

Dublin



July
2013

Dublin 2013

Programme

Sunday:	Arrival and a good night's sleep
Monday:	City Walk to become acquainted with the city, Garden of Remembrance, General Post Office, Trinity College, Grafton Street, St Stephen's Green, National Museum Work on interviews Pub dinner
Tuesday:	Guided tour through the Trinity College Run interviews, review and evaluate Irish House Party
Wednesday:	Trip along the coast to Dalkey and Dun Laoghaire, Martello Tower and Shackleton Exhibition Free afternoon
Thursday:	Run interviews, review and evaluate Guinness Walk and visit to the Guinness Storehouse
Friday:	Finalizing group work Presentation of the results Journey home

Workweek in Dublin - Class MW5i

With Mr Füglistaler and Mr Soom

Sunday 30.06.13

We all met at 7 o'clock at Zurich Airport to check in. Despite some incidents like not showing up at the meeting point and having temporarily lost a flight ticket we all got save on the plane. Marin has survived his first flight and in spite of a green insect inside the plane and discussions over several seat rows we managed to land unharmed in Dublin. We got on the bus to our hotel and stayed our first night in Dublin.

Monday 01.07.13

We got up to enjoy sausages, beans and eggs in the hotel restaurant. At 8:30 we left for the Garden of Remembrance. Because the gate did not open, people had to hold their presentations in front of it and we could only catch a glimpse inside. We marched to the General Post Office where we heard another presentation. We visited the Stephens Green Park and after we could not get into the closed National Museum, we went on to the the Merrion Square Park. Now we got time to eat lunch and start with our interviews about the



economy in Ireland.

1 Looks like Luciano met some friends during our walk through the city

We then met again at 17.00 in the lobby of our hotel to talk about the findings of our interviews and our progress. And one and a half hours after that we came together to go to a Pub for dinner. Between fish&chips, Irish stew and other delicious menus we enjoyed the evening, even though some had to wait with their terrible hunger quite a long time before they got something to eat. The rest of the evening we were free to do whatever we wanted to, either walk around in the city, have some ice-cream or crêpes or go back to the hotel and have a cosy evening in the room.

Tuesday 02.07.13

Some people got up to get some breakfast, some got woken up by Mr Soom and some had just the luck, that even though they had overslept, they managed to get ready in three minutes and could meet in the lobby with the rest of the class at half past eight. We then marched through the city (less disoriented than the day before) right to the Molly Malone

statue. We got again an hour to work on our interviews. The sky obviously did not like that, more and more clouds came up and we got the luck to experience *real* Irish weather.

Nevertheless, after the interviewing we went to the Trinity College where we met a guide who showed us the most important parts of this university. While some people still were wondering about the curios cape our guide was

wearing (instead of sleeves there were just some parts of cloth) he told us some stories about murders and other things which were related to this college. After our tour we euphorically decided to wait in the rain and get wet to get into the exhibition of the Book of Kells and a huge one-room library. And even more euphorically some

decided after the exhibition to wait outside (this time under a roof) until all people would have gone through everything. Sadly some got lost in the very warm and dry gift shop right before the exit. But still we managed to meet again, sometime later ;)



2 Our guided tour in the Trinity College

After this visit of *the* University of Ireland we got time to get some lunch or go back to the hotel, or both. Sadly Jephta did not feel good and had to stay in the hotel, while the rest of us met again at Grafton Street. We had to make up for something we had missed the day before and now that it was opened, the National Museum was much more interesting than it was on Monday. We took a look at old Irish gold jewellery and some mummies who had died in a moor and then we were free again to work on the surveys and their evaluations.

We then met again at six o'clock in the lobby with two aims: getting some dinner and going to an Irish House Party. I think nobody knew what to expect of an „Irish House Party“, but everybody knew what an Italian Restaurant is and Pizza and Pasta are always



3 Some made the acquaintance of some Irish people at the Irish House Party

delicious. This is not always valid for T-bone steaks, as Xenia got to know, but in the end we went (more or less) satisfied to the Irish House Pub where the Irish House Party took place. It actually was kind of a concert of a little group of four people (with harp, flutes&pipes, guitar and so on) who played traditional Irish music. Undermined with some Irish dancing parts it was a very nice show. Afterwards we were free to leave or do whatever we wanted. Some learned some

Irish dancing steps and stayed a little to talk with other Irish people from the audience. Even a groupie-picture with the band was taken.

Wednesday 03.07.2013

We went up as usual, without noteworthy delay or complications and we went to the Connolly Station to catch the train to the south to Dalkey. We visited a little park there, took many pictures at the sea and set out for Sandycove. We made a stopover at the James Joyce Museum where we also had the chance to take a bath in the sea. However,



4 New class pictures were taken

due to the very grey sky, the strong winds and the not very cold but also not very summery temperatures, Annika was the only person brave enough to take this chance. People were climbing on little rocks near the water and more pictures were taken. When we reached Sandycove we got half an hour to eat some lunch, but it emerged that the Asian restaurant there was not fast enough and with little delay we could enter an exhibition about Ernest Shackleton and an expedition to the South Pole which went wrong. Exciting about the story is that, even though their ship was stuck ten months in the ice and afterwards crashed, all crew members survived because of their very courageous and smart leader.

After heading back to Dublin we were free to do whatever we wanted, so most of us went shopping. Also in the evening we could choose what we wanted to do.

Thursday 04.07.2013

In the early morning the different interview groups all had a short meeting with Mr Füglistaler to discuss the progress of the work. We evaluated and analysed the results from the interviews. At half past two we met at the Trinity College. We went to the Dublin Castle where we heard a presentation about Dublin today. Behind there lay the Dublin Garden and we enjoyed a short small talk in the Gaelic



5 The view from the highest storey of the Guinness Store House

Language with translation. In front of the Christ Church the Irish religions were presented. We headed on to the Guinness Museum. The museum was a huge complex in pint glass form. On the top of the seven-floor building those over eighteen could drink a Guinness – the others got a soft drink. Back at the Christ Church Cathedral we learned the basic steps of Irish Dance, though some people just marched on and skipped this part. In the evening, the class met in a café and enjoyed a drink together.

Friday 05.07.2013

We got up and packed our things together. When meeting the others we noticed that the inhabitants of one room still were missing. Kadri went looking for them and about ten minutes later the boys came down with their baggage and a really tired look. After the check-out we finally got into the Garden of Remembrance and a last presentation about the Irish myths and legends was held. To finish, we gave each other a feedback on the whole week. All of us really enjoyed it and the few negative things were forgotten quickly. Then we ate lunch individually and walked through the bustling streets of Dublin to say goodbye. We took the bus to Dublin airport, checked in and went through the security control. To say thank you to Mr Soom and Mr Füglistaler we handed them each a pint glass with our signatures on them. We embarked on our plane. Most of us passed the flight sleeping. However, it was a great workweek in a great place with great teachers and really great classmates.



6 The Garden of Remembrance - finally ;)



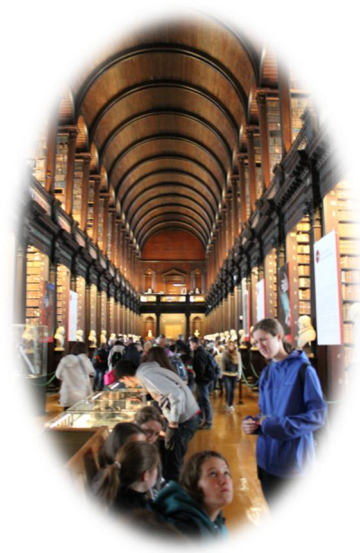
City Walk

Five sentences

On the way to the museum I couldn't really imagine how these bog bodies would look like. First I saw them I was quite disgusted because of their twisted bones and leather-like skin. But then I realized how good they actually were preserved for their age. That really impressed me.

Salomé

When I entered the library in Trinity College I was stunned. It was a sight to behold, one big room with thousands and thousands of books, all the furniture and bookshelves were made of dark wood and the smell of old books filled the room. Together with the ladders which must have been used to reach the books on top of the tall shelves, this created a picture which reminded me of a dream of my childhood – the dream of owning such a big library with such valuable and old books. But something bothered me about this view and it was not the big number of people in this room, it was the barrier which separated us from this books. What would I have given to open one of them, to hold such a book in my hands; but all I could reach was the crowd around me and the dust which dimmed the light.



Mirjam

On Tuesday we visited the famous Trinity College in Dublin. It had a beautiful campus with old buildings and much free space. The guidance gave a good overall impression how it must be to study at a place like this, with the many tourists being the only disturbing thing. We also went to see the Book of Kells, which I thought was beautiful but not that special. I really liked the huge library that was located in the same building and contained many old books. The high ceiling led to a special ambiance.

Lena

The Trinity College is **the** College of Dublin. On Tuesday we had a guided tour through the College. Our guide was a very funny young man who told us a lot about the lazy architects which engineered the buildings of the College. He also narrated the story of the death of a hated mathematics professor who was killed by three students with their guns after he had tried to shoot them with his shotgun because they had thrown stones against his window. After our guided tour we wanted to go to the huge library of the College but we had to wait outside in the long queue in the rain with a cold breeze. When we got into the building we first saw four pages of the Book of Kells and afterwards we went to the library which was very fascinating because of the many books which were there.

Xenia



„It was astonishing how big the masses of the people in the shopping areas was, even during the crisis.“

„I found it funny to be told that there was a gunfight at the trinity college.“

„It was interesting to see how many people visit a building just to see four pages of a bible.“

„The outfit of the Trinity College students was something I had never seen before.“

„To visit the pubs in Ireland was a very special experience, because I had heard a lot about those pubs but never visited one before.“

Fabian

I liked the tour at the Trinity College, because of the funny guide, which also told us stories that I probably won't ever forget, like the story of the murdered teacher.

Although we had to wait a long time in the rain, the library at the Trinity College was overwhelming; it was so big. I liked to look at these beautifully written and illustrated old books. Especially the Book of Kells was nice and looked like a life work, even more when you consider how old it is.

The most interesting thing at the National Museum were the corpses from the swamp, because I've never seen one before.

Annika

We had a nice day when we were at the trinity college and in the national museum of Ireland. At the trinity college there was a big, golden, turning sphere which represented the "mechanical world". We visited also to a famous library with old bibles in it and it was amazing how well they were written, like computer prints! Then we went to the park of the college and it was astonishing to hear that under this meadow, there had been a graveyard, so it's a soil full of nutrition for the trees. After that, in the National Museum, we saw corpses and it was strange to see that the skin had become like leather and only the bones did rot.

Kadri

When I walked through the big gate of the Trinity College, I was surprised by the huge area that followed. I enjoyed the educated English of our Guide. I have to admit that I did not understand everything but he told us some interesting and funny things. The Book of Kells looked quite old and it was good that we visited it, however I was not really impressed by it and I do not understand why people think it is so precious. On the contrary, I really liked the library. The huge and tall bookshelves just fascinated me.

Chantal

It was awesome to see these old bodies.

They looked really old which was fascinating.

It was also interesting to see so much gold.

I was thinking if i should break in in the night because it didn't look very monitored.

I couldn't imagine that people didn't try to steal all this valuable things.



Marin

This day was very interesting for me mainly because of the trinity college. The guide was super friendly and funny and informed us about lots of things like the whole graduation programme and stuff. The Book of Kells was also really impressing just like the long queue for it. The national archaeological museum was also really interesting. The most striking thing about it were surely the bog corpses which were really frightening and creepy because you could see everything so life like.

Neetu

I found the national archaeological museum very interesting. The dead bodies were kind of impressive, because their skin looked like leather and the body didn't look like it has been death since long. It was also funny to see that the bodies had different poses, somewhere even in a war position. The jewellery was also impressive; I wonder how much it costs now. In all I found it interesting to see how far our technology has brought us.

Michael

I was really impressed by the old books in the library of the Trinity College. It is amazing how difficult it is and how long it takes for the production of one book. In the National Museum we saw very old bog corpses and it's just awesome that they still exist in such a good condition. There were also many pieces of gold in different forms, which was amazing, too.

Sarina

I really liked our trip to the Trinity College although I wasn't feeling too well. The tour was interesting and the guide was quite funny. Of course one of the highlights was the Book of Kells. But what I personally liked the most was the old library. It was so fascinating how big this hall was and full of ancient books!

Jephtha

Today we went to the National Museum in Dublin. I was very impressed by the bog corpses. Even though they are very old they were well preserved. Their skin looked amazing. It was like leather and the hair was still there, too. Because of the lack of oxygen they didn't rot after their death in the moor.

Julia

I was in Dublin already a year before but the visit in the National Museum was new. There we saw old jewellery made out of gold and some bog people. This was very interesting. The skin looked like leather and at some corpses you could still see the hair and nails. In general the bodies were in a rather good condition which really astonished us but it was explained that the process is quite similar like mummifying.

Nicole



Presentations

The History of Ireland

We had to tell our class about the history of Ireland.

The first humans arrived at Ireland during the Ice Age. They walked over the frozen seas. The Celts worked a lot with metals like iron.

At first there were several tribes, each with a leader, competing for the power over Ireland. It is told that a man named Patrick (Known for Saint Patrick's Day) Christianised the island by building several hundred churches.

At a specific point, one of the tribe leaders asked an English king for help. But instead of just helping the tribe leader, the King decided to take over the power over Ireland. Because the English people were mainly Protestants, the catholic Irish people got big problems.

Over the years, there were many fights between the protestant British people and the catholic Irish people. The Catholics suffered a lot, but eventually they became more powerful.

Fabian, Marin

Facts and Figures about Dublin

- Capital of Ireland
- The area of Dublin is 115 square kilometres
- Population of the great Dublin area is about 1.27 million. Area administered by Dublin City Council has population of 506,211
- It is estimated that 50% of the city's residents are under-25 years of age
- Roman Catholic 88%, other 12%
- Ethnic mix: Majority Irish, largest minority Chinese, followed by Russian, Nigerian and Romanian
- Dublin's O'Connell Bridge is the only bridge in Europe that is as wide as long
- Oldest pub of Ireland is in Dublin and is called Brazen Head. It has been there since 1198

Jephta

Famous Dubliners

Paul David Hewson

Bono, born on May 10th 1960, singer, musician and activist, lead singer of U2, writes almost all the U2 lyrics, main vocalist and lyricist, attended Mount Temple comprehensive school, where he met his future wife and band members. Activism for the hunger and suffer in Africa, nominated for a Nobel Prize.

Edmund Burke

1729-1797, politician, author and philosopher, attended Trinity College and set up a debating society named Edmund Burke's club, which merged with the college's historical club to form the college historical society, now the oldest undergraduate society in the world. Considered founder of modern conservatism, and a representative of classical liberalism.

Damien Duff

Born 2 March 1978, peak of his career played for Chelsea.

Robbie Keane

Born 8 July 1980, record goal scorer and captain of the Irish soccer team. Played for many teams in England and the UK.

Sheamus

Wrestler

*Michael***General Post Office**

The general post office (GPO) in Dublin is the headquarters of the Irish "An Post". It's located in a great Greek style building. There are six columns which mark the so called "portico". It was built in 1814 to 1818 by the architect Francis Johnston. There are three statues on the top of the portico which stand for Ireland's independence and nation as such.

The building is most famous for the Easter Rising in 1916, when Irish rebels used it as their headquarters in their fight for independence from Britain. Patrick Pearse even proclaimed the Irish Republic in front of the building, but the British Army was still stronger and so the building got bombed and completely destroyed. It was rebuilt in 1929, when Ireland was already partly independent. Although the Easter Rising wasn't successful, the building marks an important step towards Ireland's independence. Inside the building there's a statue of the famous Irish hero Cuchulainn who tied himself to a pillar when he got mortally wounded. That way, their enemies still had to look him in the eyes and didn't dare to approach him until the ravens started picking on his head.

*Aylin & Lena*

The Garden of Remembrance



The Garden was designed by Dáithí Hanly. In the center is a pool in the form of a sunken cross. The garden's main of attraction point is a statue of the Children of Lir by Oisín Kelly, symbolizing rebirth and resurrection, added in 1971.

The story of the Children of Lir is an Irish legend in which a king gives his daughter to another king called king Lir. They had four children together, but the mother died early. After that the king gave his second daughter to king Lir, who was very jealous, because she saw how much they loved each other. She tried to kill the children, but couldn't do it. Instead she turned them into swans for 300 years until a monk would bless them. Her father was very upset and turned her into an air demon for eternity. The story has several endings in which the children are always turned back into humans, either with a bell ringing or a breaking of their silver chains which tied them together. Because of old age they shortly after they have been turned back into humans and go to heaven. The story itself plays during the time, while Ireland was christened by Saint Patrick.

On the stone wall of the monument one can read a poem written in Irish, French and English, which is called 'We saw a vision', and is about the longing for an end to Ireland's miserable condition.

In the garden there is also a nice Celtic mosaic which shows weapons that are broken and cast in the river. This was to signify the end of hostilities.

Annika, Dennis

Walk from Dalkey to Sandycove

With the train we got from Dublin to Dalkey in about half an hour.

Dalkey is a small coastal village and south of Dublin. It was founded as a Viking settlement and became an important port during the Middle Ages. Some say, that it was one of the ports through which the plague entered Ireland in the mid-14th century. Today, Dalkey is a minor tourist attraction, not at least because it has been home for many writers and celebrities. Examples are; Maeve Binchy, Hugh Leonard, Bono, Van Morrison, Chris de Burgh, Van Morrison and Neil Jordan.

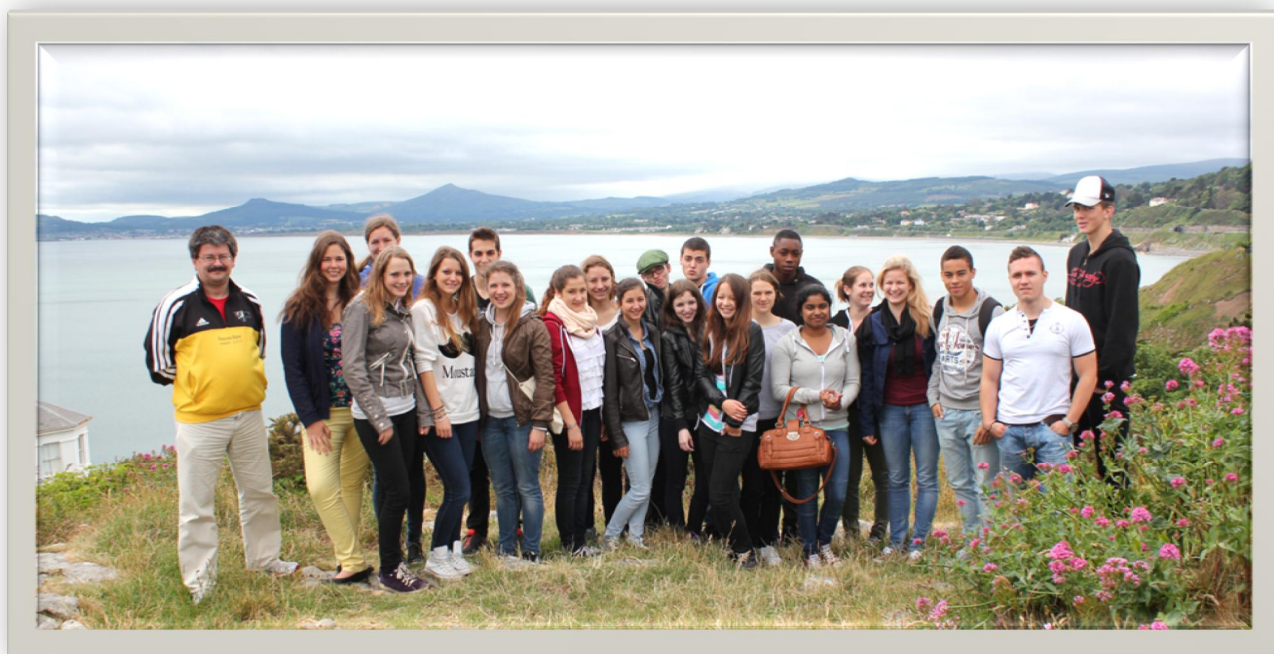
The Coliemore harbour was once the main harbour for Dublin city. Today it is only used by locals and tourists who hire boats for nearby fishing, sightseeing and for getting to Dalkey Island.

Dalkey Island is home to a colony of seals which has greatly expanded in the last years. A herd of wild goats also lives on the island. More recently a pod of three bottlenose dolphins has begun frequenting the waters around Dalkey Island.

Also the popular Irish writer James Joyce has a close association with the region. He lived in The Martello Tower in Sandycove for a time and it is said that he wrote the first chapter of his masterpiece "Ulysses", there.

Directly next to the Martello Tower there is the Forty Foot bathing place. Once, it was only men allowed to bath there but today also females are allowed to take a swim there.

Salomé, Nicole

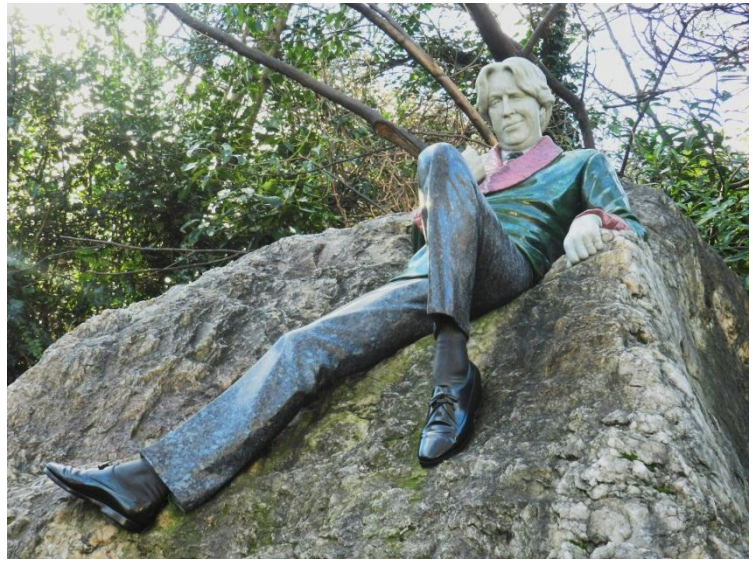


Irish writers and poets

Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde

was born at the 16 October and was an Irish writer and poet.

Wilde's parents were successful Anglo-Irish Dublin intellectuals. Their son became fluent in French and German early in life. At university Wilde read Greats; he proved himself to be an outstanding classicist, first at Dublin, then at Oxford. He became known for his involvement in the rising philosophy of aestheticism, led by two of his tutors, Walter Pater and John Ruskin.



At Trinity College, Wilde established himself as an outstanding student: he came first in his class in his first year, won a scholarship by competitive examination in his second, and then, in his finals, he won the Berkeley Gold Medal, the University's highest academic award in Greek. He was encouraged to compete for a demyship to Magdalen College, Oxford – which he won easily, having already studied Greek for over nine years. Wilde died on 30 November 1900.

Samuel Barclay Beckett (13 April 1906 – 22 December 1989) was an Irish avant-garde novelist, playwright, theatre director, and poet, who lived in Paris and went to school at Trinity College in Dublin. His work offers a bleak, tragicomic outlook on human nature, often coupled with black comedy and gallows humour.

Beckett is widely regarded as among the most influential writers of the 20th century. He is considered one of the last modernists. As an inspiration to many later writers, he is also sometimes considered one of the first postmodernists.

Beckett was awarded the 1969 Nobel Prize in Literature "for his writing, which—in new forms for the novel and drama—in the destitution of modern man acquires its elevation". He was elected Saoi of Aosdána in 1984.

Jonathan Swift, the principal prose satirist of the English language, fruitful poet and essayist, political pamphleteer and dean of St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin (1713 – 1745), owes his fame to his timeless novel 'Gulliver's Travels' (1726). It is still cherished by children all around the world as an adventure story; however, Swift intended it to be an adult satire open to a variety of interpretations. His other significant works include 'The Battle of the Books' (1697), 'A Take of a Tub: And Other Works' (1704), 'Abolishing Christianity and Other Short Pieces' (1708), 'The Drapier's Letters' (1724) and 'A Modest Proposal' (1729). Swift is buried in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Kadri

The Gaelic Language

The Irish language is also known as Irish Gaelic or just Gaelic. It is a Goidelic language of the Indo-European language family, originating in Ireland and historically spoken by the Irish people. Irish is now spoken as a first language by a minority of Irish people, as well as being a second language of a larger proportion of the population

Its decline began under English rule in the seventeenth century.

By the end of British rule, the language was spoken by less than 15% of the national population.^[9] Since then, Irish speakers have been in the minority except in areas collectively known as the Gaeltacht. On-going efforts have been made to preserve, promote and revive the language by both the state and independent individuals and organisations, but with mixed results.

English	Irish	Phonetic
1. Greetings		
Good Day	Dia duit!	djah gwich
Good Morning	Dia duit ar maidin	djah gwich air mahdjeen
--reply--	Dia is Muire duit.	djahs murrah gwich
2. Naming People		
What is your name?	Cad is ainm duit?	cahd iss anim ditch?
--reply-- is my name	-----is ainm dom.	---- iss anim dyum
Dennis is my name	Donnacadh is ainm dom.	Don-nikah iss anim dyum
Mary is my name	Maire is ainm dom.	Moirah iss anim dyum
3. Pleasantries		
How are you?	Conas tá; tú?	co-nas tah tu
I'm well...or	Tá mé go maith	tah may go mah or
I'm well	Táim go maith.	tah-im go mah
I'm not good.	Níl mé go maith.	neel may go mah
I'm	Tá me....	tah may...
wonderful	Tá mé go hiontach.	tah-may go hee-un-tachk
fine	Tá mé go breá.	tah-may go brah
bad	Tá mé go dona	tah-may go doe-nah
medium	Tá mé go measartha.	tah-may go mas-ser-ah
drunk	Tá mé ar meisce.	tah-may air meeish-kah
very drunk	Tá mé ólta.	tah-may ole-tah
mad (crazy or angry)	Tá mé ar buille.	tah-may air bu-ill-yah
tired	Tá mé tuirseach.	tah-may ter-shock
4. Parting		
Good bye	Slán	shlahn
--reply	Slán leat	shlahn lyaht
Goodbye for now	Slán go fóill	shlahn goh foihll

Julia

Irish folklore: Myths and Legends of Ireland

Ireland's long history is full of ancient mythology and folklore. The old societies of Ireland, like the Celts, believed in the power of magic and a great number of these beliefs spread to modern day legends told over and over again. There are four significant cycles in the Irish mythology: the Mythological Cycle, the Ulster Cycle, the Fenian Cycle and the Historical Cycle.

The Mythological Cycle: is the least well preserved of all the cycles and contains stories of former gods and the origins of the Irish. The Tragedy of the children of Lir is also part of this cycle

The Ulster Cycle: The stories of this cycle play take place in the provinces of Ulster (North-West of Ireland) and Connacht (North-East of Ireland). It is traditionally set around the time of Christ and consists of a group of heroic tales and reflects a warrior society. The Mythological Cycle and Ulster Cycle are close the main difference would be that the characters of the Ulster Cycle are mortal.

The Fenian Cycle: The stories of this Cycle is set around the 3rd Century and they play in the provinces of Leinster (South-East of Ireland) and Munster (South-West of Ireland). The Fenian Cycle differs from the others by their strong bond with the Irish speaking community in Scotland. The main characters of this Cycle are professional warriors.

The Historical Cycle: Stories from this Cycle were mostly narrated by medieval Irish bards to record the history of the family and the genealogy of the king they served. This they did in poems that blended the mythological and the historical to a greater or lesser degree.

Some examples:

The Banshee: The Banshee is a mythological creature known Ireland. She is a female ghost who carries the omen of death. Her appearance varies from an old woman in rags over a beautiful and young girl to a washerwoman wringing out bloody clothes. She lets out loud and horrible cries and those cries are said to bring death to the whole family which hears them. King James the first of Scotland thought he saw a Banshee and a few months after he died.

The Pookas: The Pookas are a special kind of fairies, the ones creating havoc on earth, in the mortal world. They destroy farms, burn down houses and abduct people. The Pookas also love to mess with ships and they were often blamed if a shipwreck happened.

The Leprechauns: Leprechauns are probably the most famous Irish mythological creatures. They are known around the whole world. Against the common believe and today's image of the Leprechauns, in traditional mythology, they are tall fairies with the appearance of an old man, much different from today's view of the little green dwarf-like creature. Leprechauns love to collect gold which they carry in a pot. It is said that they hide this pot at the end of the rainbow. If a human ever catches a Leprechaun, it has to grant the human three wishes.



Children of Lir: The story of the Children of Lir comes from the Mythological Cycle. It tells the story of Lir, a lord of the sea who had a wife and three children. His wife sadly died and he married his sister in law. This woman envied the children because their father loved them very much. She wanted to get rid of the children. One day she took the children to the lake, but she didn't have enough courage and stamina to kill the children. So she cursed them with a spell and turned them into swans. Under this spell, the children remained swans for 900 years until they heard a Christian bell ring. These 900 years they lived in three different lakes, in each of them for 300 years. When they were freed from the curse they were again people. The legend has several endings. In one of the endings they got freed from the curse and were tied together with a silver chain and as soon as this silver chain was destroyed they became old and died and lived happily in the heaven with their parents.

The Shamrock: The Shamrock is the unofficial symbol of Ireland. The clover with its three, not four, leaves. The Shamrock has held meaning to most of Ireland's historic cultures. The Druids believed the Shamrock was a sacred plant that could ward off evil. The Celts believed the Shamrock had mystical properties due to the plant's three heart-shaped leaves. The Celts believed three was a sacred number. Some Christians also believed the Shamrock had special meaning- the three leaves representing the Holy Trinity. This idea with the Holy Trinity came originally from St. Patrick which used the three lives of the Shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



St. Patrick: Saint Patrick wasn't made a Saint until centuries after his death. And he wasn't even Irish. He was born into a wealthy family in Britain. During his childhood, he was kidnapped and sold into slavery in Ireland. During his years in slavery he converted to Christianity and once freed he did spend the rest of his life teaching the Irish about the Christian religion, but he was soon forgotten after his death. It wasn't until many years later that monks began telling the tale of St. Patrick forcing all the snakes out of Ireland. Something he never could have done as there never were any snakes in Ireland. Today to most people he is the man who brought a day of good times and green beer to pubs across the world.

Alena, Xenia, Neetu

Dancing in Ireland

The Irish dancing can be danced in a group of 2-16 or pairs arranged in a square. It is a long tradition and just belongs to the traditional Irish folk music. The dancing gives a different character to a song and sometimes it makes it more beautiful. It was really funny to dance with the class. The steps are actually easy but you always have to look that you keep your upper body straight and your arms at your body.



Sarina, Céline

The economic situation in Ireland

Survey by Larissa, Marin and Julia

Exposition

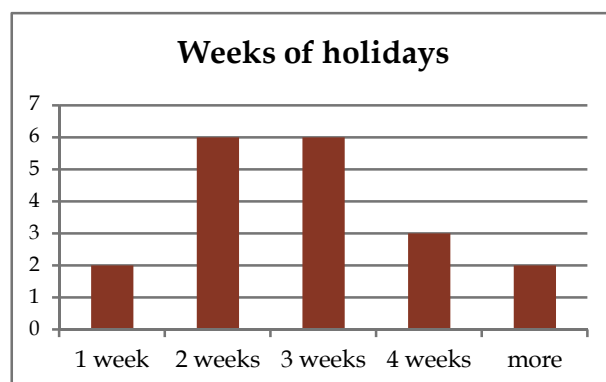
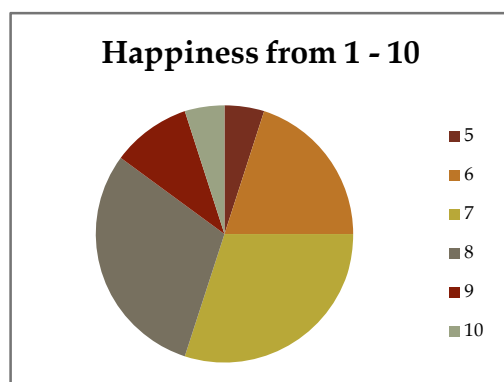
We spent our workweek in Dublin in Ireland, where we had to interview the people. We asked them questions about the actual economic situation in Ireland. The answers are going to be evaluated and interpretations will follow.

Approach

Before the week in Dublin we prepared a questionnaire with 15 questions. We asked about different aspects of their lives in Ireland. With these questions we went on the streets and confronted people who seemed to fit into the scheme of our target group. We were looking for young people between the age of 20 – 30, living in Ireland.

Results

Generally most people are happy to live in Ireland, on a scale from 1 – 10. The average was 7.35.



Depending on the job they get a different amount of holidays, but in comparison to Switzerland they get much less. To a great extent they spend the holidays abroad.

We asked about the age of retirement and the answer was unilateral: 65 years.

Quite the contrary to the question before, nobody was sure about the unemployment rate. Everybody is happy to be a part of the EU and most of them believe in a bright future in relation to the EU. We discovered that very few people bought a house in the housing boom and almost none of the young people have bought a house for themselves. They rather live in flats.

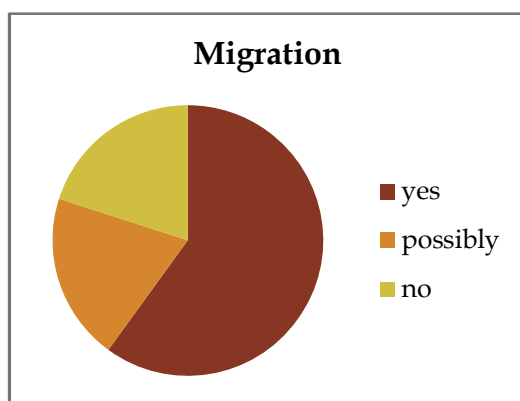
The answers about the house prices were quite confusing. Everybody was sure to know the right answer but in fact every second answer was incorrect. Some seemed to know that it was increasing; others were fully convinced that it was increasing.

Interpretation

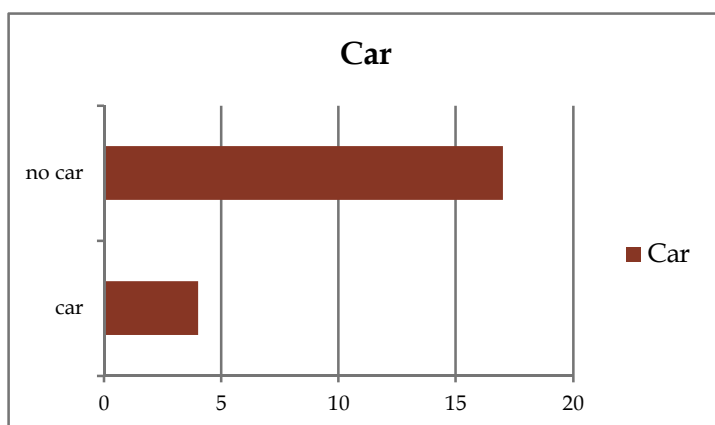
The general happiness shows that the state functions as it should. The people are happy to be a part of Ireland.

We were quite shocked that they have so few holidays but are still happy. But we guess that this can be ascribed to shorter working hours than in Switzerland. One woman we wanted to ask our questions denied and told us that she has to go home because she just had a nine hours shift and was very tired. For Switzerland a 9 hour shift is quite normal. Although the age of retirement is 65, many work on because their pension is too low. People estimate the unemployment rate to be quite high, which is true, but not as high as they guessed: it is about only 13.6% but their average guess was around 17%. The question about to be a part of the EU led to quite similar answers. The people are all quite happy to be in the EU and are optimistic about the future. We think that this belief is quite normal since nobody makes big thoughts about not being a part of the EU because it would be very difficult to change it anyway.

Most of the Irish people didn't buy a house during the housing boom. The houses were just too expensive and all the normal people weren't able to afford a house. Some of the people we asked told us that they bought a house later, when the boom crashed and the prices were low again and they had saved enough money.



This diagram about the intention to migrate shows us, that about three quarters of the young population tend to migrate in future. Not all of them are sure yet but they are going to consider it. Many haven't got many reasons for migrating but for most of them it's the lack of jobs and impossibility to make a career in Ireland. The bad economic situation in Ireland is a huge motivation to leave Ireland even though your family lives here.



Most of the young people don't have a car and travel, as well as the few who own a car, by public transportation. We think they don't have cars because they don't earn so much money and also because they simply don't need one, because of the much more efficient public transportation.

Conclusion

All in all, it was very interesting to talk to the Irish people in Dublin. We learned a lot about their lives there and realized that we can be happy with our economic situation in Switzerland. It was very shocking how few holidays they get and how their job eats up their free time.

Although their happiness, many seemed to migrate later in their lives because they can't see a promising future and career in Ireland.

Generally it was funny to talk to them because of their hilarious accent. We only had trouble once with a guy. He didn't speak clearly at all and we had to ask three times to please repeat what he just said.

We enjoyed this week very much and learned a lot. Also our English improved a little, especially in spontaneous situations.



Survey by Annika, Kadri and Fabian

1. Initial position

During the week from 30.6.13 – 5.7.13, our class (MW5i) was in Dublin for a project week. In groups of three, we had to interview the local people. The necessary questions had already been formulated during the economic lessons. The main topic was the economic crisis in Ireland.

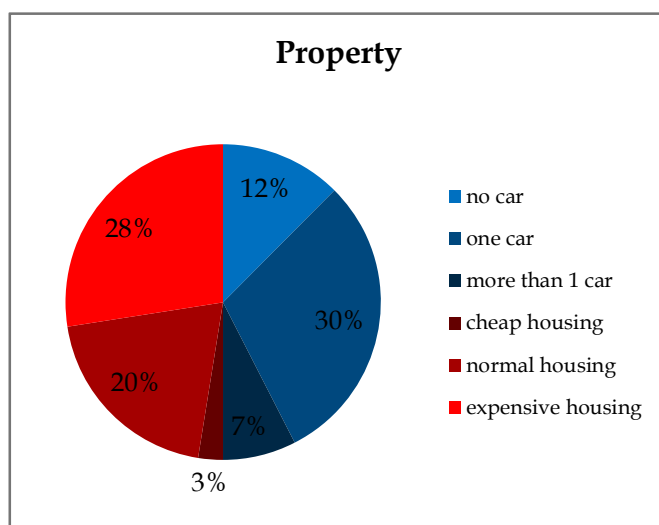
Luckily it was summer when we went to Dublin and the weather wasn't too bad, so that many people, we could possibly interview, were on the streets. We wanted to ask young people.

2. Procedure

To find young people, we searched a place, where people weren't in a hurry. So we started our interviews at the Spire. It seemed like the Spire is a common meeting point.

To prevent the people from going away without having answered our questions, we first told them that we weren't selling anything. We smiled a lot during the interviews and generally tried to be friendly and interested in what they were telling.

We also sometimes asked several people at the same time.



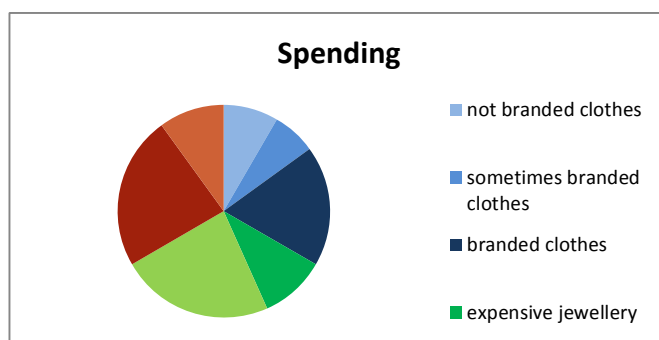
3. Results

We interviewed 20 people from which 6 were men and the other 14 were women. We asked them about their property and their financial situation. Here are some of the results:

As you can see in the table, $\frac{3}{4}$ of the people we interviewed own at least one car. And most of them live in an expensive house. Almost nobody lives in a flat. This was really astonishing, because we thought the people in a city mostly live in flats.

Many people don't only have more money than we expected, they also spend more, e.g. for clothes and hobbies. Only a few people buy expensive jewellery.

Everybody we asked had a job at that moment, which was quite surprising. Most of them also said that the crisis didn't have much effect on them. Nevertheless, on average, everybody knows about 5 people that lost their job, which is quite a high number, compared to Switzerland.



Results of the interviews				
property		0	1	>1
	number of cars owned	5	12	3
		cheap -----> expensive		
	housing	1	8	11
spending		not branded	sometimes	branded
	branded clothes?	5	4	11
		expensive		cheap
	expensive jewellery?	6		14
	expensive hobbies?	14		6
effects		yes		no
	Job?	20		0
		strong		weak
	effects of the economic crisis	8		12
		0	1 -----> ≈ 20	
	number of friends that lost their job	7	4 3 3	3

4. Interpretation

With our interviews we wanted to find out how much the people in Dublin own and how much they have lost during the crisis. Although many people were affected by the economic crisis, they live a rather expensive life. We expected people to buy cheap cloths, live in a smaller flat and not to own a car, but surprisingly we saw many of them with rather expensive outfits. Women spend more money than men. The older people that didn't live at home anymore had less money and were generally more affected. We don't know why the economic crisis seemed to have such a little effect on the people, maybe they have secure jobs, maybe they know how to invest their money or maybe they are just idiots who are getting more and more in debt.

5. Summary

The results we got were often very surprising, like the fact that everybody we asked had a job.

Sometimes we heard some shocking answers like:

What is economics?

We have an economic crisis in Ireland?

We didn't really get the impression that there really is a crisis in Ireland, because all people were very friendly and didn't seem to be poor.

Survey by Alena, Chantal and Mirjam

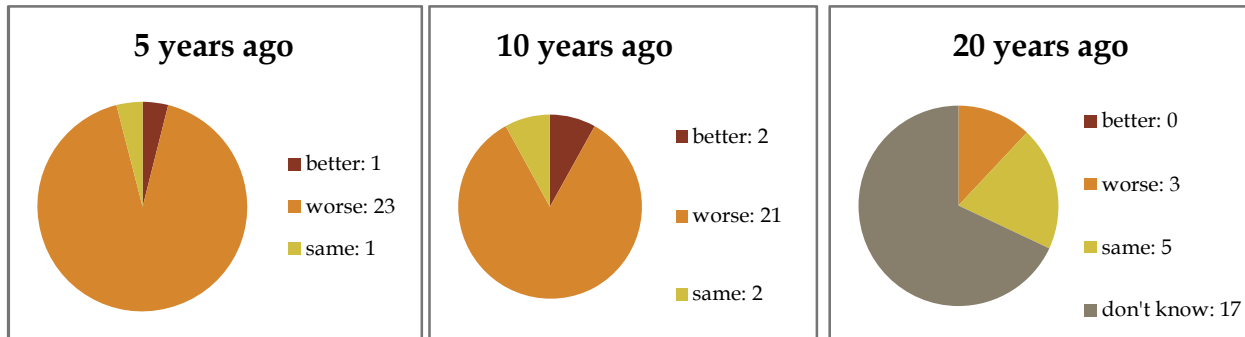
We are Swiss students that visited Dublin for 5 days in July 2013. In this workweek we got the task to interview the Irish people about their economic situation. Our target group were pensioners, ergo people with an age of 65 years or older. The 25 people we interviewed mostly were sitting in the park St. Stephen's Green in the centre of Dublin. Asked were people whose former professions were of all kinds, for example a doctor, a scientist, a self-employed man, a medical representative, an university professor, an engineer, a temporary worker, a worker for a state company, a telephone engineer, a clerk, a nanny, a secretary, a domestic woman, and many more.

The Answers we got:

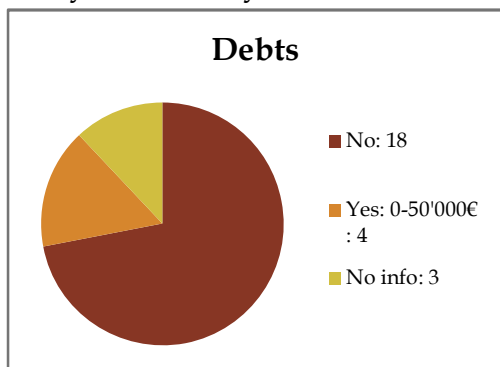
1. What are the effects of the crisis that you experience?

- higher prices (especially of food)
- reduction of pension
- people are more sensible with money
- unemployment
- less money
- reduction of social benefits

2. Is the general economic situation now better or worse than 5, 10 and 20 years ago?



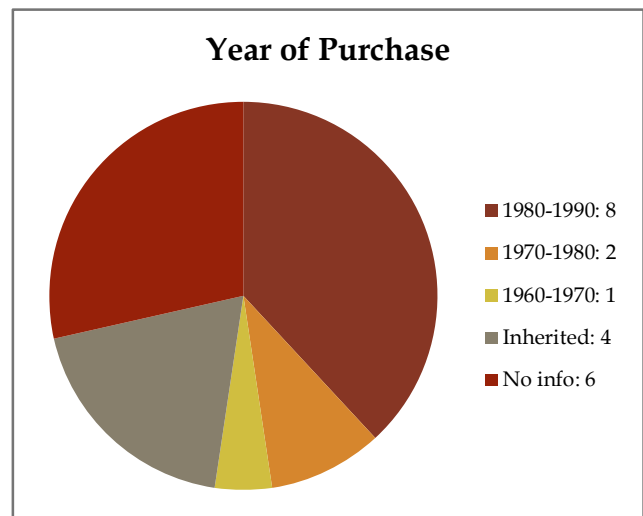
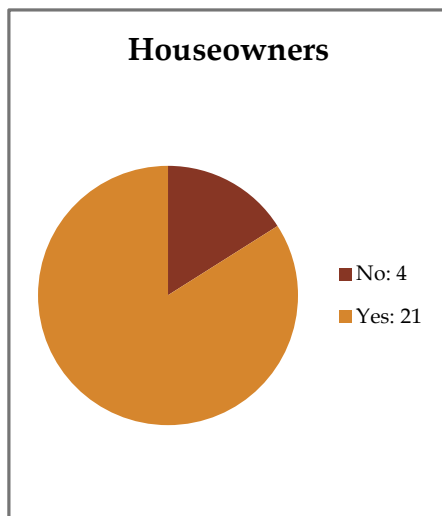
3. Do you have any debts?



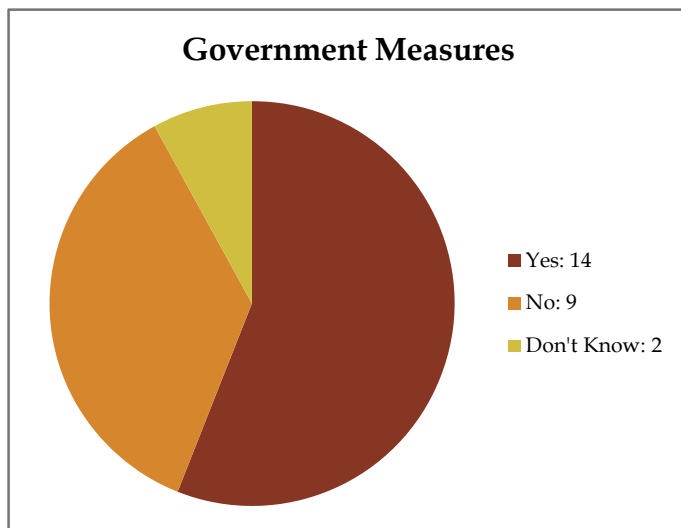
4. Are you happy with your pension?



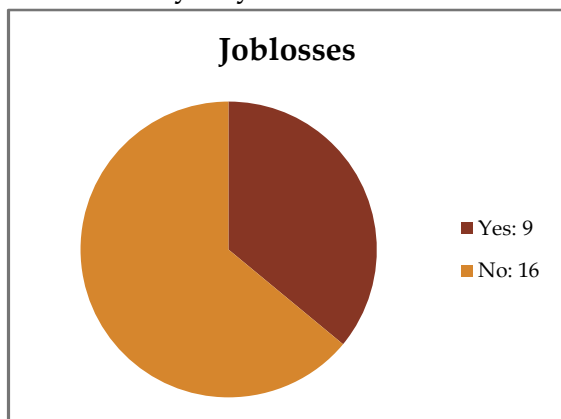
5. Do you own a house?



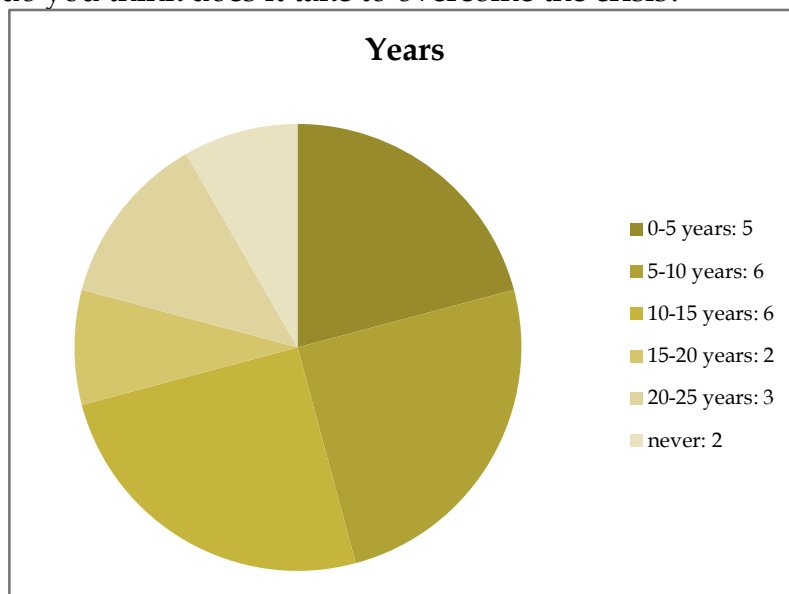
6. Do you think the government take the right measures to fight the crisis?



7. Have any of your friends or relatives recently lost their jobs?



8. How long do you think does it take to overcome the crisis?



Interpretation

As seen above the crisis produced higher prices. This can be explained with less wages and thus less purchasing power. Government spends less to reduce the public debts they have taken to save the banks.

People think that the economic situation 5 and 10 years ago was better than now, because now is the crisis. Most of the interviewees could not remember what it had been like 20 years ago.

Most people say they have no debts although we question that because it is a very intimate information and we think that most people probably do not want to admit it. They might additionally think that their amount of debts is so little compared to others that it is not worth mentioning.

We heard that most pensioners are happy with their pension because they think that they are better off than the younger generations. „I am retired, I am lucky.“, is what we often heard. Most were very happy that they had their constant pension but we also heard that many of the elderly people live a very simple life and they are contented. But they also explained us that the state pension alone is barely enough to live on, so most have an additional private pension.

Most people own a house but bought it a long time ago if it had not been an inheritance so they were not affected by the housing bubble.

The people who think the government takes the right measures to fight the crisis often said that the government now is much better than the one before and it is doing its best. The ones who thought the government does not take the right measures complained about the cuts in social benefits but did not know what to do either.

The pensioners told us that they are aware of unemployment and that many of their relatives have emigrated. We also heard stories about brothers and friends who have lost their jobs because of the crisis.

The pensioners have many different opinions about the severeness of the crisis but the general trend is rather optimistic. We have to tell here that when we told that we were

asking questions about the economic situation, most people answered right away with: "Oh it is *really* bad!", but still, we could always see a smile on their faces.

The elderly people in Dublin are aware of the bad economic situation. They are glad to be retired and pity the younger ones, because „it is them who suffer the most“. We have seen a great deal of anger against the bankers who are made responsible for the crisis, especially now after the scandal with the AIB. However, opinions are quite different and go from „by 2016 the crisis is over“ until „we need a revolution!“.



Survey by Salomé, Xenia and Nicole

During our project week in Dublin we had to find out more about the present economic situation. Therefore we interviewed students of the Trinity College to have a closer look at the opinions and views of the younger generation.

Questions we asked:

- 1) How many years do you have to go to University in Ireland?
- 2) Does the state support education enough?
- 3) Is it expensive to study?
- 4) How do you finance your studies? Do you work beside school?
- 5) Do you have much free time left? What are your hobbies?
- 6) Do you think Dublin is a nice city to live?
- 7) What do you think about the prices in Dublin?
- 8) Are there sufficient flats and are they rather expensive or cheap?
- 9) How good is the infrastructure in Dublin?
- 10) Do you have the impression that there are many unemployed people in Ireland?
- 11) Are you afraid to become unemployed?
- 12) Where should the government invest more?
- 13) How is the insurance system?
- 14) What did or do you feel from the financial crisis in Ireland?
- 15) Are people depressed / have changed their behaviour because of the crisis?

Our results:

In Ireland students go to college for four years and the education is partly supported by the state. It depends which subject one studies, but most of them have to pay 2500 Euros a year on their own. The opinions whether the state supports the education enough are divided. Some say that it could be more but in general it's not too bad. We think this depends mostly on the financial situation of the family.

The question if it's expensive to study most students answered by saying it could be cheaper, but with the support of the parents and their part time job they can finance it. We also interviewed some who said that it's not expensive, but in these cases the parents mostly pay everything. Beside work and studying the majority of them don't have much free time, but they also mentioned that it depends on the subject and therefore also a lot of students thought that there is enough free time left.

When we asked them about Dublin they all said that it's a nice city to live but one person mentioned that in the winter it's a little bit too cold and dark. 80 % of them found that the prices in Dublin are too expensive and the others said that they're dropping or that they don't know because their parents pay. Nearly everyone said that there are sufficient flats around Dublin but that the prices are too high but this also depended on the season.

Somebody explained to us that if you search well enough you'll find comfortable and cheap flats. The infrastructure has been estimated to be bad compared to other European cities. They also said that it's getting better, but the busses are still too costly and outside Dublin, the public transport system is very patchy. In the city they're really proud of the well-established bicycle system.

In Ireland, 16% of the population are unemployed and most of our interview partners confirmed that. Only one of them wasn't afraid of getting no job. He said that it is easy to get a job but not the particular one you want. For us, the unemployment rate in Ireland is very high especially in comparison to Switzerland (2.9% unemployed in 2012). The College degree in general is a big advantage in the job market but unfortunately, the present economic situation in Ireland is so bad that even highly qualified people aren't sure to get the job they want and would be qualified for.

In their eyes, government could invest more in different areas. They often mentioned that the state should create jobs and improve the health system. Furthermore, they referred to the public transport, the social welfare, extra help for the youth, better education and training and one interviewee mentioned the Irish football. They don't have a mandatory health insurance but most of them have a health insurance because otherwise they can't pay the medical bills, as they're so high. The system is not that helpful, especially in comparison to Switzerland's health system. When we asked them the question what they felt from the financial crisis we recognized once more the difference between students which had to work for their studies and the ones where the parents pay everything. The ones where the parents pay the bills said that they didn't feel anything from the financial crisis or only a little, for example fewer holidays. The others told us that they had to work more or that they will have to start working. In general, most of the students noticed that people became more introvert and angry. One example is a student who worked as promoter on the streets. He mentioned, that people began to be less friendly towards him, more stressed and also less patient. They watched their expenditures more carefully and didn't spend money for useless things and go out less.

Many of the students told us that it's difficult for them to judge the economic situation because the College appears to them like a bubble, so they are in a way protected from the outside world.

Closing words:

Interviewing the Irish students was very funny and we had a great time especially when we interviewed an exchange student from Spain who told us that she has to study for two weeks at Trinity College. But after a while we recognized that she had no clue what we were talking about and that she only stayed in Dublin for two weeks of holidays. Some of our interview partners only wanted to get rid of us as fast as possible but others really enjoyed talking with us and even asked a few questions about Switzerland. We liked this idea and would recommend it for other project weeks.

Survey by Aylin, Céline and Sarina

1. Starting point:

Our plan was to find something out about Ireland and especially Dublin's economy and the feelings of a specific group of people (in our case parents of children aged 0-18). In the beginning we knew already that there was an economic crisis going on in Ireland and that there are many unemployed people and we also guessed that the life as a family would not be so easy because of those economic problems.

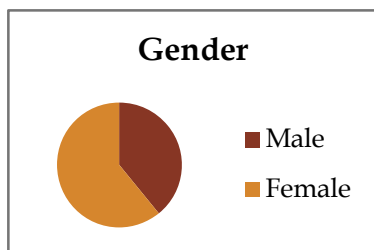
2. How we did it:

In order to fulfil our goal we prepared a questionnaire containing nineteen questions about the life and the economic situation in Ireland. In Dublin we went on the street and interviewed the people who were there. We interviewed almost all people on the Henry Street.

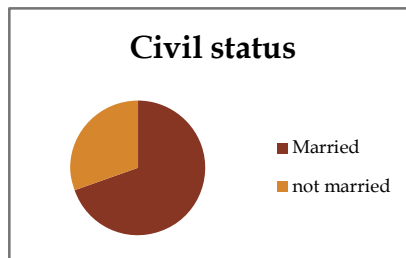


3. Questions, Answers and Interpretation

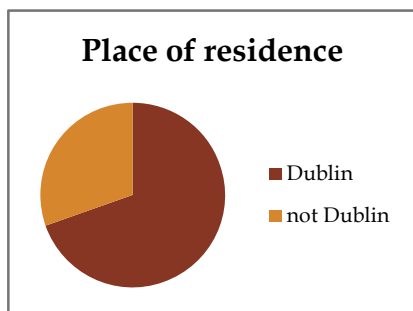
1. Gender?



2. Are you married? Or a single mother/father?

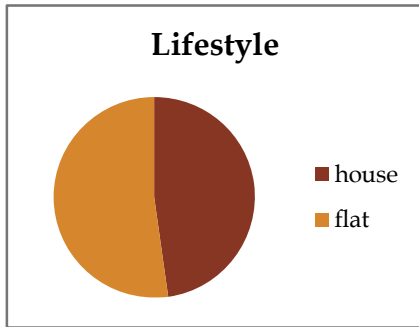


3. Where do you live?



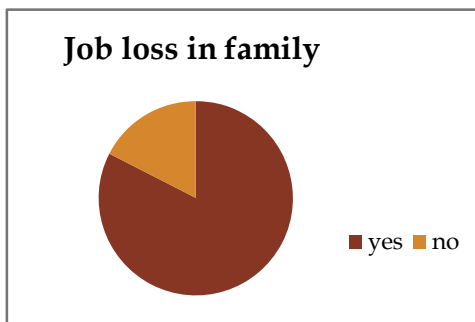
We ask people around Dublin, mostly living in Dublin, so the result counts just for the town.

4. Do you live in a house or in a flat?



Balanced between “rich” and “poor” people, richer people can buy a house.

6. Has someone from your family ever lost his or her job?

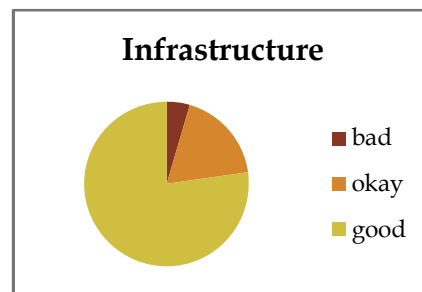


Many people lost their jobs → sign for the bad economic situation in Dublin

5. Are there enough flats and houses in Dublin?

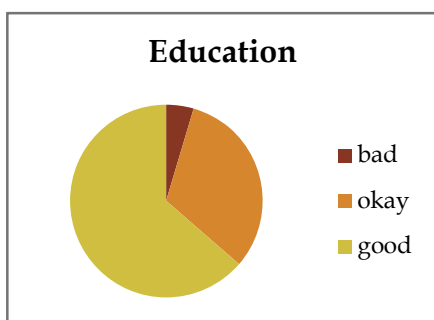
Most people think that there are enough flats and houses in Dublin, but they’re too expensive, so they aren’t affordable for poorer people.

7. Are you happy with the infrastructure in Dublin?



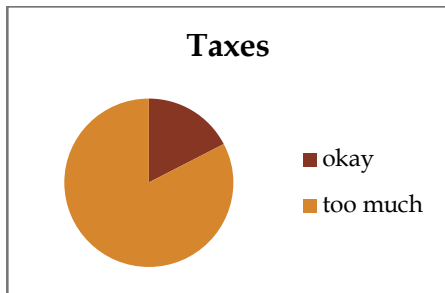
All together the infrastructure in Dublin itself, is very good, but outside you have bad connections between some villages.

8. Are you happy with the education system in Ireland?



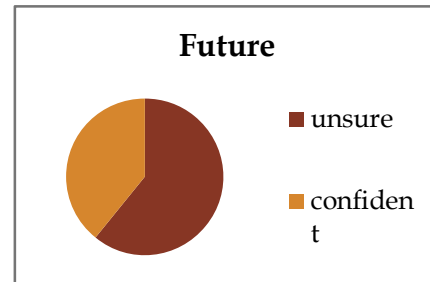
The Parents in Ireland are happy with their education system, but they would like to have a bigger variety.

9. Do you think you have to pay too much tax?



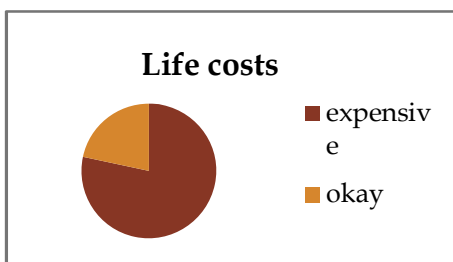
This Question is a little bit difficult to interpret, because normally all people think they have to pay too much.

10. Do you feel rather confident for the future (also for children's)?



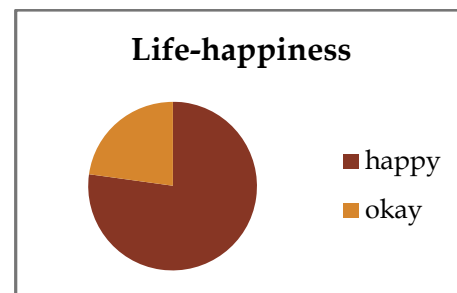
Most people in Ireland are afraid of the Future of their Children. They care about the workplaces etc.

11. Is life expensive in Ireland?



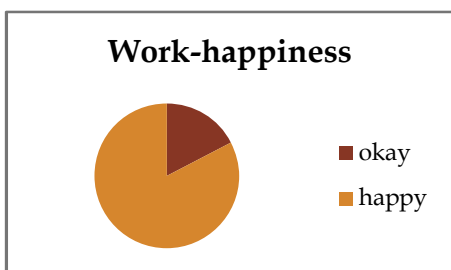
I think the point of view matters. Most people said that it's very expensive, so it's like in Switzerland.

12. Are you happy to live here?



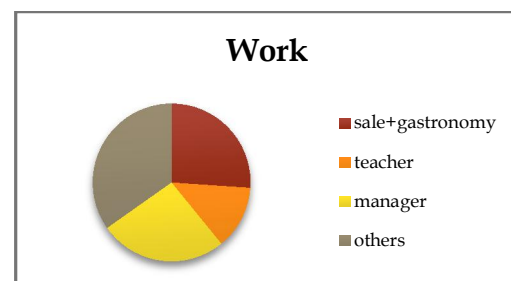
The people are mostly happy to live in Dublin.

13. Are you happy at your workplace?



Most people are happy at their workplace.

14. As what do you work?

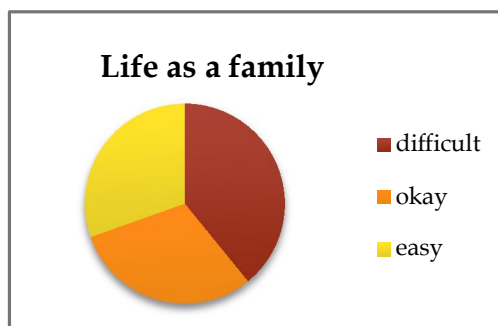


Big variety in jobs.

15. Are your children happy in school?

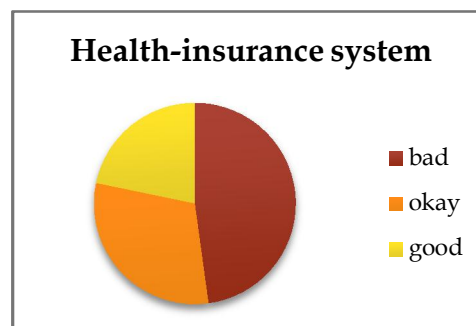
The children are mostly happy in school, but they just have a middle-good education system.

16. Is it difficult to live as a family?



It's rather difficult to live as a Family, but it matters as what you work.

17. How is the insurance system?



The health insurance system is rather bad, very expensive for bad services.

18. Do you think your children will have a better life than you have/had?

They are rather confident. They have hope and also think that things will get better, but there is still a little fear of the future

In total we asked 23 persons, so it's very difficult to find exact values.

4. Conclusion

All together we think that people are happy to live in Ireland, but there are things that could be better especially for families for example the public health insurance system or the education-system.

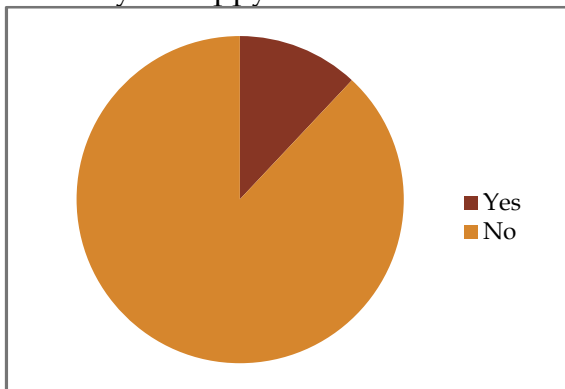
Survey by Neetu, Michael and Jephta

We spent one week in Dublin and had the task to interview people and ask them about their economic situation. Before we went to Dublin, we had to prepare some questions and concentrate on a specified target group. We made sure that the questions are appropriate and that we only interview people that fit our criteria.

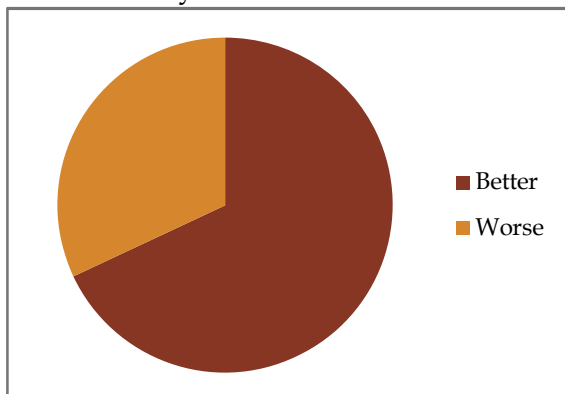
After a short sightseeing of Dublin we decided to interview people at the Spire, the town's landmark, and the Henry Street because we noticed that many young people were there. We made sure that the people we interview are in the age group between the ages of 15 and 23. One of us approached the people, the other one interviewed them, and the last one recorded the interview.



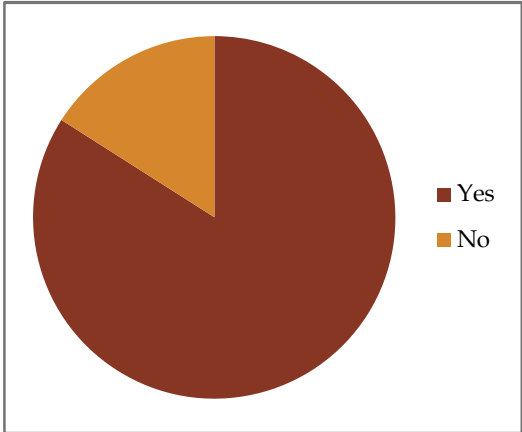
1. Are you happy with the current economic situation in Ireland?



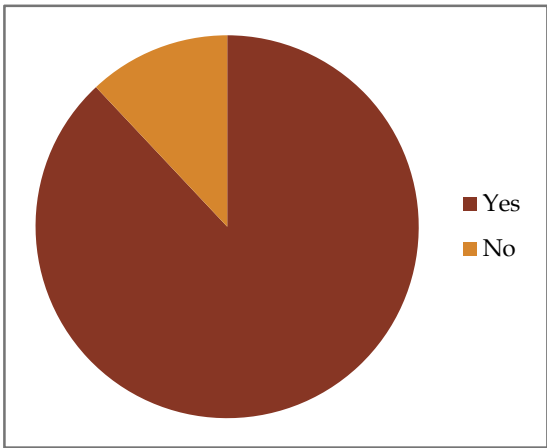
2. How do you think the future will look like?



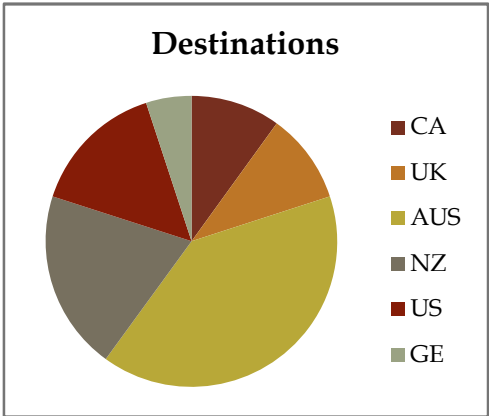
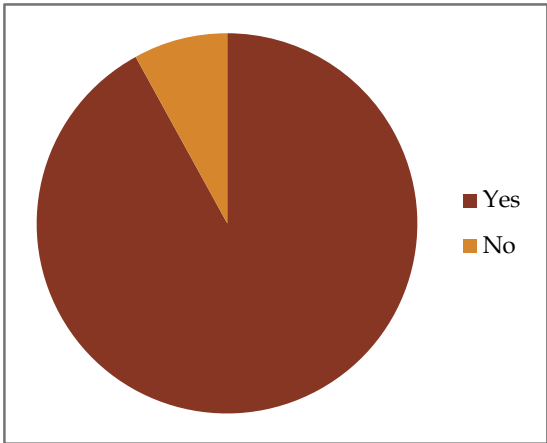
3. Did you feel the economic crisis?



- 4. Did many people you know lose their jobs?
- 5. Did your spending behaviour change since the crisis?
- 6. Is it difficult to find a job in Ireland?

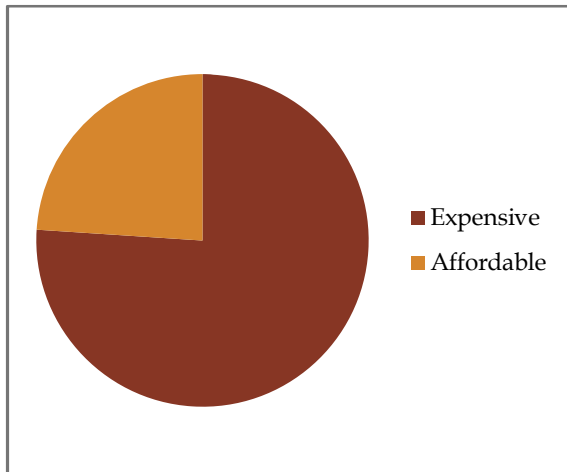


- 7. Are there apprenticeships in Ireland?
- 8. Are there lots of jobless youths in Ireland?
- 9. Do you consider emigration?

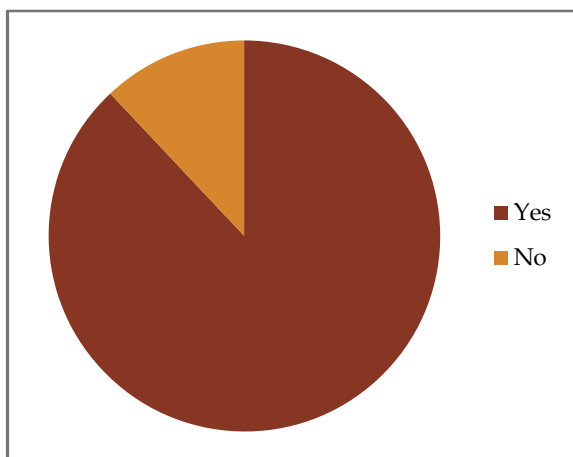


- 10. How do you think people in the UK live?
- 11. Do you drive a car?
- 12. Are you still living at home?

13. Is it expensive to live in Ireland?



14. Would you want to change something on the current situation in Ireland if so what would that be?



Examples:

- "Bigger salary"
- "Cheaper accommodation"
- "Reduce income taxes"
- "Cheaper living"
- "More jobs"

15. What's your biggest fear towards the future from the economic point of view?

Examples:

- "That it gets worse"
- "Breakdown of the Irish Bank"
- "That I lose my job and get poor"
- "That I can't find a job"

Out of the 25 people we interviewed we noticed that a majority of the people had the same opinion. They weren't happy with the economic situation but were optimistic about the

future. They all felt the crisis and had to adapt their spending behaviour. Many of them lost their jobs, or are still looking for a job. Most of them still lived at home, because it was much cheaper. They said that Dublin is an expensive city and are thinking about emigration to Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Canada and the US. Their biggest fear is that Ireland stays in the recession and doesn't learn from its mistakes. Out of the 25 people, only 4 said that they didn't feel the crisis. They know people who lost jobs, but weren't really affected by the crisis. Their biggest fear is that the government increases the income taxes and that the national bank collapses.



Survey by Lena, Dennis and Luciano

The aim of our work was to find out how much and what the people of Ireland know about their economy. We tried to get different opinions how the people feel about the current state in Ireland and what they would like to change about it. To collect our data we made a questionnaire with mainly questions about the crisis, hoping to get individual experiences during that time. We also had to be very selective with our target group. Therefore we chose young people between the age 18 and 25 as they will be the future generation of Ireland and should feel directly impacted by the crash. To get a huge variety of results we went to different places in the city of Dublin, trying to find different people of different classes, different jobs and a different opinion.

However this wasn't as easy as we thought it would be. Almost 80% of the interviewees were students; only a very small percentage had a job and was working. As we took the interviews during work time and as we were near to the Trinity College, this result came up and wasn't really astonishing. The more surprising thing was the huge amount of positive opinions on Ireland's economy. Even though Ireland's debts are growing and the unemployment rate's still rising, the vast majority seemed not to be scared and stayed optimistic on the behalf of Ireland's future.

"It's not as bad as in Spain. Here the people at least don't riot and run the streets. It's not that hard for the young people to find a job. I feel much more secure here." said a girl that had moved to Dublin from Spain in 2008 were she had been for a year or two after leaving her home country Romania.

"I feel secure even though I'm doing my degree on social studies. There aren't any jobs around here in this direction. It is most likely that I will have to leave the country in future." said another girl. But during the interview she told us that she came from a wealthy Dutch family. So money isn't her main concern. She cares more about finding a job as a humanitarian.

On the other hand there are people struggling to become more financially secure. Roy, a male student from Ireland, is more affected and disturbed by the crisis of 2008. He, as one of the only ones, was up to date with Ireland's economic situation. He showed his concern from the beginning of our interview until the minute we left again. He was eager to see data and graphs to confirm his opinion but still was shocked from the huge impact of the crisis because he wouldn't have put it that bad. He had started and lost different jobs during the last years but resisted to leave country up to now.

He mostly blamed his country's government for the crisis because it ignored the people's intentions. "If the people of Ireland want to change anything, they lose against government if it's against it even though they have a vast majority. Government can smash everything down directly and the people have to redo it again and again" Also he wasn't pleased with the EU. He suggested leaving the system. He looked rather pessimistic on Ireland's future but was hoping for the best.

Roy was one of the more interesting interviewees because his answers at least differed from the rest. We actually assumed to get more opinions like his but we were disappointed.

As we had many people interviewed who weren't concerned or hadn't thought of it yet, we could at least show them the data we had and therefore could make them be more aware of the current state. Even though we couldn't reach our goal to get different opinions, we had fun "educating" the people and discussing with them the situation in other countries like Switzerland.

