

# IVEAGH SCHOLARS 2017

## COMPETITION GUIDELINES

### INTRODUCTION

**Iveagh Scholars** is a competition which aims to encourage second-level students to consider Ireland's role in the world in an independent and creative way. The competition inspires students to learn the basic tenets of Ireland's foreign policy, and to consider how they can contribute to shaping it. **30 students from schools across the island of Ireland will be selected to participate in a week-long interactive programme to be held in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Iveagh House on St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.**

Iveagh Scholars is an element of the Global Horizons Programme which was launched two years ago by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in order to reach out to Ireland's future policy-makers and offer them a unique opportunity to engage with and learn about the Department. The first two years of the competition were a tremendous success, with winning students from across the island participating in a dynamic programme of events which included a consular assistance exercise, visits to foreign embassies in Dublin, and a meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr. Charles Flanagan T.D.

For the first time, students are being offered a choice of themes:

Under **Theme 1**, students are asked to create a persuasive pitch for **Ireland's campaign for election to the UN Security Council** in 2020. We encourage students to consider the strengths that Ireland brings to the international stage and how these strengths could be used to address challenges currently facing the Security Council, such as conflicts in Syria and South Sudan, efforts to stabilise Mali, supervision of the ceasefire in Cyprus and increasing the role of women in peace and security.

Under **Theme 2**, students are asked to think about **Our People** and Ireland's relationship with its diaspora – the millions of people around the world who are Irish by birth, descent or affiliation. Students are encouraged to consider what this relationship will look like in 20 years' time and how these connections can benefit both our people and our presence internationally.

Further details on the tasks, including background and additional guidance is provided below.

## CRITERIA

This competition is open to students in Transition Year or Year 12 only.

In a change from previous years, there is no limit on the number of students per school who can enter the competition. Winners will be chosen on the basis of how well their entry reflects either of the themes of the competition, through a creative and well-researched submission. Marks will be awarded according to creativity and clarity of message and entries can take one of several formats:

- A one-page written submission.
- A visual presentation (if using PowerPoint, this should not exceed 8 slides)
- A video of not more than 2 minutes

## TIMELINE AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Final entries must be submitted via email to **iveaghscholars@dfa.ie** on or before **Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016**. Please see the **Application Checklist** within this pack for a list of requirements for each eligible entry.

After the closing date, entries will be shortlisted and winners will then be chosen from shortlisted entries by our independent judging panel.

The thirty successful entrants will be notified in late January and will participate in the Iveagh Scholars Programme in Spring 2017.

Please note that the programme will take place in Dublin and that competition winners are responsible for their own accommodation and travel needs. In certain limited cases, a financial contribution towards travel and accommodation costs may be available to competition winners upon request.

<b>Important Dates</b>	
November 2016	Iveagh Scholars 2017 formally launches; entries open for competition
15 December 2016	Deadline for entries
January 2016	Winners and schools notified
February 2017	Deadline for Financial Contribution requests
Spring 2017	Iveagh Scholars Programme 2017 commences

***\*Please note all dates are indicative and subject to change***

### **RULES**

1. The competition is open to Transition Year and Year 12 students only.
2. The entry, in written or visual form, must be the work of the individual student only. Moreover, when quoting the works of others, or of official texts, it is vital that sources are correctly referenced.
3. Entries will not be deemed eligible if they include obscene material, drug or alcohol use, nudity, profanity, derogatory comments or information, or any other conduct, language or context deemed inappropriate by the selection committee.
4. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has the right to publish or otherwise duplicate any entries to the contest, along with the author's name.
5. No copyrighted materials (music, images, etc.) may be used for this contest unless the copyright is owned by the entrant, or if the entrant has a licence to use the material for this contest. Written permission must be obtained and provided upon request for all copyrighted materials.
6. Please note that decisions will be made by a judging panel independent of the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade; canvassing will result in disqualification. Judges' decisions are final.

7. The Iveagh Scholars Programme should not be viewed as a work experience placement.
8. Competition winners must provide a signed parental permission form to be submitted along with details of the student's school insurance policy. Any further requirements will be communicated to competition winners in early 2017.

### APPLICATION CHECKLIST

When submitting your entry, please ensure that the following details are included. Failure to include any of the details listed below will result in an ineligible entry:

Before Applying	X
I understand the theme of this year's Iveagh Scholars competition	
I understand the rules governing the competition	
When Submitting the Application	
Student's full name	
Name and address of school	
Name of Transition Year coordinator / relevant teacher	
A brief description of the entry (with written/visual piece as an attachment; video as a YouTube hyperlink*)	

**\*Please see below for information on how to upload a video to YouTube.**

## THEMES TO CONSIDER

Students should pick **one** of two themes upon which to base their entry. The following sections provide more information on the proposed task and some background information which may aid students. Guidance in the form of some suggested questions is also provided. The links provided at the end of the document may also be used to aid research.

### **Theme One: UN Security Council Campaign**

The United Nations Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Ireland is preparing to run for election to the Security Council in 2020. We will be competing against Canada and Norway.

**Task:** Prepare a persuasive pitch, including a slogan, for Ireland's election campaign. Applications can be in the form of a one page written submission, a visual presentation or a 2 minute video.

**Background:** The United Nations Security Council is made up of fifteen members – five permanent and ten elected. The Security Council can decide to deploy UN troops on peacekeeping operations, to impose international sanctions against a country, or to issue binding resolutions to Member States.

Ireland has a proud tradition of serving as a member of the Security Council. We were represented in 1962, 1981-82 and 2001-2002 and sought to promote peace during difficult moments in world history.

For instance, during the 1981-1982 term, Ireland was central to the Security Council's discussions relating to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Falklands War and independence of Namibia. During 2001-2002 term, Ireland actively promoted efforts to support the independence of East Timor; was part of the unanimous decision to set up an enhanced UN inspection regime for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq; and led the effort to stop the sale of weapons and the trade in blood diamonds which were fuelling civil war in Angola.

Ireland believes that the composition of the Security Council needs to be updated to take account of changing global realities. We favour a Security Council that is more representative, more inclusive, more effective, more

transparent and more accountable in its actions. We have also joined many other countries in calling for the abolition of the veto rights conferred on the five permanent members of the Council.

**Guidance:** Consider some of the current challenges that the Security Council is trying to deal with: the conflict in Syria and the difficulties which stem from the use of vetoes by the permanent members of the Security Council; the conflict in South Sudan; the efforts to stabilise Mali following an insurgent war which started in 2012; the supervision of the ceasefire in Cyprus aimed at preventing further fighting between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities; and increasing the role of women in peace and security, a factor which is relevant to resolution in all conflicts.

- What particular values and strengths does Ireland bring to the international stage?
- What contribution could Ireland make to the work of the Security Council?
- What achievements can we point to, and what do these say about us?
- Why should other countries vote for Ireland rather than other candidates?

## **Theme Two: Our People**

Ireland has a history of emigration and our emigrants have had an important influence on the culture of many countries around the world. Ireland's voice on the international stage is also hugely amplified by the millions of people around the world who are Irish by birth, descent or affiliation. They are an important part of our story as a nation - part of who we are as a people, what we have done and where we have gone in this world. They also undoubtedly have a role to play in Ireland's future.

**Task:** In a rapidly changing world, imagine how our relationship will look in twenty years' time. Prepare a short presentation describing the relationship with our diaspora in 2036. Applications can be in the form of a one page written submission, a visual presentation or a 2 minute video.

**Background:** Ireland's relationship with its diaspora is complex and long standing. It precedes the foundation of the State and touches all corners of the world. In March 2015, the Government published Ireland's Diaspora Policy, "The Global Irish", recognising that we have a unique and important relationship with our diaspora that must be nurtured and developed. Our relationship with the diaspora remains a dynamic one which must evolve to meet changing circumstances at home and abroad.

It is important that we maintain and develop the connections we have with the Irish abroad, ensuring that we are proactive in reaching out to our diaspora and strengthening our relationships with them.

**Guidance:**

- Many of us have friends and family members who have emigrated from Ireland; what can we do to maintain our links with them?
- Think about the experiences of those who have moved from Ireland to start a new life elsewhere and consider the skills they may have learned abroad. How can we use these connections to benefit all our people, wherever they may be, and improve our reputation globally?
- What do these ever evolving connections with our people all over the world mean for our economy and trade, or for our relationships with other countries?

## USEFUL LINKS

- Iveagh Scholars: <https://www.dfa.ie/about-us/global-horizons/iveagh-scholars/>
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website: <https://www.dfa.ie/>
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Twitter feed: <https://twitter.com/dfatirl>
- The Global Island: Ireland's Foreign Policy for a Changing World: <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/our-work/casestudiesarchive/2015/january/the-global-island/>
- The Global Irish: <https://www.dfa.ie/global-irish/>
- United Nations website: <http://www.un.org/Overview/uninbrief/>
- Ireland at the United Nations: <https://www.dfa.ie/our-role-policies/our-work/casestudiesarchive/2015/may/ireland-at-the-united-nations/>

## HOW TO UPLOAD VIDEOS TO YOUTUBE

1. Sign in to YouTube.
2. Click the **Upload** button at the top of the page.
3. Select the video that you'd like to upload from your computer. Before you start uploading the video, you can choose the video privacy settings. **Please choose the 'Unlisted' option which means that only people who have the link to the video can view it.**
4. As the video is uploading, you can add information (e.g. title, description) or decide if you'd like to post it to Twitter or other social media platforms.
5. Make any changes you wish to the video settings and information and then click **Publish** to finish uploading it on YouTube.