

The Third Raymond Crotty Lecture 2012



Crotty v. An Taoiseach (1986) was a landmark decision of the Irish Supreme Court which found that Ireland could not ratify the Single European Act unless the Irish Constitution was first changed to permit its ratification. The case established that significant changes to EU treaties required an amendment to the Irish constitution – always done by means of a referendum – before they could be ratified by Ireland.

“The question therefore is whether the State in attempting to ratify this Treaty is endeavoring to act free from the restraints of the Constitution.”

— Walsh J (Supreme Court Judge)



Now, twenty – five years later, Thomas Pringle has challenged the ratification of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), in the Supreme Court. Though this case has received very little publicity here, the importance of it was underlined by the media scrum surrounding the hearing at the EU Court of Justice (ECJ) in Luxembourg which considered three questions referred to it by the Irish Supreme Court on foot of the challenge. This is an opportunity to hear an outline of the basis for and the importance of the case

first – hand from the man himself.

“The ESM treaty? But we've already voted on it?”

Thomas Pringle TD

in The Ireland Institute,
27 Pearse Street, Dublin 2

on Thursday, November 22nd at 7.30 pm

Contact: 087-2308330 or www.people.ie

ALL WELCOME