



## International Youth Work Module Team Profile



**Pia Janning, Léargas**

Pia's background is in international human rights law. She has worked for a number of Irish and international NGOs in a policy and legal context and her particular expertise lie in the field of socio-economic rights. In 2017 she joined Léargas as Senior Policy and Strategic Alliances Officer. Here she coordinates an element of the Erasmus+ programme entitled "Youth Participation" as well as leading out on policy and strategic relationship building for the organisation. She is passionate about youth empowerment and active citizenship and the right of young people to participate in policy and decision-making processes that affect them.



**Jean-Marie Cullen, National Youth Council of Ireland**

Jean-Marie has been the International Affairs Manager of the National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) since 2005. Previously she worked at the Youth Council on the National Development Education Programme as a trainer in development education. She also works in the STEAM in Youth Work and Skills Summary programmes in NYCI. She was the Department of Children and Youth Affairs representative to the EU expert group on Digitalisation and Youth, set up under the European Union Work Plan for Youth 2016-2018. She is on the board of Léargas, the National Agency for Erasmus+ in Adult Education, School Education, VET and Youth and is a member of the National Working Group on EU Youth Dialogue, leading out on the engagement of young people and youth workers in Ireland in the process through Young Voices. Jean-Marie has a Masters in Development Studies from University College Dublin.



**Nora Furlong**

Nora is a youth worker and youth worker trainer and educator. She is passionate about the role of youth work and non-formal learning in making positive changes in the lives of young people, communities and society at large. She has particular interest in areas of wellbeing, resilience and equality, environmental sustainability and lots, lots more. Creative approaches lie at the core of her practice provoking curiosity, critical thinking, learning and action for healthier, kinder and more inclusive communities. Nora is a lecturer with the Department of Applied Social studies, University College Cork. She is member a of the Léargas (Irish National Agency) Trainers Pool and coordinator of programmes in the field of Youth. Nora has founded a young Women's wellbeing programme in New Ross where she lives ([www.breathing-space.info](http://www.breathing-space.info)).



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### **Marie Cleary**

Marie is the founder and director of *Thirdspace Consulting*. Her 20-year career has spanned both public and private sector across Europe and has focused on training, facilitation, coaching, research. Her qualifications in Business, Education, Finance and Psychology, coupled with her previous experience in management of EU funded youth programmes, provides a competence for working in a variety of settings. Marie is passionate about non-formal education and the value of intercultural education to the transformation and development of young people. She is currently completing Doctoral Studies in Future skills in DCU. She is an external expert for the assessment of funding applications for European Education programmes. Marie is a coaching psychologist with extensive experience as an executive coach.



### **Eimear McNally**

Eimear has been illustrating live at events since 2010. Visuals help us to navigate complexity, to see ourselves in the big picture and to see where we can take action. They also make events memorable and shareable, spreading your great ideas further. She works as a facilitator in the field of creative activism and transformative learning where she uses visual facilitation to help groups explore complex global and local justice issues. She is a co-founder of the all-Ireland network of visual practitioners, Drawesome, and a member of the International Forum for Visual Practitioners.



### **Hilary Tierney, Maynooth University, Ireland**

Hilary worked as a youth worker for many years before joining the Department of Applied Social Studies in MU. Her practice and research interests converge around reflective practice, professional supervision, informal education, digital youth work, global youth work, ethics and values in professional practice and the professional formation of gender conscious practitioners. She is particularly interested in the potential of informal social education to develop young people's critical capacities as local and global citizens who are committed to equality, social justice and human rights. Hilary was the co-ordinator of Erasmus+ funded YWeLP project (2017-19) and learned a lot about e-learning and website design. Thankfully she managed to remember it for this module! You can find more information [here](#).