

Law and Social Change

The Bar of Ireland Voluntary Assistance Scheme
Conference 2022

Open-to-all event | 10am, Friday 30th September 2022
Atrium, The Distillery Building, Dublin 7 | 4.5 CPD Points



THE BAR
OF IRELAND
Voluntary Assistance Scheme

Register at:
ti.to/barofireland/vasconf22

10.00-10.30 Registration

10.30-11.00 Opening and Welcome Addresses



The Hon. Mr. Justice Donal O'Donnell, Chief Justice of Ireland



Sara Phelan SC, Chair, The Bar of Ireland



Lewis Mooney BL, Coordinator, The Bar of Ireland Voluntary Assistance Scheme

11.00-11.30 Presentation: Using strategic litigation as a tool for social justice



Michael Lynn SC

11.30-12.45 Panel Discussion: Litigating for social change – the experiences of litigants, civil society organisations and lawyers



Dearbhail McDonald – Moderator



Michael Lynn SC



Sinead Lucey, Managing Solicitor of the Free Legal Advice Centres (FLAC)



Grainne Teggart, Deputy Programme Director, Amnesty International UK – Northern Ireland



Dr. Robert Sinnott, Coordinator of Voice of Vision Impairment



Bulelani Mfaco, PR, Advocacy & Public Policy, MASI - Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland

Programme continues on next page.

Law and Social Change:
The Bar of Ireland Voluntary Assistance
Scheme Conference 2022

Fri 30 September | Distillery Building



**THE BAR
OF IRELAND**
Voluntary Assistance Scheme

12.45-13.45 Lunch in Front Atrium

13.45-14.15 Presentation: Acting as a third party intervener at the European Court of Human Rights, as an *amicus curiae* in Irish courts, and contributing to other international forums



Cathy Smith SC

14.15-15.15 Panel Discussion: Public Interest Law Cases and the Courts



Prof. Gerry Whyte - Moderator



The Hon. Mr. Justice David Barniville, President of the High Court of Ireland



The Hon. Ms. Justice Iseult O'Malley, Supreme Court of Ireland



The Hon. Mr. Justice Gerard Hogan, Supreme Court of Ireland



The Hon. Ms. Justice Aileen Donnelly, Court of Appeal of Ireland



The Hon. Ms. Justice Siobhán Phelan, High Court of Ireland

15.15 Closing Address



Michael Cush SC, Committee Member of The Bar of Ireland's Voluntary Assistance Scheme (VAS)

This conference is open to all to attend.

Register for this conference at
ti.to/barofireland/vasconf22

or scan below:



About the Voluntary Assistance Scheme

Established in 2004, the Voluntary Assistance Scheme (VAS) is the formal pro-bono vehicle of The Bar of Ireland, matching the needs of NGO's & civil society groups with the volunteering expertise at the Bar.

The Bar of Ireland recognises that in order for any legal system to operate at its optimum level, access must be available to all. Vulnerable sections of society often encounter difficulties in accessing the legal system. While there are state-run initiatives aimed at reducing such difficulties, these are insufficient, and The Bar of Ireland strives to do what it can to address this.