

# International Committee for October 17

## INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE



### International Committee for October 17: Appointment of Andrew Kelly

**June 6, 2022 Pierrelaye, France**— We are pleased to announce the appointment of Andrew Kelly 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.

Aye Aye Win, President of the International Committee, in announcing the appointment said “We are very proud that Mr. Andrew Kelly is joining the Committee. As a community activist with ATD Ireland and having heard him articulately speak out at a number of meetings, Andrew is making clear that wherever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, their human rights are being violated. Andrew’s personal experience, knowledge and talent will enrich and strengthen the work of the Committee to promote and support the spirit and objectives of October 17.”

Andrew Kelly is currently living in Dublin, Ireland and a young father of 2 lovely children. Andrew is a community activist with ATD Ireland. A community activist is someone who has experienced poverty and knows hardship, yet stands up and speaks out not just for themselves but for others. Andrew has recently spoken on behalf of ATD Ireland to 2 ministers in Ireland campaigning for socio-economic discrimination to be recognised in Irish equality law and addressed social work students at Trinity College Dublin as part of a Poverty Aware Practice module. Andrew recently spoke at the “Dignity in Practice” Expert Workshop organised by ATD in preparation for the UN Commission for Social Development 2022 (CSocD60). Andrew is a poet and was recently published in a new poetry collection entitled “Lockdown Liberties”.

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<http://www.overcomingpoverty.org>

## **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> )