



GARRET FITZGERALD SUMMER SCHOOL

PORTERSHED
GALWAY CITY
JULY 18-20

**GARRET FITZGERALD
SUMMER SCHOOL**



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FOREWORD



A chara,

Go raibh maith agat ag teacht go dtí Scoil Samhraidh Óige Fhine Gael i nGaillimh.

I am delighted to welcome you to the Garret Fitzgerald Summer School, here in Galway city, home to our reigning Branch of the Year, University of Galway YFG.

We have an incredibly exciting programme lined up for you this weekend, as we discuss and debate motions, engage in workshops on the future of our policy development, develop our teamwork and leadership skills, and of course there is a range of fun activities and craic that await you over the course of this weekend.

Throughout our Summer School I would ask you to do two things:

Firstly, to take the spirit of Garret Fitzgerald and his vision for Young Fine Gael throughout all discussions and debates we have over the course of this weekend. We were founded by Dr. Fitzgerald in 1978 to be the conscience of Fine Gael, to push and challenge our party colleagues on the ideas and priorities of young people. The debates, motions, workshops, are all opportunities for us to do this, to put forward, develop, and debate our priorities as Young Fine Gael, and to lead as we have before in being that voice for young people both within Fine Gael and independently as Young Fine Gael.

Secondly, I'd ask you to not leave Galway without having made at least one new friend. Our Summer School is of course a great opportunity for debate, discussion, and the development of policy. But it is also a weekend that is about having fun and enjoying yourself, about growing the Fine Gael family and coming together as a national organisation from all corners of the country. The weekend's activities are as important as the workshops and debates that we will have, and I encourage you to join teams with colleagues that you may not yet know, to get to know them, and to welcome new friends to the YFG family.

Is é an rud is tábhachtaí go bhainfaimid taitneamh as an deireadh seachtaine.

Míle buíochas,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamie M." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jamie Malone
President

HOUSE RULES

Behaviour and Standards

Young Fine Gael members are required to behave in a way that does not bring themselves or the reputation of the Fine Gael party or the YFG organisation into disrepute, whether online or offline.

While there is a possibility of alcohol consumption at the event and an element of fun is encouraged, there is ZERO tolerance for behaviour that is in any way abusive to other attendees, staff at the venues or the general public. Failure to meet standards may result in disciplinary action.

Interaction and Questions

1. If you wish to make a contribution or raise a question during the event, please indicate to the Chair by raising your hand.
2. Wait until you are called on, and please include your first name, branch and the subject matter of your question. (e.g. "My name is Alex from Patrick Hogan, Galway East YFG and my question for the Minister is ...")
3. Members' questions and observations will be taken in batches of three and the guest will respond with answers. In the interest of fairness to all members and time keeping, we are asking contributions to be no longer than 60 seconds.
4. Your contributions during this event are very important and may form the basis of subsequent and further discussions within the party.

Please note that aspects of this event will be recorded and/or photographed.

If we wish to use your contribution in wider media at a later time, we will be in touch to advise.

STANDING ORDERS

1. A motion may be moved by any Unit, Organ, Network or Policy Committee of the Organisation.
2. **Quorum:**
 - a) Where fewer than 15% of registered delegates are present, a session shall be deemed to be inquorate and the Chairperson shall adjourn that Session until he deems that Session to be quorate.
 - b) Any registered delegate may call a quorum count. Only one quorum count may be called at each session
3. Speakers shall only be allowed to speak for the duration as announced by the Chairperson.
4. If any registered delegate or any other person is directed to cease speaking on the grounds of irrelevancy, disruption or being in excess of the allotted time, that registered delegate or person must do so forthwith.
5. **Voting:**
 - a) The Chairperson of a Session shall appoint tellers for the duration of that Session.
 - b) Voting at any Session shall be by a show of hands, only votes from registered delegates will be counted.
 - c) A motion will be deemed to have been carried when a simple majority of registered delegates present at the session vote in favour of the motion.
 - d) The Chairperson may order a re-vote where the outcome of a vote is unclear by a show of hands.
 - e) If the Chairperson orders a re-vote pursuant to subsection (d) of this part, then the tellers will count the votes and inform the Chairperson of the result of the vote.
 - f) In the event of a tie, a Motion shall not be deemed to have been carried, as a majority has not been attained.
 - g) Once a vote has been called and ruled by a Chairperson, and a result declared, no further requests for counts shall be considered.

ATTENDANCE REPORTS

Young Fine Gael National Executive -

Attendance YFG National Executive

| | 23/2 | 1/3 | 18/3 | 5/4 | 3/5 | 7/6 | 21/6 | 5/7 | Apologies Received | No Apologies |
|-------------------|----------|------------|------|--------|-----------|--------|------|----------|--------------------|--------------|
| | Sun | Sat | Tue | Sat | Sat | Sat | Sat | Sat | A | 0 |
| Location | Maynooth | Dublin, HQ | Zoom | Cashel | Castlebar | Swords | Zoom | Macrooom | | |
| Jamie Malone | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | 0 | 0 |
| Isabelle Danes | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | 0 | 0 |
| Caolán Maguire | P | P | P | P | Z | Z | P | Z | 0 | 0 |
| Kuruvilla George | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | P | 0 | 0 |
| Jamie Hamill | P | P | P | P | P | Z | P | P | 0 | 0 |
| Ben Sheehan | P | P | A | A | P | Z | P | Z | 2 | 0 |
| Queen Soyemi | P | P | A | P | P | A | A | P | 3 | 0 |
| Sophie de Miranda | P | P | P | A | Z | Z | P | A | 2 | 0 |
| Dean Kenny | P | P | A | P | P | A | P | Z | 2 | 0 |
| Bebhinn Lombard | P | P | A | P | P | P | P | P | 1 | 0 |
| Ian Moran | P | P | P | P | A | P | A | P | 2 | 0 |

Executive Council -

Executive Council Attendance

| MEETING DATE | JAMIE | CAOLÁN | ISABELLE |
|--------------|-------|--------|----------|
| 4.03.25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 1.04.25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 6.05.25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 3.06.25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 17.06.25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| 1.07.25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

P - Present, A - Apologies Received, Z - Present on Zoom, 0 - No Apologies

PROGRAMME

FRI

| TIME | EVENT |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 15:00 - 17:30 | Arrive and check in Kinlay Hostel |
| 17:45 - 20:00 | Bowling & Finger Food - Planet Entertainment |
| 21:00 - late | 'The Great Debate' at The Dew Drop Inn |

SAT

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:30 | Continental Breakfast, Kinlay Hostel |
| 10:00 - 10:30 | Registration |
| 10:30 - 10:45 | Opening of Summer School |
| 10:45 - 11:30 | Policy Motions Session |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | Garret Fitzgerald Seminar: A future for young people in rural communities |
| 12:30 - 13:00 | Lunch |
| 13:00 - 14:00 | Leadership Workshop |
| 14:00 - 15:00 | Pre-Budget Submission Roundtable Workshop, |
| 15:30 - 17:30 | Activity: Escape Room at Great Escape Room, Eyre Square |
| 19:00 | Dinner at The Skeff, Galway City |

SUN

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:30 | Continental Breakfast, Kinlay Hostel |
| 10:30 - 11:30 | LE24 One Year On, LE29 Four Years Out - Learnings for the Next Generation of YFG Candidates |
| 11:30 - 12:30 | International Session - Walking Debate, Led by International Committee |
| 12:30 - 14:00 | National Assembly |



WHO

MC Ben Sheehan - Director of Communications Judges:
Cllrs Eddie Hoare & Clodagh Higgins, Sen. PJ Murphy

Welcome addresses from President Jamie Malone,
Minister Hildegard Naughton & Pete Roche TD

Chair - Cllr. Eddie Hoare, Secretariat - Caolán Maguire,
Vice President YFG & Ryan Laffan, Summer School
Working Group Member

Secretariat - Dean Kenny, North West Regional
Organiser & Director of Agri. & Rural Affairs,
Panel - Maria Walsh MEP, Sen. PJ Murphy, Sen. Seán Kyne

Deirdre Campbell

Led by YFG Pre-Budget Submission Policy Committee

President Jamie Malone

Chaired by Cllr. Rachel Kerley

MOTIONS

1. **International Committee**

YFG condemns the ongoing suffering being inflicted on the Palestinian people in Gaza and the occupied territories and calls on the Irish government to take a leading role within the EU and UN in demanding an immediate and permanent ceasefire, the release of all hostages, full humanitarian aid access, and to champion a just and lasting peace.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

2. **Meath YFG**

Young Fine Gael will submit a motion at the next senior party Ard Fheis for the party to register as a political party in Northern Ireland.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

3. **Clare YFG and University of Galway YFG** *(similar motions from Dublin West and Longford-Westmeath YFG)*

YFG calls on the government to implement stricter age verification measures to protect minors online.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

4. **National Executive** *(and as discussed at National Campaign Development Day)*

YFG calls on the government to lower the voting age to 16 in local elections

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

5. **Women's Network**

YFG calls on the government to better fund initiatives to increase women's participation in STEM

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

6. Second Level Network

That YFG supports the introduction of a mandatory Transition Year module in civic, legal and political literacy, including a practical understanding of the Constitution and democracy in Ireland.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

7. Carlow-Kilkenny YFG

YFG calls on government parties to reconsider the use of the whip system to allow more votes of conscience on private members' business in line with the UK model.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

8. Agricultural and Rural Affairs committee

YFG calls on the department of agriculture to recruit more agri-environmental scientists to ensure that all applications for agri schemes are processed and paid out in a timely manner.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

9. Longford WestMeath YFG

YFG calls on higher education institutions to make lecture recordings available to students.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

10. National Executive

YFG calls for the introduction of social workers in education environments, to support school communities and young people in schools.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

11. Dublin West YFG

YFG calls on the government to introduce an additional allowance for public servants living in Dublin.

Has the motion passed?

YES The motion is carried **NO** The motion is defeated

#PricklessNights Update

Isabelle Danes



Building on the work of the two previous National Executives, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to tackling the issue of spiking and ensuring that meaningful legal protections are put in place for victims. Central to this has been our continued advocacy for the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person (Amendment) (Spiking) Bill 2023, which seeks to make spiking a standalone offence with a maximum prison sentence of up to 10 years.

On the 1st of May, we were delighted to see the Bill brought forward to be reinstated so that it can continue to progress through the Houses of the Oireachtas. Following this, the Bill advanced to the next stage, commonly referred to as "being in the hat," to be debated as a Private Members Bill at second stage in Dáil Éireann. We have been working closely with Barry Ward TD, the sponsor of the Bill and our colleagues in the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party to see it progress through each legislative stage.

We raised this as a priority in our briefing with the Parliamentary Party in May and stressed the importance of seeing delivery on the Programme for Government Commitment to progress our bill to make spiking a standalone offence.

We are optimistic that the Parliamentary Party will support our bill as it progresses through the Oireachtas and we look forward to engaging with them to ensure that when it comes before the Dáil for second stage debate that it passes through the house.

While we are determined to see the legislation enacted in the coming months and during the lifetime of the Government, most importantly, we remain unwavering in our commitment to ensuring that victim's voices are heard, that their experiences are recognised and that they feel supported and empowered to report incidence of spiking, and to ensure that perpetrators face justice.





ONE ISLAND COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENTS WITH ARTSAWONDER

Ian Moran / Jamie Malone
One Island Committee Liaison / President



Artsawonder is an organisation that organises 'Facilitated Conversations,' with members of parties from different backgrounds across the islands of Ireland and Great Britain. Artsawonder is driven by advancing peace and reconciliation across the islands through dialogue across political divides.

In May, Ian Moran and Cormac Docherty attended an Artsawonder event in Lisburn. At this event they had the opportunity to discuss some topics with members of other parties of Unionist, Nationalist and neutral parties from North and South of the border, as well as from Great Britain.

We discussed what's important to each community, we got to hear why people feel that certain aspects of their cultures such as marches are important to their community. From this we also got to discuss how this affected other communities and how they felt about it.

We spent a lot of time discussing why Unionists wanted to remain as part of the UK and why Nationalists wanted to see a United Ireland. We looked at some topical issues and how some of them could be seen as a legacy of the troubles and how to move forward

Our last day was spent discussing the leaders that brought peace to Northern Ireland and how they did this. The conversation then focused on how we now need to work on passing the torch now as time goes on we will need new leaders to ensure that we keep the peace on this island.

At the Portlaoise event in June, Jamie and Cllr. Rachel Kerley attended another facilitated conversation, where similar issues were discussed. At the time, the Ballymena riots were ongoing, and there was significant discussion around issues of immigration, but also discussions around the effectiveness of institutions, and modern political culture and the impacts of changing media.

These events and engaging through our One Island committee are an opportunity for Young Fine Gael to continue to develop our vision for sharing One Island, on the basis of respect and inclusion, and for continuing to engage with the ongoing peace process on our island.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

**International Secretary
Shane Price**



It's been a busy and exciting few months for the International Committee, and I'm delighted to give you a quick overview of all that's been happening on the European stage.

This May, YFG proudly sent delegates to the YEPP Council Meeting in Chişinău, Moldova, which coincided with Europe Day celebrations. Our International Secretary Shane Price and Deputy International Secretary Cillan Geoghegan represented YFG and they had the honour of meeting and engaging directly with the President of Moldova, Maia Sandu, and attended the council session in the country's Parliament. Alongside this, they joined other delegates in the European City at the heart of Chişinău, celebrating our shared European values with EU ambassadors and local citizens through cultural events and discussions.

Meanwhile, IC members Brandon and Clara represented YFG at Die Junge Mitte's conference in the stunning Swiss Alps. They enjoyed traditional Swiss hospitality – including a raclette dinner – and heard from high-level speakers, including Federal Councillor and former Swiss President Viola Amherd. Clara was awarded honorary membership of Die Junge Mitte, highlighting the deep respect and strong relationships YFG continues to build across Europe.

International Secretary Shane Price also made a visit to Rome for Forza Italia's National Congress, where he had the opportunity to meet with the Italian Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, Antonio Tajani. This visit was not only a great networking opportunity but also helped lay the groundwork for the upcoming YEPP Congress.

On the policy front, the International Committee is hard at work on our Defence Policy document. Following a consultation session with members and experts from the European Defence Agency, we're finalising a comprehensive and timely paper that reflects the security challenges facing Europe today. We can't wait to share it with you all once it's complete.

At the time of writing, we're looking ahead, to YEPP's Congress in Brussels, YFG is in a fantastic position as we'll retain our seat on the board and are set to gain a top-five leadership position, with Eoin Scarlett running unopposed for Deputy Secretary General. We're also putting forward a resolution on strengthening European Union cooperation with Greenland, co agreed with our Danish sister party, Konservativ Ungdom, and drafted and led by our very own IC member Billy Kavanagh.

As we look to the months ahead, one thing is clear – YFG's voice in Europe is growing stronger than ever. Whether it's shaping policy or by building relationships with our sister parties in YEPP, we are making our mark and ensuring YFG is at the heart of our European political family.

YOUR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE TEAM



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