

## Regional Report 2024-2025 France

### Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

- October 11, 2024: « Nouvelles pratiques, nouveaux discours – Problématiser et diffuser les enjeux contemporains en études irlandaises » (University of Tours, org. Erick Falc'her Poyroux, Monia O'Brien-Castro and Martine Pelletier, with support from GIS EIRE)
- October 23-24, 2024: « Des 'Celts' dans le Pacifique ? Diasporas, métissages et revitalisation identitaire » (Université de la Nouvelle-Calédonie, Université de Toulon and Université Savoie Mont Blanc, org. Noémie Beck and Frédéric Armao)
- October 25, 2024: one-day conference on Northern Ireland (the Troubles being on the syllabus of the Agrégation), org. Anne-Catherine de Bouvier, Eva Gallot and Christophe Gillissen, University of Caen
- December 13, 2024: one-day conference for the Agrégation on « Protest movements, political and social struggles in Britain 1811-1914), University of Lille. Journée d'études agrégation «Mouvements protestataires, contestations politiques et luttes sociales en Grande-Bretagne (1811-1914) », Université de Lille, org. Geraldine Vaughan and Philippe Vervaecke. Talks on Ireland by Claire Dubois ("In defence of barmaids. Eva Gore-Booth and Constance Markievicz against Winston Churchill") and Pauline Collombier ("Challenging the authority of the British empire? Irish views and British views")
- March 21 & 22, 2025: SOFEIR Conference, University College Cork, "Ireland and Transnational solidarities", org. Heather Laird and Hélène Lecossois
- April 10 & 11, 2025: "Individual and Collective Experiences of Place: Attachment, Belonging and Participation », closing conference of the oral history research project led by J. Etchart and S. Tobia. Two SOFEIR members gave talks:
  - Hélène Alfaro-Hamayon, "Community Theatre in Northern Ireland in the 1980s and 1990s: Collective Experiences of Place and Attachment"
  - Lara Cuny, "Place identity and peace-building: the example of Belfast"One of the keynote speakers was Graham Dawson, a specialist of Memory and History from the University of Brighton

- May 22-23, 2025: International conference on “Religious minorities’ role in redefining national ‘imagined communities’? The case of Protestantism and Judaism in France, Ireland, and Italy (late 18th-early 20th century)”, org. Karina Wendling, University of Lorraine
- May 22-23, 2025: AFIS Conference « Consolation(s) in France and/or Ireland », org. Alexandra Maclennan and Eamon Maher, University of Caen, with the support of GIS EIRE and the Irish embassy in France

### **Guest Lectures and Roundtable Discussions**

- September 19, 2024: Jesse Patrick Harrington (DIAS), “St Laurent d’Eu: a Medieval Irish Saint in Northern France” (Université de Caen Normandy, org. Alexandra Maclennan)
- November 7, 2024: Dónal Hassett (National University of Ireland, Maynooth), « Repenser l’ancien combattant depuis l’empire colonial » and Raphaël Willay (Université du Littoral-Côte d’Opale), seminar « Mémoires en conflit : le souvenir des soldats irlandais de 14-18 », University of Lille
- November 21, 2024: Helen Penet (University of Lille) “Representations of consent in Irish YA fiction after #MeToo”, CECILLE seminar, University of Lille
- January 23, 2025: Pauline Collombier (University of Lorraine), “Challenging the authority of the British empire? Comparing the views of Irish home rulers, British positivists and British socialists”, ERIBIA seminar, University of Caen.
- January 23, 2025: Marguerite Corporaal (Radboud University), “‘One Emigrant More’: The Transnational Dimensions of Irish Local Colour Fiction, 1885-1910”, CECILLE seminar, University of Lille
- February 13, 2025: Karine Bigand (Université d’Aix-Marseille), “On the record: Healing Through Remembering’s grassroots peace work in Northern Ireland”, CECILLE seminar, University of Lille
- March 20, 2025: Airelle Theveniaut, “‘Do you have Irish?’ – Focus sur l’identité irlandaise des locuteurs du Comté de Galway, au sud du Connemara », & Cathal O’Boyle, Anglicisation of Irish Names: People and Places (Conference, University of South Brittany)
- March 24, 2025: QUB, Irish Studies Seminars. Dr Frank Rynne (CY Cergy Paris University), ‘The Most Wanted tourist, the Invincible Frank Byrne in France, 1883’.

- May 14, 2025: Pauline Collombier, “Women and Home Rule. Elizabeth Dillon, wife of John Dillon”, Irish History Seminars, Sydney Sussex College

### **Author Readings, Interviews and other Cultural Events**

- November 12, 2024: Hélène Lecossois (University of Lille), Paul Lynch, EFACIS Bookclub
- February 12, 2025: Sylvie Mikowski, Sebastian Barry, EFACIS Bookclub
- March 3-10, 2025: Literary encounter and reading with Mike McCormack, visiting Professor, University of Lille, and his translator Nicolas Richard, Research seminar on the domestic sphere as a place of production of politics (org. Hélène Lecossois)
- March 13, 2025: Helen Penet (University of Lille), Louise O’Neill, EFACIS Itinerary Podcast
- April 4, 2025: Printemps du Livre de Grenoble, Encounter with Karl Geary, author of *Juno Loves Legs* (org. Marie Mianowski)

### **Miscellaneous Events and Information**

- SOFEIR grants for Doctoral students in 2024: Joanna Gasquet (Caen), Louise Gerbier (Sorbonne Nouvelle), Padraic Lamb (Lyon 2), Taylor Still (Rennes & UCC), Costanza Rapa (Grenoble-Alpes)
- Graduate seminar, University of Caen Normandy, coordinated by Sarah Lévy-Valensi
- May 16-17, 2025, Festival du Livre Anglophone, Caen & Crèvecœur-en-Auge castle (org. Bertrand Cardin). Among the authors invited: Jan Carson

### **New Projects or Funding Ideas:**

- Ongoing national mapping of courses in Irish Studies in French universities