Ollscoil Mhá Nuad Maynooth University



# Maynooth University Research Week 21–24 October 2024

Join the conversation

# **Over 30 events** on campus and online



Find out more: Maynoothuniversity.ie/ research-week



DAILY 21 <sup>st</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	MONDAY 21 <sup>st</sup>	TUESDAY 22 <sup>nd</sup>	WEDNESDAY 23rd	THURSDAY 24th
10.00am-4.30pm				

Time:	Time:
All day Exhibition	10.00–15.00
Location:	Location:
Online	Hamilton Institute Seminar Room (Room 317), 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Eolas

#### MU Library Makerspace – Lego Supporting Research

This presentation focuses on the creation of a Lego version of our beloved Library Cat and how research can be supported in fun and innovative ways.

This theme explores the different ways a university library uses our makerspace to support student and staff research. The Lego version of Library Cat will be on display in the foyer of the John Paul II library for the duration of Research Week.

#### Find out more here

#### Hamilton Institute Graduate Student Talks

A series of graduate student presentations as part of Research Week, featuring research from across the Hamilton Institute.

#### Monday 21st October

- 10:00 Jack Kilgallen The repeated stimulus confound: the hidden cost of repeating trials in EEG decoding experiments
- 10:20 Dara MacConville Python verification: How it going?
- 10:40 Cai Wood Building Molecular Robots Using DNA

#### Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

- 14:00 Ojas Singh Restoring Protein Glycoslation with GlycoShape
- 14:20 Gabriel Rodrigues Palma Forecasting insect abundance using time series embedding and machine learning
- 14:40 Conor Hackett A Method to Identify Wildfire Ignition Points and Propagation Durations Using Genetic Algorithms

#### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

- 10:00 Thalita Nazaré Modelling of a floating inverted pendulum applied to offshore wind turbine platforms
- 10:20 Mark McCormack Investigating the Use of Large Language Models as AI Tutors in a Collaborative Education Environment
- 10:40 Anthony Gibbons Synthetic data generation for bird species detection

#### Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October

- 10:00 Maira Rubab DocChatAl: Intelligent Document Assistant for Efficient Information Retrieval
- 10:20 Angel Cervera Roldan DNA Computing
- 10:40 Agustina Skiarski Tidal energy generation considering weather driven variations

# DAILY 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> MONDAY 21<sup>st</sup> TUESDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> 9.00am-5.00pm 10.30am-3.00pm 5.00pm <t

Time:	Time:	Time:
09:00-14:00	10.00–11.00	10.00–17.00
Location:	Location:	<b>Location:</b>
Renehan Hall	John Paul II Library	IVI Boardroom, 238, Eolas

#### **Research Together**

Maynooth University Research Development Office in collaboration with Health Research Charities Ireland and The Wheel. To foster and build relationships between MU researchers and charitable organisations to co-develop and partner on future National and Horizon Europe research grant applications in the health space.

#### Session 1:

Provides an opportunity for health charities and community organisations to communicate their research needs to the MU research community. Presentations will outline what a good research partnership and meaningful involvement in research is, from their perspective. MU Researchers will present on research interests/ expertise and opportunities for collaboration.

#### Session 2:

Attendees will hear about National and European funding opportunities from the HRB and our National Representative for Health research, Horizon Europe.

#### Session 3:

Attendees will engage in a Collaborative Design Thinking session, with the goal to identify actionable challenges that can form the basis for future funded collaborative projects between charity partners and Maynooth University researchers.

This event is a great opportunity to connect across the University and Charity sectors, build relationships, and find potential partners to co-develop research projects, submit grant applications and pursue impact together!

Find out more here

Register now on Eventbrite here

#### Live 3D Printing Demonstration

Join us in the foyer of the John Paul II library to experience some live 3D printing. See how a 3D printer works and get a free trinket (while stocks last).

#### Find out more here

#### Unlocking the Power of AI: Empowering Individuals to Take Control of Their Health and Wellbeing

This interactive event offers a unique opportunity to explore AI and other cutting-edge technologies that empower people to manage their health and wellbeing more effectively. Participants will have the chance to try out these technologies, engage with experts, and share their ideas on shaping the future of the person-driven digital health ecosystem.

Drop by anytime between 10.00 and 17.00, and we'll be thrilled to demonstrate the latest advancements in health and wellbeing technology while listening to your thoughts and suggestions.

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	9.00am-5.00pm			
	10.30am–3.00pm			

Time:	Time:	Time:
10.30–12.30	13.00–14.00	14.00–15.00
Location:	Location:	Location:
Eolas Foyer	MUSSI seminar room 2.31 & online	Online

#### Department of Computer Science Research Postgraduate Poster Session

As part of Maynooth University Research Week the Department of Computer Science will be hosting a poster session on the ground floor of the Eolas Building where current postgraduate research students will present their research. This is an open event to allow undergraduates from the Department of Computer Science, along with the wider MU community to meet with our postgraduate students and to find out more about the on-going research within the department.

Find out more here

#### **Climate Justice Research and Action**

Join us for a panel discussion about the links among climate justice, critical research, climate action and social change. Hear from researchers at different stages in their research careers as they share diverse perspectives and different approaches for leveraging university research toward transformative social change toward a more just future.

#### Panelists

Paddy Bresnihan, Associate Professor, Geography, ICARUS, Maynooth researcher of environmental justice, colonial and postcolonial development, capitalist political economic and the contested politics of water, land, and energy.

Laure Detymowski, Research Assistant on the JUSTHOUSING project with interest in epistemic in/justice.

Criostoir King, PhD researcher, Geography, Maynooth focused on just transitions and critical approaches to political ecology in rural Ireland.

Calum Mcgeown, Postdoctoral researcher at ICARUS and the Department of Geography, Maynooth, and activist focused on issues of power, political economy and just transformation in the context of the planetary crisis. Jennie Stephens, Professor of Climate Justice, ICARUS, Maynooth University climate justice scholar-activist focused on fossil fuel phaseout, financial innovation for climate justice, and climate obstruction in higher education.

Find out more here

## **Research Beacons at the School of Business**

This online event will introduce you to Research Beacons at the School of Business, specifically Data Science and Digital Transformation (lead – Prof Markus Helfert); Health and Wellbeing (lead – Dr Damien Cassells); Society and Public Policy (lead – Dr Gail Sheppard); Sustainability and Climate Change (lead – Dr Patrick Rigot-Muller). A 10-minute presentation by each Research Beacon will be followed by a general Q&A. Those interested in finding out more about these Research Beacons and/or interested in potential collaborations, are invited to attend.

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		9.30am-1.30pm		
		2.00pm-3.30pm		
		3.00pm-4.30pm		

Time:	Time:	Time:	Time:
9.30–13.00	10.30–11.15	11.00–13.00	12.00–13:30
Location:	Location:	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
Renehan Hall	Online	IVI Boardroom (238), 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Eolas Building	Rocque Lab, Rhetoric Building, South Campus

#### 3 Minute Thesis Competition

Watch a series of 3 minute presentations by the Maynooth University postgraduate student community to a non-specialist audience about their research projects. The presentations will be timed, and the top three presenters will be awarded a prize. If you are thinking about research studies in 2025, this is a great opportunity to find out more

#### Find out more here

#### Developing your Scholarly Profile

This session will look at how a researcher can best present themselves to the research community and make their work as discoverable as possible. We will look at the different scholarly profiles (and Scholarly identifiers) available in platforms such as ORCID, Scopus, Web of Science and Google Scholar. The session will also demonstrate how you can make best use of the resources to showcase your research.

Find out more here

#### Safeguarding Privacy in Al-Driven Public Services: Developing Ethical Data Protection Guidelines

This workshop aims to explore the privacy challenges that emerge as the use of AI technologies is rapidly adopted in public services. Adopting Al-oriented tools and technologies in Public Services feeds vast advantages, including boosted efficiency and effectiveness, enhanced service delivery, and greatly enriched decision-making processes. The agile adoption of (AI) tools and technologies in Public Services also raises concerns about the privacy, and misuse of sensitive data since the Al-powered systems essentially collect, process, and store a large amount of data. The workshop will bring together policymakers, public service professionals, technologists, and researchers to discuss the privacy implications, develop data protection strategies, and address the delicate balance between ensuring data privacy and maximizing data utility.

Find out more here

#### Geopolitics and Climate Change

Gerard Toal is an alumnus of Maynooth Geography and Professor of International Affairs at Virginia Tech, USA. Alongside Simon Dalby, another Irish scholar of Geopolitics, Professor Toal developed the field of Critical Geopolitics which has been so productive a field of interdisciplinary inquiry. He is the author of Near Abroad: Putin, the West, and the Contest over Ukraine and the Caucasus (2017), Critical Geopolitics: The Politics of Writing Global Space (1996), and now of this new book about the intersection of Geopolitics with the Climate Crisis.

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		9.30am-1.30pm		
		2.00pm-3.30pm		
		3.00pm-4.30pm		

Time:	Time:	Time:
14.00–15.00	14.00–16.00	14.30–15.30
Location:	Location:	Location:
2.31 Iontas Seminar Room & Online	TSI Foyer	John Paul II Library

#### **Current Open Research Initiatives at Maynooth University**

This event will showcase the university's ongoing efforts to advance open research practices. This hybrid event aims to engage participants both in-person and online, fostering a greater understanding of open research initiatives and their impact on the research community.

The event will feature four concise 15-minute sessions:

#### 1. QSA\*Net: Promoting Open Research in Qualitative Social Science

Professor Jane Gray, Dr Rong Bao, Maynooth University Social Sciences Institute

This session will explore how QSA\*Net encourages the re-use of qualitative data, supporting open data-sharing and collaboration within the social sciences.

2. TROPIC (TRaining for OPen research in an Irish Context)

Dr Dermot Lynott, Maynooth University Department of Psychology

This session will introduce TROPIC, a national open research training programme designed to upskill researchers in the fundamentals of open research practices, tailored to the Irish research landscape.

### 3. Research translation as an open research practice in social sciences

Dr Ian Marder, Maynooth University School of Law and Criminology

This session will draw on a scoping review of literature on criminal justice research partnerships, and on work undertaken by the new Criminal justice Open Research Dialogue (CORD) Partnership (funded by the National Open Research Forum) to argue that influencing policy should be seen as an important open research endeavour.

4. Irish Qualitative Data Archive (IQDA) Fran Callaghan, Maynooth University Library The final session will provide an overview of Maynooth University's current Open Access initiatives, led by IQDA, which works to increase access to and preservation of qualitative data.

#### Undergraduate Research Symposium

The Careers and Employability Team are delighted to present the 2024 Maynooth University Undergraduate Research Symposium taking place in the TSI foyer from 2pm to 4pm on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, as part of Research Week.

Join us in celebrating the remarkable achievements of our undergraduate students, who over the summer months completed the Summer Programme for Undergraduate Research. These students have dedicated their summer to participating in innovative research projects within various faculty departments here in Maynooth University.

This event showcases the diversity of undergraduate research activity across Maynooth University. Attendees, including judges, students, academics, members of the local community, and guests can view the research posters and hear directly from students about their work.

Come along and show your support and encouragement to the 2024 SPUR participants.

#### Find out more here

#### Og(h)am Project Pop-Up Stand

Display of a replica of the early medieval ogham stone from Donaghmore, Maynooth, by Prof. David Stifter (Head of School of Celtic Studies) and launch of the OG(H)AM project video, produced by the Department of Early Irish, Maynooth University, and Department of Celtic & Gaelic, University of Glasgow.

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		2.00pm-3.30pm		
		3.00pm-4.30pm		

Time:	Time:	Time:
15.00–15.30	15.00–15.45	15.00–16.30
Location:	Location:	Location:
Online	Online	Online

#### Open Research in public-private research partnerships: comparing practices in Ireland and Denmark

This will be a 30 minute presentation by Dr Gail Sheppard from the School of Business giving an update on the NORF-funded project 'ROCHE'. The focus of this presentation will be on preliminary findings from interviews carried out with Irish and Danish researchers on the challenges and opportunities posed by making data open.

#### Find out more here

#### Introduction to Open Access Publishing

The Irish Research e-Library (IReL) will present an overview of open access publishing agreements, and what that means to anyone thinking of publishing their research on an OA basis.

Find out more here

### How to accelerate the circular transition in the Construction Sector?

This webinar will address the challenges and opportunities for transitioning from a typical linear economy based on the "take, make, dispose" concept to a circular economy that is more sustainable and resource-efficient. Despite being required, this is not a simple undertaking.

This webinar will bring together leaders and experts in circularity in construction to discuss the latest developments, innovations, and challenges in the construction sector, which is critical to meeting climate policy commitments, with a focus on incorporating prevention and reuse into construction activities. Join us for interesting presentations from speakers, followed by a discussion addressing the key issues and considerations currently facing this area.

10.00am–3.	
	00pm
10.30am–3.	00pm

Time: 10.00–15.00
Location: Staff Development Room, Riverstown Lodge, South Campus

#### MaynoothWorks CONNECT 2024

Creating connections between researchers and industry can sometimes be hard. We have different way of communicating impact. Cross disciplinary contact, fostering knowledge exchange is an important part of developing holistic responses to societal challenges.

MaynoothWorks CONNECT 2024 event will form the basis for seeding industry discussion and collaboration with researchers from Maynooth University.

Framed by the Research Beacons introduced in the Maynooth University Strategic Plan this event will open potential opportunities to collaborate for societal and economic impact that meets regional needs.

The MaynoothWorks CONNECT 2024 will bring researchers and companies together to discuss grand challenges that we all face.

CONNECT 2024 gives researchers the opportunity to present their work in the context of these priority challenges. MaynoothWorks polled our external stakeholders on the challenges that they see as priority.

#### Identified CHALLENGES

Researchers will present 5–10-minute snapshots of their ongoing research efforts in one or more of the following challenges:

- Digital service delivery in Data Driven Healthcare.
- Enhanced connectivity & communication systems and devices (sensors everywhere).
- Data Science: storage, processing, analysis and understanding.
- Mitigating climate change.
- Sustainable management of land & sea resources.
- Managing/Controlling clean & reliable energy generation, manage storage, understanding scaling systems, Power grid & energy management.
- Digital applications for diagnosis, disease management and treatment.
- Next-generation therapeutics for preventive and therapeutic purposes.

Find out more here

#### **RTÉ Brainstorm**

The Communications team has invited RTÉ Brainstorm Editor Jim Carroll for a workshop on the writing style, topics, and ideas that work best for publishing articles in RTÉ Brainstorm, and he will meet privately with researchers from 11am to discuss ideas for articles.

#### 10:00-10.45

Presentation on writing for RTÉ Brainstorm

#### 11:00-15:00

Private pitching sessions with editor Jim Carroll

#### Who is it open to?

Open to all, new writers especially welcome

#### How to register

10:00–10.45 Presentation Book here

11:00–15:00 10-minute private sessions Book here

DAILY 21 <sup>st</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	MONDAY 21 <sup>st</sup>	TUESDAY 22 <sup>nd</sup>	WEDNESDAY 23rd	THURSDAY 24th
			10.00am-3.00pm	
			10.30am-3.00pm	

Time:	Time:	Time:
10.30–11.15	11.00–12.15	15.00
Location:	Location:	Location:
Online via zoom	MUSSI Seminar Room, Iontas and online	John Hume Boardroom

# Retain Your Rights & Embracing MURAL

Introducing Maynooth University's Rights Retention Statement. Retaining your publication rights and depositing your work in MURAL is a guaranteed, zero cost way to achieve Open Access. Learn how to retain these rights and upload your work to our institutional repository.

#### Find out more here

#### **Research for Policy Seminar Series** – Seminar 3

There are five seminars in the series which explores practices in Research for Policy, giving researchers from Maynooth University and the policy-makers in Government Departments that they have been working with an opportunity to discuss their experiences of working together and to reflect on what they have achieved and what they have learned.

The seminar series is aimed at academics, researchers and policy-makers seeking to understand how interaction between academics/ researchers and policy-makers works and has been designed to enable those interested to engage with examples of such engagement that they may be interested in. How behavioural science can be utilised in the public sector to tackle environmental challenges and improve policy making Professor Louise Connell (Professorial Research Fellow in the Department of Psychology in Maynooth University and who is also seconded to the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform under the SFI public service fellowship scheme) and Claire Doyle (Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform) will jointly present about their work together on how behavioural science can be utilised in the public sector to tackle environmental challenges and improve policy making.

#### Find out more here

Registration is open here

\*You can register for any of the remaining seminars using this <u>form</u>

#### **Emerging Research in** Law and Criminology

The School of Law and Criminology would like to invite you to a Showcase of PhD Research as part of MU Research Week. We are exceptionally fortunate to be home to many exceptionally talented PhD candidates spanning a variety of impressive topics in the world of law and criminology.

Presentations will be about 15 minutes each with 5 minutes of Q&A per speaker.

The event will be held on campus in the John Hume Boardroom on the afternoon of 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

Find out more here

Please RSVP here



DAILY 21 <sup>st</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup>	MONDAY 21 <sup>st</sup>	TUESDAY 22 <sup>nd</sup>	WEDNESDAY 23rd	THURSDAY 24th
				10.30am–2.00pm
				2.00pm-4.00pm
				3.00pm-4.00pm
				3.00pm-8.00pm

Time:	Time:	Time:	Time:
10:30–11:15	11.00	12.00–14.00	13.00–14.00
Location:	Location:	Location:	Location:
Online	Online	TSI Foyer	John Paul II Library

# Publishing to Maximise your Impact

This session will look at finding the best place to publish to enhance the visibility and impact of your research. It will focus on the tools available in the Scopus, SciVal and Web of Science databases. It will also look at the benefits of and options for Open Access publishing.

#### Find out more here

#### Coffee & Talk: Data Sovereignty Guarantee Technology in Agriculture

Data Sovereignty Guarantee Technology in Agriculture refers to a collection of digital tools and systems designed to ensure that farmers and agricultural stakeholders maintain control and autonomy over the data generated from their farming activities. This technology is crucial in preventing the unauthorised use, access, or transfer of agricultural data, which is becoming increasingly valuable in precision farming, smart agriculture, and agribusiness platforms.

Find out more here

#### Prize Giving and Research Reception

Presentations will be made to all 2024 IRC Government of Ireland Scholarship and Fellowship awardees, John & Pat Hume Scholars, Graduate Research Academy Awards and the winners announced of SPUR; 3 Minute Thesis Competitions. Refreshments will be provided.

Find out more here

#### MU Library – Strategic Plan 2024 Launch

University Librarian Cathal McCauley will officially launch the Library's Strategic Plan 2024.

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				10.30am-2.00pm
				2.00pm-4.00pm
				3.00pm-4.00pm
				3.00pm-8.00pm

Time:	Time:
14.00–15.30	14.00–16.00
Location:	Location:
TSI Lecture Theatre 2	John Paul II Library

#### **Inaugural Lecture by Prof Jan Vom Brocke**

How can organisations and societies respond to continuous change? How can they sense change, adapt to change and constantly produce innovate services in times of change?

In this talk, Professor vom Brocke introduces Process Science as an emerging interdisciplinary field to scientifically research change and to fundamentally advance capabilities of digital service innovation in times of change. Process science studies socio-technical processes, which involve coherent series of changes over time, entailing actions and events that include humans and digital technologies.

The ubiquitous availability of digital trace data, combined with advanced data analytics capabilities, offer new and unprecedented opportunities to study such processes through multiple data sources. Process science is concerned with describing, explaining, and intervening in socio-technical change. It is based on four key principles;

- 1. It puts socio-technical processes at the center of attention,
- 2. It investigates socio-technical processes scientifically,
- 3. It embraces perspectives of multiple disciplines,
- It aims to create impact by actively shaping the unfolding of socio-technical processes.
  Professor vom Brocke will provide many examples of Process Science across industries.

He will present the Process Science Methodology, which enables both organisations and universities to engage in digital service innovation in times of change. Professor Jan vom Brocke is recognised worldwide as one of the leading information systems scholars and co-founder of process science. He is the Director of the European Research Center for Information Systems (ERCIS) and holds the Chair of Information Systems & Business Process Management at the University of Münster in Germany. In 2023 he has been appointed an Honorary Distinguished Professor of Process Science at Maynooth University within the Distinguished International Collaborator Program, and he provides the talk as an inaugural lecture present his work faculty, industry and society.

Find out more here

#### MURAL Information Pop-Up Stand

Are your publications up-to-date in MURAL? If not, why not!

Come talk to Suzanne and we'll get it sorted.

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				10.30am-2.00pm
				2.00pm-4.00pm
				3.00pm-4.00pm
				3.00pm-8.00pm

Time:	Time:
15.00	15.00-16.00
Location:	Location:
Phoenix Boardroom	225 lontas

# Spotlight on Research: A quick look at some of the projects and research currently going on in the School of Law and Criminology

At the School of Law and Criminology, we are committed to the study of law and criminology in a global context. The School has a global focus and interdisciplinary approach to research. The School is committed to developing policy-orientated research, which necessarily entails cultivating a range of links with civil society groups, business, public administration, and legal professions. The School of Law and Criminology is home to extremely talented experts in a wide multitude of fascinating topics that are of interest to people in all disciplines and levels. We would like to invite you to a brief overview of just some of our colleague's ongoing research. It is an opportunity to see some of the hard work being carried out by colleagues, engage in some discussion and enjoy some light refreshments.

#### Find out more here

To attend please RSVP here

#### The Role of Conflict Analysis in EU Conflict Intervention: From Conflict Analysis to Integrated Responses

In the contemporary global landscape, a complicated geopolitical shift is underway, driven by a rising tide of conflicts – in the European Union's neighbourhood and beyond – with deepening polarisation. This transformation is reshaping international dynamics, with both a political and institutional push for the EU to take more responsibility for its own security.

The EU's approach to peacebuilding has been embedded in a wider ambition to "preserve peace, prevent conflicts and strengthen international security." Given the mushrooming of security tensions, this concept requires sustained reflection. Heretofore regarded as a credible and reliable partner, recent violence in Ukraine, Nagorno-Karabakh, Kosovo, and Israel/Palestine, has increased geopolitical tensions and challenged multilateralism, proving that the EU's must continuously re-assess its commitment to partnership, and the manner of its approach to peacebuilding.

Critics point to EU interventions that lack indepth understanding of context and dynamics, historical root causes and past grievances, and of the political economy of conflict. There are also challenges of inclusivity and local ownership in responses, and failures to adequately engage women, youth and excluded sections of society in peace processes.

Using recent research by the author, the presentation aims to critically examine the European Union's peacebuilding approach, focusing on integrated conflict analysis, suggesting a new model for conflict analysis within the EU Common Security and Defence Policy and explores recent interventions while also addressing the need for improved conflict sensitivity

Time:	Time:
15.00–19.00	18.00-20.00
Location:	Location:
1.37 lontas	Renehan Hall

## Manifestos and speculations: Research in the Department of Media Studies

#### 15.00: Under the Feet of Shadows

Dr EL Putnam will present on methods of arts-based research, speculative fiction, and co-creation in the recent project, Under the Feet of Shadows. This project is a multimedia art-work that creatively explores human-technological relations in these times of extreme change and crisis through the fragmented telling of a fictional origin myth of a yet-to-be-built data centre in Killala, Ireland. In this presention, different approaches and stages of project development and implementation will be discussed as a means of thinking otherwise with and through digital technologies.

#### 16.00: The Anti-Racist Media Manifesto

Prof Gavan Titley will be joined by co-authors Prof Anamik Saha (Leeds University) and Dr Francesca Sobande (Cardiff University) to discuss their recently published book The Anti-Racist Media Manifesto. The book asks how can media practices, platforms and systems be transformed in ways that actively challenge the production of racism. That is, rather than being content with making media 'less racist', we need to imagine what an anti-racist media could look like, and think about how to get there. The authors will be joined by respondents who will reflect on the book's analysis in terms of media and politics in Ireland today.

#### 17.30 Book launch

Following the sessions there will be a reception and book launch for EL Putnam's Livestreaming: An Aesthetic and Ethics of Technical Encounter (University of Minnesota Press, Forerunners: Ideas First series) and Gavan Titley et al's The Anti-Racist Media Manifesto (Polity Press, Media Manifesto series)

Find out more here

#### Considering the Influence of Public Opinion, Penal Populism, and Human Rights in Irish Penal Policymaking

In this panel discussion, Dr Kevin Wozniak (Director of the Centre for Criminology, Maynooth University). Ben Rvan (Assistant Secretary General for Criminal Justice Policy, Department of Justice), and Dr Thamil Ananthavinayagan (Assistant Principal/Senior Legal Researcher, Department of Justice) will consider social and political factors that influence penal policymaking in Ireland. Drawing upon insights from international research, they will consider the ways that public opinion affects the choices and options of policymakers, both as "populist punitiveness" and as public support for rehabilitation and alternatives to punishment. They will discuss the ways that international human rights norms and EU law shape policymaking, as well as the degree to which human rights resonate with or challenge populist sentiments.

This event is part of the European Law Student Association's 2024 Human Rights Campaign, and it is cosponsored by ELSA and Maynooth University's School of Law & Criminology, Centre for Criminology, and Centre for European Law