

## Inter-Institute Peace and Conflict Cluster (IPAC)

### 2012 Seminar Series

The Inter-Institute Peace and Conflict Cluster (IPAC) is an initiative to bring together researchers at the University of Ulster working on peace and conflict related research. IPAC partners include:

- INCORE - International Conflict Research Institute
- AHRI - Arts and Humanities Research Institute
- IRISS - Institute for Research in Social Sciences
- Peace and Conflict Cluster - Psychology Research Institute
- Social Science and Sport Group - Sports and Exercise Science Research Institute
- TJI - Transitional Justice Institute

IPAC is hosting its inaugural seminar series on the theme of ***Peacebuilding Approaches After Violent Conflict*** in 2012, which will be **open to both internal and external audiences**. You are cordially invited to the first in the seminar series.

#### **Transforming Belfast's Peace Walls Understanding the Dynamics of an Evolving Public Policy Process**

**Dr Jonny Byrne**

Lecturer in the School of Criminology, Politics and Social Policy, University of Ulster  
Member of Institute for Research in Social Sciences, IRISS

**Seminar: 12:15pm, 8 February 2012  
Room 16G29, Jordanstown Campus, University of Ulster**

Since the first paramilitary ceasefires in 1994 the peace and political processes have addressed several politically sensitive issues such as policing, paramilitary decommissioning, and power sharing. However, one issue that has been absent from both processes is that of the peace walls. First constructed in 1969 in response to sectarian violence and disorder, at least forty-two peace walls now dominate the landscape of working class Loyalist and Republican communities in Belfast. There is no evidence to suggest that these physical barriers will simply disappear and so public policy decisions will, at some point, have to be taken in relation to the future of these walls. This presentation identifies the key stakeholders in the new discourse that surrounds peace walls, and provides an exploration of the factors and influences, which may underpin the development of a policy process on the peace walls. The seminar is based on Dr Jonny Byrne's three year PhD completed in September 2011.

A light lunch will be served. **RSVP essential.**

Email: [S.Higgenbotham@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:S.Higgenbotham@ulster.ac.uk) or call Shonagh at INCORE (028 71675500)

**For more details on other Seminars in the series visit:  
<http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/ipac>**