



# OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP Europe Regional Meeting

Agenda

Dublin Castle, Conference Centre 8 - 9 May 2014



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# Agenda Thursday 8 May

- 08:15-09:00 Registration and tea/coffee on arrival
- 09:00-09:15 Welcome and opening address

**Mr Brendan Howlin, T.D.**, Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Ireland

09:15-11:00 Opening Plenary: Open Government: A Cornerstone of Good Governance – local, national, European

Keynote government and civil society speakers discuss local, national and European perspectives

- **Dr John Bowman** (moderator)
- Tom Arnold (Ireland)
   Director General, Institute of International and European Affairs and Chairman of the Convention on the Constitution
- Thea Tsulukiani (Georgia) Minister for Justice
- Selima Abbou (Tunisia)
   Founder and President of the Association Touensa
- Emily O'Reilly (Ireland)
   European Ombudsman

### 11:00-11:30 Coffee break

# 11:30-13:00 Parallel Sessions I

(Sessions I - 4 will take place in separate conference rooms)

## 1. Building Openness and Citizen Engagement in the Legislative Process

#### Location: Main Plenary Room

- Juan Pablo Olmedo, Chief Adviser to the Bicameral Commission on Legislative Transparency of the Congress of Chile (co-Chair)
- Greg Brown, National Democratic Institute, Washington D.C. (co-Chair and organiser of session)
- Paraskevi Christofilopoulou, Deputy Minister of Administrative Reform and e-Governance, Greece
- Hon. Liia Hänni, Program Director, eGovernance Academy, Estonia
- Justine McGuinness, Adviser on External Communications, Office of the Speaker of the House of Commons, Rt. Hon. John Bercow, UK
- Saša Šegrt, Project Development Coordinator, GONG, Croatia

#### 2. OGP in Action – Learning from Each Other

Location: La Touche Room \*This session will end at <u>13:30</u> Hosted by Norway (OGP Steering Committee) and Joseph Foti (OGP Support Unit)

Countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Ireland, Lithuania, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia

# 3. Challenges and Perspectives for the Open Data Agenda in Eastern Europe

Location: President's Room

- Francesco Checchi, UNDP Public accountability and anti-corruption specialist (Chair and organiser of session)
- Prasanna Lal Das, Lead Program Officer, Office of the Controller, The World Bank
- Stela Mocan, Executive Director, e-Government Center, Moldova
- Rusudan Mikhelidze, Director of Analytical Department, Ministry of Justice, Georgia
- Natalia Harutyunyan, Project coordinator, UNDP Armenia
- Dimitar Trajanov, Dean of the Faculty for Computer Science and Engineering, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

- 4. Open Government: Standards and Indicators for Measuring Progress Location: Bedford Tower
- Helen Darbishire, Executive Director of Access Info Europe (organiser of session)
- Allan Hudson, Open Data Alliance
- Maya Forstater, Open Government Guide
- Radu Puchiu, State Secretary, Prime Minister's Chancellery, Romania
- Gjergji Vurmo, Independent Reporting Mechanism Evaluator for Albania

## 13:00-14:30 Lunch (Castle Hall)

## 14:30-16:30 Parallel Sessions 2

(Sessions 1 - 5 will take place in separate conference rooms)

#### I. Nordic Models

#### Location: Main Plenary Room

- Dr Nat O'Connor, Director of TASC (Chair and organiser of session)
- Roald Næss, Ambassador of Norway
- Arne Fliflet, Parliamentary Ombudsman for Public Administration
- Peter Tyndall, Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, Ireland
- Elizabet Fura, Ombudsman of Sweden and member of International Ombudsman Institute Board of Directors
- Luis Esquivel, Access to Information Program, World Bank Institute
- Sari Raassina, Finnish State Secretary, Ministry of Finance
- Catherine Lippert, Special Advisor on Open Government and Open Data Innovation Strategy, Agency for Digitisation, Danish Ministry of Finance

#### 2. OGP in Action – Learning from Each Other

Location: La Touche Room

Hosted by Veronica Cretu (OGP Steering Committee) and Joe Powell (OGP Support Unit)

Countries: Greece, Latvia, Italy, Jordan, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine

### 3. OGP in Action – Learning from Each Other

Location: President's Room

Hosted by the UK (OGP Steering Committee) and Lesley Baesens (OGP Support Unit

Countries: Albania, Croatia, Estonia, Israel, the Netherlands, Romania

#### 4. Meeting of European CSOs working on budget issues – Location: Chesterfield Room

 Chaired by Marjan Delzenne, Centre for Budget Monitoring and Citizen Participation and Rocio Moreno, Global Movement for Budget Transparency, Accountability and Participation

#### 5. The EU's Role in Promoting Transparency and Accountability and Engagement with the OGP Location: Bedford Tower

- Neil Campbell, Open Society European Policy Institute (Chair and organiser of session)
- Emily O'Reilly, European Ombudsman
- Dr Mechthild Rohen, DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology (CONNECT), European Commission
- Carl Dolan Transparency International EU
- Helen Darbishire, Access Info Europe
- Saša Šegrt, Project Development Coordinator, GONG, Croatia

## 16:30-17:00 Coffee break

### 17:00-17:40 Plenary

## OGP Steering Committee -Perspectives on OGP globally

- Brendan Howlin, T.D, Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform (Ireland) [Moderator]
- Francis Maude (United Kingdom) Minster for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General
- Veronica Cretu (Moldova) President of the Open Government Institute and OGP Steering Committee member
- Paul Chaffey (Norway)
   State Secretary to the Minister of Local
   Government and Modernisation

All delegates are invited to a reception in the Portrait Gallery in Dublin Castle

## 18:00-20:00 Reception

#### Portrait Gallery, Dublin Castle

with tours of Dublin Castle offered

# Agenda Friday 9 May

## 09:00 Plenary

# Strengthening the Role of the Private Sector in the OGP

### 09:00-09:15 Ms Arlene McCarthy MEP (keynote)

Vice-Chair of the European Parliament Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

### 09:15-10:30 Panel discussion

- Martin Tisné (moderator)
   Omidyar Network and OGP Steering
   Committee member
- Chris Taggart, founder and CEO of OpenCorporates
- Benjamin Herzberg
   Program Lead, Open Private Sector,
   World Bank Institute
- Simon Wilson
   Director, Wilson Sherriff
- Steven Adler
   Information Strategist, IBM
- Dejan Cvetković Chief Technology Officer, Microsoft Central and Eastern Europe
- Stef van Grieken
   Technical Program Manager, Google

## 10:30-11:00 Coffee break

## 11:00-13:00 Parallel Sessions 3

(Sessions I - 4 will take place in separate conference rooms)

#### I. Making and Implementing Policy with Citizens

#### Location: Main Plenary Room

 Mr Paul Maassen, Independent Civil Society Coordinator for the OGP (Chair)

#### Part I:

- Hille Hinsberg, Praxis, Estonia
- Art O'Leary, Secretary to the Convention on the Constitution, Ireland
- Tim Hughes, Involve, UK

#### Part 2:

- Paul Maltby, Director of Open Data and Government Innovation, Cabinet Office, UK
- Veronica Cretu, Open Government Institute & OGP Steering Committee member, Moldova
- Sandra Pernar, Government, Croatia

#### 2. Lessons Learned from the OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism

#### Location: President's Room

 Joseph Foti, Program Manager of the OGP's Independent Reporting Mechanism (Chair and organiser of session)

#### 3. OGP-GIFT Fiscal Openness Working Group Session Location: La Touche Room

#### Part I: Country Experiences and Lessons Learned in Advancing Fiscal Openness

- Greg Dempsey, Department of Finance, Ireland
- Mick Lucey, Former Head of Government Finance Statistics, Ireland
- Dumitru Alaiba, Head of Secretariat, Prime Minister's Economic Council, Moldova
- Tatiana Savva, Expert Group, Independent Think Tank, Moldova

#### Part II: Global Fiscal Openness Norms, Good Practices and OGP Commitments

- Presentation by Paolo De Renzio, International Budget Partnership
- Presentation by Ronald Downes, OECD
- Presentation by Dr Juan Pablo Guerrero, GIFT

### 4. Open Government and Public Services

#### Location: Bedford Tower

- Professor Bill McCluggage, former Irish Government Chief Information Officer, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (Chair)
- Professor Anthony Staines, Chair of Health Systems, School of Nursing and Human Sciences, Dublin City University
- Mark Wise, Manager of the FOI Central Referral Unit of the Association of Chief Police Officers, UK
- Eoin McCuirc, Central Statistics Office, Ireland
- Damien Lanfrey, Project Manager, "A Scuola di Open Coesione" (OpenCohesion School), Department of Development and Cohesion Policies, Cabinet Office, Italy
- Dominic Byrne, Fingal County Council, Ireland

## 13:00-14:30 Lunch (Castle Hall)

# 14:30-16:00 Parallel sessions 4

(Sessions 1 - 5 will take place in separate conference rooms)

#### I. The Economic Impact of Open Data

#### Location: Main Plenary Room

- Kathryn Corrick, Open Data Institute (ODI), London (Chair)
- Irina Bolychevsky, Open Knowledge Foundation
- Kat Borlongan, Five by Five / ODI Paris
- Deirdre Lee, Insight, National University of Ireland, Galway
- Joe Short, Demand Logic
- Robert Keane, Linked Data Solutions

### 2. Open Contracting: Towards a New Global Norm

#### Location: La Touche Room

- Felipe Estefan, Open Government Strategist, The World Bank (Chair and organiser of session)
- Paul Maltby, Director of Open Data and Government Innovation, Cabinet Office, UK
- Vanessa Herringshaw, Director, Transparency and Accountability Initiative
- Paolo de Renzio, Senior Research Fellow, International Budget Partnership
- Tatiana Savva, Expert Group, Independent Think Tank, Moldova

# 3. Access to Information Commitments in OGP Action Plans: experience and ideas

#### Location: President's Room

(Sponsored by the OGP Access to Information Working Group)

- Kevin Dunion, Executive Director, Centre for Freedom of Information, University of Dundee, Scotland (Chair)
- Luis Esquivel, Access to Information Program, World Bank
- Aleksandre Baramidze, First Deputy Minister for Justice, Georgia
- Hilda Ajeliat, President , Jordan Transparency Centre

### 4. OGP in Action – Learning from Each Other

#### Location: Chesterfield Room

Hosted by Martin Tisné (OGP Steering Committee) and Paul Maassen (OGP Support Unit)

Countries: Denmark, Georgia, Kosovo, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Turkey

#### 5. Whistling in the Wind? Whistleblowers, Journalism and the Public Interest Location: Bedford Tower

- John Devitt, Chief Executive, Transparency International Ireland (Chair and organiser of session)
- Brendan Howlin, T.D., Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform
- Mick Clifford, Special Correspondent, The Irish Examiner
- Dr Tom Clonan, Lecturer, School of Media, Dublin Institute of Technology
- Anna Myers, Whistleblowing International Network
- Dr Jane Suiter, Lecturer, School of Communications, Dublin City University

## 16:00-16:30 Closing

## The Future of the OGP in Europe

- Dr Evy Christofilopoulou (Greece)
   Deputy Minister, Ministry of Administrative
   Reform and e-Governance
- Mr Alfonso Zardi, Head of Democratic Institutions and Governance Department, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe
- Mr Brendan Howlin T.D. (Ireland)
   Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform

# Plenary Speakers – Day I



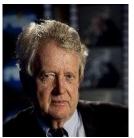
# Mr Brendan Howlin T.D, Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Ireland

Brendan Howlin, T.D., is Ireland's first Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform and was appointed in March

2011. The Department was formally established in July 2011.

The Minister has been a member of Dáil Éireann since 1987 and prior to his current Ministerial portfolio, served as Minister for Health (January 1993 - November 1994) and Minister for the Environment (December 1994-97). He was elected as Leas-Cheann Comhairle of Dáil Éireann (Deputy Speaker of the Irish House of Parliament) on 26th June 2007.

As Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, he is committed to ensuring the delivery of the Department's dual functions; controlling public expenditure and bringing our budgets back to a sustainable path, and ensuring the necessary reforms in how Government and the public sector works.



## Dr John Bowman, Moderator

Dr John Bowman is a broadcaster and historian. He has presented current affairs, historical and election-results programmes on RTE radio and television since the 1960s. He is author of *Window and Mirror: RTE Television, 1961-*

2011, the first comprehensive history of Irish television and of *De Valera* and the Ulster Question: 1917–1973 which won the Ewart-Biggs Prize for its contribution to North-South understanding. He was elected an Honorary Fellow of Trinity College Dublin in 2009 and awarded an Honorary Doctorate by UCD in 2010.



## Ms Selima Abbou, Founder and President, Association Touensa, Tunisia

Selima Abbou is an expert in development strategy for business and non-governmental organisations.

Founder and president of Touensa association, an organisation for awareness and vigilance, her objective is to contribute effectively to the Tunisian transition. She contributed to developing two mains tools to enhance democracy: Lahlouba, a Tunisian cartoon character, and marsoum41.org, an access to information platform.

Today, Selima is convinced that, within the Tunisian democratic transition, civil society will have a major role and she would like to contribute actively to its empowerment.



## Ms Thea Tsulukiani, Minister of Justice, Georgia

Ms Thea Tsulukiani is the Minister of Justice of Georgia since October 2012. Ms Tsulukiani has 10 years of

experience as a lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg (ECHR) where at the same time she served as a member of the Committee on the Rules of Court as well as a rapporteur on cases examined by single-judge compositions.

As the Minister of Justice of Georgia, Ms Thea Tsulukiani is championing bold reforms in the area of the rule of law and independence of judiciary, open government and anticorruption. She is the chairperson of 8 Interagency Councils in the Government of Georgia, among them the Criminal Justice Reform Council, Anti-corruption Council, Anti-drug, Anti-torture and Anti-trafficking Councils as well as State Commission on Migration Issues and Inter-agency Commission for Free and Fair Elections.



# Mr Tom Arnold, Director General, Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) and Chairman of the Convention on the Constitution, Ireland

Tom Arnold was appointed Director General of the Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA) in November 2013, based in Dublin. He is also the Chairman of the Convention on the Irish Constitution (2012-2014).

A former CEO of Concern Worldwide (2001-2013), Ireland's leading humanitarian organisation, Tom was previously Assistant Secretary General and Chief Economist in the Department of Agriculture and Food in Ireland. Tom has served on a number of high level bodies including the UN Millennium Project's Hunger Task Force, the Irish Hunger Task Force, the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund's (CERF) Advisory Group, the European Food Security Group (EFSG) and the Irish Government's Commission on Taxation.



## Ms Emily O'Reilly,

## European Ombudsman

Emily O'Reilly was elected European Ombudsman in 2013. She was Ireland's first female Ombudsman since 2003 and from 2007 the Commissioner for

Environmental Information. As former political editor, broadcaster and author, her career attracted significant domestic and international recognition including a Harvard University Fellowship in 1988 and multiple national awards. She has written three critically acclaimed books.

Ms O'Reilly is a graduate of University College Dublin (1979), holds a Graduate Diploma in Education from Trinity College Dublin (1980)and was conferred a Honorary Doctorate in Laws by the National University in Ireland in 2008 for her work in promoting human rights.



# Ms Veronica Cretu, President of the Open Government Institute

Veronica is an active member of several important national and international committees related to Open

Government & Internet Governance. Veronica is a member of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and member of the Nominating Committee (NomCom) of ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbering).

Since April 2013, Veronica is a member of the civil society Steering Committee of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and is a coordinator of the civil society working group on E-Government/Open Government (part of the Moldova National Participation Council).

She is also a member of the Civil Society Advisory Group on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment to UN in Moldova.



# Mr Paul Chaffey, State Secretary to the Minster of Local Government and Modernisation, Norway

Paul Chaffey was appointed State Secretary to the Minister of Local Government and Modernisation Jan Tore Sanner in October 2013.

Paul served as a Member of Parliament in Norway from 1989 to 1997. While in Parliament, he was a member of the Standing Committee on Foreign and Constitutional Affairs as well as the secretary of the Standing Committee on Energy and the Environment.

Since leaving politics, Paul has acted as a Director of Statoil and has been chairman of several boards such as the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), the Norwegian Business and Industry Security Council (NSR) and most recently, the FORNY 2020 Program Board.



# Mr Francis Maude, Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General, UK

Francis Maude was appointed Minister for the Cabinet Office and Paymaster General in May 2010. He is the Conservative

MP for Horsham, west Sussex.

He has held several government posts, including Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office from 1989 to 1990 and Financial Secretary to the Treasury from 1990 to 1992. While in opposition, he was Chairman of the Conservative Party from 2005 to 2007 and, among other roles, Shadow Foreign Secretary from 2000 to 2001 and Shadow Minister for the Cabinet Office from 2007 to 2010.

After a career at the criminal bar between 1977 and 1985, he served as a counsellor for the City of Westminster for 6 years. His other jobs outside politics have included being a non-executive director of ASDA Group, director at Salomon Brothers, and managing director of Morgan Stanley.

# Plenary Speakers – Day 2



## Mr Martin Tisne, Omidyar Network

Martin joined Omidyar Network in early 2012. As director of policy at Omidyar Network, Martin brings extensive experience advocating for change in government and

donor policies and driving sector-level change in the field of government transparency and accountability. Based in London, Martin leads policy, advocacy strategy, and related investments for the global Government Transparency initiative. He has published papers and articles for the Journal of Democracy, Central European University Press, and Public Administration and Development, among others. Martin is a steering committee member of the Transparency and Accountability Initiative and the Open Government Partnership, as well as a board member of Publish What You Fund.



## Ms Arlene McCarthy MEP

Arlene was elected to the European Parliament in 1994 and has been Labour MEP for the North West region since 1999. In the current European Parliament Arlene was elected Vice Chair of the Economic and Monetary Affairs

Committee. In this role Arlene was responsible for drafting and negotiating the agreement on the third revision of the Capital Requirements Directive. She was also responsible for drafting the law on market abuse and the new law on financial markets. Since becoming Vice Chair Arlene has earned herself a place in the top 100 influential women in European finance, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

As the Spokesperson for the UK Labour delegation in the European Parliament on Legal Affairs, Arlene has helped deliver stronger transparency laws for oil, gas and mining companies and a new law to uphold the rights of citizens to fair treatment when faced with arrest in another Member State.



# Mr Chris Taggart, CEO, OpenCorporates

Chris Taggart is the Co-founder and CEO of OpenCorporates, the largest open database of companies

in the world. OpenCorporates is revolutionising access to and reuse of company data, making it not just freely available on the web, but giving access to the underlying data through its API and with a licence that allows free reuse under a share-alike licence. Since its launch in December 2010, OpenCorporates has grown from 3 million companies in 3 jurisdictions to over 65 million in 80 jurisdictions.

Chris Taggart was originally a magazine journalist and publisher, but has been working exclusively in the field of open government and public sector information since 2009. He is a Nominee for the Board of Directors of the Global Legal Entity Identifier Foundation, and is an active member of the open data and open PSI communities, and advisor to governments and NGOs on open data, reuse of public sector information and corporate data.



# Mr Benjamin Herzberg, Open Private Sector, World Bank and Private Sector Council Member

Benjamin Herzberg is Program Lead, Open Private Sector at the World Bank Institute. His previous work at the World Bank includes leadership roles on the topic of public-private dialogue, investment climate, competitive industries and investment generation. Beforehand, he worked in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Office of the High Representative on participatory reform making and at the OSCE on stimulating the SME sector. Previously he worked in the private sector in France, Israel and the USA. Mr Herzberg holds a post-graduate degree in Geography and Environment from the Université des Sciences et Techniques, and a Suma Cum Laude Master's degree in Geography from the Université de la Sorbonne, France.



# Mr Simon Wilson, Director, Wilson Sherriff Ltd

Simon is founder director of Wilson Sherriff Ltd, a facilitation consultancy business based in the UK. Founded in 2000,

Wilson Sherriff works on the leading edge of facilitative consultancy, supporting public, private and voluntary sector organisations in the UK and internationally to involve customers, citizens and staff in decisions that affect them. Wilson Sherriff host the annual Riders on the Storm virtual summit for facilitators, consultants and coaches worldwide.

Simon is also co-host of In Business for Good, a virtual network of small businesses focused on the positive impacts of small firms on society, the environment and communities.



# Mr Steven Adler, Information Strategist, IBM

Steven Adler is IBM's Information Strategist. He is responsible for IBM Information Strategy, including Data

Governance, Big Data, Open Data, and System Dynamics. He developed and leads the Information Governance Community, is chair of the IBM Information Strategy Council, and advises customers on Information Strategy and Governance around the world. He is co-chair of the W3C Data on the Web Best Practices WG, co-chair of the XMILE System Dynamics Technical Committee at OASIS, Chairman of the Open-by-Default Community, and represents IBM in the OGP Private Sector Council.



# Mr Dejan Cvetkovic, Chief Technology Officer, Microsoft Central and East Europe

Dejan Cvetkovic is the Chief Technology Officer of Microsoft, Central and East Europe (CEE). Having gained

an education in Serbia he then built his career within Microsoft Canada in a wide variety of positions, ranging from software development to business development. Some of the innovative projects where he led teams and developed solutions include the very first e-banking for HSBC and egovernment for Western Canada back in mid 90s. In 2003, Dejan was appointed as a first General Manager for the newly formed country team of Microsoft Serbia and Montenegro. In 2008 Dejan assumed the role of Microsoft public sector business director for Central and East Europe, where he has brought together a strong and ambitious team of professionals that forged relationships with a network of 1000+ local partners and generated a list of clients that reads as the Who's Who of Central and East Europe business and technology, but also includes educational institutions, humanitarian projects and international organizations.



# Mr Stef Van Grieken, Technical Program Manager, Google

Stef Van Grieken, studied Industrial Engineering and Philosophy at the University of Groningen. He currently works as a Technical Program Manager at

Google. His goal is to promote civic innovation through technology. Before joining Google, Stef founded the Dutch civic technology organisation, Open State Foundation With projects such as Nu.nl Public, Hack the Government, and Apps for the Nederland he worked on increasing public accountability and transparency. Some of these projects were awarded with 'Time Magazine Top Website of 2012' and a 'European Public Sector Award'.



# Dr Evy Christofilopoulou, Deputy Minister of Administrative Reform and E-Governance, Greece

Previously, Evy was Secretary General for the European Social Fund at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. She then pursued a political career and was elected MP in 2004, 2007 2009 and 2012 with PASOK, representing the Attica constituency, which comprises the outskirts of Athens. She was the first woman ever elected in this constituency. In 2009 she ranked first among her fellow candidates, while in 2012 she was first among PASOK candidates. While in opposition, Evy was appointed shadow minister for Employment and Social Protection. In October 2009 she was appointed Deputy Minister of Education, Lifelong Learning & Religious Affairs, and served until May 2012. In June 2012 she was appointed Parliamentary Spokesperson for PASOK, the first woman from PASOK in the relevant post. In June 2013, Evy Christofilopoulou was appointed Deputy Minister of Administrative Reform and E- Governance.



# Mr Alfonso Zardi, Head of Democratic Institutions and Governance Department, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe

Alfonso Zardi heads the Democratic Institutions and Governance Department in the Directorate General of Democracy of the Council of Europe. He has a Law degree from the University of Trieste (Italy) and two master degrees from the University of Strasbourg (France) and the College of Europe (Bruges). At the Council of Europe – a 47-member States Organisation dealing with human rights, democracy and rule of law – he is responsible for activities dealing with democracy and participation, good governance and decentralisation. This includes the promotion of exchange of experience and peer reviews from state to state, the provision of legal expertise and the implementation of capacity building programmes. He has travelled extensively to Central and Eastern European countries for the purpose of setting up and implementing cooperation programmes.

### General information on the conference venue

The **Conference Centre** is located in the **Upper Courtyard of Dublin Castle.** 

All plenary sessions will take place in the **main plenary room** located on the lower ground floor of the Conference Centre.

Some parallel sessions will also take place in the main plenary room. Other parallel sessions will take place in the following rooms:

- 1. La Touche Room located opposite the registration desk on the ground floor of the Conference Centre.
- 2. **President's Room** located on the first floor of the Conference Centre.
- 3. **Bedford Tower** located in the Upper Castle Yard, opposite the State Apartments this is also where Castle Hall is located.
- 4. **Chesterfield Room** located on the first floor of the Conference Centre, close to the President's room.

Lunch will be available in **Castle Hall**.

The **Portrait Gallery** (evening reception) is located in the **State Apartments,** opposite Bedford Tower.

