EM Ireland – PAI Conference
Ireland’s Presidency of the Council of the EU

An Opportunity to Generate Engagement and Support for the EU?

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Executive Director
European Movement Ireland

18 April 2012
Overview

- Background
- Generating Engagement and Support for the EU
- Selling the Presidency
- The Presidency in Perspective
- Fiscal Treaty & Referendum
- Q & A
EMI… The Journey

A Membership-Led Not-for-Profit Civil Society Organisation

From “discussing Europe in Ireland every day” to “discussing Europe in a robust, fair and reasoned manner"
Campaigns & Programmes..... Presidency

- Advocacy
  - Accountability Report
  - European Citizens’ Initiative Campaign
  - Grad Jobs in Europe Campaign, Jobs and Internships in Europe
  - Brussels Connection & the “Green Book,”

- Education
  - The Blue Star Programme
  - My Vision for Europe Schools Competition
  - Studying Europe & College of Europe Scholarships
Membership
- Network Events
- Briefing Seminars
- Training
- Funding and Research Consultations
- EM International Federal Assembly – Dublin, 24 & 25 May 2013

Communications
- Briefing Services – Monthly eBulletin, Quarterly Newsletter
- Presidency of the Council of the EU Calendar
- ‘In the News’
- Social Media
In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?

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EB65  EB66  EB67  EB68  EB69  EB70  EB71.1  EB71  EB72  EB73  EB74  EB75  EB76
Eurobarometer 76
Nov 2011

QA14 For each of the following European bodies, please tell me if you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it.

Answer 'Tend to trust'

- The European Central Bank
- The Council of the European Union
- The European Parliament
- The European Commission

*this item was not asked in EB71.1 and EB71
Selling the Irish Presidency

Balancing European Leadership & Irish National Interest

- Stakeholders
- Citizens
- Business Sector
- CV Sector / NGOs
- Trio Presidencies
- Fellow EU Member States
- Globally – “Brand Ireland”
T5
Triple-Shared Presidency

The Presidency in Perspective

- 2013: 40 year anniversary of Ireland’s EU accession & 7th Irish Presidency
- France – upcoming Presidential election
- Italy - Technocratic Government, April 2013 election
- Germany – Fate of the Coalition, September 2013 election
- UK
- Portugal, Ireland, Greece, Spain
- End of Barroso II Commission 2014
- European elections 2014
Priorities & Opportunities

- Continuing enlargement process with Iceland, Turkey, Montenegro and Macedonia
- Croatian accession (just after our Presidency)
- Single market – continuation of/ implementation of Denmark’s work
- Completion of EU2020 flagship issues including Digital Agenda
- International Climate Change negotiations
- Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF): Completion or implementation
- CAP and CFP reform
- Review of the European External Action Service (EEAS)

- Continuing developments in Euro area

- Opportunity to improve perception of Ireland internationally
31st May 2012

- The Importance of the Referendum Debate for Ireland’s Presidency
- Gauging Irish Opinions and Priorities
- Terms of the Treaty
Ireland Inc.

Negative: We are a small island on the edge of Europe

Positive: We are a small island on the edge of Europe
Thank you

Questions?

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