



**LEAS-UACHTARÁN DON GAEILGE**

**GRIAN**

**NIDHAIMHIN**



**USI CONGRESS 2021: 6TH-8TH APRIL**  
**COMHDHÁIL AMLÉ 2021: 6-8 AIBREÁN**

# Bhuel, Craic ar bith?

Hi, Is mise Grian, agus tá mise ag iarraidh do vóta le bheith mar an chéad Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge AMLÉ ón na Sé Chontae agus le obair uile Éireannach a dhéanamh ar cursaí Gaeilge.

Creidim, le háit agus stadás an Ghaeilge a athrú i nÉirinn, caithfidh muid amharc ar na córais a chrúthaíonn leithceal agus drochbhail in éadan an teanga: an coilíneachas agus an caipitleachas.

Tá na huirlisí againn sa gluaiseacht seo le na chórais seo a bhaint anuas agus an tacaíocht ceart a thabhairt don teanga agus a chainteoirí. Tá sé in am athrú radacach a chuir i bhfeidhm agus tá an táithí, an díograis agus an paisean agamsa le ghluaiseacht radacach ar son cearta teanga san ardoideachas agus an breisoideachas.

Tabhair dom do vóta do Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge le cinntiú go bhfuil guth an phobail, ó achan coirnéail den tír, i gcroílár AMLÉ agus an ghluaiseacht mic léinn.

# Well, folks!

If we truly want to change the place and status of the Irish language in Ireland, we need to look at the systems that have led to the discrimination against, and disrepair of, the language; namely, colonialism and capitalism.

The student movement has the tools to dismantle these systems and to support the language and her speakers and it is time we worked towards necessary radical change. I feel I have the experience, the passion and the drive to lead a radical movement for change within higher and further education.

Vote for me to be USI's next Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge to ensure we remain radical and rooted in the fight for the language rights, growth and visibility.

# Díchoilíneadh ár n-Institúid

## Decolonising our Institutions

Tá ár gcóras oideachas go fóill bunaithe ar smaointe agus córais faoin coilíneachas agus tá sé chomh tábhachtach go bhfuil ról ag ár ngluaiseacht náisiúnta mic léinn i baint aníos na chórais sin. Mar Leas Uachtarán don Ghaeilge, déanfaidh mé an obair shíos le obair i dtreo ár ollscoileanna agus coláistí a díchoilíneadh.

Our education systems still perpetuate colonial systems, ideas and mindsets. It is important that our national student movement works to dismantle these by decolonising our institutions, with black students and students of colour at the centre of this movement. And our programme of work also needs to include a radical overhaul of the Irish language in education and academia. Decolonisation will be at the heart of my work, and as part of a campaign to Decolonise our Institutions I will:

- Work to ensure all higher education institutions commit to decolonisation by supporting research and providing sufficient financial investment.
- Lobby our governments to secure support and investment for decolonisation of our institutions.
- Establish a Decolonising Network for students and Students' Unions in USI, alongside the VP Equality and Citizenship.
- Deliver A Plan for Radical Education Reform; through working to create more pathways with Irish, embed Irish as a core skill for Apprentices, work to ensure a broader range of modules and courses through Irish in both higher and further education and develop a strategy to tackle the deficit in Irish-medium teachers.
- Empowering and supporting research through Irish, and on the Irish language that looks at the impact of colonialism and neo-liberal ideas on the language, its decline and growth and her speakers.

# Breisoideachas

## Further Education

Tacóidh mé le hAontais Mic Léinn Breisoideachas, grúpa fágtha mach as feachtais teanga agus feachtais náisiúnta go minic, leis na polasaithe shíos a chuir i bhfeidm.

I will work with and support Further Education Students' Unions to:

- Deliver bilingual pathways and pathways through Irish
- Create more spaces for Irish speaking students and learners
- Develop Irish language policies and support increased bilingualism within Students' Unions and services within their colleges

# Printíseacha

## Apprentices

Tá mise paiseanta fá achan mac léinn a thabhairt isteach sa feachtas ar son cearta teanga, printíseacha san áireamh, mar sin de oibróide mé leo le obair i dtreo na polasaithe thíos.

I am passionate about ensuring that education through Irish is as universal as possible, and ensuring that apprentices are included in any work conducted by LU Gaeilge. I will work with the National Society of Apprentices and other organisations to:

- Ensure Irish is introduced as a core skill option for apprentices
- Create more bilingual apprenticeship options with employers
- Build a network of Irish speaking apprentices across the island of Ireland

# **Ag tacú le Aontais Mac Léinn**

## **Supporting Students' Unions**

I understand what it is like to have an entire institution, the law and a political force oppose any movement on the Irish language, and I have the experience of still achieving significant wins in spite of this through community activism.

Whether dealing with difficult institutions or trying to engage your Irish speaking student body, every Students' Union has unique needs. I will work with every member organisation to help them develop achievable aims and ambitious policies and work with them in every step of their delivery, including:

- Irish language accommodation on campus
- Bilingual signage
- Student services and communications available through Irish in our institutions
- The collation of data by universities and colleges on Irish speaking students

## **Cearta Teanga**

### **Language rights**

Is cuma cá háit a bhfuil tú i nÉirinn, diúltaíodh ár gcearta arís agus arís eile, agus tá ár gcearta i gcónaí faoi bhagairt. Troidfidh mise ar son cearta pobal na Ghaeilge a chinntiú sa dlí sna Sé Chontae agus oibróidh mé le cearta teanga sna Sé Chontae is Fiche a chuir i bhfeidhm. Déanfaidh mé seo trí seasamh gualainn ar ghualainn leis na phobail agus feachtais atá ag obair ar na cursaí seo, agus an ghluaiseacht mic léinn ar son cearta teanga a neartú trí eagrú agus gníomhaíocht an phobail.

No matter where you live in Ireland, Irish language rights are denied or under threat. I will fight to have Irish speakers' rights in the north supported in legislation, and to ensure the rights of Irish speakers across this island are actually implemented. I will do this by standing shoulder to shoulder with the communities and campaigns working on these issues and strengthening the student movement for language rights through grassroots organising and community activism.

# Seasamh in Éadan Corruithe

## Fighting Cuts

I gcóras oideachas faoin caipitleachas, tá an Ghaeilge i gcónaí faoi bhagairt ó ollscoileanna, coláistí agus rialtais.

Tchíonn muid an t-am ar fad é. I mo ról mar Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge, troidfidh mé ar son níos mó maoiniú agus tacaíocht do:

- Ceantracha Gaeltachta agus cursaí oideachais, tithíocht agus seibhisí poiblí.
- Cúrsaí Gaeilge, agus níos mó cursaí agus modúlanna trí Ghaeilge
- An Ghaeloideachas agus teagasc an Ghaeilge
- Pobal na Gaeilge agus eagraíochtaí óige

In a marketised higher education system, the Irish language is always under threat of cuts from universities, colleges and governments. We have seen this at institutions all across this island. If elected as your next LU Gaeilge, I will fight for additional funding and support for:

- Our Gaeltacht areas on issues of adequate housing, education and public services
- Irish language courses and courses through Irish
- The Irish-medium education sector and the teaching of Irish at secondary level
- Irish language community and youth organisations

# Spásanna do Chainteoirí Gaeilge

## Spaces for Cainteoirí Gaeilge

Mar chainteoir Gaeilge, tuigim an tábhacht atá le spásanna leis an Ghaeilge a labhairt, agus mar Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge:

- Crúthóidh mé spásanna in achan feachtas le páirt a ghlacadh trí Ghaeilge
- Nasc níos láidre a chrúthú idir cainteoirí Gaeilge ar fud fad na tíre le imeahctaí Chumainn Ghaelacha a chuir chun cinn agus spásanna sóisialta Gaeilge a chrúthú in AMLÉ

Ach tuigim fosta an tábhacht atá lenár comhghuaillí agus ba mhaith liom spásanna a chrúthú d'fhoghlaimeoirí agus traenáil gníomhaí d'aon duine le spéis agus suim sa Ghaeilge.

As a cainteoir Gaeilge, I appreciate spaces where Irish speakers can engage and contribute freely in my native tongue. As LU Gaeilge I will:

- Create spaces in every USI campaign and event for Irish speakers to engage and contribute in their native tongue.
- Connect Irish speaking students to engage socially and informally, outside of organising and campaigning and to promote events organised by Cumainn Ghaelacha and Students' Unions open to all.

But Irish speakers are a minority, and we love our allies. If elected, I will:

- work to ensure there is adequate activist training for anyone looking to work on issues facing the Irish speaking community to educate, agitate and organise everyone for language rights.
- Continue to grow our bilingual spaces, and spaces for learners to use their Irish.



# An Ghaeltacht

Tá brú ollmhór ar ceantracha Gaeltachta mar gheall ar cursaí agus scéimeanna samhraidh a bhí curtha ar ceal mar gheall ar an paidéim. Tá an tumoideachas an-tábhachtach leis an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim. Bhí an Ghaeltacht i ngéarchéim roimh an paidéim agus níl cursaí ach ag iarraidh níos measa. Caithfí an ghluaiseacht mic léinn troid ar son an Ghaeltacht, agus mar Leas-Uachtarán don Ghaeilge oibríodh mé leis na polasaithe thíos a chuir i bhfeidhm.

Gaeltacht areas have been massively impacted by cancelled and postponed course trips and summer schemes. With Gaeltacht areas already in crisis, it is more important than ever that USI and the students who benefit from immersive learning support Gaeltacht areas and the people who live there on issues of housing, public services, access to education and employment. As LU Gaeilge I will:

- Fight to have universities, colleges and governments cover all costs associated with attending immersive learning in Gaeltacht areas, to ensure students are not at any financial disadvantage when accessing teaching in Gaeltacht areas.
- Lobby universities and colleges who provide compulsory teaching in Gaeltacht areas to develop long-term strategies to economically support these communities.
- Lobby our governments to reinstate public services in these areas, and deal with the structural and systemic issues around public transport, access to education and housing.