

WORKSHOP INVITATION

SOCIAL MOVEMENT TO PROTECT LGBT RIGHTS IN IRELAND

AND LESSON LEARNT FOR VIETNAM AND ASEAN

"Ireland is a kinder, fairer place after voting for same-sex marriage" is the title of an article in the Britain newspaper *The Guardian*. This is one of thousands of articles and TV programs that have claimed Ireland as a highlight of *tolerance, equality, and respect for differences*, and an environment of innovation, pioneering and above all, respect for human rights. In terms of communication, Ireland has successfully built a national image that is admired by every country without a costly national branding scheme.

How has Ireland created a miraculous transformation not only in economy, trade, research and development, but also in the fundamental issues of culture, society, and human rights protection over the past 20 years? What are the driving forces of the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) rights movement in Ireland? Are they information technology and social networks, the open economy that promotes freedom and creativity, or simply the fact that younger generations have gained a greater say in determining the nation's pathway?

On the occasion of the ASEAN PRIDE Week and Ireland as the first country to legalize same-sex marriage through popular vote, the Embassy of Ireland in Hanoi and Institute for Studies of Society, Economy and Environment (iSEE) organize this workshop to learn the fundamentals and social mobilization strategy of Ireland to create this landmark change. These lessons learnt are not only useful for the LGBT rights movement but also for other social movements in Vietnam.

The organizers would like to invite you to join the discussion at **8:30 am, June 18, 2015** at **Lake Side Hotel, 23 Ngoc Khanh street, Ba Dinh district, Hanoi**. The tentative agenda is attached to this invitation letter. Your presence and participation will definitely make the workshop successful and meaningful.

Please kindly confirm your attendance with Mr. Hoang Huy Thanh at the email address: dangky@isee.org.vn or tel: 04.62737933 by June 15, 2015.

Yours faithfully,

On behalf of the organizing board



Nuala O'Brien
Deputy Head of Mission
Embassy of Ireland



Luong Minh Ngoc
Acting Director
Institute for Studies of Society, Economy and Environment

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Time	Activity	Person in charge / Presenter
8.00 - 8.30	Registration	Organizing board
8.30 - 8.40	Opening remark	Ms. Lương Minh Ngọc Acting director, iSEE
8.40 - 9.00	Opening remark	Ms Nuala O'Brien Deputy Head of Mission - Irish Embassy in Hanoi
9.00 - 9.45	Driving factors of the LGBT rights movement in Ireland	Nguyễn Nhật Tuấn, PhD. Hanoi University
9.45 - 10.05	Youth's participation in the LGBT rights movement in Vietnam	Mr. Huỳnh Minh Thảo Communication director, ICS
10.05 - 10.30	Restraining and driving factors of LGBT rights movements in ASEAN countries	ASEAN SOGIE Caucus
10.30 - 10.45	Tea-break	All participants
10.45 - 11.55	Discussion on experiences of promoting social movements in Vietnam	Facilitator: Mr. Lê Quang Bình, iSEE
11.55 - 12.00	Closing remark	Organizing board
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch	All participants