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## 1. Who Is Irishman Stephen Donnelly, Ireland's Minister of Health & Black Belt In Taekwondo ?

The Indo in an article in 2020 said "To his admirers, he is a brilliant strategic thinker. To critics, he is all hot air"

Only you can decide

New 🧵 1/27



2. Donnelly is a graduate of University College Dublin (UCD) with a degree in mechanical engineering. He also worked and studied in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 2000, Donnelly moved to London, where he worked as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company.

3. Michael J Sullivan wrote a brilliant article on Donnelly's time at McKinsey. There is nothing I can add to it except to say please take the time to read it when you've read the 🧵 The purpose of this 🧵 is to look at his time since he returned to 🇮🇪

[freepress.ie/2021/04/stephe...](http://freepress.ie/2021/04/stephe...)

4. But before we dig in to Donnelly its important to look at his wife and who she works for. Donnelly's wife is Dr Susan Leavy who is a postdoctoral research fellow with the Insight Centre for Data Analytics (ICDA) at UCD.

5. She works on algorithmic criticism, developing methods to prevent gender bias in Artificial Intelligence.

It all sounds very 4th Industrial Revolution.

6. ICDA was set up by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and in its 2015 annual report on page 26 it says

“A key objective of Agenda 2020 was to establish a cohort of world-leading, large-scale SFI Research Centres to provide significant economic and societal impact for Ireland”

7. In the same report on page 29 it says

“In addition, funding has been secured from the Wellcome Trust, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and other philanthropic sources”

Finally on page 31 of the report it says “Three SFI-Pfizer Biotherapeutics..

[sfi.ie/research-news/...](http://sfi.ie/research-news/...)

8. ..Innovation Awards were made, bringing the total projects funded under two calls of this unique partnership scheme to eight “

So we can now see that ICDA who Leavy works for is a Dpmt of SFI who have very close ties to big Pharma and Bill Gates. But back to her husband.

9. Back in 2013 Tanaiste Eamon Gilmore predicted that Donnelly would switch from an Independent TD to Fianna Fail. He also said Donnelly would become a "Soldier of Destiny" in the fullness of time.

How prescient those words must seem now.

[irishtimes.com/news/ireland/i...](http://irishtimes.com/news/ireland/i...)

10. The Irish Times even once wrote an article on Donnelly called "In Praise of Stephen Donnelly" They even said of him he "stood out for his ability to cut to the chase".

This must be a different person as all I've seen has been waffle for the last year.

## In praise of Stephen Donnelly

Amid all the posturing at this week's meetings between the Oireachtas committee on finance and the main bank executives, Stephen Donnelly, the Independent TD for Wicklow and East Carlow, stood out for his ability to cut to the chase.

More than once the former McKinsey consultant told bankers that mortgage arrears were a symptom not the problem. He said for a large cohort of the near 100,000 who were behind in their mortgage payments by 90 days or more, the debts were simply unsustainable, regardless of the forbearance measures offered by the banks.

He also, rightly, highlighted how between 60 per cent and 85 per cent of the so-called solutions being offered to customers would result in them actually repaying more by the time the loan is paid off.

He asked PTSB chief



executive Jeremy Masding if he stood over a decision by the bank against a couple that would have the effect of them being forced to default on a loan that is funding college studies in favour of repaying their mortgage. After a brief pause, Masding agreed with the decision.

Donnelly told Masding this was "deeply disappointing", and such decisions might resolve the bank's problems but would be to the "cost of Irish citizens and economic recovery of this country".

It's not easy to make a mark with so many voices over 13 hours of hearings. Donnelly was one of the few committee members to stand out.

CIARAN HANCOCK

11. Donnelly is all for free speech though when it suits him. In 2014 he told the Dail "legislation that molycoddles those who take offence, gags free speech, harms public debate and and make uncomfortable truths invisible truths"

[irishtimes.com/news/politics/...](http://irishtimes.com/news/politics/...)

12. Is this not the same Donnelly who blocks everyone on Twitter when they ask him any questions.



13. One of Donnelly's pals is Boris Johnson who so happened to be Donnelly's last client at McKinsey and even credits Johnson for the reason he went into politics.

That is hardly a ringing endorsement.



14. Donnelly's rise to power has been swift in Fianna Fail.

Being a mechanical engineer Donnelly was obviously the perfect man for the position of Ireland's Health Minister. All the correct credentials for the job as he has shown



15. Donnelly wasn't long in the job when he started singing off the same hymn sheet as NPHET warning of an upsurge in cases from international travel.

Funny that, as there was practically nobody travelling in July 2020 (apart from me, I went to 🇪🇸 😊)

[irishtimes.com/news/ireland/i...](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/i...)

16. Just less than a month later Donnelly was fully behind Nphet terrorising the nation as Ireland would be facing “recurring waves”.

I must have missed those or maybe they just never happened or was he referring to the flawed PCR test to keep case numbers high

## Ireland faces ‘recurring waves’ of Covid-19, Minister warned

Department of Health says it is impossible to predict the future course of the disease

© Thu, Aug 6, 2020, 18:47

**Paul Cullen** Health Editor



The documents were prepared for new Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly.  
File photograph: Stephen Collins /Collins Photos Dublin



Ireland is likely to face “recurring epidemic waves” of Covid-19 infections into the future, though



predicting the trajectory of the disease is impossible,



according to a briefing document prepared for Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly.

17. In August 2020 he also flexed those Taekwondo Black Belt muscles by implementing localised lockdowns in the Midlands which were really successful. They definitely helped to stem the spread of the Rona 🙄

18. He is also fully on board with the World Economic Forum's mantra of "building back better". He was caught uttering the prophetic words on a Zoom Call. On Nov 3rd he said

19. "It's essential we continue to do everything we can across the island to not only fight this pandemic but to build back better and stronger"



20. He has also frequently had to face the wrath of Mattie McGrath, one of Ireland's few politicians to stand up for the people. McGrath said

"Its like a tyrannical regime" referring to Donnelly's use of draconian powers.

[gript.ie/its-like-a-tyr...](https://gript.ie/its-like-a-tyr...)

21. Donnelly's use of social media also leaves a lot to be desired. Apart from liking to block those who try to engage with him his favourite emoji is a thumbs up. He even defended his use of it in a text with Dr Tony Hooligan.

Quality TV this



22. Donnelly also oversaw the disastrous Mandatory Hotel Quarantine refusing to apologise to the Italian ambassador or anybody else

And here was me thinking politicians were schooled in the art of diplomacy.

[independent.ie/irish-news/hea...](https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/health)

23. The vaccine rollout has also been overseen by our Minister of Health which has been nothing short of shambolic. Goalposts have been constantly moved and targets never hit.

[irishtimes.com/news/health/wh...](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/wh...)

24. But his biggest faux-pas was yet to come. Donnelly & NPHEA are intent on keeping the country locked down. An easy way to open up is with antigen testing but PCR tests line peoples pockets.

He also doesn't trust the Irish people as they are more complicated than wearing a



25. Bedwetter in chief Pat Kenny who has been hiding under a bed in Dalkey for a year came out from under his duvet and even challenged the Health Minister on his views surrounding antigen testing saying

"This is propaganda, this is not fact."

[youtu.be/WwEmIwuu01Q](https://youtu.be/WwEmIwuu01Q)

26. As Michael J Sullivan said maybe Donnelly is McKinsey's Irish Manchurian candidate. If he is, the training he received from the company leaves a lot to be desired

If the worst comes to the worst he can always fall back on his Taekwondo and become an instructor. 👍 Stephen 👍

27. You know the drill 😊 I write these 🧵 in my spare time and would really appreciate if you could retweet the very 1st tweet. Likes are great but retweets are required to reach as large an audience as possible to expose what is really going on behind the scenes. Many thanks.