

Questionnaire

General

Name of Convention?

Dublin 2029

What dates will your convention run?

Our proposed dates are currently 2nd (Thursday) - 6th (Monday) August 2029

What is your proposed convention host city?

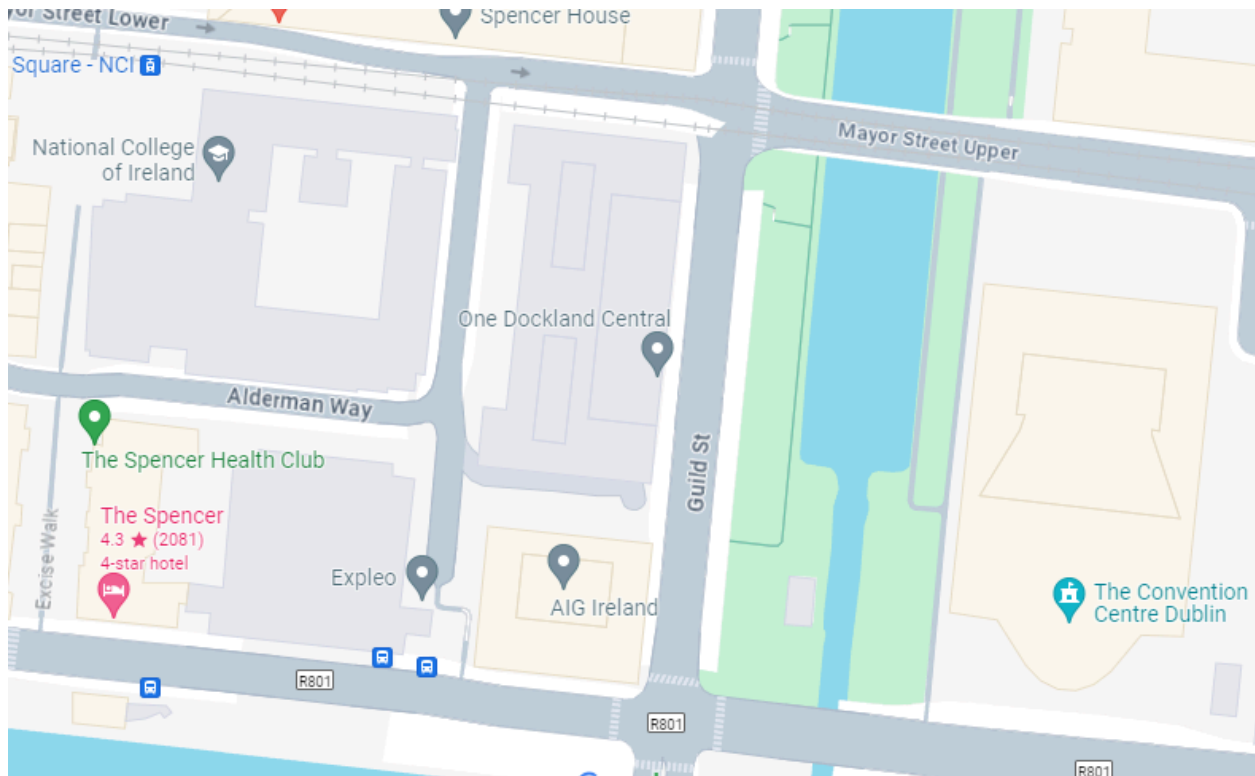
Dublin, Ireland

Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?

Our convention sites are in Dublin city centre.

What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?

We have not yet finalised the facilities but we are looking at the Convention Centre Dublin (CCD) and the neighbouring National College of Ireland (NCI), Mayor Square. The closest hotel, the Spencer, is 260 metres from the front entrance of the CCD and approximately 200 metres from the entrance to NCI.



These venues have at least 5 hotels within 500 meters and Dublin has over 22,000 hotel rooms available in all, plus other forms of accommodation available.

Who is your convention chair?

Our bid co-chairs are Marguerite Smith and Brian Nisbet.

Who is on your committee?

At time of writing the team consists of Meg MacDonald, Sadhbh Warren, JC Clarke, John Doody, Esther MacCallum-Stewart, Ila Khan, Marc Morris, Emily January, Andrew January, Catherine Sharp, Declan Meenagh, Alex McKenzie, Nicholas Whyte, Tommy Ferguson, and Keith Smith.

What experience do they have in general?

Both Marguerite and Brian have been involved in conrunning for decades in Ireland, the US and elsewhere. Their experience ranges from small local conventions to Worldcons.

This is the same for various members of the bid committee

What experience do they have in running Worldcons (insert appropriate convention here, i.e. Worldcons/NASFiCs/Smofcons)?

Brian and Marguerite have both held senior positions at multiple cons. Most recently, Marguerite and Brian were Vice-Chair and DH of Logistics, respectively, for Glasgow 2024.

The rest of the team have a wide experience with conventions of all sizes and at least one of them is a former Worldcon chair.

If applicable, have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along-Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70%?

Pass-along funds are an incredible way of facilitating the continuation and growth of Worldcon. We believe that they're important, and will absolutely plan to take part in passing forward at least the standard 50% share of our surplus to following Worldcons.

It's too early to determine whether we'd be able to increase pass-along to 70%, especially as we'd like to ensure we retain some surplus funds to support our local fandom as well.

What is the sponsoring organization?

There is no sponsoring organisation in the sense that it is commonly used for US Worldcons.

Is the sponsoring organization a 501(c)(3) or otherwise a non-profit? If not a 501(c)(3) but a non-profit, please explain.

Not applicable for the sponsoring organisation as there isn't one.

The bid for Dublin 2029 is run through a private not-for-profit company limited by guarantee and incorporated in Ireland. Only bodies set up for specific purposes and registered with the Charities Regulator can use the "nonprofit" label, and a Worldcon does not qualify.

Is the sponsoring organization tax-exempt for local taxes, especially sales tax?

Dublin 2029 is not a tax-exempt organisation.

What is your website and less other social media presence?

The main source of information is our website - <https://dublin2029.ie/>

There is a mailing list which can be joined through a link on the website. It is currently very low-traffic, but we will be increasing use as our bid progresses.

You can find us elsewhere on the internet here:

Bluesky - <https://bsky.app/profile/dublin2029.bsky.social>

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/people/Dublin-2029/61567258927993>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/dublin2029>

Who should people contact for additional information or questions (email preferred)?

You can reach Marguerite and Brian jointly on bidchairs@dublin2029.ie or info@dublin29.ie for general queries.

Travel

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Melbourne, etc.?

Dublin (DUB) is the local airport, located ~13km/8miles from our proposed venues

Below is a table of common airfares in the summertime.

Estimates are taken for early August 2026 (12 months in advance), to simulate 1 person return flight, arriving before the convention and staying for one week and taking a cabin bag and checked bag.

These were found by using flight comparison websites. Flights were chosen by the fewest number of stops and then by cheapest option within the criteria. Some routes will have direct flights not shown on the flight comparison websites or have not opened booking so far in advance.

	Stops	EUR	Local Currency
Boston	1	€ 571	677 USD
Beijing	1	€ 748	6,236 CNY

Brisbane	1	€ 1,320	2,358 AUD
Cairo	1	€ 331	18,960 EGP
Chicago	1	€ 970	1,127 USD
Entebbe	1	€ 787	3,227,337 UGX
Glasgow	0	€164	142 GBP
Helsinki	0	€ 294	294 EUR
Lagos	1	€ 832	1,478,820 NGN
London	0	€ 168	145 GBP
Los Angeles	1	€953	1,135 USD
Mexico City	1	€ 1,211	26,382 MXN
Montréal	0	€ 762	1,214 CAD
New York	0	€ 510	593 USD
Seattle	0	€ 1,023	1,239USD
São Paulo	1	€ 997	6,470BRL
Tel Aviv	1	€ 478	1,708 ILS
Tokyo	1	€ 838	147,334 JPY
Wellington	2	€ 1,667	3,256 NZD

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport?

Yes

Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport?

Dublin is a major European hub and is serviced by many airlines including, but not limited to:

Aer Lingus, Ryanair, Air Canada, Air France, American Airlines, British Airways, Delta Air Lines, EgyptAir, Finnair, KLM, Lufthansa, SAS, and United Airlines.

More information can be found here:

<https://www.dublinairport.com/flight-information/airlines>

For those flying from Dublin to the US, customs and immigration pre-clearance is available, which means that passengers will be treated as domestic arrivals on landing in the US.

Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Not all cities listed in the table have direct flights to Dublin. Where this is not the case, the number of additional stops is listed in the “stops” column.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport, shared ride service (Lyft/Uber/etc.), and taxi from that airport/train station?

Dublin Airport is approximately 15 kilometers (a bit under 10 miles) from O’Connell Street.

The two Dublin mainline train terminuses are within easy reach of the convention venues and surrounding hotels by public transport or taxi.

A taxi will cost approximately 22 - 45 euro for 2 people (depending on the time of day; there is a higher rate after 8pm) to the city centre and will take about 25-30 minutes. Taxis are available 24 hours a day. FreeNow and Uber services are also available, and are regulated by the National Transit Authority alongside taxis and hackneys. Fares will be comparable to a standard taxi booking although there may be a “technology fee”.

An express bus (services run by private companies) to the city centre will cost approximately 6 euro (9-12 euro return) and take approximately 30 minutes. Companies that do this include Aircoach and Airport Express. These services run approximately 20 hours a day, between 4am and 12:30am.

Dublin Bus (city bus services) also run to and from the airport, including some 24-hour routes and some across the city. This will cost 2 euro with a Leap Card (available in the airport from the stationary / newspaper shop) and will take about 30 minutes to the city centre.

What is the visa situation for citizens of foreign countries to attend your convention? What countries are eligible for ESTAs (Electronic Travel Authorizations which are generally a formality)? What countries would require visas? How long does it normally take to get a visa, and what does it cost?

The best place to find up-to-date summary about visas to Ireland will be the Citizens' Information website.

<https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/moving-country/visas-for-ireland/visa-requirements-for-entering-ireland/>

For an easier experience finding your own requirements, you can also walk through the questions on the official Immigration website.

<https://www.irishimmigration.ie/>

Generally speaking, a single-entry short stay visa costs €60. You can apply for the visa no earlier than 3 months before your date of travel. However, visa application backlogs can be quite lengthy - the Dublin visa office is currently processing applications received at the end of September 2024. Other visa offices and consulates will have their own processing times.

Given this, we are looking at setting up a specific role (or team) to assist with issuing letters or other documentation required from us, with the aim of facilitating as many timely applications as we can.

Facilities

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

The convention itself will not be held in hotel space, but in specific venue space. As done for Dublin 2019, we may have certain services or functions (e.g., childcare) in hotels if needed, but our preference will be to have as much in the main space(s) of the convention as we can.

Our recommended hotels, if we have them, will be announced much closer to the date.

How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

It is too early to announce this. As mentioned above, Dublin itself has many thousand hotel rooms, with more completed each month. In general, Irish hotels are subject to the Disabilities Act 2005 and the Building Regulations Technical Guide M 2010, which set out the requirements on public spaces and services with regard to accessibility.

What are your hotel room rates?

It is too early to announce this. We will be in a position to announce this much closer to the dates of the convention. We had planned to provide indicative rates at **Seattle 2025**, but we have revised this decision as it is still too early to give any meaningful information.

Do these rates include breakfast?

In general, published hotel rates will include internet access, and all relevant taxes (e.g. VAT).
There may be two prices shown, one with breakfast included and one without.

Do they include internet access in the room?

In general, published hotel rates will include breakfast, internet access, and all relevant taxes (e.g. VAT).

How firm are these rates?

As above, it is too early to provide any rate information.

What additional taxes and fees are there?

In general, published hotel rates will include breakfast, internet access, and all relevant taxes (e.g. VAT).

What does parking cost at your main hotel and/or convention center?

Although we cannot strictly confirm the venue(s) at this point, example rates at the privately-run parking lot closest to the CCD are €30 per day or €18 overnight. The NCI parking lot has a lost ticket rate of €25 per day, but the strict day rates are €10 on weekdays or €7 on weekends, with evening and overnight rates available. All of these rates will be subject to availability.

Do you have a signed (contingent) contract or letter of intent specifying the above?

We are in final talks with our venue(s) but do not have signed contracts at this point.

What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site?

The closest hotel, the Spencer, is 260 metres from the front entrance of the CCD and approximately 200 metres from the entrance to NCI.

What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

It is too early to specify which hotels will be used and how bookings will be handled. We will be planning to contract with mobile rental companies and to arrange accessibility bookings in hotels near to our venue(s), but we cannot currently state anything concretely.

Where will your large events be held?

Currently we would expect our large events to take place in the 2,000-seater CCD auditorium. We are already working with the CCD to find an alternative to the wristband system used during Dublin 2019.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

Dublin's city centre has a thriving restaurant scene, ranging from traditional pub grub to Michelin-starred restaurants. Irish restaurants will generally list 14 common allergens in dishes, along with whether the dish is (or can be) vegetarian, vegan, and/or gluten-free.

<https://www.fsai.ie/business-advice/starting-a-food-business/allergens>

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

It is too early to state this with certainty, as we do not have formal agreements with either hotel(s) or venue(s). A corkage waiver is planned, but serving duties will require CCD staff if the party is taking place there.

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.

Irish law prohibits smoking fully in the general workplace, enclosed public places, restaurants, bars, education facilities, healthcare facilities and public transport. Smoking rooms are permitted in hotels, but these are increasingly rare.

Any convention space will be smoke-free by default.

Miscellaneous

What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?

The month of August is characterised by daily highs around 64°F (18°C), rarely exceeding 71°F (22°C) or dropping below 59°F (15°C). It is mostly cloudy and many days there will be a light or moderate rainfall. Humidity is between 65 - 90% (although this top end is very unusual).

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

Dublin is famous for its hospitality as well as celebrating a rich literary and cultural history.

Some famous sites include:

The Guinness Brewery and Storehouse

This is Dublin's most popular tourist attraction. Visitors can tour the brewery, learn about the history of Guinness, and sample some of the wares.

Jameson Distillery, Teeling Distillery, Roe & Co Distillery, Pearse & Lyons Distillery

There has been a resurgence of distilling within the city limits, and now multiple distilleries offer the chance to learn about the process and maybe sample a drop or two along the way.

Trinity College and National Library of Ireland

This houses the Book of Kells and The Long Room was the inspiration for the library in Star Wars Episode 3. It is also possible to stay in Halls (student accommodation) at Trinity.

National Museum of Ireland

Three different branches across Dublin explore Natural History, Archeology and Decorative Arts.

National Gallery of Ireland

Art included in the collection includes Yeats, Titian, Michelangelo and Picasso.

Temple Bar area

This is a popular area just south of the River Liffey, full of bars, places to eat and entertainment. It is also surrounded by a more eclectic shopping area which includes independent and secondhand bookshops, comic shops and alternative clothing stores.

1916 Easter Rising Coach Tour / The Dublin Ghost Bus / City Sightseeing - Dublin
Several bus rides tour the town, which has also been used for location filming of series such as Penny Dreadful and Ripper Street.

Dublin Zoo / The President's Residence

Phoenix Park is a walled park to the North of the River Liffey housing the zoo, the President's residence, the largest obelisk in Europe and a number of decorative gardens.

Kilmainham Gaol

Kilmainham is one of the largest unoccupied prisons still standing in the world, and looms large in Irish history – many revolutionaries were held here, and sometimes executed here, before it was decommissioned by the Irish Free State in 1924. The tour also explores the city's relationship with conflict and crime throughout the centuries.

Various Cathedrals, Churches, and other Religious Sites

Until recently, Ireland was a profoundly Catholic country, and this is reflected in the religious buildings and attractions that dot the city. You can visit St Valentine's heart in Whitechapel Street Church, for example.

However, Ireland has never been solely Catholic. There are numerous sites reflecting religions and spirituality with older history in Ireland, but also ones newer to Ireland. Newgrange, the famous neolithic monument, is a short trip from Dublin, so is covered in the next section. Ireland's first synagogue was founded around 1660 CE and you can walk past the newly-refurbished gatehouse at the first Jewish cemetery in the country (founded in the early 18th century, with the gatehouse dating to 5618 / 1857). Mosques and the one Dublin gurudwara are newer, but also easily found. Please bear in mind that you may be visiting active places of worship in addition to places of interest, and plan your visits respectfully.

Attractions further afield

Dublin also provides easy access to the nearby countryside, and the Irish countryside is renowned for its beauty. Local attractions include the Boyne Valley, site of the Battle of the Boyne and home to a number of Celtic tombs and cairns, including Newgrange, which is older than the Egyptian pyramids. However, day trips and short excursions to the Cliffs of Moher in County Clare, the Ring of Kerry, Yeats Country in County Sligo, and more are all possible, not to mention city breaks in Belfast, Cork, Galway, and Limerick. Themed holidays are also well-supported; Fáilte (the Irish word for 'welcome' and also the name of our tourist board) even has an entire section for [Knitting Tours](#).

The Skellig Isles were used in the climactic scene at the end of The Force Awakens, and several parts of Game of Thrones have been filmed across the island. Ireland is well known for its beautiful, evocative countryside and has featured in many science fiction and fantasy movies and TV series.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain demographic groups, such as historically marginalized groups, young adults, seniors, or military?

Yes. It is too early to say specifically what demographic or socioeconomic discounts will be available, but we are currently planning to offer them

How do you plan to recruit staff? Will there be a discount membership rate for staff? Do you plan crash space for staff? Etc.

We will recruit staff across several methods following best practices as set out by recent successful conventions:

- Rather than defining roles as they have been in the past, we will look at discrete tasks and skill sets. We will also create jobs based on the skills and time our volunteers have, and split roles between people as required.
- Writing job descriptions and posting them publicly, asking people to apply.
- Speaking to the existing volunteer pool, i.e., those who volunteer without a particular role in mind, once it's in place.
- Approaching existing con-runners across our wider networks.
- Approaching various organisations (e.g., universities, local writers' networking groups) for potential con-runners who might not have taken part previously.

The rest is too early to say. Some, such as con-organised staff crash space, are not common among Irish conventions. Nevertheless, we will be looking at several methods and models.

What is your vision for your convention?

Ireland has a reputation for being a crossroads. It is on the edge of Europe, but as a gateway, not a periphery. Most literally, crossroads dances were events where communities came together to celebrate, and to exchange information and ideas.

More than this, Ireland is a place where Neolithic tombs and warnings around the Sídhé still hold sway alongside cutting-edge technologies and pharmaceutical research. It's where some of the oldest vernacular literature in the world has led to Swift and Stoker and Barlow and O'Brien (Fitz-John or Flann, take your pick), through pros-also-fans Bob Shaw and James White, and onward to today's writers like Connolly, Long, Murphy, Zebedee, Ó Guilín, Rees Brennan, Griffin, Fennell, and more.

Similarly, we want the next Dublin Worldcon to embrace its function as a meeting-place. It's where everyone is a fan, even the pros. It's a holiday and a networking event and a safer space to be yourself, or so we work toward. It's

where we have hundreds, if not thousands, of programme items to discuss what we love – and sometimes to argue about it, too. We contextualise history and highlight the good while acknowledging where we could have – and should have – done better, and can do better now. It's also where we celebrate the up-and-comers in their fields and hear from new voices alongside established ones.

We also celebrate speculative fiction in all of its forms. Different genres in the form of science fiction, fantasy, and horror, sure, but also different media – 2D and 3D art, fan fiction and original fiction, music, anime, films, comic books and graphic novels, academic research and queue-based silliness.

How do you plan to make it happen?

We will be doing our best to make this happen by planning it in from the start. We have enough experience to be thinking about multiple forms of accessibility as we are negotiating our initial indicative contracts, for example. We already have our bid code of conduct in place and we have started work on sustainability planning. We are aiming to work with members of the Irish Traveller Community, building on what was done in 2019 and working with Irish small presses and creators to get their input as early as possible.

What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your convention?

Irish conventions are well known for being welcoming and relaxing, a place where you could find yourself sitting across the table from a world-famous pro just as easily as across from a new fan at their first con. The fandom has managed to balance this informality with a proven record of running large events, and that feeling will be at the heart of our proposed Worldcon.

Fan zines, and zines more generally, have long held a particular place of joy within Irish fandom. Examples of these include the zines from author Sarah Maria Griffin, the bilingual zine *Zín Dátheangach*, plus Hugo Award winners *Journey Planet & Slant*, among others. That fan reaction to other media is something we'd like to highlight, whether it's printed zines, recorded podcasts, or any of the other forms fan criticism and fan love can take.

Do you have a code of conduct? If so, is it available online and if so, where?

The current version of the Dublin 2029 CoC can be found at <https://dublin2029.ie/coc>

What do diversity and inclusion mean to you?

There's an oft-quoted saying from Verna Myers that "diversity is being invited to the party; inclusion is being asked to dance." That's a good start, but it's only a start. For us, diversity and inclusion also needs to incorporate different voices and needs from the start, both at a planning level (what we build) and a committee level (who's building and leading).

Ireland is still a rapidly changing society and we will be actively seeking to hear, include and involve those people and voices who have been historically oppressed, and whose oppression is sadly a new part of that society.

Importantly it means ensuring accessibility isn't an afterthought or bolt on, rather it is a consideration in every phase and every new idea or plan needs to be considered with accessibility in mind.

The ability to get involved in a Worldcon, whether physically or virtually, is based on so many factors and it seems that international travel, especially from anywhere that isn't North America, Europe, Australia or New Zealand, is only going to get harder. We plan to learn from other conventions on how to improve what Worldcon can do to help the visa process, lower financial barriers and maximise the usefulness of our planned fan fund.

Finally, we will aim to find an online platform that makes as few assumptions as possible about available bandwidth or processing power to make it as usable as possible in those areas of the world where the infrastructure is unfortunately not at the same level as that of urban Europe.

How are you working towards your goals in these areas?

What would concrete achievements look like in these areas?

Right now, our main work is to write down what we want and to watch and work with others and learn from them. We have both worked with people who have excellent experience and ideas in these areas and we hope they will work with or advise us.

Every Worldcon needs to build on the traditions from the past while acknowledging where they need changing and to productively question and suitably change The Way Things Are Done.

We want a Dublin 2029 Worldcon to be one where as many people as possible feel like they belong. We want the barriers to volunteering, to being on programming, to getting involved to be as low as possible. To extend the quote above from Verna Myers, a convention where they get to choose the music, and

we want as many people as possible to consider that choosing the music for a Worldcon is a thing worth doing.

Vitally we want the process of joining and attending this Worldcon to be as free of hassles as the modern world allows, and for the team to have done everything they can to remove those hassles for everyone who wishes to attend.

What are your plans, if any, regarding handling a disease outbreak like the COVID-19 pandemic?

As mentioned above, we will always comply with national and local requirements, and may choose to have stricter requirements. However, this far out from 2029, it is too early to say exactly what kind of social distancing, masking, or other physical arrangements will be in place for the convention.

We were both involved in expanding the Glasgow 2024 policy to a broader “disease mitigation” policy, not limited to COVID-19, and will take a similar approach for Dublin 2029.

Have you planned for a virtual component to your convention?

Although we are currently expecting to have an online aspect to our convention, it is far too early to commit to what that will look like.

Are you prepared to run any required site selection voting?

Yes. We are prepared to run any relevant site selection process that is required.

If applicable, how do you plan to facilitate the Hugo Finalists input to your convention?

We will, of course, have a dedicated Hugo Finalist Liaison, a position that we feel should be an absolute requirement for any Worldcon. Based on past experience, we hope that they will be allowed to observe certain areas of any 2029 finalists’ community with the goal of hearing ideas and concerns early. In fact, we are already watching and listening to finalists’ input for our current conventions and will absolutely be considering this when doing our own planning.

We will put all finalists on the programme who wish to take part, subject to the standard vetting and our CoC, of course! We will also keep a very close eye on emerging trends from Worldcons before 2029 to explore more ways of helping

finalists attend the convention (visa assistance, bursaries, assistance with equipment for online participation, etc.) and to raise their profile at the event.

Is there any restriction on your use of software that is from outside your country? Are there any restrictions in your country on the type of software, collaborating on software, or use of open source software?

Ireland is restricted from using any software that might appear on national or EU sanctions lists, however no major software packages or operating systems, be they commercial or open source, are currently restricted, and there is no expectation that they would be in the future.

Do any of the local, regional or national governments in your country have restrictions/laws which would impact Worldcon attendees and especially anyone from a marginalized group? Additionally, are there any unwritten/unspoken, but commonly known biases against members of marginalized communities?

Ireland, similarly to many EU, European and “western” nations operates an immigration policy which is adversarial towards those from many African, South American and Asian countries. There are no laws banning entry into Ireland from any country, but visa processes can be difficult.

In general Irish people are welcoming, but unfortunately there are historical and current biases towards Travellers & Roma. In addition to this there are biases towards non-white people similar to that found in other European countries. This is especially visible in regard to those who are considered to be part of large migrant groups.

Are you able to accept direct payment from outside your country for memberships or other purchases via credit card or other electronic payments?

Yes.