

The project Women in an Equal Europe was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to Strand 2 - Measure 2.3 Civil Society Projects

Participation: The project involved 985 citizens, notably 640 participants from the city of Dublin Ireland and 345 citizens from the town of Dundalk, Ireland

Location/ Dates: The events took place in Dublin, Ireland from 08/03/17 to 27/10/17 and in Dundalk, Ireland on the 28/09/17

Short description:

Event One: The day of 08/03/18 was dedicated to exploring the role of the EU in promoting gender equality with a **Women in an Equal Europe** event titled *The Woman is Present* presented for International Women's Day, 8 March 2017, at Regent House, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

Event Two: The day of 22/09/17 was dedicated to **The Power of Theatre and Film – Celebrating the work of Smashing Times for Culture Night** at the Generator Cinema, Smithfield Square, Dublin, Ireland, using creative processes to explore themes of women in history, human rights and the role of the EU in promoting gender equality and peace.

Event Three: The day of 28/09/17 was dedicated to a performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* followed by Post-Show Discussion, at An Táin Arts Centre, Dundalk, Ireland exploring themes of women in history, gender equality, human rights and the role of the EU and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 to promote women in peace building.

Event Four: The day of 27/10/17, from 10am to 2pm, was dedicated to a **Women in an Equal Europe Creative Arts Symposium**, at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Dublin, Ireland which gathered together artists, human rights activists and citizens to explore themes of equality and peace and how we can engage citizens in a debate on the kind of Europe we want for the future in relation to gender equality, diversity and peace.

Event Five: The day of 27/10/17, from 10am to 2pm and from 7 to 10pm, was dedicated to a **Women in an Equal Europe Young Ensemble Performance** with the world premiere of *Flaming Inspirations* by Smashing Times Youth Ensemble, at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Dublin, Ireland.

Event Six: The day of 25/10/17 was dedicated to a performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* and a Women in an Equal Europe post-show discussion to highlight the role of the EU in the promotion of gender equality, diversity and peace, taking place at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

Event Seven: The day of 26/10/17 was dedicated to a performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* and a Women in an Equal Europe post-show discussion to highlight the role of the EU in the promotion of gender equality, diversity and peace, taking place at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

Applicable to Strand 2 – Measure 2.3 Civil Society Projects

Seven events have been carried out within this project:

Event One: Women in an Equal Europe: *The Woman is Present*, International Women's Day

Participation: The event involved 58 citizens, including 46 female and 12 male participants from the city of Dublin Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Regent House, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland on 08/03/17.

Short description:

Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company and Concern Worldwide in association with the Drama Department at TCD, celebrated International Women's Day with a performance of *Constance and Her Friends* by Mary Moynihan, performed by Roisin McAtamney; a screening from the short film *Tell Them Our Names*; and a *performance of Mary Elmes* by Mary Moynihan, Fiona Bawn Thompson and Paul Kennedy, performed by Roisin McAtamney, at Regent House, Trinity College Dublin, 8 March 2017. The performance and film screening were followed by a post-show workshop discussion on Women in an Equal Europe and equality in Ireland and the role of the EU to promote gender equality and peace. The post-show speakers were Jenny Macdonald, Facilitator and Chair; Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company, Roisin Mc Atamney, facilitator, Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company, Chrissie Poulter, TCD and Carol Morgan, Concern Worldwide.

Event Two: The Power of Theatre and Film – Celebrating the work of Smashing Times for Culture Night

Participation: The event involved 44 citizens, including 24 female and 20 male participants from the city of Dublin, Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Generator Cinema, Smithfield, Dublin, Ireland on 22/09/17 for Culture Night in Dublin, Ireland.

Short description: This event, held on 22 September 2017 from 6 to 10pm at The Cinema Room, Generator Hostel, Smithfield Square, Dublin, was presented for Culture Night and featured a collage of film screenings intercut with talks to celebrate and remember women's stories past and present and to creatively explore the use of theatre and film and the role of the EU to promote gender equality, diversity and peace. The evening culminated with a talk by speakers Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times, and Freda Manweiler, Company Manager and was followed by a question and answer session.

Event Three: Performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* followed by Post-Show Discussion

Participation: The event involved 345 citizens, including 156 female and 189 male participants from the city of Dundalk, Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in An Táin Arts Centre, Dundalk, Ireland on 28/09/17.

Short description: The event consisted of a performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* by Mary Moynihan, Deirdre Kinahan, Fiona Bawn Thompson and Paul Kennedy, directed by Mary Moynihan and Bairbre Ni Chaoimh and the cast are Róisín Mc Atamney and Therese Mullan with Margaret Toomey, Ella Brady, Fiona Bawn Thompson and Romana Testasecca featuring on film. The post-show panel discussion featured Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times and Róisín Mc Atamney and Therese Mullan. The performance was followed by a Women in an Equal Europe post-show discussion to explore themes of women in history and the role of the EU in promoting gender equality and human rights today. This was an audience of 345 second level student. The students were totally absorbed by the performance and it was a credit to the writers and actors in holding the full attention of the students for the full duration with not a sound in the house. The students asked a wide variety of fantastic questions as part of the post-show discussion such as 'what was the thinking behind the red scarves and was there a symbolic meaning to them' and 'why are women's stories ignored in history'. Mary Moynihan spoke about the importance of reclaiming women's stories from WWII to the present; the role of women in peace building in Northern Ireland and the importance of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 to promote women in peace building and the importance of the EU for promoting gender equality today.

Event Four: Women in an Equal Europe Creative Arts Symposium, Samuel Beckett Theatre, 27 October 2017

Participation: The event involved 192 citizens, including 177 female and 15 male participants from the city of Dublin, Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin Ireland on 27/10/17

Short description: **Women in an Equal Europe Creative Arts Symposium** was held at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin on Friday 27 October 2018 and gathered together artists, human rights activists and citizens to explore themes of equality and peace in Ireland, Northern Ireland and internationally and how we can engage citizens in a debate on the kind of Europe we want for the future in relation to gender equality, diversity and peace. Guest speakers, artists and facilitators were Marian Harkin, MEP, Ireland, Mary Duffin, Theatre Maker, TOTO Practitioner and Screenwriter, Ireland, Sasa Bjelanovic, Youth Worker, Youth Peace Group Danube, Croatia, Dijana Milosevic, DAH Theatre, Serbia, Mary Moynihan, Freda Manweiler and Róisín McAtamney, Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company, Ireland, Ivana Milenovic, Dah Theatre, Serbia and Chrissie Poulter, Head of Drama, School of Drama, Film and Music, TCD. Using collaborative and socially engaged arts practice, the symposium featured a young ensemble performance, guest speakers and parallel theatre workshops to explore gender equality and human rights as shared values for a peaceful future for all and the experiences of women living in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Europe with a focus on positive change in relation to gender equality as a result of belonging to the EU.

The organisers were delighted to welcome our keynote speaker Marian Harkin, an Independent Member of the European Parliament (MEP) representing the 15 counties of the Midlands-North-West constituency of Ireland in the European parliament. Marian is now in her third European term following the 2014 European Election and previously represented Sligo/Leitrim as a TD in Dáil Éireann. Marian spoke about the role of the EU in promoting women's rights and human rights as shared values for a peaceful and prosperous future for all, and what role citizens can play to actively influence EU policy and to engage in debate on the kind of Europe we want for the future.

The symposium launched the **Women in an Equal Europe Digital Book**, featuring positive stories of change for women from Ireland, Spain, Croatia and Serbia that have come about as a result of belonging to the EU, and the launch of the **Women in an Equal Europe Creative Film Documentary** on women, feminism and Europe.

Women interviewed on film include Olwen Fouéré, Actor, Director and Creative Artist; Dijana Milosevic, Theatre Director, Writer and Lecturer and Artistic Director, DAH Theatre, Serbia; Dil Wickemasinghe, Broadcaster and Journalist; Orla O'Connor, Director of the National Women's Council; Sinéad Burke, writer and academic; Mirjana Renduli, Actor, Writer and Facilitator; Pom Boyd, Actor, Writer, Director and Collaborative Artist; Constance Short, Visual Artist, Arts Organiser and Cultural Conduit; Shirley Graham, Social Researcher and Activist; and Vanessa Ogida, Broadcast Journalist, Motivational Speaker/Writer, Trainer and Entrepreneur.

Event Five: Women in an Equal Europe Young Ensemble Performance

Participation: The event involved 70 citizens, including 43 female and 27 male participants from the city of Dublin, Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland on 27/10/17

Short description: Smashing Times presented the Irish premiere of **Flaming Inspirations** at the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Dublin, on Friday 27 October 2017 for two performances, one from 10am to 2pm as part of the **Women in an Equal Europe Creative Arts Symposium** and one at 7.30pm. The performance was supported by The Arts Council Young Ensembles scheme 2017. **Flaming Inspirations** was directed by Róisín Mc Atamney and created by artists from the Smashing Times Young Arts Ensemble, made up of 15 young artists aged 18 to 23 who devised and created the piece in response to themes of gender equality and the power of EU policy to promote gender equality and human rights. The performances were presented to a live audience followed by discussions on the issues raised, moderated by Chrissie Poulter, Head of Drama, Trinity College, Dublin. The young artists came together to share skills and expertise, to work with professional artists for artistic development and to create their own unique public multi-disciplinary performance using theatre, new digital media (film), spoken word poetry and music to promote gender equality and human rights and the role of the EU in promoting equality.

Event Six: Performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* followed by Post-Show Discussion, 25 October 2017, Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Participation: The event involved 145 citizens, including 103 female and 42 male participants from the city of Dublin, Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin Ireland on 25/10/17

Short description: The event consisted of a performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* by Mary Moynihan, Deirdre Kinahan, Fiona Bawn Thompson and Paul Kennedy, directed by Mary Moynihan and Bairbre Ni Chaoimh, and followed by a Women in an Equal Europe post-show discussion. The post-show speakers were artist facilitators were Róisín Mc Atamney and Therese Mullan, Mary Moynihan, Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company; and Dijana Milosevic, DAH Theatre, Serbia. The post-show moderator was Freda Manweiler, Smashing Times.

Event Seven: Performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* followed by Post-Show Discussion, 26 October 2017, Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Participation: The event involved 131 citizens, including 80 female and 51 male participants from the city of Dublin, Ireland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College, Dublin Ireland on 26/10/17

Short description: The event consisted of a performance of *The Woman is Present: Women's Stories of WWII* by Mary Moynihan, Deirdre Kinahan, Fiona Bawn Thompson and Paul Kennedy, directed by Mary Moynihan and Bairbre Ni Chaoimh, and followed by a Women in an Equal Europe post-show discussion. The post-show speakers were artist facilitators were Róisín Mc Atamney and Therese Mullan, Mary Moynihan, Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company; Oliver Sears, Holocaust Education Trust and Dijana Milosevic, DAH Theatre, Serbia. The post-show moderator was Paul Kennedy, playwright and director.