

WELCOME

First Newsletter

Dear all,

Welcome to ISWE's first newsletter. ISWE is the **Irish Society for Women in Economics**. It is a platform seeking to inspire, empower and increase women's visibility in economics in Ireland to ensure that the role of economists in public debates, policy decisions, and education is more representative of Irish society.

This newsletter will shed light on two important events that ISWE has organised in the last three months: the Budget Review Event and the Workshop on Media Engagement among Irish economists. At ISWE, we are very excited to share some highlights from these two events with you!

Get involved. ISWE is open to all those interested in diversifying the economics profession in Ireland (pupils



considering studying economics in university or school, undergraduates considering postgraduate study in economics, graduates embarking on their first professional role as an economist, and established economists working in the public, private or educational sectors. Please contact us if you would like to join our mailing list.



The Committee would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope to continue to grow the Network in 2023.

Contact Us /

Connect with Us

- **Website:**
<https://www.iea.ie/irish-society-for-women-in-economics-iswe/>
- **Email:**
isweconomics@gmail.com
- **Twitter:**
[@isweconomics](https://twitter.com/isweconomics)
- **Instagram:**
[ISWEconomics](https://www.instagram.com/ISWEconomics)
- **LinkedIn:**
www.linkedin.com/groups/13988991/

BUDGET REVIEW EVENT

On 4th October 2022, ISWE hosted a Budget 2023 Analysis event. The event consisted in a lively panel discussion with Dr Martina Lawless (ESRI), Dr Aedin Doris (Maynooth University) and Dr Emma Howard (TU Dublin and ISWE). Questions and answers from the audience followed.

The three panelists reflected on the main focus of the 2023 Budget and on what is new in this Budget as compared to previous Budgets. The issues of housing, energy prices and inequality were a key focus of the discussion. The event took place in UCD and was an hybrid event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Media Training in February 2023
More information and application form can be found at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe1gQf0tE59yqJMq2X67B7wDFYckW5wuLO1vsnNIF2u_NL0YQ/viewform
Submission deadline is 5pm, 20th December 2022

Also, watch out for International Women's Day in March 2023 with theme **#EmbraceEquity**

ISWE Irish Society for Women in Economics

BUDGET 2023 ANALYSIS

Hybrid Event

Dr Martina Lawless
Research Professor, ESRI

Dr Aedin Doris
Lecturer in Economics, Maynooth University

Mediator: Dr Emma Howard
Lecturer in Economics, TU Dublin

ISWE Irish Society for Women in Economics
Budget 2023 Analysis Event

WORKSHOP ON MEDIA ENGAGEMENT AMONG IRISH ECONOMISTS

On 1st December 2022, ISWE hosted a workshop on media engagement. Dr Orla Doyle (UCD) presented the results of the survey on barriers and facilitators to media engagement (see next page for some insights on the results). The workshop participants also reflected on the results of the survey and discussed them in focus groups. Great advice on how to engage with the media was then provided by Dr. Muireann Lynch (ESRI), Sinéad O'Carroll (Editor, Journal.ie), Prof. Thia Hennessy (UCC) and in absentia by Prof. Karl Whelan (UCD). This hybrid event was moderated by Dr. Emma Howard (TU Dublin) and took place in the Central Bank of Ireland.

PUBLIC REGISTRY

A public registry of women economists is available on our website. This is a helpful resource to highlight the breadth of work and experience of women economists in Ireland. If you would like to update your details or to join the registry please fill in our form here:

<https://tinyurl.com/63vpj96z>

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Survey Results - Barriers & Facilitators to Media Engagement

In 2022, ISWE received funding from the HEA Gender Equality Enhancement Fund to conduct a project on increasing the voice of women economists in the media through training and promotion. The first step in this process was to conduct a survey among Irish economists to elicit the barriers to media participation and potential solutions to increasing the voice and visibility of women economists. The final sample size included 88 responses with 57% of respondents identifying as female and 41% as male, and most respondents (73%) working in higher education institutions. The full report will be soon be available on ISWE's website.

Key Findings

Requests for Participation



- 70% of respondents were invited to participate in media engagement activities in the last year, and almost 50% participated.
- Men are somewhat more likely to have been invited to participate than women (83% vs 76%).
- Men and women refuse media requests at similar rates (67% vs 64%).

Type of Media Engagement

- The most common form of media engagement is having your research feature in a newspaper article (76%), followed by being interviewed by a newspaper journalist (62%) and being interviewed on the radio (60%).
- Participating in a television interview is the least common.

Benefits of media engagement

- Over 80% of respondents state that contributing to public debates and informing the public or raising the awareness about their research were the main benefits of engaging with the media.
- Only 2% considered there were no benefits to media engagement.

Barriers to participation

- 47% of respondents listed too many competing pressures on their time as the main barrier to engagement.
- 39% did not engage in media activities because they had not been asked to do so (38% women vs. 42% men).
- Other reasons included not feeling confident and not being given enough notice to prepare.
- The reasons for refusing to participate in the media differ somewhat for men and women. For example, 30% of women cited not being confident to engage with the media compared to 14% of men.

Training

- Over 40% of respondents have received some form of communications/media training in the past.
- 69% said they would be interested in receiving training on media engagement specifically for economists (84% women vs. 53% men).