

Breaking New Ground
For Human Rights



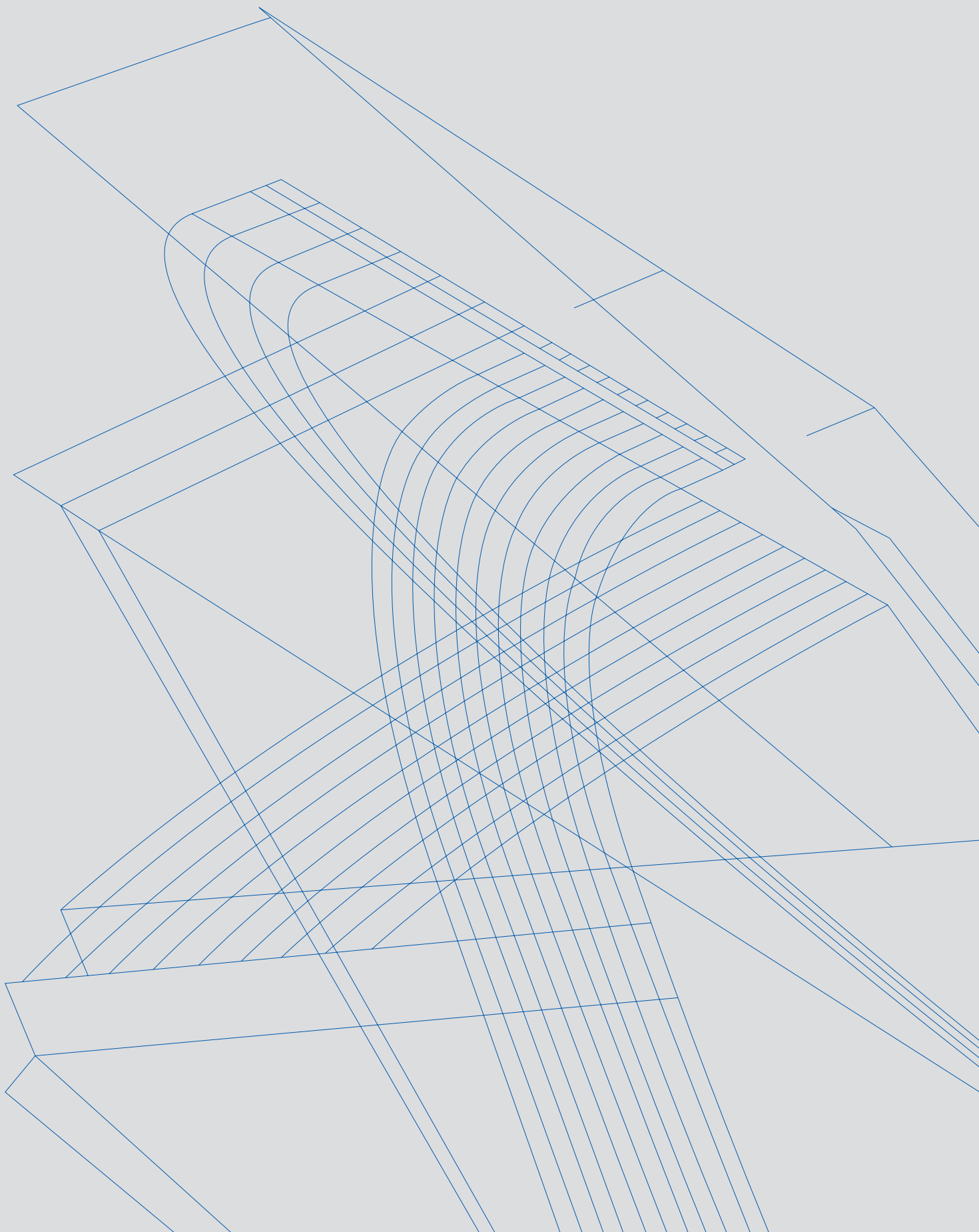


ICCL founders, Irish President Mary Robinson and South African Minister Kader Asmal (1934-2011) in conversation with President Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) during an official visit by President Robinson to South Africa in the 1990s. Photo from Kader Asmal: *Politics in my Blood - A Memoir* by Kader Asmal and Adrian Hadland with Moira Levy, published by Jacuna Media in 2011

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Message From The Co-Chairs





As you will see from this annual report, 2013 was another good year for the Irish Council for Civil Liberties.

Significant progress has been made in a number of key areas, including securing political commitments to end discrimination against same sex couples, clarifying Ireland's abortion laws and successfully advocating for enhanced rights for people accused of crimes, and for their victims.

None of this would be possible without the very dedicated work of the ICCL's core staff team to whom, as Co-Chairs, we would like to express our gratitude for another year of very hard work. Our core team has been supplemented in various ways over the year, including by an Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI) Fellow, expert consultants, academics, contractors and interns. The ICCL is an adaptive organisation, always ready to increase its capacity to achieve greater impact, without necessarily increasing the size of its permanent staff team.

One of the very special things about the ICCL is that it does not seek (and would not accept) Government funding. This is a great strength, rendering the Council free to speak truth to power, without the concern that public funding might be withdrawn as a result of its frankness. However, it also means that the ICCL is entirely reliant on your generosity as members, which supplements our income from a growing number of trusts, foundations and international organisations.

In last year's annual report, we stressed the need for the ICCL to further diversify its funding base, and we are very pleased to report that 2013 saw existing funding from the European Commission being consolidated, and new funding secured from donors including the Open Society Initiative for Europe (OSIFE) and the Ford Foundation. Our relationship with the American Ireland Funds has also developed and we are delighted that the Funds decided to invest in our innovative "Youthreach" project, greatly increasing its reach and impact in 2013.

"Youthreach" is only one of a number of innovative education and outreach projects in which the ICCL has engaged during 2013. Our Human Rights Film Awards, Ireland's only human rights themed short film competition, again attracted very high-quality entries and produced an outstanding winner. The costs of the competition were entirely met from "crowd sourced" contributions secured online through Fundit.ie. We were

delighted to welcome many of our funders to the Gala Screening of the winning films last Summer. Later in the year, our annual dinner for the legal profession was addressed by the globally renowned human rights expert, Professor Michael O'Flaherty, and also generated much-needed funds for the ICCL's core work.

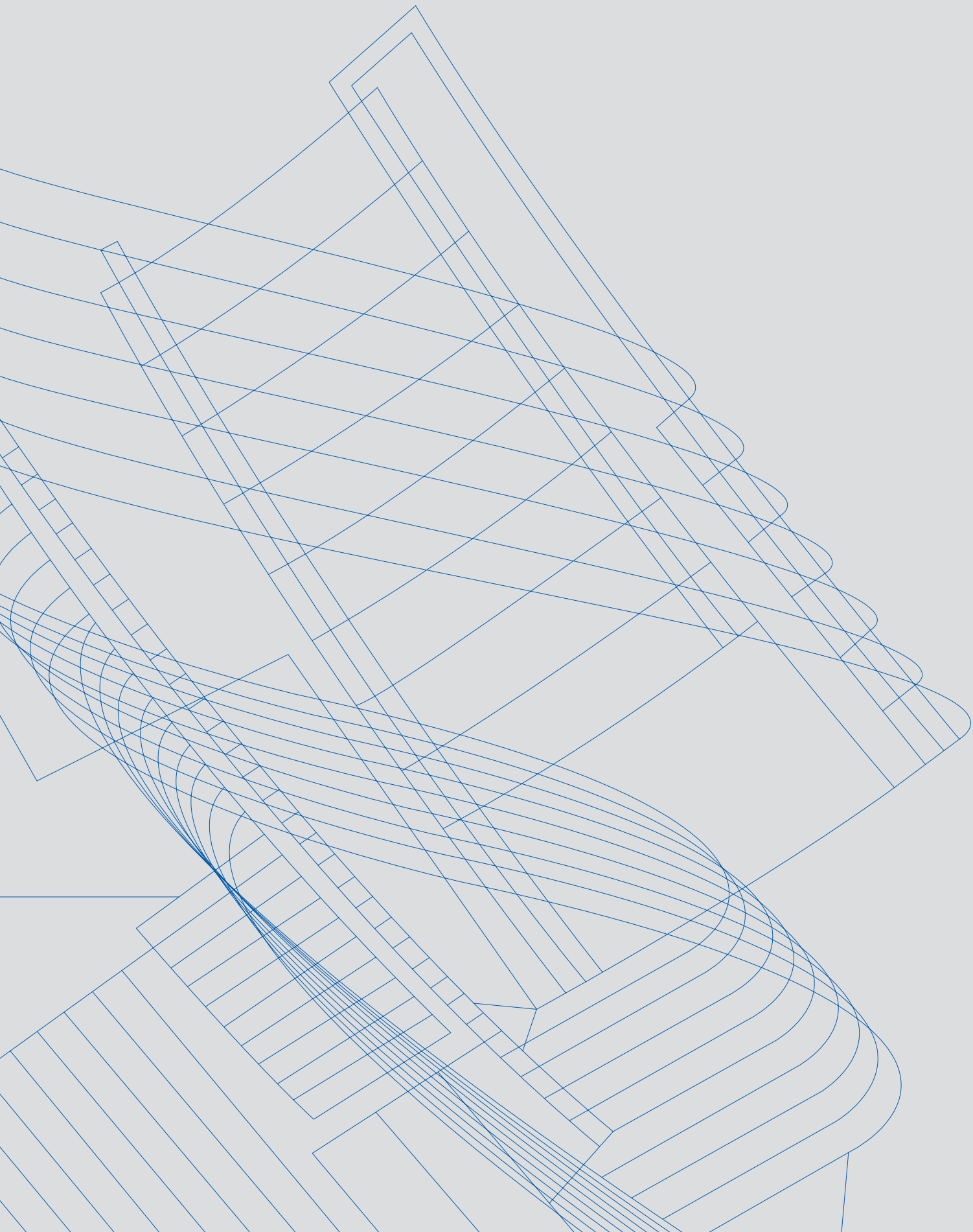
Another very positive financial development is that we have secured a significant capital investment pledge that will support the purchase of a new headquarters for the ICCL in the near future. For the first time in the organisation's history, this will give the Council a permanent, rent-free, home. We will be contacting you again shortly to let you know about the opportunities to make your own investment in this very tangible aspect of the ICCL's future.

In less than two years time, the ICCL will celebrate its 40th anniversary as Ireland's independent human rights watchdog. We have made great progress towards becoming a fully sustainable organisation, but we will need your help to secure our future.

Together, we can ensure that by 2016 the ICCL will have cemented its place in Ireland's human rights and equality infrastructure.

Niall Mulligan
Siobhán Cummiskey

Director's Foreword





Sometimes it's hard to recognize a paradigm shift when you're living through it, but I think we'll look back on 2013 as a fulcrum year: a turning point for Ireland, at which human rights and equality norms became mainstream values.

In April 2013, together with our valued partners Marriage Equality and GLEN (Gay and Lesbian Equality Network), we made the first of two appearances before the Convention on the Constitution, to advocate jointly for the introduction of civil marriage equality for same sex couples. The outcome was a resounding vote (79%) in favour of constitutional change to permit equal marriage. By November 2013, the Government had accepted the Convention's recommendation, committed to preparatory legislation and agreed to hold a referendum in 2015. Even better, Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD joined the leaders of all other political parties in pledging to campaign in favour of removing one of the last bastions of official discrimination in Ireland. Changed days indeed.

Our second appearance before the Convention in 2013, to argue for the offence of blasphemy to be removed from the Constitution, also carried the day, with 61% of the Convention's members concurring with the ICCL's view that the blasphemy provision is a domestic irrelevance and an international embarrassment. We await the Government's official response to the Convention's recommendation to amend this vestige of a bygone age.

Change too – although too little (and for women like Savita Halappanavar, too late) – in the area of reproductive justice. At the beginning of 2013, the ICCL appeared before the Oireachtas Health Committee to give expert legal testimony on the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Bill, which, by July 2013, had become law. Ireland's new abortion law is intended to give effect to the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *A, B and C v Ireland*. However, the Act has yet to become fully effective in practice and, even when it does, it will continue to prohibit access to lawful terminations for women with diagnoses of fatal foetal abnormalities, victims of rape and those whose health is jeopardised by the continuation of their pregnancies. Much more work is required in this area and the ICCL has highlighted the shortcomings in our abortion law and practice to the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers (which is supervising the execution of the *A, B and C* judgment) as well as to the UN's Human Rights Committee (HRC) and the UN Committee Against Torture (UNCAT).

Throughout 2013, the ICCL adopted an holistic approach to its engagement with UN human rights treaty monitoring processes. Our focus is not on any one treaty process, but rather on highlighting the systemic human rights failings identified by a range of treaty bodies and the measures required to address them. Significant work was invested during 2013 in preparing for Ireland's future hearings before the HRC and the UNCAT, but also in identifying the domestic legacy that we expect to be delivered by Ireland's current membership of the UN Human Rights Council.

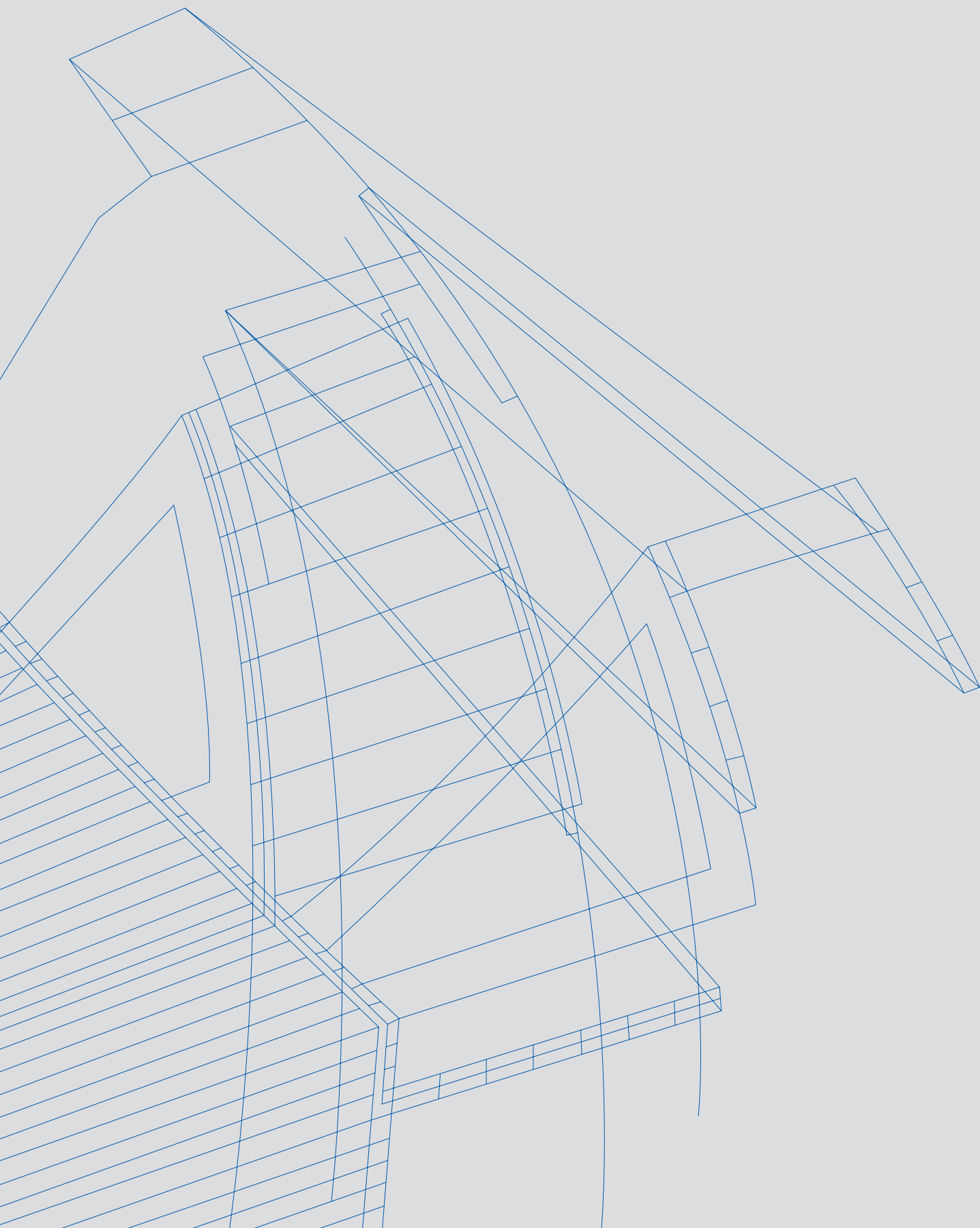
Beginning in January 2013, Ireland's tenure on the Council will run until December 2015. Our Human Rights Council Legacy Project, of which you can find details towards the end of this report, is tracking the implementation of human rights standards and UN recommendations here in Ireland in a number of key impact areas. You can find out more at www.rightsnow.ie

2013 was also a very strong year for the ICCL's work in the area of criminal justice. The ICCL has long advocated for the right of access to a lawyer (including the right to have a lawyer present during Garda questioning) as an essential component of a fair criminal justice system. In Autumn 2013, we were pleased to welcome the adoption of new European Union law in this area, a development for which the ICCL has been campaigning through its pan-European *JUSTICIA* network. We anticipate that the Irish Government will "opt in" to this new EU Directive in the near future, bringing our law into harmony with those of the majority of other EU countries. We have also developed our work on the promotion of the human rights of victims, the indispensable counterpart to the protection of the procedural rights of accused persons.

Our activities in 2013 have kept the ICCL at the cutting edge of profoundly significant human rights and equality reforms. With your support, we will continue to work towards our goal of an Ireland in which everyone's human rights are protected and respected.

Mark Kelly, Director

Our People



The 2013 Executive Board

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



Niall Mulligan (Co-Chair – Operations)



Siobhán Cummiskey (Co-Chair – Policy)



Alan D.P. Brady



Elaine Dewhurst



Frances Feeney



Claire Hamilton



Jonah Mudehwe



Clare Naughton

The ICCL Staff

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



Kizito Wahome joined the ICCL team in spring 2013 as a Film Awards intern, and joined the staff as support administrator until November 2013.



Triona Jacob joined the ICCL team from September to December 2013 as *JUSTICIA* European Rights Network Research and Policy Admin Assistant.



Amanda Hildebrand Oi joined the ICCL in January 2013 for a two month OSJI Fellowship placement, working with the policy team on the *JUSTICIA* project.

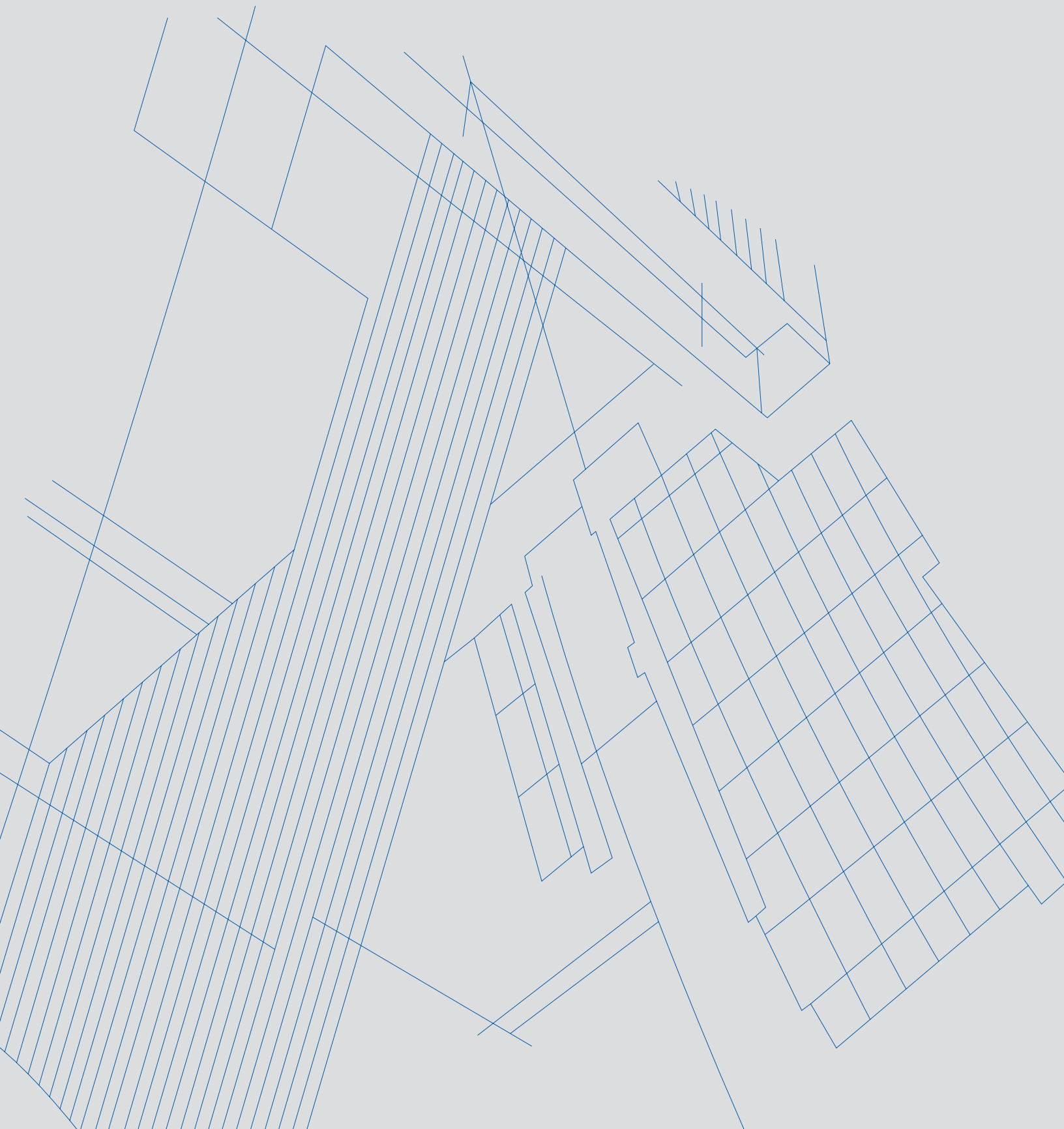


Tim Sheehan joined the ICCL team from April to July 2013 as Film Awards intern.



ICCL Staff 2013 (clockwise from top-left): Walter Jayawardene, Communications Manager; Mark Kelly, Director; Grace Mulvey, Research and Policy Officer (Justice); Stephen O'Hare, Research and Policy Officer (Equality); Karen Ciesielski, Head of External Development; Joanne Garvey, Administrator; Suzanne Handley, Organisational Development Manager; Deirdre Duffy, Senior Research and Policy Programme Manager.

Fostering a Human Rights Culture



The ICCL's Human Rights Reporting at the United Nations: Securing Impact and Ensuring Implementation Throughout the UN Treaty Cycle

The ICCL is committed to effective and constructive engagement with all parties in the UN Treaty-Monitoring process. We work with civil society stakeholders to enhance capacity to engage with the UN Committees, organise coalitions and maintain open dialogue with Government officials around Ireland's reporting obligations.

Although Ireland was not formally examined by a UN Committee during 2013, we are committed to the complete cycle of work in securing Ireland's full compliance with UN treaties. Therefore, in 2013, we carried out a series of activities, preparing for upcoming examinations, linking systemic issues and monitoring the implementation of past recommendations.

Our goal is to work towards the effective implementation of UN recommendations and secure a real impact for the rights of people in Ireland.

On 28 November 2013, the UN Committee against Torture issued the List of Issues Prior to Reporting for Ireland's Second Periodic Review under the UN Convention against Torture and other Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT). This followed hot on the heels of the List of Issues published by the UN Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and highlighted many of the same areas of concern. Many of the matters drawn out by the UN Committees reflected the concerns raised by the ICCL in its submissions to the Committees.

For example, the Anti-Torture Committee asked a series of questions regarding restrictions in place for women to access safe and legal abortion in Ireland, including:

–“Whether adequate guidelines exist in the State party for medical and other professionals on criteria to be met for legal termination of pregnancies”?

–“Whether current legislation regarding termination of pregnancy upholds a woman's rights to freedom from discrimination and to prevent other breaches of the Convention”?

The Human Rights Committee also requested an updated report on reproductive rights in Ireland, specifically requesting Ireland to demonstrate how the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act 2013 is in compliance with the ICCPR and the circumstances in which the DPP may authorise a prosecution under the Act. Further information was sought by the Committees on the Redress Scheme in place for survivors of the Magdalene Laundries, the resourcing and independence of the new Human Rights and Equality Commission, domestic violence, the operation of the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission and follow up to the Ryan Report. The Committees also spotlighted the situation in Ireland's prisons, including overcrowding, sanitation facilities and the lack of an effective independent complaints mechanism.



Above: Civil Society Report to the Fourth Periodic Examination of Ireland under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Left: Palais Wilson in Geneva, HQ of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Right: The ICCL's submission to the UN Committee against Torture on Ireland's record under the Convention, August 2013

ICCPR

The ICCL brought together eleven leading Irish NGOs as part of the ICCPR Steering Group to shadow Ireland's Fourth examination under the ICCPR: Immigrant Council of Ireland (ICI), Age Action, Irish Traveller Movement (ITM), Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC), Inclusion Ireland, Gay and Lesbian Equality Network (GLEN), Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA), Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT), Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI), Educate Together and Terminations for Medical Reasons (TMFR). In 2013, this Group prepared a joint submission to the UN Human Rights Committee in advance of the List of Issues and has been working to prepare a Shadow Report in the run up to Ireland's examination, which is due to take place on 14 and 15 July 2014 in Geneva. Steering Group members will travel to Geneva and present to the Committee members on issues of concern, including the status of implementation of previous Committee recommendations.

UNCAT

In 2013, the ICCL commenced its follow-up work programme on the Anti-Torture Committee's recommendations under Ireland's First Periodic Review and this will continue until Ireland's next scheduled appearance before the Committee in 2015 for its Second Periodic Review under the Convention. At that time, the Irish Government is expected to report back to the Committee on the matters raised in the List of Issues Prior to Reporting. Implementation of the UN recommendations is core to the ICCL's vision for achieving impact under the international human rights reporting process. With this in mind, we have developed our Legacy Project, which is running in tandem with Ireland's membership of the UN Human Rights Council, which runs until the end of 2015. The ICCPR and UNCAT reporting mechanisms are central components of this project, about which more information can be found in the chapter on the ICCL's 2014 Flagship Project work. You can follow the ICCL's continuing work on ICCPR, UNCAT, Legacy Project and other UN processes on www.rightsnow.ie.



Providing Human Rights Leadership at Home and Abroad

In 2013 the ICCL continued its global human rights leadership activities through cooperation with the International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations (INCLO), co-founded by the ICCL in 2011. Closer to home, the ICCL's Director was appointed as a Commissioner Designate to the new Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC).

ICCL Director Named Commissioner Designate of new Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

On 16 April 2013, Alan Shatter TD, Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence, announced the 14 new members designate of the new Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC). The new Commissioners Designate include the ICCL's Director Mark Kelly, along with a number of colleagues from across the civil society sector. These appointments follow an independent and open recruitment process, representing a clean break with the tradition of direct Ministerial appointments to the new Commission's predecessor bodies, the Irish Human Rights Commission and the Equality Authority.

Pending the enactment of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Bill in 2014, the Commissioners Designate are fulfilling their statutory positions under the Irish Human Rights Commission Acts and the Employment Equality Act. The new legislation is expected to be enacted in summer 2014 after which the Commissioners designate will be formally appointed by the President of Ireland.



The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Designate consists of: **Teresa Blake**, Barrister; **Frank Conaty**, Chartered Accountant, Former Chair & current member of National Parents and Siblings Alliance; **Heydi Foster**, CEO of Misean Cara, Non Executive Director of MABS, Trustee of Common Purpose Ireland; **Liam Herrick**, Advisor to the President of Ireland, former Director of the Irish Penal Reform Trust; **David Joyce**, Barrister & former legal policy officer with the Irish Traveller Movement; **Mark Kelly**, International human rights lawyer, Director of the Irish Council for Civil Liberties, Co-Chair of the International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations; **Sunniva McDonagh**, Barrister; **Mary Murphy**, Lecturer in Irish Politics & Society, NUI Maynooth; **Siobhán Mullally**, Professor of Law UCC, Member of the

Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, Member of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action Against Human Trafficking; **Fidèle Mutwarasibo**, Sociologist, founding member of Africa Centre, former board member of We the Citizens & Integration Manager with the Immigrant Council of Ireland; **Ray Murphy**, Professor of Law, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway; **Orlagh O'Farrell**, Independent Consultant on equality, employment law, and discrimination issues, Member of Community Legal Resource Network, Member of Equality and Rights Alliance; **Betty Purcell**, Former Senior Producer with RTÉ Television, part time media lecturer, founder member Irish Women United; **Kieran Rose**, Chairperson of GLEN, Senior Planner with the Offices of International Relations and Research in Dublin City Council.

Above: ICCL Director Mr Mark Kelly (in his capacity as Acting Chair of IHREC, Summer 2013) at Áras an Uachtaráin with President and Mrs Higgins, fellow Commissioners, family and friends.

Joining INCLO Colleagues in Intervention on US Government Surveillance Revelations

June 2013 saw major revelations in the UK's Guardian newspaper of the US Government's PRISM Surveillance Programme, which has the ability to acquire and monitor the content of communications and other data, including location data, from international users of popular Internet services in real-time. The revelations by Guardian journalist Glenn Greenwald, based on leaks by former NSA analyst Edward Snowden, sparked widespread outrage.



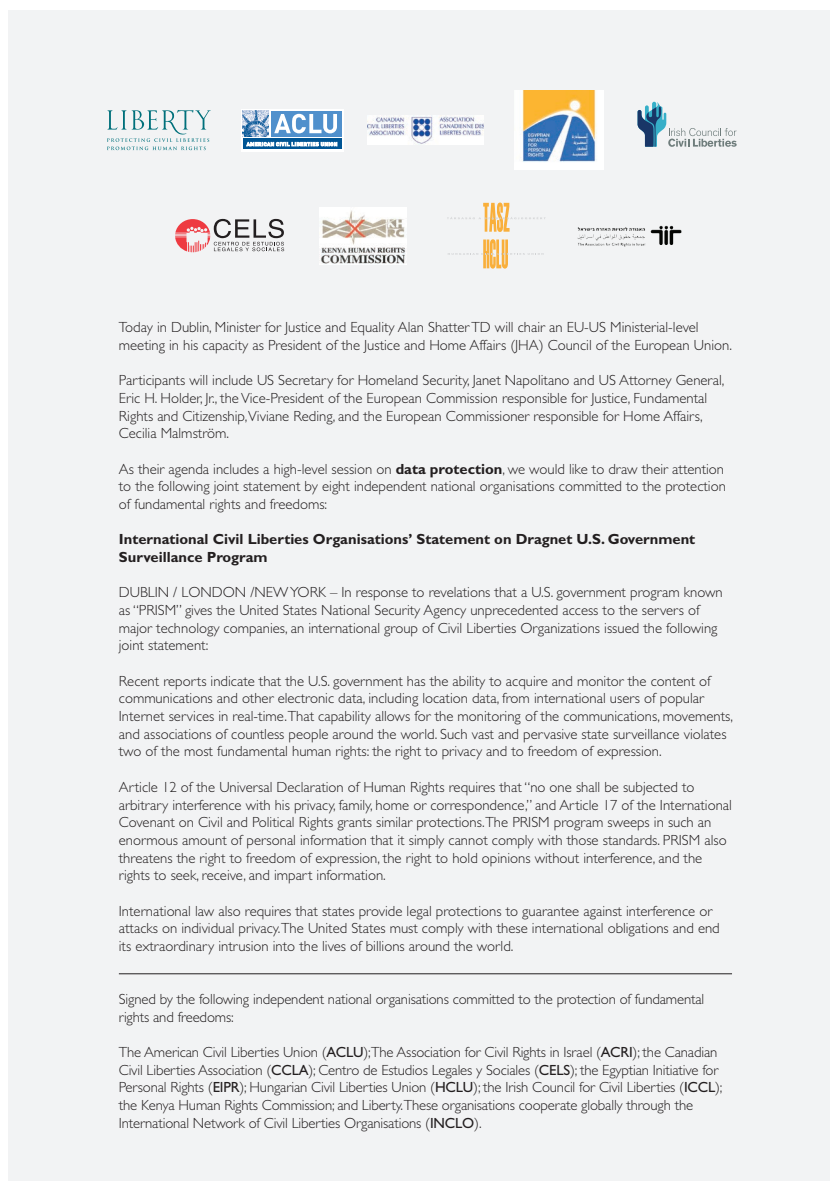
The breaking story coincided with a planned high-level EU-US Ministerial-level Justice and Home Affairs meeting in Dublin on 14 June 2013 under the auspices of Ireland's Presidency of the EU. Participants included US Secretary for Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano and US Attorney General, Eric H. Holder, Jr., the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Viviane Reding, and the European Commissioner responsible for Home Affairs, Cecilia Malmström.

Top: The Guardian's NSA Files Website

Above: Mark Kelly with INCLO colleague Monica Kareithi of the Kenyan Human Rights Commission at Brooklyn Law School in October 2013

To mark this meeting, and to highlight to European officials the serious human rights concerns that the revelations raised, the ICCL joined with fellow International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations (INCLO) network members to publish a full-page statement in the Irish Times warning that such vast and pervasive state surveillance interferes with the fundamental rights of privacy and freedom of expression, enshrined in Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The statement recalled European and American international legal obligations to guarantee legal protections against such interference, and called on the United States to end this extraordinary intrusion into the lives of billions around the world.

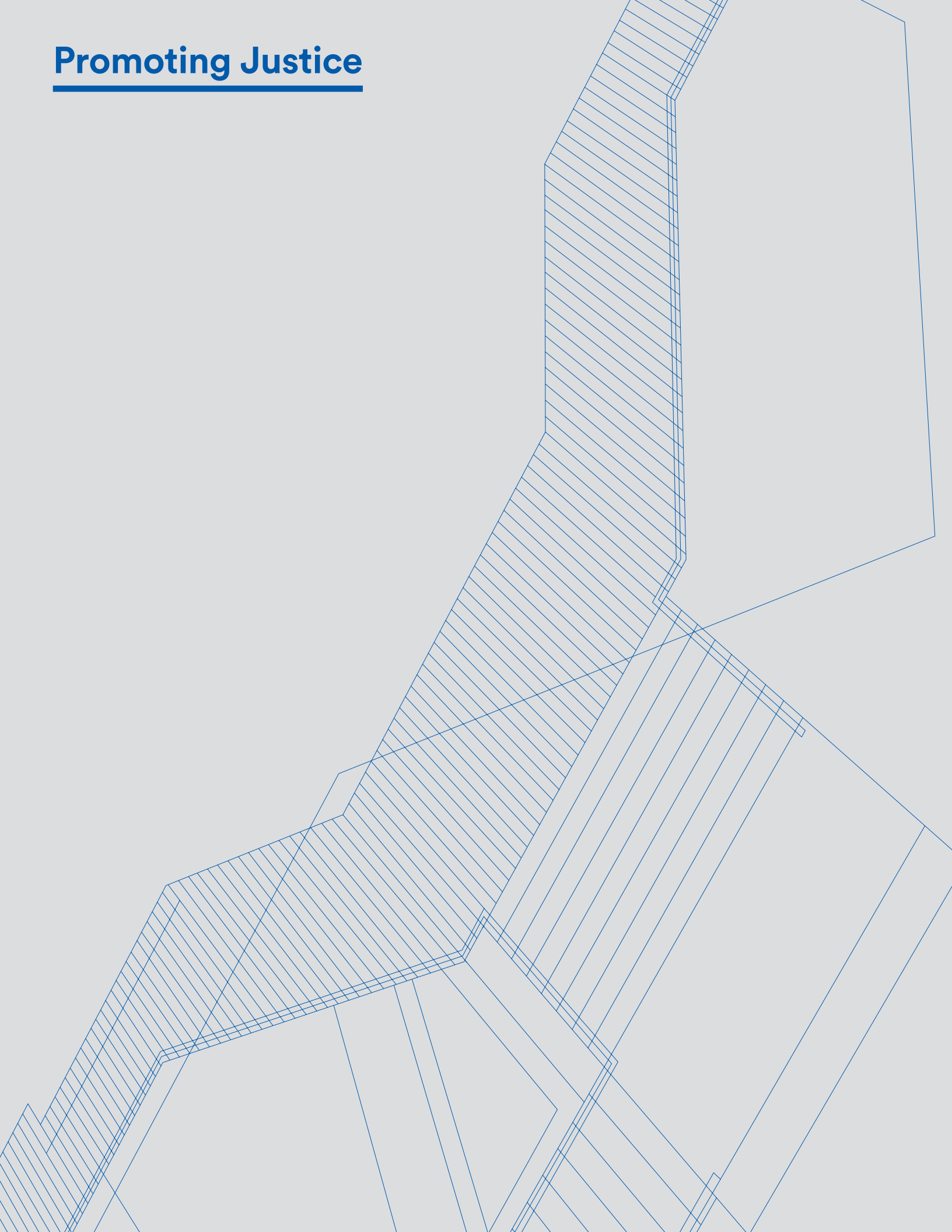
This high profile international intervention resulted in widespread media coverage and increased pressure on the European Union to take a strong line on data protection and privacy at the Ministerial meeting, where Viviane Reding was clear in communicating that the privacy and data protection rights of Europeans were “non-negotiable”.



Above: Irish Times Statement by INCLO member organisations

The statement was signed by INCLO partners the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU); the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI); the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA); Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS); the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR); Hungarian Civil Liberties Union (HCLU); the ICCL; the Kenya Human Rights Commission; the Legal Resources Centre (South Africa), and Liberty (UK).

Promoting Justice



The ICCL-led *JUSTICIA* European Rights Network: Providing International Leadership on Criminal Justice Reform

Since the European Commission reapproved our operating grant for the year 2013, the ICCL, as Consortium Leader, has ensured that the *JUSTICIA* European Rights Network remains at the forefront of EU criminal justice reform.

Throughout 2013, the Network advocated for human rights to be fully mainstreamed into emerging European Union law and for the full implementation of relevant EU legal standards into Network Members' own jurisdictions in relation to procedural rights, and the rights of victims of crime.

At the Network's third official meeting in Budapest in September 2013, Network Members voted to accept Rights International Spain, which works to protect, promote and respect human rights and civil liberties through the enforcement of international law principles, as a new partner organisation. As a result *JUSTICIA* in 2013 consisted of 11 Member organisations based in 10 European Union States.

Members of the *JUSTICIA* Network

Bulgarian Helsinki Committee

Greek Helsinki Monitor

Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Poland)

Human Rights Monitoring Institute (Lithuania)

Hungarian Civil Liberties Union

Irish Council for Civil Liberties

Latvian Centre for Human Rights

League of Human Rights (Czech Republic)

Open Society Justice Initiative (Hungary)

Rights International Spain

Statewatch (UK)



The ICCL has long advocated for the right to a lawyer as an essential component to a fair and just criminal justice system. Accordingly the ICCL and the *JUSTICIA* Network have been involved in the endorsement of numerous targeted joint statements on the draft EU Directive on the right of access to a lawyer along with our NGO partners, the most recent of which was submitted to the trilogue discussions between the Council of the European Union, European Parliament and European Commission in April 2013.

In Autumn 2013 we were delighted to welcome the adoption of the EU Directive on the right of access to a lawyer in criminal proceedings and in European arrest warrant proceedings, and on the right to have a third party informed upon deprivation of liberty and to communicate with third persons and with consular authorities while deprived of liberty. There were a number of additional developments in the EU procedural rights arena during 2013 such as the publication of the European Commission's package of measures on the presumption of innocence, safeguards for vulnerable persons and the right to legal aid reform.

In light of this the Network has developed a Monitoring Tool for the assessment of Member States' compliance with the requirements of the EU Directive on the right of access to a lawyer, the roll out of which will commence in 2014. The Network has also prepared review papers summarising European Commission legislative proposals on legal aid reforms, and safeguards for vulnerable persons.



Above: *JUSTICIA*'s Monitoring Tool for the assessment of Member States' compliance with the requirements of the EU Directive on the right of access to a lawyer

JUSTICIA collaborated with our Polish Network Partner, the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, to raise awareness and facilitate discussion on the EU Directive on the right of access to a lawyer and legal aid reform proposals through the hosting of a major international bilingual conference in Warsaw, Poland. This conference, entitled *Effective Criminal Defence as a Fundamental Basis to Fair Trial*, was held in October 2013 and brought together *JUSTICIA* representatives, leading Polish academics and lawyers, as well as experts such as Professor Ed Lloyd Cape (Professor of Criminal Law and Practice, University of the West of England, Bristol, UK), and Dr. Dian Brouwer (European Criminal Bar Association Board Member and Co-Chair of the ECBA Working Group on Legal Aid).



The Network has actively engaged with the transposition and implementation process of the additional adopted Procedural Rights Directive on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings and right to information in criminal proceedings. A high-level training programme on the implementation of this directive, which has been translated into Bulgarian and Spanish, has been produced.

In September 2013 the Network also welcomed members to Dublin for a legal training seminar on the Right to Information in Criminal Proceedings. Also attended by criminal law practitioners and representatives of the Office of the DPP and Department of Justice, the seminar heard presentations by Marion Isobel (Legal Officer, Open Society Justice Initiative), Irmína Pachó (Lawyer, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, Poland) and Jean Tomkin (Solicitor at Sheehan and Partners) and a subsequent discussion moderated by Michael Finucane (Principal of Michael Finucane Solicitors). During this seminar the Network launched a Know Your Rights Guide on the Right to Information, which has since been translated into three Network Member languages - Czech, Latvian and Greek.



Top: JUSTICIA Network Member Marion Isobel (OSJI) speaking at our conference in Warsaw in October 2013

Above: JUSTICIA Network Members Marion Isobel (OSJI), Irmína Pachó (Polish Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights), Maros Matiasco (Czech League of Human Rights), ICCL Director Mark Kelly, Karolis Liutkevicius (Human Rights Monitoring Institute, Lithuania) with Grace Mulvey, Kizito Wahome and Triona Jacob of the ICCL.

Victims' Rights

One year has passed since the adoption of the EU Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, a new piece of EU-level legislation that protects victims of crime, which must be implemented by all EU Member States by 16 November 2015.

In light of this, a comprehensive *JUSTICIA* guide on the Victims' Directive, was officially launched in Dublin's Law Society by Greg Heylin, Director, Victims of Crime Office in September 2013. This tool has also been translated into three Network Member languages - Hungarian, Latvian and Greek.



Furthermore in November 2013, the *JUSTICIA* Network, in association with Victim Support Europe (VSE), held a roundtable seminar in Brussels entitled, *Human Rights in the EU: Towards Effective Implementation of the Victims' Directive*. The event, which was opened by the President of Victim Support Europe, David McKenna, and involved relevant European Commission representatives, allowed the exchange of national best practices, challenges, key concerns and plans for monitoring implementation amongst attendees.

At a domestic level the ICCL welcomed and lent its support to the establishment of the Victims' Rights Alliance (VRA), comprising a number of victim support organisations. The Alliance was officially launched by the Minister for Justice, Equality, and Defence and the Lord Mayor of Dublin on 15 November 2013. The Alliance's main focus will be the effective transposition and implementation of the Victims' Directive in Ireland by November 2015. The ICCL is delighted to be a member of the newly formed Alliance. See www.victimsrightsalliance.org for further information.



Top: Greg Heylin of the Victims of Crime Office, Maria McDonald, author of the Victims' rights guide, & ICCL Director Mark Kelly

Above: Alan Shatter speaking the Victims' Rights Alliance Launch

JUSTICIA was actively engaged with discussions regarding the future of EU Criminal Justice policy throughout 2013. Such engagement has included an expert briefing at the high-level European Commission platform, the Assises de la Justice Conference *Shaping Justice Policies in Europe for the years to come*, and the submission of a detailed paper outlining the key concerns of the Network in relation to procedural rights, and the rights of victims of crime.

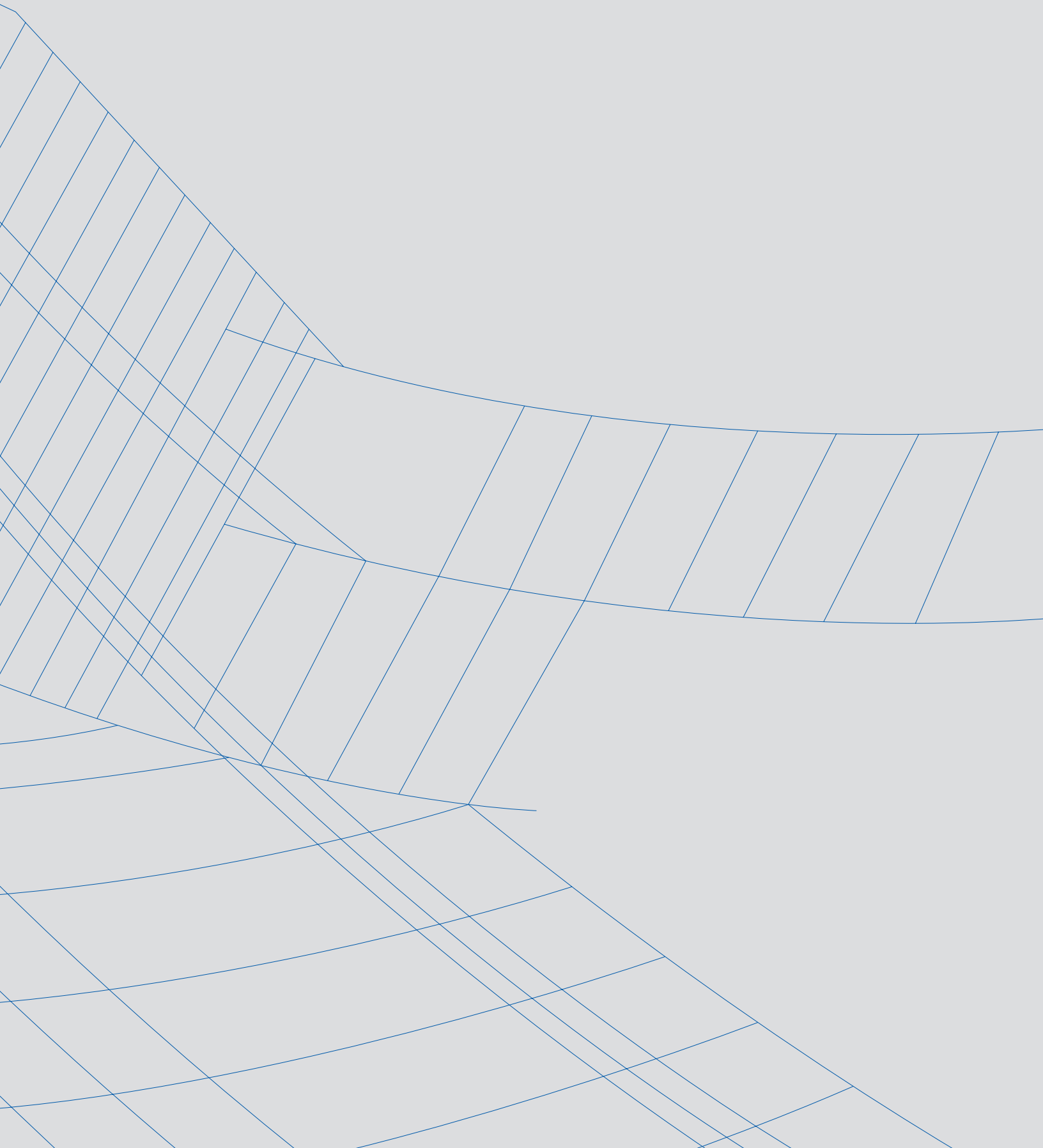


Above: Commission Vice-President Viviane Reding.
Photo: European Commission Audiovisual Service

In addition, in November 2013 Vice-President of the European Commission, EU Commissioner Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Viviane Reding held a meeting with *JUSTICIA* representatives at the Commissioner's Offices in Brussels. Effective implementation of existing criminal justice Directives, the importance of strong, human rights-compliant legislation on remaining (Procedural Rights) Roadmap measures, as well as the importance of effective civil society contribution to policy development and legislative implementation were discussed.

For more information about recent EU Criminal Justice developments, as well as the activities of the Network, please visit our recently enhanced website www.eujusticia.net, which now also includes an integrated ECHR case-law database. We hope that this website will be a useful resource base for practitioners, accused persons, and victims alike.

Securing Equality



The Convention on the Constitution – Securing Equality through Constitutional Reform

In 2012 the ICCL led a coalition of NGOs calling for the forthcoming Constitutional Convention to be transparent and inclusive, and to provide for meaningful engagement between the Convention and civil society. 2013 saw the ICCL make two significant and potentially far-reaching contributions to the work of the Convention.

Securing Cross-Party and Government Support for a Referendum on Equal Marriage for Same-Sex Couples

In April 2013 the ICCL made the first of two appearances before the Convention on the Constitution. The topic for discussion was the proposal to reform the Constitution to provide for full marriage equality for same-sex couples. The ICCL was invited to address the 100 member strong assembly of citizens and public representatives as part of a panel of speakers chosen to

represent those in favour of the proposition. Prior to the session, which was held over the weekend of 13 and 14 of April 2013, the Convention received more than 1000 submissions from which organisations were invited to make formal presentations.

At the session, the ICCL's Equality Officer, Stephen O'Hare addressed delegates on the urgent need to reform the Constitution on the basis of securing equality for same-sex couples and their families. He was joined on the panel by Gráinne Healy and Moninne Griffith of Marriage Equality, by Tiernan Brady and Muriel Walls of GLEN and by two young activists, Claire O'Connell and Conor Pendergrast who shared with delegates their own personal experience of growing up in families parented by same-sex couples. The presentations were followed later in the afternoon by a panel discussion which included Colm O'Gorman, CEO of Amnesty International Ireland and Conor O'Mahony of the faculty of law, University College Cork who both argued in favour of equal marriage.

Following a lengthy and open debate among participants throughout the weekend the Convention voted overwhelmingly (79% in favour) to endorse provision for same-sex marriage in the Constitution and recommended that all ancillary provisions be made in law to ensure that families parented by married same-sex couples were afforded equal protection to families of married opposite-sex couples. Speaking at the conclusion of the two-day session, ICCL Director Mark Kelly said "the vote [in favour of marriage for same sex couples] sends a clear message to Government that the time is right to ask the Irish people to remove one of the last bastions of official discrimination in Ireland. Successive polls have indicated that such a move is favoured by a majority in this state. Public engagement with the Constitutional Convention, and today's vote, bear this out."

The success of the endeavour was reflected in the Government's own response to the report of the Convention on the outcome of the poll, when, in November 2013 it committed to holding a referendum on equal marriage in mid 2015. Since the confirmation of cross-party support for equal marriage, and the Government's commitment to a 2015 referendum on the subject, the ICCL has been working in close partnership with colleagues in Marriage Equality and the Gay and Lesbian Equality Network (GLEN) as we prepare for this next step in securing full equality for same sex couples.



Left: L-R: Kieran Rose of GLEN, Gráinne Healy of Marriage Equality and Mark Kelly of the ICCL at a joint press conference in Buswell's Hotel, Dublin, on the announcement of a 2015 civil marriage equality referendum, 5 November 2013. Photo: Sasko Lazarov, Photocall Ireland.

Advocating for the Abolition of Ireland's Antediluvian Blasphemy Provisions

In November 2013, the ICCL appeared for a second time before the Convention as delegates considered reforming the Constitution to remove the clause on blasphemy. ICCL Director Mark Kelly was joined by colleague Stephen O'Hare in outlining the case for removing the clause on blasphemy and to make suitable provision within Irish law to protect freedom of expression while combating hate speech. Representatives from the Humanist Association of Ireland and Atheist Ireland also made presentations outlining the case for reform.

Addressing delegates during the presentation session, Mr Kelly indicated that there were far better ways to draw attention to the demarcation line between freedom of expression and incitement to hatred than the current constitutional clause and resulting law. In his presentation he cited the recently-adopted Rabat Plan of Action, the result of a UN-led consultative process in Europe, Asia and the Americas on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred.

During the panel discussion held later in the afternoon, Mr Kelly reaffirmed that while there is a pressing need to adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation to combat hate speech, blasphemy laws had a stifling impact on the enjoyment of freedom of religion and on healthy dialogue and debate about religion in society. As such, he argued Ireland's blasphemy provisions should be repealed.

The Convention voted by 61% to 38% to change the reference to blasphemy in the Constitution. The Government has yet to formally respond to the Convention's recommendation.



Left: Constitution of Ireland. Photo: Mike Liffey

Above: Mark Kelly Addressing the Convention

Hear Our Voices and the Constitutional Convention



In 2012 the ICCL led a coalition of NGOs calling for the forthcoming Convention to adopt an open transparent and inclusive approach to participation including providing adequate space for meaningful engagement between the Convention and civil society. More than 80 civil society organisations and individuals signed up to endorse the Charter under the banner Hear Our Voices, calling on Government to honour commitments set out in the Programme for Government to ensure an open and inclusive dialogue on issues of Constitutional reform.

The sessions on equal marriage for same sex-couples and blasphemy were two of nine topics considered by the Convention on the Constitution throughout 2013 and early 2014. Other topics for discussion included:

- reducing the Presidential term of office to five years and aligning it with the local and European elections;
- reducing the voting age to 17;
- review of the Dáil electoral system;
- giving citizens resident outside the State the right to vote in Presidential elections;
- amending the clause on the role of women in the home and encouraging greater participation of women in public life;
- increasing the participation of women in politics;
- reform of Dáil Éireann;
- provision for enforceable economic social and cultural rights in the Constitution

The Convention comprised 66 ordinary citizens chosen at random from the electoral register, 33 public representatives drawn from the Oireachtas and from the Northern Ireland Assembly, and one independent Chairperson, Mr Tom Arnold, former CEO of Concern and himself a signatory to the Hear Our

Voices Charter. In all, eight signatories to the Hear Our Voices Charter appeared before the Convention at various times to discuss issues under consideration, with some, including the ICCL, invited to appear on more than one occasion.

The Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act – A Small Step Towards the Recognition of Women’s Reproductive Rights

The ICCL began 2013 with high profile expert contributions to the Oireachtas Health Committee’s extensive hearings on proposed legislation to meet the basic requirements of the European Court of Human Rights Judgment in *A, B and C v Ireland*. Since the hearings in January 2013, the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Bill was signed into law by President Higgins on 30 July 2013.



Above: ICCL Executive Board Member Alan D.P. Brady BL addressing the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children in the Seanad chamber, 9 January 2013

Although its provisions are extremely restrictive, the ICCL welcomed the legislation as providing long overdue clarity on abortion where a mother’s life is at risk. The ICCL has consistently campaigned for this since the *X* case in 1992, and more recently in the aftermath of the case of *A, B and C v Ireland* at the European Court of Human Rights. Action on this matter also formed one of the key civil society recommendations during the Your Rights Right Now campaign under Ireland’s Universal Periodic Review at the UN in 2011 (see below).

While the legislation is to be welcomed, it remains to be seen whether or not it will be sufficient to meet the requirements of the *A, B and C* judgment. It cannot be said with any certainty that the new legislation and regulations in fact facilitate access to abortion services for women in Ireland in a manner that complies fully with the judgment. Since the enactment of the legislation, the ICCL has been in regular communication with the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers to apprise them of the legislation’s progress.

The legislation also falls a long way short of meeting international human rights standards, and fails to meet the recommendations of several UN Committees. For example, a risk to the health of the mother is not catered for and stark criminal sanctions continue to apply for women and their doctors where an abortion is conducted outside the narrow confines of the legislation. Furthermore, the procedure to determine whether or not a woman is suicidal (including the appeals procedure) is lengthy and requires pregnant women to undergo multiple assessments. The ICCL is also concerned about the framework for conscientious objections in the legislation. In order to achieve compliance under the European Convention on Human Rights, practitioners who conscientiously object to the treatment should have a duty of care to ensure the expeditious transfer of the care of the woman to another doctor/health professional, an obligation which is not expressly set down in the legislation.

Despite this historic legislative development, access to lawful abortion remains unavailable to a woman carrying a foetus with a fatal abnormality, a situation which was recently described as a “great cruelty” by the Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence. The Minister further stated that he believed “as a State we have responsibilities we should live up to in this area.” In August 2013, the ICCL highlighted the shortcomings of the 2013 Act in submissions to the UN Human Rights Committee and the UN Committee against Torture.

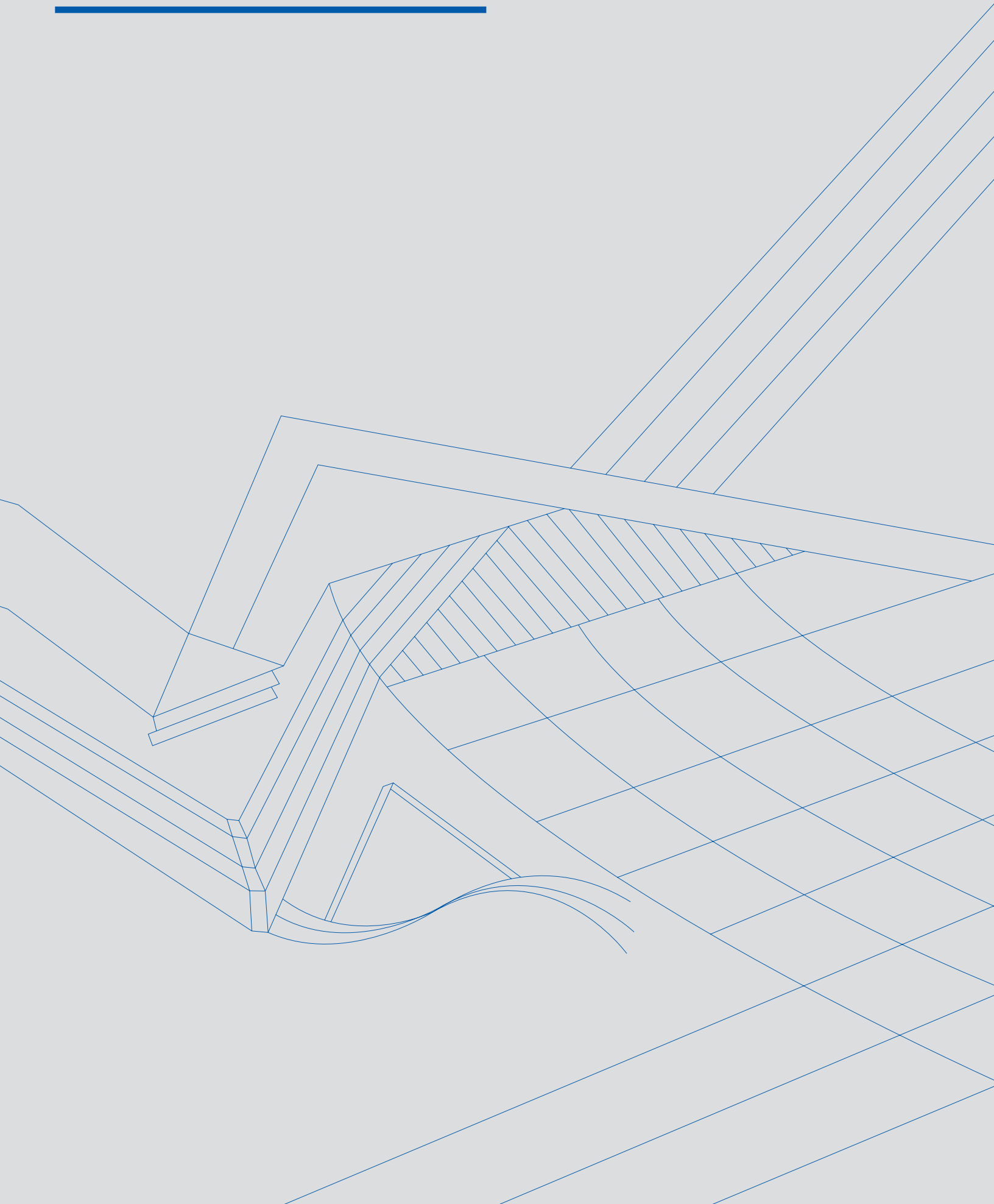
The ICCL will continue to advocate for the reproductive rights of women in Ireland, including with respect to cases of rape, incest and fatal foetal abnormality.



Above: The European Court of Human Rights. Photo Council of Europe

“Immediately repeal the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 (criminal sanctions for those who have abortions and those who assist them) and immediately enact legislation to clarify the circumstances under which an abortion may be lawful, as recommended by the Constitutional Review Group in 1996 and the European Court of Human Rights in 2010”
– The Your Rights Right Now campaign’s recommendation under section 12 (women’s reproductive rights) of its Civil Society Stakeholder Report on Ireland’s Universal Periodic Review at the UN in 2011.

Education and Outreach



The 2013 ICCL Human Rights Film Awards – Celebrating the Finest of Irish and International Human Rights Filmmaking

June 2013 saw the successful conclusion of the fifth annual instalment of the ICCL Human Rights Film Awards, Ireland's only human rights themed short film competition.

Irish documentary filmmaker Dearbhla Glynn took the Awards' Grand Prize for her documentary *The Value of Women* in The Congo – an uncompromising, clear-headed and disturbing examination of the effects of the sexual violence perpetrated with impunity against women and girls in war-torn Eastern Congo.

Dearbhla Glynn is an accomplished documentary filmmaker, specializing in explorations of conflict and its effect on women and children. This is her second Grand Prize at the ICCL Human Rights Film Awards, having previously taken the honours in 2010 for her exposé of conditions in the besieged Gaza Strip.

The Gala Screening and Awards ceremony, which took place to a full house in Screen 1 of Dublin's Light House Cinema, also saw second place prize go to Scottish filmmaker Martin Smith for his film *Jimmy*, a day-in-the-life portrait of disability rights activist Jimmy McIntosh. Third place prize went to Spanish director Paco Torres for *The Rattle of Benghazi*, a drama about war and childhood in Libya, filmed in Dublin. The competition's youth-focussed 'Under a Minute Challenge' was won this year by Grace Murphy of St Leo's College Carlow for her stop motion animation piece *The Truth About Poverty*.



Above: ICCL Film Awards Grand Prize winner, Dearbhla Glynn

Below: Under a Minute Challenge winner, Grace Murphy

“Dearbhla Glynn’s *The Value of Women* is a brave and delicately handled piece of war reportage. It is hard-hitting, while showing many sides of the story. It avoids sensationalism, while never shying away from the very difficult themes. It is an important, devastating piece of human rights documentary filmmaking, and a worthy winner in this year’s outstanding field of finalists”

- Kirsten Sheridan, Awards Jury Member



Mums & Dad

Director: Dara deFaoite

A lesbian couple and gay man become the proud parents of a beautiful baby boy. This short documentary explores the roles and relationships that exist between a mother, Ruth, a father, Jer, and their six-year old son Stephen, reflecting a significant aspect of the diversity of family types in Ireland today. At its heart Mums and Dad is a story of love, loss, trust and respect, however this short documentary also contextualises the challenges faced by LGBT parents and the right of every individual to make responsible family decisions regardless of marital status or sexual orientation.



The Rattle of Benghazi

Director: Paco Torres

Say Benghazi and Dublin in the same sentence and it would be a struggle to imagine any type of synergy. But that is exactly what Dublin-based, Spanish director Paco Torres has achieved in his acclaimed short film The Rattle of Benghazi. Our Dublin cityscape becomes transformed into the setting for the 2011 uprising against the government of Muammar Gaddafi. The geographical mash-up is not the only duality at play here as the film, told from the perspective of a brother and sister, juxtaposes the chaos of war with the innocence of childhood. While the film opens with a seemingly innocuous scene of the children at play, what unfolds becomes altogether more harrowing, as the realities of war intrude on and envelop the siblings' lives.



Jimmy

Director: Martin Smith

The 'a day in the life of' motif is not a new idea in filmmaking. Until you see Jimmy that is. Following the daily routine of disability rights campaigner Jimmy McIntosh, MBE, award-winning Scottish filmmaker Martin Smith dispenses with the conventional methods of observational documentary film making, where the subject is often objectified for and by the audience. Instead Smith adopts a truly unique style of directing that allows the viewer to see the world according to Jimmy. With a camera at eye level and another attached to his wheelchair, Jimmy is transformed from subject of the camera's gaze to its master. Jimmy thus becomes an innovative and intimate portrait of one man, as seen from the inside out.



The Value of Women in the Congo

Director: Dearbhla Glynn

War has torn Eastern Congo apart for nearly two decades. It is the deadliest war since World War 2. One of the more sinister repercussions of the war is that violence against women has reached epic proportions. In an effort to look at the root cause, 'The Value of Women in The Congo' explores the experience of the victims of this violence as well as the perspective of the perpetrators, warlords and high-ranking commandants. What emerges is an arresting and brutal account of how war ravages the land and its people and leaves few victors – least of all women, whose value is often rendered worthless.



No Enemies

Director: Trish McAdam

A campaign video for Front Line Defenders, No Enemies takes as its inspiration Chinese human rights defender Lui Xiaobo's renowned I Have No Enemies speech of Christmas Day 2009, when he was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment. Set against spartan graphics, the film gives elegant shape to Liu's journey from arrest to conviction. His words – spoken by Salman Rushdie and Seamus Heaney among others – are a graceful and stoical declaration of love - love for his wife and for life, unencumbered by and transcending the oppression he faces.

The ICCL/Youthreach Human Rights Competition – Working with Educators and Artists to Raise Human Rights Awareness

With the help of the Ireland Funds, and in continued partnership with UNICEF Ireland, in 2013 the ICCL significantly expanded the scope of this important human rights education project.

The 2013 ICCL/Youthreach Human Rights competition was the third annual instalment of this joint initiative of the ICCL and Youthreach which calls on Youthreach students nationwide to express themselves about important human rights issues affecting their lives. This year the competition was expanded to include the provision of a series of human rights, arts and crafts workshops in Youthreach centres nationwide, designed to encourage and inspire participation in the competition. Workshops, facilitated by ICCL staff and guest visual artists, were held in Dublin, Galway and Cork and proved popular with numerous Youthreach centres. Thanks to the active engagement undertaken through these workshops, the competition received an unprecedented volume and standard of entries from centres around the country.

Announced at a prizegiving ceremony held in the Office of the Children's Ombudsman on 13 December 2013, Rudine Mulhern of Cavan Youthreach took first prize for her piece 'Muddled Feelings' - an outstanding mixed media entry on the subject of sexual violence, encompassing short story composition, spoken word, animation and sound design. Rudine was awarded a work placement in an NGO or charity, along with a tablet computer.



Rudine's Cavan Youthreach colleague Dominika Kapica took second place for her portfolio of original human rights themed photography entitled 'Life through a Lens'. Third place prize, meanwhile, went to Charmaine Smyth of Castleblaney Youthreach, Co Monaghan, for her awareness-raising branding and design project 'Young People – Think Positive'.



Top: Walter Jayawardene and Mark Kelly of the ICCL with runner up and winner Dominika Kapica and Rudine Mulhern of Cavan Youthreach, and competition Jury member Bláthnaid Treacy

Above: A collage workshop underway in Bandon's Youthreach centre

Given the volume and consistently high standard of entries received, the Jury created additional categories of 'Highly Commended' and 'Commended'. Amongst those receiving commendations for their work were Joey Lennon of Sherrard Street Youthreach, Shauna Louise Fitzgerald and Nicole Moran of Kiltimagh Youthreach, Gemma Byrne of Cabra Youthreach, Ruby Miles of Bantry Youthreach, Kelly McTigue of Leixlip Youthreach and Michelle O'Brien of the Youthreach Transition Centre in Dublin's Parnell Square.

Entries to the competition are testament to the creativity and imagination of the young people participating in Youthreach programmes nationwide, and the opportunity that exists to widen the understanding of and engagement with human rights via Youthreach's extensive network. The ICCL intends to continue building on the success of this competition and to expand its human rights education links with Youthreach during the course of 2014.

Working in Partnership with Ireland's LGBT Community

With the securing of cross-party support and Government commitment to a referendum on equal marriage, 2013 was a watershed year for LGBT rights in Ireland. During the course of 2013 the ICCL has further strengthened its partnership with Ireland's LGBT community, not only through coalition with Marriage Equality and the Gay and Lesbian Equality Network, but through further outreach activities.

The Return of LOVEACTION at the Electric Picnic

From 30 August to 1 September the ICCL once again teamed up with Marriage Equality, GLEN, The NLGF, BeLonG To, LGBT Noise and Gay Community News to take part in the LOVEACTION campaign collective at the Electric Picnic Music festival in Stradbally, Co Laois. The LOVEACTION campaigners called on festival-goers to sign our call on Government to follow up on the April 2013 Constitutional Convention decision by holding a referendum on equal marriage at the earliest possible date. LOVEACTION got its message out loud and clear, with the help of a host of guest DJs ensuring that the collective's marquee was a hive of activity throughout the weekend. By the close of the festival, over 7000, fully a quarter of the festival attendance, signed up in support of equal marriage for same sex couples.



Top: Una Mullally does a DJ set at the LOVEACTION tent
Left: DJ Glamo at Electric Picnic
Right: Walter Jayawardene of the ICCL, Olivia McEvoy of the NLGF, Andrea Rocca of Frontline and Colm O'Gorman of Amnesty present the 2013 GALA International LGBT Activist Award to Kasha Jacqueline Nabagasera in April 2013. Photo: Louise Hannon

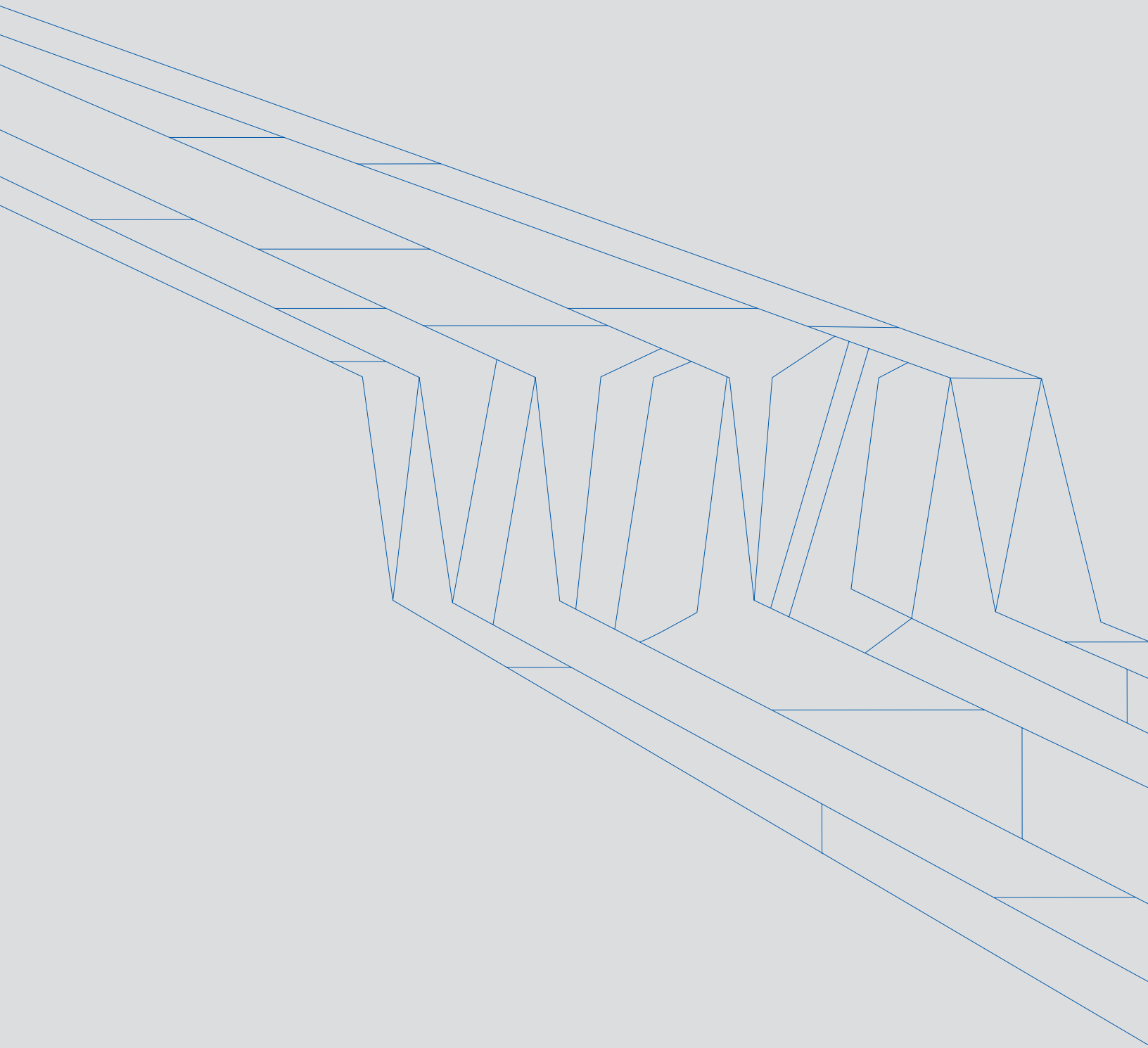


ICCL Continues its Support of the NLGF Gala International LGBT Activist Award

In spring 2013 the ICCL joined colleagues from Amnesty International Ireland, Frontline Defenders and the National Lesbian and Gay Federation (NLGF) to present the GALA Award for International LGBT Activist to Ugandan human rights defender Kasha Jacqueline Nabagasera. Kasha was in Dublin to raise awareness of the work of her organisation Freedom & Roam Uganda (FARUG) in combating homophobia and violence in her native country, where homosexuality remains illegal and subject to harsh criminal penalties. Kasha has pledged to use the award, which comes with a bursary of €2000, to support the work of FARUG, and to provide extra security and protection for her colleagues who are under constant threat of attack. The NLGF's fourth annual GALAs awards were held on 23 February 2013. The GALA Award for International LGBT Activist is co-sponsored by the ICCL, Amnesty International Ireland, Frontline Defenders and the NLGF, and honours the work of activists campaigning for the rights of LGBT people around the world. Kasha Jacqueline Nabagasera was Amnesty International's nominee for the Award.



Flagship Project 2014



UN Human Rights Council: A Legacy for Ireland?

We believe that implementation of UN recommendations at home bolsters a country's capacity to promote and protect human rights abroad. It is crucial that Ireland not only promote human rights principles abroad during its UN Human Rights Council tenure, but, at the same time, take responsibility for ensuring Irish law and policy meet international human rights standards.

In January 2013, Ireland assumed its peer-elected membership of the UN Human Rights Council, the most important human rights body in the UN system. Its tenure will run until December 2015.

This is a prestigious diplomatic position but what legacy will our membership of the Council have for human rights at home?

The ICCL has led the way in Ireland on UN human rights reporting for many years, covering all of the UN Conventions and a broad range of issues. This sustained programme of work has provided us with a unique overview of the recommendations which have been made to Ireland over this period. When assuming this panoramic view, what became clear is the volume of repeated recommendations made on the same issues by the UN bodies, together with a lack of systematic follow up and implementation.

On foot of this analysis, in 2013, the ICCL developed the Legacy Project, which will track the implementation of human rights standards and UN recommendations at home during Ireland's tenure on the UN Human Rights Council. This project will be rolled out initially in 2014 and 2015 until the conclusion of Ireland's term.

The Legacy Project's seven key impact areas are:

- I. Ratify International Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities
- II. Ratify Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture
- III. Effective National Human Rights Institution
- IV. Civil Marriage Equality
- V. Gender Recognition
- VI. Recognition of Travellers as an Ethnic Minority
- VII. Reproductive Justice



Above: The UN Human Rights Council Chamber. Photo: UN Audio Visual Service

By the end of this period, Ireland will have submitted its Mid-Term Report under the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) (March 2014) and will have been examined by the UN Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Also within this timeframe, Ireland will have further reporting obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties has brought together a number of leading civil society organisations to oversee the Legacy Project which will track the progress of seven key impact areas during Ireland's membership of the Council. For more information on the Legacy project, please visit www.rightsnow.ie.



UN Human Rights Council
A LEGACY FOR IRELAND?
Your Rights. Right Now

Organisational Development



Securing a Sustainable Future for Human Rights in Ireland

The work of the ICCL would not be possible without the support of our members, supporters and friends, and we would like to extend our sincere thanks to you. We are especially grateful to the Atlantic Philanthropies for their continued support of the development of a strong human rights infrastructure in Ireland.

2013 has been an important year for the ICCL in terms of developing our community of supporters and, crucially, raising funds which allow us to continue our work as Ireland's independent human rights watchdog. We were thrilled to be selected by the European Commission for the fourth consecutive year to receive an operating grant in relation to our criminal justice work, enabling us to carry out a range of activities in this key policy area through the ICCL-led *JUSTICIA* European Rights Network. Further, we have forged new links with funders the Open Society Initiative for Europe and the Ford Foundation, to whom we extend our thanks for their commitment to equality and international civil liberties issues.

The ICCL held its 5th annual ICCL Human Rights Film Awards, Ireland's only human rights short film competition, where we welcomed 250 guests to the Light House Cinema. We launched the Human Rights Film Awards to shine a light on human rights issues in Ireland and around the world and, we hope, to encourage people to work towards solutions. Since the first year, the project has helped to start a conversation about human rights - what they are and why they matter to all of us, highlighting issues which affect the most vulnerable individuals, families and groups in Ireland and indeed around the world. The shortlisted films in 2013 showcased a collection of moving films covering topics including violence against women in the Congo, disability rights, freedom from oppression and family equality.



Above: Kirsten Sheridan announces the Grand Prize at the 2013 ICCL Human Rights Film Awards
Left: 2013 ICCL Human Rights Film Awards Second Prize Winner Martin Smith with the ICCL's Deirdre Duffy

Securing a Sustainable Future for Human Rights in Ireland

We are so grateful to the Light House Cinema, IFCO, Filmbase, Windmill Lane and all of our sponsors, as well as our Jury and Panel members, interns and volunteers, who continue to make the project possible each year by donating funds, equipment, services, prizes, vouchers, time and expertise. We are also grateful to our over 85 Fundit.ie supporters, who contributed funds through our 2nd online crowdsourced fundraising campaign and helped us to exceed our target. We would also like to extend a special thanks to RTÉ Young Peoples for their continued support of the competition for young people, the Human Rights in Under a Minute Challenge.



Above: Michael O'Flaherty and Mark Kelly at our 2013 annual evening for legal practitioners

Right: Reception at the Light House Cinema following our 2013 Film Awards Gala Screening

The ICCL's 5th annual evening for legal practitioners took place in the private dining room of Fallon & Byrne, Exchequer Street and featured speaker Michael O'Flaherty, Professor of Human Rights Law, Co-director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway. The Bar Council of Ireland kindly sponsored the pre-event drinks reception, and numerous companies and organisations donated prizes for our exclusive raffle, including the Audi Club at the O2, which donated a highly sought after VIP package at the O2. The evening was an opportunity for legal practitioners to network, socialise, exchange knowledge and, crucially, raise funds to support the work of the ICCL.

How Your Support Helps:

With the strength of our members and supporters, we are able to intervene where needed to shape public debate, ensuring that human rights are part of the discussion when developing policy and legislation in Ireland. The support of our friends and members also makes it possible for us to engage in outreach and education work. For example, investment from The Ireland Funds enabled us to expand and develop the Youthreach Human Rights Competition 2013, providing a unique opportunity for Youthreach participants throughout the country to explore human rights issues while learning new technical, creative and networking skills.



Left: Actress Caroline Morahan with ICCL's Karen Ciesielski at the ICCL Film Awards Gala Screening

The ICCL is working to become sustainable, enabling the organisation to carry out its day-to-day work while meeting future economic and political difficulties which may arise, so that rights in Ireland remain protected. We would again like to thank you and all of our members, supporters and friends who contribute their time, energy and financial support to ensuring that the future of the ICCL as Ireland's independent human rights watchdog is secure. Thank you.



Right: Cliona Kimber BL and Marguerite Bolger SC at our 2013 annual evening for legal practitioners

“With the strength of our members and supporters, we are able to intervene where needed to shape public debate, ensuring that human rights are part of the discussion when developing policy and legislation in Ireland.”



Left: Triona Jacob and Grace Mulvey of the ICCL policy team with Executive Board Member Alan D.P. Brady

Publications and Events



January

- Submission to the Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children on the Implementation of the Government Decision following the Publication of the Expert Group report in the Matters relating to A, B and C v Ireland, January 2013
- Submission to the Irish Human Rights Commission on the Review of Law and Practice in the State regarding the Relevant Human Rights which Pertain in Situations of Pregnancy where there is a Risk to Life, January 2013
- ‘Rights Watchdog’s Expert Legal Guidance to Shape Ireland’s New Abortion Law’, press release, 8 January 2013
- ‘European Court Crucifix case draws “bright line” between religious freedom and discrimination says ICCL’, press release, 15 January 2013
- Brady, Alan D.P. (Executive Board Member), Oral Presentation to the Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children as part of the Public Hearing on the Implementation of the Government Decision following the publication of the Expert Group Report into matters relating to A, B and C v Ireland, Seanad Éireann, 9 January 2013

February

- Rights News 23, February 2013
- Submission to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs on the State’s Third and Fourth Periodic Reports under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), February 2013
- O’Hare, S., ‘Towards Consensus: Human Rights and Gender Recognition in the 21st Century’ for TENI publication ‘Trans Experience in Ireland’, February 2013
- Submission to the Joint Delegation from the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM), February 2013
- ‘Magdalene Women Due Apology “At Highest Political Level” Says Rights Watchdog’, press release, 5 February 2013
- ‘Kenny Must Not “Parse the Suffering” of Magdalene Women, Rights Watchdog Warns’, press release, 19 February 2013
- ICCL attendance at NLGF Gala Awards Ceremony, Westin Hotel, 23 February 2013

March

- ICCL Submission to the Convention on the Constitution on the Proposal to Provide Equal Marriage for Same-sex Couples, March 2013
- ‘Proposals Herald “Partial Thaw” in Institutional Discrimination says Rights Watchdog’, press release, 13 March 2013
- ICCL attendance at Seanad Debate on Employment Equality (Amendment) (No 2) Bill 2013, Seanad Éireann, 13 March 2013
- ‘Human Rights Organizations from Across the Globe Call on UN to Protect Human Rights in the Context of Social Protest’, joint INCLO press release, 20 March 2013
- ‘Rights Watchdog Expresses “Profound Sadness” at Untimely Death of Irish Gay Rights “Pioneer”’, press release, 24 March 2013

ICCL Submission on Provision for Marriage for Same-Sex Couples to the Convention on the Constitution



Stephen O'Hare of the ICCL addressing the Constitutional Convention in April 2013



ICCL Winter 2012/2013 Newsletter



Publications and Events

April

- ‘Euro Court condemns failure to protect life of miscarrying woman’, press release, 9 April 2013
- ‘Rights Watchdog to Make the Case for Equal Marriage to Constitutional Convention’, press release, 10 April 2013
- ‘Unprecedented support for Marriage Equality ahead of Constitutional Convention this weekend’, joint press release with Marriage Equality and GLEN, 12 April 2013
- ICCL attendance and presentation to the Convention on the Constitution on the Provision for Equal Marriage for Same-sex Couples, event, 13-14 April 2013
- ‘Campaigners welcome Constitutional Convention’s “Historic” Endorsement of Equal Marriage’, joint press release with Marriage Equality and GLEN, 14 April 2013
- ‘Europe Will Reject “Unduly Onerous” Abortion Law says Rights Watchdog’, press release, 25 April 2013
- ICCL attendance and presentation to Labour Equality event on the Convention on the Constitution, Galway, April 2013

The GLEN, Marriage Equality and ICCL team in advance of their joint presentation to the Constitutional Convention on 13 April 2013



- ICCL attendance and presentation at retrospective exhibition of the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement, organised by the South African Embassy, City Hall, Dublin, April 2013
- *JUSTICIA* Joint Briefing on the Directive on Right of Access to a Lawyer and to Communicate Upon Arrest, 22 April 2013

May

- Submission to the Joint Committee on Health and Children on the General Scheme of the Protection of Life during Pregnancy Bill 2013, May 2013
- Jayawardene, W., ‘Human Rights Themes Through A Lens’, Opinion Piece, ‘Irish Examiner’, 6 May 2013
- ‘Mobile Phone Shutdown Powers “Proportionate” says Rights Watchdog’, press release, 22 May 2013
- ‘Oireachtas Members Told of “Remaining Flaws” in New Abortion Law’, press release, 28 May 2013
- ICCL presentation to Victim Support Europe (VSE) conference, Supporting Victims of Crime in Europe, 29 May – 1 June 2013

The ICCL’s Karen Ciesielski, Deirdre Duffy and Walter Jayawardene in front of the ICCL’s memorial to Kader Asmal at the South African Embassy’s retrospective of the Irish Anti-Apartheid movement in City Hall, Dublin, April 2013



June

- ‘Leading Actors and Filmmakers Announce ICCL Human Rights Film Shortlist’, press release, 5 June 2013
- Photocall, Launch of the 2013 ICCL Human Rights Film Awards Shortlist, Smithfield, 5 June 2013
- ‘International Civil Liberties Organisations’ Statement on Dragnet U.S. Government Surveillance Program’, joint INCLO press release, 13 June 2013
- INCLO Joint Statement on PRISM Revelations, full page advert in ‘The Irish Times’, 13 June 2013
- ICCL attendance and presentation to the Joint Committee on Health and Children on the General Scheme of the Protection of Life during Pregnancy Bill 2013, June 2013
- ICCL Human Rights Film Awards Gala Screening, Light House Cinema, Dublin, 20 June 2013
- ICCL presentation to the UCD School of Law Human Rights Network, The ECHR and Ireland: 60 Years and Beyond, 29 June 2013
- Bringing International Standards Home –ICCL Annual Report 2012, June 2013

Human Rights Film Awards interns Tim Sheehan and Kizito Wahome at the 2013 Gala in the Light House Cinema, 20 June 2013



July

- Rights News 24 – Film Awards Special Edition, July 2013
- ‘The Countdown Begins: Constitutional Convention Lodges Report on Marriage Equality for Same-Sex couples’, joint press release with Marriage Equality and GLEN, 2 July 2013
- ‘End “great cruelty” inflicted by new abortion bill, says ICCL’, press release, 24 July 2013

August

- Submission to the UN Committee against Torture, UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. List of Issues Prior to Reporting – Ireland, August 2013
- LOVEACTION at Electric Picnic, 30 August - 1 September 2013

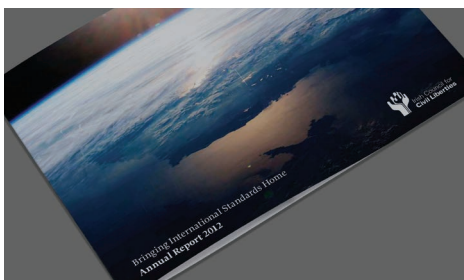
September

- Rights News 25, September 2013
- Civil Society Report on the List of Issues for the Fourth Periodic Examination of Ireland under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), September 2013
- *JUSTICIA* Network Members Meeting, Budapest, 10 September 2013
- ‘Watchdog calls for privacy guarantees on DNA data sharing’, press release, 11 September 2013
- ‘Rights leader welcomes major funding boost’, press release, 19 September 2013
- ‘Crime Victims to Gain New Legal Rights’, *JUSTICIA* press release, 23 September 2013
- Launch of *JUSTICIA* Know Your Rights Guide on the Victims’ Directive, Law Society, Dublin, 23 September 2013
- Seminar on *JUSTICIA* Know Your Rights Guide to Information on Criminal Charges, Law Society, Dublin, 23 September 2013

October

- Submission to the Convention on the Constitution on the Removal of the Clause on Blasphemy from the Constitution, October 2013
- “Take back the streets”: Repression and criminalization of protest around the world, INCLO publication, October 2013
- ‘Moves to Constrict Civil Society Space in Dáil are “Deplorable” says ICCL’, press release, 4 October 2013
- ‘Global Human Rights Groups form International Network to Reshape Rights Landscape’, joint INCLO press release, 11 October 2013
- ‘UN Rights Experts Hear Call for Independent Magdalene Investigation’, press release, 30 October 2013
- ICCL attendance and presentation to Brooklyn Law School/ INCLO Symposium on ‘Religious Freedom and Equal Treatment: an International Look’, October 2013

ICCL Annual Report 2012



JUSTICIA members at the Know Your Rights To Information on Criminal Charges Launch



ICCL Autumn 2013 Newsletter



ICCL Annual Report 2013

Publications and Events

— ICCL attendance and presentation to the UN Human Rights Committee Country Reporting Task Force on Ireland on the List of Issues for Ireland under ICCPR at the 109th Session of the Human Rights Committee, October, 2013

— ICCL attendance and presentation to the Nasc Conference 'Racism and Hate Crime', University College Cork, October 2013

— *JUSTICIA* conference on 'Effective Criminal Defence as a Fundamental Basis to a Fair Trial', Warsaw, event, 31 October 2013

November

— Submission to the Equality Authority on amending Section 37(1) of the Employment Equality Acts 1998-2011, November 2013

— *JUSTICIA* Submission to the EU Commission-organised Assises de la Justice Conference: *Shaping Justice Policies in Europe for the years to come*, Brussels, Belgium, 21-22 November 2013: "2014-2019: Strengthening Defence Rights in the European Union", November 2013

— ICCL attendance and presentation to the Convention on the Constitution on the Removal of the Clause on Blasphemy from the Constitution, 2 November 2013

— 'The End is Nigh for Ireland's Blasphemy Laws says the ICCL', press release, 3 November 2013

— Joint ICCL/GLEN/ Marriage Equality press conference on the announcement of a 2015 marriage equality referendum, Buswells Hotel, Dublin, 5 November 2013

— 'Campaign Groups Welcome Government Commitment to Marriage Referendum', joint press release with Marriage Equality and GLEN, 5 November 2013

— *JUSTICIA* roundtable seminar with Victim Support Europe on 'Human Rights in the EU: Towards Effective Implementation of the Victims' Directive', 6 November 2013

— ICCL/Youthreach Human Rights and Arts Workshop, Dublin, 7 & 8 November 2013

— ICCL participation in the launch of the Victims' Rights Alliance, Dublin, 11 November 2013

— ICCL/Youthreach Human Rights and Arts Workshop, Galway, 12 November 2013

— ICCL/Youthreach Human Rights and Arts Workshop, Bandon Youthreach, 13 November 2013

— ICCL presentation to Advocacy Initiative Workshop, Teachers Club, Dublin, 20 November 2013

— *JUSTICIA* Network Members Meeting, Brussels, 20 November 2013

— *JUSTICIA* meeting with Vice-president of the European Commission and EU Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Brussels, 21 November 2013

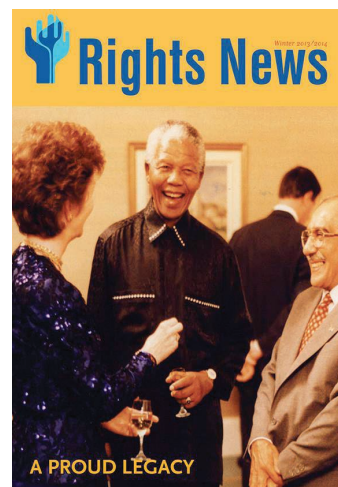
— 'UN Anti-Torture Experts Probe Ireland's Rights Record', press release, 28 November 2013

ICCL Winter 2013/2014 Newsletter

JUSTICIA conference on Effective Criminal Defence as a Fundamental Basis to a Fair Trial in Warsaw, Poland



ICCL Youthreach Human Rights and Arts Workshop

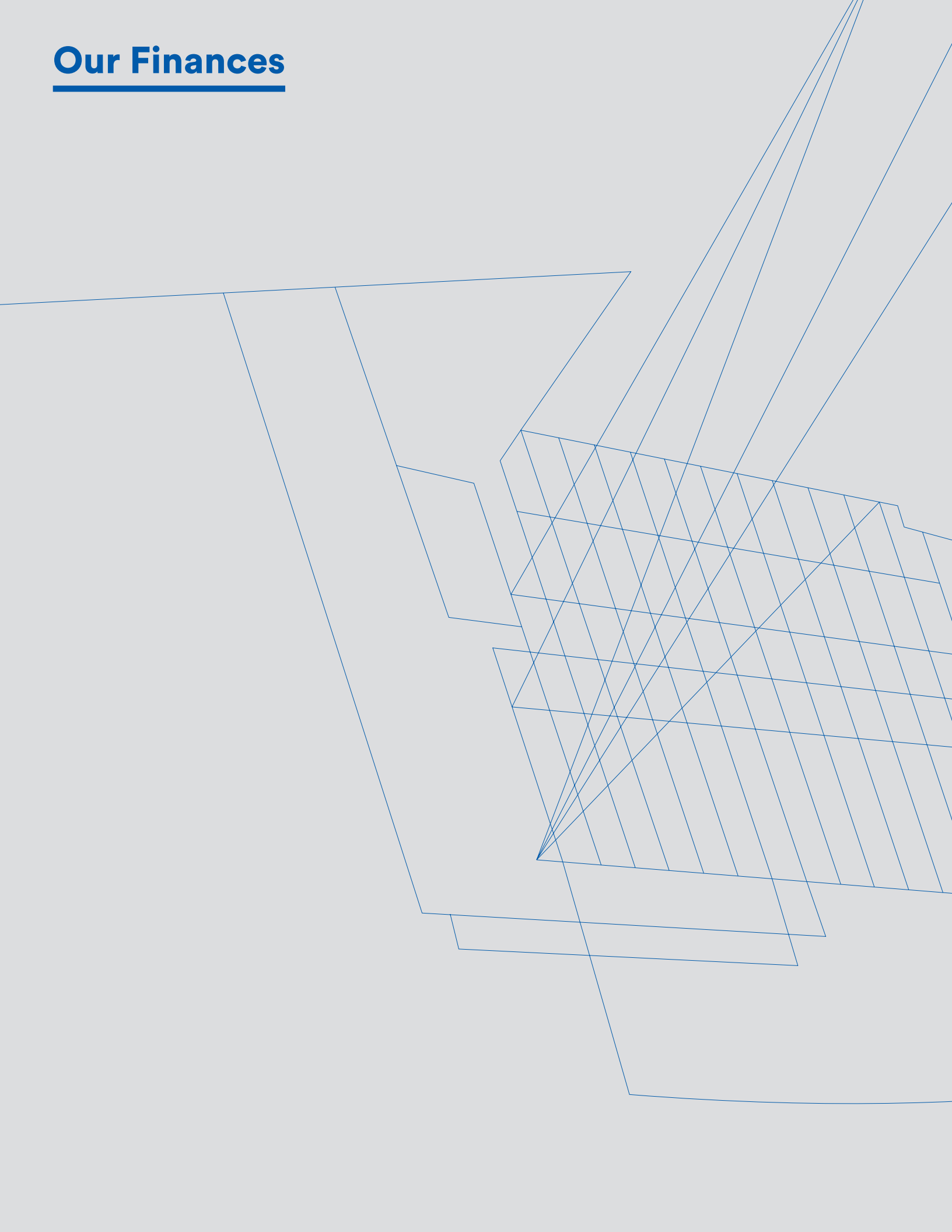


Network Membership:

December

-
- Rights News 26, December 2013
-
- *JUSTICIA* - Submission to the European Commission on Future Justice Policy of the European Union further to the Assises de la Justice, December 2013
-
- *JUSTICIA* - Monitoring Tool for the Directive on the Right of Criminal Suspects to Access a Lawyer and to Communicate with Consular Officials and Other Third Parties Upon Request, December 2013
-
- *JUSTICIA* - Review Paper on Legal Aid Proposals Presented by the European Commission, 27 November 2013, December 2013
-
- ‘Young Writer’s “Muddled Feelings” Impress RTE’s Blathnaid Treacy’, press release, 13 December 2013
-
- ICCL participation in launch of Human Rights and Older People in Ireland – A Policy Paper, City Hall, Dublin, December 2013
-
- Sixth annual ICCL Dinner and Lecture for Legal Practitioners, Fallon and Byrne, Dublin, December 2013
-
- ICCL/Youthreach Human Rights Competition Ceremony, Ombudsman For Children, December 2013
-
- ICCL participation in the Galway Platform on Human Rights in Irish Foreign Policy, 16 December 2013
-
- Campaign for Civil Marriage Equality
-
- Children’s Rights Alliance
-
- Civil Society Steering Group on ICCPR, 2013-2014
-
- CRA Working Group on the Children and Family Relationships Bill 2013
-
- DFAT NGO Standing Committee
-
- Economic Social and Cultural Rights Initiative
-
- EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) Associates
-
- EU Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP)
-
- Garda Síochána – Strategic Human Rights Advisory Committee (SHRAC)
-
- Gender Recognition Advisory Group 2013
-
- Human Rights and Older People Working Group
-
- *JUSTICIA* Network
-
- International Network of Civil Liberties Organisations (INCLO)
-
- NGO Working Group on Hate Crime
-
- Women’s Human Rights Alliance
-

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 2013 have been audited by Squires & Co. Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors, 32 Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

		2013 (€)	2012 (€)
Income & Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 December 2013	Income		
	Grants	-	-
	Membership	6,269	9,359
	Donations	110	50
	Other income	6	300
		6,385	9,709
	Special funds	0	0
	Total Income	6,385	9,709
	Expenditure on Activities of Strategic Plan		
	Capacity Building	49	23
	Research & Policy Development	0	0
	Campaigning and Communication	70	10
	Lobbying and Advocacy	0	0
	Networking	0	0
	Fundraising	0	0
	Total Expenditure	119	33
	Surplus of Income over Expenditure	6,266	9,676

Balance Sheet

(As at 31 December 2013)

	2013 (€)	2013 (€)	2012 (€)	2012 (€)
Fixed Assets				
Current Assets				
Prepayments				
Bank and Cash	22,134		15,868	
		22,134		15,868
Current Liabilities				
Trade Creditors	0		0	
Accruals	0		0	
		0		0
Net Assets		22,134		15,868
Cash Carry Forward		15,868		6,192
Surplus of income over expenditure		6,266		9,676
		22,134		15,868

		2013 (€)	2012 (€)
Income & Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 December 2013	Income		
	Total Income	952,572	915,780
	Expenditure		
	Costs of campaigns, publications and awareness and fundraising activities	(788,267)	(746,487)
	Support Costs (Governance, administration and capacity building costs)	(163,623)	(164,550)
	Total Expenditure	(951,890)	(911,037)
	Bank Interest	17	0
	Surplus before taxation	699	4,743
	Tax on surplus	(3)	0
		696	4,743
	Retained Surplus brought forward	30,754	26,011
	Retained Surplus at the end of the year	31,450	30,754

The company had no recognised gains or losses in the financial period other than the surplus for the above two financial years.

The above figures are taken from the ICCL Ltd. audited financial statements for the year end (31 December) 2013.

		2013 (€)	2013 (€)	2012 (€)	2012 (€)
Balance Sheet	Fixed Assets				
(As at 31 December 2013)	Computer Equipment		5,152		1,522
	Furniture & Fixtures		7,162		11,580
			12,314		13,102
	Current Assets				
	Debtors	355,812		137,751	
	Cash at bank and in hand	128,572		36,236	
		484,384		173,987	
	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(465,248)		(156,335)	
	Net Current Assets/Liabilities		19,136		17,652
	Total assets less current liabilities		31,450		30,754
	Reserves				
	Retained Surplus		31,450		30,754

The above figures are taken from the ICCL Ltd. audited financial statements for the year end (31 December) 2013.

Contact

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Irish Council for
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ICCL founding member Kader Asmal embraces Nelson Mandela in Dublin Airport on his arrival to Ireland in 1990. Photo: Derek Speirs

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