REPRESENTATION, GENDER AND POLITICS: PAST AND PRESENT

Reflecting on the centenary of the Representation of the People Act (1918)

1 FEBRUARY 2018

Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson St, Dublin 2
8.30  **Registration**

9.00  **Welcome**: Michael Peter Kennedy, President, Royal Irish Academy  
**Introduction**: Seán Ó Fearghaíl, TD, Ceann Comhairle

9.30  **PANEL 1 – HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON WOMEN’S ACTIVISM AND THE EARLY SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT**

**Women’s activism for women’s rights in nineteenth-century Ireland**
Maria Luddy, Department of History, University of Warwick

**What happened at Westminster? Men, women and the Representation of the People Bill**
Mari Takayanagi, senior archivist, Houses of Parliament UK

**Suffragists and suffragettes: debates and activities within the Irish suffrage movement**
Margaret Ward, Department of History, Queen’s University Belfast

Respondent: Myles Dungan, RTÉ Radio 1 and University College Dublin. Chair: Steven Ellis, NUI Galway, Chair; RIA Historical Studies Committee

11.00  **Tea/Coffee**

11.30  **PANEL 2 – SUFFRAGE IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

**Problematic sisterhood: the British and Irish suffrage movements, 1910–16**
Senia Paseta, Faculty of History, University of Oxford

**A definite cry for political freedom: the Ulster suffrage movement**
Diane Urquhart, Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool

‘Make men of you all’: the inconvenience of suffrage in Irish nationalist and labour movements
Sonja Tiernan, Department of History and Politics, Liverpool Hope University

Respondent: Mary E. Daly, MRIA. Chair: Catherine Martin, TD

13.00  **Lunch**

14.00  **PANEL 3 – WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT**

Frances Fitzgerald, TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation
Senator Ivana Bacik
Senator Alice Mary Higgins
Clare Daly, TD
Louise O’Reilly, TD

Chair: Jane Suiter, Dublin City University

15.30  **Tea/Coffee**

16.00  **PANEL 4 – POLITICS AND GENDER IN IRELAND TODAY**

Unfinished business—women and political representation on the island of Ireland
Yvonne Galligan, School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics, Queen’s University, Belfast

Gender quotas—a catalyst for change in Irish politics?
Fiona Buckley, Department of Government and Politics, University College Cork

When and what women talk about when they speak in the Dáil
Gail McElroy, Department of Political Science, Trinity College Dublin

Respondent: Sarah Childs, Department of Politics, Birkbeck College, University of London. Chair: John Morison, School of Law, Queen’s University, Belfast; Chair, RIA Ethical, Legal, Political and Philosophical Committee

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