The Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

in association with

The School of History, University College Cork

and

The Embassy of Japan in Ireland

Disarmament and Non-Proliferation: Historical Perspectives & Future Objectives

A major one-day interdisciplinary symposium bringing together policy makers, practitioners, academics and civil society to consider historical and current disarmament issues.

28th March 2014
Venue: The Meeting Room, Royal Irish Academy

Attendance is free but places are limited so please register your interest at disarmamentsymposium@gmail.com
Indicative Schedule

09.45: Introduction and welcoming remarks by Dr. Mervyn O’Driscoll, School of History, University College Cork.

09.55: Introductory remarks from the Ambassador of Japan to Ireland, HE Chihiro Atsumi.

10.00: Keynote address by Mr. Joe Costello, Minister of State for Trade and Development, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

10.20: Keynote Address by Ms. Setsuko Thurlow, Survivor of the Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima.

10.50: Keynote Address by Dr. Patricia Lewis, Research Director for International Security at Chatham House, London.

11.15: Coffee Break

11.30: PANEL 1 – Disarmament in Practice

Practitioner panel. Topics covered will include: the humanitarian imperative and impact of disarmament; the role of the Defence Forces in relation to conventional disarmament; the role of the EU in disarmament and non-proliferation; the implementation of successful disarmament instruments such as Convention on Cluster Munitions and the Anti-Personnel Landmines Convention.

Moderator:
Dr. John Doyle, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dublin City University

Panellists:

1. Lt. Colonel Jim Burke, Defence Forces, Ireland.
   Speaking on a theme of: The role of the Irish Defence Forces in conventional disarmament.

   Speaking on a theme of: Europe as an actor in disarmament and non-proliferation diplomacy

3. John Borrie, Senior Researcher and Policy Advisor, UNIDIR
   Speaking on a theme of: The impact and implementation of the convention on cluster munitions.
14.30:  PANEL 2 – Reflections

A panel examining significant achievements in nuclear and conventional disarmament, including the Irish Resolution; Establishing and Consolidating the NPT; Disarmament and Development; the Oslo Process and the Convention on Cluster Munitions; Arms Trade Treaty.

Moderator:

Mr. Noel Dorr, Former Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Ireland.

Panellists:

1. Colm O’Gorman, Executive Director, Amnesty International Ireland
   Speaking on a theme of: Negotiating the Arms Trade Treaty: A success story?

2. Michael Kennedy, Executive Editor of the Documents on Irish Foreign Policy series, Royal Irish Academy
   Speaking on a theme of: ‘The shadow of the Atom bomb’, Frank Aiken’s non-proliferation legacy.

   Speaking on a theme of: Ireland and the negotiation of the convention on cluster munitions.
16.00: PANEL 3 - Getting to Zero: Opportunities and Obstacles in Nuclear Disarmament

Panel will discuss conceptual problems and approaches in achieving nuclear disarmament including, for example, Deterrence; Missile Defence; Role of Nuclear Weapons in Defence Policy; Negative Security Assurances; Nuclear Weapons Convention.

Moderator:

Prof. Ben Tonra, Head of the School of Politics and Associate Professor of International Relations, University College Dublin.

Panellists:

1. Dr. Andrew Cottey, Senior Lecturer and Jean Monnet Chair In European Political Integration  
   Speaking On a theme of: Europe’s soft power diplomacy and nuclear weapons

2. Dr. Nick Ritchie, Senior Lecturer in International Relations, University of York  
   Speaking on a theme of: Delegitimising nuclear weapons.

3. Dr. Rebecca Johnson, Acronym Institute  
   Speaking on a theme of: The humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons – a new approach.

17.15 Closing Remarks