

P/PM PROFESSION NEWS

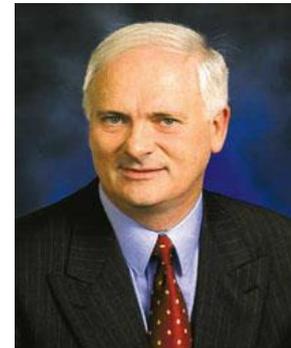
Former Irish Prime Minister to Address IPMA Council in Dublin

The Institute of Project Management Ireland is honoured to have John Bruton deliver the welcome address at the IPMA Council of Delegates in Dublin.

Reported by [Ed Naughton](#) in Dublin

23 March 2015 – Dublin, Ireland – The Institute of Project Management Ireland has announced that former Irish Prime Minister **John Bruton** will welcome national project management association delegates to Dublin on 28 March 2015. The project management leaders from approximately 57 countries will be attending an IPMA Council of Delegates meeting over the weekend.

John Bruton was first elected to the Irish Parliament in 1969 at the age of 22, and became leader of his Party in 1990. He served as Ireland's Minister for Finance, Minister for Industry & Energy, and Minister for Trade, Commerce & Tourism. During his time as Prime Minister (1994-1997), the Irish economy grew at an annual average rate of 8.7%.



He was deeply involved in the Northern Irish Peace Process, leading to the 1998 Good Friday Agreement, under whose terms a conflict of allegiances dating back to the seventeenth century was resolved. While Prime Minister, he presided over a successful Irish EU Presidency in 1996 and helped finalize the Stability and Growth Pact, which governs the management of the single European currency, the Euro.

Mr. Bruton addressed a joint session of the US Congress on September 11, 1996, as only the 30th head of state or government of an EU country to do so since 1945. He was probably the only President in office of the European Council to have addressed a joint session of Congress. Further, he represented the EU at Summit meetings with the President of the United States and with the Prime Ministers of Canada, Japan, China and Korea.

He served as a leading member of the Convention that drafted the proposed European Constitution, which was signed in Rome on October 29, 2004.

As EU Ambassador in Washington from 2004 to 2009, he met with the President, and former Presidents, of the United States and visited with governors, mayors, business leaders and students in most US states to explain that the expanding European Union is good for the US economy and good for American jobs. In Washington, DC, he had one-to-one meetings with over 250 Members of Congress to explain major EU developments and discuss the importance of the EU-US relationship in matters of trade, counterterrorism, public health, energy, the

environment and the promotion of peace, democracy and human rights around the world.

From 1999 until his appointment as Ambassador in 2004, he was one of ten Vice Presidents of the European People's Party, which brings together the leaderships of 74 European political parties, many of whom are in Government in their countries.

Currently, since leaving his position as Ambassador in 2009, John Bruton is Chairman of IFSC – Irish Financial Services Centre – a private sector body set up to develop the financial services industry in Ireland. He is a member of the board of Ingersoll Rand plc, of Montpelier Re plc, and of the Centre for European Policy Studies. He is a Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Transatlantic Relations in Washington DC, and has been a visiting fellow at the European Institute in the London School of Economics. He is married to Finola Bruton and has 4 adult children.



The project management leaders from 57 countries will gather in Dublin on March 28, 2015 to attend the Council of Delegates meeting of the [IPMA® \(International Project Management Association\)](http://www.ipma.org). The current IPMA Executive Board, seen in photo above, will participate in leadership roles during the meetings.

As a small country, Ireland must use these international networks in a strategic way to help us achieve our future targets. There are benefits to be derived from having a strong inward flow of international expertise in project management and from being well connected internationally.

The IPMA council meeting determines the policies and the strategies for the organisation, and provides an opportunity for delegates from all countries to exchange ideas on today's project challenges and emerging trends, to enjoy networking and to sample the culture of the host country.

Our international linkages are important for all aspects of project management. It is essential that companies in both the manufacturing and services sectors have access to leading-edge project management research, training and certification solutions wherever these may be located in the world.

This connectivity also helps Ireland to respond strategically to developments at European level in relation to issues such as potential European Project Management Certification. A range of initiatives to encourage a coordinated approach to certification in Europe are currently being launched as EU member states aim to strengthen further the profile of project management and use it to help achieve economic and societal objectives.

For more about IPM Ireland, visit <http://www.projectmanagement.ie/>