responding to NSS student feedback in the area of Assessment and Feedback.** Worked closely with the Director of Learning and Teaching (Dr Ian Stafford) to analyse the NSS results and co-develop a targeted plan to enhance and standardize feedback practices across the department. Following implementation, the POLIR score in this area increased by 6.54% over two years.
- Speaker at the 3rd LAWPL Knowledge and Capacity Building Workshop on Research Funding. Invited to speak with ECRs about my experience of successfully applying to the Leverhulme ECR Fellowship (20 May 2024).
- POLIR Placements coordinator and developer of the POLIR Placement Year.
- Member of the Induction and Enrolment Events Team (2022-2023; 2023-2024).
- Volunteer to the UG Open Day in 2023, 2024 and 2025. Responsible for delivering the Taster Lectures.
- Marking Moderator for the modules 'Co-operation & Integration in Europe: Themes and Debates' and the 'Introduction to EU Integration' module (Spring 2021-2025).
- Personal Tutor to 45 students a year (2022-2025).

The Irish Association for Contemporary European Studies (2021 – Present)

- Responsible for Banking, Account and Finances;
- Website and Social Media Manager;
- Coordinator and Organiser of Major International Events.

MEMBERSHIPS OF RESEARCH CENTERS/NETWORKS

- Member of the Wales Governance Centre (Cardiff School of Law and Politics);
- Member of the Centre for Conflict, Security and Society (Cardiff School of Law and Politics).

MEMBERSHIPS OF PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- The Irish Association for Contemporary European Studies (IACES);
- International Political Science Association (IPSA);
- International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM);
- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR);
- University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES);
- Royal Historical Society (RHS);
- Political Science Association of Ireland (PSAI).

18 November 2025