

INTERNATIONAL PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release – 13 May 2025

Lorraine Morris' Case Tests Ireland's Commitment to New Lawyer Protection Treaty

As Ireland becomes one of the first signatories to the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer, serious questions arise about its treatment of Lorraine Morris, a key whistleblower from the Irish Banking Inquiry.¹

Morris, a senior capital markets and derivatives lawyer admitted in three jurisdictions, served as a member of the Expert Support Team for the Joint Committee of Inquiry into the Banking Crisis, raised multiple concerns including the exclusion of significant witnesses (such as Jonathan Sugarman & Frank Browne), the widespread suppression and redaction of evidence and the refusal to permit Investigators pursue crucial lines of inquiry connected to Irish Banks' liquidity ratios and the matter of their solvency².

After making Protected Disclosures, Morris was discredited in a fabricated report that was published following a review conducted by Senan Allen, now a Judge of the Court of Appeal. Official transcripts of the interviews between Morris and Allen demonstrate that the Protected Disclosures were simply not investigated, as confirmed by correspondence sent by a Member of the Joint Committee on 8 September 2015 to all Joint Committee Members which included a current EU Commissioner. Media faithfully reported the Senan Allen Report as true, based on false government press releases.

Due to interference with, and intimidation of, Irish-based legal representatives, Lorraine has now retained Dutch capital markets and derivatives lawyer, **Hester Bais**, who has written extensively on financial fraud and regulatory failure across Europe. Together, they argue that both the Dutch and Irish Banking Inquiries were **deliberately constrained to shield the banking system from scrutiny**.

"Ireland will be judged, not by the signature on a piece of paper, but by how it treats lawyers like Lorraine, whose overriding duty is to the wider public interest and not to any one institution or State body. Lorraine has been scapegoated for her expertise in derivatives, collateral, and capital markets (www.lmorrislegal.com).

Our research reveals that lawyers in Ireland and the Netherlands discredit their profession by defending banks that falsified accounts, secretly altered contracts, and orchestrated defaults to seize client assets. Despite ECB mandates to reduce non-performing loans, banks deliberately destabilized healthy loans for sale to vulture funds, devastating EU citizens.

It has been systematically concealed that the credit crisis revolved around collateral shortages for OTC derivatives. Liquidity support to banks led to price hikes, low savings rates, stalled pension indexation, high financing costs, and new EU debts, as new collateral, like NextGenerationEU".

- **Hester Bais**

¹ <https://lmorrislegal.com/l-morris-legal/>

² [Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach debate - Tuesday, 28 May 2019](#)

Under the Convention, now open for signature in Luxembourg, signatory states are obliged to:

- Protect lawyers from harassment, threats or professional reprisals for carrying out their duties;
- Investigate any form of interference or retaliation;
- Offer meaningful redress, including compensation and public correction of reputational harm.

Morris's case and her inability to retain Irish-based legal representatives free from interference and intimidation appear to contravene these core obligations. Morris was not afforded any of the protections to which she is entitled under the EU Whistleblowing Directive and her personal data has been withheld by the State in contravention of the General Data Protection Regulation.

As Ireland signs this historic Convention, the treatment of Lorraine Morris and the interference with her Irish-based legal representatives will serve as a **test case** for whether those who uphold the rule of law are truly protected — or punished.

 *Ends*

Contact:

hester.bais@baislegal.nl | www.baislegal.nl | +31 (0) 630719217

Twitter/X: @wftproof | @MLorrM

