



Think2030 Conference Ireland

Environmental leadership for a resilient Europe

an Associated Event of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026

Organised by



Trinity Long Room Hub
Arts & Humanities Research Institute

Recognised as an Associated event of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU 2026



Conference programme

16 September 2026 – 09.00-15.30 Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin, the University of Dublin Dublin (Ireland)

09:00 –
09:30

Registration and refreshments

9:30 – 9:40

Welcome and opening remarks

Welcome by **Orlaigh Quinn**, Interim Director General, Institute of international and European Affairs (IIEA)

9:40 – 9:50

Opening remarks by **Antoine Oger**, Executive Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

9:50 – 10:05

Keynote addresses

Professor Jane Stout, Vice President for Biodiversity and Climate Action, and Professor of Ecology, Trinity

10:05 – 10:20

Riyong Kim, Environment and Sustainability Head of Programme, European Environment Agency (EEA)

10:20 – 11:30

High-level policy panel: Preparedness for a Competitive and Climate Resilient EU

Moderated by **Dr Orlaigh Quinn**, Interim Director General, IIEA

Speakers:

- **Yvonne Buckley**, Professor of Zoology, Trinity College Dublin and Co-Director of the Co-Centre for Climate+Biodiversity+Water
- **Philip Nugent**, Assistant Secretary for EU, International and Marine Affairs, Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment, Government of Ireland
- **Eimear Cotter**, Director General, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ireland
- **Tomás Sercovich**, CEO, Business in the Community Ireland
- **Vadim Kononenko**, Foresight and Policy Expert, European Environmental Agency (EEA)

11:30 – 12:00

Coffee break

12:00 – 13:00 **Science4Policy session 1 – “Made in EU” in a Fractured World: is the EU Trade Policy shifting?**

Moderated by **Antoine Oger**, Executive Director, IEEP

Speakers:

- **Frances P. Ruane**, IDA Ireland Board member, former Director of the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI)
- **Pierre Leturcq**, Coordinator, Green Trade Network
- **Liam Morris**, Director of Trade Policy, Department of Foreign Affairs - invited
- **Ludovic Voet**, Confederal Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
- **Viktor Jenčuš**, Research Fellow, AMO klima

13:00 – 14:00 **Networking lunch**

14:00 – 15:00 **Science4Policy session 2 – Agricultural strategic dependencies: how to reduce them to better prepare to risk and crisis and to enhance the environmental performance of the sector?**

Moderated by **Elsa Régnier**, Research Fellow on European agricultural sector, Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales (IDDRI)

Speakers:

- **Angelina Frankowska**, Senior Analyst for agriculture and food systems, Sustainable Economy Institute (Instytut Zrównoważonej Gospodarki – IZG), Poland
- **Fabien Santini**, Head of Unit, AGRI.E.1 – Governance of the Agri-food Markets, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI), European Commission
- **TBC**
- **TBC**

15:00 – 15:40 **Conclusions – Fire-side chat**

Alex White, Chair of the Climate Change Advisory Council and former Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources

Luc Bas, First Chief Planetary Officer, Chair of IEEP Strategic Advisory Council, Director of Belgium’s Climate Risk Assessment Centre (CERAC)

15:40 – 15:45

Concluding remarks

Prof. Michael Cronin, Professor of French (1776), Trinity Centre for Environmental Humanities

About Think2030

Launched by IEEP and its partners in 2018, Think2030 is an evidence-based, non-partisan platform of leading policy experts from European think tanks, civil society, the private sector and local authorities.

By focusing on producing relevant, timely and concrete policy recommendations, Think2030's key objective is to identify science-policy solutions for a more sustainable Europe.

