



# Trinity European Laureate Award

**23 April 2026**

Theme: Business

Recipient: Danny McCoy



Trinity College Dublin  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

Trinity Long Room Hub  
Arts & Humanities Research Institute

 Teneo®

# Order of Events

- »» 7.00 p.m. Introduction and welcome by **Professor Patrick Geoghegan**, Director of the Trinity Long Room Hub.
- »» 7.05 p.m. Presentation of the Trinity European Laureate Award by **Gary McGann**, Chairman of Teneo's Advisory Board, to **Danny McCoy**, CEO of Ibec.
- »» 7.15 p.m. Laureate Address by **Danny McCoy, OSI, MRIA**.
- »» 7.30 p.m. Panel discussion on Ireland, Europe and the Future of Business chaired by **Conor Brophy**, Managing Director of Teneo.

## Panel:

**Dr. Frances Ruane MRIA**, former Director of the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and a leading expert on Ireland's economic development and policy.

**Richie Boucher**, former CEO of Bank of Ireland who played a leading role in steering the Bank through the financial crisis and played a central role in Ireland's banking recovery.

**Frances Fitzgerald**, former Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, MEP, and Senior Advisor at Teneo.

Moderator: **Conor Brophy**, Managing Director, Teneo.

# Trinity European Laureate Award

## Danny McCoy

The Trinity European Laureate Award is awarded to Danny McCoy in recognition of his outstanding contribution to business in Europe, to economic thought, and to public life. The gold medal acknowledges his remarkable leadership in advancing the European ideal throughout a career dedicated to promoting co-operation and shared prosperity.

A defining element of his public service has been his long-standing commitment to Europe and the ideals and values it represents. He played a leading role in three national referendum campaigns and contributed significantly to public understanding of complex European issues. His advocacy and contributions to public discourse have helped reaffirm Ireland's place at the centre of a shared European home.

As an economist, his work has bridged scholarship and public affairs, combining analysis with practical leadership. As a trusted adviser, he has engaged with successive Irish Governments, including five Taoisigh, and contributed to major decisions made at critical junctures. He has spoken at the United Nations General Assembly of the International Labour Organisation and has been a keynote speaker at over 40 international conferences.

Danny McCoy's expertise and judgement has been recognised by his appointment to more than thirty high-level commissions and advisory bodies across Europe. He has provided expert guidance on issues ranging from economic strategy and competitiveness to social policy and sustainability.



Over a prolonged period, his work as CEO of Ibec, the Irish Business and Employers Confederation, has demonstrated the constructive role of business in fostering trust and social dialogue, and advancing a shared prosperity. Thanks to his leadership, Irish business has developed a strong, credible and influential voice in national and European policymaking. His vision for economic development is grounded in openness, innovation, fiscal responsibility and social cohesion.

During the debates over Brexit, he was a consistent and active champion of co-operation, stability, and the protection of existing relationships and the avoidance of a hard border on this island. A strong proponent of all-island economic co-operation, he has contributed significantly to peace and reconciliation, and his work on the Joint Business Council, representing business across the island, has underpinned the economic foundations of the peace process.

The longest-serving leader of a national business organisation on the Executive Council of Business Europe, he has worked closely with successive Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, as well as with the European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Appointed a Cavaliere of the Order of the Star of Italy, for services to European business, he was also elected a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, and has helped inspire new generations as an Adjunct Professor in the School of Business at Trinity College Dublin.

Danny McCoy's career exemplifies how economic expertise can serve society, and how business leadership can serve the common good. This gold medal, awarded by the Trinity Long Room Hub, in partnership with Teneo, the global CEO advisory firm, acknowledges a career of exceptional impact and one that epitomises the very best about Europe and all it represents.

# About Us

The Trinity Long Room Hub is where we bring long-term perspectives, critical thinking, and creativity and imagination to the great questions of our time. At a time of global insecurity, threats to democracy, the erosion of public trust, and debates about technology, power, and even what it means to be human in the age of AI, our scholars interrogate these challenges and bring new perspectives and insights.

Through our research and fellowships, debates and public events, and engagement with public policy, we provide a community of scholars who tackle the greatest of challenges.

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## Learn more

For further information about any of our activities, please email [patrick.geoghegan@tcd.ie](mailto:patrick.geoghegan@tcd.ie)  
Or scan the QR code to sign up for our mailing list





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