



United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

2024-2025 theme consultation

Dear friends,

We are pleased to launch the consultation process for the October 17th theme for the next two years 2024/2025. As many of you know, the [World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty](#) has been commemorated since 1987 by the [ATD Fourth World Movement](#). Since 1992, October 17 has been recognised by the United Nations as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (IDEP) and commemorated by the different parts of the UN and many different groups around the world beyond the movement.

Determination of the global theme for October 17 is a precious process where people experiencing poverty and groups/organisations working with them have a direct say at the level of the United Nations. Your valuable input through this consultation process has led to the choice of the global theme commemorated by the UN, as well as shaped the spirit and content of the concept paper. Given October 17 is observed by so many different actors around the world, we are aware that not every group will commemorate this day precisely on the theme chosen, but having a global theme helps us to maximise impact and highlight specific themes that are of concern to people experiencing poverty.

We have the honour to invite you now to have your say for the consultation for 2024 and 2025. To do so, please fill in the form below:

<https://nextcloud.atd-quartmonde.org/index.php/apps/forms/s/ZQGHrnfjgZssKXJBJPaP3Yig>

You will find below two broad themes proposed by ATD Fourth World in conjunction with our friends and partners in New York for the commemoration of October 17, 2024, and 2025. These proposals take into account the “ending poverty in all its forms everywhere” promise of the 2030 agenda at the United Nations and the various processes there including the Commission for Social Development (February), High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (July), the Summit of the Future (September) and the 30th Anniversary of the International Year for the Year of the Family in 2024. The proposed themes also take into account the research on the [Hidden Dimensions of Poverty](#) carried out by ATD Fourth World in conjunction with the University of Oxford, had provoked, dear correspondents of the Forum, deep reflections and lines of action on which we want to continue with you in 2024 and 2025. Please note that the exact theme title will be finalised in April based on the responses received from this consultation process.

Theme 1: Overcoming social and institutional maltreatment

People living in poverty have spoken up about the break-up of families, how they are being blamed for the poverty, the low quality or inappropriate services, or different barriers (including legal identity) to access services, leaving them feeling excluded and humiliated and even harmed by institutions designed to enable or empower them. This theme will highlight the hidden “relational” dimensions of poverty 1) how people experiencing poverty are negatively perceived and treated badly by society and 2) how institutions, through their actions or inaction, fail to respond appropriately and respectfully to the needs of people in poverty.

Theme 2: Empowering futures for every child, every family and everyone left behind

Families experiencing poverty have often spoken out about how their lives are impacted by inequalities and the pain suffered by the break-up of their families as a result of their difficult circumstances. In some contexts, parents are feeling or made to feel inadequate and ashamed of their situation and face a constant worry for the future of their children and their future together as a family. This second theme is empowerment, for people in poverty to regain agency over their own destiny and build a future for every child and every family, guaranteeing the right to a legal identity, the right to have a history, the right to a sustainable and peaceful environment conducive to their development and to their prosperity. The second theme will build on the family advocacy work of the movement and fits perfectly well with the global context of the 30th anniversary of the International Year of the Family by the United Nations in 2024.

Find [here the consultation form](#).

Thank you for your contribution!

Aye Aye WIN
President of the International Committee October 17

APPENDIX 1 – Questionnaire (printable version)

Which theme do you prefer?

Here are two theme proposals worked on by the ATD Fourth World Movement with our partners at the UN. Tell us which theme is most important to you. You can choose both.

Overcoming social and institutional maltreatment

Empowering futures for every child, every family and everyone left behind

What are the reasons for your choice?

Tell us why this theme is important to you and why you think it should be our common theme for October 17 in 2024 and 2025.

Any other ideas in connection with these proposals?

Based on your real-life experience, do you have any ideas for topics related to these two theme proposals (legal identity, socio-economic discrimination, family separation, for example)?

What are your major concerns?

Do you have any other concerns or issues that you feel it's important to raise on October 17 (whether related to these proposals or not)?

A video meeting on the theme?

During the second half of March 2024, we plan to organise a 2-hour remote meeting time to share around the results of this consultation and the choice of the Day's theme. Would you be interested to participate?

Yes *No* *Maybe*

Name, country and association (optional)

Email adress (optional)

APPENDIX 2

A) Themes

I. The theme for October 17 for the last 15 years:

2023: Decent Work and Social Protection: Putting Dignity in Practice for All

2022: Dignity for All in Practice: The commitments we make together for social justice, peace, and the planet

2021: Building Forward Together: Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet

2020: Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all

2019: Acting together to empower children, their families and communities to end poverty

2018: Coming together with those furthest behind to build an inclusive world of universal respect for human rights and dignity.

2017: Answering the Call of October 17 to end poverty: A path toward peaceful & inclusive societies

2016: Moving from humiliation and exclusion to participation: Ending poverty in all its forms

2015: Building a sustainable future: Coming together to end poverty and discrimination

2014: Leave no one behind: think, decide and act together against extreme poverty

2013: Working together towards a world without discrimination: Building on the experience and knowledge of people in extreme poverty

2012: Ending the Violence of Extreme Poverty: Promoting Empowerment and Building Peace

2011: From Poverty to Sustainability: People at the Centre of Inclusive Development

2010: From Poverty to Decent Work: bridging the gap

2009: No theme

2008: Human Rights and Dignity of People Living in Poverty

II. ATD advocacy themes

The following are the priority advocacy themes for the international relations team :

- Social and environmental Justice
- Childhood and family
- Legal Identity
- Dignified work and social protection
- Merging of knowledge and hidden dimensions of poverty
- Gender

III. Themes that different UN bodies will be tackling in 2024

- International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (October 17), hosted by the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs.
- Summit of the Future: Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow (22nd-23rd September 2024, NYC)
- High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (8-17 July 2024) Theme: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions (A/DEC/77/553).
- 62nd session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD62) (5-14 February 2024).
 - Priority Theme: Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication.
 - Emerging Issues: The Influence of Digital Transformation on Inclusive Growth and Development: A Path to Realizing Social Justice.
- International Year of the Family – Celebration of the 30th anniversary of the International Year of the Family
- Commission on the Status of Women (68th session) (11 - 22 March 2024).

- Priority theme: Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective.
- Review theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-third session).

B) Our process and timetable

End of December / Mid-January: Our challenge will be to come up with two theme titles (by mid-January) that we can put to the Forum members for their input.

End of January - Finalisation of Forum Questionnaire

1-28 February - Forum Consultation

March - Summary process and decision on final theme to propose to IDEP partners based on Forum responses

April/May - IDEP theme finalised

June - Concept note finalised

C) Theme selection process

There are several stages in the theme consultation process.

Stage 1: Brainstorming. The first stage is the brainstorming on the potential theme consisting of ATD's UN team, the International Advocacy team, the International Leadership team, the Forum team and the International Committee for October 17. In doing so, the group considered (1) broad suggestions received for a possible theme from the consultation process with the Forum members and some suggestions made by UN partners (2) themes already covered in previous years and (3) the key themes of key UN events in current and future years.

Stage 2: A questionnaire is drafted by the International Committee for October 17 with the help of the Forum team. This draft questionnaire is discussed with the theme working group and the ILT. The draft questionnaire and the two themes to be put for consultation are finalised.

Stage 3: Consultation process through the Forum. Members of the Forum on Overcoming Poverty are invited to respond to the themes and questions put in the questionnaire.

Stage 4: Collation and synthesis. The responses are collected by the Forum team and then synthesized together with the International Committee for October 17.

Stage 5: Theme Discussion. A discussion takes place between the working group, ILT, Forum and International Committee for October 17 to discuss the responses received from the consultation and decide on the theme.

Stage 6: Final theme title. The theme is presented to the UN Partners. There is usually a final tweaking of the theme title and the theme is adopted at this stage.

Stage 7: Preparation of the Concept note by the International Committee for October 17 and sharing with the Forum Members.