



Fringe guide



Thursday 14th May, The Brehon Suite (The Brehon Hotel), 13.15 - 14.00

Céad Míle Fáilte - Fórsa's Journey Towards 100,000 Members

Hosted by the Membership Unit, this fringe meeting looks at how Fórsa has become the fastest growing union in Ireland and where our journey towards 100,000 members is taking us next. Featuring activist voices from high growth branches, insights from our membership data, and a special address from General Secretary Kevin Callinan, this session is about what works in recruitment – and how we keep building union power together.



Thursday 14th May, The Park Suite (The Brehon Hotel), 13.15 - 14.00

Elections, Peace and Trump: What Next for Colombia's Progressive Movement?

With Colombia's presidential election held this month, what hopes and challenges lies ahead for peace, worker rights and social justice? Progressive candidate Iván Cepeda has led polls but faces an aggressive far-right backed by Trump's White House. Fórsa is providing vital support to Justice for Colombia's campaign work: we're joined by Colombian trade unionist Jairo Ramirez to discuss Fórsa's crucial role and how international trade unionists can support the Colombian people's hopes for change. Speakers include, Jairo Ramirez, USO oil workers union and CORPEIS trade union school, Ana Garmilla, Fórsa, Nick MacWilliam, Justice for Colombia. With videos from Fórsa-sponsored projects in Colombia.



**Friday 15th May, The Brehon Suite 1,
(The Brehon Hotel),
13.15 – 14.00**



**In conversation with Donna Schwarz: An
activist's experience on the Freedom Flotilla**

Cork woman and Fórsa member Donna Schwarz was on board the civilian aid ship Amsterdam, when members of the Freedom Flotilla were forcibly abducted and detained by Israeli forces while they attempted to break Israel's illegal and inhumane siege of Gaza and deliver aid to its besieged population. In conversation with Fórsa National Secretary Richy Carrothers, Donna will speak about her experience and the dangers encountered on this aid mission.



**Friday 15th May, The Park Suite
(The Brehon Hotel),
13.10 – 14.00**

The Asian Hornet Queen

Fórsa activist and member of the Irish Beekeepers' Association Colette O'Connell presents The Asian Hornet Queen.

The arrival of one fertile Asian Hornet Queen in the Port of Bordeaux, France in 2004, is responsible for the ongoing proliferation of this apex predator throughout Europe and further. This insect, native to Southeast Asia, decimates honeybees and other important pollinating insects. It destroys crops and is a danger to human health.

This fringe event delves into the climatic impact of this infestation, you can learn more here.



**Friday 15th May, The Munster Suite
(The Brehon Hotel),
13.00 – 14.00**



Join Fórsa Youth at “The How’s of Housing” fringe event where they’ll be discussing the chronic housing crisis, some of their solutions and how we can make them happen.

Ever wondered who actually builds our homes? Want to know the difference between a Part IV tenancy and Part V affordable home? Want to improve your evidence-based giving out? The event will see Fórsa Youth Chairperson Hugh McNerney discuss everything housing, with panellists including Fórsa Campaigns Director, Kevin Donoghue, along with Fórsa Youth Secretary Rachel Fennelly and others to cut through the noise to find solutions that work and can happen now.



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