

**ASYLUM
SEEKERS**



RIGHT TO WORK

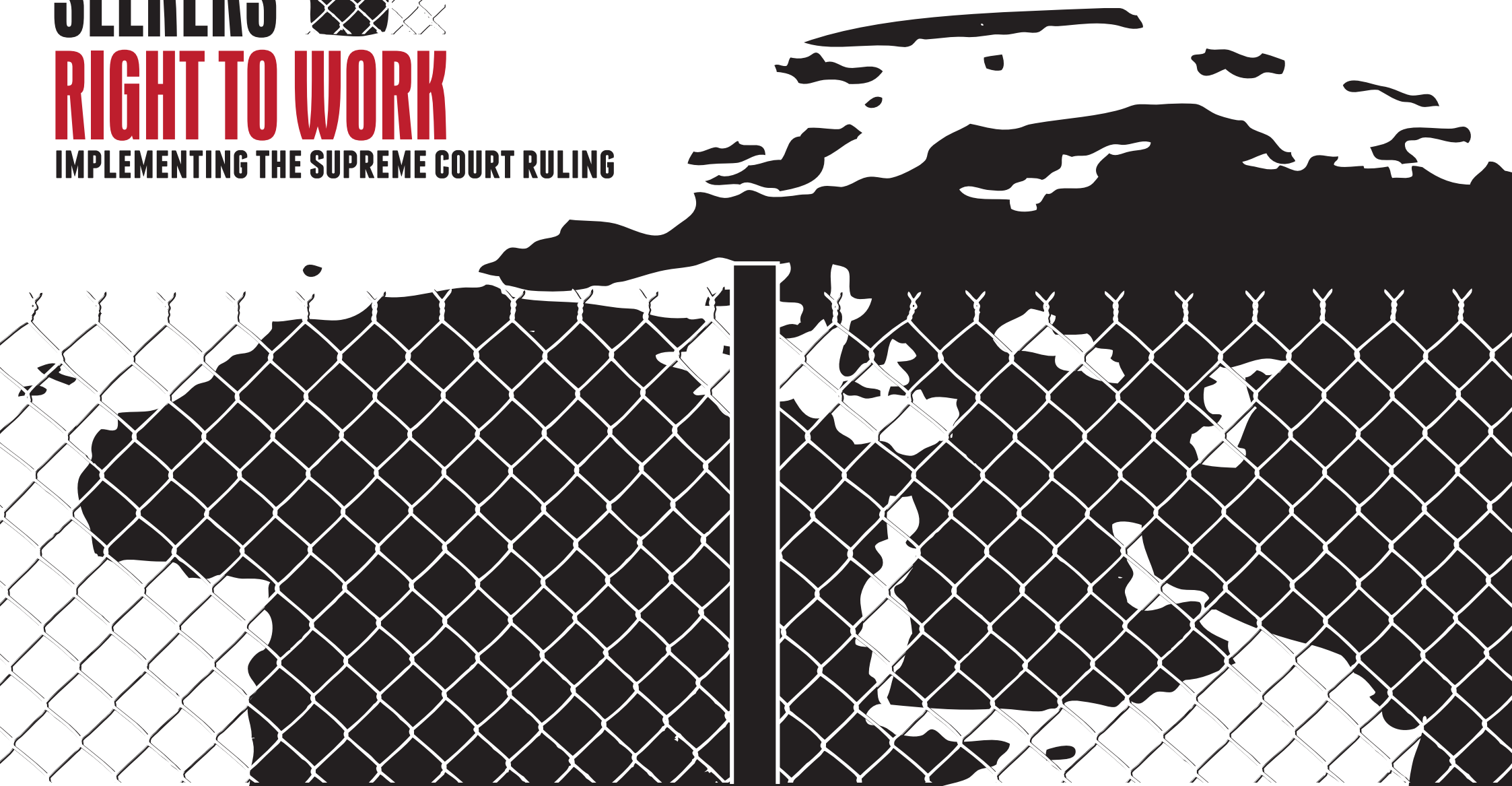
IMPLEMENTING THE SUPREME COURT RULING

Conference at

Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College

Thursday 21st September

#cosright2work



PROGRAMME

- 10.30 Opening by former Supreme Court Judge
Catherine McGuinness
- 10.50 **Emily Logan**, *Chief Commissioner, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission*: The right to work as a human right
- 11.10 **Dr Liam Thornton**, *UCD Department of Law*: Enforcing the right to work for asylum seekers in Ireland and Europe
- 11.30 **Christiana Obaro**, *asylum seeker resident at Mosney Direct Provision Centre*: The loss of dignity and psychological problems caused by the denial of the right to work
- 11.50 **Refreshments**
- 12.10 **Tony Hanway**, *CEO Virgin Media*: Why it is important to Irish business that asylum seekers are granted the right to work
- 12.30 **David Joyce**, *Equality Officer, Irish Congress of Trades Unions*: The trade union view on asylum seekers' right to work
- 12.50 **Jim Power**, *economist*: The contribution of asylum seekers, refugees and other immigrants to the Irish economy
- 1.10 **Questions, answers and discussion**
- 1.40 **Lunch**
- 2.25 Panel of former asylum seekers and refugees who have successfully integrated into the Irish workforce and society: **Malak Bouod** (originally from Libya), **Armin Samali** (Iran) and **Lassane Ouedraogo** (Burkina Faso)
- 3.00 **FOUR WORKSHOPS:**
- 1) Business opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees (facilitated by **Neil McDonnell**, CEO, *Irish Small and Medium Enterprises Association, ISME*)
 - 2) Barriers to integration into the workforce for asylum seekers and refugees (facilitated by **Professor Mary Gilmartin**, *Maynooth University*)
 - 3) Getting ready for work through training and higher education (facilitated by **Professor Patrick Flood**, *DCU*)
 - 4) Setting up a Workplace of Sanctuary (facilitated by **David Kelly**, *UCD*)
- 4.00 **Reports back from workshops** (3 minutes each) **and final discussion**
- 5.00 Final remarks from **Fintan Drury**, *writer and businessman*
- Organised by **CITY OF SANCTUARY DUBLIN** in association with the **Irish Refugee Council** and the **Immigrant Council of Ireland**.
- The Irish School of Ecumenics/Loyola Institute is at the eastern end of the TCD campus facing on to the sports pitches. *The Pearse Street entrance (beside the Science Gallery) is the closest entrance.*