The Mary Robinson Centre
International Symposium 2016

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE

July 1-2, Ballina, Co. Mayo, Ireland
In partnership with the Centre for Global Women’s Studies, NUI Galway

In association with Mayo County Council and NUI Galway
In 2016, a new global framework of seventeen universal and inter-linked Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) came into effect. The SDGs build on the achievements of the eight Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015). The SDGs encompass a range of ambitious commitments to be realised by 2030 on ending poverty and hunger worldwide and ensuring minimum global standards in relation to health, education, decent work, clean water and energy, sustainable communities, consumption and industry, climate action and environmental protection. In this important first year of the implementation period of the SDGs (2016-2030), The Mary Robinson Centre International Symposium 2016 will bring together key stakeholders who have particular interests in promoting equality, human rights and women’s participation and leadership in the implementation of the seventeen SDGs. In doing so, it aims to foster action-oriented links among policy decision makers, influencers and implementers; academic and policy researchers; practitioners in development, humanitarian and human rights NGOs; and others committed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

**SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME**

**FRIDAY JULY 1**

4.00pm - 5.30pm  
Registration & Welcome

5.30pm - 7.30pm  
OPENING PLENARY ROUNDTABLE

“TRANSFORMATIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: FOREGRONUDING EQUALITY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE”

MARY ROBINSON, formerly President of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, currently the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy on Climate Change (since August 2014)

ALICIA BÁRCENA, Executive Secretary of UN Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

NOELEEN HEYZER, formerly Head of UNIFEM and Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (ESCAP)

Chair/moderator: PAUL GILLESPIE, Irish Times columnist and former Foreign Policy Editor

8.00pm  
Conference Dinner
SATURDAY JULY 2

9.45am - 11.15am  PLENARY SESSION I

“GOAL 5: MOBILISING RESOURCES TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS”

GERALDINE FRASER-MOLEKETI, Gender Envoy for the African Development Bank

HEATHER GRADY, Vice President, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, New York USA

NOELEEN HEYZER, formerly Head of UNIFEM and Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (ESCAP)

Chair/moderator: MARY ROBINSON

11.15am - 11.30am  BREAK

11.30am - 1.15pm  PLENARY SESSION II

“GOAL 10: COMBATING INEQUALITIES WITHIN AND BETWEEN COUNTRIES”

PETER POWER, Executive Director, UNICEF Ireland, former Minister of State for Overseas Development

DIANE ELSON, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, University of Essex, joint winner of the 2016 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought

SORLEY MCCAUTHEY, Head of Advocacy and Policy, Christian Aid, Ireland

ALICIA BÁRCENA, Executive Secretary of UN Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Chair/moderator: COLM O’GORMAN, Executive Director, Amnesty International Ireland

1.15pm - 2.30pm  LUNCH

2.30pm - 4.15pm  PLENARY SESSION III

“GOAL 16: PROMOTING JUST, PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES”

JACQUELINE PITANGUY, Founder and executive director of CEPIA (Citizenship, Study, Research, Information, Action), dedicated to promoting human and civil rights in Brazil

MOUNA GHANEM, Syrian Women’s Forum for Peace and member of the Syrian Women’s Advisory Board to the UN Envoy on Syria

MONICA M CWILLIAMS, Professor of Women’s Studies, Transitional Justice Institute, University of Ulster; cofounder of the Northern Ireland Women’s Coalition political party

RAY MURPHY, Director (Acting), Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway

Chair/moderator: MARY ROBINSON

4.15pm - 4.30pm  Closing comments MARY ROBINSON
The Mary Robinson Centre will be Ireland’s first Presidential library, located at Victoria House in Ballina, County Mayo, the birthplace of the former President of Ireland. It will comprise a museum, archive, research facility, educational centre and events venue. In addition to sharing the achievements of Ireland’s first female President, The Mary Robinson Centre will use Mary’s legacy to inspire and foster personal leadership in promoting human rights, gender equality and women’s leadership. The Centre has begun an exciting programme of events including this major international policy Symposium, an annual International Human Rights Lecture Series, and an outreach programme involving local schools and workshops with local communities and third level students. The Centre is run in partnership with Mayo County Council and the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUI Galway), through collaboration with the Centre for Global Women’s Studies and the Irish Centre for Human Rights. The Mary Robinson Centre will open in 2018, when its realisation will bring the symbolic light in the window of Áras an Uachtaráin back to Mary’s childhood home in Ballina, where as a young girl, she dreamed big dreams.

REGISTRATION

There is a reduced registration fee of €75.00 (including Conference Buffet Dinner) for all who register by 31st May 2016.

A full registration fee of €95.00 applies after this date.

A special concession rate of €30.00 is available to postgraduate students and others subject to eligibility see www.conference.ie.

Register at www.conference.ie scrolling to 2016 - The Mary Robinson Centre International Symposium July 1-2

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON:

The Mary Robinson Centre, please visit: www.maryrobinsoncentre.ie

The Centre for Global Women’s Studies, School of Political Science and Sociology, NUI Galway, please visit: www.nuigalway.ie/globalwomensstudies