

AN INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE

BELFAST

25<sup>TH</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016

BOOK  
NOW

# HUMAN RIGHTS

A 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY  
APPROACH TO THE  
WORK OF OMBUDSMEN



International Ombudsman Institute  
Institut International de l'Ombudsman  
Instituto Internacional del Ombudsman



NORTHERN  
IRELAND  
HUMAN  
RIGHTS  
COMMISSION

# HUMAN RIGHTS – A 21ST CENTURY APPROACH TO THE WORK OF OMBUDSMEN

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### **Wednesday 25 May 2016** *PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, STORMONT*

**Welcome Reception and Dinner** (Lounge Suits)  
Hosted by the Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly

### **Thursday 26 May (DAY)** *STORMONT HOTEL*

#### **Welcome**

Dr Tom Frawley (Former Northern Ireland Ombudsman) &  
Les Allamby (Chief Human Rights Commissioner for Northern Ireland)

#### **UN Message of Support** (by video)

Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein (UN High Commissioner for Human Rights)

**Keynote Speaker** Emily O'Reilly (European Ombudsman)

#### **Think Regional, Think Global** Panel Discussion & Q&A with:

Emily O'Reilly (European Ombudsman) Chair of Panel  
Dr Gunter Krauter (Austrian Ombudsman)  
Professor Michael O'Flaherty (Director, Fundamental Rights Agency)

#### **Human Rights Based Approach - An Introduction**

Virginia McVea (Director, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission - NIHRC)

#### **Human Rights Based Approach - Applied Human Rights**

Les Allamby (Chief Commissioner, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission)

#### **Human Rights Based Approach - Making A Difference in the NI Ombudsman's Investigations**

Marie Anderson (Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman - NIPSO)

#### **Workshops**

**Education:** David Russell (NIHRC) & Claire McIlhatton (NIPSO)

**Planning & Environmental:** Brian Thompson (Liverpool University) & Sean Martin (NIPSO)

**Health & Social Care:** Nick O'Brien (Tribunal Judge) & Michaela McAleer (NIPSO)

**Housing:** Virginia McVea (NIHRC) & Grainia Long (NIHRC)

#### **Building Capacity in the Ombudsman**

Professor Linda Reif (University of Alberta) &  
Mr Peter Tyndall (Republic of Ireland Ombudsman)

#### **Human Rights Based Approach - Adding Value in Public Service**

Dr Cathy Jack (Belfast Health and Social Care Trust)  
Dr Anthony Stevens (Northern Health and Social Care Trust)  
Dr Michael Maguire (Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland)

### **Thursday 26 May (EVENING)** *BELFAST HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE*

**Gala Dinner** (Black Tie)

### **Friday 27 May 2016** *STORMONT HOTEL*

#### **Welcome to Day 2**

Dr Tom Frawley (Former Northern Ireland Ombudsman)  
& Les Allamby (Chief Commissioner, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission)

#### **Keynote Address**

Rafael Ribó (Catalonian Ombudsman) (TBC)

#### **Effectiveness of Ombudsmen and NHRIs in Delivering Human Rights Outcomes**

Presentation, Panel Discussion and Q&A with:  
John Walters (International Ombudsman Institute)  
Lawrence Mushwana (South African, Human Rights Commission)  
Evelyn Collins (Chair, Equinet)  
Michaela McAleer (Director, NIPSO Office)

#### **Workshops**

**Education:** David Russell (NIHRC) & Claire McIlhatton (NIPSO)

**Planning & Environmental:** Brian Thompson (Liverpool University) & Sean Martin (NIPSO)

**Health & Social Care:** Nick O'Brien (Tribunal Judge) & Michaela McAleer (NIPSO)

**Housing:** Virginia McVea (NIHRC) & Grainia Long (NIHRC)

#### **THE GREAT DEBATE**

#### **NHRIs and Complaints Handling - Is the Human Rights Based Approach a Solution?**

Presentations, Panel Discussion & Q&A with:  
Professor Carrie Menkel-Meadow (University of California)  
Professor Maurice Sunkin (University of Essex)  
Virginia McVea (Director, NIHRC)

#### **The Way Forward** Panel Discussion & Q&A with:

Marie Anderson (NIPSO)  
Emily O'Reilly (European Ombudsman)  
Les Allamby (NIHRC)  
John Walters (IOI)

#### **Close**

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** Anyone working in a senior position in the Ombudsman and Human Rights Investigation environment, those responsible for Complaints Handling in publically funded bodies and organisations, as well as advocates and professional practitioners working in this complex field.

#### **DELEGATE COSTS AND BOOKING**

**Full Conference Delegate:** £350 pp. This price covers all Conference activities including the two Conference Dinners. Travelling or accomodation costs are not included.

**One Day Only Delegate:** To attend the Conference for one day only (either Thursday 26 May or Friday 27 May 2016) a delegate price of £150 will apply.

To book... please click on the link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/human-rights-a-21st-century-approach-to-the-work-of-ombudsmen-registration-20919114635>

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

Preferential accomodation rates have been secured for delegates in the Conference Hotel - the [www.hastingshotels.com](http://www.hastingshotels.com) 4-star Stormont Hotel - Single Room occupancy with full Irish Breakfast £85; Double Room occupancy with full Irish Breakfast £110. To avail of these preferential rates please telephone the hotel Tel: +44 (0) 28 9065 1066 and quote the Booking ID: 108091.