



*Advancing human rights  
and equality through  
public interest litigation*



***Political Commitment, Practical Protection: Using the ECHR North and South***

**Inaugural PILA/PILS Project Joint Annual Conference**

**Friday 11 November 2011 – Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin**

**Conference Agenda**

- 09h30**      *Registration, Tea & Coffee*
- 10h00**      **Chairperson's Opening Comments**  
  
Donncha O'Connell (Lecturer, National University of Ireland Galway)
- 10h15**      **PILA & PILS Project Opening Comments**  
  
Larry Donnelly (Manager, PILA)  
  
Paul Mageean (Chair of the PILS Project Board)
- 10h30**      **Keynote Address**  
  
Shami Chakrabarti (Director, Liberty)
- 11h15**      **Q&A - Keynote Address**
- 11h30**      *Tea & Coffee*
- 11h45**      **ECHR North**  
  
Sean Doran BL
- 12h10**      **ECHR South**  
  
Colin Daly (Managing Solicitor, Northside Community Law Centre)  
  
Michael Farrell (Senior Solicitor, Free Legal Advice Centres)
- 12h35**      **Q&A - ECHR North and South**
- 12h50**      **LUNCH**
- 14h00**      **Breakout Sessions**  
  
NI = Northern Ireland  
  
ROI = Republic of Ireland

### *Children*

Chair: Ursula Kilkelly (Senior Lecturer, University College Cork)  
Speakers: Catherine Ghent (Solicitor, Gallagher Shatter Solicitors, ROI)  
Kathryn Stevenson (Head of Legal Unit, Children's Law Centre, NI)

### *Housing*

Chair: Dr Padraic Kenna (Lecturer, National University of Ireland Galway)  
Speakers: Carmel Ferguson (Solicitor, Housing Rights Service, NI)  
Rose Wall (Solicitor in Charge, Mercy Law Resource Centre, ROI)

### *Mental Health*

Chair: Orla Barry (Director, Mental Health Reform)  
Speakers: Áine Hynes (Partner, St John's Solicitors and Chair Irish Mental Health Lawyers' Association, ROI)  
Ursula O'Hare (Head of Policy, Law Centre (NI))

### *Prisoners*

Chair: Liam Herrick (Executive Director, Irish Penal Reform Trust)  
Speakers: Paul Pierce (Partner, Kevin R Winters & Co, NI)  
Dara Robinson (Partner, Sheehan & Partners, ROI)

### *Travellers*

Chair: David Joyce BL  
Speakers: Siobhán Cummiskey (Managing Solicitor, Irish Traveller Movement Law Centre, ROI)  
Alyson Kilpatrick BL (NI)

**15h15**

*Tea & Coffee*

**15h30**

**Reflections: is there equivalent protection under the ECHR in the North and South?**

Michael Finucane (Solicitor)

**15h50**

**Concluding Comments**

Donncha O'Connell

**16h15**

**Conference Close**