



Press Release: 16th April 2015

An Taoiseach joins Irish Business Leaders to call for a Yes Vote in the Marriage Equality Referendum

Marriage Equality is good for business, good for Ireland and good for employees

Today Thursday 16th April (08:00), **An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, T.D.** joined **Twitter Ireland's Managing Director, Stephen McIntyre** and **Tech Industry Leaders** to support marriage equality and set out its positive impact for employees and businesses in Ireland. Over 150 people from the Tech Industry and wider business community attended the **GLEN organised event** at Dublin's Digital Exchange.

"As a government, we have worked hard to restore Ireland's international reputation as a great place to do business. Ireland's welcoming reputation should extend to being an open, tolerant and compassionate home for our gay and lesbian workers. Civil marriage equality will further promote Ireland as a leading place to work and do business," said **An Taoiseach**.

Speaking at the event **Stephen McIntyre, Managing Director, Twitter Ireland** said "Twitter is supporting a Yes vote because of our company's commitment to inclusion and the strong business case for marriage equality. We encourage other companies to do likewise."

"Innovation is critical to the success of the Tech industry, an industry which is so vital to the Irish economy. The Tech Industry understands the strong link between innovation and diversity and has long supported marriage equality for lesbian and gay couples," added **Ann O'Dea, CEO Silicon Republic**.

Commenting on the event **Kieran Rose, Co-chairperson of GLEN** stated "We welcome the unequivocal support of An Taoiseach and leading voices of Irish business from Twitter to Ibec and the Irish Congress for Trade Unions for marriage equality as being good for employees, good for business and good for Ireland".

Also speaking at the event were **Chris Horn**, Co-founder and former chair and CEO of **IONA Technologies**; partner, **Atlantic Bridge Capital** and **John Hamill**, CEO & Co-founder, **Vennetics**.

ENDS

For further information:

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Editors Notes:

1. Event Speakers:

An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, T.D.

Kieran Rose, Co-Chair, GLEN

Stephen McIntyre, Managing Director, Twitter Ireland, VP EMEA Sales

Chris Horn, Co-founder and former chair and CEO of IONA Technologies; partner, Atlantic Bridge Capital

John Hamill, CEO & Co-founder, Vennetix

Ann O'Dea, CEO, Editor-at-large, Silicon Republic

2. Ibec Statement of Support for Civil Marriage: <http://agenda.ibec.ie/1oqj6botzkx>