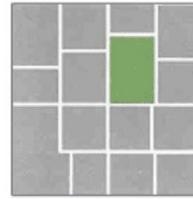


Sociological Association of Ireland Annual Conference  
2019

# Connecting Sociologies

10-11 May 2019



Sociological  
Association of  
Ireland



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

Annual Conference 2019

## School of Political Science and Sociology, NUI Galway

The School of Political Science and Sociology at NUI Galway will host the SAI 2019 Conference, on 10-11 May 2019, on the theme of connecting and connected sociologies.

Irish society can be said to be globally 'connected' in many ways – technologically, economically, culturally and historically, but how connected is the Irish sociological imagination? Undoubtedly, migration, diaspora and more millennial narratives of 'global Irishness' are all central themes, but there are many more ways to think about 'connection'. SAI's 2019 annual conference will open up opportunities to debate, think through and share research, reflections, commitments and concerns about the content of sociology and its connectedness or disconnectedness, but also the types of connections that sociology makes to other disciplines and practices, to different social realities, experiences, communities, persons, narratives and practices. This annual meeting will offer stimulating opportunities to engage in conversations concerning what sociology is for and who it is about, and to find ways to articulate and speak about the state of sociology and the currently very challenging wider contexts of higher education, research, teaching transformations, the political and policy contexts and engagement with different publics.

Themes:

- Connecting Sociological presents, pasts and futures
- Connecting Sociology with its publics
- Connecting Sociology and places
- Connecting Sociology and policy
- Connecting Sociology and struggles for social justice
- Connecting Sociology and allied disciplines and practices
- Connecting Sociology with the political economy of higher education
- Connecting Sociology and politics
- Theorizing connectedness
- Connecting sociologies and whiteness studies - unsettling sociology
- Decolonization and connectedness
- Digital connectedness, inclusions and exclusions
- Social, economic and cultural infrastructures of connection
- Open Stream

## Keynote

**Professor Gurminder Bhambra, School of Global Studies,  
University of Sussex**

**Author of *Connected Sociologies* (Bloomsbury, 2014)**

In her groundbreaking book, *Connected Sociologies*, Gurminder K. Bhambra re-thinks the classical concerns of sociology and social theory through an engagement with postcolonial studies and decoloniality. Bhambra offers a critical diagnosis of the fragmented condition of sociology and challenges the hegemonically Western focus of sociology as a discipline. Somewhat counter to Burawoy's optimistic view of a sociology engaged with broad and dissident publics, Bhambra critiques a core of sociology that remains generally indifferent to dissident and peripheral perspectives. The concerns with 'connections' set out a more inclusive version of global intellectual history and the place of sociology in global social science. The concerns of this book are also inseparable from the consideration of the contemporary context of transformations in the higher education research and teaching landscape. The book offers a defence of the public university as a site for contesting current transformations, and sets sociology at the centre of processes of opening up and democratizing knowledge production.



## Plenary

**Professor Maggie O'Neill, University College Cork**

Recently appointed to the School of Sociology at UCC, and previously Chair at York University and Professor at Durham University, Maggie O'Neill will address the theme of methodological innovation, drawing on her own work with participatory action research in the study of borders, risk and belonging.

**More speakers to be announced....**

## Call for Proposals

The Conference Committee invites for proposals and expressions of interest in contributing sessions, posters or other scholarly activities that fit with the conference theme. Please send an abstract of 150-300 words, specifying your proposed format.

Proposed Formats may include

- Research presentations offering a theoretical and/or empirical contribution
- Workshop, interview or panel discussion - please specify title, format, chair/facilitators and number of panel members and names.
- Posters
- Reflective practice presentations on sociology in practice e.g. case studies, critical reflection on specific experiences or practices
- Alt-format- Alternative short formats (5-7 minutes max) such as demos, Pecha Kucha, spoken word, TED-style talk, performance, improvisation, screening a digital story, web content

This call closes at midnight (GMT) on 17 February 2019. We will notify successful applicants as soon as possible after this date.

### How to submit

Download the Submission form from [www.sociology.ie](http://www.sociology.ie) in Word format

On completion, please email to [sociology.ie@gmail.com](mailto:sociology.ie@gmail.com) by 17 February

Organisers of roundtables and panels/symposia are asked to get in touch with us as early as possible to indicate their chosen theme. This will aid the planning of the conference programme.

**Please share this Call for Papers with colleagues in your University, Institute of Technology or research institution and wider academic networks.**

[www.sociology.ie](http://www.sociology.ie)

[sociology.ie@gmail.com](mailto:sociology.ie@gmail.com)

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