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# 10th European Remembrance Symposium

## Reconciliation: a Long and Winding Path

The Burke Theatre, Trinity College Dublin

1–3 June 2022

### Day 1 – Wednesday 1 June

**12:00–13:30 | Lunch**

**12:30–13:30 | Registration**

**13:30–14:00 | Welcome speeches**

#### **14:00–15:30 | Opening session – Witnesses of the Reconciliation Processes**

*What form did past negotiations take? What symbolic gestures of reconciliation were used in the paths to reconciliation? Did generational affiliation and personal experiences in wars and conflicts of the actors in these negotiations play any significant role during the reconciliation talks? How were these talks affected by broader geopolitical circumstances? What were the most difficult moments during the negotiations and how were they overcome? What can we learn from the witnesses of and participants in the reconciliation processes so far?*

**Moderator:** Dr Jacqueline Hayden, Trinity College Dublin

**Panellists:** Dr Piotr Cywiński, Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum  
Prof. Dr Monica McWilliams, Ulster University  
Markus Meckel, former Foreign Minister of the GDR  
Prof. Dr Teodor Meleşcanu, former President of the Senate of Romania

**15:30–16:00 | Coffee break**

#### **16:00–17:30 | First panel discussion – Reconciliation: the Concept and Different Models**

*What is reconciliation and is there only one definition of it? How can it be understood so differently by the various actors involved in this process? What paths and models of reconciliation have been developed based on past historical experiences?*

**Moderator:** Dr Paul Ingendaay, writer and journalist

**Panellists:** Prof. Robert Gerwarth, University College Dublin  
Prof. Dr Yaroslav Hrytsak, Ukrainian Catholic University  
Howard Varney, International Center for Transitional Justice  
Dr Ernest Wyciszkievicz, Center for Polish-Russian Dialogue and Understanding

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**17:30–18:00 | Coffee break**

**18:00–19:00 | Turbo presentations**

During the turbo presentations participants showcase their organisations or projects to the symposium's audience. Each speaker has up to 90 seconds.

**19:00–21:00 | Visit to the 'After the Great War' exhibition**

## Day 2 – Thursday 2 June

**9:00–9:30 | Coffee break**

**9:30–11:30 | Second panel discussion – Actors and Multilevel Processes  
Leading to Reconciliation**

*What social and political actors have had the greatest influence on the course of state reconciliation processes in the past? Have only diplomats, politicians and representatives of broadly defined state institutions participated in these processes? What roles have religious institutions and grassroots social and cultural initiatives played in the processes of reconciliation, within and between nations?*

**Moderator:** Brian Rowan, former BBC correspondent in Belfast

**Panellists:** Dr Juraj Marušiak, Slovak Academy of Sciences  
Sinéad McCoole, Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media  
Prof. Dr Valerie Rosoux, Université catholique de Louvain  
Agata Wąsowska-Pawlik, International Cultural Centre

**11:30–12:00 | Coffee break**

**12:00–14:00 | Case studies: Paths to Reconciliation – Project Practices**

**Moderator:** Barbara Walsche, The Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation

During this session, coordinators of educational and social projects in the field of history share best practices related to either one of the following subjects:

*Internal divisions and paths to reconciliation*

*(as exemplified by Ireland and Yugoslavia)*

Roisin McGlone, The Glencree Centre for Peace & Reconciliation

Vesna Teršelič, Documenta – Centre for Dealing with the Past

*Reconciliation among neighbouring countries*

*(as exemplified by Germany and France, Poland and Germany, Poland and Lithuania, as well as Hungary and Romania)*

Tiberiu Ciorba, Țării Crișurilor Museum

Weronika Czyżewska-Poncyliusz, Borderland Foundation

Prof. Wojciech Kucharski, The Depot History Centre in Wrocław

Tamara Pomoriški, Post Bellum

**14:00–15:00 | Lunch and coffee break**

**15:00 onwards | Cultural visits**

*Various venues*

Possible options:

- 1) Historical guided tour including the Garden of Remembrance, the Irish National War Memorial Gardens and the Famine Memorial
- 2) The Glenree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation (workshops)

## Day 3 – Friday 3 June

**09:30–10:00 | Registration and coffee**

**10:00–11:30 | Third panel discussion – Meandering Ways of Reconciliation:**

**Why Do Reconciliation Processes Take So Long and Why Are They So Fragile?**

*Western vs Eastern Europe: how important is the geopolitical and cultural*

*context for reconciliation processes? Are they reversible? What political, social*

*and cultural means of promoting reconciliation have worked best in different*

*parts of Europe, and which have failed and why? For what reason can symbolic*

*gestures have such a strong positive or negative impact on the reconciliation*

*process? Does the postwar division of Europe still influence contemporary*

*processes of rapprochement between and within states, and how?*

**Moderator:** Sergei Metlev, *Postimees*

**Panellists:** Prof. Donald Bloxham, The University of Edinburgh (online)

Prof. Peter Shirlow, The University of Liverpool

Dr Emir Suljagić, Srebrenica Memorial Center

**11:30–12:00 | Coffee break**

**12:00–14:00 | Round table discussion: The Role of Culture, Sport and Art in Reconciliation**

*Art can provide a voice for marginalised people, allowing them to speak freely*

*and possibly serving as a safety valve (e.g. cabarets in Poland under the*

*communist regime). In what other ways could artists and art itself affect the*

*processes of peacemaking and reconciliation? Consider the roles of art and pop*

*culture as two of the most accessible tools for maintaining memory about the*

*painful past.*

**Moderator:** Valerie Bistany, Irish Writers Centre

**Panellists:** Almudena Cruz Yabar, Ministry of Presidency, Relationships with the Courts and Democratic Memory

Joanne Fitzpatrick, Peace Players Northern Ireland

Karoline Gil, Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen

Dr Dariusz Karłowicz, Teologia Polityczna

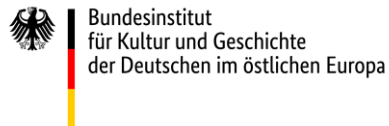
**14:00 | Closing remarks**

**14:15–15:15 | Lunch and coffee break**

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