

Irish Studies in Continental Europe Today and its Potential




The collage features several photographs: a woman in a sailor suit playing a piano, a woman in a sailor suit singing, a man playing a harp, a man speaking at a podium, a man and a woman in a red sweater looking at each other, a man and a woman in a blue shirt looking at each other, and a man and a woman in a blue shirt looking at each other. The images are set against a background of green geometric shapes.

EFACIS
European Federation of Associations
and Centres of Irish Studies • IVZW

2018



2018

A photograph of Seamus Heaney, an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit and a white shirt. He is shown in profile, facing right, and is speaking into a microphone. His hands are resting on the podium. The background is dark and out of focus.

***"From the viewing deck of Europe ordinary
Irish things are presented and represented
to the mind in an unusual way"***

Seamus Heaney, Keynote Lecture, EFACIS Biennial Conference,
University of Vienna, September 3rd, 2009.

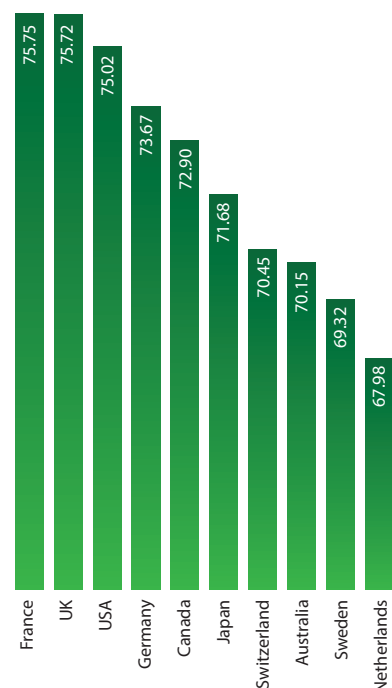
CONTENTS

IRISH STUDIES AND SOFT POWER	4
THE EVOLVING IMPORTANCE OF 'SOFT POWER'	4
EFACIS: AN ENGINE OF 'SOFT POWER' FOR IRELAND	5
WHAT IS EFACIS?	6
<hr/>	
EFACIS PUBLICATIONS	9
<hr/>	
EFACIS SURVEY OF IRISH STUDIES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE	11
<hr/>	
FINANCING IRISH STUDIES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE	15
<hr/>	
CONCLUDING REMARKS	17
<hr/>	
APPENDIX: LIST OF CENTRES FOR IRISH STUDIES / ASSOCIATIONS / COORDINATORS	18

IRISH STUDIES AND SOFT POWER

Table 1: Top 10 countries that hold the most soft power

Ranking based on global factors, 2017



Source: Portland

Irish Studies as a research and teaching area has grown significantly over the past twenty years, well beyond its initial home in Anglophone countries and the disciplines of literature and history. Today, Irish Studies centres and researchers are found on almost every continent and embrace a broad range of disciplines, including music studies, fine art studies, film and media studies, sociology, politics and economics as well as the more traditional disciplines of literature and history. This report stresses the huge contribution made by Irish Studies teaching and research in continental Europe: **the most significant figures in the promotion of Irish culture on site across the continent are the lecturers, researchers, translators, editors, publishers, commentators, journalists, musicians, and other cultural experts who receive their education from Irish Studies specialists and through dedicated Irish Studies centres.** These individuals are all the more important as many are not Irish but despite being nationals of other countries, they come to Irish Studies through a deep appreciation of Irish culture and creativity. **They provide key conduits for the promotion of Irish culture and support of their endeavours is critical to Ireland's 'soft power' globally.**

The Evolving Importance of 'Soft Power'

'Soft power' is internationally recognized as an increasingly important part of foreign policy strategies. In 2011, the then Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Eamonn Gilmore, referred to the importance of the

diaspora as a significant source of 'soft power' for Ireland on the world stage.¹ Further recognition of its importance is evident in the establishment in 2014 of a Minister of State for the Diaspora (currently Ciarán Cannon, TD.). In an era marked by the increased availability of information, the distribution of global power is rapidly evolving, precipitating far-reaching economic and political changes affecting nations of every size and standing. The appeal of soft power rests in its promise to deliver key international objectives without the high costs associated with the exercise of hard power.

Foreign policy has never been simple, but in an increasingly multi-polar world – with more actors, more platforms, and more interests all vying for global influence – international relations have become a fast-changing labyrinth. Opportunities still exist for states of every size to achieve their aims, but success depends more than ever on the ability to attract, persuade, and mobilise others. In this new complex world, soft power has become a critical foreign policy lever.

An index, "the Soft Power 30", has been established by the PR firm Portland Communications in conjunction with the University of Southern California School of Public Diplomacy to measure the soft power effectiveness of countries across the globe. The index combines polling in 25 countries and objective digital data to measure a country's impact, including in areas such as government, culture, cuisine, foreign policy, street violence, sporting prowess, digital engagement, perceived capacity for economic innovation, and attractiveness for both tourists and foreign students. Its 2017 top ten rankings are outlined in Table 1:

Ireland currently sits in 19th position in this index, trailing behind other comparably sized countries such as Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, Finland, New Zealand, Austria, and Norway.

International organisations specializing in cultural relations and educational opportunities have a key role to play in affirming and increasing a country's soft power. The British Council makes a major contribution to the UK's soft power strategy (No. 2 in the 2017 index) by creating international opportunities in education, the arts and society, which they consider to be important in building trust between people around the world. Research undertaken by the British Council has shown a clear correlation between increased levels of trust in a country and an increase in a person's inclination to do business with, study in or visit that country.²

Since the 1950's the Goethe Institute has been actively promoting German culture across the world. It is widely recognised that the Goethe initiative has been the leading vehicle for the promotion of German soft power (No. 4 in the 2017 index). Other countries in Europe, like Britain and Germany, also have active long-standing institutions promoting their culture – Cervantes, Alliance française (a key contributor to France's position as number 1 on the soft power index), and the Danish Cultural Institute to name but three. Further afield in China (No. 25 in the ranking), soft power is being prioritized as a foreign policy tool. China has opened over 300 Confucius Institutes across the world since 2004 and aims to have 1,000 institutes in operation by 2020.³

EFACIS: An Engine of 'Soft Power' for Ireland

Joseph Nye, former Dean of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and internationally recognised for his publications on soft power, outlined that one of the three key contributors to a nation's soft power

is its culture: how it presents itself and how attractive it is to other countries and citizens. This can include its heritage and the story told through its history, as well as newer and more fluid elements of culture such as media, digital assets and film.⁵ However, creating an independent institution for the promotion of Irish culture abroad in the widest meaning, however desirable, is particularly challenging for a small country such as Ireland (and even more so for Northern Ireland). There is a strong argument therefore for building on all existing cultural promoters and networks.

Culture Ireland was established in 2005 as a Division of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to support and promote the presentation of Irish Arts internationally and its work represents an important soft power asset. The diaspora, as mentioned above, is recognised as a further important asset as are the former Irish Colleges in Leuven and Paris. In time the Columbanus 'camino' initiative (reflecting the contribution of the early Irish monks) may also make an important contribution. Irish Studies in continental Europe is a ground-up activity, building on existing interest in Ireland, and has a permanent presence in universities across Europe. The European Federation of Associations and Centres of Irish Studies (EFACIS), which supports Irish Studies, offers huge potential for further development as a promoter of Irish soft power. EFACIS is unique in Europe – no other country has a comparable grass roots membership organization imbedded in universities across Europe, promoting research, study and the teaching of all aspects of its culture. As indicated earlier, it is clear that the lecturers, researchers, translators, editors, publishers, performers, journalists, musicians, and other cultural experts who receive their education from Irish Studies specialists and through Irish Studies centres are key players in the promotion and appreciation of Irish culture in continental Europe. It is also quite remarkable that so many of the leading experts in Irish Studies are not themselves Irish. For instance,

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one of the largest research grants received by an Irish Studies expert in recent years was awarded by the European Research Council to an EFACIS member - Dutch academic Dr. Margu rite Corporaal, based in Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands and undertaking research of the Irish famine ("Relocated Remembrance: the Great Famine in Irish (Diaspora) Fiction, 1847-1921").



Irish College, Leuven, Belgium

What is EFACIS?

EFACIS is a federation which has been supporting and promoting Irish Studies in Europe since 1996. It is based in the historic Irish College, Leuven and is established as a non-profit organization under Belgian law. The federation's focus is the study and debate of all aspects of the society, culture and literature of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the Irish diaspora. EFACIS has hosted events and foregrounded research in its publications engaged with the wide range of cultures and perspectives on the island of Ireland. As Irish Studies encompasses all these traditions, it provides an inclusive platform for cooperation between Northern Ireland and the Republic in the promotion and understanding of Ireland abroad. EFACIS is dedicated to supporting Irish Studies in all its forms and across all disciplines including literature, the arts, film, theatre, politics, history, economics, sport, the media, the Irish language/translation, peace and reconciliation.

EFACIS is active and vibrant in 20 countries across Europe. Not only does it encourage cooperation between the universities in continental Europe, it also provides an important bridge between universities active in Irish Studies in continental Europe and their counterparts in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Great Britain and across the world including China, India and South America.

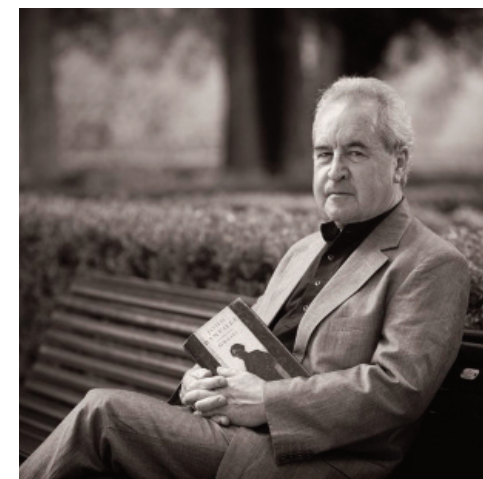
Some Facts About EFACIS

- Membership includes 3 national/regional associations of Irish Studies (In France (SOFEIR), Spain (AEDEI), and Nordic countries (NISN)).
- Membership also includes 37 Centres of Irish Studies incorporating 51 institutions in 20 countries across Europe.
- Almost 500 individual members are engaged in Irish Studies within universities in 20 countries.
- EFACIS members/centres/associations have produced over 200 publications on Ireland in the past two years alone.
- Papers are presented by academics from over 100 universities at the EFACIS biennial conferences (last hosted by the University of A Coru a in August 2017).
- Through the Irish Itinerary EFACIS brings Irish experts (writers, musicians, film makers, artists) to up to 30 cities/universities across Europe each year with support from Culture Ireland.
- In addition to the many designated Centres of Irish Studies across Europe, Irish Studies also has particular strengths in a range of European Universities, including institutions in Klagenfurt, Salzburg, Brno, Dijon, Reims-Champagne, Valenciennes, T bingen, Antwerp, Coimbra, and Vigo.

Strategic Objectives of EFACIS

- To increase the number of universities which have specialized and dedicated units or centres of Irish Studies and to strengthen existing units/centres.
- To encourage the establishment of Chairs of Irish Studies.
- To encourage and support the establishment of additional regional/national networks.
- To provide access for its members to on-line research material/databanks.
- To encourage PhD students to take on Irish Studies' topics – ensuring the future of the discipline in continental Europe.
- To facilitate the publication and circulation of members' research.
- To support research and teaching goals of those engaged with Irish Studies, including in the area of translation.
- To position Irish Studies as a key topic for interdisciplinary studies in universities across Europe.
- To develop a strategic partnership with the Irish Government (and the administration in Northern Ireland) for the maximizing of Soft Power impact through Irish Studies.
- To develop the EFACIS model to facilitate increased cooperation in Irish Studies with countries outside Europe.

EFACIS supports and promotes Irish Studies through its network of organisations, centres and members. Its activities include publications, conferences and seminars. Through its website (www.efacis.eu) and recently established database (one of the largest databases of Irish Studies research in Europe), EFACIS gives members access to research information and facilitates the connection of members and the exchange of materials. EFACIS also undertakes major translation projects which it facilitates with its members – a current ground-breaking translation project concerns the work of Booker prize winning author John Banville, including 37 translator teams from 16 countries, working in 22 languages. A forthcoming translation project – “Aistriú: Crossing Territories, Languages & Artforms” – is being developed with partners in NUI Galway, Ealaín na Gaeltachta, Foras na Gaeilge and IMRAM as one of the major initiatives of Galway 2020, Galway city's year as European Capital of Culture. This project will facilitate the translation of Irish language texts on migration into a broad range of European languages. EFACIS members pay a modest annual fee to support these activities and the federation's secretariat.



A current ground-breaking translation project concerns the work of Booker prize winning author John Banville, including 37 translator teams from 16 countries, working in 22 languages.

Poet Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill and author Alan Titley on stage during their Irish Itinerary readings in Prague in 2017.



EFACIS PUBLICATIONS

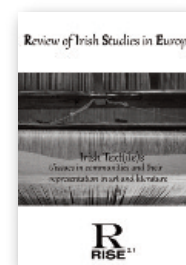


Irish Studies in Europe (ISE)

The peer-reviewed academic publication series of EFACIS

While the main emphasis of Irish Studies in Europe is on the island of Ireland (the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland) as well as the Irish diaspora, the thematic and methodological range goes well beyond literary studies to include aspects of cultural studies in the broadest sense, including society, history, culture, literature, the arts, and the media. The "European" dimension suggested by the series title is an indication of a prioritised, but by no means exclusive, concentration on (mainland) European perspectives on Irish Studies. It is hoped that such an "etic" approach may contribute a special dimension to the progress of Irish Studies at large and document the variety of European traditions of Irish Studies as inter- and multidisciplinary fields of research, study, and teaching. Thus, the programme of this series is a deliberate reflection of the objectives of EFACIS, under whose aegis the series is published.

Previous volumes (of which there have been eight to date) in the series have featured both emerging scholars and prominent writers and academics including (among many others) the late poet and Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney, former Ireland Professor of Poetry Harry Clifton, acclaimed poet Rita Ann Higgins and leading academics internationally including Declan Kiberd (University of Notre Dame), Anne Saddlemeier (Toronto), Elke D'hoker (Leuven), Charles Armstrong (Agder), Luz Mar Gonzalez-Arias (Vigo), Giovanna Tallone (Milan), Rui Carvalho Homem (Porto), Katharina Rennhak (Wuppertal) and Ruth Barton (TCD). The series has established a reputation among scholars of Irish Studies as a leading forum for the publication of new research in the area and essays published within the series are already highly cited within Irish Studies.



Review of Irish Studies in Europe (RISE)

An EFACIS journal

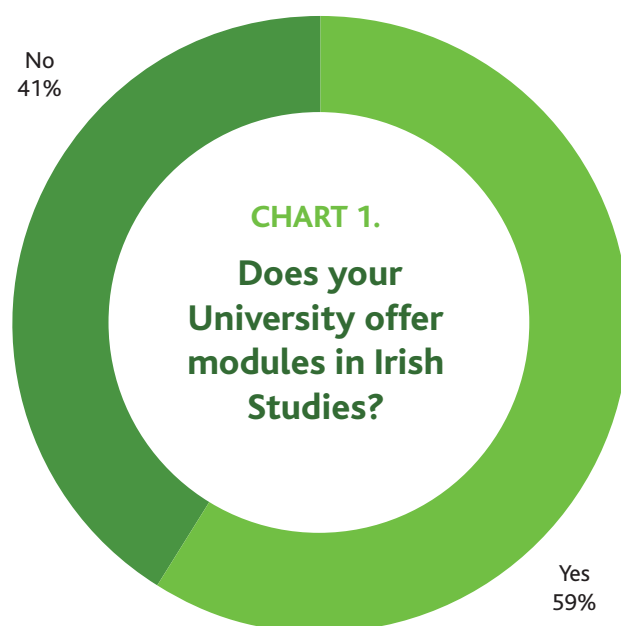
RISE (<http://risejournal.eu/>) is EFACIS' new, international, open-access, peer-reviewed, multi-disciplinary journal primarily covering literature, history, film & visual Culture, politics and the social sciences. RISE exists to promote Irish Studies across Europe, with three issues published to date on the topics of 'Negotiations with the Past' (Issue 1.1), 'Memory and Trauma in Post-Agreement Northern Ireland' (Issue 1.2) and 'Irish Text(ile)s: T/Issues in Communities and Their Representation in Art and Literature' (Issue 2.1 (pictured)). Our next issue (2.2) will examine the theme of 'Representing Revolutions in Irish Culture'.

Sinéad Murphy and Darina Gallagher performing "Songs of Joyce" in Gothenburg as part of the Irish Itinerary in 2013.



EFACIS SURVEY OF IRISH STUDIES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE

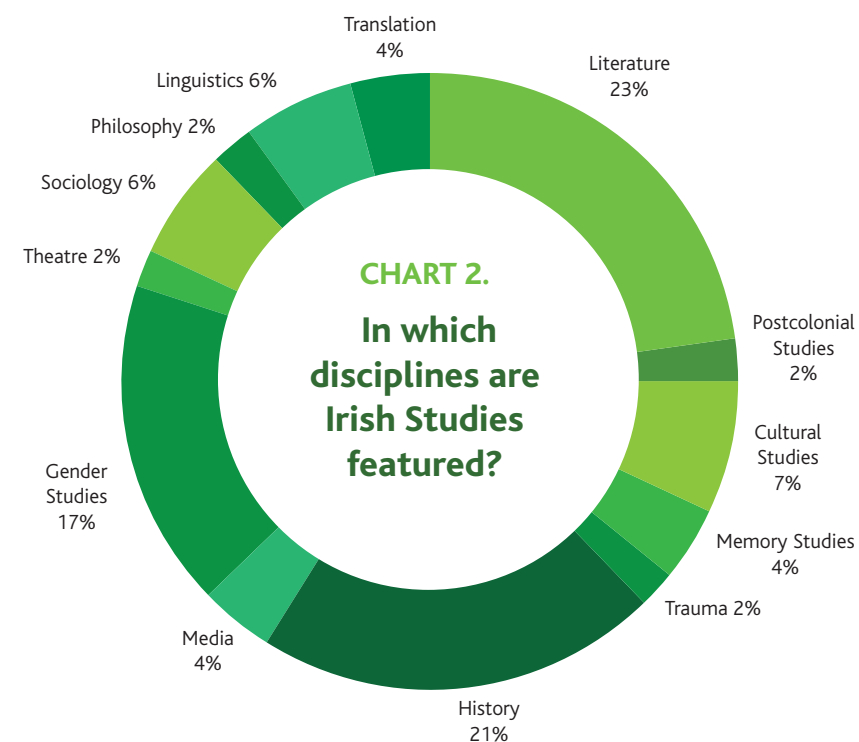
During the past year EFACIS has undertaken a survey of its centres, associations and membership across Europe in order to identify emerging trends, threats and challenges for those engaged with Irish Studies, and inform all efforts to foster, strengthen, and develop Irish Studies in the years to come. The responses to the survey⁶ give an insight into the importance of Irish Studies and the wide range of areas in which Irish topics are being taught and researched across continental Europe (Chart 1 and Chart 2).



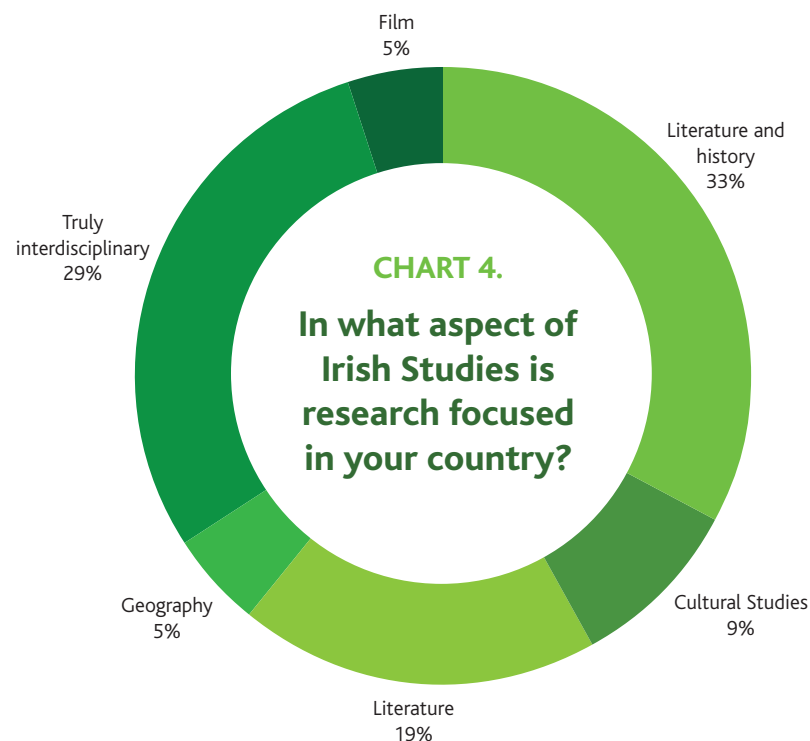
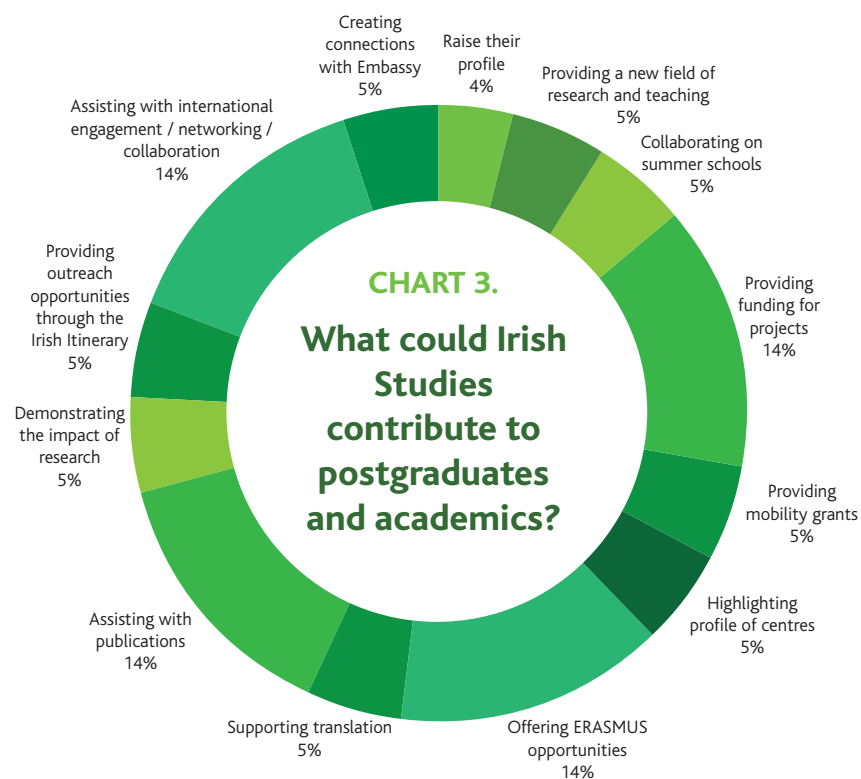
DETAILS:

Yes: Catholic University of Leuven (Leuven, Belgium); Charles University Prague (Prague, Czech Republic); Aarhus University (Aarhus, Denmark); Rennes 2 University (Rennes, France); University of Lille 3 (Lille, France); University of Debrecen (Debrecen, Hungary); Radboud University (Nijmegen, Netherlands); Utrecht University (Utrecht, Netherlands); University of Agder (Agder, Norway); University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway (Tromsø, Norway); John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (Lublin, Poland); Minho University (Braga, Portugal); University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain); Dalarna University College (Dalarna County, Sweden)

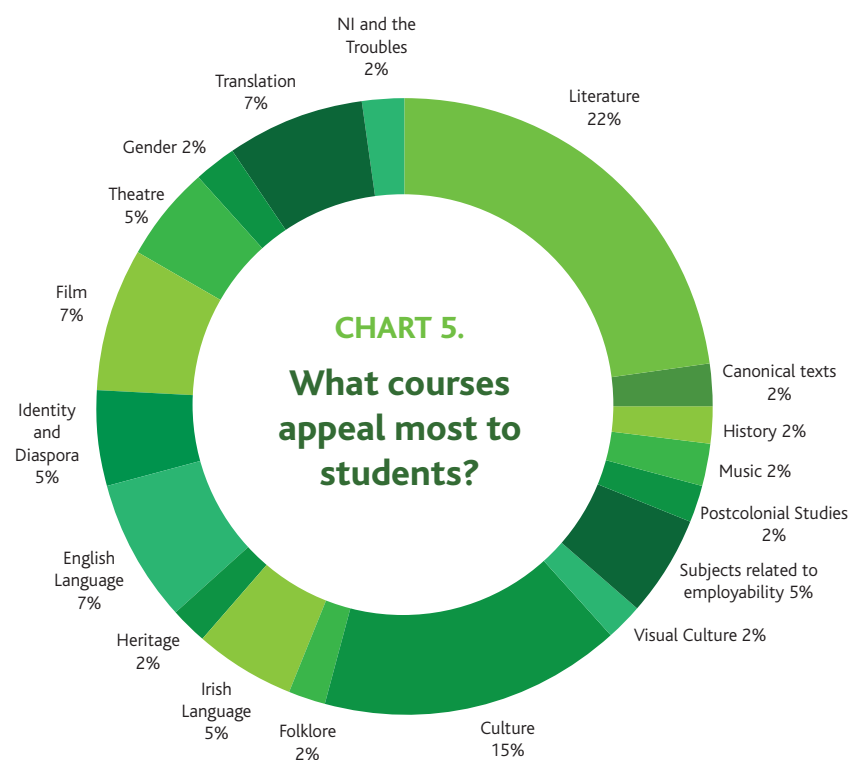
It is also evident from the survey that Irish Studies is found across a broad range of subject areas (Chart 2) and that, while literature and history continue to feature very prominently, there is a growing interest in language and translation.



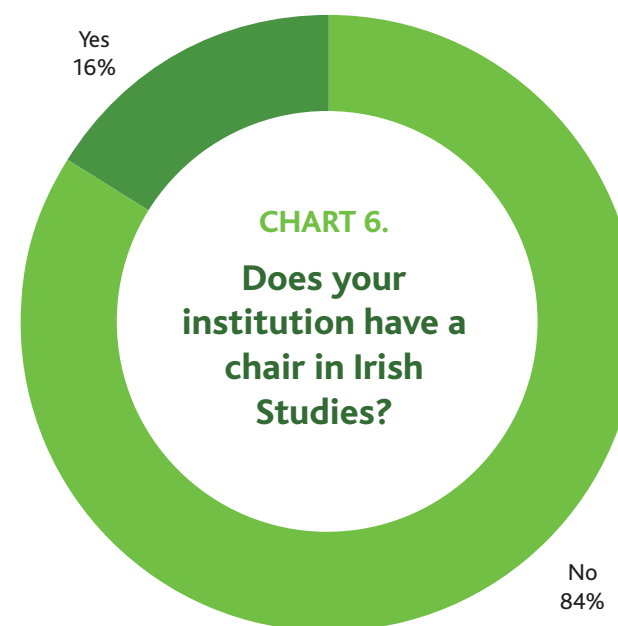
Irish Studies' importance in facilitating interdisciplinary research is also evident with 40% of respondents (Chart 3) viewing the international and collaborative possibilities that Irish Studies provides as being a significant part of its appeal. This feature is also evident in the research focus of those engaged in Irish Studies across Europe (Chart 4).



Language and language learning, both in the Irish language and English, and translation have become key aspects in Irish Studies in continental Europe accounting for almost 20% (Chart 5) of the most popular Irish Studies subjects for students. This is arguably one of the most distinctive features of the appeal of Irish Studies in continental Europe by comparison with the Anglophone world and has been a key aspect of major projects EFACIS has led in recent years.



A further finding of our survey is that Irish Studies is strongest in the universities which have created a dedicated Irish Studies unit or centre, and particularly a recognised Professor in the area, giving access to much-needed funding. However, a challenging trend within universities in continental Europe is that Irish Studies is becoming subsumed within the general area of 'postcolonial studies'. This development is particularly pronounced within German-speaking countries, where there has been a continued interest in Irish Studies research over the past ten years, but where relevant researchers are challenged by the lack of appropriate institutional recognition or support.⁷ This development is evident in the limited numbers of Professorial positions in Irish Studies in continental Europe (Chart 6).



DETAILS:

Yes: University Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris 3 (Paris, France): Prof. Cliona Ní Riordain, Professor of Translation Studies and Irish Studies; Professor Alexandra Poulain, Professor of Irish Studies.

Rennes 2 University (Rennes, France): Prof. Anne Goarzin, Professor of Irish Literature and Culture

University of Lille 3 (Lille, France): Prof. Hélène Lecossois, Professor of Irish Theatre; Prof. Catherine Maignant, Professor of History and Civilisation

Rita Duffy introducing her exhibition 'The Souvenir Shop' during the St. Patrick's Day celebration in the historic Irish College in Leuven, March 2018.



FINANCING IRISH STUDIES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE

Irish Studies, where it is an integral part of university courses across Europe, is funded through the national education budgets of the countries in which the universities are based. A conservative estimate of combined current funding for Irish Studies across Europe is €20M. However, despite the importance of the area for the promotion of Ireland and Irish culture, there is currently no dedicated funding for Irish Studies on continental Europe either in the budget of Ireland or Northern Ireland except for an annual grant of €12.5K from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to support the Leuven-based secretariat of EFACIS. Irish embassies also provide funding on an ad hoc basis for some events organized by EFACIS members in their catchment areas. In addition, EFACIS receives funding from Culture Ireland to cover the travel and accommodation costs of the writers, musicians, filmmakers or artists who take part in the Irish Itinerary (€8K in the current year).

Combined current funding for Irish Studies across Europe is €20m - funded through the national education budgets of the countries in which the studies are based

Oscar-winning screen-writer and director Neil Jordan speaking at the EFACIS biennial conference held in NUI Galway in June 2013



CONCLUDING REMARKS

Irish Studies has the potential to provide an illuminating perspective on the past and present challenges Europe faces, and this is reflected in the wide range of scholars that are attracted to Irish matter in their research. There exists across Europe a broad and enthusiastic body of researchers (both academics and students) engaged with Irish subjects in a diverse range of disciplines. As the importance of interdisciplinary research in particular grows (encouraged by the requirements of EU funding initiatives such as Marie Curie and Horizon 2020 grants), the appeal of Irish Studies as an interdisciplinary subject will likely increase among scholars in continental Europe. Ireland has developed significantly both economically and socially in the past twenty years, while becoming an increasingly multi-ethnic society. However, these developments remain under researched in Irish Studies and provide significant research opportunities for interdisciplinary study in the years to come.

The establishment of EFACIS over 20 years ago, combined with advances in communication technology and the enthusiasm of scholars in universities across Europe, has greatly consolidated Irish Studies; it provides an important platform through which this area can be further developed and reach its full potential as a significant vehicle of Soft Power.

Irish Studies has the potential to provide an illuminating perspective on the past and present challenges Europe faces

EFACIS provides an important platform through which the area of Irish Studies can be further developed and reach its full potential as a significant vehicle of Soft Power

APPENDIX

List of Centres for Irish Studies/Associations/Coordinators

ASSOCIATION/COUNTRY	NAME OF CENTRE	HEAD AND CONTACT	DETAILS
France Association membership: SOFEIR Secretary and Communications: Dr Marie-Violaine Louvet marie-violaine.louvet@ut-capitole.fr	Centre for Research in Foreign Cultures, Languages and Literatures, University of Lille 3	Prof. Constantin Bobas and Prof. Catherine Maignant	catherine.maignant@univ-lille3.fr
	The Paris Centre for Irish Studies, 2 Universities: Paris 3 – Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 13	Prof. Clóna Ní Ríordáin	cniriordain@gmail.com
	CRBC – Centre for Breton and Celtic Studies, Rennes 2 University	Dr. Stefan Moal and Prof. Anne Goarzin	anne.goarzin@univ-rennes2.fr
Spain Association membership: AEDEI Secretary: Prof. Constanza del Rio Álvarez crio@unizar.es	The Amergin University Institute of Research in Irish Studies, University of A Coruña	María Teresa Seoane Sande	amergin@udc.es
	The Granada Centre for Irish Studies, University of Granada	Prof. Pilar Villar Argáiz	pvillar@ugr.es
	The Oviedo Centre for Irish Studies, University of Oviedo	Prof. Luz Mar Gonzáles-Arias	luzmargonarias@gmail.com

ASSOCIATION/COUNTRY	NAME OF CENTRE	HEAD AND CONTACT	DETAILS
	Banna/Bond University Centre of Irish Studies 4 Universities: University of Burgos University of Deusto University of La Rioja University of Zaragoza	Prof. Melania Terrazas	melania.terrazas@unirioja.es
	The Santiago Centre for Irish Studies, University of Santiago de Compostela	Dr. Margarita Estevez Saá and Dr. Manuela Palacios Gonzáles	margarita.estevez.saa@usc.es
Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Iceland Association membership: NISN Secretary: Dr. Anne Karhio anne.karhio@nuigalway.ie	Agder Irish Network (AINE) 3 Universities: Agder Tromsø Høgskolen i Bergen	Prof. Charles Armstrong	charles.armstrong@uia.no
	DUCIS – Dalarna University Centre for Irish Studies, Dalarna University	Prof Carmen Zamorano Llena and Prof. Billy Gray	cza@du.se bgr@du.se
	The Gothenburg Centre of Irish Studies, University of Gothenburg	Prof. Britta Olinder	britta.olinder@eng.gu.se
	The Oulu Centre of Irish Studies, University of Oulu	Dr. John Braidwood	john.braidwood@oulu.fi
United Kingdom Association membership: BAIS Secretary: Dr. Claire Lynch claire.lynch@brunel.ac.uk	Research Institute of Scottish and Irish Studies, University of Aberdeen	Prof. Cairns Craig and Dr. Sandra Hynes	sandra.hynes@abdn.ac.uk
	The Institute of Irish Studies, Queen's University Belfast	Prof. Peter Gray	p.h.gray@qub.ac.uk

ASSOCIATION/COUNTRY	NAME OF CENTRE	HEAD AND CONTACT	DETAILS
	Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool	Dr. Kevin Bean	Kevinb@liverpool.ac.uk
Austria	CIS – Centre for Irish Studies, University of Vienna	Prof. Dieter Fuchs	dieter.fuchs@univie.ac.at
Belgium	Leuven Centre for Irish Studies, KU Leuven	Prof. Hedwig Schwall and Sven Kretzschmar	hedwig.schwall@kuleuven.be efaciscoord@gmail.com
Czech Republic	Centre for Irish Studies, Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures, Charles University Prague	Prof. Ondřej Pilný	ondrej.pilny@ff.cuni.cz
Denmark	The Centre for Irish Studies in Aarhus, University of Aarhus	Prof. Sara Dybris McQuaid	engsdm@cc.au.dk
Germany	Irish Studies at the University of Wuppertal	Prof. Katharina Rennhak	rennhak@uni-wuppertal.de
	Irish Studies at Saarland University	Prof. Joachim Frenk	frenk@mx.uni-saarland.de
Hungary	Budapest Centre for Irish Studies (BCIS) 5 Universities: Pázmány Péter Catholic University Eötvös Loránd University Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church Central European University János Kodolányi University of the Applied Sciences	Prof. Michael McAteer	budapestirishstudies01@gmail.com

ASSOCIATION/COUNTRY	NAME OF CENTRE	HEAD AND CONTACT	DETAILS
	Debrecen Centre of Irish Studies, University of Debrecen	Prof. Marianna Gula and Prof. Csilla Bertha	mariannagula@gmail.com csillabertha@gmail.com
Italy	Florence Irish Studies Centre, University of Florence	Prof. Fiorenzo Fantaccini	fiorenzo.fantaccini@unifi.it
	Yeats Studies in Italy, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan	Prof. Enrico Reggiani	enrico.reggiani@unicatt.it
	The Palermo Centre of Irish Studies, University of Palermo	Prof. Chiara Sciarrino	chiara.sciarrino@unipa.it
	Centre of Interdisciplinary Research in Irish and Scottish Studies, Roma Tre University	Prof. Maria Stefanelli	mariaanita.stefanelli@uniroma3.it
	The Sassari Centre of Irish Studies, University of Sassari	Prof. Loredana Salis	lasalis@uniss.it
	The Turin Centre of Irish Studies, University of Turin	Dr. Irene De Angelis	irene.deangelis@unito.it
	The Trieste Joyce School, University of Trieste	Prof. Laura Pelaschiar	pelaschi@units.it
Ireland	Centre for New Irish Studies, Trinity College Dublin	Dr. Mark Hennessey and Dr. Sarah Kerr	sarah.kerr@tcd.ie
	The UCD Centre for Irish Studies, University College Dublin	Dr. Emily Mark-FitzGerald and Dr. Aoife Whelan	aoife.whelan@ucd.ie
	Centre for Irish Studies, NUI Galway	Dr. Louis de Paor and Samantha Williams	samantha.williams@nuigalway.ie

ASSOCIATION/COUNTRY	NAME OF CENTRE	CONTACT	DETAILS
Poland	ULCIS – The University of Łódź Centre for Irish Studies, University of Łódź	Dr. Wit Pietrzak and Dr. Katarzyna Ostalska	katarzyna.ostalska@uni.lodz.pl
Portugal	Irish Studies Centre Portugal 4 Universities: University of Minho University of Porto University of Coimbra Polytechnic Leiria (University of Applied Science)	Prof. Filomena Louro	louro.mf@gmail.com
	Irish Studies and New Literatures in English Research Group, University of Lisbon	Prof. Teresa Cid and Dr. Maria Teresa Correia Casal	mcasal@campus.ul.pt
Russia and the Baltic States	Irish Cultural Centre 2 Universities: St. Petersburg State University Russian State Pedagogical University	Dr. Andrey Mashinyan	andrianboru@gmail.com

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¹ Mary Regan, "Diaspora a source of global 'soft power'", *Irish Examiner*, 8 October 2011, <https://www.irishexaminer.com/ireland/politics/diaspora-a-source-of-global-soft-power-170013.html>

² The British Council, "Culture means business: How international cultural relationships contribute to increased trade and competitiveness for the UK", 2013, <https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/culture-means-business-report-v2.pdf>

³ Dustin Roasa, "China's Soft Power Surge", *FP*, 19 November 2012, <http://foreignpolicy.com/2012/11/19/chinas-soft-power-surge/>

⁴ Joseph S. Nye, (2011). *The Future of Power*. New York: PublicAffairs. p. 84.

⁵ Please note while we received responses from the UK and Ireland to our survey, this report and charts contained therein relate to the responses received from the membership in continental Europe given the particularities of the experience of Irish Studies in this area.

⁶ Jochen Achilles, "How to Strengthen Irish Studies throughout Europe? A Diagnosis Based on the German-Speaking Countries", *Estudios Irlandeses* 13 (2018): 14-26 <https://www.estudiosirlandeses.org/2018/03/how-to-strengthen-irish-studies-throughout-europe-a-diagnosis-based-on-the-german-speaking-countries/>

Students in Kortrijk, Belgium, listening to a reading by Claire Kilroy, author of 'The Devil I Know'.





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