October 17
Global Goals

Irish National Programme
October 2018

Ireland marks #EndPoverty Day
www.17october.ie
I would like to send my best wishes to all those taking part in the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

The theme for this year’s International Day is: “Coming together with those furthest behind to build an inclusive world of universal respect for human rights and dignity”. Seventy years after the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris, let us not forget that global hunger is one of the greatest human rights violations of the 21st century. We know that the source of hunger today is not lack of food, but poverty created and sustained by stark inequalities across the world.

If we are to truly stand in solidarity with our most vulnerable and marginalized fellow global citizens we must also stand, together, against the unrestrained impulses of greed and insatiable consumption, which the consequent division, domination, hatred and intolerance that leads to such abuse of human rights.

The work of human rights campaigning and advocacy has never been more important or more challenging. This year’s theme for the UN International Day for the Eradication of Poverty invites us to work together to support and promote equality, justice and respect for the fundamental human rights of citizens across the globe.

Yours sincerely,

Michael D. Higgins
Uachtarán na hÉireann
President of Ireland
Listening to Unheard Voices

On the 17th October 1987, in the presence on 100,000 activists, Joseph Wresinski, founder of the international movement All Together in Dignity (ATD) Fourth World (www.atdireland.ie) unveiled a commemorative stone on the Trocadero Human Rights Plaza in Paris. On this marble, Wresinski’s call is engraved: “Wherever men and women are condemned to live in poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure that these rights are respected is our solemn duty.”

Since then, this commemorative stone has become a rallying point for people from all walks of life. The 17th of October was declared “International Day for the Eradication of Poverty” by the United Nations in 1992. The 17th of October 2008 saw the unveiling of a commemorative stone at Custom House Quay near the Famine Memorial in Dublin. In 2018, Ireland will mark the 10th anniversary of this unveiling.

On the 17th of October every year we come together in Ireland and around the world in friendship and solidarity with those who face chronic and severe poverty, honouring their struggles and renewing our determination to work for a world where everyone’s human rights and human dignity are respected.
The 2018 call of the Day, “Coming together with those furthest behind to build an inclusive world of universal respect for human rights and dignity”, underlines that a sustainable world cannot exist when there is poverty, discrimination, abuse of human rights and citizens left no one behind. Within the 2030 Agenda, adopted by 193 counties of the UN, the first of 17 Goals commits countries to “end poverty in all its forms everywhere” by 2030. The more people know about Goal 1 and the 16 other Goals the more successful they will be. If we all play our roles, together with our leaders, we can make them happen. Visit www.globalgoals.org

Events in Ireland

September-November 2018

Co. Dublin: Before, during and after the 17th October 2018, the Irish 17th October Committee will network with, support and promote the different groups nationwide who are going to mark the 2018 UN Day. This work will include the design and production of a 2019 “End Poverty” Calendar.
Committee members will also visit the projects either before, during, or after their UN Day events and delegates from different projects will be invited to the national event organised in Dublin.

5th October to 18th October 2018

Custom House Quay, Co. Dublin: from Friday October 5th All Together in Dignity (ATD) Ireland displays on Custom House Quay the “Be The Legacy: Make Poverty History” banner exhibition. 40 quotes installed between the Famine Memorial and Human Rights and Poverty Stone pay tribute to social justice leaders such as Nelson Mandela, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, James Connolly or Joseph Wresinski. This exhibition has been prepared in the year 2018 when the world marks #Mandela100 #MLK50 #Gandhi150 #Wresinski30 #Connolly150 and the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. See www.17october.ie

16th October 2018

Granard, Co. Longford: Lus na Greine Family Resource Centre are delighted to host an Awareness Raising Coffee Morning for the International Day For the Eradication of Poverty 2018 on October 16th at their centre on Main Street, Granard, Co Longford. The morning will consist of the launch of a family mural designed and produced by the local Art club in the FRC. The event will also showcase pieces of art work reflecting the thoughts of young people within the after school projects and youth club as well as students from Ard Scoil Phadraig second level school in Granard. A pamphlet of stories written by local people at the frontline of family support will also be produced. Guest speakers will speak on the topic of eradication of poverty and the morning promises to be insightful and action oriented. It will run from 10.30am to 12.30pm, with a chance to network afterwards. Contact lusnagreinefrc@gmail.com
Dublin 1, Co. Dublin: This year SAOL Project is focusing on the reality of poverty and how it impacts on people in Ireland on a daily basis. They have been creating postcards that have short, pithy statements that capture aspects of the lives in poverty of their participants. They will print these postcards as if they were ‘poverty tourist postcards’. They will then host a postcard writing workshop at 11am on 16th October in SAOL Project. This workshop will ask people to write postcards that will then be sent to relevant people in Ireland – politicians, celebrities, church and community leaders etc. They will be brought to the GPO immediately afterwards with the expectation that they will arrive at their destination on 17th October. Contact gary@saolproject.ie

Dublin 9, Co Dublin: The event will take place from 3-6pm hosted in Global Action Plan’s Sustainability Centre in Ballymun. The event will be a peer learning session with young people from Ballymun. This project aims to support social cohesion by bringing together 2 age groups of young people from the community, through showcasing how different educational attainment can be achieved through informal learning settings. Contact vanessa@globalactionplan.ie

Dublin 7, Co. Dublin: The first Irish Leave No One Behind Summit will mark Zero Hunger Day (16th October) and End Poverty Day (17th October). The Summit is prepared by ATD Ireland with the support of Concern Worldwide. The Summit is the final event of the 2018 'Leave No One Behind Conversations' series (visit www.leavenoonebehind.ie). The aim of the conversations was to engage Irish citizens in a public debate about ways to walk the talk of the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The event will be hosted by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. The hashtags for the event are #LNOBsummit #Ireland4SDGs and #LeaveNoOneBehind
17th October 2018

**Nationwide:** the INTO invites classes taking action for a better world by organising pupils to participate in the “Write your wishes on a stone” national happening. Each pupil writes a short personal wish on a stone with their hopes for a fairer world for everyone. To make this a really impactful event teachers from all over Ireland are invited to share their displays on social media using the hashtag #wishingstones. The INTO Magazine InTouch will have some displays in the November issue. See details at [www.into.ie](http://www.into.ie) (Global Citizenship School).

**Tullamore, Co Offaly:** at 11.30am, Arden View Family Resource Centre will host a public event at which Ex-Governor of Mountjoy Jail, John Lonergan, will highlight the link between extreme poverty and human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be commemorated to mark its 70th anniversary. Local school children and community members will present an illustrated version of the rights to the attendees. This framed comic version of the Declaration will be displayed in the FRC waiting area. Contact avfamilyresource@eircom.net

**Sunday’s Well, Cork City:** Students in the Cork Life Centre have been writing and shooting a short film which will examine the persistent problem of poverty in various
forms, using the 17 Sustainable Development Goals as their guide. This film and a mural will be launched on the Day. Contact Don O’Leary at 021 430 43 91

**Dublin 7, Co. Dublin:** From 10am to 12pm a debate “Budget 2019: How will it impact women?” organised by the National Women’s Council of Ireland will be hosted by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission. [www.nwci.ie](http://www.nwci.ie)

**Dublin 8, Co. Dublin:** From 1pm to 2pm a lunchtime talk “Profiling Barriers to Social Inclusion in Ireland: the relative roles of individual characteristics and location” with Seamus McGuinness Research Professor in the ESRI and Trinity College Dublin is organised by Focus Ireland. [www.focusireland.ie](http://www.focusireland.ie)

**Custom House Quay, Co. Dublin:** the Irish 17th October Committee will organised the National UN Day event in Dublin around the Human Rights and Poverty Stone and celebrate the 10th anniversary of its unveiling. (The ceremony will start at 11am). See [www.17october.ie](http://www.17october.ie)

**SAOL Project** will set-up a stall at the Human Rights and Poverty Stone and make the postcards available to the general public, inviting them to write them there and then – and posting them to ensure that they reach their destinations! Contact gary@saolproject.ie

**Mansion House, Co. Dublin:** The Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Belgian Embassy and ATD Ireland will host a sing-along evening to mark the UN Day (from 7pm). The event will also serve as a platform to launch the book *Voices for Dignity*, which chronicles the 17th October events at the Human Rights and Poverty Stone in Dublin over the past ten years.
Breffni, Co. Leitrim: Breffni Family Resource Centre have been busy working on the development of a community orchard including workshops where members of specific target groups come together to learn the skills required to make bench seats for their “Hope Orchard”. Launch of event is currently weather dependent.

Contact suzanne@breffnifrc.com

Drogheda, Co. Louth: Development Perspective’s 2018 SDG Advocates invite those interested to a special 17th October evening entitled ‘Exhibition of Experience’ 2018. They will also be able to meet and speak with advocates from both Vietnam and Tanzania. At the event, guest speakers will share their stories; telling of how they have impacted communities and made a positive change. www.developmentperspectives.ie

Conscious Cruelty: social security, the economy and human rights

17th October 2018, 10am-1pm
Spectrum Centre, 331-333 Shankill Road, Belfast, BT13 3AA

Belfast, Co. Antrim: The Right to Work: Right to Welfare group (R2W) & Participation and the Practice of Rights (PPR) organise ‘Conscious Cruelty: social security, the economy and human rights’. R2W will launch the findings of their monitoring with people who have had direct experience of back to work schemes and assessment processes. The event will be chaired by Maggy Beirne, and a panel of human rights and economic experts will reflect on their findings. www.pprproject.org

19th October 2018

Hilton Hotel, Dublin 2, Co. Dublin: The Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment are organising the National Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS) Stakeholder Forum, to take place from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. The Forum will bring together representatives across various
networks and interested parties to explore how we can work together to achieve the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and its main goal: the eradication of poverty in all its forms by 2030. www.dccae.gov.ie

Liberty Hall, Co. Dublin: The Development Studies Association of Ireland, the Civil Society Study Group and their Centre for Global Education, Belfast, have organised a workshop/think-in, titled, ‘International Development Charity or Solidarity?’ One criticism of the work of NGOs has been that, in the past, too much emphasis was placed on the dependence of those in the ‘South’ and the need for individuals in the North to act for change, principally through charitable activities. This power imbalance will be interrogated from a social justice or solidarity perspective. www.dsaireland.org

Tackling Forced Displacement: people, poverty & rights

A public seminar on the impact of forced displacement on people, poverty and human rights.

During 2018, 23.5 million people were made forcibly displaced from their homes, an average of 65,000 people every week. This year (2018), this is a global crisis. Forced displacement is a cause of poverty and creates human rights.

To mark the UN International Day for the Elimination of Poverty, Misean Cara will host a public seminar to hear from and discuss organisations working in the global South to support people who have been forcibly displaced. The seminar will also address themes on displacement, rights and orthodoxy issues in Ireland and internationally.

More information on the seminar can be found on the Misean Cara website: www.miseancara.ie

25th October 2018

Wood Quay Venue, Dublin 8, Co. Dublin: Misean Cara will be hosting a seminar from 9:30am to 12:30pm entitled ‘Tackling Forced Displacement: people, poverty & rights. The discussion will address forced displacement as a cause of poverty and a serious human rights concern. See www.miseancara.ie

1st November 2018

Tullamore, Co Offaly: Offaly Traveller Movement Youth Project have organised a youth fashion show to mark the End Poverty Day at 4:30pm in OTM Bury Quay. youth@otm.ie
Events abroad involving Irish delegates

17th October 2018

Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France - United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland
Human Rights Plaza, Paris, France - European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
United Nations, New York, USA Details at www.17october.ie/abroad2018

#CountPovertyOut: The World Bank invites citizens worldwide to join leading voices on global poverty for a conversation following the publication of the Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report 2018: Piecing Together the Poverty Puzzle. The Bank aims to promote new ways to measure poverty to better monitor poverty in all countries, in multiple aspects of life, and for all individuals in every household.

Events in Scotland and England

17th October 2018

Glasgow, Scotland: ATD, together with Bridging the Gap, and the Poverty Truth Commission, organise a gathering around the 17 October Stone at George’s Square, followed by a procession to City Chambers for “Let Me Tell You!” and singing.

London, England: An event will be held at the Palace of Westminster from 5-7pm on. It will feature a panel discussion on “How meaningful participation by people with direct experience of poverty can create positive societal change?”.

Support the mobilisation with the hashtags
#EndPoverty #17octIRL #WishingStones

You can discover more events worldwide at www.overcomingpoverty.org

This booklet has been printed by the Irish 17 October Committee with the support of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection under the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2018 Public Awareness Initiative. The views expressed in this document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection.