



**Tithe an  
Oireachtais**  
**Houses of the  
Oireachtas**

**Education Programme**

# THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA

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### VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Did you know that the Houses of the Oireachtas broadcasts the proceedings in Leinster House on a weekly basis? And that they will shortly include highlights from both the EU Parliament and the Northern Ireland Assembly too!

Through the internet and social media, the Houses of the Oireachtas has lots of different ways you can keep informed about the daily goings on here in Kildare Street.

We should also consider the role of the general media in reporting what goes on here. The media – radio, television, newspapers and online commentary – play an important role in informing people about what is happening in our society.

In a democracy, its important that the press has the ability to report freely. And its just as important here in Ireland. The media makes us aware of various social, political and economical activities happening not only here but around the world.

The media tries to report the truth and realities of life. Reporting on the activities of our parliament is a part of this. The media also becomes a really important tool for politicians during election times. It's a quick way of reaching the public. They can use all the various forms of communication available to them to both canvas for votes and to debate why they are the best candidates for election. Politicians can also use the media to get feedback on decisions the government has made by gauging public reaction.

Have a think about all the various ways the media can report stories about parliament. Which do you think are the most successful?