



# EEAC 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

## Delivering a Just Transition for All: Principles, Policies and Practice

### Online Conference Hosted in Dublin, Ireland

LOCAL IRISH TIMES (GMT)

Day 1: Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (GMT)

Day 2: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (GMT)

Day 3: Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 (GMT)

### Introduction

NESC is hosting the 28th Annual Conference of the European network of advisory councils on environment and sustainable development (EEAC Network), of which NESC is a member. This event will comprise a mix of keynote speakers, panel discussions and spotlight sessions. NESC is honoured that the conference will include a keynote address by the **President of Ireland, Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins.**



President Michael D. Higgins is serving his second term as Ireland's head of state, an elected office, having previously served at almost every level of public life in Ireland. Throughout his life, Michael D. Higgins has campaigned for human rights and for the promotion of peace and democracy. In 1992, Michael D. Higgins was the first recipient of the Seán MacBride Peace Prize from the International Peace Bureau in Helsinki, in recognition of his work for peace and justice in many parts of the world. He is also a writer and poet, contributing to many books covering diverse aspects of Irish politics, sociology, history and culture. He is an inspirational speaker, and has recently made important contributions to the debate on a just transition in Ireland and the world.

### What is the Conference about?

Ireland and the European Union are committed to the transformation to a sustainable, inclusive, thriving net zero economy and society. This conference will focus on how the principles of justice, fairness, equality and equity of a just transition can act as a lever and guide to shape policies and practices to deliver the transformation. NESC's recent work on just transition and employment vulnerability will be a valuable input to the day.

### What will be discussed?

The conference will provide a forum for Irish and European colleagues to share perspectives, experiences and practices and develop a common understanding and concrete strategies for making progress. The conference will shed light on how other countries are managing the transition process, with special attention paid to managing the impacts of climate policy that might disproportionately impact specific groups in society. This is required because transitions represent enormous challenges and the ambition of the 2030 Agenda states that no one should be left behind.

### Who will be coming?

This online gathering will bring together European and Irish Advisory Councils, their stakeholders, international experts, policy makers and practitioners to reflect on what a just transition means and how it is shaping policy and practice.

## Online Programme (times are local Irish, GMT)

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b>
	<b><u>Webinar 1: Live Broadcast</u></b>
<b>14.00 (GMT)</b>	<b><u>Session A: Just Transition—Principles and Mission</u></b> What is a fair, inclusive and equitable green transition and why do we need it?
	<b>Welcome: Dr Cara Augustenborg</b> , Conference Moderator
<b>14.15 (GMT)</b>	<b>Dr Larry O’Connell</b> , Director, NESC Insights from the Work of the Council on Just Transition
<b>14.25 (GMT)</b>	<b>Mr Eamon Ryan T.D., Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications</b>
<b>14.40 (GMT)</b>	<b>Mr Stefano Grassi</b> , Head of Cabinet to the European Commissioner responsible for Energy European Green Deal—Green Transition
<b>14.50 (GMT)</b>	<b>Ms Sharan Burrow</b> , General Secretary, ITUC Just Transition
<b>15.00 (GMT)</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>15.10 (GMT)</b>	<b><u>Video Presentation: National Youth Council of Ireland, Building Back Fairer—A Just Transition for All</u></b>
<b>15.15 (GMT)</b>	<b><u>Session B: Learning from Just Transition Practices and Institutions</u></b> <b>Panel Discussion with Moderator</b>
	<b>Dr Robert Pollock</b> , Senior Advisor, Initiative for Coal Regions in Transition Secretariat, Learning from Transition in EU Coal and Peat Intensive Regions
	<b>Dr Fergus Green</b> , Postdoctoral Researcher on the Fair Limits Project, Utrecht University Just Transition Lessons from Australia
	<b>Ms Charlotte Hartley</b> , Member of the Scottish Just Transition Commission Insights from the Role of a Just Transition Commissioner
<b>15.45 (GMT)</b>	<b>Q&amp;A / Open Discussion</b>
<b>16.00 (GMT)</b>	<b>Close</b>
<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	<b><u>Online Spotlight Session</u></b> <b>(Participants may attend any spotlight from Session C)</b>
<b>09.00 (GMT)</b>	<b><u>Session C: Levers to Drive a Just Transition</u></b>
	<b>1. Just Transition, Vulnerability, and Policy Responses</b> Chaired by Dr Damian Thomas, NESC
	<b>2. Advising on a Just Transition</b> Chaired by Prof Anna Davies, Irish Climate Change Advisory Council
	<b>3. A Just Water Transition</b> Chaired by Mr Jan Verheeke, Secretary of the Minaraad, Flanders in conjunction with CADS, Catalonia
<b>10.30 (GMT)</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>Part 2</b>	<b><u>Online Spotlight Sessions</u></b> <b>(Participants may attend any spotlight from Session D)</b>
<b>11.00 (GMT)</b>	<b><u>Session D: Levers to Drive a Just Transition</u></b>
	<b>1. Sustainable and Resilient Regions</b> Chaired by Prof Sinead O’Flanagan, NESC Member
	<b>2. State-citizen Interplay for Achieving a Just Transition: Lessons from the Netherlands</b> Chaired by Mr Luc Boot, Dutch Council for the Environment and Infrastructure (Rli)
	<b>3. Finance for a Just Transition</b> Chaired by Dr Nathalie Boucquey, Federal Council for Sustainable Development, Belgium & Dr Hannah Janetschek, Nachhaltigkeitsrat (German Council for Sustainable Development)
<b>12.30 (GMT)</b>	<b>Close</b>

<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020</b> <b><u>Webinar 2: Live Broadcast from Dublin Castle</u></b>
<b>09.00 (GMT)</b>	<b>Welcome and recap of previous days: Dr Cara Augustenborg and Dr Larry O’Connell</b>
	<b><u>Session E: Participatory Processes for a Fair and Inclusive Transition</u></b> <b>What role for Commissions, Councils and Social Dialogue?</b>
<b>09.10 (GMT)</b>	<b>Live input from Councils and Multi-stakeholder Bodies</b> <b>Mr Peter Schmidt</b> , Outgoing President, EESC-SDO <b>Mr Arnau Queralt-Bassa</b> , Chairman, EEAC Network <b>Mr Luke Murphy</b> , Head of the Environmental Justice Commission, IPPR <b>Ms Elif Gündüzyeli</b> , Senior Coal Policy Coordinator, CAN Europe
<b>10.00 (GMT)</b>	<b><u>Session F: What Next for Just Transition Mission, Process &amp; Practice in the context of Covid-19?</u></b>
	<b>Introduction: Dr Larry O’Connell</b> , Director, NESC
<b>10.10 (GMT)</b>	<b>Keynote Address by the President of Ireland, Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins</b>
<b>10.30 (GMT)</b>	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> <b>Dr Patrick Bresnihan</b> , Lecturer in Geography, Maynooth University <b>Ms Alice Charles</b> , Lead of the Cities, Infrastructure and Urban Services Platform, World Economic Forum <b>Prof Raphael J Heffron</b> , Professor for Global Energy Law & Sustainability, University of Dundee <b>Dr Edouard Morena</b> , Lecturer in French Studies and International Politics, University of London <b>Ms Sandrine Dixson-Declève</b> , Co-President, The Club of Rome
<b>11.15 (GMT)</b>	<b>Wrap up and closing session</b>