



Irish Centre for European Law

Irish Centre for European Law (“ICEL”) Northern Ireland Committee

Terms of Reference

The Northern Ireland Committee of ICEL (“the Committee”) is established by the Board under Articles 64 and Article 65 of the Constitution of ICEL.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Committee is not established under, nor are powers conferred or delegated in accordance with, Article 66 of the Constitution.

1. Purpose of the Committee

- (a) The Committee is established with the purpose of enhancing the activities and membership of the ICEL in Northern Ireland.
- (b) The Committee shall organise events, conduct and publish research, and shall facilitate the participation of the members in the work, management and governance of the Centre and recruit members.

2. Scope of the Committee

- (a) The Committee shall conduct meetings in order to further its purposes and the scope of its functions shall be governed and limited by the main and ancillary objects of ICEL, as set out in the Constitution of ICEL, by decisions of the Board and by decisions of the Committee.
- (b)
 - (i) The Committee may be allocated a budget by the Board on such terms as it may decide and any expenditure by the Committee within those terms shall not require prior approval by the Board and shall be subject to any financial controls established by the Board or fixed by the Treasurer.
 - (ii) Where the Committee proposes to expend monies in excess of or absent a budget or the terms upon which the budget was given, the Committee shall require prior approval from the Board and shall request same from the Treasurer and Chief Executive and shall be subject to any financial controls established by the Board or fixed by the Treasurer.

(c) Where the Committee proposes to use the time of the Chief Executive or Administrator or other member of staff (other than in respect of preparing for and attending meetings of the Committee and its sub-committees), the permission of the Board shall be obtained.

(d) The Committee may make proposals to the Board for the establishment by the Board of constitutional offices, including Assistant Director, Deputy Director or Research Director (including proposals for those offices to be held on a voluntary basis).

(e) The Committee may make proposals to the Board in respect of powers it proposes ought to be delegated to the Committee under Article 66 of the ICEL Constitution.

3. Membership of the Committee

(a) (i) The Committee shall consist of such persons as the Board may from time to time appoint (who need not be members of the Board).

(ii) From the approval of these Terms of Reference, the persons appointed by the Board to become members of the Committee are: Professor Mark Bell; Brian Doherty; Margaret Gray QC SC; Emily Neill BL; Professor Christopher McCrudden FBA MRIA; Ciarán Toland SC.

(iii) The Committee has the authority to co-opt additional members (who need not be members of the Board).

(iv) The Committee must have amongst its members a majority who are members of the Board.

(v) The number of members of the Committee (including any officers) shall not exceed fifteen and shall not be less than five.

(b) The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be three. The quorum for meetings of the Committee at which expenditure is agreed, or otherwise committed to, shall be five and must include either the Deputy President or another member of the Board.

(c) The Committee shall act by majority, and the chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

(d) (i) The Committee shall appoint its own chairperson and secretary from amongst its members.

(ii) The Committee may establish and appoint any other Officer of the Committee at its discretion.

(e) Associate members and Honorary members of the Centre may be members of the Members' Committee with the right to vote, and to hold office within the Committee on the same basis as Ordinary members of the Centre or duly authorised representatives of Group members.

(f) Neither the Chief Executive Officer nor the Administrator nor any member of staff of the Centre shall be a member of the Committee, but may attend meetings of the Committee.

4. Meeting arrangements

Meetings of the Committee shall take place at the discretion of the Committee.

5. Reporting

(a) The Committee shall report to the Board after every meeting of the Committee.

(b) The Chief Executive shall draft all documents and prepare all recommendations at the direction of the Committee.

(c) The secretary of the Committee shall prepare the minutes for the approval of the Committee and shall forward them to the Centre's Secretary annually or when otherwise requested.

(d) The secretary of the Committee shall, in due time, give prior notice to the Chief Executive and Secretary of the Board of: any events organised by the Committee or its sub-committees; any research which it intends to publish; any membership recruitment which it intends to organise.

(e) The secretary of the Committee (or other officer of the Committee appointed for that purpose) shall account quarterly and upon request to the Treasurer and Chief Executive on the Committees' expenditure and shall attend the Board and Audit Committee when requested to do so.

6. Powers

(a) The Committee shall exercise no delegated power of the Board other than where specified herein or conferred by decision of the Board and save where provided herein shall make no decision pertaining to the management or administration of the Centre and shall exercise no authority over staff or volunteers of the Centre.

(b) The Committee shall, upon reasonable request, be entitled to require the attendance before it of any member of the Board or Committee or any member of the Centre's staff.

(c) The Chief Executive shall if requested by the Committee draft all documents and prepare all recommendations at the direction of the Committee.

7. Sub-committees

The Committee may at its discretion establish and delegate responsibility to sub-committees (which may be organised by subject, event, research or location or otherwise). Such sub-committees shall also be governed by these Terms of Reference, save that no sub-committee shall have the power to expend or commit to the expenditure of monies, and save that there is no requirement upon Sub-Committees to be composed in part or otherwise of members of the Board or members of the Committee.

8. Term of office

The Committee's term of office ends at the next Annual General Meeting of the ICEL.

**By Order of the Board
4 April 2022**