

Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit

State Examinations Commission

###### Leaving Certificate Examination 2024

Politics and Society

Higher and Ordinary Level

100 marks

Report on Citizenship Project

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| **Examination Number** | 6 Digit Number |
| **Date of Birth** | Format DD/MM/YY |

Information for candidates, teachers and schools

**Completion of the report**

* Your Report on your Citizenship Project must be completed in this booklet, using the prescribed structure. The booklet has been supplied to you in Microsoft Word (.docx) format. However, when you are signing off and submitting your digital coursework booklet, it must be converted to PDF format before being submitted through the Schools Portal. You must also print the final version of your PDF booklet and give it to your teacher. You should proof-read carefully this copy that you have printed from the PDF file, to ensure that all of your work is visible. Any work that is not visible on the printed copy will likewise not be visible to examiners marking the work digitally and can therefore not gain any marks. It is your responsibility to ensure that all electronic material submitted is free from viruses etc., so that the file can be opened for assessment.
* You must ensure that any text you enter into boxes in this document is visible. Text may overflow and disappear if you type beyond the end of the box or copy and paste text into a box. Any work that is not visible in the box will not be seen by an examiner and will not be awarded any marks.
* **Examiners will only mark work that is submitted as outlined in this booklet.**
* The three sections of your report must not exceed a total length of 1,700 words, excluding references and bibliography. The booklet gives a maximum number of words for each section of the report, and these are listed in the guidance on the report structure below. The total number of pages of your booklet must not exceed 14 pages.
* You must not change the structure or format of the booklet in any way and should adhere to the following formatting guidelines:
  + The text should be in Arial, font size 12.
  + You may make use of text editing features such as italics, bullets, postscript, etc.
  + Document margins have been set and should not be changed. The text margins for each A4 page are:
    - left margin 20 mm
    - right margin 20 mm
    - top margin 20 mm
    - bottom margin 30 mm
* You are not allowed to change these settings or otherwise circumvent these restrictions which are set to facilitate online marking. You are also not allowed to attach or include links to any other material.
* An image can be any relevant tables, graphs, charts, diagrams and photographs. Space is provided towards the end of the booklet for you to include relevant images if you wish. When referring to any specific image, then the image must be properly labelled (figure 1, figure 2, etc.). Images should not be used as a means to include additional text. The total number of images allowed in this booklet is six. It is advisable not to use images where individuals in these images may be identifiable.
* Penalties may apply where the overall word count, number of images, or page count is exceeded.
* At the end of the booklet, you must also include references and bibliography in the space provided. You must reference any information used in your report, such as: publications including books, professional journals and government reports; online sources and other types of media; any material generated using artificial intelligence (AI) software or application; and material from specialist organisations and relevant individuals. To include such material without properly referencing the source will be considered plagiarism. In addition, the copying from, or reproduction of material from such sources may also be considered plagiarism.
* Candidates should keep all notes in relation to coursework (such as records of the planning, research and execution of the project), until the appeals process has concluded. Such material may also need to be made available to staff of the State Examinations Commission if the authenticity of your work is called into question.
* The State Examinations Commission will provide further information in relation to the appropriate file name to use and how to upload the digital coursework to the school portal in due course.
* Your Citizenship Project Report must be backed up on a secure encrypted storage system until the State Examinations Commission is satisfied that the projects have been received and are accessible. This will require material being retained until the examination process is complete, including until after the appeal process is completed.

**Authentication**

* The project and report must be your own individual work – authenticated by yourself, your teacher and the management authority of your school. Authentication is an important part of how we in the State Examinations Commission ensure fairness to everybody in the assessment of coursework.
* Your teacher must supervise your completion of both the project and the reporting booklet. The planning, execution and reporting of the citizenship project must be completed under the supervision of the class teacher in accordance with the conditions set out by the State Examinations Commission in Circulars S69/04; S68/08 and S76/22, which are available at [www.examinations.ie](http://www.examinations.ie). If your teacher cannot confirm that the Report on the Citizenship Project is your own work, and that you carried out the project and completed the report under his or her supervision, the State Examinations Commission will not accept it for assessment. In that case, you will forfeit the marks for this component of the examination. Teachers and the authorities of schools are familiar with the detailed requirements to ensure that practical and project work is valid for examination purposes. You should comply fully with all requests that are made by the teacher and the school in order to enable authentication of your work.
* Any case of suspected copying, plagiarism, (which includes the use of AI software) improper assistance, or procurement of work prepared by another party will be thoroughly investigated. These actions are breaches of examination rules and attract the penalties described in the Rules and Programme for Secondary Schools. The penalties include: loss of the marks for the coursework, loss of the subject, loss of the entire examination in all subjects, or being debarred from the Certificate Examinations in subsequent years. There may be serious consequences for any persons who provides you with inappropriate assistance, as this is an offence under the Education Act 1998.

**Note**: Responsibility for complying with examination requirements rests with **you**, the candidate. If the requirements are not followed, your teacher and school will have no choice but to bring this to the attention of the State Examinations Commission.

**Report Structure and Assessment Weightings**

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| **Section** | **Content** |
| **Section A**  35 marks  *Maximum of 500 words approximately* | **Rationale and research**   * Explain the rational for the action you have chosen to carry out. * Give a clear account of the aims of the citizenship project, the means chosen to achieve those aims and the action plan. In the case of a group project, identify both the group’s aims for the project and the aims that you had as an individual in order to fulfil your role. * Provide a summary of research undertaken including the key research findings (data) which informed the action. Comment on the sources of information used to inform the action such as web-based materials, literature, interviews, and other sources. * Make sure you include full references in the *References and Bibliography* section at the end of the report. |
| **Section B**  45 marks  *Maximum of 900 words approximately* | **Execution of citizenship project**   * Provide a summary of the actions undertaken in carrying out the project. In the case of a group project, distinguish clearly between group actions and your individual actions by using “we” or “I” as appropriate. * Critically analyse the various elements of the action plan, including as appropriate any challenges encountered and how these challenges were dealt with * Describe the outcomes of the project. |
| **Section C**  20 marks  *Maximum of 300 words approximately* | **Reflections on knowledge gained and skills developed**   * Critically reflect on the personal insights and knowledge you have gained about this issue since undertaking the project. * Identify and describe the skills you developed through your work on this project with particular reference to working with others and being personally effective. * Briefly explain the role that reflection, feedback from others, and learning from the course played in helping you to carry out the project. |

The report structure also includes a space for giving details of references and bibliography, and a space to optionally include relevant images, diagrams, charts or data. These are not marked separately, but are assessed in the course of marking the three main sections above.

# Project title chosen and details of completion

Type or paste into the space below the full text of the project title you selected.

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| Undertake a comparative case-study between public service media and privately-owned media in a democracy. Plan and deliver a webinar to highlight your findings. |

State whether you carried out the Citizenship Project individually or as part of a group:

Individual project  Group project

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| If part of a group, state the number of members of the group, including you: | Click here to enter text. |

If part of a group, list the examination numbers of the other members of the group:

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| Click here to enter text. |

## Word count

Complete the following table only after you have finished your report.

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| --- | --- |
| Section | Number of words |
| Section A (max 500 words) | Click here to enter text. |
| Section B (max 900 words) | Click here to enter text. |
| Section C (max 300 words) | Click here to enter text. |
| Total | Click here to enter text. |

# Section A: Rationale and research (35 marks)

(maximum 500 words)

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| Explanation for rationale  I chose this topic for my project for several reasons. I use media daily, mostly privately-owned ones, because of this Media affects my life greatly, because of this it interests me. I have lived until not long ago in Hungary where the public service media was used for mostly propaganda and the effects of these propagandas impacted my daily life greatly. In school we have learned about the uses and dangers media which allowed me to see the situation in Hungary from a new perspective. For these reasons I chose this theme for my project.  Aims  I will compare private and public media and examine my opinion on the subject using these findings. Which is that the best situation is when both public and private media are in an equilibrium, both restraining each other.  To show this I will look at what happens when this is not the case by doing a case study on the KESHA foundation and the new Sovereignty Protection Authority law and its communication by both sides. I will examine how it undermines independent media and threatens its function as a watchdog.  I also want to provide people with my findings in the form of a webinar, to raise awareness, encourage discussion and help them make a more informed decision about the consumption of media and to avoid the mistakes that Hungary made. My audience for this webinar will be primarily my politics class.  Means to achieve these aims   1. I will plan and conduct interviews with some people from Hungary as to gather qualitative data and get a better view on the state of Hungarian media. 2. I will contact a Hungarian media outlet and ask them for further information on the topic 3. I will analyse these finding and compare them to quantitate secondary data. 4. I will make the presentation for my webinar based on my research founding’s. 5. Survey the impact of the project at the end of webinar.   Summary of the findings and sources (8-10)  I have done secondary research by looking up many different sources on the internet. I have conducted an interview with some Hungarians and emailed Telex to gather primary qualitative data.  KESMA was founded in September 2018 and has been criticized by many organizations including the European Federation of Journalists and the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom. It gathers the ownership rights of more than 470 different Hungarian media outlets, gets approximately 85% of the state advertising revenue and while on paper it is independent it is an open secret that they have close ties with the government and Viktor Orban. |

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| The new Sovereignty Protection Authority law aims to stop outside meddling in Hungarian politics, but it would have the means to investigate, threaten and harass any individuals and organizations who publicly criticize the government. As stated by the IPI and the RSF, it also violated the rules of law.  Independent media maintain major positions in the market, but they are subject to political, economic, and regulatory pressures. Many independent media outlets have been bought by government affiliated peoples and were changed to support the narrative of the ruling party or were shut down.  References and Bibliography |

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# Section B: Execution of citizenship project (45 marks)

(maximum 900 words)

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| Summary of action  I have researched secondary sources on the general topic of the media in Hungary. I have identified KESMA as one of the most significant companies in Hungarian media. I have looked at the communication on the Sovereignty Protection Authority law, its aims and communication on both sides.  I have contacted and interviewed people from Hungary about their experiences and opinions about the state of Hungarian media and the Sovereignty Protection Authority law.  I have emailed Telex, that is an independent Hungarian media outlet and asked them information about the impact of Sovereignty Protection Authority law since it has become active from the start of February and its predicted long-term effects on the media landscape.  I have made a survey that the participants of my webinar would complete before the day I presented the webinar. In the webinar I presented and commented on its result in the first part of the webinar. I have prepared the text of the presentation, in which I talked about the general situation, KESMA and the Sovereignty Protection Authority law. I had shared my interview findings to provide qualitative date and provide a glimpse into the real-life experiences of Hungarian people. On the end I had a short talk with the participants where they could state their question and I asked them to fill out a new survey where I asked them about what they have learnt from my webinar. |

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# Section C: Reflections on knowledge gained and skills developed (maximum 300 words) (20 marks)

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# References and Bibliography

Include full references for all sources cited in your report. You should also include details of additional sources of information that you consulted but have not cited in your report.

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# Images, charts and tables (optional)

You may use the space on this page and the next page to insert relevant tables, graphs, diagrams, or images related to your report. If you are referring in the body of the report to any specific items below, then you should make sure that these are properly labelled (figure 1, figure 2, etc.)

You may only include printable material. You may not include, for example, video clips or links to other material. Examiners will not view or consider any such non-printable material when marking your work.

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