

## **St. Patrick's Day overseas visit by ministers.**

In response to the public interest in records relating to the costs of overseas trips conducted by ministers of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the following table of costs has been prepared.

The table details the costs incurred by Mr. Micheál Martin TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence and his official delegation over the course of their travels to New York and Boston, USA; the costs incurred by Sean Fleming TD, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs with responsibility for International Development and Diaspora and his official delegation over the course of their travels to Sao Paulo and Rio De Janeiro, Brazil; and the costs incurred by Minister of State For European Affairs Mr. Peter Burke TD and his official delegation over the course of their travels to Italy and The Holy

For ease of reference, the **total costs of €47,133.51** have been tabulated so as to show costs per official in terms of travel, accommodation, expenses arising and the costs of gifts either given or received over the course of each official trip undertaken to mark and celebrate Ireland's national holiday.

This year's St. Patrick's Day 2023 programme saw the widest yet engagement by Ireland with ministers reaching out to partner governments and Irish communities on every continent. In all, 36 representatives of the State brought Ireland's message to 74 cities in 44 countries.

St. Patrick's Day offers an unmatched opportunity to promote Ireland abroad. It is an important part of the government's 'Global Ireland' strategy which seeks to promote Ireland as an outstanding location to live, visit, work, invest in, trade with and study.

This year, St. Patrick's Day marked '100 Years of Ireland in the World', a century of our country's engagement as an active member of the international community in the promotion of democracy, peace and security. Ministers acknowledged a number of important milestones which occurred this year: The centenary of Ireland's joining the League of Nations, the fiftieth anniversary of our accession to the then EEC, and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.



Brasilia - Lisbon, Lisbon - Dublin (Economy)										
Total return cost Ireland to Brazil	€4,135.01									
Sao Paulo - Rio de Janeiro (Internal) (Economy)		€280.50								
Rio de Janeiro – Brasília (Internal) (Economy)		€242.00								
<b>Anne Griffin, Private Secretary</b>			€453.01	€444.97						
Dublin - Lisbon, Lisbon - Sao Paulo (Business class)										
Brasilia - Lisbon, Lisbon - Dublin (Economy)										
Total return cost Ireland to Brazil	€4,135.01									
Sao Paulo - Rio de Janeiro (Internal) (Economy)		€280.50								
Rio de Janeiro – Brasília (Internal) (Economy)		€241.00								
<b>Ciara O'Flionn DFA Counsellor, IUKA Section</b>			€453.01	€444.97						
Dublin - Lisbon, Lisbon - Sao Paulo (Economy)										
Brasilia - Lisbon, Lisbon - Dublin (Economy)										
Total return cost Ireland to Brazil		€1,839.01								

