Climate and society in Ireland
from prehistory to the present
James Kelly, Tomás Carragáin

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About Climate and society in Ireland

Can a long-term perspective on human adaptations to climate change inform Ireland's response to the crisis we face today?

Climate and Society in Ireland is a collection of essays, commissioned by the Royal Irish Academy, that provides a multi-period, interdisciplinary perspective on one of the most important challenges currently facing humanity. Combining syntheses of existing knowledge with new insights and approaches, contributors explore the varied environmental, climatic and social changes that occurred in Ireland from early prehistory to the early 21st century. The essays in the volume engage with a diversity of pertinent themes, including the impact of climate change on the earliest human settlement of Ireland; weather-related food scarcities during medieval times that led to violence and plague outbreaks; changing representations of weather in poetry written in Ireland between 1600 and 1820; and how Ireland is now on the threshold of taking the radical steps necessary to shed its 'climate laggard' status and embark on the road to a post-carbon society.


About the editors(s)

James Kelly MRIA, is Professor of History and head of the School of History and Geography at Dublin City University. He has served as co-editor of Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy: Archaeology, Culture, History, Literature since 2008.

Tomás Ó Carragáin MRIA, of the Archaeology Department, University College Cork, has served as co-editor of Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy since 2016.