



**IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL**  
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**CAROLINE**  
Collaborative Research Fellowships  
for a Responsive and Innovative Europe



**CAROLINE: Collaborative Research Fellowships for a Responsive and Innovative Europe**  
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**The University of Dublin, Trinity College (TCD)**

**Comparative Studies on the Peace Processes in Northern Ireland and Korea:  
Toward Strategic Peacebuilding**

**REA Site Visit 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Irish Research Council, Dublin**

# Previous Positions

- Adjunct Assistant Professor, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin, Republic of Ireland
- Visiting Research Fellow, Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin, Republic of Ireland
- Adjunct Professor, University of North Korean Studies, Republic of Korea
- Director, The Peace Culture Institute in Korea, Republic of Korea
- Policy Advisor, Okedongmu Children in Korea; Korean Sharing Movement (UN ECOSOC consultative status), Republic of Korea

# My CAROLINE research

- explores the lessons and challenges of two contemporary peace processes, Northern Ireland and Korea
- assesses and compares the impact of peacebuilding activities in Northern Ireland and Korea, identifies fragile and durable conditions of the peace processes
- increases understanding about how to create a viable peacebuilding strategy in the context of a protracted conflict
- develops models for sustainable peacebuilding strategies in each context

# Home Host Organisation

- The Dublin and Belfast campuses of the Irish School of Ecumenics, TCD, work on an all-Ireland basis, providing a unique opportunity for peace researchers to learn about the NI conflict and peace process, and to conduct comparative peace research
- This research environment of ISE, particularly the engagement with academic experts in Conflict, Peace, Reconciliation, Ireland, Northern Ireland, and EU, will facilitate the advancement of the research
- TCD has several centres and offices suitable for supporting the Fellowship, such as Learning and Development Unit, Human Resources, and Trinity Centre for Asian Studies

# Main Partner Organisation

- Corrymeela is a peace organisation in Northern Ireland, with more than 50 years of peacebuilding history
- Corrymeela has been a safe space for people from diverse identities, backgrounds, traditions and cultures to meet and exchange dialogue. It also operates as a refuge for victims of violence and protracted conflict
- Corrymeela is, therefore, the optimal partner organisation for me to research the Northern Ireland peace process, and to explore models for strategic peacebuilding

# Research Progress

- collecting research resources on the Northern Ireland Peace Process: Libraries, Visits, Meetings, Internet etc.
- identifying comparisons between the Northern Irish and the Korean Peace Processes based on literature review: “Sharing Lessons between Peace Processes: A Comparative Case Study on the Northern Ireland and Korean Peace Processes”, *Social Sciences*, 7(3), on 20 March 2018
- obtaining access to interviews in Northern Ireland: Approx. 30 civil society leaders and politicians
- reviewing the Korean Peace Process from the perspective of strategic peacebuilding: *The Korean Peace Process and Civil Society: Towards Strategic Peacebuilding*, (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming)

# Training Experience

- improving international research and dissemination skills: Writing and publishing a monograph and a research article
- increasing research impact by publishing popularised articles, engaging with media, organising and participating in seminars, meetings and workshops on peacebuilding in Northern Ireland and Korea: The Conversation (67,625 views), BBC Radio and RTÉ Radio Interviews, MBC TV Documentary Coordination and Interview, Peace Education Symposium etc.
- enhancing research project management, practical skills in peacebuilding, and knowledge about Northern Ireland by participating in training programmes by TCD, USIP and Corrymeela: Professional Skills for Research Leaders (PSRL); Strategic Peacebuilding; Heritage as Reconciliation

# Expected Career Impact

A unique opportunity for me

- to increase my understanding of where I am now as a professional researcher and where I want to be, by equipping me with the skills needed for professional development
- to research peace and conflict in a new cultural context and advance my academic and practical skills to an international level
- to become a bridge between Europe and Asia and between theory and practice in international peace studies to overcome impasses and increase sustainability in peacebuilding