

## **Communicating Europe Initiative 2020**

## Citizens in an Equal Europe – A Creative Celebration of European Rights and Values

Implemented by Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality, Ireland

## **Supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Communicating Europe Initiative 2020**

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.

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## **Section One: Project Description**

#### a. Overview

Citizens in an Equal Europe - A Creative Celebration of European Rights and Values highlighted the founding of the EU on the principles of building peace and prosperity and the importance of rights and values in the EU today exploring the role of the EU in promoting democracy, equality, diversity and peace.

This national civil society project involved a range of partners and used creative processes and online digital technologies to engage citizens and communities in activities to deepen public awareness of the role that the European Union plays in our daily lives and to improve the quality and accessibility of public information on European issues, at local regional or national level, with a focus on rights and values and the powerful role the EU plays in promoting equality for all.

Through a series of events, digital art exhibitions and films, including our unique EU 1979 digital art exhibition, we brought people together to enjoy discussion and debate on Ireland's place in Europe through a focus on rights and values and the key role the EU plays in promoting democracy, equality, diversity and peace today.

Overall, a total of 1,727 young people and adults were reached directly through a series of 16 creative arts events and arts activities implemented as part of the 2020 Dublin Arts and Human Rights festival. Communications and dissemination activities were implemented reaching 606,198 through social media, publicity and marketing. The total project reach was 607,925.

An online digital art exhibition was created titled EU 1979: A people's Parliament, celebrating the stories of the 67 women MEP's elected to the first European parliament in 1979 and featuring interviews with 8 MEP's today from Ireland, Germany, France and the Netherlands and an EU 1979 panel discussion. A unique film was created titled Humanity in the Ruins, exploring the role of artists from across four countries in Europe who stood up to Fascism during WWII and an Artists Against Fascism panel discussion was created, with the film and panel discussion. A series of 16 public events were held with schools and the general public as part of the 2020 Dublin Arts and Human Rights festival which ran from the 16 to the 25 October and the public events held as part of the Communicating Europe Initiative featured the exhibition, film and panel discussions, reaching a total of 1,727. In terms of added value, the EU 1979: A People's parliament digital exhibition is permanently located on the Smashing Times website and will be viewed by the public into the future.

An additional added value to the project were presentation delivered by Mary Moynihan, the first at The Wheel's EU Funding and Civil Society: The Launch of Access Europe on the 25 November 2020.

This event with Minister of State for European Affairs Thomas Byrne TD launched The Wheel's Access Europe project. Funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Access Europe is a continuation of a previous successful project also involving The Wheel that will provide information, advice, helpdesk support and network building opportunities for civil society organisations around accessing and managing EU funding.

Mary was delighted to be introduced as the first special guest to speak to the 300 registered audience members, about how the work of Smashing Times developed through its European projects. Speaking about projects such as Drama for Change, Women War and Peace and EU 1979: A People's Parliament, provided the audience with a background into the work of Smashing Times, and highlighted the impact that accessing European funding can have on an organisation's development. Through accessing funding from Erasmus+, Europe for Citizens and Communicating Europe, Smashing Times have been successful in consistently promoting European values of human rights and equality for all.

Mary also presented at the European Observatory of Memory's third annual meeting 'Taking Stock of European Memory Policies', which took place online from December 9 to 10, and was delighted to speak at the online roundtable discussion on 'Best Practices: Remembrance Projects and Dissemination Strategies'. Mary spoke about Smashing Times' European project, EU 1979: A People's Parliament, and the virtual exhibition created to showcase artwork and interviews relating to the project.

## **EU 1979: A People's Parliament Digital Art Exhibition**

Smashing Times created a unique EU-inspired art exhibition titled EU 79: A People's Parliament – celebrating democracy, rights and women's political participation. This unique digital Art Exhibition featured a curated collection of visual images, poetry and a digital map with posters, articles and research inspired by the names and stories of 67 powerful women MEP's elected to the 1979 first European parliamentary elections. We used the exhibition as a catalyst to bring people together online to explore the importance of democratic institutions for building peace and prosperity and the powerful role of the EU in maintaining peace and ensuring rights for ordinary citizens today. This project was co-funded by the Europe for Citizens programme of the European Union.

The EU 79 exhibition highlights a key moment in European history with the election of French woman Simone Veil (1927-2017) as the European parliament's first president on 17 July 1979. She was a French lawyer, politician, feminist and holocaust survivor and a woman who fully embodied the deep values and profound historical reasons for the European integration project. In her eyes, the construction of Europe was the only way to avoid repeating the horrors of the past. She had been firmly convinced of this since her return from the camps at Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen in May 1945. She survived through courage and determination and began her career as a magistrate in 1974 going on to become the most celebrated and popular female politician in France serving as Minister for Health and then as first President of the European parliament.

A key aim was to show, through stories such as that of Simone Veil, how the historical roots to the EU lie in the Second World War as Europeans are determined to prevent the atrocities, killing and destruction from ever happening again.

The exhibition generated discussion through story-telling linked to the EU parliamentary process – exploring fascinating stories of MEPs such as that of Simone Veil and other key politicians . The aim was to engage communities through interesting EU-linked stories with a focus on MEP's who have campaigned for equality and rights at an EU level and to use these stories to generate discussion on issues today facing citizens and to highlight the role of the EU in promoting equality for citizens, highlighting the role of the EU in people's lives.

# Art, Fascism and Democracy: The Politics of Division versus the Politics of Inclusion

Art, Fascism and Democracy: The Politics of Division versus the Politics of Inclusion uses theatre, film and new digital technologies to reflect on the ending of the Spanish Civil War and to tell the stories of artists and activists who supported democracy and freedom and stood up against fascism in a time of war. Through the lens of the Spanish Civil War, this project, which was co-funded by the Europe for Citizens programme of the European Union, promotes a remembrance of a shared European history and raises awareness of the shared values that Europe stands for, looking at the ending of the Spanish Civil war through a European perspective with a focus on the stories of artists and activists who stood up against fascism.

The project partners come from four different countries across Europe, working transnationally and on a collaborative basis to design, develop and implement project materials and activities. By telling the stories of artists and activists who stood up against fascism and supported democracy and freedom, the project promotes a remembrance of a shared European history and raises awareness of the shared values that Europe stands for in relation to promoting peace, democracy and the wellbeing of all its people equally.

Smashing Times have created an innovative multi-disciplinary film performance inspired by the stories of artists standing up to Fascism during and after the Spanish Civil War and WWII, featuring exhilarating scenes of theatre, storytelling, poetry, music and dance.

The film is titled Humanity in the Ruins and features performances by Carla Ryan, Adam Traynor, Ben Waddell, Fiona Bawn-Thompson, Michelle Costello, Cathy White, Elkin and Kate Canning. The script is based on adaptations and original writing by Mary Moynihan, including Madame Bluebell co-scripted with Fiona Bawn Thompson and poetry including On the Ledge of Courage by Mary Moynihan and This Sleeping Heart by Féilim James. The performance features an original dance The Shaman Lament choreographed by John Scott, Artistic Director, Irish Modern Dance Theatre with dancers Diarmuid Armstrong, Kevin Coquelard, Conor Thomas Doherty, Dylan Holly, Sebastiao Kamalandu, Rebecca Reilly and Sarah Ryan. The directors are Mary Moynihan, Mark Quinn and Geraldine McAlinden.

The film captures the spirit of artists touched by war and a desire to change the way things were. The film is inspired by a creative response to the lives and work of artists who spoke out either through their artwork or actions against tyranny and is a creative re-imagining of the achingly powerful stories and work of artists from a range of disciplines.

The film is inspired by and reflects on the work and life of Spanish poet and playwright Federico Garcia Lorca (1898-1936); Spanish photographer and concentration camp survivor Francisco Boix (1920-1951); German photographer Gerda Taro (1910-1937); Irish poet Charlie Donnelly (1914-1937); Irish choreographer, dancer and founder of the world-famous Bluebells chorus line Margaret Kelly (1910-2004); and German artist Kathe Kollwitz (1867-1945). Enjoy mesmerising new work created by artists reflecting on a darkness of the past and dreams for the future.

Smashing Times also created an Artists Against Fascism Panel discussion, moderated by Dil Wickremasinghe, Social Justice and Mental Health Journalist and Podcaster, Speaker, Mental Health Service Provider, Social Entrepreneur, Activist and Founder of Insight Matters. The speakers are Senator Alice Mary Higgins, Independent Senator on the National University of Ireland Panel, Leader of the Civil Engagement Group in Seanad Eireann; Fernando Benavente, Ifescoop, Spain; Mary Moynihan, Writer, Theatre and Film-Maker and Artistic Director, Smashing Times and Ellen O'Mahony and Carla Ryan, Members of the band Elkin.

#### **Partners**

The events undertaken as part of Citizens in an Equal Europe were presented as part of the 2020 Dublin Arts and Human Rights Festival Implemented by the Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality and Front Line Defenders; in partnership with Amnesty International, Fighting Words, ICCL, NWCI, & Trócaire and with Scott Dance, Poetry Ireland, dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum, TheatreMaker.ie, and Trinity College Dublin.

## b. Objectives

The objectives of Citizens in an Equal Europe - A Creative Celebration of European Rights and Values, were to highlight the founding of the EU on the principles of building peace and prosperity and the importance of rights and values in the EU today exploring the role of the EU in promoting democracy, equality, diversity and peace.

The objectives were met by reaching a wide audience through the creation of a digital art exhibition, film and panel discussions and through the implementation of a range of creative public events held online as part of the 2020 Dublin Arts and Human Rights festival which reached over 10,000 citizens.

The creative outputs, actions and events generated access to interesting EU-linked stories - stories of women MEP's from the first European parliamentary elections, stories of MEP's today and stories of artists from across Europe who came together to stand up against fascism

during WWII - with the stories and public events used as a catalyst to engaged communities in interesting EU-linked discussions, highlighting the role of the EU in people's lives today and its role in promoting equality and rights for all citizens equally. By highlighting the stories of people such as Simone Veil who was a Holocaust survivor and who went on to become the first president of the first democratically elected EU parliament in 1979 or the stories of what happens when tyranny takes over and democracy is denied, the project raised awareness of the importance of the founding on the EU and how it brought countries across Europe together to build peace and prosperity into the future with a focus on rights and values for all people equally.

The project also raised awareness of how young people and adults can actively engage in EU political processes by creating citizen conversations with young MEP's today - from Ireland, France, the Netherlands and Germany. The Eight MEP's interviewed are Dennis de Jong, the Netherlands; Kim van Sparrentak, MEP, the Netherlands; Frances Fitzgerald, MEP, Ireland; Barry Andrews, MEP, Ireland; Salima Yenbou, MEP, France; Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, MEP, France; Len Dupont, MEP, Germany and Maria Noichl, MEP, Germany.

## c. Final Outputs with Numbers

Expected and Actual: The original grant to Communicating Europe stated we would conduct two public events, two workshops, host the online exhibition and conduct additional public events throughout the project duration, reaching 1,000 people, with a further 120,000 reached through communications and dissemination. All the aims were achieved as we conducted 16 events reaching 1,727 with a further 606,198 reached through communications and dissemination.

The following actions were achieved and events conducted:

## 1. Management Activities Conducted

Keeping in line with Smashing Times management procedures, a full management action plan was development. Actions took place between September 2020 and January 2021 and were continuously monitored during roll-out to ensure the success of the project.

# 2. Assets Created - EU 1979 Digital Art Exhibition and Artists Against Fascism Film

Smashing Times created a unique EU-inspired art exhibition titled EU 79: A People's Parliament – celebrating democracy, rights and women's political participation. This unique digital Art Exhibition features a curated collection of visual images, poetry and a digital map with posters, articles and research inspired by the names and stories of 67 powerful women MEP's elected to the 1979 first European parliamentary elections. In addition to celebrating the 67 powerful women MEP's elected to the 1979 first

European parliamentary elections the exhibition also contains 8 interviews with MEPs today from Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands and France.

We used the exhibition as a catalyst to bring people together online to explore the importance of democratic institutions for building peace and prosperity and the powerful role of the EU in maintaining peace and ensuring rights for ordinary citizens today. We worked with seven secondary schools to deliver the exhibition, film and panel discussions, reaching 733 students as part of this project.

The EU 79 exhibition highlights a key moment in European history with the election of French woman Simone Veil (1927-2017) as the European parliament's first president on 17 July 1979. She was a French lawyer, politician, feminist and holocaust survivor and a woman who fully embodied the deep values and profound historical reasons for the European integration project. In her eyes, the construction of Europe was the only way to avoid repeating the horrors of the past. She had been firmly convinced of this since her return from the camps at Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen in May 1945. She survived through courage and determination and began her career as a magistrate in 1974 going on to become the most celebrated and popular female politician in France serving as Minister for Health and then as first President of the European parliament.

A key aim was to show, through stories such as that of Simone Veil, how the historical roots to the EU lie in the Second World War as Europeans are determined to prevent the atrocities, killing and destruction from ever happening again.

We created and presented a unique film titled Humanity in the Ruins by Mary Moynihan based on imagined moments from the lives of artists who stood up for the rights of others during and after the Spanish Civil War and WWII and whose worlds were impacted by Fascism, war and hatred and the film and post-show panel discussion was presented to audiences to promote discussion in elation to the power of the EU for promoting equality and peace today.

## 3. Public Events Conducted:

16 events were conducted online, seven Artist Against Fascism events in schools attended by 391; five EU 1979: A People's Parliament events in schools attended by 342: and four events for the public attended by 944.

- Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, St Paul's CBS, North Brunswick St, Dublin 7 attended by 24 Transition Year Students
- Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Ballyfermot College, Dublin attended by 42 Transition Year Students
- 3. Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, CBC Monkstown, Dublin, attended by 100 Transition Year Students
- 4. Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Ballymakenny College, Drogheda, Co Louth attended by 100 Transition Year Students

- 5. Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Strathmore College, Dublin attended by 25 Transition Year Students
- 6. Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Colaiste Ciaran, Athlone, Co Roscommon attended by 60 Transition Year Students
- 7. Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion, 16 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Gaelcholaiste Chiarrai, Tralee, Co Kerry attended by 40 Transition Year Students
- 8. Screening of Humanity in the Ruins a one hour film followed by a panel discussion hosted by Smashing Times on the Smashing Times online platform, 17 October 2020, 7-9pm, attended by 121 members of the public
- 9. EU 1979: A People's Parliament Panel Discussion, 19 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Ballyfermot College, Dublin attended by 42 Transition Year Students
- 10. EU 1979: A People's Parliament Panel Discussion, 19 October 2020, 10am-12pm, CBC Monkstown, Dublin, attended by 100 Transition Year Students
- 11. EU 1979: A People's Parliament Panel Discussion, 19 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Ballymakenny College, Drogheda, Co Louth attended by 100 Transition Year Students
- 12. EU 1979: A People's Parliament Panel Discussion, 19 October 2020, 10am-12pm, Colaiste Ciaran, Athlone, Co Roscommon attended by 60 Transition Year Students
- 13. EU 1979: A People's Parliament Panel Discussion, 19 October 2020, 10am-12pm Gaelcholaiste Chiarrai, Tralee, Co Kerry attended by 40 Transition Year Students
- 14. Inaugural Meeting of the Smashing Times Network for Arts and Human Rights and Launch of Arts for Human Rights Book, 20 October 2020, 10am-12pm, attended by 101 members of the public
- 15. Theatre and Diverse Narratives Panel Discussion, 20 October 2020, 7-8.30pm, attended by 679 members of the public
- 16. Arts and Human Rights Festival Across Borders, 24 October 2020, 4-6pm, attended by 93 members of the public

Total: 16 events conducted attended by 1,727

## THEMES OF THE EVENTS:

## **Artists Against Fascism Schools Performance and Panel Discussion**

Seven of the events were based on the theme 'Artists Against Fascism'. On Friday 16 October 2020, seven secondary schools took part in Artists Against Fascism, a screening of scenes from the film Humanity in the Ruins followed by an Artists Against Fascism panel discussion. The event was held online in each school from 10am to 12pm with the seven events happening on the same day and time, reaching 391 second level students.

Artists Against Fascism began with the screening of scenes from the film Humanity in the Ruins followed by an Artists Against Fascism panel discussion. Humanity in the Ruins is a film by Mary Moynihan based on imagined moments from the lives of artists who stood up for the rights of others during and after the Spanish Civil War and WWII and whose worlds were impacted by Fascism, war and hatred.

The Artists Against Fascism Panel Discussion was moderated by Dil Wickremasinghe, Social Justice and Mental Health Journalist and Podcaster, Speaker, Mental Health Service Provider, Social Entrepreneur, Activist and Founder of Insight Matters. The discussion reflected on the themes of arts, fascism and democracy and what can be done to prevent the rise of fascism with a focus on the EU today and the power of European solidarity to promote civil rights, democracy, and peace. The speakers were Senator Alice Mary Higgins, Independent Senator on the National University of Ireland Panel, Leader of the Civil Engagement Group in

#### EU 1979: A People's Parliament – Virtual Art Exhibition and Panel Discussion

Five of the events were based on the theme of the EU 1979 European parliament and the role of the EU in promoting equality and rights today. On Monday 19 October 2020, five secondary schools took part in EU 1979: A People's Parliament virtual art exhibition followed by panel discussion with guest speakers reflecting on democracy, human rights and Women's Political Participation. The event was held online in each school from 10am to 12pm with the five events happening on the same day and time.

The panel discussion members were Senator Alice Mary Higgins, Independent Senator on the National University of Ireland Panel, Leader of the Civil Engagement Group in Seanad Eireann; Dr Stephen Herron, Researcher, Academic, Cultural Anthropologist and Community Relations Facilitator with Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality; Hina Khan, Visual Artist, Ger-Jan Verboom, Dona Daria, the Netherlands and. Dr Sinead McCoole, Historian, Commemorations Unit, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Curator of The Pop Up Women's Museum, Celebrating 100 years of women in politics and public life.

The event was presented as part of the transnational European project, EU 1979: A People's Parliament – Democracy, Human Rights and Women's Political Participation supported by Europe for Citizens and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Communicating Europe Initiative. The project uses creative processes of film, a feminist framework and online digital resources to remember the first 1979 European parliamentary elections through a celebration of stories of 67 powerful women MEPs elected at that time. Out of the 410 MEP's elected in the 1979 European parliamentary elections by universal suffrage, 67 (16%) were women with 2 women MEP's from Belgium, 5 from Denmark, 12 from Germany, 18 from France, 2 from Ireland, 11 from Italy, 1 from Luxembourg, 5 from The Netherlands and 11 from the United Kingdom. The four European partners from Ireland, France, the Netherlands and Germany are: Smashing Times, Dublin, Ireland; Francais Pour L'Insertion Sociale et Professionnelle en Europe, France, Dona Daria, Rotterdam, the Netherlands and University of Hannover, Germany.

#### **Public Events**

Four events were conducted that were open to the public. The first was a screening of Humanity in the Ruins by Mary Moynihan held on 17 October 2020 followed by the Artists Against Fascism panel discussion. The second was the Inaugural Meeting of the

Smashing Times Network for Arts and Human Rights held on 20 October 2020. Panel Members were Dijana Milosevic, Dah Theatre, Serbia; Dr Eric Weitz, Smashing Times; Frédérique Lecomte, Theatre & Reconciliation, Belgium; Áine O'Hara, theatre maker; Hina Khan, visual artist; Linda Greene, Kildare Traveller Action; Dr Rajinder Singh, choreographer, artist; Melissa Bonotto, Children's Rights Lead at the Museum of Childhood Ireland Project; John Scott, Irish Modern Dance Theatre; Jesse Jones, film, performance and visual artist; Tara Madden, Front Line Defenders; Martin Beanz Warde, comedian; Keelin Murray, Create; Colm O'Gorman, Amnesty International, and Noelle McAlinden, visual artist, curator, creative advise.

The third event was titled Theatre and Diverse Narratives Panel Discussion held on 20 October 2020, facilitated by Thomas Conway. Panel Members were Mary Moynihan, writer, theatre and filmmaker, Artistic Director of Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality; Selina Cartmell, Artistic Director of The Gate Theatre, Dublin; Lorraine Maher, Founder and Director of IAmIrish; Dijana Milosevic, Director, DAH Theatre Research Center; Pamela McQueen, Freelance Dramaturg, and New Play Dramaturg at the New Theatre, Dublin.

The fourth event was The Artist Speaks: Festivals Across Borders Creative Conversations in Ireland and Serbia Saturday, held on 24 October 2020 and facilitated by Jadranka Andjelić, Dah Theatre, Serbia. The Panel Members were Dijana Milošević, a theatre director, co-founder and artistic director of DAH Theatre, Serbia; John Scott, Dancer, Choreographer, founder and Artistic Director of Irish Modern Dance Theatre, Ireland; Ray Yeates, Dublin City Arts Officer, Ireland; Jenny Macdonald, creator and director of SoloSIRENS Festival, Ireland and Mary Moynihan, writer, director, theatre and filmmaker, Artistic Director of Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality and co-curator of the Dublin Arts and Human Rights festival.

### 4. Communications and Dissemination Activities Completed:

A full-scale Marketing and Publicity Campaign was implemented linked to the series of public events held in October 2020. Publicity and marketing focused on social media campaigns to get young people talking about what the EU means today and highlighting key achievements of the EU in relation to promoting equality and peace; and a radio looking at creative outputs from a range of European funded projects.

- a. Social Media Campaign conducted reaching 158,225: September-December 2020
- b. Radio and PR Campaign conducted reaching 443,473: October-December 2020
- c. Three Smashing Times newsletters distributed online between September and November 2020 reaching 4,500 mailing list members

Total Communications and Dissemination Reach: 606,198

As part of the project Mary Moynihan, Director, Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality, was interviewed live on a number of radio programmes including the Ryan Tubridy show (interviewer Oliver Callan) on 14 October 2020; Sean Moncrief, Newstalk on 16 October 2020 and Rewind Review (interviewer Megan Forrest) on 8 October.

## **Communications and Dissemination Breakdown**

**Newsletters:** 

Smashing Times distributed 3 newsletters. Total: 4,500

Social Media: Facebook 27,751 and Twitter 66,474

Smashing Times social media re Facebook and Twitter. Total: 94,225

Radio Publicity: 224,265

Date: 8 October 2020. Time: 7.30pm

Radio Station and Program: Dublin City FM, Rewind Review. Interviewer: Megan

Forrest

Interviewee: Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times International Centre

for the Arts and Equality Audience Reach: 7,765

Date: 14 October 2020. Time: 9.30am

Radio Station and Program: RTE Radio 1 – Ryan Tubridy Show. Interviewer: Oliver

Callan

Interviewee: Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times International Centre

for the Arts and Equality Audience Reach: 168,000

Date: 16 October 2020. Time: 2pm

Radio Station and Program: Newstalk, Moncrief. Interviewer: Sean Moncrief

Interviewee: Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times International Centre

for the Arts and Equality Audience Reach: 48,500

Website: 42,000

Sample of website post

http://smashingtimes.ie/centrefortheartsandhumanrights/dublinahrf/

Online Listings: 22,000

Printed – Newspapers, Magazines: 219,208

Samples

Date: 10 October 2020

Publication: Irish Times, Weekend Magazine. Audience Reach: 143,000

Date: 11 October 2020

Publication: Irish Independent, Weekend Hotlist. Audience Reach: 76,208

**Total Reach: 606,198** 

## 5. Target Groups

This project reached 733 second levels school students and 994 members of the general public, totalling 1,727.

#### 6. Final Outcomes

The project used creative processes of theatre, film, art, video, online digital art resources and panel discussions and forums to promote a greater understanding of the positive changes that have come about in relation to equality as a result of belonging to the European Union. The project used innovative ways to bring people together online to enjoy discussion and debate on the role of the European Union and Ireland's place in Europe. The innovative methods used were the creation of a digital art exhibition and the screening online of exhibition highlights and a linked panel discussion related to a Creative Celebration of European Rights and Values, highlighting the founding of the EU on the principles of building peace and prosperity and the importance of rights and values in the EU today exploring the role of the EU in promoting democracy, equality, diversity and peace; and the screening of films and a panel discussion linked to the theme of artists from European who stood up to fascism during WWII.

## **Impacts**

- 1. 1,727 young people and adults reached directly through arts based activities and public discussions and 606,198 reached through publicity and marketing, engaging a range of different groups in a celebration of the EU and its role in the promotion of equality for all.
- 2. A range of activities held where people could enjoy, experience, value and celebrate art and culture linked to the EU.
- 3. Opportunity provided for artists and local communities to come together to explore the role of the EU in society today
- 4. Role of EU and its role in the promotion of equality, peace and human rights for all celebrated
- 5. Greater understanding of the positive changes that have come about in relation to equality as a result of belonging to the European Union
- 6. Use of innovative methodologies used to engage citizens and communities in activities to deepen public awareness of the role that the European Union plays in our daily lives and to improve the quality and accessibility of public information on European issues, at local regional or national level, with a focus on rights and values the key role the EU plays in promoting equality for all.

## Section Two: Partner Information

# Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality www.smashingtimes.ie

Smashing Times is an international organisation for the Arts and Human Rights. Our mission is to lead the development of the arts to promote and advance equality and human rights and to connect citizens to the arts, human rights, climate justice and gender equality, working with artists and communities to create collaborative art practice in local, national, European and international settings. The centre operates as a world class arts space and digital hub for artists, citizens, communities and the general public across Ireland, Northern Ireland and internationally. Core services consist of membership, resources, advice and the implementation of a range of innovative projects promoting professional and collaborative arts practice and a youth arts Ensemble. The centre promotes membership, networking, training, guidance, support and advocacy in relation to using high quality creative processes, collaborative arts practice, research and new digital technologies to promote equality and human rights for all.

Led by Director Mary Moynihan, the centre produces an annual and multi-annual interdisciplinary arts programme. All artistic mediums are supported with a focus on the performing and collaborative arts including theatre, film, visual arts, dance and music. Smashing Times' vast experience conducting arts-based projects both nationally and internationally and its global reputation for excellence in relation to using professional and socially engaged arts practice to promote human rights is drawn upon in the creation of this innovative space. Through artistic endeavour, the centre promotes the cause of human rights. Our vision is a world where all people have access to the arts and the arts are open for all to enjoy, creating a fair and inclusive society where equality, human rights and diversity are fully recognized, valued and protected.

## **Front Line Defenders**

## www.frontlinedefenders.org

Front Line Defenders was founded in Dublin in 2001 with the specific aim of protecting human rights defenders at risk (HRDs), people who work, non-violently, for any or all of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). Front Line Defenders addresses the protection needs identified by HRDs themselves. Front Line Defenders maintains its headquarters in Dublin, an EU Office in Brussels, and regionally-based field staff in the Americas, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Front Line Defenders provides rapid and practical support to human rights defenders at risk.

## **Equality and Human Rights Organisations**

## **Amnesty International**

## www.amnesty.ie

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million people who take injustice personally. We are campaigning for a world where human rights are enjoyed by all.

## **National Women's Council of Ireland**

## www.nwci.ie

The National Women's Council (NWC) is the leading national representative organisation for women and women's groups in Ireland. We are a feminist organisation, representing over 190 member groups from across a diversity of backgrounds, sectors and geographical locations. Our mandate is to take action to ensure that the voices of women in all their diversity are heard. Our vision is of an Ireland and of a world where women and girls can achieve their full potential in a just and equal society.

#### **Irish Council for Civil Liberties**

## www.iccl.ie

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties is Ireland's leading independent human rights campaigning organisation. They monitor, educate and campaign to secure human rights for everyone in Ireland. They are committed to an Ireland that is more just, more free, and where human rights and civil liberties are enjoyed by everyone. They act as an essential defender of human rights and civil liberties and as an effective champion for the advancement of justice and freedom in Irish society.

#### Trócaire

## www.trocaire.org

Trócaire was established in 1973. Our dual mandate is to support the most vulnerable people in the developing world, while also raising awareness of injustice and global poverty in Ireland. Trócaire works with local partners to support communities in over 20 developing countries with a focus on food and resource rights, women's empowerment and humanitarian response.

## **Arts Organisations**

#### Irish Modern Dance Theatre

## www.irishmoderndancetheatre.com

John Scott's company Irish Modern Dance Theatre, was founded in 1991. The Dublin-based ensemble mixes virtuoso Irish and international dancers with African and Middle Eastern refugees and torture survivors. Scott has pioneered dance in Ireland, a country known more for its literary traditions and text based drama. His work is witty, theatrical with startling imagery and addresses ideas of diversity, love, metaphysics.

## **Fighting Words**

## www.fightingwords.ie

Our aim is to help children and young people, and adults who did not have this opportunity as children, to discover and harness the power of their own imaginations and creative writing skills. At its core, Fighting Words is also about something much broader and more inclusive. It is about using the creative practice of writing and storytelling to strengthen our children and teenagers – from a wide range of backgrounds – to be resilient, creative and successful shapers of their own lives.

## **Poetry Ireland**

## www.poetryireland.ie

Poetry Ireland strives to achieve excellence in the reading, writing and performance of poetry in Ireland. Poetry Ireland enjoys rewarding partnerships with organisations at home and abroad.

## **Drama Department, Trinity College Dublin**

## www.tcd.ie

The Department of Drama, Trinity College Dublin, was the first university department in Ireland to offer degree courses in theatre. The department leads the way in teaching and research excellence.

#### TheatreMaker.ie

## www.theatremaker.ie

TheatreMaker.ie is an un-funded group of theatre makers who create video and written content and provide resources for theatre makers and lovers of live performance in Ireland and throughout the world. TheatreMaker.ie's purpose is to champion the theatre sector within Ireland and around the world, as well as provide platforms for discussing the issues in Irish and world theatre. TheatreMaker.ie produces a live weekly webcast, Stage Door Live, available on YouTube, Periscope/Twitter, and Facebook every Wednesday at 7PM IST.

#### dlr Mill Theatre

#### www.milltheatre.ie

The dlr Mill Theatre Dundrum opened in May 4, 2006 and is located in the Dundrum Town Centre. In 2016 Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the Mill Theatre, Dundrum were delighted to announce that the theatre was to be renamed the dlr Mill Theatre. Located in the heart of Dundrum Town Centre, the dlr Mill Theatre Dundrum has been a key county arts organisation since its opening. The Theatre stages a wide variety of performing arts, community theatre, visual art, comedy, music and children's shows. The centre brings many people together both on and off stage and fosters talent both locally and in the wider arts community.

# Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality incorporating Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company and Smashing Times Youth Arts Ensemble

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