



**Partitions & borders: a comparative &
interdisciplinary conference**

Jointly organised by

**University College Dublin
&
Jawaharlal Nehru University**

Thursday 24th & Friday 25th May 2018



About the conference

Jointly organised by University College Dublin and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, this conference brings together scholars working on aspects of partition and border studies from multiple disciplines from across the world. The conference considers multiple geographical regions and time periods drawing parallels through a targeted analysis of the phenomenon of partition in history and society.

The conference organisers would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to UCD and to invite you to participate in this and the other centenary events which are being hosted by the university throughout the decade of commemorations.

The conference gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the UCD Research Seed Funding Programme: Decade of Centenaries Internal Award Scheme 2016-18 and the support of the School of History; the School of Politics and International Relations; and the UCD International Office.

Location

The conference takes place in the John Henry Newman Building of UCD's Campus at Belfield, Dublin 4. The building is identified as number 41 on campus map (see below). Conference registration and all coffee/lunch breaks will be held outside K114 ART in the John Henry Newman Building.

Conference organising committee

Dr Conor Mulvagh, UCD

Dr Kieran Rankin, TCD

Professor Sucheta Mahajan, JNU

About UCD

University College Dublin has its origins in the mid-nineteenth century under the leadership of the renowned educationalist Cardinal John Henry Newman. Since its foundation in 1854, the University has flourished and made a unique and substantial contribution to the creation of modern Ireland, based on successful engagement with Irish society on every level and across every sphere of activity.

UCD is one of Europe's leading research-intensive universities; an environment where undergraduate education, masters and PhD training, research, innovation and community engagement form a dynamic spectrum of activity.

UCD has a particularly important role to play in activities around the Decade of Centenaries. Many UCD staff, students and graduates were involved in critical events between 1912 and 1923. UCD came of age during the revolutionary decade. Following independence, the university and its graduates have played an integral role in the foundation and the development of the modern Irish state. The university is also a major holder of archives of national and international significance relating to the period.

Linking in with national and international commemoration initiatives, UCD has devised a programme of scholarship and outreach for the Decade of Centenaries. Our vision in this is to inform debate and understanding with an objective voice in a manner that brings education and new perspectives to the fore. We also seek to reflect on the centenaries through creative and cultural works. For more information on this and other UCD Decade of Centenaries events, see centenaries.ucd.ie/events-calendar

Thursday 24th May 2018, Day 1

09:00 – 09:30, Conference registration

Location: K114 ART

09:30 – 10:00, Welcome & opening address, Conor Mulvagh (UCD)

Location: K114 ART

10:00 – 11:30, Session 1

Panel 1, Location: K114 ART. Chair, Kieran Rankin (TCD)

- **Tim McMahon** (Marquette University), Prelude to Partition: Examining Identities in Ireland before the Border.
- **Harmeet Kaur Kinot** (University of Lucknow), Forgotten Women of India's Partition, 1947.
- **Joseph Quinn** (UCD), Fulfilling an ancient promise: the Balfour Declaration, the Paris Peace Agreements and the origins of the British Mandate of Palestine.

11:30 – 12:00: Coffee break

Served outside K114 ART

12:00 – 13:00

Plenary 1, Location: K114 ART. Chair: Paul Rouse (UCD)

- **Sucheta Mahajan** (JNU, New Delhi), 'Bearing Witness' to 'Silence as Sanctuary': Remembering and Forgetting in Oral Histories of Conflict in India and Ireland.

13:00 – 14:00, Lunch

Served outside K114 ART

14:00 – 15:00, Session 2

Panel 2, Location: K114 ART. Chair: Pat Cooke (UCD)

- **Lucy Collins** (UCD), Watchman's War: Surveillance in Contemporary Poetry and Photography from Northern Ireland.
- **Kate Nolan** (visual artist), 'LACUNA, art and community on the Irish border'.

15:00 – 15:30: Coffee break

Served outside K114 ART

15:30 – 17:00: Session 3

Panel 3A, Location: K114 ART. Chair, Diarmaid Ferriter (UCD)

- **Feroza Jussawalla** (University of New Mexico), Crossing Borders/ Finding Homes: A Comparative View from the US-Mexico Border.
- **Bryan Fanning** (UCD), Brexit, Borders and Belonging.
- **Clíona Ní Fhearghail** (TCD), Reaction and fallout: Cavan and the Partition of Ireland.

Panel 3B, Location: G316 ART. Chair, Jyoti Atwal (JNU)

- **Sharmila Majumdar** (University of Kalyani), A Silver Lining: exploring gender emancipation and the partition of India through literature.
- **Ned Richardson-Little** (University of Erfurt), Socialist Emancipation or National Unification: Conflicting Visions of Boundaries, Human Rights, and Self-Determination in Divided Germany.
- **Eugenijus Zmuida** (Lietuvių literatūros ir tautosakos institutas, Vilnius), The Partitions and borders of Lithuania (1795–1990) and the fight for national identity in fictional literature and memoirs (1914–1940).

17:00 – 17:45

Plenary 2, Location: K114 ART. Chair, Amanda Nettelbeck (UCD/U. of Adelaide)

- **John Coakley** (UCD), The Irish border: the first hundred years.

Friday 25th May 2018, Day 2

09:00 – 09:30, Day 2 registration

Location: K114 ART

09:30 – 11:00, Session 4

Panel 4A, Location: K114 ART. Chair, John O’Dowd (UCD)

- **Brian Hughes** (Mary Immaculate College, Limerick), The wrong side of the border: organised loyalism in Cavan, 1912–31.
- **Alexandra Tierney** (TCD), An all-Ireland approach to the study of social policy after partition.
- **Daniel Purcell** (TCD), “Neither one thing or the other” – Unionism and the border: Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh, 1916 – 1923.

Panel 4B, Location: G316 ART. Chair, Kate O’Malley (Royal Irish Academy)

- **Bodh Prakash** (Ambedkar University Delhi), Another Kind of Dispossession: the Aftermath of Refugee Rehabilitation in Post-Partition Delhi.
- **Stephen O’Neill** (TCD), Partitioning the Past: the "Ulster" novel between the wars.
- **Patrick Mulroe** (independent scholar), Localised factors and border violence in Lifford, Clones and Dundalk 1971-1975.

11:00 – 11:30: Coffee break

Served outside K114 ART

11:30 – 12:30

Plenary 3, Location: K114 ART. Chair, Jennifer Todd (UCD)

- **Peter Leary** (University College London), Mind your p’s and queues: the past and the Irish border

12:30 – 13:30: Lunch

Served outside K114 ART

13:30 – 14:30,

Plenary 4, Location: K114 ART. Chair, William Mulligan (UCD)

- **Debali Mookerjea-Leonard** (James Madison University), Literature, Women, and the Partition of India: Borders, Bodies, Livelihoods.

14:30 – 15:00: Coffee break

Served outside K114 ART

15:00 – 16:30, Session 5

Panel 5A, Location: K114 ART. Chair, Catherine Cox (UCD)

- **Kieran Rankin** (TCD), Information, Propaganda, and Satire in Ireland's Pre-Partition Cartography, 1912-1920.
- **Julijana Leganovič** (Vilnius University), Rethinking the Centre-Periphery: Vilnius and Kaunas Jewish communities in the interwar period.
- **Ian D'Alton** (TCD), A country with no borders: the construction and maintenance of a 'Protestant Free State' within independent Ireland after 1922.

Panel 5B, Location: G316 ART. Chair, Elva Johnston (UCD)

- **Richard Schofield** (King's College London), Consolidating a future Iraqi territorial state in contemplating Ottoman partition, 1914-1920.
- **Ciarán McDonnell** (independent scholar), A hard Pale or a soft Pale? The Pale ditch and border identities in medieval Ireland.
- **Shaifali Arora** (Indian Institute of Technology, Indore), Partition Experiences of Bahawalpuri Hindus: History, Memory and Identity.

16:30 – 17:30

Roundtable & Closing, Location: K114 ART

Conor Mulvagh (chair) (UCD)

Michael Laffan (UCD)

Sucheta Mahajan (JNU, New Delhi)

Margaret O'Callaghan (Queen's University Belfast)

Richard Schofield (King's College London)