

**€100k grants provided to community and voluntary organisations to help promote understanding of the EU – Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Minister of State for European Affairs**

The Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Simon Coveney TD, together with the Minister of State for European Affairs, Helen McEntee TD, today congratulated 25 NGOs, local community groups and others who have been awarded funding under the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's 2019 Communicating Europe Initiative.

Projects funded this year include a European Parliament election voter app, a Know your MEP campaign, a project on the role of the EU in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, projects aimed at adult learners, children's European Rights online, the European Social Pillar, the EU charter of Fundamental Rights, the European Youth parliament Ireland 2019 as well as a number of local community events in Cork, Galway and Sligo.

Announcing the funding allocation for 2019, the Tánaiste and the Minister of State agreed that the range of ambitious projects funded under this year's Communicating Europe Initiative is testament to the high level of interest across all sectors of civil society to engage on EU issues. This is particularly timely in the run up to this month's European Parliament elections. They congratulated the 25 successful projects, 10 more than last year, all of which will make extremely valuable contributions to the ongoing debate on the future of Europe.

The full list of successful projects is as follows -

**Future of Europe** – Junior Achievement Ireland *EU4Youth series of events*, Smashing Times Theatre Group *Citizens in an Equal Europe series of events*, Waterford Sustainable Living Initiative Europe 2030 *Sustainable Living project*.

**3<sup>rd</sup> level** – TU Dublin *What does the EU mean for you?* UL *Communicating Europe through the Media project*.

**2<sup>nd</sup> level schools** – European Youth Parliament *Ireland 2019 series of events*, CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory *School's Toolkit Engaging Space for a better Europe*, The Graduate *EU*

*website, Our lady's Secondary School Castleblaney Conference on the future of the Irish border and the EU.*

**Primary schools** – UCC *My Big Friendly Guide to the European Union website.*

**Youth** – Children's Rights Alliance *Guide to European Rights online*, Young Social Innovators *Know your MEP.*

**Civil Society** – Aontas *You and EU podcast series*. European Anti-Poverty Network *European Pillar of Social Rights website*, Free Legal Advice Centres *Seminar on EU Charter of Fundamental rights*, The Wheel *European engagement for Irish civil society*, UCC Centre for Law and the Environment *Two seminars on EU environmental law.*

**Media** – UL *Communicating Europe through the Media project*, Europe United *podcast series*, Near Media *EP election radio debate*, SuddonSet Cork *podcast series*, UL WhichCandidate *European Parliament Elections website/app.*

**Local Community events** – Ballinderreen, Co Galway *Europe of the Future weekend*, Inniscarra Twinning Association, Co Cork *Twining weekend of events*, IRD Duhallow, Co Cork *Two Europe in Duhallow workshops*, Sligo Family Resource Centre *Migrant integration weekend event.*

Further information is available from [www.dfa.ie](http://www.dfa.ie)

ENDS

**Note for Editors:** The Communicating Europe Initiative (CEI) was established in 1995 to raise awareness about the European Union and to improve the quality and accessibility of public information on European issues. The programme is administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This year, €100,000 has been provided for Communicating Europe Initiative funded projects.