



OLLSCOIL NA  
GAILLIMHE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF GALWAY

An Institiúid Cúrsa Saoil  
& Sochaí  
Institute for Lifecourse  
& Society

ENABLING  
EQUITY  
ACROSS THE  
LIFE COURSE

## Institute for Lifecourse and Society - ILAS *International Research Training Series*



### **Feminism and social interventions across the life course: between solidarity and complicity.**

Social interventions have always been impacted by political and social emancipation movements. The ideals of national liberation, for women's rights, decolonization, LGBTQ\* rights, and the fight against age-ism and able-ism have empowered social service providers to develop fair professional practices. However, when social movements are successful, these ideals are integrated in local and national social policies. This integration in 'biopolitical governance' offers new dilemmas and pitfalls for those involved in social services.

Following the talk, there will be a facilitated discussion on the learning and implications from Berteke's talk.

**DATE:** Thursday, 26th March 2026

**TIME:** 10:00 -13:00

**VENUE:** ILAS Building, University of Galway

[Register here](#)

SAVE THE DATE



In this talk seminar, Prof. Waaldijk will take the interaction between social interventions (e.g. social pedagogy, social support, social care, social work) and women's movements as a starting point to explore the tensions that result when solidarity and resistance become 'part of the system'. Can subversive feminist ideals survive when becoming part of institutional policies? Are social service providers and their allies caught between complicity and abolition?

# Speaker



**Prof Berteke Waaldijk** (1957) is a recently retired professor from Utrecht University. Her research is focused on gender, culture and citizenship. She published on history and gender of social work in the Netherlands and in Europe. In other projects she explored colonial feminism and histories of Dutch Women's movements. She explores transdisciplinary aspects of historical research: how to work with societal partners and colleagues from other fields.

She was involved in projects on learning and teaching in Gender Studies and committed to connect critical academic scholarship with worlds of activism and advocacy. She was involved in turning internships into Action Research. She is currently writing in the field of feminism and the politics of social work.

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## Schedule

Time	Details
09:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 10:10	Welcome and Introductions
10:10 - 11:10	Title
11:00 - 11:00	Title
11:00 - 10:00	Discussion & Closing Remarks
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch

### Contact

**Ms. Deirdre Conway** - Administration and Engagement  
email: [deirdre.conway@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:deirdre.conway@universityofgalway.ie)

**Prof. Caroline McGregor** - Director  
email: [caroline.mcgregor@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:caroline.mcgregor@universityofgalway.ie)

[www.universityofgalway.ie/ilas](http://www.universityofgalway.ie/ilas)

### ILAS Constituent Centres

Centre for Disability Law and Public Policy (CDLP)

Centre for Applied Linguistics & Multilingualism (CALM)

Community Engaged Research in Action (CORA)

Community Engagement

Health Economics and Policy Analysis Centre (HEPAC)

Irish Centre for Social Gerontology (ICSG)

Irish Centre for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Research (ICAN)

PPI Ignite Network

UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre (UCFRC)

# Speakers

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**Dr Cormac Forkan** has been a lecturer in the School of Political Science and Sociology since October 2002. He is the Programme Director for the BA Youth and Family Studies (GY120). Cormac is also affiliated with the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre at NUI Galway and has acted as the lead researcher on a number of significant national research Projects. Prior to joining NUI Galway, Cormac lectured in the Waterford Institute of Technology on the Applied Social Studies Course (Social Care). He started his professional career as a Youth Worker for Foróige, the National Youth Development Organisation.

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**Dr Tania de St Croix** was a youth worker for twenty years before becoming an academic. For the last decade she has worked at King's College London, where she is Senior Lecturer in the Sociology of Youth and Childhood. Her research is on the value and evaluation of youth work, and her teaching is on informal education, education policy, and social sciences for social change. She wrote the book "Grassroots youth work: Policy, passion and resistance in practice" and has published in journals including Journal of Education Policy, Journal of Youth Studies, and Youth and Policy. She loves hiking, creative writing, vegan cooking, and volunteering at her local youth club.

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**Prof. Caroline McGregor** is the Director of the Institute for Lifecourse and Society (ILAS) and a Senior Researcher at the UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre. Her expertise is in social work, with extensive experience in teaching, research and publishing on issues related to children, young people, and families. She co-authored "Support and Protection Across the Lifecourse" (2021) with Professor Pat Dolan. Since 2012, she has collaborated on research focused on persons with direct care experiences, family support, prevention, early intervention, and child protection. Additionally, she has worked as an SFI investigator on a CURAM focusing on impact orientation of principal investigators and science advocacy training.

# Schedule

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Time	Details
09:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 10:15	Welcome <i>Prof. Caroline McGregor, Director, Institute for Lifecourse &amp; Society.</i>
10:15 - 11:45	<b>Methodological Perspective Workshop 1:</b> "Health Economic Evaluation for the Health Technology Assessment of Health and Social Care Interventions." <i>Presented By: Prof. Paddy Gillespie, Health Economics and Policy Analysis Centre, Institute for Lifecourse &amp; Society.</i>
11:45 - 12:15	Break
12:15 - 13:45	<b>Methodological Perspective Workshop 2:</b> "Social Return on Investment (SROI) for the Evaluation of Alternative Education Provision Interventions." <i>Presented By: Dr Cormac Forkan, UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, Institute for Lifecourse &amp; Society.</i>
13:45 - 14:45	Break
14:45 - 15:45	<b>Seminar and Reflection on Evaluative Frameworks for Public Policy</b> <i>Presented By: Dr Tania de St Croix, Kings College London.</i>
15:45 - 16:00	Reflection and Closing Remarks <i>Prof. Paddy Gillespie, HEPAC, Institute for Lifecourse and Society.</i>

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