

Soapbox Competition Application Form

“European Elections: Every Vote Counts”

How to apply

Fill in the application form below and submit it to **Waterford Europe Direct Centre, Central Library, Lady Lane, Waterford** by **Friday 26th October 2018 at 5:30pm**. Alternatively, you can submit the form by email to europedirect@waterfordcouncil.ie

Application Form

Category: 18 & under 19 & over

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please read the following and sign below:

I have read the rules (overleaf) regarding the soapbox events and agree to abide by them.

Signed: _____

Date: _____



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What is a soapbox?

The term soapbox originates in the use of an empty crate as a platform by speakers to give speeches, often impromptu, to passers-by from around the turn of the last century. The most famous location for soapbox oratory is Speakers Corner in Hyde Park, London, which has been a setting for public speaking since the 1870s.

Competition Format

Each presentation will consist of a three-minute speech for or against the topic. The presentation will be made at an event before a public audience and a panel of judges. Prizes are sponsored by the European Commission Representation in Ireland and local Members of the European Parliament.

The national final will be held in Dublin on Tuesday, 27 November 2018.

Competition Rules

Applications must be made on an official form in hard copy or by email. Contact details are available at www.europedirect.ie.

Applications must be received no later than the date specified by the Europe Direct Centre.

Local events will be held in September, October or November. Dates for events are available on www.europedirect.ie or directly from your local centre.

Contestants will compete in one of two categories: **1)** 18 and under; **2)** 19 and over. A winner from each category will be selected on the day.

Previous winners are not eligible to enter, in the same category, the year immediately after he/she won the regional competition.

For the competition in each category to proceed, there must be at least two people participating.

Contributions must be 3 minutes in length and relevant to the soapbox topic. There is no need to submit in advance.

Contributions will be judged on content, delivery, structure and overall impact. The decision of the judges at the event is final.

Each category winner of the regional competition will qualify for, and be invited to travel to, the grand final in Dublin in November.

In the event that a category winner cannot travel, a runner up will be invited to compete in their place.