





EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN DES **JEUNES** ÉIRE IRELAND

# What is EYP?



# Information Booklet



Intercultural Exchange Youth Leadership Political Debate



### European Youth Parliament International

The European Youth Parliament (EYP) is a non-partisan and independent educational project tailored specifically to the needs of young European citizens. Each year EYP reaches out to over 20,000 young people in 41 countries and in doing so provides students with an opportunity to engage in intercultural dialogue, parliamentary debate, political educational work and discussion on a range of pressing issues.

All of the EYP's activities are facilitated by thousands of young people who are active in a voluntary capacity. Today the EYP is the largest European platform for non-formal political education of young people. EYP encourages independent thinking and socio-political initiative in young people and facilitates the learning of crucial social and professional skills.

All activities of EYP are under the patronage of Mr. Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, while the Comité d'Honneur includes Mr. Martin Schulz, Former President of the European Parliament and Mr. José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission.

## European Youth Parliament Ireland

EYP Ireland, the Irish national branch of the EYP, has been in existence for over 13 years as a non-for-profit youth organisation, which actively engages young Irish people in discussion of Europe and the European Union. Since our foundation, we have organised dozens of weekend-long conferences for secondary school students across Ireland.

Today EYP Ireland is a nationwide organisation, holding four annual 3 day Regional Conferences for the Dublin, Leinster, Munster and Connacht-Ulster regions, as well as a 5 day National Conference, which in recent years has taken place in locations including Dublin, Limerick and Portlaoise. Each of these sessions gather approximately 120 Transition Year and 5th Year students, and are organised and facilitated by EYP alumni selected from across Ireland and Europe. From our National Session approximately 25 individuals are selected to represent Ireland at International Sessions and Forums of the European Youth Parliament.

EYP Ireland is run by its alumni, made up of predominantly third level students, who previously represented Ireland abroad at international EYP events. Our alumni our spread across Ireland, with a presence in each of the country's universities. On an annual basis these alumni elect the National Committee, which is responsible for running the organisation. Our session officials, alumni and National Committee work on an entirely volunteer basis.











# Support EYP Ireland

EYP Ireland is currently seeking to bring a select group of companies on board to support our events. At present, EYP Ireland is run solely on funding from the Communicating Europe Initiative (CEI). However given a cut to the budget of the CEI, EYP Ireland has developed a new funding strategy.

We are primarily seeking a Flagship Sponsor(s) interested in supporting the workings of EYP Ireland, to thus enable us to develop further and reach more young people across Ireland. By sponsoring EYP Ireland your firm would have access to over 450 of the brightest Transition Year and 5th Year students across Ireland, as well as a highly talented alumni body of third level students.

Your sponsorship would go towards the running of each of our sessions, our involvement on an international level, as well as the training of our alumni. One area where sponsorship would be directed is into our Déis branching out policy. In aspiring to our aim to be more inclusive of all participants regardless of background, EYP has a long established policy of waiving the participation fees of students of Déis schools. With support from sponsors, we can further improve the inclusiveness of our sessions, expanding our efforts to include more students from Déis schools.

For sponsors with more specific corporate social responsibility aims, there are two other sponsorship options available. Sponsors have the ability to come on board as a sponsor for a specific session more suitable for their target audience or aims. As well as this, sponsors are able to come on board as Déis Delegation Sponsors, where all their sponsorship will be directed specifically to funding the participation of participants from Déis schools.

#### Sponsorship Options

- Flagship Sponsor
- · Individual Session Sponsor
- · Déis Delegation Sponsor



# Flagship Sponsor

As a Flagship Sponsor, your company would be a lead sponsor of the European Youth Parliament Ireland. By supporting the work of EYP Ireland, we hope to promote your business through face time with our delegates, expanding your brand awareness and aiding your company in ways you deem appropriate. Flagship Sponsors have the possibility to avail of a number of benefits\* including:

- The opportunity to make an address at each of our 5 annual conferences across the country.
- Where appropriate, the opportunity to set up a stall at our session, whereby you will have access to approximately 120 participants during a coffee or lunch break.
- EYP Ireland will use your branded merchandise at our session.
- · Your banner will be displayed in prominent locations during our conferences.
- Your logo will be placed on all preparation booklets, welcome booklets, media team products and resolution booklets, each of which are distributed to all session participants and are available online\*\*.
- · You will be recognised as a sponsor of EYP Ireland on our website.
- The opportunity to make an address at our annual Certificate Ceremony in April, which invites the students that will represent Ireland abroad at EYP events over the next year. These students have been chosen from the 500+ delegates that attend our conferences each year. Along with the delegates, we invite their parents and the previous and incoming National Committee of EYP Ireland.
- An opportunity to make an address at our annual Alumni Training in late summer or early autumn. Participants include all those who have represented Ireland abroad over the last 7 years and are predominantly third level students.
- If appropriate, you may also lead a training module at the Alumni Training in an area of your expertise.
- · We can send information regarding your internship and recruitment programmes to our third level alumni.



# Session & Déis Delegation Sponsors

Session Sponsors and Déis Delegation Sponsors have the possibility to avail of a number of benefits\* including:

- · Where appropriate, the opportunity to set up a stall at our session, whereby you will have access to approximately 120 participants during a coffee or lunch break
- EYP Ireland will use your branded merchandise at our session
- Your logo will be placed on all academic preparation booklets, welcome booklets, media team products and resolution booklets, each of which are distributed to all session participants and are available online\*\*



 $^{*}$ Extent of benefits will be proportional to amount of sponsorship offered

"I have noted with interest the work of the European Youth Parliament to promote dialogue and sharpen democratic awareness among young Europeans."

Jose Manuel Barroso | President of the European Commission



 $<sup>^{**}</sup>$ Size of logo will be directly proportional to the amount of sponsorship offered



#### Elements of an EYP Session

EYP Ireland will hold five session over the coming year: 4 Regional Conferences and a National Conference.

Each of our Regional and National Conferences are composed of three distinct stages: Teambuilding, Committee Work and General Assembly

#### Teambuilding



This part of each session focuses on developing communication and group dynamics among the delegates in a committee, most of whom are meeting for the first time. Un- der the direction of an experienced and trained young chairperson in 3rd level education, the delegates in each committee engage in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Some are physical, while others demand creativity, communication and problemsolving skills. All of these games and tasks are aimed to be enjoyable for all and are designed to enable committees to overcome differences and develop principles and rules of cooperation needed for working in a team.

#### Committee Work



This is the main working part of our session, where each committee concerns themselves with their assigned topic. The delegates brainstorm and debate their issue, eventually coming to compromises and forming a joint opinion and vision to deal with the problem put in front of them. This is a chance for delegates to raise their concerns and voice their opinions while they compile a joint resolution, which they will present to the other participants at General Assembly. Delegates are encouraged to think critically and creatively in order to creative individually distinct visions, ideas and concepts.

#### General Assembly



This element of the session constitutes the highlight and conclusion of each session and aims to simulate the workings of the European Parliament. All committees gather, and following the procedures of the European Parliament, each presents their resolution to the Assembly.

Over the course of the day delegates have the ability to put forward convincing arguments, defend their own opinions and develop public speaking skills. The resolution is then attacked, defended and debated before being put to a vote. The resolutions that are passed by the Assembly are submitted to a number of significant local and national public figures.



# Why Sponsor EYP Ireland

In supporting EYP Ireland, you are supporting the aims of our organisation; to spread knowledge of pressing European issues and promote active citizenship; to encourage cross-border and intercultural dialogue; to increase cultural sensitivity, self-confidence and employability amongst young people. Furthermore as a sponsor you would be supporting the values embodied in our activities, including:

**Community**: Through organising 6 conferences over the coming year, EYP will make a significant contribution to local communities in the cities and towns in which they are held, as well as their wider provincial regions.

**Inclusion**: EYP aims to be inclusive of all regardless of background, with measures in place to assist the participation of delegates from Déis schools.

**Youth**: EYP empowers young people to work together, discuss and express themselves on important issues of our time. All our events are organised by young people for young people.

**Innovation**: Through our events, we aim empower young people to come up with new and innovative ideas to a wide range of issues. Furthermore discussion is facilitated using a contemporary, innovative and continually modified methodology.

**Education**: EYP gives young people a unique opportunity to learn in a non-formal and informal environment. We aim to equip our participants with transferable skills which are essential for working in a 21st century Ireland and Europe.

**Teamwork**: Through partaking in their individual committees, delegates at our sessions improve their ability to work in teams, developing many skills such as compromise and persuasion

**Voluntary**: EYP is an entirely volunteer run organisation. All our activities are facilitated by third level students acting in a voluntary capacity.

**Accountability**: Accountability is of core importance for EYP as a non-for-profit organisation. Our National Committee is elected by, and accountable to, the alumni body of the organisation. Furthermore, as a registered company with the Company Registration Office, we keenly follow best budgetary policy and produce detailed accounts. We have an established track-record and can be trusted to deliver results.



#### EYP - In Other Words

"There is an opportunity to learn, laugh, become involved, discuss and debate, build new friendships and most importantly the opportunity of feeling included in a community. After all EYP is a community of people; one that reaches out to the youth and benefits all of those who seize the opportunity."

Ciarán Hyland

Irish representative at the 70th International Session of the EYP

"It gave me a much broader understanding of how Europe operates and I think more importantly it gave me a relationship with Europe. The greatest benefit that I have gotten from EYP is that I am no longer just a proud member of the Irish community but I am a proud member of a European community."

Andrew Forde

Irish representative at the 69th International Session of the EYP

"It gave me the confidence to express my views without fear or judgement. EYP not only educates young people on the EU, but also benefits them as an individual."

**Amy Dudley** 

Irish representative at the 69th International Session of the EYP







If you are interested in sponsoring EYP Ireland or becoming involved and supporting our organisation, feel free to contact our Treasurer, at treasurer@eyp.ie, for more details.

Feel free to visit our website, www.eyp.ie, for the latest updates on our upcoming sessions.

#### **General Questions**

info@eyp.ie www.eyp.ie

#### Social Media

http://www.facebook.com/EYPIreland | Facebook https://twitter.com/EYP\_Ireland | Twitter

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