



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

### **FOROIGE LEITRIM PEACE LEARNING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE PROJECT LAUNCHED**

**Foróige launched its Leitrim Peace Learning for Young People Project in the Bush Hotel, on Friday 08<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

There was a fantastic turnout, with over 100 young people from Kinlough, Manorhamilton, Mohill and Carrick on Shannon in attendance. After the launch, teen expert and motivational speaker Ray Langan gave a workshop to the young people about setting goals, digital skills and leadership.

Speaking at the launch of the Programme, Claire Gavigan, Area Manager with Foróige, said: **“This programme would not be possible without the support of Leitrim County Council and the dedication of the Peace IV partnership.**

**“The programme has three key elements – the first is leadership and understanding Peace, the second explores Peace through Films that were made in or about Northern Ireland. The third strand, involves the online sharing of learning through social media. The young people who have travelled here today, have taken the first step in an important journey, where they will learn important leadership skills such as critical thinking, communication, decision making, resilience, collaboration, empathy, creativity and problem solving.”**

Sean McGowan, Cathaoirleach of Leitrim County Council, speaking at the launch said: **“The young people we have here today, and involved with this Peace Project, can influence and contribute to a Leitrim that is happily diverse, accepting of difference and can work towards further growing respect across communities.”**

Speaking at the event Polina Kozhuharova, aged 16 from Leitrim village said: **“This project and the work of Foróige is so important, because young people get to learn about things that they wouldn’t in their day to day lives like helping society and how to become a leader.”**

Congratulating the project on its launch Gina McIntyre CEO of the SEUPB said: **“This is a fantastic project which will equip young people with the confidence, motivation and skills they need to become leaders within their own communities. It will give them the courage to meet with and learn from other young people from a different background and bring this learning back home to friends and family. This is one of the core objectives of the EU’s PEACE IV Programme as it is helping thousands of young people, on a cross-border and cross-community basis right across the region, to achieve their full potential.”**

- Ends

**Notes for the editor:**

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**About Foróige**

Foróige is a leading youth development organisation. The charity works with over 50,000 young people and 5,500 adult volunteers annually, through a network of more than 650 Foróige clubs & cafés, 160 targeted projects and national programmes such as Entrepreneurship (NFTE), Health & Wellbeing, Citizenship and Entrepreneurship.

Foroige.ie

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**SEUPB**

- The Special EU Programmes Body is a North/South Implementation Body sponsored by the Department of Finance in Northern Ireland and the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in Ireland.



- It is responsible for managing two EU Structural Funds Programmes, PEACE IV and INTERREG VA which are designed to enhance cross - border co-operation, promote reconciliation and create a more peaceful and prosperous society.
- The Programmes operate within a clearly defined area including Northern Ireland, the Border Region of Ireland and in the case of INTERREG VA, Western Scotland.
- The PEACE IV Programme has a value of €270 million and aims to promote peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.
- For more information on the SEUPB please visit [www.seupb.eu](http://www.seupb.eu)