

## **Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality invites submissions on the Recognition of Traveller Ethnicity**

The Joint Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality is undertaking a study in relation to the Recognition of Traveller Ethnicity. The Committee has had two public hearings on 17<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and has decided to invite written submissions from interested groups or individuals in relation to this topic. Transcripts of the two meetings are available on the Oireachtas website or by clicking below.

[Link to Committee Page](#)

The Committee will consider any written submissions received and may decide to invite a number of contributors to public hearings should it feel that this is necessary.

Please note that recording of all submissions/communications will be undertaken by the Clerk to the Committee and the Secretariat and therefore submissions should **not** be sent to individual members of the Committee.

If you wish to make a written submission, please do so, preferably by electronic means to the Clerk to the Committee at: [justiceanddefence@oir.ie](mailto:justiceanddefence@oir.ie)

As a general guideline, submissions should consist of a separate document accompanied by a covering letter. Submissions should be presented as concisely as possible. The covering letter should contain your name and contact details (phone number and postal address and, if available, an email address). If the submission is on behalf of an organisation, you should indicate your position in the organisation. **You should also indicate if you would be prepared to appear in public session at any Committee meeting.**

The main document should contain the following information:

- (i) A brief introduction, for example, explaining your area of expertise;
- (ii) Any factual information that you have to offer from which the Committee might be able to draw conclusions, or which could be put to other parties for their reactions;
- (iii) Any recommendations to the Committee which should be as specific as possible and should be summarised at the end of the document; and
- (iv) An executive summary of the main points made in the submission, if your document is more than 10 pages long.

As already indicated, submissions should, where possible, be made by electronic means and it is not necessary to also forward a hard copy of your submission.

### ***Making a submission is a public process***

The Committee is not obliged to accept your document once it has been submitted, nor is it obliged to publish any or all of the submission if it has been accepted. However, the operations of a parliament are a public process, and you should be aware that any submissions made to a Committee may be published either as part of a Committee report, or separately, if the Committee decides to do so.

A more detailed document outlining the guidelines for making a written submission is available from the Clerk to the Committee or at:

[www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/media/committees/factsheets/Fact-Sheet-5--Making-Submissions-and-Presentations-to-Oireachtas-Committees.pdf](http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/media/committees/factsheets/Fact-Sheet-5--Making-Submissions-and-Presentations-to-Oireachtas-Committees.pdf)

The Members of the Joint Committee are:

- Deputies:  
Niall Collins, Marcella Corcoran Kennedy, Alan Farrell, Anne Ferris [Vice-Chairman], Seán Kenny, Pádraig MacLochlainn, Finian McGrath, John Paul Phelan and David Stanton (Chairman).
- Senators:  
Ivana Bacik, Paul Bradford, Martin Conway, Rónán Mullen, Denis O'Donovan and Katherine Zappone.

The closing date for receipt of submissions is ***Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 3p.m.***

Should you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact

Alan Guidon  
Clerk to the Committee  
01 618 3899