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## **Class Swap** **RTÉ ONE, January 2014**

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child says that: *“children and young people have the right to express views freely in all matters affecting them”*.

**Class Swap**, A new six part series for RTÉ ONE allows Irish second level students exercises that right.

Esras Films was commissioned by RTÉ to make a 6 x 24 minute documentary series which compares the Irish educational system to other systems in Europe.

The series follows three groups of Irish students over a 10 day period as they experience the physical, educational and cultural challenges of living and going to school in Poland, Finland and Spain .

At the heart of this series is one simple premise: To look at the daily reality of what it's like to be a pupil in very different school systems, as seen through the eyes of our students.

So what is school like in other countries? How does our Irish education system compare? What is it like to be a teenager in another country?

Students themselves are best placed to comment and **Class Swap** gives them a platform to share their experiences of new cultures, societies, classmates and school life in radically different environments.

One teacher accompanies each student group and their role is to explore the educational environment and teaching methods in each country and reflect on their own practice in a full and frank manner.

While our focus is education, **Class Swap** also profiles and captures the unique socio-cultural backgrounds that contribute to life in that country and which influence the aspirations of its young citizens.

#RTÉClassSwap

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