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Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh 2026
Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026

Programme of Limerick Events

Limerick/Germany Pairing
July to December 2026

Limerick City & County Council
in partnership with the
Centre for Irish-German Studies, UL

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh
Limerick City & County Council

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH
Centre for Irish-German Studies
Zentrum für deutsch-irische Studien

AUGUST 2026

7-10 August: European Sport For All Games 2026

- The Games will bring together over 250 participants from 26 European delegations, transforming parks, streets and public spaces into a vibrant and colourful celebration of traditional sports, games, heritage and culture. Demonstrations and performances will take place across the city, and people of all ages and abilities are welcome to take part. The Games are being organised by Limerick Sports Partnership and TAFISA in collaboration with Limerick City and County Council, University of Limerick, Sport Ireland, and co-funded by the European Union. For more information and the festival programme, please visit - https://limericksportforall.ie/
- Includes German dance group *Grüne Funken Oberelspe*, Saturday 8 August & Sunday 9 August, 11am-4pm in different locations: https://limericksportforall.ie/grune-funken-oberelspe-dance-group/

8 August: Guided tour of German art – Hunt Museum, 11am

- Monthly guided tour with focus on art and artefacts with German links (continues throughout programme on every second Saturday of the month), for more information see https://www.huntmuseum.com/whats-on/

Ardnacrusha Tours August

- Public tours of the historic **Siemens-Schuckert hydroelectric station (1925–1929)**
- Highlighting early Irish-German engineering cooperation
- Please book here: Ardnacrusha Tours 2026

Irish Palatine Museum in Rathkeale

- Highlighting early Irish-German migration from the year 1709
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am to 1pm. Admission charge is €10.00 per person. See https://www.irishpalatines.org/

Limerick City Gallery of Art (LCGA) German Collection, 1-31 August

- Welcome to the LCGA German Collection which has been specially curated in The Hub within the Gallery.
- Open Monday to Saturday 10am - 5pm & Sunday 12pm - 5pm.
- The collection brochure can be found here.

German Art Trail through Limerick

- Explore this self guided tour of the German Art Trail in Limerick. Special thanks to GBM, the City Gallery of Art, Mary Immaculate College, UL and the Hunt Museum.
- The trail brochure can be found here.

SEPTEMBER 2026

5 September: German Day at Saint Mary's Cathedral - Religion, history, music, migration

- 12 noon Lecture on the Palatine connection
- 2pm German Lutheran service, followed by refreshments
- 3.30pm Organ recital of German music
- Exhibition on Irish Palatines
- For more information, please visit https://saintmaryscathedral.ie/ or social media.

6 September: Pastel & Collage Workshop – Hunt Museum, 2pm

- Inspired by Franz Marc's Deer in the Forest I (1914)
- Throughout September there will be creative workshops exploring German artistic traditions, from Expressionism to folk crafts, each Sunday at 2pm
- For participants aged 14 and over to discover German culture through hands-on making inspired by German Artists and Traditional German Crafts.
- €5 per person (Friends of The Hunt Museum attend free).

10 September: CIGS German *Stammtisch* in Limerick

- Monthly meet-up to practise your German in a friendly atmosphere, all levels of German welcome!
- Join us at 8pm at Sextons Bar, 91 Henry Street, Limerick (there might even be a free slice of pizza).

12 September: Guided tour of German art – Hunt Museum, 11am

- Monthly guided tour with focus on art and artefacts with German links (continues throughout programme on every second Saturday of the month), for more information see https://www.huntmuseum.com/whats-on/

13 September: Lino Print Workshop – Hunt Museum, 2pm

- Inspired by Erich Heckel's *Junger Reiter* (1955)
- Throughout September there will be creative workshops exploring German artistic traditions, from Expressionism to folk crafts, each Sunday at 2pm
- For participants aged 14 and over to discover German culture through hands-on making inspired by German Artists and Traditional German Crafts.
- €5 per person (Friends of The Hunt Museum attend free).

17 September: Visit by Ambassador of Germany, H.E. Mr David Gill and Ambassador of Ireland, H.E. Ms Maeve Collins to Limerick

- This will include a visit to a school, a social farm and the Centre for Irish-German Studies, UL.

18 September: Culture Night – German traces in Limerick / Music event

- Guided Walk - On Heinrich Böll's Footsteps and other German links with Limerick, 7pm - led by Julia Weiss (UL) and Dr Hermann Rasche (University of Galway) the walk will start at the Potato Market.
- King John's Castle, 7-11pm free music event *Sionna & Trad Folkin' Rocks Presents* - a live outdoor music event celebrating Ireland's contemporary electronic music culture, blending traditional roots, folk innovation, and alternative rock.

20 September: Ceramic Hand-Building Workshop – Hunt Museum, 2pm

- Inspired by Meissen's Large Leopard (c. 1750)
- Throughout September there will be creative workshops exploring German artistic traditions, from Expressionism to folk crafts, each Sunday at 2pm
- For participants aged 14 and over to discover German culture through hands-on making inspired by German Artists and Traditional German Crafts.
- €5 per person (Friends of The Hunt Museum attend free).

21 September: Guided tour of the Irish-German book collection in UL's Glucksman Library, 12pm

- Exploring a unique collection of Irish-German material, including the Gottschalk Collection in the UL Library (2nd floor and Special Collections and Archive)
- Please register here https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events/guided-tour-of-the-irish-german-book-collection-in-uls-glucksman-library

24-26 September: Palatine Play 'Refuge' by Deirdre Kinahan – Lime Tree Theatre, MIC, 8pm

- First performance of the play *Refuge* in Ireland and opening of the travelling exhibition on the Irish Palatines (for more information on the exhibition see: https://www.ireland.ie/en/germany/the-irish-palatine-story/)
- For more information on the play and booking see https://limetreebelltable.ie/events/refuge-by-deirdre-kinahan/

24 September: Guided tour of Imogen Stuart's sculptures at Mary Immaculate College, 4pm

- An introduction to some of the major works by Imogen Stuart on the MIC Limerick Campus.
- To register for the tour, please send an email to Christiane Schönfeld at christiane.schonfeld@mic.ul.ie.

25 September: Friar's Gate Theatre, Kilmallock, 4pm

- EU Youth Presentation With County Limerick Youth Theatre, more information here https://www.friarsgate.ie/eu-youth-presentation/
- Free tickets here: https://eventlist.store/friarsgatetheatre/fgt

27 September: Paper & Paint Workshop– Hunt Museum, 2pm

- Inspired by Ore Mountain Folk Art Angels
- For participants aged 14 and over to discover German culture through hands-on making inspired by German Artists and Traditional German Crafts.
- €5 per person (Friends of The Hunt Museum attend free).

Irish Palatine Museum in Rathkeale

- Highlighting early Irish-German migration from the year 1709
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays,
  10am to 1pm. Admission charge is €10.00 per person.
  See https://www.irishpalatines.org/
- There is also a possibility of a talk and guided tour for groups, please contact https://www.irishpalatines.org/visit.html?abc?abc

OCTOBER 2026

Throughout October - Limerick City Gallery of Art German Collection /// self-guided German Art through Limerick see https://www.limerick.ie/sites/default/files/media/documents/2026-08/german-art-trail-brochure.pdf

1-5 October: Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary & Arts Festival in Newcastle West, Co. Limerick

- 1 October (7.30pm) Éigse Festival Parade with an European theme. Workshops with children and young people to be held in advance creating coloured streamers and banners using colours of EU flags. Parade to begin in the Square, led by drummers and proceed down Maiden St to Longcourt House Hotel.
- 1 October (8.00-9.30pm) Gala Concert featuring a chamber string orchestra playing German classical and modern music with Irish music interludes as well as songs, poems, Longcourt House Hotel free tickets here https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eigse-gala-concert-tickets-1999677550383
- 3 October (11am) Michael Hartnett Memorial Lecture by Irish-German author Hugo Hamilton, The Desmond Complex, tickets €10 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/michael-hartnett-memorial-lecture-tickets-1999681439014
- 3 October (7.30pm) Author Donal Ryan, recipient of the Jean Monnet Prize for European Literature, will read and talk about his work. Longcourt House Hotel, tickets €10, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/donal-ryan-where-are-the-kings-tickets-1999693353651
- 4 October (11am) Arán agus Brot: a talk and demonstration by chef Tom Flavin on bread and its history and place in the life and culture of Germany and Ireland, Longcourt House Hotel, tickets €15, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aran-agus-brot-tickets-1999693671602

4 October: Resurgam concert SINGET! - German baroque motets Resurgam with Sagittarius Hiberniensis and Saint Mary's Cathedral Choir, Saint Mary's Cathedral, 6.00pm

- German motets of the 17th and 18th centuries
- Featuring work by Heinrich Schütz, Dieterich Buxtehude and Johann Sebastian Bach and others
- Ticket price: €20/€10 concession, tickets available **here**.

5 October: CIGS German *Stammtisch* in Limerick

- Monthly meet-up to practise your German in a friendly atmosphere, all levels of German welcome
- Join us at 8pm at Sextons Bar, 91 Henry Street, Limerick (there might even be a free slice of pizza).

5 October: Irish-German Lecture organised by the Thomond Archaeological & Historical Society

- 'The travels of Limerick woman Maria Francis Dickson (1809-1885) to Germany and elsewhere' by Prof Joachim Fischer at 8pm in T116 TARA Building, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

10 October: Guided tour of German art – Hunt Museum, 11am

- Monthly guided tour with focus on art and artefacts with German links (continues throughout programme on every second Saturday of the month), for more information see https://www.huntmuseum.com/whats-on/

12-13 October: Meeting of Ministers for Telecommunication of all EU member states

- For more information see Informal meeting of Telecommunications Ministers (TTE Telecoms)

13 October: Friar's Gate Theatre, Kilmallock

- Cómhrá agus Konversation – Irish and German Tea morning – Coláiste Iosaef collaboration, confident Irish and German speaking students to present discussion in both languages around traditional culture – linked in with curriculum

12-16 October: German Week and Irish-German Literature Events, CIGS, UL / Goethe Institut Dublin

- Workshops for universities, schools, teachers, and meetings with student ambassadors (online/in person), more details in late September at https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events.
- 13 October - Reading by acclaimed German writer Ulrike Draesner (online and in person), 10am, Feeney Room, Plassey House, UL, please register here https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events.
- 14 October – CIGS online workshop for secondary school teacher – introducing free online teaching materials (www.Resources-for-German.com) and sharing craft ideas

for autumn activities, 4pm. Please register here https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events
- 16 October - Online German Roadshow by the Goethe Institut Dublin on 16 October with information of employment opportunities, short presentation (more information will be available at Karriere-Roadshow Irland - Goethe-Institut Irland)

15 October: Guided tour of Imogen Stuart's sculptures at Mary Immaculate College, 4pm

- An introduction to some of the major works by Imogen Stuart on the MIC Limerick Campus.
- To register for the tour, please send an email to Christiane Schönfeld at christiane.schonfeld@mic.ul.ie.

17 October: An illustrated tour and talk on the stained glass windows and statues in St John's Cathedral which were manufactured mainly by German firm Mayer of Munich, St John's Cathedral, 12.30pm

- Learn more about the windows and statues by the German firm that created windows for Irish churches all over Ireland – starting with St. John's Cathedral
- Presented by George Lee

19 October: Guided tour of the Irish-German book collection in UL's Glucksman Library, 12pm

- Exploring a unique collection of Irish-German material, including the Gottschalk Collection in the UL Library (2nd floor and Special Collections and Archive)
- Please register here https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events

19 October: Energy Event – Foynes

- An event organised by Shannon Foynes Port and the Embassy of German Dublin to deepen the business connections between Germany and Limerick
- More details will become available here: https://sfpc.ie/

29 October: Twilight Thursday

- For more information see https://twilightthursdays.ie/

NOVEMBER 2026

2 November: CIGS German *Stammtisch* in Limerick

- Monthly meet-up to practise your German in a friendly atmosphere, all levels of German welcome
- Join us at 8pm at Sextons Bar, 91 Henry Street, Limerick (there might even be a free slice of pizza).

2 November: Centre for Irish-German Studies Event on Migration – Questions of Migration in Germany, Ireland and the EU, 3-6pm, University of Limerick, Feeney Room, Plassey House, UL

- Hilkka Becker (Chairperson, "International Protection Appeals Determination in an evolving EU and national legal landscape" (3pm); Prof Dr Christoph Schroeder (Universität Potsdam) and Dr Fiodhna Gardiner Hyland (MIC, Limerick): "Questions of Migration, Integration, Language Policy and the Changing Landscape of Education – Germany and Ireland" (4pm).

4 November: Rediscovering Margit Wagner's Irish Films from the 1950s to the 1970s - Belltable Theatre, Limerick, 6.30-10pm (in conjunction with the Irish Film Institute)

- Presenting three unique & almost forgotten portrayals of Ireland, featuring very diverse facets - ranging from old legends, contemporary social work, traditions and modernity
- The event includes a presentation by Margit Wagner's son Prof Albrecht Wagner and a short discussion with him, Sunniva O'Flynn (IFI) & Prof Gisela Holfter, CIGS
- Presented by the Irish Film Institute (IFI), curated by CIGS, supported by Culture Ireland
- More info and booking here: https://limetreebelltable.ie/events/rediscovering-margit-wagner/

2nd week/9-13 November CIGS Sustainability & Climate Change event, UL

- With Prof. Karen Wiltshire, Vice Director of the Alfred Wegener Institute & CRH Chair of Climate Science, TCD; John Gormley, former Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and Lord Mayor of Dublin, Dr Sarah Schaefer, UL, more details in early September at https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events.

13 November: German Roadshow (with Goethe Institut Dublin and employers), CIGS video competition and network meeting, CIGS, UL

- Focus on German language learning (UL and MIC)
- Roadshow for students of German with Goethe-Institut Dublin and German employers
- Events & workshops for schools, teachers, and employers with student ambassadors
- and discussion & Resources-for-German.com presentations, workshops etc (also earlier that week)
- CIGS video competition for final year students of German from all Irish universities with *Irish Times* Germany correspondent Derek Scally
- Network meeting with DAAD and OeAD Lektors and Teaching Assistants
- More details in early September under https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events.

13 November: Irish-German Lecture organised by the Rathkeale & District Historical Society

- 'The Shannon Scheme from a German perspective' by Prof Joachim Fischer at 8.30pm, Rathkeale & District Historical Society, Rathkeale

14 November: Guided tour of German art – Hunt Museum, 11am

- Monthly guided tour with focus on art and artefacts with German links (continues throughout programme on every second Saturday of the month), for more information see https://www.huntmuseum.com/whats-on/

14 November: Intercultural Dance Workshops, Friar's Gate Theatre, Kilmallock

- Led by experienced traditional dancer and facilitator Ciara Flanagan, the workshops will introduce participants to traditional Irish dance styles and rhythms alongside an introduction to German folk dance
- Tickets: https://eventlist.store/friarsgatetheatre/fgt
- Children aged 6–11(€5) – 11.00am–12.00pm; Teenagers aged 12–17 (€8) – 1.00pm–2.30pm; Adults aged 18+ (€8) –3.00–4:30pm

15/16 November: "A Taste of Europe: Celebrating Language and Culture across the EU", Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- Culinary event and student information day of language options, including a special "Taste of Germany" celebration (part of TUS languages week, for more information see https://tus.ie/events/)

16 November: Guided tour of the Irish-German book collection in UL's Glucksman Library, 12pm

- Exploring the most precious items of the Gottschalk Collection in the Special Collections and Archive, UL Library
- Please register here https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events

17 November: Roundtable on Ireland and Germany in the EU – CIGS and CEUROS, UL, 2-4pm, UL Globe, Millstream Courtyard Building UL

- With Prof Brigid Laffan (Chancellor of the University of Limerick and Emeritus Professor at the European University Institute), Michael Collins (Emeritus Ambassador to Germany, the US, Saudi Arabia and the Czech Republic) and Joachim Fischer (Emeritus Jean Monnet Chair in European Cultural Studies & Associate Professor of German)
- Please register under https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events

19 November: Celebrating Irish-German business links & Launch "Voices of Krups" – the CIGS audiovisual collection of recollections of one of Limerick's most treasured employers - Limerick Museum, 5.30pm / 7pm Irish-German business networking event in the Limerick Chamber of Commerce – "Irish-German economic links present and future"

- Remembering Irish-German business links in the past and facilitating the future
- Includes display of German business-related material in Limerick Museum

21 November: Friar's Gate Theatre Kilmallock

- Lough Gur pottery workshop – air dry, traditional Irish/German symbols with German community

30 November: Book Launch *The Many Facets and Enduring Legacy of the Shannon Scheme 1925-1929* (edited by Gisela Holfter, IGS 17, WVT: Trier 2026), **Hunt Museum, 6pm**

- Launch of the book on Ardnacrusha, the hydro-electric power station
- In partnership with Siemens, ESB and the German Embassy
- Opportunities for German-Irish business networking

Workshops on St. Martin, Advent wreaths, Christmas tree decorations, Christmas baking recipes, and traditional crafts (in November and December for teachers and students, UL, more info to come in early October on https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events)

DECEMBER 2026

3-4 December - Week of Innovative Regions in Europe (WIRE 2026), Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)

- WIRE 2026 will co-create strategies for sustainable regional growth, showcase regional success stories and innovations from across Europe and facilitate knowledge exchange between EU institutions, regional actors, and Horizon Europe projects and strengthen collaborative policy development aligned with the EU Green Deal and smart specialisation strategies
- Further details are available here: https://irish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/events/wire-2026-future-regions-the-role-of-sustainable-innovation-in-european-competitiveness/

7 December: CIGS German *Stammtisch* in Limerick (tbc)

- Monthly meet-up to practise your German in a friendly atmosphere, all levels of German welcome
- Join us at 8pm at Sextons Bar, 91 Henry Street, Limerick (there might even be a free slice of pizza).

11 December: An Irish-German Christmas on the Milk Market, 1pm

- With music, singing and a small market organised by different stake holders including Limerick Opera Festival, CIGS and MIC (tbc) •

12 December: Guided tour of German art – Hunt Museum, 11am

- Monthly guided tour with focus on art and artefacts with German links (continues throughout programme on every second Saturday of the month), for more information see https://www.huntmuseum.com/whats-on/

21 December: Guided tour of the Irish-German book collection in UL's Glucksman Library, 12pm

- Exploring the most precious items of the Gottschalk Collection in the Special Collections and Archive, UL Library
- Please register here https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events

Presidency Close event (for more information visit www.Limerick.ie and https://www.ul.ie/artsoc/irish-german/events closer to the time)

Programme & Partnership Working Group

Katherina Gruber, Nancy Reck, Isabella Neisinger-Langner & Andreas Strauchmann (Embassy of Germany, Dublin), James Kilcourse & colleagues (Embassy of Ireland, Berlin), Prof Gisela Holfter (Director Centre for Irish German Studies, UL), Julie Long (Studio GBM), Jerry Hallissey (Head of Business Development, Shannon Foynes Port Company), Sean Lenihan & colleagues (Brendan Troy, Martin Curran, Mary Carroll, Jurate Andrijauskiene, Etain McCooey & Eric Clarke (Limerick City and County Council)

Thanks and acknowledgements also to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, and other stakeholder including the Hunt Museum, Limerick City Art Gallery, Irish Palatine Association, Limerick Museum, Belltable & Lime Tree Theatres, Saint Mary's Cathedral, Saint John's Cathedral, Rathkeale & District Historical Society, Thomond Archaeological & Historical Society, Limerick Opera Festival and MIC, TUS and UL.