

Dublin LGBTQ+ Asylum Seekers Online Conference

Dublin City University

9th/10th April 2021

EROSS@DCU

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME




1. Programme at a glance pp 2 - 3
2. Full Programme pp 4 - 5
3. Participants pp 6 - 10
4. Emails p. 11



Programme at a glance 1/2



Day 1: Friday April 9th, 2021

	10:00 – 10:30	<i>Welcome</i>
Event 1	10:30 – 11:30	Plenary 1 – Dr Patricia Brazil: <i>Where Are We Now? An Assessment of Law and Policy in Ireland in Respect of LGBTQI+ Asylum Claims</i>
	11:30 – 12:00	Break 1
Event 2	12:00 – 13:00	Panel 1 – <i>Seeking Refuge in a Prejudiced Land - LGBTQ+ Asylum-Seekers in Illiberal Hungary</i>
	13:00 – 14:00	Break 2
Event 3	14:00 – 15:30	Panel 2 – <i>Assessing and Assisting Transgender Asylum</i>
Event 4	15:30 – 16:30	Curatorial Walk – Carlos Motta: <i>Title T.B.A.</i>
	16:30 – 17:00	Break 3
Event 5	17:00 – 18:00	Plenary 2 – Evgeny Shtorn: <i>LGBT People in Direct Provision: An Intersectional Approach</i>

Programme at a glance 2/2



Day 2: Saturday April 10th, 2021

Event 6	10:00 – 11:00	Plenary 3 – Dr Calogero Giametta: <i>Mapping Homo/Transphobia: The Valorisation of the LGBT Protection Category in the Refugee-Granting System</i>
	11:00 – 11:15	Break 4
Event 7	11:15 – 12:15	Interview – Bulelani Mfaco: <i>Asylum, Between Persecution and Sanctuary?</i>
	12:15 – 12:30	Break 5
Event 8	12:30 – 13:00	Panel 3 – <i>Hidden Lives - Hidden Stress</i>
	13:00 – 14:00	Break 6
Event 9	14:00 – 15:00	Discussion – <i>Beyond Bangladesh</i>
	15:00 – 15:30	Break 7
Event 10	15:30 – 16:30	Roundtable – <i>Access & Support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the LGBT Community: Experiences, Challenges & Lessons Learnt</i>
	16:30 – 16:45	<i>Farewell</i>

Full Programme – Day 1

Day 1 - April 09 | **10:00 – 10:30** | **Welcome**

Day 1 - April 09 | **10:30 – 11:30** | Event 1 **Plenary 1**

Where Are We Now? An Assessment of Law and Policy in Ireland in Respect of LGBTQI+ Asylum Claims

Dr Patricia Brazil, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Chair: David Carroll, IRC Scholar, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 1 - April 09 | **11:30 – 12:00** | Break 1

Day 1 - April 09 | **12:00 – 13:00** | Event 2 **Panel 1**

Seeking Refuge in a Prejudiced Land - LGBTQ+ Asylum-Seekers in Illiberal Hungary

Dr Zsolt Szekeres, The Hungarian Helsinki Committee, & Dr Lilla Hárdi M.D., Medical Director of the Cordelia Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims, Hungary

Chair: Dr Paola Rivetti, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 1 - April 09 | **13:00 – 14:00** | Break 2

Day 1 - April 09 | **14:00 – 15:10** | Event 3 **Panel 2**

Assessing and Assisting Transgender Asylum

Mariza Avgeri, Maynooth University, Ireland & Gillian Brien (BeLonG To), Ireland

Chair: Dr Ernesto del Aguila, University College Dublin, Ireland

Day 1 - April 09 | **15:30 – 16:30** | Event 4 **Curatorial Walk**

Title T.B.A.

Carlos Motta, Artist and Associate Professor, Fine Arts, Pratt Institute, U.S.A.

Moderator: Jean-Philippe Imbert, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 1 - April 09 | **16:30 – 17:00** | Break 3

Day 1 - April 09 | **17:00 – 18:00** | Event 5 **Plenary 2**

LGBT People in Direct Provision: An Intersectional Approach

Evgeny Shtorn, Refugee and Activist, Queer Diaspora, Ireland

Chair: Dr Tanya Lokot, School of Communications, Dublin City University, Ireland



Full Programme – Day 2

Day 2 - April 10 | **10:00 – 11:00** | Event 6 **Plenary 3**

Mapping Homo/Transphobia: The Valorisation of the LGBT Protection Category in the Refugee-Granting System

Dr Calogero Giametta, Université Aix Marseille, France

Chair: Dr Agnès Maillot, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 2 - April 10 | **11:00 – 11:15** | Break 4

Day 2 - April 10 | **11:15 – 12:15** | Event 7 **Interview**

Asylum, Between Persecution and Sanctuary?

Bulelani Mfacso, MASI, Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland

Chair: Dr Veronica Crosbie, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 2 - April 10 | **12:15 – 12:30** | Break 5

Day 2 - April 10 | **12:30 – 13:00** | Event 8 **Panel 3**

Hidden Lives - Hidden Stress

Mick Quinlan, Volunteer Director & Founder, Gay Health Network, Ireland and Daniel McCartney, Doctor of Public Health student, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

Chair: Robbie Lawlor, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 2 - April 10 | **13:00 – 14:00** | Break 6

Day 2 - April 10 | **14:00 – 15:00** | Event 9 **Discussion**

Beyond Bangladesh

Bangladeshi refugees, Melting Point, Paris, France

Moderator: Jean-Philippe Imbert, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland

Day 2 - April 10 | **15:00 – 15:30** | Break 7

Day 2 - April 10 | **15:30 – 16:30** | Event 10 **Roundtable**

Access & Support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the LGBT Community - Experiences, Challenges & Lessons Learnt

Colette O'Regan, Senior Training & Advocacy Coordinator, LGBT Ireland; Trina Tsai, Youth Officer, Education & Training Board; Diego Caixeta, Outreach Worker, MPower @ HIV Ireland; John Paul O'Brien, MIACP Integrative Counsellor/Psychotherapist and Group Facilitator; Preet Tahul, Safe Space participant and Is Rainbow Muid, LGBT Ireland

Chair: David Carroll, IRC Scholar, SALIS, Dublin City University, Ireland.

Day 2 - April 10 | **16:30 – 17:00** | **Farewell**



Participants

Mariza Avgeri, John and Pat Hume scholar, Maynooth University, Ireland and the Open University, United Kingdom

Mariza Avgeri is an associate Lecturer at the Open University in the UK on Law, Society and Culture and an EU law tutor at Maynooth University. She is a qualified lawyer in Athens, Greece. She has graduated with a Bachelor of Law and a Master of Political Science from VU Amsterdam. She is currently completing her PhD in Maynooth University at the Law Department working on transgender asylum claims and jurisprudence in the context of the European Union. She is a John and Pat Hume scholar for her doctoral studies. She has worked as a legal researcher, a case worker at the Greek Asylum Service and a member of the Appeals' Committees. She has participated in many civil rights initiatives regarding migrant rights and LGBT rights, both as a lawyer and as a member of the queer community.



Patricia Brazil, Averil Deverell Lecturer in Law, Trinity College Dublin

Patricia Brazil, LL.B., M.Litt, Ph.D., Barrister-at-Law, lectures in refugee and immigration law, family law and child law. She has also practised as a barrister since 2004, specialising in the areas of asylum and immigration, family and child law. She regularly delivers conference papers at both domestic and international conferences pertaining to refugee, immigration and child law and has extensive publications in these areas.

<https://www.tcd.ie/law/people/pbrazil>



Diego Caixeta, Outreach Worker, MPower, HIV Ireland, Ireland

Originally from Brazil, Diego Rodrigues Caixeta moved to Ireland over 10 years ago. He graduated in General Nursing (Federal University of Uberlandia-2010). He worked in the Gay Men's Health Service (GMHS) for 8 years and has worked with the HIV Ireland Outreach team since 2019. He has a specific focus on supporting gbMSM from migrant and South American populations. Also, he worked with the Department of Public Health/Social Inclusion HSE, supporting rapid COVID-19 response within social minorities.



Gillian Brien, BeLonG To, Ireland

Gillian Brien, is an active socialist, working class feminist and Youth Work Manager at BeLonG To Youth Service. She has over 20yrs professional experience, working within frontline services, for minority communities within Ireland (Travellers, Female Prisoners, Young people groomed into gangs, LGBTI+ young people). For 3 years she managed an LGBT+ Refugee and Asylum project. She also specialises in Child Protection and Safeguarding and referendum and political campaigns (Marriage Ref, Repeal the 8th, General, Local and EU Elections). A core value of Gillian's practice is empowering the communities she works with to advocate for positive social change.



Calogero Giametta, Université Aix Marseille, France

Dr Calogero Giametta is a sociologist with a research focus on gender, sexuality and the political economy of migration. He is affiliated to the *Laboratoire de Sociologie (LAMES)* of Aix-Marseille University. His work to date has specifically analysed migrant sex work, the right of asylum for LGBTQ people, and anti-human trafficking interventions in western Europe. Between 2016 and 2020, he was a research fellow within the ERC-funded project 'Sexual Humanitarianism: Migration, Sex Work and Trafficking', Kingston University, London (in partnership with Aix-Marseille University). He is the author of the book *The Sexual Politics of Asylum* (Routledge, 2017). calogiame@googlemail.com



Lilla Hárdi, Cordelia Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims, Hungary

Dr Lilla Hárdi M.D. is a medical doctor since 1981. She is a psychiatrist and psychotherapist. She was the chair of a section of the World Psychiatric Association since 2008. She was board member of the International Rehabilitation Council of Torture Victims (IRCT) She has been the member of the IFEG (International Forensic Expert Group) of IRCT since 2010 publishing scientific statements against torture. She was the Chief Guest Editor of Newspaper *Torture* between 2015 and 2016. She was rewarded with the *Inge Genefke* prize (for the rehabilitation of torture victims) in 2014 in Copenhagen, Denmark. She has been working as the medical director and the psychiatrist of Cordelia Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims since 1996 in Budapest, Hungary and personally examined and treated survivors of torture, wrote several medical-legal reports and/or supervised their treatment. She has lectured and trained nationally and internationally and has published articles. <https://cordelia.hu>



Daniel McCartney, Doctor of Public Health student, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

Daniel McCartney is a volunteer researcher for the Gay Health Network. For the past ten years he has been based in London working for the International Planned Parenthood Federation, a global service provider and advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights. He is also a part-time Doctor of Public Health student at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Previously, he was based in Dublin at Trinity College and supported research for GMHS and GHN. www.lshtm.ac.uk



Bulelani Mfaco. MASI, Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland, Ireland

Growing up in the apartheid ghetto of Khayelitsha in Cape Town, Bulelani Mfaco became involved at an early age in protests for adequate housing & access to land with Abahlali BaseMjondolo, health care in the Khayelitsha Health Forum, and improved policing in neighbourhood watches. In 2017 he claimed asylum, seeking protection from violence and targeted killings of LGBTQ+ people. He is one of the Spokespersons for the Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland (MASI) where he is campaigning for the right to work for all asylum seekers, and to end Direct Provision. www.masi.ie



Carlos Motta, Artist and Associate Professor, Pratt Institute, United States of America

Carlos Motta's multi-disciplinary art practice documents the social conditions and political struggles of sexual, gender, and ethnic minority communities in order to challenge dominant and normative discourses through visibility and self-representation. As a historian of untold narratives and an archivist of repressed histories, Motta is committed to in-depth research on the struggles of post-colonial subjects and societies. His work manifests in a variety of mediums including video, installation, sculpture, drawing, web-based projects, performance, and symposia. In 2020, Motta participated in the 11th Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art; and had solo exhibitions at Mary Porter Sesnon Gallery—University of California Santa Cruz, and at Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA). His first 20-year career monograph *Carlos Motta: History's Backrooms* was published by SKIRA also in 2020. Motta is Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Practice at Pratt Institute's Fine Arts Department in Brooklyn, New York.

carlos.motta.com



John Paul O'Brien, MIACP, Integrative Counsellor/Psychotherapist and Group Facilitator

John Paul O'Brien, MIACP, is a fully accredited Counsellor and Psychotherapist working in private practice in Dublin 4. He has been providing psychological support to a diverse range of individuals since 2012. In addition to providing counselling and psychotherapy support to individuals, John Paul lectures in PCI College, whose flagship degree programme is awarded by Middlesex University. Since 2014 he has facilitated the personal development course for gay, bisexual and MSM in Outhouse, provided by the Gay Health Network. John Paul also delivers personal development seminars for students in UCD and to people living with HIV in HIV Ireland. He has facilitated Safe Space (an LGBT+ asylum seeker, refugee and migrant peer support group) in Outhouse since its inception in December 2018.

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Collette O'Regan, Senior Training & Advocacy Coordinator, LGBT Ireland, Ireland

Collette O'Regan has been working with LGBT Ireland since 2017. As Senior Training & Advocacy Coordinator she is responsible for internal training (helpline volunteers, peer support group facilitators) and external training (delivering LGBTI+ Awareness training and other bespoke training offers to various service providers). Strong priorities currently in Collette's role are older LGBT+ people's visibility/awareness training through the LGBT Champions Programme and peer support to LGBT+ asylum seekers living in Direct Provision. Before LGBT Ireland, Collette worked in the field of edible democracy in Cambodia, where she also co-founded Rainbow Community Kampuchea (RoCK) in 2009, Cambodia's first and (since 2014) legally registered LGBT+ NGO. Collette's professional background is community development, community & adult education and grassroots advocacy. She holds an MSc in Equality Studies from the School of Social Justice, UCD. **<https://lgbt.ie>**



Mick Quinlan, Volunteer Director & Founder, Gay Health Network, Ireland

Mick is currently a Volunteer director of and founder member of Gay Health Network and Gay Health Action previous to this. A long-time activist in HIV, and he is also a former (retired) Manager of the HSE's Gay Men's Health Service (GMHS). Since 1985, with others, Mick has led on Community actions promoting HIV and Sexual Health Awareness for MSM such as access to services and, especially, research and the Man2Man programme.

mickq@ghn.ie / www.ghn.ie / www.man2man.ie



Evgeny Shtorn, Writer and LGBT activist, Queer Diaspora Ireland, Ireland

LGBT people in direct provision are facing oppression and stigma from many sources. Despite a strong and vibrant LGBT community in Ireland, most of the LGBT people in direct provision people remain completely invisible. Individuals are left without the necessary support or protection, and they rely on charitable help, instead of community-based engagement and empowerment. Most of the LGBT residents are exposed to additional risks and violence within the closed and hostile environment of institutionalised living, where they are sent to different parts of the country and forced to live in fear of forced outing and bullying. These direct and hidden aggression based on prejudices against LGBT people cause a constant growing anxiety for many in the community. In the recently published Catherine Day Report about direct provision and the asylum process, LGBT people are mentioned only once and there was no specific address on the matter. In his presentation Evgeny Shtorn will explore the additional challenges that LGBT people meet in direct provision and will invite the audience to support this at extreme risk group. <http://queerdiaspora.com>



Zoltán Somogyvári - Senior legal officer - Hungarian Helsinki Committee

Zoltán Somogyvári has been working for the Hungarian Helsinki Committee - one of Hungary's top human rights NGOs - for 10 years. He spent his first 8 years representing asylum-seekers in their asylum procedures, and refugees to be able to reunite with their loved ones. For the past 2 years his passion has been empowering refugees and young Hungarians. He is currently also training to become a mental health counsellor with the focus of supporting teenagers and young adults coming from disadvantaged social-emotional backgrounds.
zoltan.somogyvari@helsinki.hu



Trina Tsai, Youth Officer with Education and Training Board (ETB), Ireland

Trina has been a youth worker for more than 15 years. She has worked with a number of National and Independent Youth Organisations, including BeLonG To supporting LGBTI+ Asylum Seekers and Refugees. Previous work involved frontline work, group facilitation, training, research and advocacy. Trina currently works with an Education and Training Board supporting youth work organisations.
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