Report by a Non-Governmental Organization Accredited to Act in an Advisory Capacity to the Committee on its Contribution to the Implementation of the Convention

Deadline 15 February 2019

for examination in 2019

*File may be downloaded at:*

[*https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms*](https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms)

*Please provide only the information requested below. Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

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| 1. **Identification of the organization** |
| **A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report** |
| A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.* |
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| A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.* |
| The Society of Uilleann Pipers |
| A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)* |
| NGO-90283 |
| **A.2. Address of the organization** |
| *Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.* |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Organization: | The Society of Uilleann Pipers | | Address: | Na Píobairí Uilleann 15 Henrietta Street Dublin 1 | | Telephone number: | +353 1 8730093 | | Email address: | info@pipers.ie; terry@pipers.ie | | Website: | www.pipers.ie; http://source.pipers.ie | | Other relevant information: |  | |
| **A.3. Contact person for correspondence** |
| *Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.* |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): | Mr | | Family name: | Gill | | Given name: | Emmett | | Institution/position: | Na Píobairí Uilleann/Archivist | | Address: | 15 Henrietta Street, Dublin 1, Ireland | | Telephone number: | 353 86 3399807 | | Email address: | emmett@pipers.ie | | Other relevant information: |  | |
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| **B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national level (Chapter III of the Convention)**[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| *Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.* |
| **B.1.** *Describe your organization’s participation in State efforts to develop and implement measures to strengthen institutional capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (ICH) (Article 13 and Operational Directive (OD) 154), e.g. in the drafting of ICH-related policies or legislation, in the establishment of national ICH committees or in other government-led processes.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Na Píobairí Uilleann (NPU) Archivist, Terry Moylan, was a member (and vice-chairman) of the group of Irish activists who set up the National Scientific Committee (NSC) in the field of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). This NSC was recognized and ratified by the Irish section of ICOMOS. Moylan had the full support of NPU in this activity, as the objective of the safeguarding and strengthening of ICH is the sole raison d’être of our organization’s existence. Both the NSC and NPU lobbied the Irish Government to ratify the UNESCO Convention on ICH. Our staff representative travelled to Paris and consulted with UNESCO officials, seeking and obtaining advice about the correct ways to pursue our objective of ratification. NPU subsequently briefed senior Irish Government ministers on the issue, and their support for our campaign resulted in Irish ratification of the Convention. NPU co-operated with the Irish Government agency, Culture Ireland, responsible for relations with UNESCO to frame the subsequently successful nomination of Uilleann Piping to the Representative List of ICH. |
| **B.2.** *Describe your organization’s cooperation with competent governmental bodies for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (Article 13), including existing institutions for training on and the documentation of ICH (OD 154).*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| In collaboration with Culture Ireland, NPU has drafted a document designed to inform other groups about the steps they need to take to raise understanding about areas of ICH in which they are involved. |
| **B.3.** *Describe your organization’s involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the State’s Periodic Report (OD 152).*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Ireland has not yet been required to submit a Periodic Report. NPU are prepared to provide any contributions required for the first report when it is due. |
| **B.4** *Describe your organization’s participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| NPU worked closely with the Irish Government and Culture Ireland in the preparation of the successful nomination of Uilleann Piping to the Representative List of ICH. We have also provided subsequent advice and information on our experience to a number of other organizations and communities to raise their awareness of ICH and on the process for nomination to the Representative List. |
| **B.5.** *Describe your organization’s participation in the identification, definition (Article 11.b) and inventorying of ICH (Article 12, OD 80 and OD 153). Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| NPU carried out the first ever exercise in Ireland in the identification, definition and inventorying of ICH, by preparing the nomination of the first element of Irish ICH – Uilleann Piping – to be accepted of inclusion in the Representative List. Our understanding of the process has enabled us to advise both Government and other ICH groups as to the procedures involved. NPU has provided direct assistance, in the form of advice and documentation, to several groups involved in different areas of ICH as to how they should go about preparing nominations to the Representative List. |
| **B.6.** *Describe your organization’s participation in other safeguarding measures, including those referred to in Article 13 and OD 153, aimed at:*   1. *promoting the function of ICH in society;* 2. *fostering scientific, technical and artistic studies with a view to effective safeguarding;* 3. *facilitating, to the extent possible, access to information relating to ICH while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of it.*   *Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Following inscription for Uilleann Piping in 2017, NPU received national and international media attention in relation to the inscription. The media appearances offered an platform to explain about and promote ICH. All promotional material issued by NPU refers to our status as an Accredited NGO and to the inscription of Uilleann Piping to the Representative List. Our organization carries out technical studies and offers tuition in all aspects of making uilleann pipes at our dedicated training centre. We offer regular tuition to players of the instrument in more than fifteen communities around the country and support local groups who promote the playing of the instrument. |
| **B.7.** *Describe your organization’s involvement in measures to ensure greater recognition of, respect for and enhancement of ICH, in particular those referred to in Article 14, ODs 105 to 109 and OD 155:*   1. *educational, awareness-raising and information programmes aimed at the general public, in particular young people;* 2. *educational and training programmes within the communities and groups concerned;* 3. *capacity-building activities for the safeguarding of ICH;* 4. *non-formal means of transmitting knowledge;* 5. *education for the protection of natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing ICH.*   *Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Our organization has a number of long-running programmes that offer the general public the opportunity to learn about and engage with the uilleann piping tradition. Our website offers online resources in relation to all aspects of uilleann piping. Our "pipes on loan" programme offers opportunities for young people to access a high quality instrument to learn to play on. We currently have over one hundred sets of pipes on loan.  Our teacher development programme has assisted with capacity-building to safeguard various aspects of uilleann piping. We have successfully trained pipers to teach and to develop the piping tradition in their own communities. We offer tuition in more than fifteen locations nationally. Our regional and national events and participation in summer schools offer opportunities for young pipers to engage with more experienced pipers and transmit knowledge in a non-formal environment. |
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| **C. Bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation** |
| *Report on any activities carried out by your organization at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives, as referred to in Article 19 and OD 156. You may, for example, consider the following issues:*   1. *sharing information and documentation concerning shared ICH (OD 87);* 2. *participating in regional cooperation activities including, for example, those of category 2 centres for ICH established under the auspices of UNESCO (OD 88);* 3. *developing networks of NGOs, communities, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes at subregional and regional levels to develop joint and interdisciplinary approaches concerning shared ICH (OD 86).*   *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Our online resource website (http://www.pipers.ie/source) includes over 30,000 items, including music scores, films of performances, technical information, lectures, tutorials, sound files and images, all aimed at fostering understanding of our instrument, and excellence in performance. The contents of the website are freely available to all. NPU cooperates on a regular basis with the following organizations: The Arts Council, The Irish Traditional Music Archive (www.itma.ie), Scoil Samhraidh Willie Clancy, Brooks Academy (www.setdance.com) and The Historical Harp Society of Ireland (www.irishharp.org). |
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| **D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage** |
| **D.1** *Has your organization participated in the Committee meetings or those of the General Assembly? If so, please indicate which meetings you attended and describe the nature of your contribution to the Committee’s work.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| No participation to date. Happy to participate in the future |
| **D.2** *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (OD 26 to 31), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*  *Not to exceed 100 words* |
| We have not served as a member of an Evaluation Body to date |
| **D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (OD 96) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*  *Not to exceed 500 words* |
| We would like to provide advisory services to the Committee in the future. |
| **E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (as described in OD 27 and OD 96):** |
| **E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| We have five full-time members of staff with very good command of English |
| **E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several ICH domains? Please describe your experiences.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Yes - oral traditions, performing arts, social practice and traditional craftsmanship are all elements of uilleann piping. Our organisation seeks to promote all aspects of cultural heritage associated with uilleann piping. |
| **E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Our organization frequently receives proposals to participate in collaborations. We also receive and evaluate applications from piping groups for support and assistance with local piping events. We offer annual scholarships to developing pipers. The scholarships are awarded via an application process which is administrated and evaluated by organization staff. |
| **E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| We have no experience drafting synthetic texts. |
| **E.5.** *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| Our organization has members in over thirty countries. Every year we organize International Uilleann Piping Day. In 2018 over fifty events took place worldwide where audiences got an opportunity to hear the uilleann pipes, learn about the instrument. As an organisation we have sent pipers to many international events to perform and explain about the instrument and the cultural heritage of uilleann piping. At our headquarters we frequently demonstrate the instrument to international groups. |
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| **F. Cooperation with UNESCO** |
| *Report on activities carried out by your organization in cooperation with UNESCO (both direct cooperation with UNESCO as well as activities carried out under the auspices of UNESCO or for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention, or financial support, such as funding from the Participation Program).*  *Not to exceed 250 words* |
| None to date. Willing to cooperate with UNESCO on any future activities |
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| **G. Signature** |
| *The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization.* |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Name: | Gill | | Title: | Mr | | Date: | 13-02-2019 | | Signature: | Emmett Gill | |

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1. . In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers when filling in parts B, C and E. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)