

# Culture 2025

Discussion Document



*An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta*  

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*Department of  
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht*

To have your input on the National Cultural Policy discussion paper, visit [www.ahg.gov.ie/en/Culture/Culture2025](http://www.ahg.gov.ie/en/Culture/Culture2025) or email [culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie)

You have until 30 September 2015.

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Culture 2025 will aim to provide a strong, fully inclusive, cultural base in society and a recognition that culture creates tangible societal value, promotes wellbeing, and provides a positive direct and indirect economic impact.

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## Message from the Minister

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Ireland's unique and varied culture is a source of immense national pride, which gives us a common sense of purpose. Irishness and culture are intertwined; our culture is an all encompassing, evolving force that helps us to express and celebrate who we are as a diverse, modern nation. From our poetry, music, dance and theatre to our burgeoning talent in cultural forms such as animation and film making, this country and its people strike a unique cultural beat.

If we want to protect and promote our culture and encourage new cultural forms to flourish, we must aim high and chart out a vision for the future. *Culture 2025* will be Ireland's first National Cultural Policy, setting out high-level aims for the next decade. *Culture 2025* will reflect the important role that culture plays in our daily lives and will help to integrate cultural policy within broader social and economic goals. It will explore how culture can contribute to building an inclusive society, provide avenues for expression for our citizens, drive innovation and contribute to our societal growth and economic wellbeing.

I would like to acknowledge the input of the members of the Colloquium of Cultural Stakeholders, who contributed to this discussion paper. This paper is not designed to be overly prescriptive; rather its aim is to facilitate feedback on proposed goals and priorities.

It presents an opportunity for everyone to contribute to the development of the National Cultural Policy. In particular, your views are sought on:

- how we protect our rich culture and heritage;
- the role that culture can play in meeting Ireland's aspirations, as a 21st century society;
- a vision for the next decade in terms of the cultural life of the country; and
- what we need to do to achieve this.

Your comments on this paper will assist in shaping a 10-year policy to ensure our culture contributes to a better and more sustainable future for all. As we prepare for the Ireland 2016 Commemorations, we will remember how the cultural revival informed the motivations of those who sought to build a new Ireland 100 years ago.

Now is the perfect time, therefore, to consider the place of culture in Ireland as we prepare for the next 100 years.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Heather Humphreys". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Heather Humphreys, TD**  
Minister of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

# Introduction

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Access to culture, including the arts, film and music, together with Ireland's rich heritage, traditions and language, contributes to our wellbeing and preserves our strong sense of national identity. The arts, cultural heritage and creative industries also make a major contribution to our economy and to sustaining and creating jobs.

Cultural participation, in all its forms, enriches society in many ways, including through the health and wellbeing of individuals. Community engagement in Irish cultural activity is vibrant, but strengthening the role of culture in our national societal goals could deepen this engagement further. Furthermore, it can assist in reaching out to those who are disengaged or disaffected. Greater cultural wealth and participation can bring about a better Ireland.

The economic crisis in Ireland posed questions about the loss of appreciation for wider societal values which artistic and cultural endeavours encompass. In addition to the impact on national self-confidence, the crisis also impacted severely on the support which the Government could provide to the cultural sector. While the reduction in resources was challenging, the cultural sector often responded to that adversity in creative and imaginative ways. Some of the lessons that have been learnt over the past number of years will hold their value as we enter a period of economic recovery.

When considering Ireland's global offering in terms of culture, we must be mindful of how globalisation and digitisation has changed the way we interact with each other and how this has impacted on our culture.

The debate about cultural policy in Europe, and the delivery of cultural services, particularly in the digital age, is becoming increasingly topical. Representing 3.3% of GDP and 6.7 million jobs across Europe (source: [EU Commission COM \(2012\) 537](#)), the cultural and creative sector is seen as an essential asset for the continent in a global economy based on innovation and creation. There is now a growing view that there is a need for the European Union to develop an overall cultural policy to foster the cultural and creative industries (source: [EU Commission COM \(2014\) 477](#)).

In developing a National Cultural Policy – *Culture 2025* – we should have regard to those distinct but related currents – the role of culture in enriching our lives in a more sustainable Ireland, as well as the separate, more economically focused, role that cultural services can play in creating livelihoods in a more diverse workforce.

# Definition of Culture<sup>1</sup>

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There are many definitions of culture. In its widest use, culture encompasses everything we do as a society and how we behave. However, for the purpose of this policy document it is proposed that culture would include:

The **arts**, as defined in the Arts Act 2003, which means “any creative or interpretive expression (whether traditional or contemporary) in whatever form, and including, in particular, visual arts, theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus and architecture and includes any medium when used for those purposes.”

The **creative industries**, including film and television production, animation, broadcasting, electronic games, architecture, design and fashion, publishing, media and advertising.

**Cultural heritage**, including galleries, libraries, archives and museums, built and natural heritage, Irish language and folk traditions.

It would also include new cultural diversity and languages which have become part of Irish life in recent years.

In finalising the policy, regard will be given to views expressed as to whether any wider issues should be addressed, or indeed, whether the policy should be narrower in focus.

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<sup>1</sup> There are many definitions of culture available and the proposed definition is in line with the scope of similar policies elsewhere, e.g. the Netherlands, Finland, Australia.



# The Aims of *Culture 2025*

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The public consultation process will help shape the final objectives of *Culture 2025*. To inform the debate, a possible set of aims for inclusion in the final policy are set out below.

*Culture 2025* aims to provide a clear vision and a strong foundation for the continued vitality, development and viability of Irish culture between 2016 and 2025. It will provide a policy framework for a sector of immense diversity, which involves individuals and organisations from the public, private and government sectors. In different ways, all of these engage in the creation, production, funding, presentation, communication, promotion, distribution and preservation of cultural goods, activities and services, including our tangible and intangible heritage, while underpinning all that we define as being of cultural value to the State.

*Culture 2025* will aim to provide a strong, fully inclusive, cultural base in society and a recognition that culture creates tangible societal value, promotes wellbeing, and provides a positive direct and indirect economic impact. *Culture 2025* will also aim to increase the participation of individuals and communities from across Ireland, including in the regions.

The policy will include a vision for developing and supporting the creation of cultural product, as well as supporting the creative process in all its forms. As a high-level document, the policy will aim to set the framework for any subsequent strategies and plans in specific areas and be flexible enough to embrace new forms of cultural outputs, digital or otherwise.

*Culture 2025* will recognise the fundamental role culture plays in all Government activity and will aim to raise awareness in all Government Departments, agencies and local authorities regarding the role culture plays in their work and the impact that their work, in turn, can have on the cultural environment and infrastructure.



*Culture 2025* will aim to foster governance models which allow for and respect artistic freedom, while ensuring proper oversight and accountability for the expenditure of taxpayers' money.

*Culture 2025* will aim to provide a platform for bringing together the numerous local, regional and national cultural entities, with a view to sharing best practice, and developing and improving synergies between and within these networks. *Culture 2025* will aim to provide a mechanism for increased communication and co-operation between all cultural stakeholders, with a view to developing mutually beneficial joint approaches to culture, where possible and feasible.

*Culture 2025* will aim to ensure that public investment for the protection and promotion of our rich cultural heritage is secure and that new sources of investment are found. It will recognise that there should be a strong emphasis on evidence-based decision-making. Building a well-informed evidence base in Ireland for future investment should be a priority.

All of these elements should lead to an environment where cultural activity and output are increasingly seen as intrinsic to society, of inherent value, supported by evidence-based research and appropriately funded, with a solid connected network and interlinked infrastructure. The aim is to create a vibrant cultural sector that is fully inclusive, with clearly defined strategic goals and an understanding of its interaction with Government. There should be increased participation in, and access to, cultural activities by all sectors of society and the cultural sector, in turn, should reflect and respond to the needs of our society. Our children and young people in particular should have access to culture as part of their education and development.

# A National Discussion

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This discussion paper aims to set the narrative for the formation of *Culture 2025*. The aim is to have a national discourse on the role of culture in modern multicultural Ireland and what should be done to foster and develop it. This consultation process will inform and underpin the first ever National Cultural Policy – *Culture 2025* – which will clearly articulate the important role of culture in our country and which will set out a road map for what we want to achieve in the cultural sector for the next 10 years leading up to 2025.

There are many topics that should be discussed as part of a national discourse on cultural policy. The purpose of this paper is to stimulate that discussion, and a number of the relevant issues are set out below.

## Institutional arrangements (governance and legislation)

Museums, galleries, cultural institutions and people working in the cultural sector must operate in an environment of artistic and curatorial independence. A healthy cultural sector will thrive on that independence. Yet, that sector depends on Government for funding, for legislative underpinnings, and supportive administrative structures. The sector must navigate public policy, in partnership with Government, in order to thrive. Much energy in recent years has been expended in responding to the effects of significant cutbacks across the arts, heritage and cultural sectors as a result of the economic collapse. Many cultural organisations have reduced costs and increased efficiency in the delivery of services. Government has also driven reform of governance structures across the public service.

**Q.** Should *Culture 2025* address the institutional architecture which delivers public sector culture services? If so, how should this discussion paper navigate this set of issues?

## Funding and resources

There has been a significant reduction in the level of both central and local authority funding for the cultural sector since the onset of the economic crisis. While the economy continues to recover, it will remain challenging to restore culture sector funding to 2008 levels. The overall aim has to be to ensure that funding rests on a solid base to enable the sector to protect our rich culture and heritage, while also maximising its potential to both society and the economy. It should be noted, of course, that the sector is also dependent upon commercial support for much of its activity, and similarly must navigate interactions with local and global commercial forces.

- Q. How do we make optimal use of scarce resources?
- Q. Are current structures and funding models, both at national and local level, adequate to meet the future requirements of the sector?
- Q. Are there alternative funding or support models which should be pursued? If so, how?

## Infrastructural provision

From the start of the new millennium up to 2008, in excess of €100m in capital grants has been allocated to the cultural sector. This has generated a dramatic increase both in the number and quality of cultural buildings and facilities throughout the State. However, as part of the general public expenditure reductions, the allocation of capital grants for cultural infrastructure projects has been substantially curtailed since 2008. Notwithstanding this, there are a number of significant capital projects being progressed in the national cultural institutions at present. The major €30m+ project at the National Gallery is moving into its final phase, while two new capital projects involving the refurbishment of the Kevin Barry Rooms at the National Concert Hall and the re-development of the National Archives headquarters are about to start as part of the Government's investment under the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme.

Significant challenges remain to be addressed in some of our key national cultural institutions, including the National Museum, the National Library and the Crawford Gallery. Other cultural institutions also require investment.

The private sector is also a major supplier of cultural venues, from small to large.

- Q. How should demands for public investment be prioritised, or what should be prioritised?
- Q. Should the focus shift from construction of new facilities to maintenance and reinvestment in existing infrastructure?
- Q. How should the financial cost be shared between public and private sources?

## Supporting artists and creative workers

Supporting artists and creative workers is of fundamental importance to any cultural policy. The Arts Council provides both direct and indirect support to artists through bursaries, awards, residencies and commissions, as well as its funding of a wide range of arts organisations. Aosdána was established in 1981 to honour artists whose work has made an outstanding contribution to the arts in Ireland and a stipend is provided to some Aosdána members on a means-tested basis. Other State supports to artists include tax exemptions in certain circumstances and supports from sources such as Culture Ireland and the local authorities.

Notwithstanding the supports that are available, there is evidence to suggest that existing provision is not adequate to allow artists and creative workers in the cultural sector to operate on a self-sustaining basis in Ireland. A [report](#) commissioned by both the Arts Council here and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland in 2010 reported that the average income of artists in Ireland in 2008 was €14,676.

- Q. Are existing measures appropriate and adequate to support artists and other creative workers?
- Q. If not, what new measures, or refocusing of existing measures, might be taken to support artists and creative workers and the production of cultural content in Ireland?

## International promotion and context (including the European Union)

Culture is very important for both promoting Ireland's image abroad and attracting tourists to Ireland. Within the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Culture Ireland promotes Irish culture worldwide. It creates and supports opportunities for Irish creative workers and companies to present and promote their work at strategic international festivals and venues. It develops platforms to present outstanding Irish work to international audiences, through showcases at key global arts events, including the Edinburgh Festival and the Venice Biennale. Special initiatives are also undertaken from time to time such as the *Imagine Ireland* initiative in the United States (2011) and *Culture Connects*, the Culture Programme to celebrate Ireland's Presidency of the EU (2013).

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade also has a key role in promoting Irish culture overseas through the embassy and consular network and through the use of culture to support the achievement of broader foreign policy and economic diplomacy initiatives. Other initiatives such as *Inspiring Ireland*, which is an ambitious project to share high quality images of Ireland's treasured cultural assets in a single curated, interactive website, also play a role in promoting Irish culture abroad.

- Q. Can we do more to maximise the contribution of culture to both our economy and Ireland's image abroad?
- Q. Are the current mechanisms that exist for using culture to promote Ireland's image abroad adequate or do they need to be updated?



## The digital age and creativity

As we move more and more towards a knowledge-based society, creativity and innovation become increasingly important. In addition, cultural production can now be digital-born and cultural processes can be digital from beginning to end. A dynamic cultural sector contributes towards creativity as a way to develop learning and social cohesion, stimulate job creation and promote sustainable economic prosperity, wellbeing and happiness. Culture-based creativity can have a positive influence on the economy and on social development. Research carried out for the European Commission in 2009 – *The Impact of Culture on Creativity* – has shown that culture has an important impact in terms of inspiring people to learn, in building communities, developing new products and services (including public services), driving technological innovation, stimulating research, optimising human resources and branding and communicating values.

Rapid developments in technology and new methods of communication have changed the way people create, access and participate in culture. This is particularly true for young people. Technology has improved access to culture, and people can now have a much more interactive role in how they engage with culture.

Technology, for example, provides opportunities for the sector to increase access to audiences, offers better customer service, improves audience engagement and generates innovative ideas. The challenge is how to harness these opportunities to interact with a far bigger audience in a meaningful way, both at home and abroad, while at the same time taking account of issues such as copyright.

- Q. What are the opportunities for the cultural sector in the delivery of cultural services in the digital age?
- Q. What are the challenges facing the cultural sector in this digital age?
- Q. What approach should Ireland take to copyright and intellectual property issues – noting the EU context of much of the discussion in this area?

## Social integration

Providing opportunities for wider and richer cultural participation can play a role in addressing social exclusion. The Oireachtas Joint Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht, in its 2014 report on [Utilising the Arts to Combat Disadvantage](#), recommended that the arts should be recognised as a fundamental means of combating social exclusion and promoting the wellbeing and inclusion of disadvantaged groups within local communities and at a national level.

The [2006 Public and the Arts Report](#) and the 2014 report [The Arts in Irish Life](#), both published by the Arts Council, confirmed the continuing importance of income, education and class in determining levels of engagement with the arts.

The NESF Report 35 (January 2007) [The Arts, Cultural Inclusion and Social Cohesion](#) concluded that 'Participation in the arts in Ireland varies markedly according to a number of factors, especially educational level, socio-economic status, area and age. This variation is associated with a range of barriers such as economic costs, poor transport, lack of literacy, and social and psychological barriers.'

- Q. How can we improve access to culture in areas of social exclusion or disadvantage?
- Q. How can culture be used to break down barriers of exclusion or disadvantage?

## A greater cultural diversity

Over the decade to 2011, Ireland had the highest net migration rates of the EU 15. The share of foreign-born people living in Ireland rose from 6% in 1991 to over 17% of population in 2011. This population change has introduced a rich, new and diverse cultural landscape to Ireland. In 2010, the Arts Council published its policy and strategy on [Cultural Diversity and the Arts](#). This policy recognises the potential enrichment of the cultural sector in Ireland through intercultural interaction, equality of opportunity, understanding, respect and integration.

- Q. How should *Culture 2025* address the opportunities and challenges presented by this new cultural diversity within Ireland?

## Young and old and people with disabilities

The value of promoting culture for children and young people in and out of school is well recognised. The [Arts in Education Charter](#), published in 2013, sets out the commitments of both the Minister for Education and Skills and the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to increasing access to culture by placing the arts alongside other subjects at the core of our education system.

At the other end of the life cycle, promoting access to culture for older and retired people is also an issue to be explored. Similarly, we need to consider whether existing measures for promoting access to both culture and the arts for people with disabilities are adequate. The Arts Council has published a strategy, [Arts and Disability \(2012–2016\)](#), to address this area.

**Q.** Having regard to the recent policy initiatives in this area, how should *Culture 2025* address these issues?

## Music, culture and language

Traditional culture, especially music and dance, are fundamental to Irish identity and to our place in the world. They also compete successfully in a hugely globalised world of mass entertainment and popular culture. The contemporary Irish music sector is also highly acclaimed internationally, with many young Irish artists firmly positioned on the global music stage.

The heartland of the Irish language – An Ghaeltacht – continues to face pressure from economic forces and the power of the English language. The Government’s [Stráitéis Fíche Bliain don Ghaeilge](#) was specifically adopted to promote the Irish language within and outside the Gaeltacht.

The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is developing an integrated Arts Strategy for the Gaeltacht and Irish Language Arts in conjunction with Foras na Gaeilge, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Arts Council. It is intended to publish it shortly. The overall objective is to ensure a more coordinated approach by the relevant bodies to the development of the Gaeltacht and Irish Language Arts.

The Department also supports the Ulster-Scots Agency, which is responsible for promoting greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster-Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island of Ireland.

**Q.** How should *Culture 2025* address issues of tradition and language?

**Q.** How can we better support and promote the music sector, particularly emerging musicians?

## Culture and commemoration (1916 to foundation of State)

Culture is playing an important role in helping to interpret the tumultuous events of a century ago. National reflection and re-imagination is integral to the [Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme](#). Given the role the Cultural Revival played in the narrative of events which led to the founding of the State, it is important that *Culture 2025* takes this opportunity to respond to the reflection on nationhood arising from the 100th anniversary of the Easter Rising.

- Q. How should *Culture 2025* best respond to the issues raised in the Decade of Centenaries?
- Q. How can *Culture 2025* help to re-imagine Ireland as part of the Ireland 2016 year of commemoration?

## North/South co-operation

The political events which led to the foundation of the State also led to the foundation of Northern Ireland as a devolved Government within the UK. The constitutional settlement arising from the Good Friday Agreement has led to new agreed relationships on the island of Ireland. The informal ties between North and South within cultural movements have been joined by new formal ones.

- Q. What more can be done to strengthen North/South ties in the cultural area?

## Next Steps

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Over the next number of months, there will be an in-depth consultation process about *Culture 2025* with all relevant stakeholders in the cultural sector and across all strands of society.

The broad aim of *Culture 2025* will be to re-enforce the crucial role of culture in society by supporting the cultural sector and providing the conditions which will allow the sector to develop and flourish across all areas of society. *Culture 2025* will reflect the modern multicultural Ireland and will be uplifting, accessible, relevant and easy to communicate. *Culture 2025* will be relevant to each and every person living in Ireland.

The consultation process will be led by a Steering Group chaired by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and will be supported by an Expert Group made up of experts from various strands of the arts/cultural sector. The consultation process will include organisations and individuals involved in the sector and also the general public. It is envisaged that there will be regional consultation meetings, as well as a day-long 'open' seminar in Dublin, to be held in the autumn.

The final policy document to emerge from that process will be submitted for the approval of Government. It is envisaged that the new policy will be published in early 2016.

Your comments on this paper will assist in shaping a 10-year policy underpinned by tangible action, to ensure our cultural and creative industries reflect a 21st century Ireland, and, in doing so, strengthen the nation's pursuit of its economic and social policy agenda.

To access the National Cultural Policy discussion paper, visit:

<http://www.ahg.gov.ie/en/Culture/Culture2025>

You can submit your comments to writing to:

Culture 2025  
Cultural Institutions Unit  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
New Road  
Killarney  
Co. Kerry  
or by email to [culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie)

August 2015

# Appendix I: The historical context

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There has been no single national cultural policy since the formation of the State in 1922.

The perception of the early years of the State was that it took a conservative view of cultural expression, which sometimes clashed with newer forms brought by cinema, or with new styles of music and literature. On 1 January 1926, Ireland's first national broadcasting station, 2RN, was launched on behalf of Radio Éireann, representing a powerful new cultural medium. Theatre and other forms continued nonetheless to play a vibrant role, with the new State establishing the world's first 'national' theatre at the Abbey. While the protectionist ideal in vogue in the earliest decades of the State was not overly welcoming of outside influences or of artistic forms which challenged the new norms, it is also important to note that, as a democracy, Ireland was never cut off from outside influence or from following international tastes in cinema, music and other cultural trends. The Arts Council was founded in 1952, under the aegis of the Department of the Taoiseach, with a role to promote the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts. It was a recognition by the Government of the time of the need to address the area of cultural development. The 1973 Arts Act revised the Arts Council and made provision for a local government role in the arts – now supported by a vibrant network of local arts officers.

The period 1973 to 2000 saw an expansion of and increased funding for culture. EU membership brought opportunities for capital development. In 1981, the Arts Council established Aosdána to honour artists whose work has made an outstanding contribution to the creative sector in Ireland, and to encourage and assist members in devoting their energies fully to their art. In 1995, the Heritage Council was established as a statutory body with a remit of promoting knowledge, appreciation and protection of the national heritage.

In 1993, the Department of Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht was established with overall responsibility for cultural supports. The present Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has responsibility for policy in relation to the arts, culture, film and music, as well as oversight of Ireland's national cultural institutions, the built and natural heritage, the Irish language, the Gaeltacht, the islands and related aspects of North/South co-operation.

In 2002, the then Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands published the first national **Government Policy on Architecture**, with an updated policy published in 2009.

In 2005, Culture Ireland was established, recognising the importance of supporting Irish artists when presenting their work globally. It now operates as a dedicated programme within the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.



# Appendix II: Cultural support/funding and legislative background

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## Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

The Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has overall responsibility for the formulation, development and evaluation of policy and structures in relation to the cultural sector.

The goal of the Department in relation to culture is to 'promote and develop Ireland's artistic and creative strengths at home and abroad and to maximise their societal, economic and reputational value for the country'.

The Department works closely with the Arts Council, the National Cultural Institutions, the Irish Film Board and with other stakeholders to secure the implementation of appropriate and effective strategies for the cultural sector.

The Department's heritage remit includes built and natural heritage functions, as well as a range of policy, regulatory, educational and promotional roles. The Heritage Council also falls under the remit of the Department.

## National Cultural Institutions

There are eight national cultural institutions under the aegis of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht: the National Archives of Ireland, the National Concert Hall, the National Library of Ireland, the National Museum of Ireland, the Chester Beatty Library, the Irish Museum of Modern Art, the Crawford Art Gallery and the National Gallery of Ireland. The Arts Council, funded by the Department, provides current funding to the Abbey Theatre, which is also a national cultural institution.

## Council of National Cultural Institutions

The Council of National Cultural Institutions is a statutory entity established under the Heritage Fund Act 2001. The purpose of the Council is:

- to facilitate the pooling of talent, experience and vision of the Directors of the National Cultural Institutions in furtherance of the national cultural interest; and
- to make recommendations to the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on proposed acquisitions using the Heritage Fund in respect of five eligible institutions, provided for under section 2 (1) of the Heritage Fund Act 2001.

Membership of the Council comprises the Directors of the National Cultural Institutions, together with the Directors of the Arts Council and the Abbey Theatre, and the Chief Executive of the Heritage Council.

## Culture Ireland

Culture Ireland, which operates as a dedicated programme within the Department, is responsible for the promotion of Irish arts worldwide. It creates and supports opportunities for Irish artists and companies to present and promote their work at strategic international festivals and venues. It develops platforms to present outstanding Irish work to international audiences, through showcases at key global arts events, including the Edinburgh Festival, the Venice Biennale and special initiatives such as *Imagine Ireland* in the United States (2011) and *Culture Connects*, the Culture Programme to celebrate Ireland's Presidency of the EU (2013).

## The Arts Council

The Arts Council is the Irish Government agency for developing the arts, and works in partnership with artists, arts organisations, local authorities, public policy makers and others to build a central place for the arts in Irish life. The Arts Council's functions as set out in the Arts Act 2003 are to:

- stimulate public interest in the arts;
- promote knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts;
- assist in improving standards in the arts; and
- advise the Minister and other public bodies on the arts.

## Irish Film Board

The Irish Film Board is the national development agency for the Irish film industry. It supports writers, directors and producers by providing investment loans for the development, production and distribution of film, television and animation projects. The Board also supports the Irish screen industries in international markets and festivals and promotes inward investment, including through the promotion of Ireland as a location for film production. The IFB incorporates Screen Training Ireland through which it provides a strategic vision for industry training.

## The Heritage Council

The Heritage Council of Ireland is a statutory body established under the Heritage Act 1995. Its statutory functions are to propose policies for the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of national heritage including monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects, architectural heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, landscapes, seascapes, wrecks, geology, heritage gardens and parks and inland waterways.

The Heritage Council's mission is to engage, educate and advocate to develop a wider understanding of the vital contribution that our heritage makes to our social, environmental and economic wellbeing.

## Údarás na Gaeltachta

Established in 1980, Údarás na Gaeltachta is the regional authority responsible for the economic, social and cultural development of the Gaeltacht. The overall objective of Údarás na Gaeltachta is to ensure that Irish remains the main communal language of the Gaeltacht and is passed on to future generations.

Ealaín na Gaeltachta Teo is a joint venture between Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Arts Council, and promotes the development of the contemporary and traditional arts in the Gaeltacht. Through Ealaín na Gaeltachta, both organisations invest significant resources and collaborate on strategic planning which has, in turn, a positive impact on the quality and opportunity of arts experience within the Gaeltacht. Ealaín na Gaeltachta provides a number of grant schemes for arts organisations and individual artists, and also provides training and mentoring supports. In addition, it offers advisory services, as well as assisting and encouraging artists and arts organisations to develop arts projects and to further their careers.

## An Foras Teanga

An Foras Teanga is a North/South Implementation Body established under the Good Friday Agreement which comprises two agencies – Foras na Gaeilge, which is responsible for the promotion of the Irish language throughout the island of Ireland, and The Ulster-Scots Agency, which is responsible for promoting greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster-Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island of Ireland.

## Other Government Departments

There are several Government Departments which impact on cultural policy. The Department of Education and Skills has primary responsibility for arts education and, in 2013, signed the ***Arts in Education Charter*** with the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. The Department of Environment, Community and Local Government has responsibility for local government, community development and the operation of the Library and Archival Services. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade promotes Irish culture, primarily through Irish embassies and consulates abroad and in co-operation with Culture Ireland and other public bodies and individuals. The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has responsibility for overall tourism policy. The Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources has responsibility for broadcasting and communications – both areas which are of particular importance to cultural policy. The fiscal and economic policies of the Department of Finance and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform also have an important role to play. The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation has responsibility for intellectual property rights and for some of the creative industries.

## Other State Agencies

There are several other State agencies the activities of which have an impact on cultural policy, including RTÉ, the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland, the Irish Sports Council and Fáilte Ireland.

## Local Government

Under the Arts Act 2003, each local authority is required to prepare and implement plans for the development of the arts within its functional area and, in doing this, to take account of Government policies in relation to the arts. The Arts Council works in conjunction with the local authorities and other regional bodies in relation to the appointment of arts personnel, the development of arts infrastructure and planning, and budgetary provision. The Arts Council supports the arts development programme of the local authorities and Ealaín na Gaeltachta, and co-funds the salaries of arts officers.

The other main cultural services provided by the local authorities are the operation of heritage functions and the Library and Archival Service.

In addition, there is a myriad of other entities and voluntary organisations all involved in the cultural sector.

## Appendix III: Legislation

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Key legislation in relation to the cultural sector includes:

[The Irish Film Board Acts 1980–2011](#)

[Broadcasting Act 2009](#)

[The Arts Act 2003](#)

[Official Languages Act 2003](#)

[Local Government Act 2001](#) (particularly Section 67)

[Heritage Fund Act 2001](#)

[Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000](#)

[Intellectual Property \(Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1998](#)

[National Cultural Institutions Act 1997](#)

[Taxes Consolidation Act 1997](#) (particularly sections 195, 481, 848a, 1003)

[The Heritage Act 1995](#)

[National Archives Act 1986](#)

Legislation in many other areas is also relevant, for example the Education Acts, the Planning and Development code, the National Monument Acts, and legislation in relation to the Gaeltacht.

# Appendix IV: Colloquium of Cultural Stakeholders

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The drafting of this Discussion Paper was informed by input from a colloquium of cultural stakeholders, organised by the Department in association with the Royal Irish Academy on 25 May 2015. The members of the colloquium are listed overleaf



<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Feargal Ó Coigligh (Chair)	Assistant Secretary, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Kevin Lonergan	Principal Officer, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Professor Ciaran Benson	Emeritus Professor of Psychology, UCD, former Chair of the Arts Council
Dr Sandra Collins	Digital Repository of Ireland, Director of National Library of Ireland
Pat Cooke	Director MA in Cultural Policy and Arts Management, UCD
Professor Michael Cronin, MRIA	Centre for Translation & Textual Studies, DCU
Professor Mary Daly	President, Royal Irish Academy
Martin Drury	Arts Council
Sarah Glennie	Director Irish Museum of Modern Art, Chair of Council of National Cultural Institutions
Lorelei Harris	Head of Arts & Cultural Strategy, RTÉ
Andrew Hetherington	Director, Business to Arts
Kerry McCall	Institute of Art, Design & Technology National Campaign for the Arts
Mary McCarthy	Director National Sculpture Factory, Cork Chair of Culture Ireland, Board Member of IMMA
Professor Declan McGonagle	Director, NCAD
Helen Shenton	Librarian & College Archivist, TCD
Dr Mary Shine Thompson	Lecturer in English, DCU, & Chair, Encountering the Arts Ireland
Willie White	Artistic Director, Dublin Theatre Festival



# Cultúr 2025

Plédhoiciméad



*An Roinn  
Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta*  

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*Department of  
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht*

Chun do thuairimí féin faoi  
phlédhoiciméad an Bheartais  
Chultúir Náisiúnta a thabhairt,  
tabhair cuairt ar [www.ahg.gov.  
ie/en/Culture/Culture2025](http://www.ahg.gov.ie/en/Culture/Culture2025)  
nó seol ríomhphost chuig  
[culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie)

Is é an 30 Meán Fómhair 2015  
an dáta deiridh ar a nglacfar  
le tuairimí.



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Féachfar le Cultúr 2025 cur ar fáil a dhéanamh ar bhonn cultúir sa tsochaí atá láidir agus uilechuimsitheach agus ar aitheantas go gcruthaíonn an cultúr luach sochaíoch inláimhsithe, go gcuireann sé folláine chun cinn agus go soláthraíonn sé tionchar geilleagrach dearfach atá díreach agus indíreach.

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## Teachtaireacht ón Aire

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An chéad Bheartas Cultúir Náisiúnta de chuid na hÉireann a bheidh in *Cultúr 2025*. Leagfar amach ann aidhmeanna agus beartais ardleibhéal sa tréimhse go dtí an bhliain 2025. Chun críche an chomhairliúcháin seo, tá sainmhíniú leathan ar an gcultúr agus cuirtear na healaíona agus ár n-oidhreacht nádúrtha agus chultúrtha san áireamh ann.

Léireofar in *Cultúr 2025* an ról tábhachtach a imríonn an cultúr inár saol laethúil agus beidh sé ina chabhair agus beartas cultúir á chomhtháthú isteach i spriocanna sóisialta agus geilleagracha leathana.

Déanfar iniúchadh ann ar conas a fhéadann an cultúr cur le sochaí chuimsitheach a fhorbairt, bealaí le haghaidh léirithe a chur ar fáil dár saoránaigh, an nuálaíocht a bhrú chun cinn agus cur le fás agus leas geilleagrach.

Ba mhaith liom aitheantas a thabhairt d'ionchur na mball de Chollóiciam na nGeallsealbhóirí Cultúir a chuir leis an bpléidhoiciméad seo. Is é an aidhm atá leis ná treorú a dhéanamh ar phróiseas comhairliúcháin a éascóidh aiseolas ar spriocanna beartaithe agus ar thosaíochtaí beartaithe. Tá sé ina dheis duit le cur le forbairt an Bheartais Chultúir Náisiúnta. Tugaim cuireadh oscailte duit na smaointe agus na mianta sa phlépháipéar a bhreithniú agus ionchur a chur ar fáil. Tá do thuairimí á n-iarraidh faoi na nithe seo go háirithe:

- an dóigh a gcosnaímid ár gcultúr saibhir agus ár n-oidhreacht shaibhir;
- an ról is féidir leis an gcultúr a imirt maidir le mianta na hÉireann mar shochaí san 21ú haois a chomhlíonadh;
- an staid ar mhaith linn a bheith inti sa bhliain 2025 ó thaobh shaol cultúrtha na tíre de; agus
- na bearta nach mór dúinn a dhéanamh leis an staid sin a bhaint amach.

Cabhróidh do chuid tuairimí faoin bpáipéar seo le beartas 10 mbliana a mhúnlú, ar beartas é a chinnteoidh go gcuirfidh ár gcultúr le saol níos fearr agus níos inbhuanaithe do chách amach anseo. De réir mar a ullmhaímid le haghaidh chuimhneacháin Éire 2016, beimid ag tabhairt faoi phróiseas náisiúnta um an am atá thart a chuimhneamh agus machnamh ar an saol atá romhainn. Cuid dhílis de smaointe na ndaoine sin a d'fhéach le tír ní b'fhéarr a dhéanamh d'Éirinn 100 bliain ó shin ba ea an athbheochan cultúir. Is tráthúil anois áit an chultúir in Éirinn a bhreithniú de réir mar a ullmhaímid don 100 bliain romhainn.

Heather Humphreys, TD  
An tAire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta

# Réamhrá

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Rochtain ar an gcultúr, lena n-áirítear na healaíona, an scannánaíocht agus an ceol, i dteannta oidhreacht, thraidisiúin agus theanga shaibhir na hÉireann, cuireann sí lenár bhfolláine agus caomhnaíonn sí ár mbraistint láidir féiniúlachta náisiúnta. Chomh maith leis sin, cuireann na healaíona, an oidhreacht chultúrtha agus tionscail chruthaitheachta go mór lenár ngeilleagar agus le poist a chothú agus a chruthú.

Is ar roinnt mhaith bealaí, lena n-áirítear trí shláinte agus fholláine daoine, a shaibhrítear an tsochaí leis na foirmeacha go léir de rannpháirtíocht sa chultúr. Is beoga atá rannpháirtíocht an phobail i ngníomhaíocht chultúrtha na hÉireann. Mar sin féin, d'fhéadfaí an rannpháirtíocht sin a dhóimhniú tuilleadh dá neartófaí ról an chultúir inár spriocanna sochaíocha náisiúnta. Ina theannta sin, is féidir léi cabhrú le freastal ar na daoine sin atá scoite amach nó a bhfuil spéis cailte acu. Is féidir le tuilleadh saibhreas cultúir agus tuilleadh rannpháirtíochta sa chultúr Éire níos fearr a chruthú.

D'ardaigh an ghéarchéim gheilleagraich in Éirinn ceisteanna faoi chaillteanas na tuisceana ar luachanna sochaíocha leathana a gcuimsíonn iarrachtaí ealaíonta agus cultúrtha iad. De bhreis ar an tionchar ar an bhféinmhuinín náisiúnta, d'imir an ghéarchéim fíorthionchar freisin ar an tacaíocht a bhí an Rialtas ábalta a chur ar fáil don earnáil cultúir. Cé gur dúshlán a bhí sa laghdú ar acmhainní, ba ar bhealaí cruthaitheacha samhlaíocha a d'fhreagraíodh an earnáil chultúir don angar sin go minic. Beidh fiúntas ag roinnt de na ceachtanna a foghlaimíodh le roinnt blianta anuas de réir mar a théimid isteach i dtréimhse téarnaimh gheilleagraigh.

Agus breithniú á dhéanamh againn ar thairiscint dhomhanda na hÉireann ó thaobh an chultúir de, ní mór dúinn bheith aireach ar conas a d'athraigh an domhandú agus an digitiú an dóigh a mbímid ag caidreamh le chéile agus ar an tionchar atá imeartha aige sin ar ár gcultúr.

Rud atá ag éirí níos ábhartha is ea an díospóireacht ar bheartas cultúir san Eoraip agus ar an soláthar seirbhísí cultúir, go háirithe sa ré dhigiteach. Agus í freagrach as 3.3% den olltáirgeacht intíre (OTI) agus as 6.7 milliún post ar fud na hEorpa (foinse: [Teachtairacht 537 ó Choimisiún an AE \(2012\)](#)), meastar an earnáil cultúir agus cruthaitheachta a bheith ina sócmhainn bhunriachtanach le haghaidh na mór-roinne i ngeilleagar domhanda atá bunaithe ar an nuálaíocht agus ar chruthú. Tá tuairim ag teacht aníos gur gá don Aontas Eorpach beartas foriomlán cultúir a fhorbairt chun na tionscail chultúir agus chruthaitheachta a chothú (foinse: [Teachtairacht 477 ó Choimisiún an AE \(2014\)](#)).

Agus Beartas Cultúir Náisiúnta - *Cultúr 2025* - á fhorbairt againn, ba cheart dúinn aird a thabhairt ar na dearccháí sin atá leithleach agus gaolmhar - is iad sin, ról an chultúir inár saol a shaibhriú in Éirinn atá níos inbhuanaithe agus an ról ar leith agus níos dírithe ar an ngeilleagar a fhéadann seirbhísí cultúir a imirt chun slite beatha a chruthú i bhfórsa oibre níos éagsúla.



# Aidhmeanna *Cultúr 2025*

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Cabhróidh an próiseas comhairliúcháin phoiblí le cuspóirí deiridh *Cultúr 2025* a mhúnlú. Chun eolas a dhéanamh don díospóireacht, tá sraith fhéideartha aidhmeanna le cur san áireamh sa bheartas deiridh leagtha amach thíos.

Is é aidhm *Cultúr 2025* ná fíis shoiléir agus bonn láidir a chur ar fáil le haghaidh bheogacht, fhorbairt agus inmharthanacht leantach an chultúir Éireannaigh idir an bhliain 2016 agus an bhliain 2025. Cuirfear creat beartais le haghaidh earnála ina bhfuil éagsúlacht ollmhór ar fáil ann, ar earnáil í lena bhfuil baint ag daoine aonair agus ag eagraíochtaí ón earnáil phoiblí, ón earnáil phríobháideach agus ón earnáil rialtais. Glacann gach ceann díobh páirt, ar bhealaí éagsúla, i dtáirgí cultúir, i ngníomhaíochtaí cultúrtha agus i seirbhísí cultúir, ar n-oidhreacht inláimhsithe agus ar n-oidhreacht dholáimhsithe san áireamh, a chruthú, a léiriú, a mhaoiniú, a chur i láthair, a chur in iúl, a chur chun cinn, a dháileadh agus a chaomhnú agus déanann siad amhlaidh agus iad ag buntacú le gach a sainimid a bheith luachmhar ó thaobh an chultúir de don Stát.

Féachfar le *Cultúr 2025* cur ar fáil a dhéanamh ar bhonn cultúir sa tsochaí atá láidir agus uilechuimsitheach agus ar aitheantas go gcruthaíonn an cultúr luach sochaíoch inláimhsithe, go gcuireann sé folláine chun cinn agus go soláthraíonn sé tionchar geilleagrach dearfach atá díreach agus indíreach. Féachfar le *Cultúr 2025* freisin rannpháirtíocht na ndaoine aonair agus na bpobal ó gach cearn d'Éirinn a mhéadú, iad sin sna réigiúin san áireamh.

Áireofar leis an mbeartas fíis don chultúr a fhorbairt agus a chur ar aghaidh agus don phróiseas cruthaitheach ina bhfoirmeacha uile a chur ar aghaidh. Féachfar leis an mbeartas mar dhoiciméad ardleibhéil an creat a shocrú le haghaidh aon straitéisí agus aon phleananna i réimsí sonracha ina dhiaidh sin agus a bheith solúbtha go leor go bhféadfar foirmeacha nua aschur cultúrtha, bíodh siad digiteach nó i bhfoirm eile, a chuimsiú leis.

Tabharfar aitheantas in *Cultúr 2025* ar an ról bunúsach a imríonn an cultúr i ngach gníomhaíocht de chuid an Rialtais agus féachfar leis feasacht a mhéadú i ngach Roinn Rialtais, i ngach gníomhaireacht agus i ngach údarás áitiúil ar an ról a imríonn an cultúr ina gcuid oibre agus, dá réir sin, ar an tionchar a fhéadann a bheith ag a gcuid oibre ar an timpeallacht chultúrtha agus ar an mbonneagar cultúrtha.

Féachfar le *Cultúr 2025* samhlacha rialachais a chothú lena n-éascófar saoirse ealaíne agus lena dtabharfar aird uirthi, agus maoirseacht chuí ar chaitheamh airgead na gcáiníocóirí agus cuntasacht chuí as an gcaitheamh sin á gcinntiú ag an am céanna.

Féachfar le *Cultúr 2025* ardán a chur ar fáil le haghaidh an iomad aonán áitiúil, réigiúnach agus náisiúnta cultúir a thabhairt le chéile d'fhonn an dea-chleachtas a chomhroinnt agus sineirgí idir na líonraí sin agus istigh iontu a fhorbairt agus a fheabhsú. Féachfar le *Cultúr 2025* meicníocht a chur ar fáil le haghaidh cumarsáid mhéadaithe agus comhoibriú méadaithe idir na geallsealbhóirí cultúir go léir d'fhonn cineálacha cuir chuige choitinn chomhthairbhígh a fhorbairt maidir leis an gcultúr nuair is féidir agus is indéanta.

Féachfar le *Cultúr 2025* a chinntiú gur daingean a bheidh an infheistíocht phoiblí le haghaidh ár n-oidhreacht chultúrtha shuibhir a chosaint agus a chur chun cinn agus go n-aimseofar foinsí nua infheistíochta. Aithneofar ann gur cheart béim láidir a leagan ar an gcinnteoireacht bunaithe ar fhianaise. Ba cheart tosaíocht a bheith i mbonn fianaise eolasach a fhorbairt in Éirinn le haghaidh infheistíocht amach anseo.

Ba cheart gurbh é an toradh a bheadh ar gach ceann de na gnéithe sin ná timpeallacht ina measfaí tuilleadh gur cuid dhílis den tsochaí iad an ghníomhaíocht chultúrtha agus an t-aschur cultúrtha, ina mbeadh luach dúchasach acu, ina dtacódh taighde bunaithe ar fhianaise leo agus ina maoineofaí go cuí iad, ina mbeadh líonra ceangailte dlúth agus ina mbeadh bonneagar idirnasctha. Is é an aidhm ná earnáil cultúir bheoga atá uilechuimsitheach a chruthú trí spriocanna straitéiseacha atá sainithe go soiléir agus trí thuiscint ar a hidirghníomhaíocht leis an Rialtas. Ba cheart méadú a dhéanamh ar an rannpháirtíocht i ngníomhaíochtaí cultúrtha agus ar an rochtain orthu a bheadh ag gach cuid den tsochaí agus ba cheart don earnáil cultúir, dá réir sin, riachtanais ár sochaí a léiriú agus freagairt dóibh. Ba cheart dár leanaí agus dár ndaoine óga go háirithe rochtain a bheith acu ar an gcultúr mar chuid dá n-oideachas agus dá bhforbairt.



## Plé Náisiúnta

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Is é is aidhm don phlépháipéar seo an plé a shocrú le haghaidh *Cultúr 2025* a chur le chéile. Is é an aidhm ná díospóireacht náisiúnta a chruthú ar ról an chultúir in Éirinn ilchultúrtha nua-aimseartha agus ar na bearta ba cheart a dhéanamh chun é a chothú agus a fhorbairt. Tabharfaidh an próiseas comhairliúcháin seo eolas agus tacaíocht don chéad Bheartas Cultúir Náisiúnta riamh - is é sin, *Cultúr 2025* - ina gcuirfear in iúl go soiléir an ról tábhachtach a bhíonn ag an gcultúr sa tír seo agus ina leagfar treochlár amach le haghaidh na nithe is mian linn a bhaint amach san earnáil cultúir sna 10 mbliana romhainn go dtí an bhliain 2025.

Is ann do roinnt mhaith ábhar ba cheart a phlé mar chuid de dhíospóireacht náisiúnta ar an mbeartas cultúir. Is é cuspóir an pháipéir seo ná an plé sin a spreagadh agus tá roinnt de na saincheisteanna ábhartha leagtha amach thíos.

### Socruithe forais (rialachas agus reachtaíocht)

Ní mór do mhúsaeim, do ghailearaithe, d'fhorais chultúir agus do dhaoine a oibríonn san earnáil cultúir oibriú i dtimpeallacht ina bhfuil neamhspleáchas ealaíonta agus coimeádaíochta. Bainfidh earnáil cultúir rathúil an-leas as an neamhspleáchas sin. Mar sin féin, braitheann an earnáil sin ar an Rialtas le haghaidh maoiniú, fothacaí reachtaíochta agus struchtúir thacúla riaracháin a chur ar fáil. Ní mór don earnáil déileáil le beartas poiblí, i gcomhpháirt leis an Rialtas, le go n-éiríonn léi. Caitheadh an-chuid fuinnimh le blianta beaga anuas chun freagairt don tionchar atá imeartha ag ciorruithe suntasacha san earnáil ealaíon, san earnáil oidhreachta agus san earnáil cultúir mar thoradh ar an gcliseadh geilleagrach. Laghdaigh lear eagraíochtaí cultúir a gcostais agus mhéadaigh siad éifeachtúlacht sa soláthar seirbhísí. Tá brú chun cinn déanta ag an Rialtas ar struchtúir rialachais ar fud na seirbhíse poiblí freisin.

- C.** Ar cheart aghaidh a thabhairt in *Cultúr 2025* ar an ailtireacht forais lena soláthraítear seirbhísí cultúir earnála poiblí? Dá mba cheart, conas ba cheart déileáil leis an tsraith saincheisteanna sin sa phlépháipéar?

## Maoiniú agus acmhainní

Tháinig laghdú suntasach ar leibhéal an mhaoinithe lárnaigh agus an mhaoinithe údaráis áitiúil don earnáil cultúir ó thús na géarchéime geilleagraí i leith. Cé go bhfuil an geilleagar ag leanúint ar aghaidh ag téarnamh, beidh sé ina dhúshlán fós an maoiniú don earnáil cultúir a thabhairt ar ais go dtí na leibhéil mhaoinithe a bhí ann in 2008. Is gá gurb é atá san aidhm fhoriomlán ná a chinntiú gur ar bhonn dlúth a bheidh an maoiniú ionas go mbeidh an cumas ag an earnáil ár gcultúr saibhir agus ár n-oidhreacht shaibhir a chosaint agus a hacmhainneacht i leith na sochaí agus an gheilleagair á huasmhéadú ag an am céanna. Ba cheart a thabhairt faoi deara, ar ndóigh, go mbíonn an earnáil ag brath freisin ar thacaíocht tráchtála le haghaidh an-chuid dá gníomhaíocht agus, mar an gcéanna, ní mór di déileáil le hidirghníomhuithe le fórsaí áitiúla agus domhanda tráchtála.

- C. Conas is féidir linn an leas is mó a bhaint as acmhainní ganna?
- C. An leor na struchtúir agus na samhla maoiniúcháin reatha ag an leibhéal náisiúnta agus an leibhéal áitiúil araon chun freastal ar riachtanais na hearnála amach anseo?
- C. An ann do shamhla malartacha maoiniúcháin nó tacaíochta ar cheart tabhairt fúthu? Más ann, conas ba cheart tabhairt fúthu?

## Soláthar bonneagair

Ó thús na mílaoise nua go dtí an bhliain 2008, leithdháileadh breis agus €100m i ndeontais chaipitil ar an earnáil cultúir. Ba é sin ba chúis le méadú mór ar líon agus cháilíocht na bhfoirgneamh cultúir agus na saoráidí cultúir sa Stát. Mar chuid de na laghduithe ginearálta ar an gcaiteachas poiblí, ciorraíodh an leithdháileadh deontais chaipitil le haghaidh tionscadail bhonneagar cultúir go suntasach ón mbliain 2008 i leith. Ina n-ainneoin sin, tá roinnt mórthionscadail chaipitil ann a bhfuil dul chun cinn á dhéanamh orthu sna forais chultúir náisiúnta faoi láthair. Tá an mórthionscadal €30m+ sa Ghailearaí Náisiúnta ag druidim lena chéim dheiridh agus tá dhá thionscadal caipitil nua lena mbaineann athchóiriú Sheomraí Chaoimhín de Barra sa Cheoláras Náisiúnta agus athfhorbairt cheanncheathrú na Cartlainne Náisiúnta ar tí tosú mar chuid d'infheistíocht an Rialtais faoi Chlár Comóradh Céad Bliain Éire 2016.

Tá aghaidh le tabhairt fós ar dhúshláin shuntasacha i roinnt dár bpríomhfhórais chultúir náisiúnta, lena n-áirítear an tArd-Mhúsaem, an Leabharlann Náisiúnta agus Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford. Teastaíonn infheistíocht ó fhórais chultúir eile freisin.

Is iomaí ionad cultúir, idir ionaid bheaga agus ionaid mhóra, a soláthraíonn an earnáil príobháideach iad freisin.

- C. Conas ba cheart éilimh ar infheistíocht phoiblí a chur in ord tosaíochta nó cad ar cheart tosaíocht a thabhairt dó?
- C. Ar cheart an díriú a aistriú ó dhíriú ar shaoráidí nua a thógáil chuig díriú ar chothabháil agus athinfheistíocht sa bhonneagar atá ann cheana?
- C. Conas ba cheart an costas airgeadais a roinnt idir foinsí poiblí agus foinsí príobháideacha?



## Tacú le healaíontóirí agus le hoibrithe cruthaitheachta

Rud lena mbaineann buntábhacht maidir le beartas cultúir ar bith is ea tacú le healaíontóirí agus le hoibrithe cruthaitheachta. Soláthraíonn an Chomhairle Ealaíon tacaíocht dhíreach agus indíreach d'ealaíontóirí trí sparánachtaí, trí dhámhachtainí, trí scéimeanna cónaitheachta agus trí choimisiúin agus trí mhaoiniú a thabhairt do raon leathan eagraíochtaí ealaíon freisin. Cuireadh Aosdána ar bun i 1981 chun onóir a thabhairt d'ealaíontóirí a ndearna a gcuid saothair rannchuidiú sármhaith leis na healaíona in Éirinn agus cuirtear stipinn ar fáil do roinnt comhaltaí den Aosdána ar bhonn tástáil acmhainne. Ar na tacaí eile Stáit d'ealaíontóirí tá díolúintí cánach i gcúinsí áirithe agus tacaí ó fhoinsí amhail Cultúr Éireann agus na húdaráis áitiúla.

In ainneoin na dtacaí atá ar fáil, tá fianaise ann a thugann le tuiscint nach leor an soláthar reatha chun ligean d'ealaíontóirí agus d'oibrithe cruthaitheachta san earnáil cultúir oibriú ar bhonn féinchothabhálach in Éirinn. Tuairiscíodh i [dtuarascáil](#) a choimisiúnaigh an Chomhairle Ealaíon anseo agus Comhairle Ealaíon Thuaisceart Éireann in 2010 gurbh ionann an meánioncam ealaíontóirí in Éirinn in 2008 agus €14,676.

- C. An bhfuil na bearta reatha cuí agus imleor chun tacú le healaíontóirí agus le hoibrithe cruthaitheachta eile?
- C. Mura bhfuil, cé na bearta nua, nó cén t-athdhíriú ar bhearta reatha, a d'fhéadfaí a dhéanamh chun tacú le healaíontóirí agus le hoibrithe cruthaitheachta agus le hábhar cultúir a chruthú in Éirinn?

## An cur chun cinn agus an comhthéacs idirnáisiúnta (an tAontas Eorpach san áireamh)

Tá an cultúr an-tábhachtach le haghaidh íomhá na hÉireann i dtíortha thar lear a chur chun cinn agus turasóirí a mhealladh go hÉirinn. Laistigh den Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta, is é Cultúr Éireann a chuireann an cultúr Éireannach chun cinn ar fud an domhain. Cruthaíonn agus cothaíonn sé deiseanna d'oirbrihe cruthaitheachta Éireannacha agus do chompántais Éireannacha a gcuid saothair a chur i láthair agus a chur chun cinn ag féilte agus ag ionaid tionóil straitéiseacha idirnáisiúnta. Forbraíonn sé ardáin ar ar féidir saothar Éireannach den scoth a chur i láthair lucht éisteachta/féachana idirnáisiúnta trí shárthaispeántais a eagrú ag príomhócáidí ealaíon domhanda, lena n-áirítear Féile Dhún Éideann agus Biennale na Veinése. Tugtar faoi thionscnaimh speisialta ó am go chéile amhail tionscnamh *Imagine Ireland* i Stáit Aontaithe Mheiriceá (2011) agus *Cultúr a Nascann*, arbh é an Clár Cultúir a bhí ceaptha chun Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar an AE a chomórath (2013).

Tá ról ríthábhachtach ag an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála sa chultúr Éireannach a chur chun cinn i dtíortha thar lear freisin tríd an líonra Ambasáidí agus consal agus trí úsáid a bhaint as an gcultúr chun baint amach na dtionscnamh leathan beartais eachtraigh agus taidhleoireachta eacnamaíche a chur ar aghaidh. Tionscnaimh eile amhail *Inspiring Ireland*, ar tionscadal uailmhianach é arb é is aidhm dó íomhánna ardchaighdeáin de shócmhainní cultúrtha luachmhara na hÉireann a chomhroinnt ar shuíomh Gréasáin idirghníomhach aonair a ndéantar coimeád air, imríonn siad ról i gcultúr Éireannach a chur chun cinn thar lear freisin.

- C. An féidir linn níos mó a dhéanamh chun an leas is mó a bhaint as an méid a chuireann an cultúr lenár ngeilleagar agus le híomhá na hÉireann i dtíortha thar lear?
- C. An leor na meicníochtaí reatha atá ann le haghaidh an cultúr a úsáid chun íomhá na hÉireann a chur chun cinn i dtíortha thar lear nó an gá iad a athrú chun dáta?

## An ré dhigiteach agus an chruthaitheacht

De réir mar a théimid tuilleadh i dtreo sochaí eolasbhunaithe, méadaíonn an tábhacht a bhaineann leis an gcruthaitheacht agus leis an nuálaíocht. Anuas air sin, is féidir an cultúr a chruthú go digiteach agus is féidir le próisis chultúrtha bheith digiteach ó thús deireadh. Cuireann earnáil cultúir fhuinniúil leis an gcruthaitheacht mar bhealach chun foghlaim agus comhtháthú sóisialta a fhorbairt, cruthú fostaíochta a spreagadh agus rathúnas geilleagrach inbhuanaithe agus folláine agus sonas inbhuanaithe a chur chun cinn. Is féidir leis an gcruthaitheacht bunaithe ar chultúr tionchar dearfach a bheith aici ar an ngeilleagar agus ar fhorbairt shóisialta. I dtaighde a rinneadh ar son an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh in 2009 dar teideal ***The Impact of Culture on Creativity***, léiríodh go bhfuil tionchar tábhachtach ag an gcultúr maidir leis na nithe seo: spreagadh a thabhairt do dhaoine foghlaim, pobail a fhorbairt, táirgí nua agus seirbhísí nua a fhorbairt (seirbhísí poiblí san áireamh), an nuálaíocht teicneolaíochta a bhrú chun cinn, taighde a spreagadh, acmhainní daonna a bharrfheabhsú agus luachanna a bhrandáil agus a chur in iúl.

Trí fhorbairtí meara sa teicneolaíocht agus i modhanna nua cumarsáide, tá athrú tagtha ar an dóigh a gcruthaíonn daoine an cultúr, a bhfaigheann siad rochtain air agus a nglacann siad páirt ann. Tá sé sin fíor do dhaoine óga go háirithe. Tá feabhas curtha ag an teicneolaíocht ar rochtain ar an gcultúr agus is féidir le daoine anois ról i bhfad níos idirghníomhaí a bheith acu sa dóigh a nglacann siad páirt sa chultúr.

Cuireann an teicneolaíocht, mar shampla, deiseanna ar fáil don earnáil le rochtain a mhéadú don lucht féachana/éisteachta, tairgeann sí seirbhís níos fearr do chustaiméirí, feabhsaíonn sí rannpháirtíocht an lucht féachana/éisteachta agus cruthaíonn sí smaointe nuálacha. Is é an dúshlán ná a fháil amach conas na deiseanna sin a chur le chéile chun idirghníomhú le lucht féachana/éisteachta i bhfad níos mó ar bhealach suntasach sa tír seo agus i dtíortha thar lear agus aird á tabhairt ar shaincheisteanna amhail cóipcheart ag an am céanna.

- C. Cé na deiseanna don earnáil cultúir maidir leis an soláthar seirbhísí cultúir sa ré dhigiteach?
- C. Cé na dúshláin os comhair na hearnála cultúir sa ré dhigiteach seo?
- C. Cén cur chuige ba cheart d'Éirinn a ghlacadh maidir le saincheisteanna cóipchirt agus maoiné intleachtúla - agus an comhthéacs AE d'an-chuid den phlé sa réimse seo á thabhairt ar aird?

## Imeascadh sóisialta

Is féidir leis an soláthar deiseanna le haghaidh rannpháirtíocht níos leithne agus níos saibhre sa chultúr ról a imirt i ndul i ngleic leis an eisiámh sóisialta. Sa tuarascáil a d'fhoilsigh sé in 2014 ar *Utilising the Arts to Combat Disadvantage*, mhol an Comhchoiste Oireachtais um Chomhshaol, Cultúr agus Gaeltacht gur cheart na healaíona a aithint mar mhodh bunúsach chun dul i ngleic leis an eisiámh sóisialta agus chun an fholláine agus an cuimsiú grúpaí faoi mhíbhuntáiste a chur chun cinn i bpobail áitiúla agus ag leibhéal náisiúnta.

Sa tuarascáil *Public and the Arts* agus sa tuarascáil *Na hEalaíona i Saol na hÉireann*, ar fhoilsigh an Chomhairle Ealaíon an dá cheann acu in 2006 agus in 2014 faoi seach, deimhníodh an tábhacht leantach a bhaineann le hioncam, le hoideachas agus le haicme maidir le leibhéal rannpháirtíochta sna healaíona a dhéanamh amach.

I dTuarascáil 35 ón bhFóram Náisiúnta Eacnamaíoch agus Sóisialach (Eanáir 2007) dar teideal *Na hEalaíona, Cuimsiú Cultúrtha agus Comhtháthú Sóisialta*, thángthas ar an gconclúid go '(m)bíonn éagsúlacht shonrach i rannpháirtíocht sna healaíona in Éirinn de réir roinnt tosca, go háirithe leibhéal oideachais, stádas socheacnamaíoch, limistéar agus aois. Baineann an éagsúlacht sin le raon bacainní amhail costais eacnamaíocha, easpa iompair, easpa litearthachta agus bacainní sóisialta agus síceolaíocha.'

- C. Conas is féidir linn rochtain ar an gcultúr a fheabhsú i limistéir ina bhfuil eisiámh sóisialta nó atá faoi mhíbhuntáiste?
- C. Conas is féidir an cultúr a úsáid chun bacainní eisiaimh nó míbhuntáiste a bhriseadh anuas?

## Éagsúlacht chultúrtha níos mó

Sna deich mbliana go dtí an bhliain 2011, bhí na glanrátaí imirce ba mhó ag Éirinn i measc 15 thír an AE. D'ardaigh an sciar de dhaoine a rugadh i dtíortha eachtracha a bhí ina gcónaí in Éirinn ó 6% i 1991 go níos mó ná 17% den daonra in 2011. Thug an t-athrú daonra sin tírdhreach cultúrtha éagsúil saibhir nua leis. In 2010, d'fhoilsigh an Chomhairle Ealaíon a beartas agus a straitéis um *Éagsúlacht Chultúrtha agus na hEalaíona*. Aithnítear sa bheartas sin an saibhriú a d'fhéadfaí a dhéanamh ar an earnáil cultúir in Éirinn trí chaidreamh idirchultúrtha, trí chomhionannas deiseanna, trí thuiscint, trí mheas agus trí chomhtháthú.

- C. Conas ba cheart aghaidh a thabhairt in *Cultúr 2025* ar na deiseanna agus na dúshláin a thugann an éagsúlacht chultúrtha nua sin in Éirinn?

## Daoine óga, daoine breacaosta agus daoine faoi mhíchumas

Aithnítear go leathan an luach a bhaineann leis an gcultúr a chur chun cinn do leanaí agus do dhaoine óga sa scoil agus lasmuigh di. Sa doiciméad dar teideal Cairt na nEalaíon san Oideachas a foilsíodh in 2013, leagtar amach na gealltanais a thug an tAire Oideachais agus Scileanna agus an tAire Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta do rochtain ar an gcultúr a mhéadú ach na healaíona a chur taobh le hábhair eile i gcoilár ár gcórais oideachais.

Ag an taobh eile de thimthriall na beatha, saincheist le hiniúchadh is ea rochtain ar an gcultúr do dhaoine breacaosta agus do dhaoine ar scor a chur chun cinn. Mar an gcéanna, caithfidh a bhreithniú cé acu is cuí nó nach cuí na bearta reatha le haghaidh rochtain ar an gcultúr agus ar na healaíona a chur chun cinn do dhaoine faoi mhíchumas. D'fhoilsigh an Chomhairle Ealaíon straitéis dar teideal Na hEalaíona agus Míchumas (2012-2016), chun aghaidh a thabhairt ar an réimse sin.

**C.** Ag tabhairt aird ar na tionscnaimh bheartais le déanaí sa réimse sin, conas ba cheart aghaidh a thabhairt in *Cultúr 2025* ar na saincheisteanna sin?

## An ceol, an cultúr agus an teanga

Cuid bhunúsach don fhéiniúlacht Éireannach agus dár n-áit ar domhan is ea an cultúr traidisiúnta, agus an ceol agus an damhsa go háirithe. Chomh maith leis sin, téann siad san iomaíocht go rathúil i ndomhan an-domhandaithe lán den ollsiamsaíocht agus de chultúr an phobail. Tá cáil ar an earnáil ceoil Éireannaigh chomhaimseartha ar fud an domhain freisin agus is iomaí ealaíontóir Éireannach óg atá le feiceáil ar an ardán domhanda ceoil.

Leanann an Ghaeltacht, croíthailte na Gaeilge, de bheith faoi bhrú ó fhórsaí eacnamaíocha agus ó chumhacht an Bhéarla. Ba go sonrath chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn laistigh den Ghaeltacht agus lasmuigh di a glacadh leis an Straitéis Fiche Bliain don Ghaeilge ón Rialtas.

Tá Straitéis Ealaíon chomhtháite le haghaidh na Gaeltachta agus Ealaíona na Gaeilge á forbairt ag an Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta i gcomhar le Foras na Gaeilge, le hÚdarás na Gaeltachta agus leis an gComhairle Ealaíon. Tá sé beartaithe í a fhoilsiú ar ball. Is é an cuspóir foriomlán ná a chinntiú go nglacfaidh na forais ábhartha cur chuige níos comhordaithe maidir le forbairt na Gaeltachta agus le hEalaíona na Gaeilge.

Tugann an Roinn tacaíocht do Ghníomhaireacht na hUltaise freisin, gníomhaireacht atá freagrach as feasacht mhéadaithe ar an Ultais agus ar Albainis Uladh agus ar shaincheisteanna cultúrtha a bhaineann leo, agus as úsáid mhéadaithe na hUltaise agus Albainis Uladh, a chur chun cinn i dTuaisceart Éireann agus ar fud oileán na hÉireann araon.

- C. Conas ba cheart aghaidh a thabhairt in *Cultúr 2025* ar shaincheisteanna a bhaineann le traidisiúin agus leis an teanga?
- C. Conas is féidir linn an earnáil ceoil, agus ceoltóirí atá ag teacht aníos go háirithe, a chur ar aghaidh agus a chur chun cinn ar bhealach níos fearr?

### Cultúr agus comóradh (1916 go bunú an Stáit)

Tá an cultúr ag imirt ról tábhachtach maidir le cabhrú linn na heachtraí clampracha a chonacthas céad bliain ó shin a léirmhíniú. Gné lárnach de Chlár Comóradh Céad Bliain Éire 2016 is ea machnamh náisiúnta agus athshamhlú náisiúnta araon. Mar gheall ar an ról a bhí ag an Athbheochan Cultúir sna heachtraí as ar bunaíodh an Stát, tá sé tábhachtach go dtapaítear in *Cultúr 2025* an deis seo freagairt don mhachnamh ar an náisiúntacht a thiocthadh as comóradh céad bliain Éirí Amach na Cásca.

- C. Conas ba chóir freagairt in *Cultúr 2025* do na saincheisteanna a thiocthadh chun cinn i nDeich mBliana na gCuimhneachán?
- C. Conas is féidir *Cultúr 2025* a úsáid chun cabhrú le hÉirinn a athshamhlú mar chuid de bhliain an chuimhneacháin in Éirinn sa bhliain 2016?

### Comhar Thuaidh/Theas

Na heachtraí polaitiúla a bhí taobh thiar de bhunú an Stáit, bhí siad taobh thiar de bhunú Thuaisceart Éireann mar Rialtas déabhlóidithe laistigh den Ríocht Aontaithe freisin. Tá caidreamh comhaontaithe nua ann ar oileán na hÉireann mar gheall ar an tsocraíocht reachtúil a d'éascair as Comhaontú Aoine an Chéasta. Dá bharr sin, tá naisc fhoirmiúla nua ann anois laistigh de ghluaiseachtaí náisiúnta ó thuaidh agus ó dheas, agus iad ag gabháil leis na naisc neamhfhoirmiúla a bhí ann roimhe seo.

- C. Cé na nithe eile is féidir a dhéanamh chun naisc Thuaidh/Theas a neartú ó thaobh cúrsaí cultúir de?

# Na Chéad Chéimeanna Eile

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Thar an gcúpla mí atá le teacht, beidh próiseas grinnchomhairliúcháin ar *Cultúr 2025* ar siúl leis na geallsealbhóirí ábhartha uile san earnáil cultúir agus ar fud gach coda den tsochaí.

Beidh sé mar mhóraidhm le *Cultúr 2025* athneartú a dhéanamh ar an ról rithábhachtach a imríonn an cultúr sa tsochaí trí thacaíocht a thabhairt don earnáil cultúir agus trí na dálaí lena dtabharfar deis don earnáil forbairt agus teacht i dtreis ar fud gach réimse den tsochaí a leagan síos. Léireofar in *Cultúr 2025* gur tír ilchultúrtha nua-aimseartha í Éire. Beidh sé mar ábhar misnigh dúinn, beidh sé sorochtana agus ábhartha agus beidh sé éasca é a chur in iúl. Beidh *Cultúr 2025* ábhartha maidir le gach uile duine a chónaíonn in Éirinn.

Is é Grúpa Stiúrtha faoi chathaoirleacht na Roinne Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta a threoróidh an próiseas comhairliúcháin, rud a gheobhaidh tacaíocht ó Shainghrúpa a bheidh comhdhéanta de shaineolaithe ó réimsí éagsúla den earnáil ealaíon/cultúir. Is iad a bheidh páirteach sa phróiseas comhairliúcháin ná eagraíochtaí agus daoine aonair a bhfuil baint acu leis an earnáil, in éineacht leis an bpobal i gcoitinne. Samhlaítear go gcuirfear cruinnithe comhairliúcháin réigiúnacha ar siúl san fhómhar, mar aon le seimineár ‘oscailte’ lae i mBaile Átha Cliath.

Cuirfear an doiciméad beartais deiridh a eascróidh ón bpróiseas sin isteach lena fhorghnó agus an Rialtas. Samhlaítear go bhfoilseofar an beartas nua go luath sa bhliain 2016.

Cabhróidh do chuid tuairimí faoin bpáipéar sin le beartas 10 mbliana atá bunaithe ar ghníomh inbhraite a mhúnlú. Beidh sé mar aidhm leis an mbeartas a chinntiú go léireoidh ár dtionscail chultúir agus chruthaitheachta Éire an 21ú haois agus, ar an mbealach sin, go gcabhróidh sé leis an tír a beartas geilleagrach agus sóisialta a bhaint amach.

Tabhair cuairt ar an seoladh seo a leanas chun teacht ar an bplépháipéar ar an mBeartas Cultúir Náisiúnta:

<http://www.ahg.gov.ie/en/Culture/Culture2025>

Is féidir leat do chuid tuairimí a chur isteach i scríbhinn chuig an seoladh seo a leanas:

Cultúr 2025  
Aonad na bhForas Cultúir  
An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta  
An Bóthar Nua  
Cill Airne  
Co. Chill Dara  
nó le ríomhphost chuig [culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:culturalpolicy@ahg.gov.ie)

Iúil 2015

# Aguisín I: An comhthéacs stairiúil

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Níl aon bheartas cultúir náisiúnta aonair ann ó bhunú an Stáit sa bhliain 1922.

I gcás luathbhlianta an Stáit, táthar den tuairim gur ghlac sé dearcadh coimeádach i leith léiriú cultúrtha. I gcásanna áirithe, bhí an dearcadh sin bunoscionn leis na foirmeacha nua a bhí ag gabháil le teacht an chineama agus leis na stíleanna nua ceoil agus litríochta a bhí á gcumadh ag an am sin. Rinneadh 2RN, an chéad stáisiún craolacháin riamh in Éirinn, a sheoladh thar ceann Raidió Éireann an 1 Eanáir 1926. Bheadh an stáisiún ina mheán cultúrtha cumhachtach ina dhiaidh sin. Ina ainneoin sin, lean an amharclannaíocht agus cineálacha eile ealaíne ar aghaidh le ról bríomhar a imirt, agus an chéad amharclann ‘náisiúnta’ ar domhan á bunú ag an Stát nua in Amharclann na Mainistreach. Cé nár ghlac an t-idéal cosantach a bhí i réim i luathbhlianta an Stáit go maith le tionchar seachtrach ná le cineálacha ealaíne a bhí ag teacht salach ar na noirm nua, tá sé tábhachtach a thabhairt faoi deara freisin nach raibh Éire, mar dhaonlathas, scoite riamh ó thionchar seachtrach ná ó bhlasanna idirnáisiúnta a leanúint ó thaobh an chineama, an cheoil agus treochtaí cultúrtha eile de. Cuireadh an Chomhairle Ealaíon ar bun faoi choimirce Roinn an Taoisigh sa bhliain 1952, agus é mar ról aici eolas, dea-mheas agus cleacht ar na healaíona a chur chun cinn. Agus an Chomhairle á cur ar bun aige, bhí an Rialtas ag an am ag tabhairt aitheantas don ghá a bhí ann le freastal ar fhorbairt chultúrtha. Leis an Acht Ealaíon, 1973, athbhreithníodh ról na Comhairle Ealaíon agus rinneadh foráil do ról a bheith á imirt ag an rialtas áitiúil sna healaíona – rud a gheobhadh tacaíocht ó líonra bríomhar oifigeach ealaíon áitiúil.

Le linn na tréimhse idir 1973 agus 2000, tháinig méadú ar an gcistiú a bhí ar fáil do ghníomhaíochtaí cultúrtha. A bhí le ballraíocht den AE, bhí deiseanna ann le haghaidh forbairt caipitil. Sa bhliain 1981, chuir an Chomhairle Ealaíon Aosdána ar bun chun onóir a thabhairt d’ealaíontóirí a ndearna a gcuid saothair rannchuidiú sármhaith maidir leis an earnáil cruthaitheachta in Éirinn agus chun baill a spreagadh agus cabhrú leo a gcuid dúthrachta a chaitheamh go hiomlán lena bhfoirm ealaíne ar leith. Cuireadh an Chomhairle Oidhreachta ar bun mar chomhlacht reachtúil sa bhliain 1995, agus é de shainchúram uirthi eolas agus dea-mheas ar an oidhrecht náisiúnta agus cosaint na hoidhreachta náisiúnta a chur chun cinn.

Cuireadh an Roinn Ealaíon, Cultúir agus Gaeltachta ar bun sa bhliain 1993, agus freagracht fhoriomlán uirthi as tacaí cultúir. Tá freagracht ar an Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta, mar atá inniu, as beartas i leith na n-ealaíon, an chultúir, na scannánaíochta agus an cheoil. Tá sí freagrach freisin as maoirseacht a dhéanamh ar fhorais chultúir náisiúnta na hÉireann, ar an oidhrecht thógtha agus nádúrtha, ar an nGaeilge, ar an nGaeltacht, ar na hoileáin agus ar ghnéithe a bhaineann le comhar Thuaidh/Theas.



Sa bhliain 2002, d'fhoilsigh an Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta, Gaeltachta agus Oileán, mar a bhí ag an am, **Beartas an Rialtais ar Ailtireacht**, rud arbh é an chéad bheartas náisiúnta ina leith sin riamh. Foilsíodh beartas nuashonraithe sa bhliain 2009.

Cuireadh Cultúr Éireann ar bun sa bhliain 2005, agus aitheantas á thabhairt dá thábhachtaí atá sé tacú le healaíontóirí Éireannacha a gcuid saothair a chur i láthair ar bhonn domhanda. Feidhmíonn sé faoi láthair mar chláir tiomnaithe de chuid na Roinne Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta.

## Aguisín II: Tacaíocht/maoiniú cultúir agus an cúlra reachtach

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### **An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta**

Is ar an Aire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta atá an fhreagracht fhoriomlán as beartas agus as struchtúir a cheapadh, a fhorbairt agus a mheas san earnáil cultúir.

Is é an sprioc atá ag an Roinn ó thaobh cultúir de 'láidreachtaí ealaíonta agus cruthaitheacha na hÉireann a chur chun cinn agus a fhorbairt sa tír seo agus thar lear agus an chuid is fearr a bhaint as an luach sochaíoch, geilleagrach agus clúimheasa a ghabhann leo don tír'.

Oibríonn an Roinn go dlúth leis an gComhairle Ealaíon, leis na Forais Chultúir Náisiúnta, le Bord Scannán na hÉireann agus le geallsealbhóirí eile chun a áirithiú go gcuirtear straitéisí atá cuí agus éifeachtach chun feidhme don earnáil cultúir.

Mar aon leis na ról éagsúla atá aici maidir le beartas, le cúrsaí rialála, le hoideachas agus le cur chun cinn, tagann feidhmeanna oidhreachta tógtha agus nádúrtha faoi shainchúram oidhreachta na Roinne freisin. Tagann an Chomhairle Oidhreachta faoi shainchúram na Roinne chomh maith.

## Forais Chultúir Náisiúnta

Tá ocht bhforas cultúir náisiúnta ann a thagann faoi choimirce na Roinne Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta, is iad sin: Cartlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, an Ceoláras Náisiúnta, Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann, Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann, Leabharlann Chester Beatty, Áras Nua-Ealaíne na hÉireann, Gailearaí Ealaíne Crawford agus Gailearaí Náisiúnta na hÉireann. Faigheann an Chomhairle Ealaíon cistiú ón Roinn freisin. San am i láthair, cuireann an Chomhairle féin cistiú ar fáil d'Amharclann na Mainistreach, ar foras cultúir náisiúnta í chomh maith.

## Comhairle na bhForas Cultúir Náisiúnta

Aonán reachtúil a bunaíodh faoin Acht um Chiste Oidhreachta, 2001, is ea Comhairle na bhForas Cultúir Náisiúnta. Is é seo a leanas cuspóir na Comhairle:

- comhthiomsú thallann, thaithí agus fhís na Stiúrthóirí ar na Forais Chultúir Náisiúnta a éascú ar mhaithe leis an leas cultúir náisiúnta; agus
- moltaí a thabhairt don Aire Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta ar cheannacháin faoin gCiste Oidhreachta atá beartaithe ag cúig fhoras incháilithe, mar a fhoráiltear dóibh faoi alt 2 (1) den Acht um Chiste Oidhreachta, 2001.

Tá ballraíocht na Comhairle comhdhéanta de na Stiúrthóirí ar na Forais Chultúir Náisiúnta, de na Stiúrthóirí ar an gComhairle Ealaíon agus ar Amharclann na Mainistreach, agus de Phríomhfheidhmeannach na Comhairle Ealaíon.

## Cultúr Éireann

Tá freagracht ar Chultúr Éireann, a fheidhmíonn mar chlár tiomnaithe laistigh den Roinn, as na healaíona Éireannacha a chur chun cinn ar fud an domhain. Cruthaíonn agus cothaíonn sé deiseanna d'éalaíontóirí Éireannacha agus do chompántais Éireannacha a gcuid saothair a chur i láthair agus a chur chun cinn ag féilte agus ag ionaid tionóil straitéiseacha idirnáisiúnta. Forbraíonn sé ardáin ar ar féidir saothar Éireannach den scoth a chur i láthair lucht éisteachta/féachana idirnáisiúnta trí shárthaispeántais a eagrú ag príomhócáidí ealaíon domhanda, lena n-áirítear Féile Dhún Éideann, Biennale na Veinése agus tionscnaimh speisialta amhail *Imagine Ireland* sna Stáit Aontaithe (2011) agus *Cultúr a Nascann*, arbh é an Clár Cultúir a bhí ceaptha chun Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar an AE a chomórath (2013).

## An Chomhairle Ealaíon

An ghníomhaireacht de chuid Rialtas na hÉireann atá freagrach as na healaíona a fhorbairt is ea an Chomhairle Ealaíon. Oibríonn sí i gcomhpháirt le healaíontóirí, le heagraíochtaí ealaíon, le húdaráis áitiúla, leis an lucht déanta beartas poiblí agus le daoine eile ar mhaithe leis na healaíona a chur i gcroilár shaol na hÉireann. Is iad seo a leanas feidhmeanna na Comhairle Ealaíon mar atá leagtha amach san Acht Ealaíon, 2003:

- suim an phobail sna healaíona a spreagadh;
- eolas, dea-mheas agus cleacht ar na healaíona a chur chun cinn;
- cabhrú le caighdeán na n-ealaíon a fheabhsú; agus
- comhairle a chur ar an Aire agus ar chomhlachtaí poiblí eile maidir leis na healaíona.

## The Heritage Council

The Heritage Council of Ireland is a statutory body established under the Heritage Act 1995. Its statutory functions are to propose policies for the identification, protection, preservation and enhancement of national heritage including monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects, architectural heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, landscapes, seascapes, wrecks, geology, heritage gardens and parks and inland waterways.

The Heritage Council's mission is to engage, educate and advocate to develop a wider understanding of the vital contribution that our heritage makes to our social, environmental and economic wellbeing.

## Údarás na Gaeltachta

Established in 1980, Údarás na Gaeltachta is the regional authority responsible for the economic, social and cultural development of the Gaeltacht. The overall objective of Údarás na Gaeltachta is to ensure that Irish remains the main communal language of the Gaeltacht and is passed on to future generations.

Ealaín na Gaeltachta Teo is a joint venture between Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Arts Council, and promotes the development of the contemporary and traditional arts in the Gaeltacht. Through Ealaín na Gaeltachta, both organisations invest significant resources and collaborate on strategic planning which has, in turn, a positive impact on the quality and opportunity of arts experience within the Gaeltacht. Ealaín na Gaeltachta provides a number of grant schemes for arts organisations and individual artists, and also provides training and mentoring supports. In addition, it offers advisory services, as well as assisting and encouraging artists and arts organisations to develop arts projects and to further their careers.

## An Foras Teanga

An Foras Teanga is a North/South Implementation Body established under the Good Friday Agreement which comprises two agencies – Foras na Gaeilge, which is responsible for the promotion of the Irish language throughout the island of Ireland, and The Ulster-Scots Agency, which is responsible for promoting greater awareness and use of Ullans and of Ulster-Scots cultural issues, both within Northern Ireland and throughout the island of Ireland.

## Ranna Eile Rialtais

Tá roinnt Ranna Rialtais ann a imríonn tionchar ar an mbeartas cultúir. Is ar an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna atá an príomhfhreagracht as an oideachas ealaíon. Sa bhliain 2013, shínigh sí [Cairt na nEalaíon san Oideachas](#) leis an Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta. Is ar an Roinn Comhshaoil, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil atá freagracht as an rialtas áitiúil, as forbairt pobail agus as na Seirbhísí Leabharlainne agus Cartlainne a oibriú. Is í an Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála a chuireann an cultúr Éireannach chun cinn, go príomha trí ambasáidí na hÉireann agus trí chonsalachtaí na hÉireann thar lear agus i gcomhar le Cultúr Éireann, le comhlachtaí poiblí eile agus le daoine aonair. Is ar an Roinn Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt atá freagracht as an mbeartas turasóireachta foriomlán. Is ar an Roinn Cumarsáide, Fuinnimh agus Acmhainní Nádúrtha atá freagracht as craoltóireacht agus as cumarsáid – dhá réimse atá an-tábhachtach don bheartas cultúir. Is tosca tábhachtacha iad na beartais fhioscacha agus gheilleagracha de chuid na Roinne Airgeadais agus na Roinne Caiteachais Phoiblí agus Athchóirithe freisin. Is ar an Roinn Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta atá freagracht as cearta maoinne intleachtúla agus as roinnt de na tionscail chruthaitheachta.

## Gníomhaireachtaí Eile Stáit

Is ann do roinnt gníomhaireachtaí eile Stáit a n-imríonn a gcuid gníomhaíochtaí tionchar ar an mbeartas cultúir, lena n-áirítear RTÉ, Comhairle Deartha agus Cheardaíochta na hÉireann, Comhairle Spóirt na hÉireann agus Fáilte Éireann.

## An Rialtas Áitiúil

Faoin Acht Ealaíon 2003, ceanglaítear ar gach údarás áitiúil pleananna a ullmhú agus a chur chun feidhme chun na healaíona a fhorbairt laistigh dá limistéar feidhme, agus beartais Rialtais i leith na n-ealaíon á gcur san áireamh acu ag an am céanna. Oibríonn an Chomhairle Ealaíon i gcomhar leis na húdaráis áitiúla agus le comhlachtaí réigiúnacha eile i leith pearsanra ealaíon a cheapadh, i leith bonneagar ealaíon a fhorbairt agus cúrsaí pleanála agus i leith soláthar buiséadach. Tacaíonn an Chomhairle Ealaíon leis an gclár forbartha ealaíon de chuid na n-údarás áitiúil agus Ealaín na Gaeltachta. Is ise a chomhchistíonn tuarastal na n-oifigeach ealaíon freisin.

Is iad na príomhsheirbhísí cultúir eile a chuireann na húdaráis áitiúla ar fáil ná feidhmeanna oidhreacht agus an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne agus Cartlainne a oibriú.

Ina theannta sin, tá an iliomad aonán agus eagraíochtaí deonacha eile ann a bhfuil baint acu go léir leis an earnáil cultúir.

## Aguisín III: Reachtaíocht

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Áirítear iad seo a leanas leis an bpríomhreachtaíocht a bhaineann leis an earnáil cultúir:

*Na hAchtanna um Bord Scannán na hÉireann, 1980-2011*

*An tAcht Craolacháin 2009*

*An tAcht Ealaíon 2003*

– *An tAcht Ealaíon, 1973*

– *An tAcht Ealaíon, 1951*

*Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003*

*An tAcht um Chiste Oidhreachta, 2001*

*An tAcht um Fhorais Chultúir Náisiúnta, 1997*

*An tAcht Comhdhlúite Cánacha, 1997* (go háirithe ailt 195, 481, 848a, 1003)

*An tAcht Oidhreachta, 1995*

*An tAcht um Chartlann Náisiúnta, 1986*

Baineann an reachtaíocht ina lán réimsí eile le hábhar freisin, mar shampla, na hAchtanna Oideachais, an cód um Pleanáil agus Forbairt, Achtanna na Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta, agus reachtaíocht a bhaineann leis an nGaeltacht.

# Aguisín IV: Collóiciam na nGeallsealbhóirí Cultúir

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Bhí dréachtú an Phlépháipéir seo bunaithe ar ionchur ó chollóiciam geallsealbhóirí cultúir arna eagrú ag an Roinn i gcomhar le hAcadamh Ríoga na hÉireann an 25 Bealtaine 2015. Tá na comhaltaí den chollóiciam sin liostaithe thíos.

<b>Ainm</b>	<b>Post</b>
Feargal Ó Coigligh (Cathaoirleach)	Rúnaí Cúnta, an Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
Kevin Lonergan	Príomhoifigeach, an Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
An tOllamh Ciaran Benson	Ollamh Emeritus leis an tSíceolaíocht, an Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath, iar-Chathaoirleach ar an gComhairle Ealaíon
An Dr Sandra Collins	Stór Digiteach na hÉireann, Stiúrthóir ar Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann
Pat Cooke	Stiúrthóir ar an MA sa Bheartas Cultúir agus sa Bhainistíocht Ealaíon, an Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath
An tOllamh Michael Cronin, MRIA	An tIonad um Aistriúchán agus Staidéar Téacsach, Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath
An tOllamh Mary Daly	Uachtarán, Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann
Martin Drury	An Chomhairle Ealaíon
Sarah Glennie	Stiúrthóir ar Áras Nua-Ealaíne na hÉireann, Cathaoirleach ar Chomhairle na bhForas Cultúir Náisiúnta
Lorelei Harris	Ceann Straitéis Ealaíon agus Cultúir, RTÉ
Andrew Hetherington	Stiúrthóir, Business to Arts
Kerry McCall	Institiúid Ealaíne, Deartha agus Teicneolaíochta An Feachtas Náisiúnta ar son na nEalaíon
Mary McCarthy	Stiúrthóir ar an Monarcha Náisiúnta Dealbhóireachta, Corcaigh Cathaoirleach ar Chultúr Éireann, Comhalta Boird d'Áras Nua-Ealaíne na hÉireann
An tOllamh Declan McGonagle	Stiúrthóir, an Coláiste Náisiúnta Ealaíne is Deartha
Helen Shenton	Leabharlannaí agus Cartlannaí Coláiste, Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
An Dr Mary Shine Thompson	Léachtóir le Béarla, an Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath, agus Cathaoirleach, Encountering the Arts, Éire
Willie White	Stiúrthóir Ealaíne, Féile Amharclannaíochta Bhaile Átha Cliath

