

SEE — CITIZENSHIP / EUROPEAN STUDIES · 5TH–6TH CLASS

Saoránacht an AE — EU Citizenship

5th & 6th Class SESE

What EU citizenship means in practice

1

EU citizenship

Every citizen of an EU member state is automatically an EU citizen. You can hold both Irish and EU citizenship simultaneously — and exercise rights as both.

2

Free movement

EU citizens have the right to live, work, and study in any of the 27 EU member states without a visa or work permit. Approximately 1.5 million Irish citizens live in other EU countries.

3

Voting rights

EU citizens can vote in European Parliament elections and local elections in whatever EU country they live in. Irish citizens living in Germany can vote in German local elections.

4

Erasmus+

The EU programme that funds student exchange. Over 650,000 students per year study in another EU country. Irish university students regularly study in France, Germany, Spain.

5

EU consumer rights

EU law protects consumers across all member states: 2-year guarantee on goods; right to return purchases; protection against unfair contract terms; compensation for flight delays.

6

The European Court of Justice

The highest court for matters of EU law. Ensures EU law is applied consistently across all member states. Any citizen can ultimately appeal to it.

