

Consulate General of Ireland

Newsletter for the U.S. Southeast

June 2018

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Panel discussion after screening of *In the Name of Peace: John Hume in America* L-R: Danny Kennedy, former Ulster Unionist Party Minister; Aidan Hume, son of John Hume; academic and peace activist Dr Catherine Shannon; CG Stephens; and Richard Cushnie of the Northern Ireland Bureau, Washington

Message from the Consul General

A chairde,

We marked 20 years since the people of the island of Ireland endorsed the Good Friday Agreement/Belfast Agreement with a programme in Tampa on May 23 undertaken with the Mayor of Tampa, Bob Buckhorn, Richard Cushnie of the Northern Ireland Bureau, UK Consul General David Proddger and the outstanding expert panel pictured above.

Tampa was a natural location for our programme given the strength of the local Irish-American scene, and our event benefited from active participation of the Florida State Board of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians.

The day was also part of our efforts to build on a Tampa-South Dublin partnership and intensify Ireland's commercial, academic and cultural engagement with fast-growing central Florida. Irish firms including Oldcastle, the Kerry Group, Total Produce, Ornuu and Genesis Automation Group have already set up in this area. Business meetings on commerce, tourism and film were also included in our packed programme.

Shane Stephens June 4, 2018

Irish film – Catalyst for partnership and community engagement



Warm welcome from Tampa Mayor, Bob Buckhorn, for CG Stephens and UK CG David Prodger. Film Tampa Bay & the historic Tampa Theatre facilitated our evening special screening of *In the Name of Peace: John Hume in America* and panel discussion on Hume's legacy and the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.

They also supported a screening of *Zoo*, a beautiful new family-friendly film from Northern Ireland. Here Richard Cushnie presents *Zoo* as a wonderful example of Northern Ireland's creative output. The Northern Ireland Bureau sponsored this screening.





L-R: CG Stephens, Jim Cahill, Florida Pres. of AOH, Irish Hon Consul T. Delahunty, Margo Neuendorf, Florida Pres., LAOH, Greg Seán Canning, AOH Southeast Liaison, and Richard Cushnie

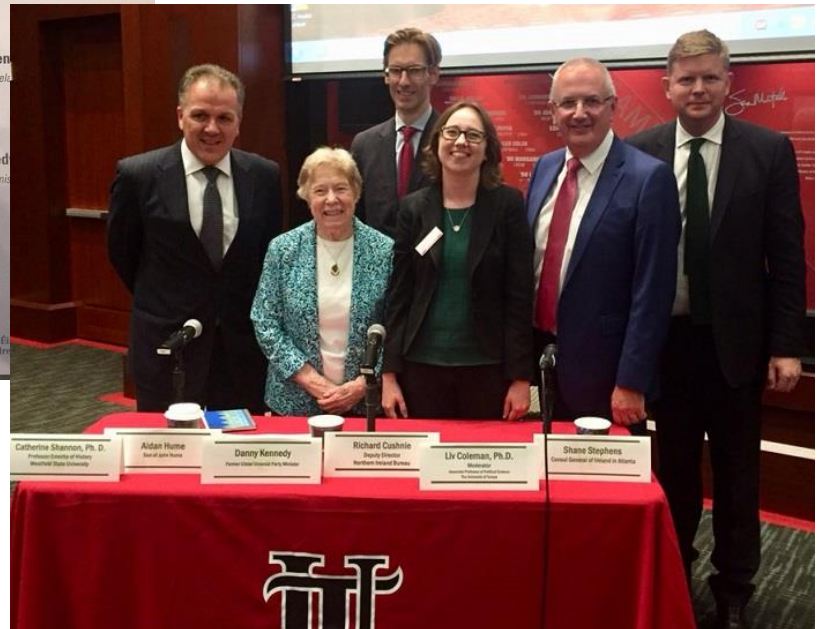
**20th Anniversary of
The Good Friday Agreement/ Belfast Agreement**

A Roundtable Discussion

with

<p>Liv Coleman, Ph.D., Moderator <i>Associate Professor of Political Science, The University of Tampa</i></p> <p>Richard Cushnie <i>Deputy Director, Northern Ireland Bureau</i></p> <p>Catherine Shannon, Ph. D. <i>Professor Emerita of History, Westfield State University</i></p>	<p>Shane Stephens <i>Consul General of Ireland</i></p> <p>Aidan Hume <i>Son of John Hume</i></p> <p>Danny Kennedy <i>Former Ulster Unionist</i></p>
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Sword & Shield Room, Martinez Athletics Center
The University of Tampa
Wednesday • May 23, 2018 • 4 p.m.
Light Refreshments Served



Many thanks to University of Tampa's Dr. Liv Coleman for hosting and moderating our academic Roundtable on the 20th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement #PeoplesAgreement



Great to join South Dublin Chamber CEO Peter Byrne and host Ronald Christaldi for an exchange with business leaders in Tampa on commercial & cultural cooperation

In Atlanta, partnering with the Canadian Consulate for a special screening of *The Breadwinner*, an award-winning animation feature set in Kabul that is a co-production between Canada, Ireland, and Luxembourg. The audience included Afghan, Canadian & Irish community members.



L-R: Moderator Dr. Eddy Von Mueller, CG Shane Stephens, Canadian Consul General Nadia Theodore and Kawa Ada, one of the film's actors who is Afghan-Canadian



A privilege to speak with Nettie W Douglass about the experiences of her Great Great Grandfather Frederick Douglass and upcoming events to honour his 200th birthday

Other Business, Culture and Sport around the Southeast



Delighted to join the Waratek team at FinTech South. This Irish firm is an award-winning pioneer in the next generation of application security solutions.



Sysnet Global Solutions' US General Manager John Browne also promoting its cyber risk services at the sold-out conference

Below: Following a visit to Savannah by Wexford County Council, the [Tradebridge](#) partnership between County Wexford and Savannah is now being run by Alison Stone Thompson and Trey Rossiter (photo below). For more info and their contact details see [Savannah Now](#)





Great discussions with Tim Moore (L), Speaker of North Carolina's House of Representatives, and with Dan Blue (far R), Democratic Leader in the NC Senate.



A pleasure to participate in the impressive State of the Region event organised by North Carolina's Research Triangle Regional Partnership alongside colleagues from Enterprise Ireland and IDA Ireland

Researchers Joe DeCarolis, Valentin Bertsch and Ewan Pritchard with [Project CREDENCE](#), which brings North Carolina State University, University College Cork and Queen's University Belfast together to innovate for sustainable energy systems

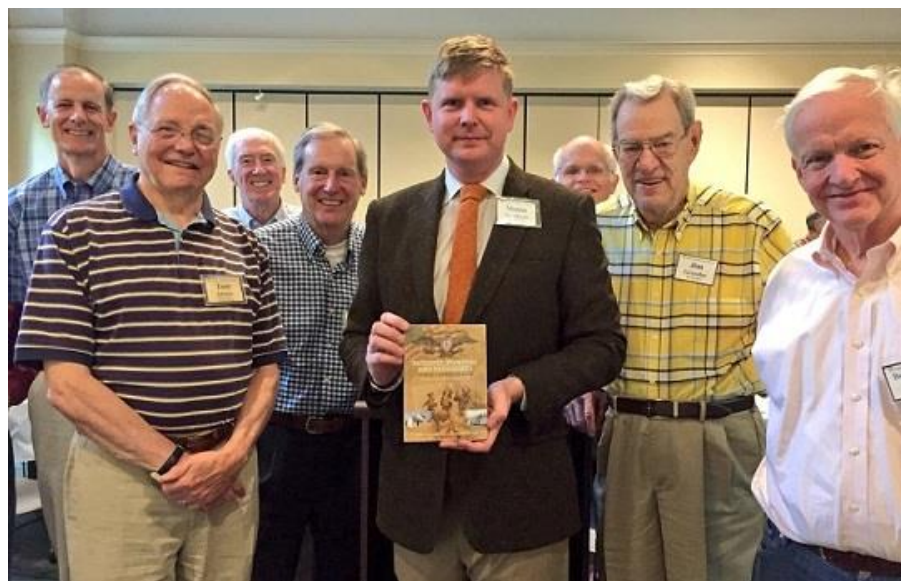


Ambassador Mulhall warmly receives Florida Chamber delegation at the Embassy in preparation for their trade mission to Ireland



Delighted to meet Irish Air Corps pilots Lt Col Edward Hollingsworth & Comdt Conor Moore during their current training visit to Atlanta

Speaking with friends at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta about Ireland, reconciliation and the 1718 Migration from Ulster to America





Lively gathering of Atlanta's Irish community to celebrate donations in support of Irish music & dance raised by the Hibernian Benevolent Society of Atlanta and Irish Network Atlanta

South Florida Emerald Society welcomed old and new Emeralds at their May social



Charlotte Gaelic Football

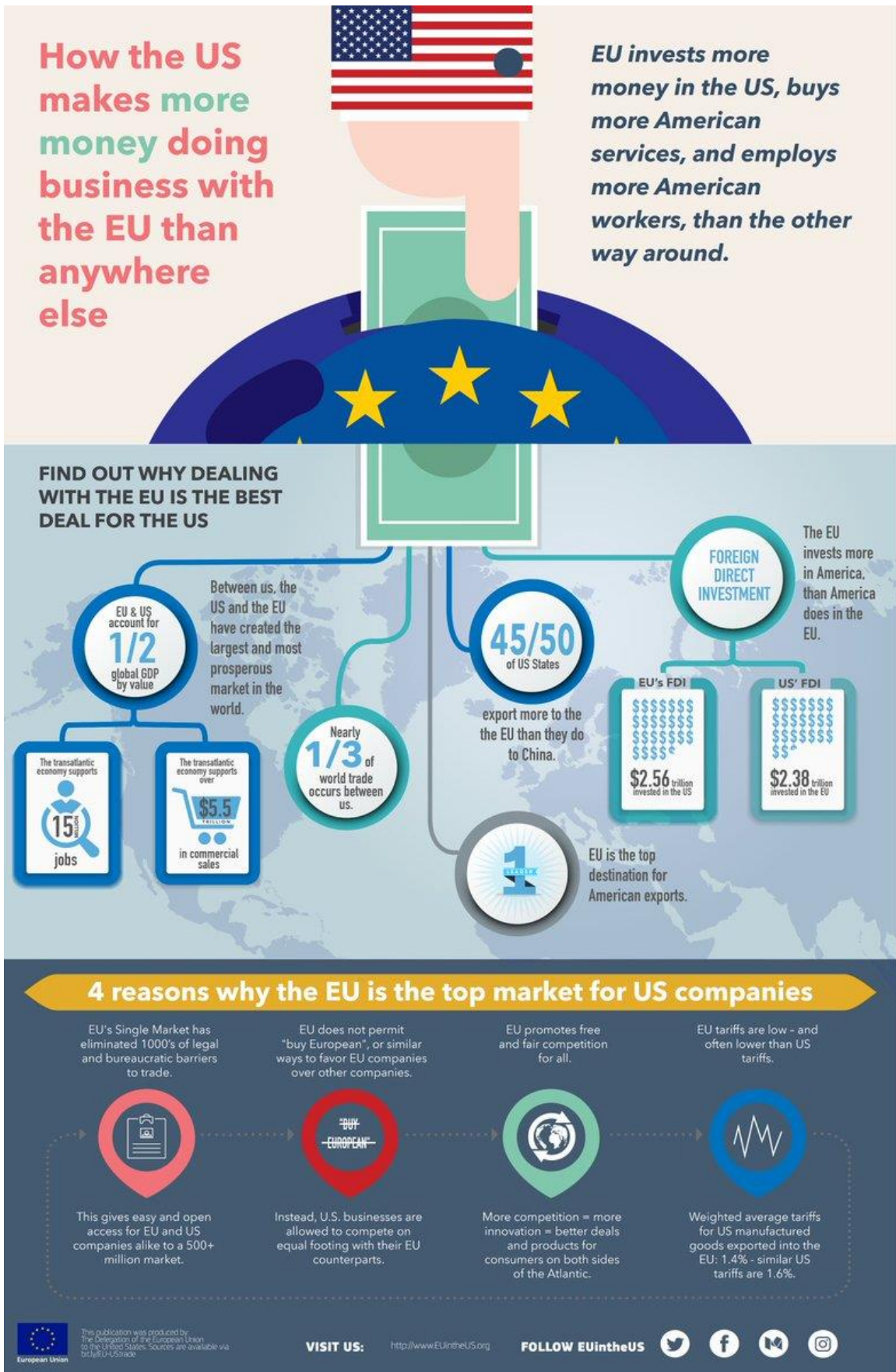
3 hrs · 🌐

Charlotte Senior Ladies Vs. Galway Selection @ Tuam Stadium May 24th 2018. The second stop on a three city Irish tour for the the American team from Chatlotte North Carolina. #usgaachampionstour #USGAA #LGFA #GAA #CharlotteNC Production by DavidNStiles.com

Charlotte Senior Ladies GAA team [playing in Ireland](#). More background on their week-long visit [here](#).



As we reflect on this week's US tariff announcements, it is worth considering how the US makes more money doing business with the EU than anywhere else. ([Download image here](#))



Irish News

[Speaking about the Good Friday Agreement's](#) legacy of cooperation and the challenge of reconciliation, the Tánaiste, Simon Coveney, [marked the 20th anniversary](#) of the referendums through which the people of the island of Ireland, North and South, endorsed the agreement and committed an additional €1 million in support of reconciliation on the island.

Coveney and the Minister for Justice and Equality, Charlie Flanagan, welcomed the launch of the UK Government's consultation on [Addressing the Legacy of Northern Ireland's Past](#).

The Tánaiste stated that "'The UK has long been our closest partner and friend, and we are determined that will continue to be the case after #Brexit '" in remarks at the [British Irish Chamber of Commerce](#).

In a speech at the Irish Law Awards, Minister Flanagan outlined the challenges ahead "in ensuring that the [post-Brexit landscape](#) does not adversely affect our relationships with Northern Ireland, with the rest of the UK or with our EU partners" and assured that "our national response to the impact of Brexit is unrelenting."

In recent days, the Ambassador of the European Union to the United States, Irishman David O'Sullivan, outlined the EU view on the latest U.S. tariffs in an interview with PBS. He said that they were [lose-lose for the EU and U.S.](#) Earlier in the month, Heather Humphreys, Minister for Business, Enterprise & Innovation held a series of [key trade and economic meetings](#) in Washington with US counterparts, which included advocacy for a permanent EU exemption from the US Administration's now imposed steel and aluminum tariffs.

The Tánaiste, Mr. Coveney, issued a [Statement](#) expressing disappointment in the US announcement that it is withdrawing from the nuclear agreement with Iran.

Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Government Ministers launched [the €4 billion Project Ireland 2040 funds](#) for rural development, urban regeneration, climate action and innovation.

The official result of the referendum in Ireland to repeal the 8th Amendment to the Constitution was Yes at 66.4% on a turnout of 64%. The Taoiseach's remarks can be heard here: <httpyoutu.be/7fUMObjcBIE>

The new [General Data Protection Regulation](#) (GDPR) came into force across the European Union on May 24th which, in Ireland through its enacting legislation, [the Data Protection Act 2018](#), sets out new and more clearly defined rights for individuals whose personal data is collected and processed by organisations.

Minister Flanagan and the Minister of State with special responsibility for Equality, Immigration and Integration, David Stanton TD, congratulated approximately [3,500 new Irish citizens](#) from over 120 countries, bringing the total number of citizens to have received their Certificates of Naturalisation to over 86,000 across 131 ceremonies since Citizenship Ceremonies were introduced in 2011.

Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan, T.D., announced the [new Creative Ireland Programme Scheme 2018/2019](#), an ambitious initiative which aims to enhance individual and collective wellbeing through increased participation in creative activity.

Irish drug development company [ICON plc](#), with offices in Nashville, Raleigh and more than a dozen other US cities, was named by Forbes as one of the best employers in America.

Thomson Reuters announced that it would transfer its \$300 billion foreign derivatives trading business to Dublin from London ahead of Britain's departure from the EU next year. And North Carolina-based [Bank of America Merrill Lynch](#) announced it will relocate 125 jobs to Dublin in preparation for Brexit.

Grant applications for Culture Ireland's [Regular Funding Scheme](#) in support of Irish arts internationally are due by June 15th. Funding is offered toward travel, transport, accommodation and subsistence.

Upcoming Events in the Southeast

Hungry Monk Music Studios in Charleston presents [an Evening of live Irish Music](#) on June 12th at 8pm featuring Copley Street with Uilleann piper Joey Abarta and fiddler Nathan Gourley.

On June 14th, the South Florida Irish American Chamber of Commerce will host an evening programme 6:30-8:30pm at the Intercontinental Hotel Miami titled: *Brexit – Storm in a tea cup or hurricane?* Irish Consul General Shane Stephens and British Consul General David Proddger will lead the panel discussion.

Also on June 14th in Miami, the [Miami-Dade Beacon Council](#) will host a Conversation with Consul General Stephens on Ireland and South Florida alignment and opportunity, from 10:30am-Noon.

The four qualifying football tournament locations for the southeast GAA teams (Atlanta, Charlotte, Raleigh and Winston Salem) are as follows, with the winner going to Nationals in Philadelphia on Labor Day Weekend:

- June 2-Charlotte
- June 16- Raleigh
- TBD (June 23 or June 30)
- July 14- Winston-Salem (winner goes to Nationals)

Atlanta GAA will host the [Peach Cup Tournament](#) (Camogie, Hurling and Football) on June 30th. Contact info@atlantagaa.com for hotel and additional information.

Planning a trip to Ireland in July? Be sure to catch the National Library's upcoming exhibition "[Seamus Heaney: Listen Now Again](#)", curated by Dr. Geraldine Higgins, Director of Irish Studies at Emory University. The exhibition will open to the public on Friday, 6 July 2018 in the new Bank of Ireland Cultural and Heritage Centre at College Green.

Our new Heritage Series will resume next month.