

"LES CICÉRONNADES"

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Anglais – Lycée – Texte en prose

"Good morning. My name is Hannah Nelson, I am 16 years old and I am from Belfast. I have been thinking about an important question: how do you make peace permanent in Northern Ireland?

Permanent peace in our country is not just a simple dream for me as a teenager growing up today in Northern Ireland. It is a sincere, genuine aspiration. I believe that enduring peace can only come about through true respect for others. We have a right to express and celebrate our diverse cultures. We all have an obligation to value each other as individuals.

As a 16-year-old I don't want to live in the past, I want to live for the future. I want to live in a country where it is not my religion that is important but my value as a person which is significant. It is important that we all have a unique identity. A choice in life to choose who and what we want to be. We are growing up in a world where we are taught to be tolerant. [...]

I think that my age group should be the focus. We are the ones who must build new relationships with people from different communities. Barriers need to be broken down. If we are to take away prejudice from young people's minds, we can create a society that can get on together.

A peaceful society. Northern Ireland is my home. The reality is it has a past. [...]

But truthfully, we should not let the past pull us apart and stop us from moving forward. Somehow we need to make a brighter future: a future that builds bridges and brings people together. We need to work together, not apart. We need to listen to each other and we need to compromise. Most importantly, we need to value each other."

Hannah Nelson's speech about Northern Ireland's future, June 17th 2013