

International Committee for October 17



INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

International Committee for October 17: Appointment of Mrs. Carolina Escobar Sarti

October 17, 2017, Pierrelaye, France— We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs. Carolina Escobar Sarti to the International Committee for October 17. The Committee was established in 2008 to promote and support the observance of the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty, observed on October 17th each year, which is recognised as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty by the United Nations.

Donald Lee, President of the International Committee, in announcing the appointment said: “I am delighted to welcome Mrs. Carolina Escobar Sarti as a member of the International Committee. Through her commitment to social justice in Guatemala for many years, she has contributed to developing the mobilization to make clear that where men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty human rights are not respected. Besides, sharing her reflections and experience will enrich and strengthen the work of the Committee to promote and support the spirit and objectives of October 17.”

Mrs Escobar Sarti, a native of Guatemala, is currently National Director of the association “La Alianza Guatemala”, an organization that works with girls and adolescents at social risk, victims of sexual violence and human trafficking. She has published several books of poetry, short stories, social research works and hundreds of articles in the press, where she regularly writes on issues concerning human rights.

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TO KNOW MORE

The International Committee for October 17 was established in 2008 with the following goals: to promote the 17 of October as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as recognised by the United Nations, uniting those who are striving together to end poverty; to promote the observance of the 17 of October in its original spirit; and, to promote opportunities where people from a variety of backgrounds, including those whose lives are most difficult, can work together in the fight against extreme poverty as a violation of Human Rights.

(<http://overcomingpoverty.org/article/international-committee-for-october-17>)

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty was first celebrated as the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty at a major public rally held on the 17 of October 1987 in Paris, where one hundred thousand people from all backgrounds responded to a call from Father Joseph Wresinski, founder of ATD Fourth World, to gather at the Plaza of Liberties and Human Rights. On this day, a declaration was engraved on a Commemorative Stone proclaiming that extreme poverty is a violation of human rights and affirming the need for all people to unite to ensure that these rights are respected.

(<http://overcomingpoverty.org/article/history-of-october-17>)

In 1992, the United Nations proclaimed the 17th of October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Since then, governments, local authorities, members of civil society and the private sector have recognized the importance of this International Day, which has become a key rallying point for a growing number of citizens and organizations from all backgrounds, in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty.

(<http://www.un-documents.net/a48r183.htm>)

“La Alianza Guatemala” offers residential care for victims of sexual exploitation and human trafficking (girls only). They work at raising anti-trafficking awareness and launched a Human Trafficking Prevention and Education Program in 2009. They provide legal support to girls who are victims of human trafficking and other violations of their human rights

(<http://www.la-alianza.org.gt> and <https://www.covenanthouse.org/casa-alianza/la-alianza-guatemala>)