

FORGIVENESS AND THE FUTURE: LESSONS FROM NORTHERN IRELAND, BOSNIA AND SOUTH SUDAN

22 February 2023
1.30pm - 5.00pm
Room 01/005, 22 University Square,
Queen's University Belfast



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**

**THE SENATOR
GEORGE J. MITCHELL
INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL PEACE,
SECURITY AND JUSTICE**

 **WOOLF
INSTITUTE**

Almost twenty-five years have passed since the signing of the Good Friday Agreement but the legacy of the past lives on in Northern Ireland.

This event will bring together academics, faith leaders, and practitioners to explore the role of forgiveness in dealing with the past.

Researchers on the Forgiveness and Future-building project, from the Woolf Institute in Cambridge, will present their findings from a two-year project that investigates the role of forgiveness in post-conflict societies from both a psychological and computational perspective.

The project involves research in Northern Ireland, Bosnia and South Sudan and analyses differences in how people intuitively reason about forgiveness in the aftermath of conflict. [Read more here.](#)

Using AI technology, the team has also put together a computational model that builds on previous work on modelling intergroup conflict in Northern Ireland.

This event will be recorded and will be available on the Mitchell Institute website afterwards.

This event is hosted by the Senator George J. Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice and is delivered in partnership with the Woolf Institute in Cambridge.

AGENDA

Part 1: Forgiveness and Conflict

1.30pm - 3.00pm, 22 University Square, Room 01/005.

- Prof Richard English: Welcome (and chair) (5 mins)
- Dr Katherine O’Lone: The Psychology of Forgiveness and Future-building (20 mins)
- Dr Justin E. Lane and Prof F. LeRon Shults: Modelling Forgiveness and Stability (35 mins)
- QUB respondent: Prof John Brewer (15 mins)
- Q&A (15 mins)

3.00pm - 3.30pm (tea/coffee), Junction Foyer, Main Site Tower.

Part 2: Understanding Conflict: From the Global to the Local

3.30pm - 5.00pm, 22 University Square, Room 01/005.

- Prof Gladys Ganiel: Intro (and chair) (5 mins)
- Pavol Kosnač: Studying Active Conflict and Paramilitaries (25 mins)
- Dr Gary Mason: Conflict and Beyond - A Local Perspective (25 mins)
- QUB respondent: Prof Gladys Ganiel (10 mins)
- Q&A (15 mins)
- Judith Thompson: Final thoughts (5-10 mins)