

Dear Fellow Graduate,

It has been an honour to serve you as a progressive independent NUI Senator.

The Seanad shapes public debate and makes laws. As an effective advocate and legislator, I have won amendments that make a difference in people's lives and sponsored transformative legislation from the Mandate for Nature Bill to the Occupied Territories Bill.

I bring passion, care and thought to my work, connecting the detail with the bigger picture on equality, environment and economy. I work with others in the Seanad Civil Engagement Group to drive meaningful change and believe every citizen should have a vote in the Seanad.

I offer experience, ideas and a genuine belief that we have the power to shape a better future. The choices we make about how we want to live together in our communities, in our country, and on our planet, are important.

I will be a strong voice in the debates that matter.

**I am asking you to Vote No.1
Alice-Mary Higgins**

"An inspiring, passionate and effective legislator. We need her in the Seanad more than ever." – Catriona Crowe, Nominator

"Diligent, compassionate, and unwavering in her commitment to human rights. Her integrity shines through." – Frances Black

"A dynamic and powerful voice for women and equality." – Ailbhe Smyth

Is féidir leagan i nGaeilge den bhilleóg seo a fháil ag www.alicemaryhiggins.ie

Litir um
Thoghchán

Alice•Mary Higgins

Vote / Vótáil
#1

Nominator: Catriona Crowe, Archivist
Secondor: Ailbhe Smyth, Equality Advocate
Assentors include: Theo Dorgan, Poet,
Prof Donncha O'Connell, School of Law, University of
Galway, Dr Deirdre Coffey, School of Physics, UCD,
Dr Mary McAuliffe, Director Gender Studies, UCD,
Leila Doolan, Filmmaker

Independent
Candidate for
Seanad Éireann
(NUI)

Vote / Vótáil
#1

Independent
Candidate for
Seanad Éireann
(NUI)

Alice•Mary
Higgins



ABOUT ALICE-MARY

- Born and raised in Galway
- UCD (BA), Trinity (MPhil)
- Fulbright Scholar, New School for Social Research
- Worked with National Women's Council, Trócaire, Older & Bolder Alliance and Comhlámh
- Repeal and Marriage Equality Advocate

IN THE SEANAD

- Elected NUI Senator 2016 and 2020
- Won 70 changes to law, sponsored 20 Bills
- Leader Seanad Civil Engagement Group with Senators Lynn Ruane, Frances Black and Eileen Flynn
- Oireachtas Committees:
 - Finance and Public Expenditure
 - Environment and Climate Action
 - Gender Equality
 - Disability Matters
- Seanad Committee on EU Scrutiny
- Co-Chair All-Party Group on UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Represented Oireachtas at OSCE and Future of Europe
- "Senator of the Year", Miriam Lord, Irish Times, 2020



Why vote for me

ENVIRONMENT

I led scrutiny of the Climate Act, winning amendments to strengthen targets, accountability and climate justice. On the Climate Committee, I pressed for greater ambition on retrofitting and opposed data centre expansion and the introduction of LNG fracked gas. I championed the protection of biodiversity, from hedgerows and pollinators to oceans and forests, and I am progressing my Mandate for Nature Bill which would use Coillte and Bord na Móna state land to deliver far more for environment and society. I will work for faster and fairer climate action and a just transition for people and planet.

EQUALITY

I have challenged pension inequality and pushed for equality-proofed Budgets and supports for families. I helped make coercive control an offence, strengthened workplace harassment laws and won access to records for Mother and Baby Home survivors. I sponsored progressive legislation on Traveller, migrant and LGBTQI+ rights and continue to fight for full implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with a Disability. I will always step up and speak up for equality and inclusion. I will also continue to demand a genuinely equal franchise where every citizen gets to vote in Seanad elections.

ETHICAL ECONOMICS

On the Finance Committee, I pressed the Government and Central Bank to cease investment in illegal settlements and the sale of Israeli war bonds and sought safeguards to prevent investment of national funds in arms or fossil fuels. My Quality in Public Procurement Bill, already passed in the Seanad, would raise environmental and employment standards and deliver better value from the €19 billion a year spent on public procurement.

For more on my record, policies and legislation visit [AliceMaryHiggins.ie](https://www.AliceMaryHiggins.ie)

I will continue to promote workers' rights, respect at work, an end to precarious employment, and full compliance with the EU Adequate Minimum Wages Directive.

PUBLIC SERVICES

The essentials of life cannot simply be left to the market; our social fabric depends on proper public services. I have fought for more public housing on public land and proposed legislation to tackle dereliction and speculation. I believe in investment in education as a public good, from early-years right through to third-level and I will continue to push for quality public delivery of health and care services along with accessible, intergenerational, community and cultural spaces.

PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Ireland can and must be a voice for peace, human rights and international law. That includes real action on Gaza. As co-sponsor of the Occupied Territories Bill, I am demanding its immediate enactment. I also introduced the Arms Embargo Bill to end the transport of weapons to Israel through Irish airspace. I will champion Irish neutrality and our commitment to the United Nations. I have promoted public health as a human right. My changes to legislation have strengthened data protection rights and online regulation. I will continue to defend human rights at home and abroad.

