

CRC e-News



A Place of Hope

How do you begin to reconcile a county where an estimated 800 000 people were murdered over 100 days? How do you bring hope to communities where perpetrators and victims of the Rwandan genocide are living in the same village?

An organization called “The Christian Action for Reconciliation and Social Action” (CARSA) are working with Rwandan’s to bring hope and reconciliation to people who have been affected by the genocide.

On the 11th December, 7pm at Stormont Presbyterian Church we have an opportunity to listen to Christophe Mbonyingabo the Executive Director of CARSA, tell us stories of hope, hurt and reconciliation.

This is an opportunity for us to gain a unique insight on peace, justice and reconciliation in Rwanda, there will be an opportunity to engage with Christophe on his organisations work.

The evening will also include music from Belfast singer songwriter, Dave Thompson.

Stormont Presbyterian Church, 618 Upper Newtownards Road, BT4 3HH Belfast, United Kingdom

Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Report #4

The fourth edition of the NI Peace Monitoring Report was launched on the 8th November and the findings presented to an audience of academics, policy makers and practitioners by the author, Dr. Robin Wilson. The report covers a two year period up to September 2016 and makes ten key findings in relation to issues such as paramilitarism, political progress, dealing with the past and the extent to which we have achieved a shared society.

The Peace Monitoring Report, published by the Community Relations Council, is an independent analysis of the dynamics within society and how far we have gone towards or away from peace. The author is supported in the analysis by an independent Advisory Group and the research is funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust. The report provides easy access to a wide range of relevant data, statistical and factual information on which to base continued efforts to build and sustain peace. Thanking the author and the advisory group for their work and commenting on the report, Peter Osborne, Chair of the Community Relations Council said:

“Peace Monitor reports have always highlighted crucial issues for the peace process going forward. This one is no exception.

It is clear that after considerable effort and risk the political parties at Stormont have stabilised the political institutions. Great credit is due across all political parties as politics and the institutions take on a normality that helps to instil confidence in other aspects of consolidating the peace.

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Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Report #4 continued

However, the peace does not belong to politicians alone and with the normalisation of politics other issues critical to developing reconciliation such as consensus on the rule of law, human rights, equality and social justice are all as important as healing fractured relationships.

This Peace Monitor highlights issues and needs relating to economic growth, gender, sexual orientation, disadvantage and poverty, racism and prejudice.

How this society does better on these issues is at the heart of the challenge set by this Report and are what will define the next stage of the peace process. These are societal problems and all sectors have a role to play but government also must develop and implement robust and impactful policy on those issues.”

The report is available [here](#) on the CRC website or go to <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/NIPMR-Final-2016.pdf>

Appointment of Chair and 8 Board Members to the Community Relations Council

The First Minister and the deputy First Minister intend to appoint a new Chair and 8 Board Members to the Community Relations Council.

The Chair and Board Members will be committed to ensuring that the Community Relations Council effectively fulfils its role as a key delivery agent of the Executive’s Good Relations Strategy – Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC).

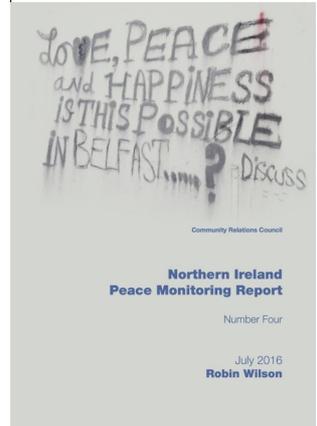
As a member of the CRC Board you will have responsibility along with the other Board members for ensuring that the organisation delivers its aims, objectives and priorities set by the First Minister and deputy First Minister. The Board Chair has particular leadership responsibilities, formulating the Board’s strategy and ensuring that the CRC’s policies and actions support the wider strategic policies of Ministers and that the CRC’s affairs are conducted with probity.

Women, people with a disability, ethnic minorities and young people are currently under-represented on public bodies. We would particularly welcome applications from members of these groups.

Individuals from public and private sectors, including charities and social enterprise sector or community/voluntary organisations are welcome.

The term of appointment will initially be for a three year term following which subject to a satisfactory performance assessment, a further period of appointment may be offered.

The remuneration for Board Member positions will be £125 per day, up to a maximum of £3,000 per annum, plus travel and subsistence costs. This is calculated on the basis that general board membership will require an average commitment of 1-2 days per month to attend meetings and other events.



Appointment of Chair and 8 Board Members to the Community Relations Council continued

How to Apply

A candidate information booklet and application form containing more detailed information on the role and person specification are available as follows:

Please go to <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/public-appointment-vacancies>
Alternatively, an application pack can be requested by contacting:

HRConnect,
PO Box 1089,
The Metro Building,
6-9 Donegall Square South,
Belfast, BT1 9EW.
Telephone: 0800 1 300 330.
Email: recruitment@hrconnect.nigov.net

Peacebuilding and the Women's Sector in NI

Claire Pierson & Katy Radford

The Institute for Conflict Research, commissioned by the NICRC, has produced an overview of reports and programmes relating to Peace-building and the Women's Sector.

It is based on the 4 pillars of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, namely Participation, Protection, Prevention and Relief and recovery.

The report considers recent research and conference reports on women and peacebuilding. It reviews relevant peacebuilding and community relations policies with reference to women assessing how these have been implemented. It also makes suggestions of what might build support in peacebuilding in relation to the women's sector and other stakeholders. Commenting on the lack of visibility of much of women's engagement in conflict transformation work it acknowledges the retraction of space for women to participate within community relations work as a result of both male domination of paid positions and the resurgence of paramilitary control. It calls for funding for the support and reintegration measures for politically motivated ex-prisoners and armed groups to include a focus on women.

The report highlights a range of good practice across sectors. It acknowledges a range of categories within the women's sector alongside other organisations within the 3rd sector whose work includes a dedicated component for addressing women's issues and in particular those in which peacebuilding plays a significant role.

To read the report go to <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/9999-ICR-Peacebuilding.pdf>

Online Hate Crime and Hate Speech Research

Denise Hughes, Institute for Conflict Research

The institute for Conflict Research is one of a number of local and international organisations involved in a research project, eMORE, to monitor online Hate Crime and Hate Speech. The initial stage of this project is to gather a broad range of experiences from individuals who have experienced or observed Hate Crime and Hate Speech online, whether it has been on a website or on any social media.

To achieve this we would like you to participate in the online survey, and to disseminate this throughout your own networks to people who have witnessed episodes of hate crime, hate speech or other forms of prejudice displayed through online forums. Please feel free to share this opportunity as widely as possible. **Follow the link below for the survey_**

The eMORE project aims to **contribute to developing**, testing and transferring a **knowledge model on online hate speech and offline hate crime**, based on a circular and advanced joint monitoring-reporting system, to gain a sound understanding of the phenomena/trends over the Internet and offline, to allow comparative analysis at national/EU level, and to support the harmonised combating against hate-motivated offences at EU/national level.

The Project will develop a knowledge platform available to target groups, which will allow to in-depth analyse hate phenomena online/offline. The platform will process data/information collected through a crawler to monitor the Internet and a APP to report crime. Both of them will be developed by the Project, too. The APP will be tested in 9 participating countries.

The knowledge base will include the most important categories of hate motivated offences (hate against gender, race, religion, sexual orientation and disability).

Have you witnessed episodes of hate crime, hate speech or other forms of prejudice?

Do you think that expressions of hate are increasing in our communities?

If the answer is yes please complete this survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/eMORE>

If you have any queries or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Denise Hughes
Institute for Conflict Research
Unit 14, North City Business Centre
2, Duncairn Gardens
Belfast BT15 2GG

Tel: 028 9074 2682

Home Sweet Home? An overview of the Housing Conditions of Asylum Seekers in NI

Les Allamby, Chief Commissioner, NI Human Rights Commission

Northern Ireland Community of Refugees & Asylum Seekers (NICRAS) is one of the most positive user led community organisation in Northern Ireland. Operating with limited resources and run by people who have faced trauma, persecution in their countries of origin, upheaval and uncertainty, NICRAS continues to defy the odds by providing support and services to refugees and asylum seekers.

This research shines a light on the accommodation provided to asylum seekers both initially on arrival and beyond. The issue raises many human rights standards including within the Universal Declaration of Human Rights the right to housing as part of an adequate standard of living and well-being. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Rights of the Child all make reference to the need to ensure adequate living and housing conditions.

This report based on interviews with members of NICRAS highlights that current arrangements are failing on many occasions to meet the standards signed up to by the United Kingdom government. The findings use the voices of asylum seekers to register at first hand the often inadequate accommodation, offhand treatment and lack of communication they face. The impact this has on well-being and unnecessary hardship is starkly documented. Asylum seekers have arrived in Northern Ireland after fraught journeys escaping from difficult and often life threatening circumstances – that such difficulties are compounded by being placed in poor housing conditions is a shame on all of us.

The report provides a range of recommendations that improve the situation at little or no cost. Indeed, many of the suggestions amount to simply listening to asylum seekers, understanding their needs and responding accordingly. The report is a road map to dealing more effectively with the accommodation needs of asylum seekers and one which should be readily grasped.

This is taken from the Foreword of the research, you can read the full report [here](http://www.community-relations.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/NICRAS-HOME-SWEET-HOME-Report.pdf) or go to <http://www.community-relations.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/NICRAS-HOME-SWEET-HOME-Report.pdf>

Peace IV Programme

The PEACE IV Programme is a unique initiative of the European Union which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation in the Border Region of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Programme was initially created in 1995 as a direct result of the EU's desire to make a positive response to the paramilitary ceasefires of 1994.

Whilst significant progress has been made since then, there remains a need to improve cross-community relations and where possible further integrate divided communities. The new programming period for 2014-2020 provides opportunity for continued EU assistance to help address the peace and reconciliation needs of the region.

For more information on criteria and application go to http://www.seupb.eu/2014-2020Programmes/PEACEIV_Programme/PEACEIV_Overview.aspx

Reach Out Enrich Within

Guidelines to provide practical support for youth workers who want their organisation to get more involved in Intercultural provision. Youth Link NI

Youth work values diversity and difference, recognising that alternative perspectives and beliefs enrich the experience of all involved. Intercultural Youth Work further enriches this experience, and highlights the importance of respecting diversity.

The guidelines are not intended to provide all the answers. They are not about everyone agreeing or finding a universal truth in how to do youth work with young people from different faith and cultural backgrounds. Nor are the guidelines about promoting particular faiths as part of youth work or in using these guidelines.

There is always opportunity to do youth work better and more inclusively, listening to the needs of others and being considerate. There are common needs, common aims and common threads of compassion between people of all faiths, cultures and beliefs.

Reach Out to Enrich Within – for both the personal development of the young people and the benefits to your organisation and to local communities. We all need to stretch ourselves because it is in the interests of the personal, educational and social needs of the children and young people we work with, as citizens, as future parents and as leaders of their communities and this society.

For further information and to download the guidelines and resources visit <http://www.youthlink.org.uk/blog/reachoutenrichwithin/>

The Ulster Museum 'Troubles' Collection

The Ulster Museum holds a significant collection relating to the period in Northern Ireland's history known as 'the Troubles'. It consists primarily of political posters and ephemera, many of which date from the early to mid-1970s, but also includes objects made by Loyalist and Republican prisoners. The collection is further enriched by iconic artefacts such as the Nobel Peace Prize medal won by Mairead Corrigan in 1977. Collecting social, cultural and political material from the period of the Troubles is an important priority for National Museums Northern Ireland. We would be keen to hear from anyone who would like to contribute to this collection.

There are sections on

- 1963-68: Before the Troubles
- 1968-69: Outbreak of Violence
- 1969-72: Internment, Bloody Sunday and Direct Rule
- 1972-74: Height of Violence
- 1975-79: Ulsterisation
- 1980-84: The Hunger Strikes
- 1984-89: Anglo-Irish Agreement
- 1990-94: The Peace Process
- 1995-99: Negotiations
- 2000-07: Towards Political Stability
- Prison Life

To see more go to <http://nmni.com/Home/Online-Collections/History/Troubles>

If you would like to comment or submit an article for this bulletin or advertise a community relations event or publication, please contact Ellana etomasso@nicrc.org.uk.

Ambivalence and distrust: young people and interfaces in Belfast

Dr Aimee Smith—This article is based on PhD research, undertaken as part of the Compromise after Conflict research programme based at Queen's University Belfast and the University of Aberdeen. For further information of this particular project please contact Dr Aimee Smith at aimeejtsmith@gmail.com

In 2012-13 I conducted a number of interviews with young people who lived in highly segregated areas of West and East Belfast, areas characterised by peace walls and interfaces.

For young people in these areas interfaces were significant features in their everyday lives and posed limits to their mobility, and perceived security. Despite having close neighbours, interfaces created distinct worlds where relationships between communities were perceived as antagonistic. When positive relationships with young people from the other community did occur, they were often played out in 'neutral' spaces such as Belfast city centre. Rarely did young people visit each other's community.

In recent years there have been efforts to remove peace walls. Many young people in my research agreed it would ultimately be a good thing but also referred to ongoing tensions and the 'different cultures' of the communities either side of the wall. They believed the two communities would maintain their separate traditions but the walls removal would also force them to get along.

I observed ambivalence and contradictory attitudes among these young people, where on the one hand opportunities for positive contact with others was desired, but where they also reproduced traditional patterns of avoidance. This was related to feelings of fear, which the interfaces themselves can help to construct, while walls are also perceived to alleviate such fears.

Recent research has shown that young people living near interfaces are more likely to face threats from within their own communities, such as from paramilitaries, rather than inter-community violence. There is nevertheless a 'perception' of threat from 'others'. While there are perceptions of threat, there will be distrust of other communities which in turn can hamper efforts of reconciliation. This distrust was heightened by the flags dispute which was ongoing at the time of my research. One of my field sites in east Belfast was regularly exposed to protests and young people expressed the need to defend their community.

My wider research project also included young people in Integrated Education and mixed youth projects. Many of these young people also experienced high levels of residential segregation in their home communities. They valued the shared spaces they were part of, but acknowledged the wider divisions they still have to navigate. For many young people chances for integration are limited by time and space. The challenge then is to extend these shared spaces providing the chance to overcome the perceptions of threat which are often sustained by interfaces. Integration should not be a practice that is an optional 'add-on' to young people's lives, but an integral part of the everyday.

MPhil in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation

Applications are now open for the MPhil in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation, a taught Master's course based in the Irish School of Ecumenics, Belfast, part of Trinity College Dublin. ISE has recently moved to Lennoxvale, in the University area, where it shares a well-equipped campus with Edgehill Theological College.

This creative and innovative course is designed to suit the needs both of specialists already working in the field, and those new to these areas of study. It is open to both local and international students and can be taken full time over one year or part time over two years, convenient for those wishing to combine work with study. Offering an inter-disciplinary approach to the challenges of political and social reconciliation in the aftermath of armed conflict, this MPhil combines high-quality academic education with practical skills and on-the-ground learning.

For more information and to apply visit <http://www.tcd.ie/ise/postgraduate/conflict-resolution.php>

Bicycles Barracks and Bandoliers

<http://policehistoryni.com/>

Bicycles, Barracks and Bandoliers explores the history of policing in Ulster from the establishment of the Irish Constabulary in 1836 to the formation of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI). This website provides a virtual online museum exhibition which uses artefacts to explore the changing face of policing in the North of Ireland. The website features [objects](#) from the Police Museum Northern Ireland, the Linenhall Library, the Public Records Office Northern Ireland (PRONI) and the Irish Republican History Museum that reveal the complexities of 190 years of law enforcement in Ulster.

The recent conflict has resulted in the development of physical and conceptual barriers between the police and the community it is tasked with policing. This website allows users to go behind the barrack walls to explore the complex story of policing.

<https://vimeo.com/191383322/44fba5acc0>

Events

Imagine! 2007 call for events

Come up with an idea for an event and apply to present it as part of the Festival

Imagine! Belfast is a unique festival designed to excite people's minds and passions in an inspiring annual programme of performance, discussion and debate. During **20-26 March 2017** we will provide a high quality showcase for new ideas on politics, culture and activism in Northern Ireland. We hope to encourage the participation of under-represented groups in political/cultural debate and to stimulate reflection and debate on difficult and controversial issues.

The **Call for Ideas** is intended to give the whole community a part in shaping the festival, from suggesting speakers to directly creating and delivering events. Although we can't run with every proposal, we promise to look seriously at every suggestion and come back to you with a reasoned response.

You'll need to complete the attached Event Submission Form and we'd like your ideas as soon as possible but the final deadline will be 5pm on **5 December 2016**.

For more information go to <https://imaginebelfast.com/>

Have your say on Programme for Government delivery plan

The Department for Infrastructure is to hold a series of public engagement events on the infrastructure elements of the Programme for Government.

The Executive published the Programme for Government for consultation on 28 October. The Department has engaged with partners to develop a Delivery Plan focused on those key measures within the Programme for Government on which the DfI leads

The Delivery Plan is available to view on the NI Executive website at:

<https://www.northernireland.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/newnigov/dp-average-journey-time-on.PDF>

The events will take place on the following dates:

6 December 2016 – 7pm – Guildhall, Derry

7 December 2016 – 2pm – County Hall, Ballymena

8 December 2016 – 10am – Confederation of Community Groups, Ballybot House, Newry

Senior DfI officials will be in attendance at all events. People can also respond to the consultation on the Delivery Plan by using the attached link: pfg@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Please note that the consultation will close at 5.00 pm on Friday 23 December 2016.

Events (contd)

'Cearta Teanga Mar Chearta Daonna' - 'Language Rights as Human Rights' Cuireadh Chun Comhdhála | Conference

Is teachtaireacht dhátheangach í seo - English Follows Below

Thar ceann Conradh na Gaeilge ba mhór againn tú bheith i láthair ag an imeacht thíosluaite:

'Cearta Teanga mar Chearta Daonna'

2.00pm Déardaoin 8 Nollaig 2016

An Mac, Béal Feirste

I measc na n-aoichainteoirí, beidh

Daniel Holder, leas-Stiúrthóir, CAJ (Committee on the Administration of Justice)

Julian de Spáinn, Ard-Rúnaí, Conradh na Gaeilge

Nicola Browne, Stiúrthóir, PPR (Participation & Practice Of Rights)

Feargal Mac Ionnrachtaigh, Stiúrthóir, Glór na Móna

Jamie Bevan, Cathaoirleach, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg

Eagrófar an chomhdháil seo mar imeacht oifigiúil Sheachtain Chearta Daonna de chuid An Chuibhreannais Um Chearta Daonna

RSVP roimh 20ú Márta: comhdháil@cnag.ie

Tá an chomhdháil á reáchtáil ag Conradh na Gaeilge.

On behalf of Conradh na Gaeilge you are cordially invited to attend the following event:

'Language Rights as Human Rights'

2.00pm Thursday 8th December 2016

The Mac, 10 Exchange Street, Belfast

Keynote speakers include

Daniel Holder, Deputy-Director, CAJ (Committee on the Administration of Justice)

Julian de Spáinn, General Secretary, Conradh na Gaeilge

Nicola Browne, Director, PPR (Participation & Practice Of Rights)

Feargal Mac Ionnrachtaigh, Director, Glór na Móna

Jamie Bevan, Chairperson, Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg

This event will feature as part of *Human Rights Consortium's Human Rights Festival 2016*.

RSVP conference@cnag.ie - Conference organised by Conradh na Gaeilge

Events (contd)

Derry City and Strabane District Council Grant Aid Funding

- Cultural Venue 2016/17 Grant Aid Programme
- Tier 2 Festival 2017/18 Grant Aid Programme
- Community Festivals 2017/18 Grant Aid Programme

Closing Date: Friday 23rd December @ 12noon

For further information visit www.dcsdgrantaid.com or contact Festivals Section / Arts & Culture Section Tel: 028 71253 253



ARK seminar- - Narrowing the Space between? Cross community relations in NI

In this seminar, Dr Máire Braniff, INCORE Director, Ulster University, will draw on data from the 2015 Northern Ireland Life and Times survey. She will illustrate that, far from increased synergy between the two traditional identities, Northern Ireland is characterised by continued social distancing.

The seminar will take place in NICVA, Duncairn Gardens, Belfast on Tuesday 6 December, at 11am, followed by a light lunch at noon.

Attendance is free but registration is essential. To register, please email Shonagh at s.higgenbotham@ulster.ac.uk

Church Unity Week Service - Crossing Barriers

Sunday 22 January 2017
7.00pm
Omagh Methodist Hall

Guest speaker Rev Dr Ruth Patterson

Ruth has a long term interest in restoration ministry and in faith and friendship.

For further information please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on T: 0300 303 1777 or E: goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com

This event is organised by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Omagh Churches' Forum and has received financial support from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Good Relations Programme assisted by the Executive Office.

Events (contd)

Reflections on loss and living

Reflections on loss and living is a nation-wide project for Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, calling for your participation. Building on the theme for HMD 2017: How can life go on? This project explores living with absence and the roots of life through artistic responses sent in by you.

Gillian Clarke, the former National Poet for Wales, has written a poem for this project, to inspire you in your artistic responses and to help everyone take part. Please read the poem and respond by uploading a photograph, film clip, poem or piece of visual art to our Wall of Life above. You might be inspired by a particular line or image from the poem, or by the themes as a whole.

You could upload an artwork you create, or a photograph of something you see in your absence, cultural roots, the roots of a tree or life overcoming barriers - just like the theme for this year, there are few known answers and we are looking for your personal responses.

Click on any image on the wall to see more detail, and share this project with your friends. Like HMD, Reflections on loss and living is open to everybody - whether you have a camera phone or an art studio, you can take part!

For more information go to <http://howcanlifegoon.hmd.org.uk/>

Evening of Reflection - How is the Body of Christ in Omagh?

Thursday 26 January 2017

7.00pm

Strule Arts Centre

Facilitated discussion event exploring the theme of Christianity in our local community.

For further information please contact Pauline Clarke at Fermanagh and Omagh District Council on T: 0300 303 1777 or E:goodrelations@fermanaghomagh.com

This event is organised by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in partnership with Omagh Churches' Forum and has received financial support from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Good Relations Programme assisted by the Executive Office.

Events (contd)

A Beacon of Hope: The Story of CAJ, by Maggie Beirne

The event will take place on **Thursday, 8th December at 11.00 am**, at the **Metropolitan Arts Centre (the MAC)** Exchange St, Belfast.

Maggie Beirne, a former Director of CAJ will present her short history of CAJ written to mark the organisation's 35th anniversary year. Brian Gormally, the current Director of CAJ, will speak on the challenges facing human rights defenders in the era of Brexit and resurgent racism, the struggle to cover come the legacy of the past and the prospects for the future. A panel of distinguished human rights lawyers and activists will discuss the issues raised with the audience. These will include Louise Mallinder, Colin Harvey, Kieran McEvoy, Fionnuala Ni Aolain and Mary O'Rawe.

In the preface to 'A Beacon of Hope', Maggie Beirne notes that: Mary Robinson, then UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, visited Belfast a few months after the negotiation of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement in 1998, and said of the Committee on the Administration of Justice: "CAJ has been a beacon of light in Northern Ireland's long hard night". People coming new to the organisation may want to know why she said this, and long-standing members may enjoy being reminded of their role in making this assessment possible.

Maggie's monograph sets out the story of the organisation in the '80s and '90s that led to Mary Robinson's conclusion, and its work since.

For the past five years, Brian Gormally has been Director of CAJ and will take this opportunity to outline the contemporary challenges facing CAJ and the human rights community in general. He will argue that significant threats to the protection of human rights in Northern Ireland and to the basis of the peace settlement have arisen in the last two years. The current UK Government is committed to repeal of the Human Rights Act (HRA) and we have also seen the Leave the European Union referendum campaign which was characterised by xenophobia and unashamed racism.

Brian will say that in taking its work forward over the next three years, CAJ will take as its priorities combating impunity, working for contemporary accountability, protecting the freedom of expression and assembly while suppressing racism, protecting human rights and the peace settlement, promoting equality and international solidarity.

RSVP: liz@caj.org.uk or 028 9031 6000

Citizen's Jury - Investment & Innovation

A Citizen's Jury, part of the DiverseCity Community Partnership's Civic Activism Project, will be held at 7.00pm on **Tuesday 13th December 2016**.

This event will be the culmination of months of work engaging with the local community through a range of tools - citizen reporting, study groups and pop-up democracy - on the *Investment and Innovation* theme.

If you would like to be a member of the Citizens Jury please contact Roisin O'Hagan - roisin@hollywelltrust.com

Jurors must be free on the evenings of 7th and 13th of December.

Events (contd)

Lessons Learned and Lessons Shared

On Wednesday 14th December 10.30-12pm we are organising a seminar. Two women from different community backgrounds will share what they have learned through our Peace Process and what they have learned from their trip to Colombia.

Speakers: Denise Hughes from the Institute for Conflict Research and Geraldine Mc Ateer from the West Belfast Partnership Board.

After their recent trip to Colombia Denise and Geraldine will give an update on the current Colombian Peace Process and the impact of lessons learned and lessons shared.

The event is listed here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lessons-learned-and-lessons-shared-tickets-29374339440>

Winter School - Peace Building and Conflict Transformation: Lessons and Challenges from the NI Peace Process



The Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice will run the third annual Winter School from 23 January to 27 January 2017.

The Winter School will explore how some of the main issues that have been identified by the United Nations as being central to the process of peacebuilding and conflict transformation have been addressed over the past twenty years, with special reference to developments in Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland offers a unique opportunity to learn about process of conflict transformation, to hear from people with personal experience of conflict and with the opportunity to see the longstanding impact it has on the social and physical environment. The Winter School will outline and analyse a number of key themes that are applicable to societies transitioning from conflict, including:

- The process of reaching a peace agreement and establishing new institutions of governance;
- Creating a broader framework for a peaceful and just society through building a culture of respect for human rights and equality and re-establishing the rule of law through a process of police reform;
- The challenges of addressing the legacy of conflict, including dealing with past violence and supporting the needs of victims and survivors; and
- Exploring the diverse role of civil society organisations in the ongoing process of conflict transformation.

Events (contd)

The Winter School will consider some of the successes of the process of transition in Northern Ireland, while also exploring some of the challenges that remain to be addressed.

The school will be taught by a mix of experienced members of staff from the Mitchell Institute and academics from across Queen's University, and will also have a significant input from non-academics and practitioners who have been actively involved with the issues being discussed.

The course will be based in Queen's University but will include a number of field trips to key locations in Belfast over the course of the week. All sessions will be interactive and time will be provided for participants to engage in discussions to explore issues of comparative relevance and pertinent to different contexts.

For further information and an application for the Winter School 2017, please visit our [website](#).

Get Involved with Your Assembly



As the new 2016-2021 Assembly mandate gets under way, Assembly Community Connect is pleased to announce a series of new free training courses.

The Assembly is only as strong as the people who get involved. Discover how you and your organisation can influence law making in Northern Ireland.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR COURSES](#)

Upcoming Events

Tue 24 January 2017 - **How the Assembly Works**

Fri 3 February 2017 - **Insight Into the Committee for Health**

Tue 28 February 2017 - **How the Assembly Works**

Tue 28 March 2017 - **How the Assembly Works**

"Dare Devil rides to Jarama"

The International Brigade Commemoration Committee are organising the Play "***Dare Devil rides to Jarama***" written by Neil Gore in the Black Box-Hill Street on the 13th of February at 7.30pm. **Tickets £10**

2016 was the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War and Townsend Productions are commemorating it in association with the International Brigade Memorial Trust.

For more information contact Linda Walker 07751951785

Tickets from the <http://www.blackboxbelfast.com/>

Events (contd)

The International Network of Museums for Peace Conference in Belfast



The International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP; www.museumsforpeace.org) will hold its 9th International Conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland, 10-13 April 2017. The conference also marks the 25th anniversary of INMP, a global network of peace museums, peace gardens and other peace related sites, centres and institutions that share the aim to cultivate a global culture of peace.

The conference theme, “Cities as Living Museums for Peace,” will highlight Belfast’s social and political transformation from a divided, troubled city to a one which models peace consciousness through post-conflict healing and reconciliation.

The 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace is co-hosted by Visit Belfast and Ulster University. The conference invites participation from directors and curators of human rights and peace museums, peace educators, journalists, artists, musicians, architects, policy makers, as well as researchers, scholars, and students of history, museum studies, cultural memory studies, international relations, international ethics, and interdisciplinary subjects.

“Visit Belfast, with funding support from Tourism Northern Ireland and Belfast City Council, has continually promoted the city as a vibrant conference and business tourism destination.” said Laurie Scott, Director of Business Tourism at Visit Belfast. “Now, ‘Peace, Anthropology & Conflict Resolution’ has been identified as a priority for growth within the conferencing sector in Belfast so we are thrilled that INMP has chosen the city as the venue for this 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace.”

Ulster University is globally renowned for the impact of its peace and conflict transformation research through INCORE– the International Conflict Research Institute – headquartered at the University’s Magee campus in Derry-Londonderry.

Dr Máire Braniff, Director of INCORE at Ulster University said: “The opening day of the Conference (April 10) marks the 19th anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement/Belfast Agreement, the most important and far-reaching agreement in the Northern Ireland peace process of the 1990s. The Opening Reception of the Conference will be held at Stormont (Parliament Buildings) on the same estate where the historic agreement was signed. It will therefore help reflect on an historic event in our region whilst refocusing our attention on the importance of conflict transformation work both locally and internationally.”

Events (contd)

The Conference will include keynote addresses, symposia, workshops, paper and panel presentations, and a poster exhibition, as well as optional visits to historic sites and museums for peace. In addition to the conference theme, current issues and themes related to museums for peace will be discussed. These topics will include new developments in museum studies (museology), and the changing roles of museums for peace in the global age. For example, what is the role of museums for peace in education; in post-conflict healing and reconciliation processes; in the nuclear disarmament movement; in clarifying contested memories and multiple historical interpretations; and in raising awareness about socially-sanctioned, structural violence?

The 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace
Belfast, Northern Ireland: Stormont (Parliament Buildings), Ulster University, City Hall
10-13 April 2017

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- *Include all contact information: name, organisation, phone, email & web*

Please check that all details are correct when submitting as we will presume they are.