



# The Emergency: Ireland in Wartime



National University of Ireland, Galway

Moore Institute  
Hardiman Research Building

27-28 June 2014

## Conference Programme

Friday 27 June

09.45 Welcome

10.00 – 11.30 Panel 1: HIGH DIPLOMACY

Paul McNamara (NUI, Galway)

Sean Lester, Irish Diplomat in Peacetime and Wartime, 1934-46

Steven Murphy (University College Cork)

Irish Neutral Diplomacy in World War II

Barry Whelan (NUI, Maynooth)

Behind the green curtain: Spanish perceptions of neutral Ireland during the Second World War

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee Break

12.00 – 13.00 KEYNOTE

Mervyn O'Driscoll (University College Cork)

The Forgotten Dimension: Positive Neutrality and Irish Post-War Relief to Europe with particular reference to Germany

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch Break

14.00 – 15.15 Panels 2 & 3

Panel 2: WARTIME SHORTAGES IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT (Room G010)

Bryce Evans (Liverpool Hope University)

Farewell to Plato's Cave

Peter Rigney (Trinity College Dublin)

The Wartime Irish railway system: problems and perspectives

Panel 3: EXILES IN IRELAND (Room G011)

Gisela Holfter (University of Limerick)

German-speaking refugees in Ireland, 1933-45

Neasa McGarrigle (Trinity College Dublin)

Academic Refugees in Emergency Ireland

15.15 – 15.30 Coffee Break

15.30 - 16.30 KEYNOTE

Brian Girvin (Glasgow University)

De Valera's Achievement and the Politics of Irish Neutrality 1939-49

17.00 – 19.00 FILM SCREENING —The Enigma of Frank Ryan

Followed by roundtable discussion with Desmond Bell and Fearghal McGarry

20.00 – 21.30 CONFERENCE KEYNOTE – ROBERT FISK (venue, Radisson Hotel)

# Saturday 28 June

09.45 – 11.00 Panel 4: A LAND OF OPPORTUNITY?

Jackie Uí Chionna (NUI, Galway)

The College President called us “my Americans,” everyone else called us “the Yanks”: The G.I. Bill and American medical students at University College Galway

Bozena Cierlick (University College Cork)

“I think we should do all in our to help, as neither the British nor the Americans are likely to do anything for these people” (Alfred O’Rahilly)

Deirdre Mulrooney (University College Dublin)

Emergency encounters of the cultural kind: bohemian refugees in Emergency Dublin, from the Ballets Jooss to Erina Brady’s Irish School of Dance Art

11.00 – 11.15 Coffee Break

11.15 – 12.45 Panels 5 & 6

Panel 5: BRITAIN’S WAR IN AN IRISH CONTEXT (Room G010)

Pat McCarthy (Military History Society of Ireland)

Battle, Blitz, Blockade and Weather Forecast: the Luftwaffe and Neutral Ireland, 1940-1945

Steven O’Connor (Trinity College Dublin)

We are all Paddy’s: Irish identity in the British forces, 1939-1945

Joseph Quinn (Trinity College Dublin)

The Irish Experience of War: stories and testimonies of volunteers from Neutral Ireland who served in the British Armed Forces during the Second World War

Panel 6: EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS – IRELAND AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (Room G011)

Mary Muldowney (Trinity College Dublin)

The impact of class and gender on women’s paid work during the Second World War

Jennifer Redmond (NUI, Maynooth)

Wartime immigrants: Exploring the Irish diaspora in World War II Britain

Mary Hawkins (NUI, Galway)

‘Business as usual?’ central Hospital Galway Nurses during the Second World War

12.45 – 13.45 Lunch Break

13.45 – 14.45 KEYNOTE

T. Ryle Dwyer

Irish Neutrality: the distortion of a convenient fiction

14.45 – 15.00 Coffee Break

15.00 – 16.30 Panels 7 & 8

Panel 7: NEUTRALITY DISCOURSES (Room G010)

Bernard Kelly (Edinburgh University)

Who are we neutral against? The Irish myth of the Second World War

Karen Devine (Dublin City University)

Debunking the 'Unneutral Thesis'

Lili Zach (NUI, Galway)

Irish perceptions of small nation-states in the context of the Second World War

Panel 8: ACTIVISTS AND THE NEWS AGENDA (Room G011)

Leo Keohane (NUI, Galway)

CIVIC – Council for Investigation of Vatican Influence and Censorship: A Protestant anarchist's perspective on the Catholic Church in 1941

Kevin McCarthy (University College Cork)

The G2 surveillance of Robert Briscoe, 1939-1945

James O'Donnell (NUI, Galway)

War News in Ireland: the effect of censorship and news supply restrictions on the coverage and comment of the Dunkirk evacuation and D-Day landings in Irish newspapers — a case study

16.30 – 16.45 Coffee Break

16.45 – 17.45 KEYNOTE

Michael Kennedy (Royal Irish Academy)

"Men that came in with the sea": the discovery of war dead along the Irish coast, 1939-1945

17.45 – 18.00 Concluding Remarks

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