

Embassy of Ireland in Cyprus Newsletter | February 2019





A chairde.

Welcome to the first Embassy of Ireland newsletter, in advance of St Patrick's Day 2019. We hope to provide similar updates in the months ahead to keep you informed of our activities, and also the services we provide to Irish citizens, whether they are resident here in Cyprus or just visiting. We are also active now on social media: you can Like our Facebook Page @IrelandEmbCyprus or follow us on Twitter @IrelandEmbCyprus.

I was delighted to meet with members of the Irish Community in Limassol on 19 February. I hosted a similar meeting in Paphos last summer with similar events planned for Larnaca and Nicosia in the coming months.

We had a busy year at the Embassy in 2018 with political visits by the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney and by the Minister with responsibility for Defence, Paul Kehoe. Recent months have seen visits to Ireland by the President of the House, Demetris Syllouris, on the occasion of the centenary of the first meeting of Dáil Éireann (the Irish Parliament), and by the Cypriot Ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs. These exchanges demonstrate the continued warm relations between Cyprus and Ireland.

A further highlight of 2018 was the successful visit to Cyprus of founder members of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition to Cyprus. I am looking forward to launching the report of that visit on 4 March – see details below – and engaging in follow-up actions and events.

Needless to say, at this time of year we are focussed on the celebration of St Patrick's Day on 17 March. This year for the first time the Embassy is pleased to host a St Patrick's Day festival at Finikoudes Beach in Larnaca on the day itself. It will be a chance for the Irish community to have a flavour of home, and for our Cypriot friends to learn about our great cultural and sporting traditions. Look forward to seeing you all there – bígí linn!

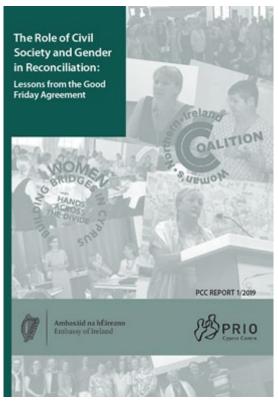
Finally you will see below details of the diverse programme planned for the Cyprus Oscar Wilde Festival which will take place in the first half of March and includes a range of performances, screenings and other events. Of particular interest may be the screening on 12 March of a documentary about the 2015 campaign for Marriage Equality in Ireland – "The 34th".

With best wishes from the staff of the Embassy of Ireland,

Deirdre Ní Fhallúin Ambassador

The Role of Civil Society and Gender in Reconciliation: Lessons from the Good Friday Agreement

Under the auspices of the Embassy of Ireland in Cyprus and PRIO Cyprus Centre, in partnership with UNFICYP, a series of events on "The Role of Civil Society and Gender in Reconciliation – Lessons from the Good Friday Agreement" took place between 22 and 25 September 2018. Professor Monica McWilliams and Dr Avila Kilmurray, both founder members of the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition (NIWC), a cross-community political party established to participate in the peace process in Northern Ireland, travelled to Cyprus for a series of engagements with women's groups and activists, academics, students, and female members of political parties. The programme was funded by Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and it coincided with the twentieth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement. This report details the key messages from the visit, the themes that emerged during discussions, as well as proposals for future events and actions.



The PRIO Cyprus Centre and the Embassy of Ireland in Nicosia cordially invite you to the launch of the report:

The Role of Civil Society and Gender in Reconciliation:
Lessons from the Good Friday Agreement

Monday 4 March 2019, Home for Cooperation, Starting at 17:00

Opening remarks:

Deirdre Ní Fhallúin - Ambassador of Ireland to Cyprus Elizabeth Spehar - UN SRSG in Cyprus Harry Tzimitras - PRIO Cyprus Centre

Presentations by:

Mine Yücel and Xenia Loizidou

Co-chairs of the Bicommunal Technical Committee on Gender Equality,

RSVP by Friday 01.03.19 by email to nicosiaembassy@dfa.ie

St. Patrick's Day Festival in Larnaca

On Sunday 17 March, a celebration of Ireland's national day – St Patrick's Day – will take place at Finikoudes Beach in Larnaca. The "St Patrick's Day Festival" will showcase Ireland's traditions and culture with performances by Irish musicians and dancers, a display of Ireland's unique national sport of hurling and a "taste of Ireland" with Irish food and drinks.

The event will take place from 3pm - 6pm.

Kindly supported by Larnaca Municipality and Cyprus Airports Duty Free



Nicosia in Global Greening for St. Patrick's Day



2018 was a record year for Tourism Ireland's Global Greening Initiative, which saw the greening of 304 iconic monuments around the world to celebrate Ireland's National Day (St. Patrick's Day) on 17 March.

This year, Nicosia is again joining the global Irish family festivities. At 18:00 on Friday 15 March 2019, the lights will be turned on

This year, Nicosia is again joining the global Irish family festivities. **At 18:00 on Friday 15 March 2019**, the lights will be turned on in the presence of Mr. Paul Kehoe T.D., Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Defence, launching the "Greening" of Nicosia Town Hall.

Everyone is welcome to come along!

St. Patrick's Charity Ball in Limassol



Cyprus Oscar Wilde Festival

For the first time in Cyprus, a group of artists inspired by the huge legacy of Oscar Wilde, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ireland in Cyprus, organise "The Cyprus Oscar Wilde Festival", in Nicosia, from 1 to 16 March 2019. The festival comprises performances, music, movie screenings, workshops, exhibition of artworks inspired by Wilde, round table on LGBT rights, literature panel and other.

The festival involves storytellers, musicians, writers, actors, artists, activists and others while the events will take place in popular cultural spaces such as Artos Foundation, Soloneion Βοοκ Centre, Goethe-Institut Cyprus, Prozak cafe, Cine Studio-University of Nicosia and the Embassy of Ireland.



Προσβεία της Ιρλανδίας στην Κύπρο/Embassy of Ireland in Cyprus



Ambasáid na hÉireann Embassy of Ireland







1-16 Μαρτίου/March 2019

FIXOAOX FAFYOEPH XF OAFX TIX FKAHAOXFIX/FR FF FNTR ANCE TO ALL THE EVENTS

· Jamming with Oscar

Παρουσίαση φεστιβάλ/Presentation of the festival **2/3/2019**, Έναρξη/Start: 20.00 Πρόζακ/Prozak

· Made for Oscar

Έκθεση εικαστικών δημιουργιών/Art crafts exhibition 1-2 & 5-6/3/2019, 17.00-21.00 Πρόζακ/Prozak

• Το πορτραίτο ενός καλλιτέχνη/The portrait of an artist

Στρογγυλό τραπέζι/Round table **7/3/2019**, 19.30 Σολώνειον Κέντρο Βιβλίου/Soloneion Book Centre

 The 34th: the story of Marriage Equality in Ireland 12/3/2019, 18.00

Goethe-Institut Cyprus, Λευκωσία/Nicosia

• Ευτυχισμένος Όσκαρ/The happy prince του/by Rupert Everett

Προβολή ταινίας/Movie Screening 13/3/2019, 21.00

Cine Studio - Πανεπιστήμιο Λευκωσίας/University of Nicosia,

• Το αστροπαίδι/The star-child

Μουσικοαφηγηματική παράσταση/Musical storytelling performance **15& 16/3/2019**, 20.00

Artos Foundation

• Ο πιστός φίλος/The devoted friend

Βιωματικό εργαστήριο για παιδιά με τη Μαρίνα Κατσαρή/Experiential workshop for children with Marina Katsari

16/3/2019, 10.00-11.30, 12.00-13.30

Πρεσβεία Ιρλανδίας/ Embassy of Ireland

Συνδιογράνωση/Co-organised by Πρεσβεία της Ιρλανδίας στην Κύπρο/Embassy of Ireland in Cyprus Υποστηρικτές/Supporters







Expanded Online Passport Renewal Service



The Online Passport Renewal Service has expanded its offering! It's now possible to renew children's passports online and apply for a child's passport card, and there are more options for adults seeking to renew their passports. This expanded service means that all Irish citizens can now renew their passports online 24/7, from anywhere in the world.

Online renewal is now the fastest way to renew your passport, with turnaround times of 10 working days for all online applications, excluding postage. And it's not only the fastest option - it's also the cheapest! Renewing online is €5 cheaper than submitting a paper application.