

2011



Global Vision for **Local Impact**



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Message from the Co-Chairs

2011 has been one of the ICCL's busiest years ever. In addition to our programmed work under the Strategic Plan devised by the Board, the ICCL had to step into the breach and run a referendum campaign, at short notice and with very limited resources. A reminder, if one were needed, of why it is so important that Ireland retains a genuinely independent human rights watchdog.

The Board's own work has developed significantly during the past year. We have appointed a Governance Sub-Committee and developed and adopted a Code of Governance for the ICCL. New directors go through a detailed induction programme, designed to familiarize them with the organisation's operations, management and governance structures.

You will see a number of new faces in this year's annual report and we are delighted that the Board has been further strengthened by the addition of Alan D.P. Brady, Elaine Dewhurst, Frances Feeney and Claire Hamilton. We continue to seek out new talent for the Board to ensure that the ICCL retains its position as a sector-leading non-governmental organisation.

One of the biggest challenges facing us as a Board is ensuring that the ICCL will have a sustainable future. In 2011 we reached our highest-ever level of annual income, passing the one million Euro mark for the first time in the ICCL's history.

Our success in attracting core funding from the European Commission for our work on criminal justice and victims' rights played a significant role in improving our cash flow during the year.

However, although we have reduced our dependency on our biggest single donor, the Atlantic Philanthropies, in line with our strategic targets, we remain precariously reliant on too few sources of major funding. Thirty-five years after it was founded, the ICCL has become a fully-fledged professional human rights organisation, but its future remains far from secure.

Over the coming year, we will be reaching out to those of you who have supported the ICCL in the past, encouraging you to make a more significant investment in our future. At present, we have the financial and human resources to do our job in an effective way, but we will need your active help to guarantee that the ICCL will become a permanent part of the human rights infrastructure in Ireland.

The activities outlined in this Annual Report are only the highlights of the ICCL's work during 2011. These higher-profile pieces of work have been accompanied by active behind-the-scenes diplomacy, support for colleagues in the non-governmental sector and patient nurturing of the relationships that are essential to ensure that the ICCL retains its influential position in Irish public life. Much of this activity is less visible than the media-friendly work at which the ICCL excels, but it is no less vital.

We would like to thank the ICCL's dedicated staff team for all of their work during 2011 and we are looking forward to another challenging year, during which concerted efforts by the Board and staff will be required to retain and enhance the capacity that the ICCL is so fortunate to have acquired.

We are counting on your support!

Natalie McDonnell, Co-Chair (Policy)
Niall Mulligan, Co-Chair (Operations)

Niall Mulligan



Natalie McDonnell



Director's Foreword

The notion of the universality of human rights has always underpinned the ICCL's work. Human rights are the inherent possession of each and every one of us, not something to be generously granted by the drafters of a constitution or grudgingly conceded by a court.

Our modern human rights system sets out these values in a series of global and regional treaties, to many of which Ireland has voluntarily subscribed. However, our domestic law and practice have not always kept pace. This much is clear from judgments of the European Court of Human Rights against Ireland and from the recommendations of a number of Council of Europe and United Nations treaty bodies.

During 2011, the ICCL has worked hard to enhance the implementation in Ireland of the international human rights standards: applying global vision to secure local impact.

Mark Kelly



Our flagship project in 2011 focused on Ireland's first ever Universal Periodic Review (UPR) by the United Nations Human Rights Council. Unique amongst global human rights monitoring procedures, the UPR is a peer-review process, during which other United Nations member States scrutinize the performance of the country under review. To equip the Human Rights Council to do this, the ICCL led the 17-member *Your Rights Right Now* civil society UPR coalition. During the year, *Your Rights Right Now* produced a stakeholder report endorsed by more than 100 civil society organisations, lobbied the diplomatic corps in Dublin and Geneva, raised awareness of the UPR process and ensured that the voices of vulnerable people were heard. The Government has committed to implement the vast majority of the UN member States' 127 UPR recommendations. Global vision has secured local impact.

Key developments affecting Ireland's laws continue to emerge at European level and 2011 saw the ICCL's work on European criminal justice issues recognized by core funding from the European Commission, enabling us to dedicate a staff member to work on procedural rights and the human rights of victims. In future, European Union Directives on these issues will have the force of law in Ireland and it is vital that we understand and are in a position to influence the content of those Directives from a human rights perspective.

Closer to home, the ICCL played a more traditional watchdog role by opposing the Government's proposals to grant the Oireachtas judicial powers without providing appropriate safeguards. The organisation led a successful campaign that saw the Government's proposal defeated by a convincing majority of voters. Reform of the Constitution should never be undertaken lightly or in haste, and the ICCL will continue closely to monitor future referendum proposals for human rights compliance.

2011 is likely to be the last full year in which the Irish Human Rights Commission and the Equality Authority will exist. Merger discussions are at an advanced stage and it is anticipated that the current equality functions of the Equality Authority will be assumed by a new Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. The ICCL has welcomed the merger, which is capable of producing a new body that is more effective than either of its predecessors. In order to support the future case law work of the IHREC, the ICCL has commissioned an authoritative book on the Equal Status Acts and a comprehensive review of anti-discrimination law in Ireland, both of which will be published in 2012.

Our awareness raising and outreach work was another highlight of 2011. Successful projects documented in this report include our third annual Human Rights Film Awards, which included our new Human

Rights in Under a Minute Challenge. The Challenge encouraged young film makers to create their own human rights film no more than 60 seconds long, with the support of a new educational resource, *Human Rights Through the Lens*, designed for the Civic, Social and Political Education (CPSE) curriculum.

Building effective networks at national and European level is an integral part of the ICCL's work and, in 2011, this assumed a global dimension with the formalisation of the International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations (INCLO), of which the ICCL is one of ten founder members. At the INCLO's meeting in Dublin in December 2011, I was honoured to be elected as one of the two founding Co-Chairs of this new global network of like-minded organisations. The INCLO's global reach has the capacity significantly to strengthen the impact of the ICCL's local work.

I am enormously grateful to all our supporters and friends for the assistance that they have provided over the course of this very busy year. Particular thanks are due to the Atlantic Philanthropies for their recognition of the impact of our work and their unflinching support. I hope that you will enjoy reading this year's annual report on which, as ever, we would welcome your comments.

Mark Kelly, Director

Our People



Meet our **Executive Board & Staff**



EXECUTIVE BOARD

The ICCL is governed by an Executive Board drawn from academia, business and the law.

Natalie McDonnell (Co-Chair – Policy)



Niall Mulligan (Co-Chair – Operations)



John Kennedy



Mary McIvor



Siobhán Cummiskey



Claire Hamilton



Elaine Dewhurst



Frances Feeney



Alan D.P. Brady



Our People

ADDITIONS TO THE ICCL'S BOARD IN 2011

Dr Alan DP Brady is a practicing barrister and an adjunct lecturer in the Law School at Trinity College Dublin. At TCD, he teaches an undergraduate course on penology and a postgraduate course on judicial review and human rights. He also teaches administrative law at the King's Inns. He has previously worked at Front Line and at the Law Reform Commission. He has a PhD in human rights law from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Dr Elaine Dewhurst worked in the Law School of the Law Society of Ireland as a Course Executive in Civil Litigation, Civil Advocacy and Landlord and Tenant Law from 2006–2007. From 2007–2009 she worked in the position of Parliamentary and Law Reform Executive in the Law Society of Ireland. She was the Irish National Administrator for the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition from 2007–2009.

She has been awarded the EJ Phelan Fellowship in International Law by the National University of Ireland and has published articles and presented papers at national and international conferences in the area of immigration law, employment law, human rights and European law. She received a PhD for her thesis on the “The Obstacles Faced by Migrant Workers to Achieving Equality with Irish Nationals in Employment in Ireland.”

Frances Feeney is the Managing Director of Social Capital Ireland. A financial accountant and Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Certified Accountants, she worked for a number of years in PricewaterhouseCoopers as a manager in their business and wealth services group – clients included owner managed businesses, public sector organisations and not-for-profit organisations. She subsequently worked as Chief Operations Officer with an Irish Charity involved in overseas aid. Frances had a previous career at a senior level in the public sector as a health professional. She has an MSc in Executive Leadership from Boston College and Ulster University. She founded Venture Philanthropy Ireland in 2007 which evolved into Social Capital Ireland in 2008.

Claire Hamilton practised as a barrister in criminal law until 2004 when she became a full time lecturer in criminology in Dublin Institute of Technology. In DIT she teaches social care law, criminological theory, sentencing and criminal justice. Her first book *Whittling the Golden Thread: The Presumption of Innocence and Irish Criminal Law* was published by Irish Academic Press in 2007 and she is currently working on her second book, *Social Work and Social Care Law*. She has previously served on the board of the Irish Penal Reform Trust and acted as Chair of the Trust from 2005 to 2007. She holds a PhD in Law (Criminology) from UCD.

STAFF

The ICCL's professional staff work across three teams: Research and Policy, Communications and Campaigns and Organisational Development

Aoife Murphy joined the ICCL team in March 2011 as Film Awards intern, and subsequently joined the staff as Administrator (maternity cover).

Aoife Lyons joined the ICCL as UPR Project Officer from July – November 2011.

Yitong Jiang worked with the ICCL from January – March 2011 on our Universal Periodic Review Project as part of a fellowship of the Open Society Justice Initiative.

Sinéad Skelly joined the ICCL team in November 2011 as EU Criminal justice intern.

Tanya Ward was granted leave of absence from the ICCL in December 2011 to take up the position of CEO of the Children's Rights Alliance.

ICCL STAFF: From Left to Right: Stephen O'Hare, Karen Ciesielski, Mark Kelly, Lorraine Curran, Walter Jayawardene, Joanne Garvey, Deirdre Duffy, Suzanne Handley, Tanya Ward



Yitong Jiang



Aoife Murphy



Aoife Lyons



Sinéad Skelly



Our Work



Fostering a **Human Rights Culture**



The ICCL's role is to act as a watchdog and to ensure that human rights standards are mainstreamed into law, policy and practice in Ireland.

YOUR RIGHTS RIGHT NOW AND IRELAND'S UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW – MOBILISING CIVIL SOCIETY TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON IRELAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD

2011 saw '*Your Rights. Right Now*', the ICCL's flagship project on international human rights monitoring, swing into action. In October 2010, the ICCL brought together a steering group of seventeen leading non-governmental organisations (NGOs), trade unions and civil society organisations to ensure that the voice of Irish civil society was heard during Ireland's UPR examination.

Under the banner *Your Rights Right Now*, the project has two overarching objectives:

- To engage effectively with the UPR process in order to achieve recommendations which, when implemented, will result in change.
- To raise awareness of human rights, the UN and the UPR process.

Consultation

The *Your Rights Right Now* Cross-Sectoral Steering Group (CSSG) carried out 17 consultation and information sessions with organisations and individuals around Ireland in February and March 2011. To support this process, the ICCL produced a *Plain English Guide to the UPR* in conjunction with the Geneva-based NGO, upr-info.org as well as a short animation explaining the process in simple terms. Over 200 people attended the events and the *Your Rights Right Now* campaign received 84 submissions from organisations and individuals.

The information and evidence collected by the *Your Rights Right Now* team covered a diverse spectrum of issues. However, recurring themes emerged such as access to services; equality and non-discrimination; accountability; right to information and a remedy; and political participation.

UPR Stakeholder Report

This information was fed into Ireland's *Civil Society UPR Stakeholder Report* which was submitted to the UN on 21 March 2011 and officially launched by the newly-appointed Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Disability, Equality, Mental Health and Older People, Kathleen Lynch TD, on 19 April 2011. By the date of submission to the UN, 82 civil society organisations had endorsed the report and a further 25 organisations indicated their support thereafter.

The Irish Government also submitted a report to the UN and representatives of *Your Rights Right Now* participated in the Government's consultation process in May 2011.

WHAT IS THE UPR?

In 2011, Ireland was examined for the first time by other United Nations (UN) countries on our human rights record under the Universal Periodic Review or UPR. This is a new mechanism and the first time that UN States directly examined each other on their human rights record. The review is conducted by the UPR Working Group of the UN Human Rights Council and Ireland was one of the last countries to be examined under the first cycle of the UPR (now complete).

One of the most exciting aspects of the UPR is the broad range of human rights that are considered: from the right to health to the right to liberty to the rights of children, older people and people from minority groups. Countries are examined on their obligations under all human rights agreements ratified, voluntary commitments or pledges made by the State, the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and international humanitarian law.

Launch of the 'Your Rights. Right Now' campaign, January 2011



Your Rights Right Now animation



Minister Kathleen Lynch TD at the launch of the Your Rights Right Now report



Our Work

Lobbying

The *Your Rights Right Now* report contained 36 recommendations and the steering group carried out over 40 lobbying meetings with diplomats in Dublin and Geneva throughout the summer of 2011, in order to explain and promote these recommendations. We held a briefing for Oireachtas members and the diplomatic corps in Dublin in April 2011 and a targeted side event with Amnesty International (Ireland) at the UN Headquarters in Geneva in September 2011.

Ireland's UPR Examination, 6 October 2011

As evidenced by our nationwide public meetings, participation was a key element for the *Your Rights Right Now* campaign. With the support of *Your Rights Right Now*, consultees and civil society groups attended the UPR examination hearing in Geneva on 6 October 2011.

Among them, two members of Older & Bolder together with staff from the organisation travelled to Geneva to see how issues affecting older people would be addressed at the UPR Working Group and to make linkages to other groups working on similar issues. The Fox family from Mallow in Co Cork also joined the *Your Rights Right Now* delegation. Having viewed an online ad on Facebook, they attended a consultation event in Cork and the subsequent launch of the *Your Rights Right Now* report in April 2011.

We were delighted that Lauren Donovan, a student from the Sherrard Street Youthreach scheme for early school leavers, travelled with *Your Rights Right Now* to Geneva. Lauren won our human rights competition, carried out in conjunction with Youthreach schools nationwide, with her provocative video on domestic violence.

Live webcasting of Ireland's UPR session was facilitated by *Your Rights Right Now* and partners throughout Ireland.

UPR Recommendations

127 recommendations were made by other UN countries on how to improve the human rights situation in Ireland including on issues such as a referendum on children's rights, the rights of women, prison conditions, rights of people with disabilities and anti-racism measures. The majority of these recommendations reflected issues raised in the *Your Rights Right Now* stakeholder report.

During the UPR process, the *Your Rights Right Now* group witnessed how issues which were vocalised at small regional meetings in Ireland could be transposed to the international arena of the UN – how the local could be connected to the international. Together with the UPR Cross-Sectoral Steering Group, the ICCL plans to continue our work with organisations and individuals around the country and use the UPR recommendations as building blocks upon which to base our work for change in Irish law, policy and practice over the next four years until Ireland's next UPR examination.

YOUTHREACH

Youthreach works with unemployed young early school leavers aged 15–20. It offers participants the opportunity to identify and pursue viable options within adult life, and provides them with opportunities to acquire certification and employment opportunities.

YOUR RIGHTS RIGHT NOW CROSS-SECTORAL STEERING GROUP

Amnesty International Ireland
Children's Rights Alliance
Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Dóchas
Educate Together
FLAC
Irish Council for Civil Liberties
Irish Family Planning Association
The Integration Centre
Irish Penal Reform Trust
Irish Traveller Movement
Immigrant Council of Ireland
Irish Senior Citizens' Parliament
National Women's Council of Ireland
Union of Students in Ireland
The Simon Community
Transgender Equality Network Ireland

Public information campaign launch at Liberty Hall on 22 September 2011



Public information session



Youthreach competition prizegiving award ceremony



On the question of human rights, there is no room for moral relativism or selectivity – respect for dignity and human rights that secure that bedrock value is the incontestable baseline of decent politics everywhere.

Minister Shatter addressing the UN Human Rights Council at Ireland's UPR on 6 October 2011

MINISTER SHATTER ADDRESSING THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL AT IRELAND'S UPR ON 6 OCTOBER 2011

"[...] it is never acceptable for any government to treat national or religious or ethnic minorities as inferior; or to discriminate against gay men or gay women; or to discriminate against children or to fail to recognise their vulnerability; or to exclude a disabled person from inclusion; or to repress freedom of expression because it fears or disagrees with the speaker's opinion save where such opinion constitutes incitement to hatred.

And of course, it is never acceptable for government to allow genocide, rape or child sexual or physical abuse; or women to be treated as second class citizens; or human neglect through indifference; or individuals to be targeted and pilloried because of their race, colour, religion or national or ethnic origins or identity.

On the question of human rights, there is no room for moral relativism or selectivity – respect for dignity and human rights that secure that bedrock value is the incontestable baseline of decent politics everywhere."

www.rightsnow.ie



Campaigner Orla Tinsley at our public information campaign launch at Liberty Hall on 22 September 2011



Our 'Ireland's UPR' campaign video



Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence Alan Shatter TD



Our Work

THE UN COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE – PLACING IRELAND'S ILL TREATMENT RECORD UNDER A GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT

Ireland's first examination under the UN Convention against Torture and other Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) took place on 23 and 24 May 2011. The ICCL and Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT) joined forces to produce a joint shadow report which was endorsed by 31 Irish civil society organisations and academic institutions.

Prior to the Committee's examination of the Irish Government delegation, the ICCL and IPRT appeared before a closed session of the Committee to brief members on key issues arising in the shadow report, and ICCL/IPRT representatives were on hand to monitor the responses of the Irish Government during the two day hearing.

In partnership with the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, the ICCL and IPRT also organised the first ever live worldwide webcasting of a government delegation before a UN Treaty Monitoring Body (www.ustream.tv/channel/iprt). This was viewed by a global audience including statutory bodies and civil society organisations in Ireland, and ensured that the Committee's questions and the Government's responses were communicated instantly to concerned parties in Ireland and internationally.

The Concluding Observations of the UN Committee echoed many of the concerns outlined by the ICCL and IPRT in our Joint Shadow Report, including regarding:

- Refugees and international protection
- Prison conditions
- Detention of refugees and asylum seekers
- Complaints and investigations mechanisms
- Follow-up to the Ryan Report
- Magdalene Laundries
- Children in detention
- Abortion
- Prohibition of FGM
- Violence against women, including domestic violence
- Treatment of persons with mental disabilities
- Protection of separated and unaccompanied minors

Thanks to the efforts of the IPRT and ICCL to live-broadcast the proceedings, the hearing and the concluding comments issued in June 2011 received extensive media coverage. Since then, the ICCL has continued its work on implementation of the recommendations of the Committee, which form a clearly defined 'to do' list for the Government to improve safeguards against cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

This project was funded by the St. Stephen's Green Trust and by AW60.



The launch of the joint ICCL/IPRT Shadow report under UNCAT



THE 'DUBLIN PROCESS' – WORKING FOR UN TREATY BODY REFORM

On Wednesday 9 November 2011, the ICCL and Amnesty International Ireland organised a joint seminar on the eve of an international meeting of UN treaty body members and high-level UN delegates, including the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The treaty body members were in Dublin to discuss formal proposals on how to strengthen treaty monitoring (the 'Dublin II' meeting). Funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the meeting was organised by the Nottingham Centre for Human Rights. This is the conclusion of two years of meetings and reviews by key stakeholders in the treaty monitoring area. More information this process is accessible at www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/HRTD/hrtid_process.htm

The purpose of the Amnesty/ICCL event was to inform Irish civil society groups about the 'Dublin Process' and to provide space for an exchange of views with UN treaty body members. The event identified some of the major challenges for treaty monitoring, including poor resourcing, variations in capacity and practice, as well as government attitudes to the Treaty Monitoring Bodies.

Chaired by the ICCL's Director, the meeting was addressed by Kyung-wha Kang, the UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights and other speakers including Professor Ron McCallum, Chair of the Committee on People with Disabilities; Michael O'Flaherty, UN Human Rights Committee and Chief Commissioner of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission; Colin Wrafter, Head of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Human Rights Unit; Rachael Blake, UN Quaker Office; Rosslyn Noonan, Chair of the International Co-ordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and Colm O'Gorman of Amnesty International Ireland.

HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY MONITORING

There are currently nine core UN human rights treaties which have been agreed at the international level since 1948 that are important for human rights monitoring in Ireland. These cover: civil and political rights; economic, social and cultural rights; racism; women's rights; torture; children's rights; migrant rights; disability rights; and protection against enforced disappearance. Compliance by states with these treaties is monitored by Treaty Monitoring Bodies (TMBs) made up of independent experts. TMBs also issue recommendations benchmarking the state of human rights in each signatory country.

Colm O'Gorman, Executive Director of Amnesty International Ireland, Kyung-wha Kang, UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights and Mark Kelly, ICCL



Our Work



Promoting **Justice**



*The ICCL promotes a justice system that is humane, effective, rigorous and fair,
and respects the human rights of all participants.*

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE 30TH AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION – ENSURING AN EFFECTIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES SYSTEM

October 2011 saw the ICCL Association launch a political campaign for the first time in over seven years, when it led the campaign for a ‘No’ vote on the 30th Amendment to the Constitution.

The campaign was a resounding success, with the results of the poll confirming that the Amendment had been defeated by a margin of 53.3% against to 46.7% for – demonstrating a swing from ‘Yes’ to ‘No’ of over 30% since the launch of the ICCL’s campaign.

The Amendment’s stated intention was, on the face of it, a desirable one – the enhancement of the Oireachtas’ abilities to hold inquiries in the public interest. However, the wording of the Amendment failed to strike the right balance between the public interest and the rights of persons appearing before Oireachtas Committees.

In addition to providing for Oireachtas inquiries which could make findings as to the conduct of individual persons, the wording further provided that the extent to which “fair procedures” should apply when striking an “appropriate balance between the rights of persons and the public interest” would be a matter solely for the Houses of the Oireachtas to determine. Judge McMahon, the Independent Chair of the Referendum Commission made clear that “it is not possible to state definitively what role, if any, the courts would have in reviewing the procedures adopted by the Houses”.

A Rushed Proposal

The Government published draft legislation related to the Amendment on 6 October 2011, while it was only on 11 October that the Referendum Commission launched its public information campaign. Right up to polling day, there were widespread reports that members of the public had yet to receive their referendum information booklets.

The ‘No’ campaign launched with a press conference in Dublin, featuring speakers including Catherine Murphy TD (Ind), Senator Rónán Mullen (Ind), Mary O’Rourke (Former Fianna Fáil TD, Senator and Minister), Professor Gerry Whyte (Associate Professor of Law in Trinity College Dublin), Donncha O’Connell (NUI Galway School of Law) and Oisín Quinn (Senior Counsel and Labour Party Councillor).

The launch of the ‘No’ campaign garnered a good deal of media attention, and a *Sunday Times* poll the following Sunday, 23 October, indicated a 14% fall in support for the Amendment, and a clear increase in the momentum behind a ‘No’ vote. This was boosted by the publication in the national press on Monday 24 October of a letter from eight former Attorneys General opposing the Amendment.

Campaign Launch, 21 October 2011



Dr Maurice Hayes, former Senator and NI Ombudsman



Grafton Street 26 October 2011



Mary O'Rourke with campaign supporters at the launch on 21 October



Our Work

The letter from the Attorneys General coincided with the launch on 24 October of the 'No' campaign's poster and billboard campaign, marked by a photocall outside Dáil Éireann involving lifesize kangaroos, which garnered wide coverage in television and in the press. A public meeting the following day saw former Senator and Northern Ireland Ombudsman Maurice Hayes and 'Abbeylara' solicitor Peter Mullan add their voices to the 'No' campaign. The impact of the 'No' campaign was at this point clearly being felt in the 'Yes' camp with the Government hastily deploying 'yes' posters to counteract the 'No' camp's strategic 'Kangaroo Courts' poster campaign in the capital.

A 'Yes' photocall and press conference by the Taoiseach and Tánaiste, held on 25 October to coincide with the 'No' campaign's public meeting with Maurice Hayes, saw the Taoiseach attempt to dismiss the ICCL's concerns as 'nonsense'. This dismissive treatment of genuine public concerns for civil liberties, along with ad hominem attacks by ministers on opponents, undoubtedly contributed to public scepticism surrounding the 30th Amendment.

The referendum result confirmed that a clear majority of the people were not convinced that the Government's proposals struck the right balance between the public interest and the rights of persons called before Oireachtas Committees. It also was a firm warning to the Government that its decisive majority in parliament does not entitle it to bounce the public into an ill-thought-out and potentially dangerous reworking of hard-won constitutional protections.

The ICCL looks forward to participating fully in consultations on the shape of the Constitutional Convention during the course of 2012, and hopes that this forum will include consideration of an amendment that will strengthen the powers of Oireachtas Committees, while protecting the human rights of those who appear before them.

AT PRESENT, ARTICLE 15.10 OF THE CONSTITUTION STATES:

Each House shall make its own rules and standing orders, with power to attach penalties for their infringement, and shall have power to ensure freedom of debate, to protect its official documents and the private papers of its members, and to protect itself and its members against any person or persons interfering with, molesting or attempting to corrupt its members in the exercise of their duties."

The 30th Amendment proposed to renumber this as 15.10.1° and to insert the following subsections:

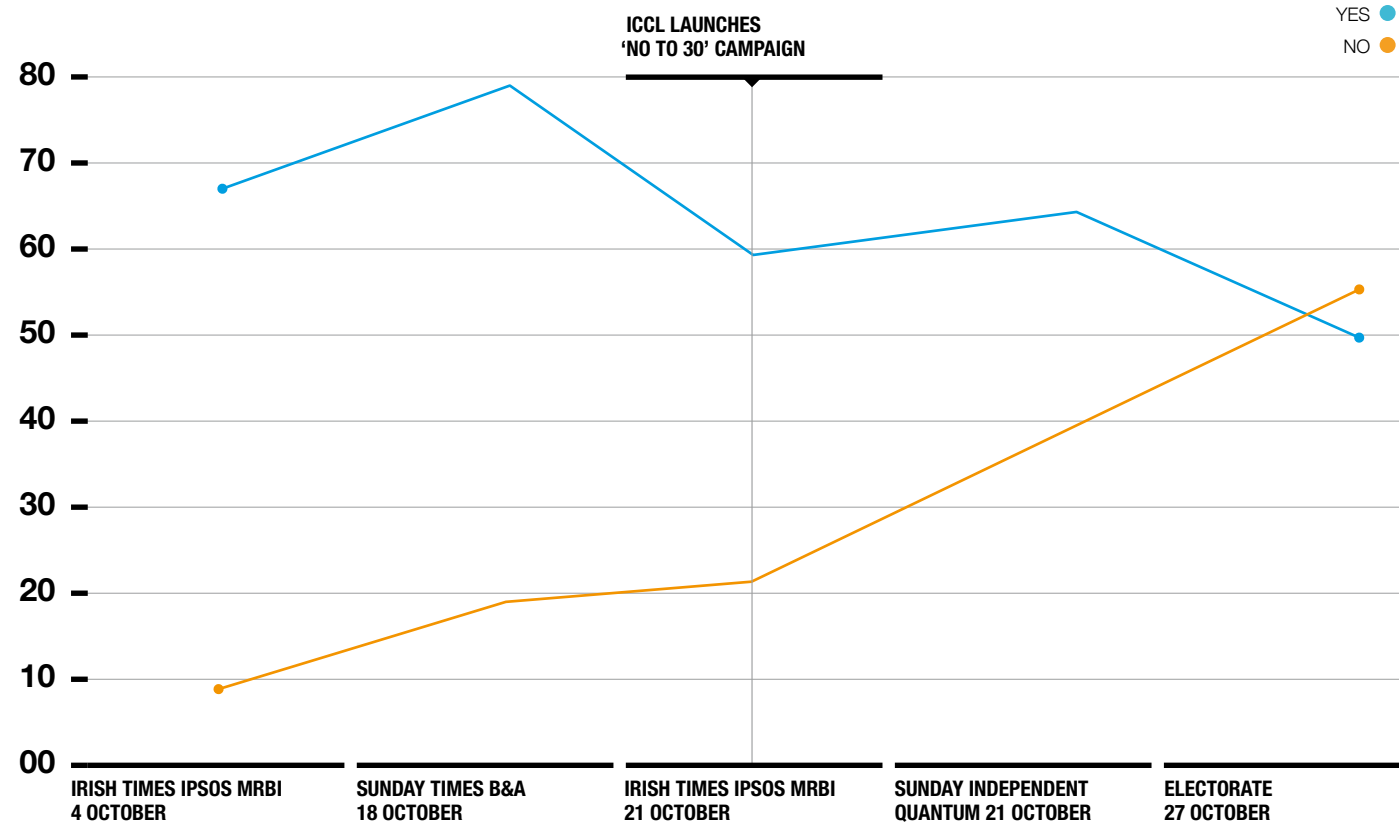
- 2° Each House shall have the power to conduct an inquiry, or an inquiry with the other House, in a manner provided for by law, into any matter stated by the House or Houses concerned to be of general public importance.
- 3° In the course of any such inquiry the conduct of any person (whether or not a member of either House) may be investigated and the House or Houses concerned may make findings in respect of the conduct of that person concerning the matter to which the inquiry relates.
- 4° It shall be for the House or Houses concerned to determine, with due regard to the principles of fair procedures, the appropriate balance between the rights of persons and the public interest for the purposes of ensuring an effective inquiry into any matter to which subsection 2° applies.

Maurice Hayes, Deirdre Duffy, Mark Kelly, Peter Mullan



www.kangaroocourts.net





THANK YOU!

We couldn't have done it without you and other members and supporters like you, who helped to spread the word online by email, Facebook and Twitter, as well as traditional campaigning methods including telephoning friends and family and leafleting neighbourhoods.

Crucially, this campaign was funded entirely through membership subscription fees and additional donations to the ICCL Association. We spent wisely, balancing the goals of educating people about the problems with the Amendment and also targeting the areas where we knew we had to make the most ground.

While this was a win for human rights in Ireland, we know that other challenges will arise. It is vital that we continue to have the resources required to meet these challenges. And we can't do it without your help.

Please join the ICCL as a member or send a cheque or postal order today.

Or, to directly support campaigns such as our Oireachtas Inquiries 'No' campaign, you can make a donation directly to the ICCL Association. If you choose to donate in this way, please let us know so that we can thank you.

Irish Council for Civil Liberties Association Bank Details:

Bank of Ireland, College Green, Dublin 2

Account Number: 93272880

Sort Code: 90-00-17

Thank you! And thank you for your continued support of the ICCL. We are so grateful.

Mary O'Rourke at the launch on 21 October 2011



Our Kangaroo campaigners outside Leinster House, 24 October 2011



Campaigning at St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, 26 October 2011



Our Work

THE ICCL'S EU JUSTICE PROJECT – WORKING AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL FOR THE PROMOTION OF VICTIMS' RIGHTS, AND THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL

Recent developments under EU law to protect the rights of victims of crime in addition to measures to protect the rights of accused persons in criminal proceedings will have a significant impact on Irish law, policy and practice.

This active legislative landscape and commitment to improved protections for both victims and suspects, forms the background to the ICCL's EU Justice Project, which the ICCL began running in 2011.

The EU Justice project aims to ensure the advancement of EU legislation and policy on access to rights and the protection of fundamental rights in order to contribute to the effective development of criminal justice and victim policy. Project activities include the production of evidence-based research highlighting human rights and legal requirements; hosting of events in Ireland and other EU countries; dissemination of information (see information on case tracking and online portal below) and advocacy within the EU and Ireland, in conjunction with civil society partner organisations.

Case-Tracking

As part of the EU Justice project, a case-tracking system has been developed to monitor judgments handed down from the European Court of Human Rights and the European Court of Justice. The information gathered from this process will be used to inform practitioners of the current human rights issues passing through the Courts in the areas of procedural and defence rights.

EU Justice Portal: eujustice.iccl.ie

The ICCL's dedicated EU Justice Project portal, eujustice.iccl.ie came on stream at the end of 2011. This portal holds information in the areas of victims' rights and procedural rights. The portal will be regularly updated with the most relevant documents, press releases, academic comment, legislation, and case-law and organised in a fully-searchable central storage space. This portal will provide information on EU justice issues in a manner which is easily accessible to the public, practitioners and other interested parties. The portal can be accessed through the ICCL website or at eujustice.iccl.ie.

The ICCL's EU Justice Project is supported by the Criminal Justice Programme of the EU



Procedural
Rights



Victims'
Rights



Open letter regarding the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the rights of access to a lawyer and of notification of custody to a third person in criminal proceedings.

In September 2011, together with five partner organisations across the EU (JUSTICE, Amnesty International (European Institutions Office), Fair Trials International, Open Society Justice Initiative and European Criminal Bar Association), the ICCL coordinated a letter to EU Justice Ministers regarding the draft Directive on access to a lawyer. This letter, which was disseminated widely across the EU, responded to suggestions of five Member States (of which Ireland was one) that the draft Directive be amended. The open letter called for the highest possible human rights standards to be retained in the draft Directive. A copy of the letter is available on the ICCL website at www.iccl.ie or at eujustice.iccl.ie.

Victims' Rights

Throughout 2011, the ICCL continued its work on the draft EU Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime or draft Directive on Victims' Rights.

In November 2011, the ICCL was invited to a meeting hosted by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency on *victim support services in the EU: an overview and assessment of victims' rights in practice*. This meeting was attended by government officials and civil society organisations from across the EU.

Ongoing monitoring of the progress of the draft Directive and the provision of information on the draft Directive via the EU Justice portal has allowed the ICCL to maintain a connection between developments at the EU and the potential impact on Irish law for the benefit of victim support organisations, legal practitioners and other interested parties in Ireland.

The EU Justice project aims to ensure the advancement of EU legislation and policy on access to procedural and victims' rights.

Our Work



Securing **Equality**



The ICCL aims to secure equality for all, especially vulnerable and marginalised groups.

SPEAKING OUT FOR LGBT RIGHTS – SUPPORTING THE WORK OF INTERNATIONAL LGBT ACTIVISTS THROUGH THE NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY FEDERATION'S GALA AWARDS

In 2011, the ICCL once again lent its support to the NLGF's GALA award for International LGBT Activist, joining Amnesty International, the NLGF and Front Line on the nomination committee.

The category recognizes a person or organisation working outside Ireland for the betterment of LGBT rights. The ICCL nominated Justice Michael Kirby of the Australian high court, who has been a committed voice in advancing equality, legal and social acceptance for LGBT people in Australia, and on the international stage, including in Ireland.

The winner of the 2011 award, announced at the GALAs' award ceremony in Dublin's Sugar Club on 22 September 2011 was Front Line's nominee Paisarn Likhitpreechakul of the Foundation for Human Rights on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Thailand.

Speaking from Bangkok Paisarn Likhitpreechakul told of how this award sent a strong message of support and solidarity to all the gay community in Thailand, many of whom are working in very isolated and vulnerable situations: "Despite the gay friendly image that Thailand enjoys internationally there is much ingrained homophobia and discrimination. Without equality, tolerance is just a myth."

The GALAS were set up in 2009 by the National Gay and Lesbian Federation (NLGF) to honour lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgendered people and organisations for their contributions to Irish society, both north and south of the border. The awards are also to honour politicians, employers and other people who are committed to advancing equality and social acceptance for LGBT people in Ireland. www.galas.ie

Without equality, tolerance is just a myth.

Paisarn Likhitpreechakul of the Foundation for Human Rights on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Thailand

Paisarn Likhitpreechakul



Justice Michael Kirby



Scenes from Paisarn Likhitpreechakul's Video Message to the NLGF Galas Award



ANTI DISCRIMINATION LAW AND THE EQUAL STATUS ACTS – EVALUATING AND REVIEWING IRELAND’S EQUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Anti-discrimination Law Review project 2011–2013

Towards the end of 2011, the ICCL commenced a major review of Ireland’s anti-discrimination and equality law. To date, very little critical research has been conducted on the effectiveness of the provisions of anti-discrimination law. While previous studies in this field have focussed on specific grounds of discrimination or on discrete issues, this project will adopt an holistic approach to analysing the law in practice, building on the insights and expertise of a wide range of people. It covers all grounds of discrimination and addresses both the Equal Status Acts 2000–2011 and the Employment Equality Acts 1998–2011.

Following a comprehensive tender process, the Equality Studies Centre in UCD was selected to conduct the review.

The project intends to build a comprehensive picture of the factors that inhibit and support the effective operation of Irish anti-discrimination law. Its aim is to generate new knowledge about how the legislation works in practice, identify aspects of the law that are working well and highlight problem areas. Specific objectives of the project include:

- Evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of relevant substantive legal provisions
- Appraising current means of activating the legislation
- Making recommendations for reform (including an examination of equality proofing duties)

The principal Investigator for the project is Dr Judy Walsh of the Equality Studies Centre UCD. The project team will be supported by a Specialist Advisory Group drawn from civil society groups representing the nine grounds, legal professionals and other key stakeholders under the chairmanship of Mr Conor Power BL.

The main output from the project will be a research report, the final draft of which will be received by ICCL at the end of March 2013. In addition, interim papers will be produced prior to the final report. The first will address the implementation of discrimination law by equality bodies and the second will address issues relating to the discrimination law complaint. Both papers will be produced in 2012 before being integrated within the final report.

More information on the project is available from the project website www.equalitylawreview.ie.

**Equal Status Acts 2000–2011:
Discrimination in the Provision
of Goods and Services**

The conduct of the Anti-Discrimination Law Review project coincides with the impending launch of the ICCL's new publication on the working of the Equal Status Act 2011.

Equal Status Acts 2000–2011: Discrimination in the Provision of Goods and Services was written by Dr Judy Walsh. The book will act as a guide to students and practitioners on the Equal Status Acts 2000–2011 and is designed to illustrate how Ireland's main anti-discrimination laws operate in practice. It explains the types of actions or omissions that amount to discrimination, examines relevant case law and looks at how the Acts are enforced. Work on the book was completed in 2011 and it will shortly be published by Blackhall Publishing.

The project's aim is to generate new knowledge about how the legislation works in practice, identify aspects of the law that are working well and highlight problem areas.

Our Work



Education and **Outreach**



*Securing protection for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups
by increasing human rights awareness.*

THE 2011 ICCL HUMAN RIGHTS FILM AWARDS

Summer 2011 saw the ICCL Human Rights Film Awards complete its third successful year as Ireland's only human rights film competition.

Spanish actress-turned-film-director Mabel Lozano was awarded the Grand Prize for her film *Listen to Me*, an unflinching look at the human impact of sex trafficking. The film is based on the true story of sex trafficking victim Svetlana Demidovitch and shows how the complicity of her 'clients' helps to ensure that human traffickers can continue their trade.

Speaking about her film at the Gala Screening, held at the Irish Film Institute on Wednesday 15 June 2011, Lozano said: "This is a film festival about human rights. One of the worst violations of human rights that I can think of is the trafficking of women and girls; the buying and selling of human beings as if they were bags or shoes. I hope that my film and films like it will help to highlight this serious human rights violation."

As Grand Prize winner, Mabel won a place in the prestigious Summer School in Human Rights, Cinema & Advocacy in NUI Galway (see www.chra.ie for more details), that took place from 1–8 July 2011.

The Awards Gala also saw honours go to two further films. Jury member and award-winning documentary maker Ken Wardrop presented the third place prize to Hilary Fennell for *Hearing Silence*, a touching documentary about a talented musician facing hearing loss. Senator David Norris presented second prize to first-time director Fran Cassidy for *Freedom Driver*, a lively and entertaining portrait of disability activist Dara Gallagher.

The ICCL recognition was a hugely positive experience.

Fran Cassidy, director of *Freedom Driver* and runner up in the 2011 ICCL Human Rights Film Awards

Mabel Lozano with her Grand Prize trophy



Shortlisted Filmmakers



IFI Screen 1 as screening begins



Jury members Brenda Fricker and Stephen Rea



Our Work

THE 2011 HUMAN RIGHTS FILM AWARDS SHORTLIST:

Freedom Driver

Director: Fran Cassidy

Dara Gallagher is a quick-witted force of nature; a bon viveur, a raconteur and a rebel; a wheelchair user and a disability activist. In *Freedom Driver*, filmmaker Fran Cassidy follows Dara on a whistle-stop tour of his daily life and then travels with him to the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Freedom Driver



Hearing Silence

Director: Hilary Fennell

Elizabeth Petcu had devoted her life to music, becoming principal flautist with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra at the age of just 21. Last year, after 25 years with the orchestra, she had to leave the job she loved: she had been diagnosed with otosclerosis, a form of progressive hearing loss. This moving documentary lets the audience enter a world where sound plays a vital but increasingly frustrating role; it is the story of one woman's fight to continue expressing her creativity through sound, and an exploration of her new relationship with silence.

Hearing Silence



Emerald Warrior

Director: Kyle Kroszner

Jay O'Callaghan is the captain of the Emerald Warriors, a Dublin rugby club set up in 2003 with the aim of giving gay, bisexual and heterosexual men the opportunity to play competitive rugby together nationally and internationally. In this meditative documentary, Jay talks frankly about his experiences growing up gay, his struggle to come out to his family, and his love for rugby.

Emerald Warrior



Listen to Me (Escuchame)

Director: Mabel Lozano

Spanish filmmaker Mabel Lozano takes a fresh look at a difficult issue in *Listen to Me*, a short film which explores the exploitation of trafficked women through local clients' complicity with the traffickers. The film's almost minimalist style and sparse dialogue serve to emphasise the power of its message.

Head Space

Producer: Barry O'Donoghue

In *Head Space*, director Patrick Semple and a team of Irish animators use rich and evocative animation to explore the sensitive topic of child abuse and the complex range of emotions experienced by a child who is being abused by a parent. The film takes place in the mind of the abused child, where colour and whimsy give way to the dark tendrils of confusion, fear and loneliness from which the child cannot escape.

Listen to Me



Election of Discontent

Director: Patrick Tierney

“The most appropriate thing you can do with election posters is make a tent out of them”. Filmmaker Patrick Tierney follows artist Eddie Cahill as he tears down campaign posters in the run-up to the Irish general election of February 2011 and repurposes the posters into a shelter for the homeless outside the Dáil. Eddie gradually reveals his own compelling story – from the source of his disillusionment with the Irish political system, to the importance of art as a means of rehabilitation and as a form of protest.

Head Space



Expanding the Awards' Educational Role

In 2011 the Human Rights Film Awards launched two new initiatives: *The Human Rights in Under a Minute Challenge*, and the *Human Rights Through the Lens* teaching project.

The Challenge was launched in 2011 in association with RTÉ Young People's Programming and Two Tube. Designed as a youth-focussed stream of the ICCL Human Rights Film Awards, it calls on young people across Ireland to create their own human rights film on a subject they are passionate about. The challenge? It has to be a minute or less in duration.

The Jury, which included young up-and-coming actors Sarah Bolger and Robert Sheehan, chose a shortlist of four films which were put to an online public vote. The winners of the inaugural competition were St Mac Dara's Community College in Dublin for their film *Say What You Think*. In addition to winning a state of the art digital camcorder, the students of St Mac Dara's were privileged to have their film screened nationwide by the competition's partners, RTÉ Two Tube.

Election of Discontent



Human Rights Through The Lens

To compliment the Human Rights in Under a Minute Challenge, in March 2011 the ICCL launched a new CSPE education resource pack on film and human rights, entitled *Human Rights Through the Lens*. Drawing on some of the human rights-themed films that made the shortlist of the 2009 and 2010 Film Awards, the pack is designed to encourage in-class discussion and reflection on human rights and how film can be used to communicate and bring them to life.

Designed for the Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE) curriculum, the resource is also suitable for Religion, Geography, SPHE and Transition Year. It contains lesson plans based around three films by award-winning young Irish filmmakers. As well as outlining discussion and classroom activities around the films, it provides suggestions for follow up activities and Action Projects. It also encourages students to take inspiration and make a film on an issue they are passionate about.

The resource was the subject of a nationwide series of professional in-service teacher training events conducted by the Professional Development Service for Teachers in 2011. It was also made available to download free of charge from the Awards website, www.humanrightsfilmawards.org.

This new educational initiative of the Human Rights Film Awards was kindly supported by Trócaire's Mobilising for Justice Scheme, and by the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST).



Our Work

THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF CIVIL LIBERTIES ORGANISATIONS (INCLO): GLOBAL STRATEGIES; LOCAL IMPACT

The ICCL's year ended on a high note, with an international event in Dublin – The Future of Human Rights: Global Techniques Securing Local Impact – at which we hosted colleagues from like-minded civil liberties organisations from across the globe.

The keynote speaker was Hossam Bahgat, the Executive Director of our Egyptian sister organisation, the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), one of the leading figures in the ongoing struggle for democracy and human rights in Egypt. 2011 was a momentous year for democratic revolution, with the 'Arab Spring' offering hope that, through collective action on the part of dedicated civilian campaigners, space may be beginning to open up for democracy in parts of North Africa and the Middle East. Mr Bahgat, a leading figure in this year's Tahrir square uprising in Egypt, discussed the prospects for democracy taking root in North Africa and the Middle East, and role of revolutionary collective action in securing civil and political rights.

Together with Anthony Romero, the Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), who discussed strategic litigation, Shami Chakrabarti of Liberty (UK), who discussed the role of campaigns and advocacy, and

Hagai El-Ad of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), who highlighted the importance of building effective coalitions, Hossam assisted us to reflect on how we can improve our legal work, campaigning, advocacy and outreach.

These colleagues are part of a broader network of ten civil liberties organisations which have agreed to work together to mutually reinforce the impact of our domestic work in our respective countries. ACLU, ACRI, EIPR, ICCL and Liberty are now working together with the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA), Argentinean Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS), Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (HCLU), Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC and – despite its title – an NGO), Legal Resources Centre (South Africa) (LRC). This International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations (INCLO) is not a new organisation, but rather a new way for ten independent organisations to work together to their mutual advantage.

During their Dublin meeting INCLO Board members also agreed upon the Principles of Governance that will guide our future work.

INCLO's Board will consist of the Directors of each of the participating organisations, chaired by two Co-Chairs. The ICCL is honoured that its Director Mark Kelly has been elected as one of the two founding Co-Chairs of INCLO, together with his colleague, Gaston Chillier of CELS (Argentina).

PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE

INCLO Board members will:

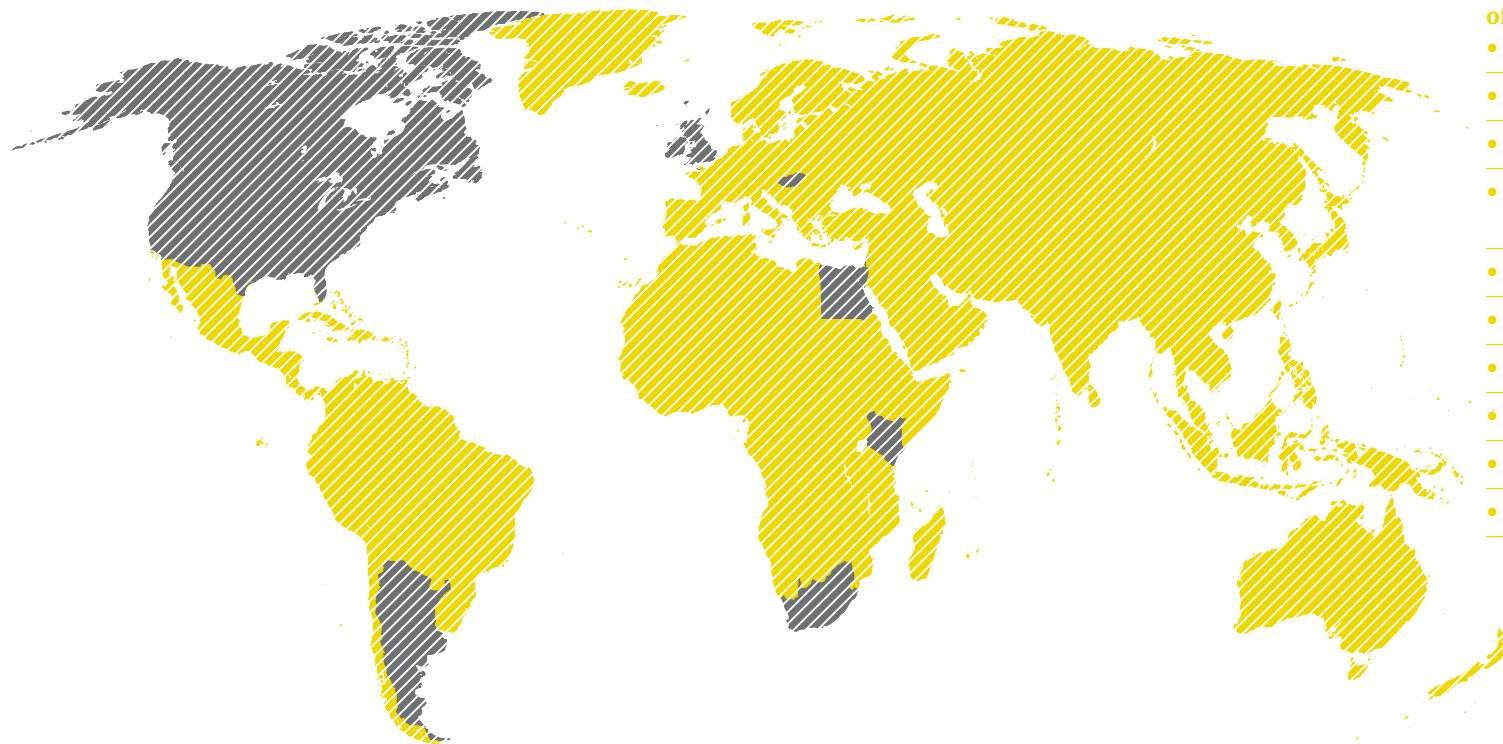
1. Provide leadership for the Network by:
 - 1.1 Agreeing our purpose, vision and values and ensuring that they remain relevant and valid.
 - 1.2 Developing, resourcing, monitoring and evaluating a plan to make sure that the Network achieves its stated purpose.
 - 1.3 Managing, supporting and holding to account staff, volunteers and all who act on behalf of the Network.
2. Exercising control over the Network by:
 - 2.1 Identifying and complying with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements.
 - 2.2 Making sure that there are appropriate internal financial and management controls.
 - 2.3 Identifying major risks for the Network and deciding ways of managing the risks.
3. Be transparent and accountable by:
 - 3.1 Identifying those who have a legitimate interest in the work of the Network
 - (stakeholders) and making sure that there is regular and effective communication with them about the Network.
 - 3.2 Responding to queries or views of stakeholders about the work of the Network and its governance.
4. Work effectively by:
 - 4.1 Ensuring that our governing body, individual board members, sub-committees, staff and volunteers, where applicable, understand their role, their legal duties and their delegated responsibility for decision-making.
 - 4.2 Making sure that as a Board we exercise our collective responsibility through board meetings that are efficient and effective.
5. Behave with integrity by:
 - 5.1 Adhering to high standards of honesty, fairness and independence.
 - 5.2 Understanding, declaring and managing conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalties.
 - 5.3 Safeguarding and promoting the Network's reputation.

Anthony Romero, Executive Director, ACLU



Mark Kelly, Director, Irish Council for Civil Liberties





**The ten founder members
of the INCLO are:**

- American Civil Liberties Union
- Association for Civil Rights in Israel
- Canadian Civil Liberties Association
- Centre for Legal and Social Studies (Argentina)
- Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights
- Hungarian Civil Liberties Union
- Irish Council for Civil Liberties
- Liberty (United Kingdom)
- Kenyan Human Rights Commission
- Legal Resource Centre (South Africa)

Shami Chakrabarti, Director, Liberty



Hossam Bahgat, Director, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights



Louise Mellings, Director at the Centre for Liberty & Reproductive Rights, Deirdre Duffy, Research & Policy Officer, ICCL



Nathalie Des Rosiers, Director, CCLA, Gaston Chillier, Director, CELS and Janet Love, Director, Legal Resources Centre South Africa



Organisational Development

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: SECURING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION IN IRELAND

Our members, supporters and friends are crucial to developing a sustainable future for the ICCL, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to you.

We are especially grateful to the Atlantic Philanthropies for their continued support of our work of protecting and promoting human rights in Ireland.

2011 has been an exciting year for the ICCL in terms of building our community of supporters and, crucially, raising funds which allow us to continue our work as Ireland's independent human rights watchdog. We were delighted to be selected as one of only six organisations in Europe to receive an operating grant from the European Commission in relation to our criminal justice work, enabling us to carry out a range of activities in this crucial policy area.

The ICCL held its 3rd annual ICCL Human Rights Film Awards, Ireland's only human rights short film competition. The high-profile annual project raises awareness of human rights issues which affect some of the most vulnerable individuals, families and groups in Ireland and indeed around the world. In 2011, the shortlisted films covered issues as diverse as human trafficking, disability rights, child abuse, LGBT rights and political reform. The project garnered support from numerous individuals, organisations and companies, who continue to make the project possible each year by donating funds, equipment, services, prizes, vouchers, time and their expertise.

In November 2011, the ICCL's 3rd annual evening for legal practitioners took place in the private dining room of Fallon & Byrne, Exchequer Street and featured Phil Shiner of Public Interest Lawyers (UK) as our guest speaker. The Bar Council of Ireland very kindly sponsored the pre-event drinks reception, and a number of companies donated sought-after prizes for the raffle. The evening was an opportunity for legal practitioners to network, socialise, exchange knowledge and, importantly, raise funds to support the work of the ICCL.

At the 3rd annual ICCL evening for legal practitioners, November 2011:

Dearbhail McDonald & Mary McIvor



Mark Kelly & Phil Shiner



Tanya Ward & Aileen Donnelly SC



Why Your Support Matters

With the backing of our members and supporters, we are able to intervene where needed to shape public debate and can ensure that human rights are part of the discussion when developing policy and legislation in Ireland. For example, the 'No to the 30th Amendment' campaign was funded entirely by membership subscriptions and small additional gifts to the ICCL Association.

The 'No' campaign won. However, we know that other challenges will arise, which is why the ICCL is working to become a sustainable organisation, and one that is resilient when facing political and economic challenges.

Again, we would like to thank all of our members, supporters and friends who donate their time, energy and financial support. We are so grateful.

Governance

During 2011, the Directors of ICCL Ltd. appointed a Governance Sub-Committee to develop a Code of Governance for the ICCL. The Directors are committed to maintaining the highest standards of Corporate Governance.

The Board meets on a regular basis and receives comprehensive briefing documents prior to each meeting. The quarterly accounts are prepared by Neil Squires & Co for review by the Board.

On appointment, Directors go through an induction process and receive detailed material designed to familiarise them with the company's operations, management and governance structures.

With the backing of our members and supporters, we can ensure that human rights are part of the discussion when developing policy and legislation in Ireland.

The sponsors of the ICCL's annual evening for legal practitioners

The Westbury Hotel
DUBLIN

FALLON & BYRNE

the elbowroom

the
cake
café

CLARE HANLEY

THE PIGS EAR

THE PIGS EAR

THE PIGS EAR

THE PIGS EAR

IMAGE

THE GROOMING ROOMS

Lilliput Stores

sankeiu

Irish Examiner

IFCO

WINDMILL LANE

HARRY WEIR.com

fuel

LIGHT HOUSE
CINEMA SMITHFIELD

“TUBE”

RTE Young Peoples

NUI Galway
OE Gallimh

cavs

D.I.D.
ELECTRICAL

HUSTON
SCHOOL of FILM
& DIGITAL MEDIA

spacecreative*

filmbase

Alan Ardill

The sponsors and supporters of the ICCL Human Rights Film Awards

Remembering Kader

PROFESSOR KADER ASMAL: 1934 – 2011

As the ICCL turned 35 years old in summer 2011, we saw the passing of one of the organisation's founding fathers, Kader Asmal.

Professor Kader Asmal passed away on 22 June 2011, almost 35 years to the day since he, Mary Robinson and others met in Dublin to discuss the creation of our organisation.

Kader was a truly exceptional person. A leading light of the anti-apartheid movement while living in exile in Ireland and the United Kingdom, he also found time to become one of the founders of the Irish civil liberties movement. Even after his elevation to ministerial office in the first democratic government of South Africa, he continued to offer his active support to the ongoing struggle to secure full respect for human rights here in Ireland, and, in recent years, was a source of valuable support to the ICCL's work, particularly its campaign on Equality For All Families.

Kader will be much missed by everyone associated with the ICCL over its 35 year history, and to the wider community of people in Ireland dedicated to the furtherance of human rights and civil liberties.

Michael Farrell, former Co-Chair of the ICCL, senior solicitor with Free Legal Advice Centres and member of the Irish Human Rights Commission, paid tribute to Kader Asmal on hearing of his passing:

"I am deeply shocked at the sudden death of Kader. He was a very old friend and colleague in many struggles to do with human rights. We met Kader and his wife Louise in South Africa less than a month ago and, though frail, he retained all his old passion about politics, justice and human rights. He wanted to know everything about the recent elections here, the financial crisis and the policies of the new Government.

Kader Asmal made a huge contribution to human rights in Ireland, North and South. He played an important part in the formation of the Civil Rights movement in Northern Ireland and he was one of the founders of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties in 1976. For many years he was a courageous and often lonely voice speaking out for the rights of gays, Travellers and other disadvantaged groups.

But he was always most deeply committed to the struggle for the freedom of his native land, South Africa. He and Louise were the founders of the Anti-Apartheid Movement in Ireland, which was to become one of the most effective branches of the movement in combating the racist regime in South Africa. He was also a very influential figure in the African National Congress and played an important part in the drafting of South Africa's extraordinarily inclusive and democratic new Constitution.

His importance to the ANC was shown when he became a Minister in the first free government in South Africa. But he was not afraid to criticise that government when he thought it was straying from its original ideals. His death will be a huge loss to the new democratic South Africa and to this country for which he retained a deep affection and gratitude for giving himself and Louise a home when he was in exile.

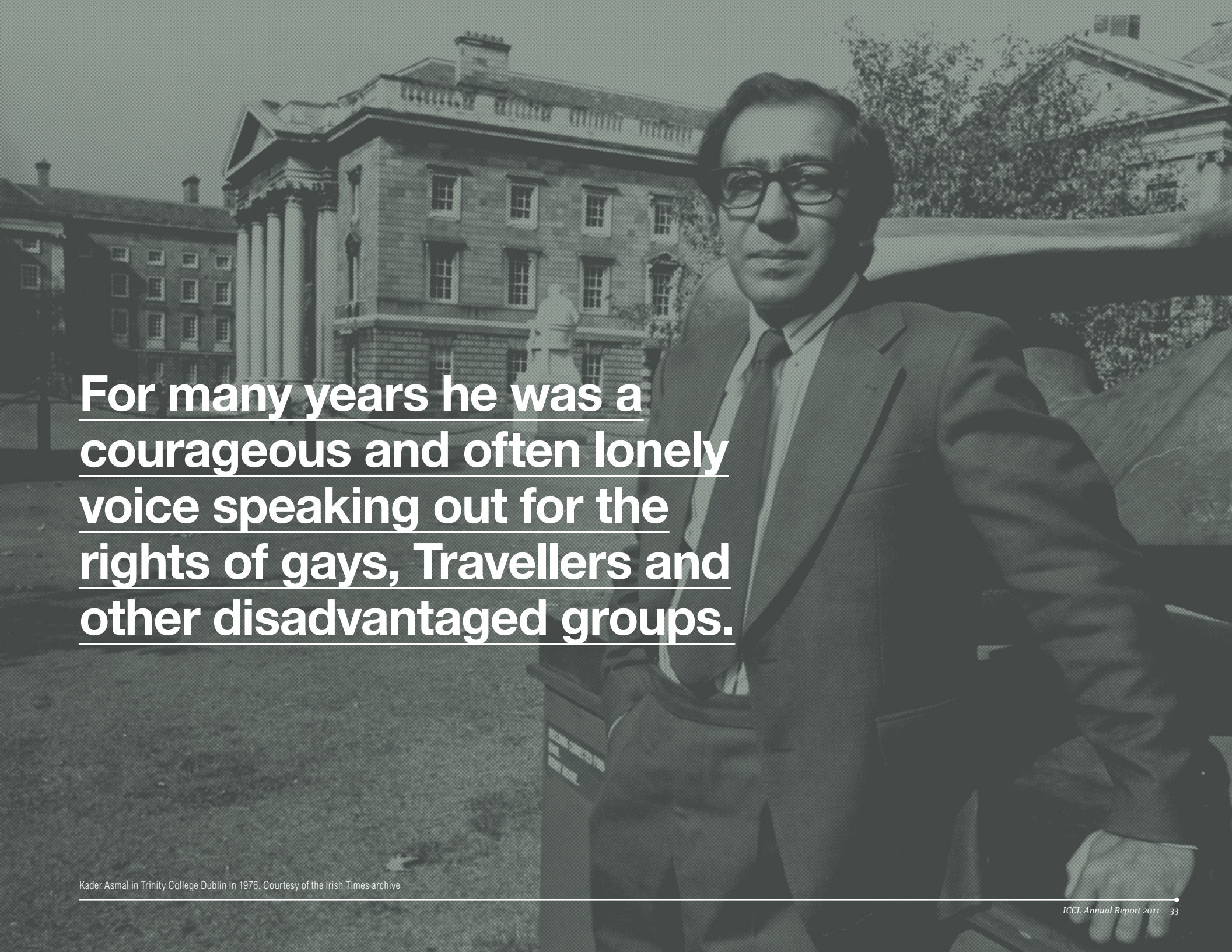
Our deepest sympathies are with Louise and their family."

Kader Asmal with Mary Robinson at an ICCL meeting in 1976. Courtesy of the Irish Times archive



Kader Asmal with Khongorzul Battur and Daryl Donnery at the launch of the ICCL's Equality for All Families report in 2006





For many years he was a
courageous and often lonely
voice speaking out for the
rights of gays, Travellers and
other disadvantaged groups.

Publications and Events

JANUARY

- ‘Andrews’ moves on children’s wording dismissed as “flagrant electioneering”, press release, 25 January 2011
- ‘Ireland must account for rights record say groups’, *Your Rights. Right Now* press release, 31 January 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now. A Plain English Guide to the Universal Periodic Review*

FEBRUARY

- ‘Ó Cuív’s ID Cards Plan is a Political Stunt, says Rights Watchdog’, press release, 2 February 2011
- ‘New Government Must Act on Torture Watchdog Findings says ICCL’, press release, 10 February 2011
- ‘Irish People Urged to Get Involved in “Your Rights. Right Now.”’, *Your Rights. Right Now* press advisory. Several versions issued throughout February 2011 for consultations in Donegal, Galway, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Dundalk and Dublin
- ‘Rights Watchdog Comments on Storm Surrounding Creighton’s Anti-Equality Remarks’, press release, 24 February 2011

MARCH

- Kelly, M. ‘Protecting those who need it’, letter to the *Sunday Times*, 6 March 2011, p18
- ‘Same-Sex Marriage Poll Bolsters Case for Reform says ICCL’, press release, 7 March 2011
- *Bringing International Human Rights Home: A Civil Society Toolkit on International Human Rights Reporting*
- *Human Rights Through the Lens: A Human Rights Education Resource for use in Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE)*

APRIL

- ‘Rights watchdog welcomes public interest probe into Gardaí “rape” tape’, press release, 5 April 2011
- ‘Groups Call for “Root and Branch” Review by Garda Watchdog’, joint ICCL/Friends of the Earth press release, 8 April 2011
- ‘Hundreds Join Call for Rights Reforms’, *Your Rights. Right Now* press release, 19 April 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now. – Ireland’s Civil Society UPR Stakeholder Report*
- ‘Tipp TD Attends Briefing on Ireland’s Human Rights Record’, *Your Rights. Right Now* regional press release, 21 April 2011
- *Joint Shadow Report to the First Periodic Review of Ireland under the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment – joint ICCL/IPRT shadow report*
- Duffy D. ‘Ireland’s UPR Civil Society Coalition’, *Just News*, Committee on the Administration of Justice, April 2011



MAY

- ‘Rising Star Robert Sheehan Joins ICCL Film Awards Jury’, press release, 6 May 2011
- ICCL Rights News 17, *Your Rights. Right Now?*, Spring 2011
- ‘Rights Groups Tell UN of Ireland’s “Failure” to Combat Inhuman and Degrading Treatment’, joint ICCL/IPRT press release, 20 May 2011
- First Periodic Review of Ireland under the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Summary Factsheets, 20 May 2011:
 - Legal and Democratic Structures in Ireland
 - Systematic Impediments to Full Respect to UNCAT and OPCAT in Ireland
 - Policing, Detention and Procedural Rights
- ‘Global First for Ireland as Government’s UN Torture Hearing is Webcast Live’, media advisory, 24 May 2011

JUNE

- ‘Stars Reveal Rights Awards Shortlist’, press release, 1 June 2011
- ‘Ireland Urged to Live Up to its Obligations by UN Torture Watchdog’, press release, 6 June 2011
- ‘Sex Trafficking Film Scoops Top Prize for Actress-turned Director’, press release, 15 June 2011
- ‘Rights Watchdog Dismayed by 100th Day “Inaction” Plan on Abortion’, press release, 16 June 2011
- ‘Move to renew redundant “gangland” powers “defies reason” says ICCL’, press release, 20 June 2011
- *Securing Impact* – ICCL Annual Report 2010
- ‘“Deep sadness” at death of Kader Asmal, a “founding father” of the Irish civil liberties movement’, press release, 22 June 2011
- ‘Rights Watchdog Welcomes Shatter’s Support for Crime Victims Package’, press release, 28 June 2011

JULY

- ‘ICCL Criticises “Flaw” in “Broadly Positive” Gender Recognition Proposals’, press release, 14 July 2011

AUGUST

- ICCL Rights News 18, ‘Kader Asmal 1934–2011’, Summer 2011
- *Your Rights Right Now*, Human Rights Factsheets (20), August 2011



SEPTEMBER

- ‘New Human Rights and Equality Commission Must Be Fully Independent, says ICCL’, press release, 9 September 2011
- ‘Strasbourg Spotlight on Ireland’s Abortion “Inertia”’, press release, 14 September 2011
- ‘Rights Watchdog Welcomes Europe’s “Firm Line” on Abortion Law Reform’, press release, 19 September 2011
- Preliminary Submission on the Consultation on the Reform of the State’s Employment Rights and Industrial Relations Structures and Procedures’, 20 September 2011
- ‘Rights Groups Drape Giant “Save the Date” on Dublin’s Liberty Hall’, *Your Rights. Right Now* press release, 22 September 2011
- ‘From Sherrard Street to Geneva – Youthreach Winner Claims her Prize’, *Your Rights. Right Now*, press release, 27 September 2011

Publications and Events

OCTOBER

- 'All eyes on Geneva and Dublin as Ireland faces UN Rights Review', *Your Rights. Right Now* media advisory, 4 October 2011
- 'EU States Grill Shatter on Rights Gaps', *Your Rights. Right Now* press release, 5 October 2011
- 'Shatter long on promises, short on detail at Ireland's UN Rights Review', *Your Rights. Right Now* press release, 6 October 2011
- Kelly, M. 'UN review puts Irish human rights record under scrutiny', opinion piece in *The Irish Times*, 6 October 2012, p20
- 'Breaking News: UN Human Rights Findings on Ireland to be released this morning', *Your Rights. Right Now* media advisory, 10 October 2011
- 'Ireland agrees to 90% of new UN Human Rights Recommendations', *Your Rights. Right Now* press release, 10 October 2011
- 'ICCL Launches NO Campaign on Oireachtas Inquiry Referendum', media advisory, 20 October 2011

- *Slow Down: Referendum Ahead* – Information leaflet on Oireachtas Inquiries amendment proposals

- 'Referendum NO Campaign Urges Voters to Reject "Kangaroo Courts"', press release, 21 October 2011

- 'Polls Confirm 14% Fall in Support for Oireachtas Referendum', press release, 23 October 2011

- 'NO Campaign Steps Up a Gear as Skippy and his Roo-Mobiles Hit the Road', media advisory, 23 October 2011

- 'Heavyweight Support Swings behind NO Campaign', press release, 24 October 2011

- 'Carthy family solicitor and former Ombudsman outline concerns about "Abbeylara" amendment', media advisory, 24 October 2011

- 'Ministers Should Refrain from Attacks on Good Name of Opponents says NO Campaign', press release, 25 October 2011

- 'Kangaroo courts? – take a hop! Say No Campaigners', media advisory, 25 October 2011

- 'Government's Kangaroo Court Proposals "Delete Rule of Law" says NO campaign', press release, 26 October 2011

- Kelly, M. 'Power to the Politicians: Failure to find balance between public interest and individual rights', opinion piece in debate with TP O'Mahony in the *Irish Examiner*, 26 October 2011, p15

- 'NO Campaign welcomes "clear rejection" of "Abbeylara" amendment', press release, 29 October 2011

- Kelly, M. 'Government has only itself to blame for defeat', analysis piece in the *Irish Examiner*, 31 October 2011, p9

NOVEMBER

- ICCL Rights News 19, 'Oireachtas Inquiries', Autumn 2011

- Submission by the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) to the Working Group on the Establishment of the Human Rights and Equality Commission, 23 November 2011

DECEMBER

- 'ICCL marks Human Rights Week with launch of 2012 Human Rights Film Awards', press release, 8 December 2011

- 'The Future of Human Rights: Global Techniques Securing Local Impact', media advisory, 16 December 2011

- ICCL Rights News 20, 'Looking to the Future of Human Rights', Winter 2011/2012



ICCL EVENTS, SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS 2011

- Launch of *Your Rights. Right Now* civil society campaign on Ireland's Universal Periodic Review, Wood Quay, Dublin, 31 January 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now* public consultation roadshow, 16 events conducted nationwide throughout February 2011
- Duffy, D. 'Your Rights Right Now and the UPR: Opportunities for Improving Women's Rights?', presentation to Irish Congress for Trade Unions (ICTU), Joint Women's Committee Seminar, 4-5 March 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now* public consultation National Review meeting on Civil Society UPR report, Ashling Hotel, Dublin, 10 March 2011

- Ward, T. 'Response to a keynote paper by Professor Rosemary Hunter on Feminist Judgments' at the *Creating Change* conference in UCD, 11 March 2011
- ICCL attendance at the JUSTICE (UK-based law reform NGO) – convened, meeting for members of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) 18 March 2011
- Launch of *Your Rights. Right Now*. – Ireland's Civil Society UPR Stakeholder Report by Minister Kathleen Lynch TD at European Parliament House, Dawson Street, Dublin, 19 April 2011
- Government consultation meetings on the Universal Periodic Review of Ireland, May 2011
- Launch of *Joint Shadow Report to the First Periodic Review of Ireland under the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment*, Buswells Hotel, Dublin, 20 May 2011

- ICCL Presentation to the UN Committee against Torture, Palais Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland, 20 May 2011
- ICCL Consultation seminar on the wearing of veils in Irish Schools, Equality Authority, Dublin, 23 May 2011
- ICCL Human Rights Film Awards Shortlist announcement and Jury photocall, Irish Film Classification Office, 1 June 2011
- Ward, T. Training programme delivered on the ICCL's activities under the ICCPR in 2008 on behalf of (and at the expense of) the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe in Baku, Azerbaijan 1-2 June 2011
- Ward, T., Seminar on the ICCL's activities under the ICCPR in 2008, Nottingham Human Rights Summer School, 14 June 2011
- ICCL Human Rights Film Awards Gala Screening, Irish Film Institute, 15 June 2011

- ICCL Annual General Meeting, ICCL, 25 June 2011
- ICCL attendance at Statewatch 20th Anniversary Conference, London, 25 June 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now* (in conjunction with Amnesty International, Ireland and the International Federation for Human Rights), Side Event on Ireland's UPR, United Nations, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, 11 September 2011
- Launch of *Your Rights. Right Now* publicity campaign, Liberty Hall, Dublin, 22 September 2011
- ICCL attendance at the NLGF 'GALAs' ceremony, Sugar Club, Dublin, 22 September 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now* – Youthreach prizegiving, Office of the Ombudsman for Children, 27 September 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now*, interview on TV3's Morning Show, 4 October 2011
- *Your Rights. Right Now* Civil Society breakfast screening of Ireland's Universal Periodic Review in Geneva, Liberty Hall, Dublin, 6 October 2011

'Slow Down: Referendum Ahead' Information leaflet



Human Rights Film Awards Jury members with 2010 winner Dearbhla Glynn at the 2011 Gala



Publications and Events

- *Your Rights. Right Now* Civil Society breakfast screening of Ireland's Universal Periodic Review in Geneva, Galway, 6 October 2011

- *Your Rights. Right Now* Civil Society breakfast screening of Ireland's Universal Periodic Review in Geneva, Cork, 6 October 2011

- *Your Rights. Right Now* Civil Society breakfast screening of Ireland's Universal Periodic Review in Geneva, Limerick, 6 October 2011

- Launch of Oireachtas Inquiries Referendum NO Campaign, Westbury Hotel, Dublin, 21 October 2011

- Duffy, D. 'Your Rights Right Now: Successes and Impact', speech to the Annual Human Rights Conference of the Irish Human Rights Commission and the Law Society of Ireland, *Ireland's Human Rights Record under the Spotlight: Implications of the United Nations Universal Periodic Review Programme*, 22 October 2011

- Oireachtas Inquiries Referendum NO Campaign Photocall, Leinster House, Dublin, 24 October 2011

- Oireachtas Inquiries Referendum NO Campaign public meeting, National Library of Ireland, 25 October 2011

- Oireachtas Inquiries Referendum NO Campaign Photocall, Grafton Street, Dublin, 26 October 2011

- Duffy, D. 'Your Rights Right Now: Experiences of Ireland's UPR Coalition', presentation to *International Conference on Responding to the UPR Recommendations: Challenges, Innovation and Leadership*, organised by United Nations Development Programme Bratislava Regional Centre (UNDP BRC), Government of the Republic of Moldova, UNDP Moldova, and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Chisinau, Moldova, 4–5 November 2011

- ICCL/Amnesty Ireland joint seminar on the 'Dublin Process of Treaty Body Reform', Radisson Hotel, Dublin, 9 November 2011

- ICCL attendance at EU Fundamental Rights Agency event Victim Support Services in the EU: an *Overview and Assessment of Victims' Rights in Practice*, Vienna, 10–11 November 2011

- Duffy, D. 'Implementing Human Rights Standards', presentation to Union of students in Ireland (USI) PINK Training 2011, 19 November 2011

- *The Future of Human Rights: Global Techniques Securing Local Impact*, meeting of the International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations (INCLO), Fitzwilliam Hotel, Dublin, 16 December 2011

ICCL EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION 2011

- Department of Foreign Affairs NGO Human Rights Standing Committee

- Equality Authority Community and Voluntary Group and Equality Authority Stereotyping Working Group

- Fair Trials International Legal Experts Advisory Panel

- FLAC Public Interest Law Alliance Advisory Board

- Garda Strategic Human Rights Advisory Committee

- International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations

- International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)

- Legacy Promotion Ireland

- Fundraising Ireland

- Women's Human Rights Alliance

- EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) Fundamental Rights Platform, and 'RAXEN' National Focal Point (NFP)

- FRA Associates Forum

- NLGF Galas 'International LGBT Activist Award' Nomination Committee

- UPR Cross Sectoral Steering Group

- Anti-Human Trafficking Working Group, Department of Foreign Affairs

Our Finances

The ICCL consists of two organisations—the ICCL Association and ICCL Ltd., a company limited by guarantee. All of our day-to-day activities are managed by ICCL Ltd., including promotional and awareness-raising initiatives, research and policy activities, fundraising campaigns, staff costs and general overhead expenditure.

The ICCL Association is a membership organisation. The ICCL Association's financial statements reflect all income generated through membership fees and additional donations made by members.

The ICCL receives income from individual members, supporters and a small number of foundations and trusts in order to carry out the work of the organisation. The ICCL expends its income on research, campaigning and promotional costs across the four main 'pillars' of the organisation's work (monitoring human rights, promoting justice, securing equality and organisational development).

Information is provided to all donors, including individuals, trusts and foundations, on a regular basis regarding developments, activities and programmes to ensure that the ICCL operates in a manner that is transparent and accountable. The ICCL complies with all legal and regulatory requirements, in line with best practice for NGOs.

The ICCL financial statements for 2011 have been audited by Squires & Co. Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors, 32 Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

Our Finances

		2011 (€)	2010 (€)
IRISH COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES ASSOCIATION: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011)	INCOME		
	Grants	1,500	—
	Membership	6,999	6,951
	Donations	718	150
	Other income	25	0
		9,242	7,101
	Special funds	0	0
	Total Income	9,242	7,101
	EXPENDITURE ON ACTIVITIES OF STRATEGIC PLAN		
	Capacity Building	10	10
	Research and Policy Development	0	0
	Campaigning and Communication	37,120*	0
	Lobbying and Advocacy	0	0
	Networking	0	0
	Fundraising	0	0
	Total Expenditure	37,129	10
	Surplus of Income over Expenditure	(27,888)	7,092

* Increase due to the Oireachtas Inquiries Referendum No Campaign

	2011 (€)	2011 (€)	2010 (€)	2010 (€)
FIXED ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Prepayments				
Bank and Cash	8,189		34,080	
		8,189		34,080
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade Creditors	0		0	
Accruals	(1,997)			0
		(1,997)		
NET ASSETS		6,192		34,080
Cash carry forward		34,080		26,988
Surplus of income over expenditure		(27,888)		7,092
		6,192		34,080

Our Finances

	2011 (€)	2010 (€)
IRISH COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES LIMITED: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011)		
INCOME		
Total Income	1,013,748	768,793
EXPENDITURE ON ACTIVITIES OF STRATEGIC PLAN		
Costs of campaigns, publications and awareness and fundraising activities	(815,669)	(559,766)
Support Costs (Governance, administration and capacity building costs)	(196,858)	(205,558)
Total Expenditure	(1,012,527)	(765,324)
Bank Interest	0	0
Surplus\ (Deficit) before taxation	1,221	3,469
Tax on surplus	0	0
Retained Surplus brought forward	24,790	21,321
Retained Surplus at the end of the year	26,011	24,790

The company had no recognised gains or losses in the financial period other than the surplus\ (deficit) for the above two financial years. The above figures are taken from the ICCL Ltd., audited financial statements for the year end (31 December) 2011

	2011 (€)	2011 (€)	2010 (€)	2010 (€)
FIXED ASSETS				
Computer Equipment		154		3,509
Furniture & Fixtures		16,155		21,239
		16,309		24,748
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	41,809		21,036	
Cash at bank and in hand	71,336		83,634	
	113,145		104,670	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(103,443)		(104,628)	
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		9,702		42
Total assets less current liabilities		26,011		24,790
RESERVES				
Retained Surplus		26,011		24,790

The above figures are taken from the ICCL Ltd., audited financial statements for the year end (31 December) 2011

Contact

Irish Council for Civil Liberties
9–13 Blackhall Place
Dublin 7, Ireland

T: +353 1 799 4504
F: +353 1 799 4512
E: info@iccl.ie

www.iccl.ie

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