



## Pursuing Our Ambition for Equality & Human Rights: Ideas for Integrated Approaches

The establishment of an integrated Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission presents opportunities and challenges for the IHREC and for civil society.

The opportunity lies in the possibilities for new approaches to emerge from this integration for addressing what are persistent issues. If these possibilities are to be realised, there is a challenge to find frameworks for our work and analysis that will go beyond simply joining up human rights and equality struggles to integrate them in a coherent and effective way.



### Integrating Equality & Human Rights

Niall Crowley, independent consultant and Chair of ERA presented the draft paper he is currently developing for ERA. Niall's paper explores: the different traditions evident in work on human rights and equality ; the potential in making links between and integrating these two traditions ; possible elements of an integrated approach; and recommendations for each element of the equality and human rights infrastructure on developing more integrated approaches.

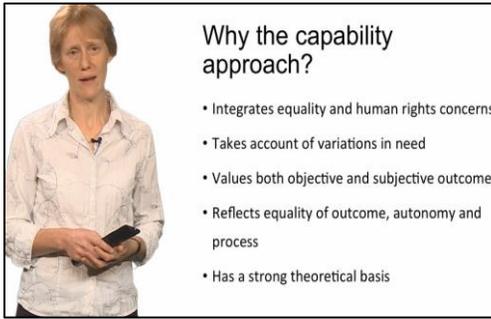
Click [HERE](#) to download Niall's presentation

*"An integrated approach can, and needs to, coexist with activities that reflect a specific focus on equality issues or on human rights issues or actions that address the intersections of human rights and equality."*



**ERA Roundtable  
November 27, 2014  
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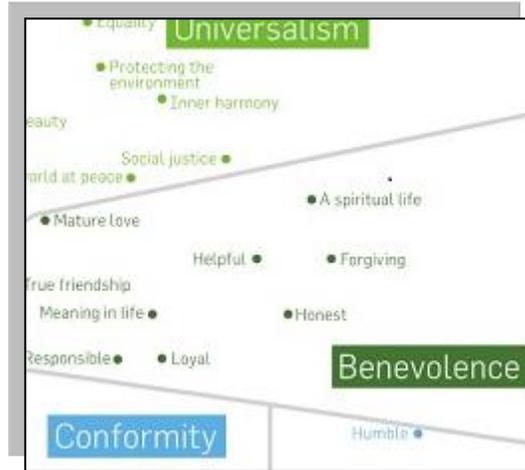
## The Capabilities Approach: A possible unifying framework

Tania Burchardt from the London School of Economics discussed the Capabilities Approach as a possible unifying framework to address equality and human rights concerns in an integrated way.

Click [HERE](#) to download Tania's presentation

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*"The Capabilities Approach is helpful in that it takes account of variations in needs between people, it values both objective and subjective outcomes, and it is able to capture equality of outcome, autonomy and process"*



## Values Matter: values as a basis for integrating and advancing equality & human rights concerns

Elena Blackmore from the Public Interest Research Centre in Wales discussed the importance of values and how values are communicated in our framing of equality and human rights concerns.

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*"Framing is the architecture of meaning through which we understand and communicate the world (and our values)"*



Participants discuss issues at our Roundtable

## Sites of Integration: applying an integrated approach to equality & human rights concerns

Neil Crowther, independent consultant, discussed how integrated approach can be applied, using the example of three sites of practice: disability rights; public bodies; and engaging with the international human rights framework.

Click [HERE](#) to download Neil's presentation

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*"An integrated public sector equality & human rights duty in Ireland- the first of its kind globally - is a good opportunity but requires a common 'theory of change' or 'process duty' to*