Cathal O’Hagan 

18-09-1991 | Ormeau Road, Belfast | 07561456648 (Belfast) | cohagan723@qub.ac.uk

* Law graduate working through English, Irish and Mandarin, currently undertaking an MA in Conflict Transformation in Queen’s University, Belfast.
* Mandarin Interpreter and immigration advisor at McQuoid’s Solicitors, Belfast.

# Education:

## Ma Conflict Transformation | 2017-Present | Queen’s university, Belfast

* Subjects include: Human Rights in Practice, Religion and Peacebuilding, Conflict Intervention, Conflict Transformation.
* Thesis: ‘Post-conflict housing re-integration in Belfast’.
* Current average: 74%, School Rep for Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Justice and Security.

## corporate law | 2010-2013 | National university of ireland, galway

* Constitutional Law, Contract Law, Tort Law, EU Law, International Trade Law, Accounting.
* 1st in class in first and second years. Finished with a high 2:1 (68%).

# Professional Experience:

## Mcquoid solicitors, ormeau road Belfast (immigration advisor) February 2018-present.

* Responsible for meeting asylum seekers in immigration detention.
* Record statements and coordinate with solicitors and barristers through both written and oral communications.
* Communicate with governmental offices in Belfast, Glasgow and London in a rapid, precise manner to ensure asylum rights are upheld.
* Prepare and submit bail applications for detainees, communicating with the necessary community/ charity groups.
* Accompany asylum seekers to Home Office screening interviews.
* Contact external organisations (Red Cross, Women’s Aid etc.) to coordinate care for the needs of asylum seekers.

Mcquoid solicitors, ormeau road Belfast (Mandarin interpretor)
December 2017-present.

* Host three interpreting sessions weekly for the public requiring legal advice through Mandarin.
* Coordinating our firm’s approach to Chinese cases through compiling and aligning policy reports for use in both Home Office and in-court submissions.
* Expert on Chinese government persecution of religious minorities, family planning schemes and forced sterilisation.

## development perspectives (irish sdg advocate) 2018

* Selected as one of 28 advocates to promote the Sustainable Development Goals in Ireland.
* Briefed the Irish Embassy and UNDP organisations in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on the SDG Advocate Programme, which promotes greater visibility internationally and increased community action locally on the Sustainable Development Goals.
* Coordinated project approaches between partner organsiations in Ireland, Vietnam and Tanzania.
* Currently developing a local action plan within Queen’s University, Belfast in partnership with the Mitchell Institute to promote visibility of ‘SDG Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions’.

# Other Work Experience:

## teacher | annie’s english school, taipei, taiwan | January 2014 - july 2017

* Immersed in a multi-lingual working environment, teaching Taiwanese children aged 6-13.
* Awarded “Best International Teacher” from fifty teachers by management (2015-2016).

# Positions of Responsibility:

## Taiwan irish community (Co-ordinator) 2015-2017

* Coordinated with the Taipei Representative Office in Dublin to organise and lead meetings between Irish Parliamentarians and representatives of the Irish community in Taiwan.
* Successfully lobbied for increased recognition for Taiwan-based Irish citizens within the Dept. of Foreign Affairs.

## Taiwan celts GAA CLUB (committee MEMBER) 2015-2017

* Attained sponsorship with local and international companies ensuring the continuation of the club.
* Organised and coached training sessions for a diverse and multi-level squad of players.
* Organised Taiwan’s inaugural St. Patrick’s Day Gaelic football tournament (2017).

## other Accomplishments

* U.S. Embassy Dublin Youth Council 2016 (member).
* Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation 'Young Peacebuilders' program (member).
* 2007 European Youth Parliament (selected out of 450 applicants as substitute for the Irish delegation).
* NUI Galway Law Society (Awarded Honorary Lifetime Membership).

# Languages:

## Irish - Completed an Irish Diploma (CEFR C1 Level) NUI Galway. Mandarin - Awarded a ‘Huayu Scholarship’ by the Taiwanese government.