



PRESS KIT

WORLD DAY FOR OVERCOMING EXTREME POVERTY OCTOBER 17th 2017

Page 2 - Historical Importance of the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty and the Commemorative Stone

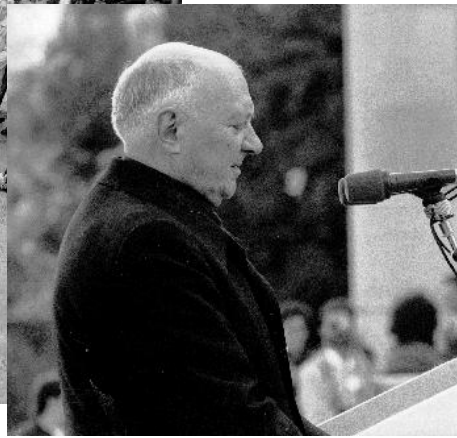
Page 3 - A special WebTV to follow this global event

Pages 4 & 5 - The 17 of october around the world : focus on 6 locations

Page 6 - Radio partners and stories of change

Historical Importance of the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty and the Commemorative Stone

The World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty was created in 1987. Initiated by Joseph Wresinski, it was proclaimed by the United Nations as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty in 1992.



Celebrated on 17 October, the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty gives a voice to those with the most difficult lives. on this day they can freely express the dire and unacceptable situations they face, their daily struggle to overcome extreme poverty, as well as their hopes and commitments.

Celebrating 17 October is an opportunity for ATD Fourth World to mobilize citizens and public authorities around the conviction that **extreme poverty is not inevitable, and that it is a violation of human rights that must be resisted and eradicated.**

On 17 October 1987, in the presence of over 100,000 people, Joseph Wresinski, founder of ATD Fourth World, unveiled a commemorative stone in honor of the victims of extreme poverty on the Human Rights Plaza in Trocadero, Paris.

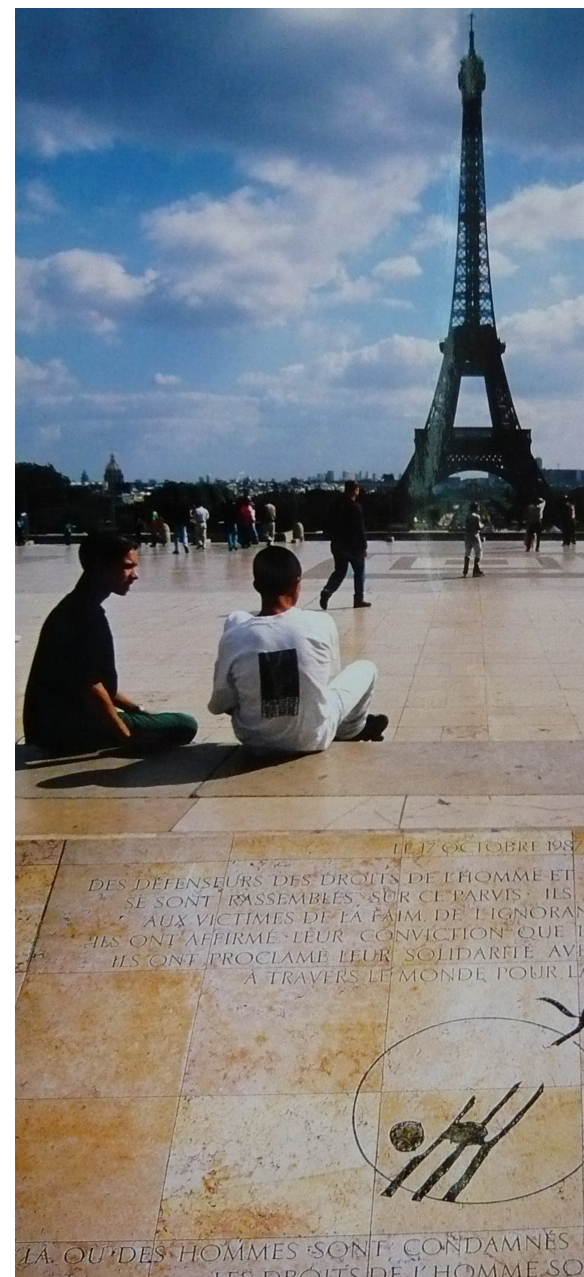
The words engraved on the stone declare:

"on this day, defenders of human and civil rights from every continent gathered here. they paid homage to the victims of hunger, ignorance and violence. they affirmed their conviction that human misery is not inevitable. they pledged their solidarity with all people who, throughout the world, strive to eradicate extreme poverty.

'wherever men and women are condemned to live in extreme poverty, human rights are violated. to come together to ensure that these rights be respected is our solemn duty.'

father joseph wresinski."

Since then, replicas of the commemorative stone have been placed in dozens of cities around the world.





A special WebTV to follow this

24 hours continuous broadcast

3 languages
(english, spanish, french)

6 commemorations in four corners of the world

1 internet link to follow the day

For the first time, anyone interested in participating, anywhere in the world, will be able to be part of the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty thanks to a WebTV program to be streamed in three languages (English, French, and Spanish) for 24 hours at poverty-stop.org. They will find numerous initiatives showing that extreme poverty is not inevitable, as well as the broadcasts of the 6 commemorations mentioned above.

This will be available at www.poverty-stop.org, thus making the World Day of 17 October accessible to all.

As well as new and pre-recorded material on the following themes:

Poverty is violence

Testimonials of those people living in poverty day in and day out. Around the world people living in poverty face exclusion, humiliation, and violence because of their financial and social vulnerability. The seventeenth of October is a day for them to speak out.

Calls that the intelligence of those in poverty be recognized

People in poverty must be included in development projects. Their life experiences are often ignored when in fact they should be the starting point of any project claiming to work to end poverty. Any such project must have at its heart actual people living in extreme poverty.

Examples of how, when we come together, poverty can be overcome

People living in poverty working in partnership with governments and civil society can bring about real change, and focusing on these positive examples is essential to building a better future.

Reports from events organized throughout 2017 as part of the Stop Poverty campaign

The call to action

We can all take action, no matter who we are or what resources we have, to overcome poverty.

The WebTV will include:

We estimate the broadcast of the 6 international events will be as follows:

Manila at 10:30 UT

Dublin at 12:30 UT

Dakar at 15:30 UT

New York at 17:15 UT

Paris at 18:30 UT

Guatemala City at 19:30 UT



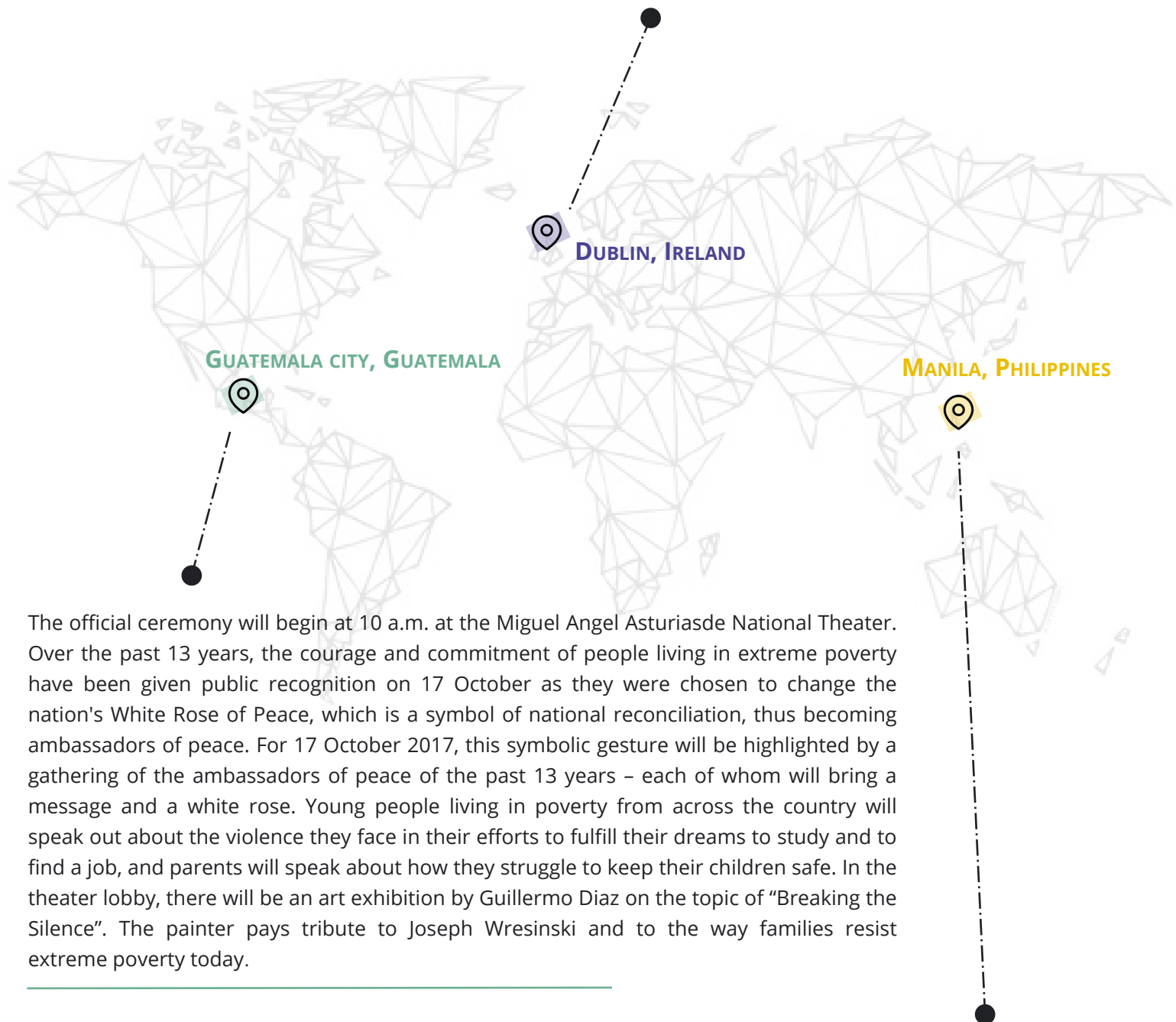
We are currently finalizing the program of the WebTV. We will update the program periodically on:

atd-fourthworld.org/mobilization2017/17-october-web-tv



The 17 of october around the world : Focus on 6 locations

The commemoration will begin at 11:30 a.m. near the Famine Memorial. In addition to testimonials and songs, 17 boats will be launched in the River Liffey. Made by local students, the boats are reminders of the Irish people who were forced by the Great Irish Famine to leave for other parts of the world.

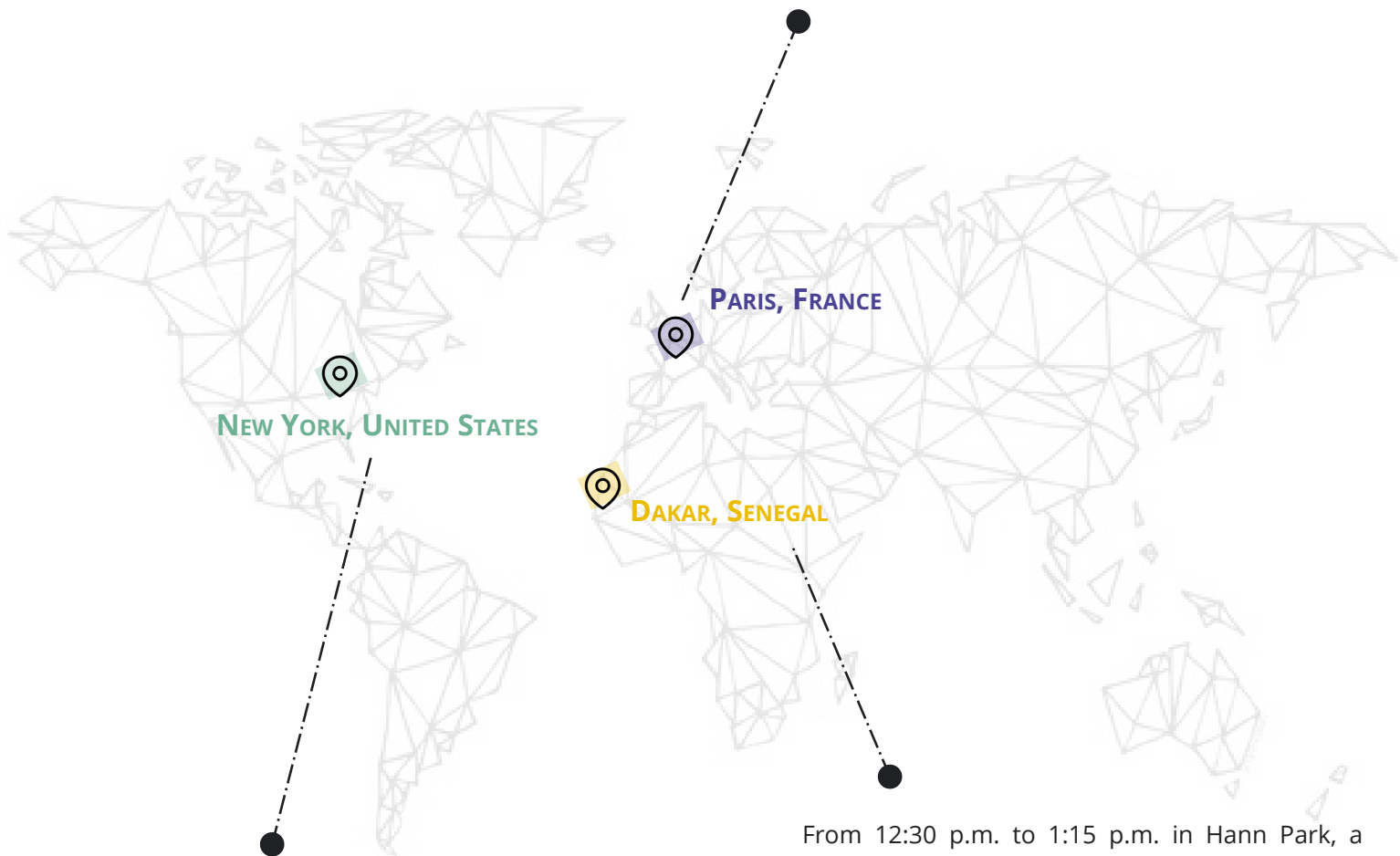


The official ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. at the Miguel Angel Asturias National Theater. Over the past 13 years, the courage and commitment of people living in extreme poverty have been given public recognition on 17 October as they were chosen to change the nation's White Rose of Peace, which is a symbol of national reconciliation, thus becoming ambassadors of peace. For 17 October 2017, this symbolic gesture will be highlighted by a gathering of the ambassadors of peace of the past 13 years – each of whom will bring a message and a white rose. Young people living in poverty from across the country will speak out about the violence they face in their efforts to fulfill their dreams to study and to find a job, and parents will speak about how they struggle to keep their children safe. In the theater lobby, there will be an art exhibition by Guillermo Diaz on the topic of “Breaking the Silence”. The painter pays tribute to Joseph Wresinski and to the way families resist extreme poverty today.

The capital of a country where the World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty has been officially recognized, the commemoration will take place at 9 a.m. local time in Rizal Park, a symbolic site in the national independence struggle. At the site of a replica of the commemorative stone in honor of victims of extreme poverty, prominent public personalities will join people living beneath bridges and in the Manila North Cemetery.

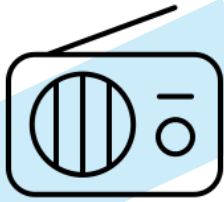


The gathering will take place from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. at the Trocadero Human Rights Plaza, where the first World Day for Overcoming Extreme Poverty was held in 1987. The commemoration will mark the anniversary of that historic day by highlighting the progress made in the struggle to overcome poverty since that first World Day by people experiencing extreme poverty, by professionals, by organizations and trade union members, and by political officials. There will be a theatrical performance, with interludes of songs by people in poverty from all over the world and testimonials by ATD Fourth World activists.



The official United Nations commemoration of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty will be held at 1:15 in the United Nations buildings and will be broadcast at poverty-stop.org. It will include an international delegation of people living in extreme poverty from around the world who are involved in the work of ATD Fourth World. The participation of Antonio Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations, is expected, and the event will focus on the ways in which, day by day, people living in poverty work for dignity and to keep their humanity in the face of injustice. The delegation will also bring the ATD Fourth World call to action (www.poverty-stop.org) and it will express the great expectation for people and families living in extreme poverty to be recognized by the UN as major partners in the building of peace.

From 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in Hann Park, a group of young people coming from the most impoverished areas of the city will join young students from other African countries to speak about the environment. For them, it is not just a question of wealth – it is one of survival. Neighborhoods flooding during the rainy season, farmers losing their land, fishermen obliged to sail farther and farther to find fish – these are urgent questions for young people today.



Many radio partners

On the occasion of 17 October, 2017, **we invite radio stations around the world to become a voice for the struggle to overcome poverty.** Over 50 radio stations have already signed up, including French International Radio (RFI), UN Radio, Radio France, RCF, RGB, Neno la Uzina (DRC), Radio Nigeria, and FM Radio (Nigeria).

The list of programming available for partner radio stations under a creative commons license is growing each day and is available for free download at poverty-stop.org. As a result, radio reporters from various countries and various continents can come together to demonstrate that extreme poverty is universal and that, everywhere in the world, men and women work together to overcome it.

All the audios are available on :
atd-fourthworld.org/stop-poverty/get-involved/on-the-radio

Stories of Change



The Stop Poverty Campaign offers everybody the possibility of writing stories to illustrate that when people come together, poverty can be overcome. See:

storiesofchange.atd-fourthworld.org

Many people around the world have taken up the challenge of writing stories about collective victories in which life has changed for one person or for a whole community, or about how some countries have changed laws or enacted new ones. Whether the victories are political or institutional, from organizations or from simple citizens, they all point to a possible change.

French local radio station, RGB, in partnership with an organization called "Migrating Words" (Mots Migrateurs) recorded several stories of change in 3 languages for broadcast. These recordings are available on our website and can be downloaded to be used by other radio stations.

CONTACT US !

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