

# Regional Report 2023-2024 Spain

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## Conferences and seminars (and EFACIS engagement)

- The annual 22nd AEDEI International Conference for Irish Studies was successfully held in Alcalá de Henares on May 29-31, 2024. The main organiser was Marisol Morales Ladrón, from the University of Alcalá and she was helped by other colleagues in the organising committee (Alberto Lazaro, Juan Elices Agudo, and Marta Martín Amor). The theme of the conference was “Ethics” and we had approximately 80 attendants from 15 different nationalities. Irish writers Lucy Caldwell and Mary Costello came thanks to financial support from the EFACIS Irish Itinerary. Our plenary speakers were Professors Anne Fogarty and Hedwig Schwall. Irish playwright and actor Denis Rafter performed his own solo play *Plato and me*; and Nora Moroney conducted a *Céilí* dancing workshop. We now look forward to our 23rd AEDEI Conference, which will be held at the end of May 2025 at the University of Huelva. The main organisers will be Auxiliadora Pérez Vides and José Carregal-Romero.
- During this last year, *Estudios Irlandeses*, the scholarly journal of AEDEI, has published its regular issue (issue 19: <https://www.estudiosirlandeses.org/issue/issue-19/>) in March 2024 and a previous special issue (18.2) on “Enlightenment Legacies” at the end of 2023 (<https://www.estudiosirlandeses.org/issue/issue-18-2/>); Since its foundation in 2005, the recognition of the high standard of the journal has significantly increased. Awarded with the FECYT quality seal for excellence in scientific journals, recently renewed in 2023, it is indexed in the following directories and databases: Scopus, Emerging Sources Citation Index, MLA, DOAJ, Academic Search Premier, Directory of Open Access Journals, MIAR, ERIHPlus, Latindex and Dialnet. The General Editor is Margarita Estévez-Saá, and Managing Editors are José Carregal-Romero, Alfred Markey and Noemí Pereira-Ares.
- Other academic events happening in Spain on the field of Irish Studies include the following, in alphabetical order of venue (many of these activities were partially funded by EFACIS through the programme of the Irish Itinerary):
  - Cáceres. In March 2024 the EFACIS Centre for Irish Studies at the University of Cáceres organised a series of talks in Spanish secondary schools on occasion of St Patrick’s. They also hosted the International Conference “New Perspectives on Irish English 8”, on May 16-18 2024 under the direction of Carolina Amador Moreno.
  - Granada: On 29 January - 2 February 2024, the “VII International Seminar on Irish Studies” took place at the University of Granada, under the direction of Pilar Villar-Argáiz. The Irish artists whose participation was funded by the Irish Itinerary sponsored by EFACIS were Dermot Bolger and Emilie Pine; these two writers also delivered readings, respectively, at the University of Alcalá (Center Alka-Éire) and University of Almería. Other activities included music performances by renowned musicians Louise Mulcahy and Matt Cranitch and a public interview with the director of *The Quiet Girl*, Colm Bairéad. On the week of 15-18 March 2023, The Circle of Irish Studies at the University of Granada organised a series of academic events on occasion of the celebration of St Patrick’s. This included intensive seminars on Irish dancing, culture and literature. Bloomsday was also celebrated by this very same institution in Granada, with readings from Joyce at the genuine Irish Pub Daly’s in Granada on 16 June 2024.

- Huelva. The “III Irish Studies International Seminar on Irish Studies” took place at the University of Huelva on April 9, 2024 under the theme “Cultural Waves in Ireland and Irish Studies”. This event, organised by Auxiliadora Pérez Vides and José Carregal-Romero, counted on the participation of various scholars from Spain and Ireland.
- La Rioja. Various events were organised by the Centre of Irish Studies Banna/Bond, led by Melania Terrazas Gallego. On September 28, 2023, invited plenary speaker Monica Pearl participated at the “VI International Seminar on Saint Patrick’s Day: Irish Itinerary 2023” and on 23 November 2023, invited plenary speaker Stephanie Schwerter delivered a lecture at the International seminar “Posthuman Intersections in Irish and Galician Literature: International Seminar Series 2023”. Banna Bond also organised an intensive seminar on November 22, 2023 within the doctorate programme on Humanities and Communication at the University of Burgos, this time under the direction of M<sup>a</sup> Amor Barros del Río.
- Málaga. On May 9-10, 2024, the 33rd annual conference of the Spanish James Joyce Association organised its annual conference at the University of Málaga, under the direction of Profs. Juan Ignacio Oliva Cruz and Rosario Arias.
- Vigo. On October 2-3, 2024, Teresa Caneda Cabrera from the University of Burgos organised the intensive seminar “Gender Vulnerability: Resistance and Resilience in the Work of Contemporary Women Writers” with plenary speakers from other institutions in Spain delivering lectures on Irish female writers.

### **New Centres**

Two new centres on Irish Studies have been founded during this academic year: 1) The Basque Center for Irish Studies ([Eusk-Cara](#)) led by Olga Fernández Vicente and Richard Jorge, and the academic network WAÉIRE (Irish Studies in the West of Andalusia), led by Auxiliadora Pérez Vides and comprising 4 different institutions (University of Córdoba, University of Huelva, University Pablo de Olavide and University of Seville).