Four Cultural Practices recognised as part of Ireland's Intangible Heritage

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- Minister Martin Announces State Recognition of Irish Set Dancing, **St. Brigid's Cross Weaving**, Gaelic Football and Ladies' Gaelic Football, the Irish Amateur Dramatic Tradition
- Announcement brings the number of cultural practices on the National Inventory of Intangible
 Cultural Heritage to 42

Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin TD, has announced formal State recognition of four additional practices as part of Ireland's living cultural heritage.

At an event at Croke Park during the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship Semi-Final between Donegal and Galway yesterday, Minister Martin announced the recognition of Irish Set Dancing, Gaelic Football and Ladies' Gaelic Football, **Weaving of a St. Brigid's Cross**, and the Irish Amateur Dramatic Tradition.

Following recommendation from Ireland's Expert Advisory Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage, these four cultural practices will join 38 other cultural practices already recognised on <u>Ireland's National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage.</u>

Ireland maintains this National Inventory in line with the <u>2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage</u>, which Ireland ratified in 2015. The aim of the National Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage is to protect, promote and celebrate Irish living cultural heritage practices, customs, crafts and traditions.

Minister Martin said:

"Our living heritage is an integral part of our culture. I am pleased to announce state recognition of four further practices through Ireland's National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Each of these practices is integral to the culture and identify of the communities who practice them, and to our society more broadly. As part of my department's ongoing obligations under the UNESCO 2003 Convention, we aim to acknowledge, safeguard and promote Ireland's cultural heritage. The practices recognised today continue to thrive through the dedicated communities who sustain and pass on their skills through the generations"