



Malaga, 23rd March 2021

**Pilar Iglesias Aparicio wins the Kate O'Brien prize of the Maria Zambrano Centre of Transatlantic Studies of the University of Malaga with a work on the repression of women in Spain and in Ireland.**

The amount of this award is 1,200 €

The María Zambrano Centre of Transatlantic Studies UMA-ATECH of the University of Málaga has awarded the first **Kate O'Brien Prize of the Centre of Transatlantic Studies of the University of Málaga** to **Pilar Iglesias Aparicio**, doctor in English Philology from the UMA, for her work "**The Magdalene Laundries in Ireland and the centres for the Protection of Women in Spain: examples of the sexual repression policy and the punishment of women**". According to the judges it "was an exhaustive study which fulfilled all the requirements and was in keeping with the stipulated regulations of the prize. It threw light on an atrocious sociocultural phenomenon which should have been given much greater publicity and which still needs to be thoroughly investigated. The socially necessary study was carried out by comparing two catholic countries which used religion as an instrument of repression against women".

The award winner received her prize at the hands of the deputy director of AMZET who was also a member of the evaluation committee **Magdalena Martín Martínez** and the Assistant Vice Rector for Investigation of the University of Málaga, **María Zaida Díaz Cabiale**.

The commission, which noted the high quality of all the works presented, awarded a second prize to the work entitled "**In Word and Deed': Literature and Revolution in Modern Ireland and Spain–1913-39**", by **James Heaney**, from Carlow College (Ireland), They found it particularly interesting in the way it compared the conflicts in Spain and Ireland at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The study was carried out by comparing four important authors: Patrick Pearse and George W. Russel for Ireland and Rafael Alberti and Manuel Azaña for Spain."



This award which focusses on the relations between Spain and Ireland has as its theme, literature and/or women and the perspective of gender. It is sponsored by **José Antonio Sierra** and comes with an endowment of **1,200€**.

The panel of judges for the Kate O'Brien prize presided over by the director of AMZET, **Juan Antonio García Galindo**, was composed of **Magdalena Martín Martínez**, deputy director of AMZET; **José Antonio Sierra Lumbreras**, international consultant of AMZET; **Miriam López Rodríguez**, Lecturer in the English Department of the University of Málaga; and, as representatives of the Irish institutions, **Alfonso Blanco**, from University College Dublin, and **Katerina García**, from Trinity College Dublin.

In the coming weeks there will be an announcement of the **Spanish-Irish Prizes** which fall into three categories: **Premio George Campbell**, with the theme being the arts, music or related to sports; **Premio Robert Boyd**, for research centred on the historic relations between Spain and Ireland; and the **Premio Kate O'Brien**, which will be devoted to works either literary or to do with the Press and which can be in written form or audiovisual.

The María Zambrano Centre of Transatlantic Studies of the University of Málaga ([www.uma.es/amzet](http://www.uma.es/amzet)) is an academic, interuniversity and multidisciplinary initiative which arose from the need to create links of collaboration and to interchange knowledge among the different countries which form the Atlantic World.