

International Committee for October 17



INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

International Committee for October 17: Appointment of Anna Rurka

June 6, 2022 Pierrelaye, France— We are pleased to announce the appointment of Anna Rurka 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 “I am delighted to welcome Ms. Anna Rurka as a member of the International Committee. In her many roles, social education worker, researcher and as Senior Lecturer, she has demonstrated her unwavering commitment to the eradication of poverty. Her experience, expertise and commitment to poverty eradication and social justice will enrich and strengthen the work of the Committee to promote and support the spirit and objectives of October 17.”

Anna Rurka was born in Warsaw, Poland and trained as a social education worker at Warsaw University and social education applied to social work remains a source of inspiration for her daily work. Her doctoral research focussed on the effectiveness of educational measures from the point of view of parents and professionals and after completing her doctorate in 2006, returned to street work with young people, while also being involved in new academic projects. In 2008, Anna Rurka was appointed at the University Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense as Senior Lecturer in Education Science, in the family education and family social work research team. In 2003, she joined the European Committee for Home-based Priority Action for the Child and the Family (EUROCEF), an INGO with participatory status with the Council of Europe. From 2015-2022, she served as President of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe combining her commitments with her academic work in France, Poland and other European countries. Currently, she continues her involvement in the Council of Europe as a Past President of the Conference of INGOs (2022-2025) and Chair of the Committee “Action for Social Rights” (2022-2024) of the same body.

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For more information, please contact:

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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>)