

NICEM
15TH ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS
& EQUALITY CONFERENCE
“European Protection of Fundamental Rights II”

Date: Friday 20th September 2013

Venue: Holiday Inn, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast

Programme

0845 - 0930 Registration

**0930 - 0945 Introduction & the launch of the revised
NICEM Racial Equality Audit**

Chair of the Conference
Mr. Patrick Yu
Executive Director of NICEM

**Section 1: EU Charter of Fundamental Rights & CoE
European Social Charter**

0945 – 1005 EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: the progress so far
Professor Steve Peers (tbc)
School of Law
University of Essex

1005 – 1025 European Social Charter
Mr. Ramon Prieto-Suarrez
Department of the European Social Charter
Council of Europe

**1025 – 1045 European Protection on Social Rights and austerity
cuts: Ireland and beyond**
Dr. Padraic Kenna

Associate Head of Research, School of Law
National University of Ireland, Galway
Former Chair of the FEANSTA EU wide Expert Group on
Housing Rights

1045 – 1115 Open Discussion: Austerity Cuts and Social Rights

1115 – 1130 Coffee Break

Section 2: Public Sector Equality Duty: Empire strike back?

1130 – 1150 **The case in England, Wales and Scotland**

Ms. Barbara Cohen

Chair

Discrimination Law Association UK

Equality Consultant

1150 – 1220 **The case in Northern Ireland**

Ms. Patricia McKeown

Co-Convener

Equality Coalition and

Regional Secretary of UNISON

1220 – 1250 Open Discussion

1300 – 1400 **Lunch**

Section 3: Judicial Review and Public Interests Law of the year in GB & NI

1400 – 1415 **Introduction and the launch of the Public Interests Law Tool Kit**

Patrick Yu

Executive Director of NICEM

1415 – 1435 Recent Developments and Case Law in NI

Professor Gordon Anthony
Senior Lecturer
Department of Law
Queen's University of Belfast

1435 – 1455 Recent Developments and Case Law in GB

Mr. Ravi Low-Beer
Public Law Project
London

1455 – 1515 Open discussion

1515 – 1535 Coffee break

Section 4: Flag, Emblem and Parade: Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights Protection?

1535 – 1555 Overview of international human rights standards

Ms. Virginia McVea
Director
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission

1555 – 1625 Panel discussion

Ms. Dawn Purvis (tbc)
The Rt Rev. the Lord Eames (tbc)
Professor Colin Harvey

1625 - 1630 Conclusion and Closing