

Irish Launch - Human Rights Day 2015

# MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS WORK

A handbook for  
implementing the UN  
Guiding Principles on  
Extreme Poverty and  
Human Rights



# #MakeRightsReal

# Irish Launch of the International Handbook Making Human Rights Work for People Living in Extreme Poverty

## Programme - #MakeRightsReal

10.30: Registration in the hall of Ozanam House

11.05: Welcome by Mark Hogan (Chairperson, ATD) and Tony Rock (Director, Ozanam House)

11.15: video presented at the UN Launch in Geneva

11.25: Panel of speakers

- Emily Logan - Irish Chief Commissioner for Human Rights and Equality;
- Janet Nelson - Vice-President of ATD International;
- Heydi Foster-Breslin - Mísean Cara CEO and Human Rights and Equality Commissioner;
- John Mark McCafferty - Head of Social Justice and Policy - SVP; and
- Cecilia Forrestal - Director, Community Action Network.

12.00: World Café discussion (Facilitation: Gail Seekamp and Pierre Klein)

12.25: Feedback and questions to the panel

12.45 to 1pm: Final words by Mark Hogan, Mingling & light lunch (coffee/tea/sandwiches)

*"Give to every human being  
every right that you claim  
for yourself."*

— ROBERT INGERSOLL

**#Make  
Rights  
Real**



**International Human Rights Day**  
10th December

Download the materials from the Launch at [www.atdireland.ie/wp/handbook/](http://www.atdireland.ie/wp/handbook/)

International  
Human  
Rights  
Day 2015

#Make  
Rights  
Real



Freedom  
of SPEECH



Freedom  
of Religion



Freedom  
from Want



Freedom  
from FEAR

In advance of this year's Human Rights Day, All Together in Dignity Ireland (ATD) and Misesan Cara launch a new handbook "Make Human Rights Work" in Ozanam House on Mountjoy Square in Dublin to help everyone take action for human rights.

For the first time in history, the handbook translates a set of United Nations (UN) principles on human rights and poverty situations into action points that we all can use to affect change. Spearheaded by Franciscans International and ATD International, with support from Irish Aid through Misesan Cara, and Edmund Rice Development, dozens of grassroots organisations worldwide, and individuals with a lived experience of poverty, have created a handbook to make human rights work for all.

"This handbook expresses in a practical way all the work Franciscans International does around the world to affirm the human rights of poor communities, and bringing their voice to the UN and other bodies," says Misesan Cara CEO Heydi Foster, "you will see it is grounded in a real respect for those living in extreme poverty. Effective and transformative Human Rights work is fundamentally about challenging structures, which undermine people's dignity. It seeks to address and change these structures and engage and mobilise people in doing so."

The handbook received wide international acclaim at its international launch in September 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland. With more than 100 attendees from international development organisations, representatives from the EU, and embassies welcomed the handbook as a resource built from the bottom-up with consultations from communities it seeks to help.

"When the Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights were adopted by the UN Human Rights Council in 2012, Franciscans International and ATD International agreed that we needed a handbook to translate the legal language of the Guiding Principles into concrete suggestions," says



ATD International's Vice-President Janet Nelson, “we want to help people working at the local level to better understand the human rights implications for people living in extreme poverty and to propose a series of affirmative actions to claim their rights.”

It is envisaged that the handbook will be disseminated through the far reaching networks of Franciscans International and ATD International. These networks will ensure that it reaches community workers and organisations working with those living in extreme poverty.

“We feel that the approach set out by the handbook is vitally important if we are to make real progress on Goal Number One of the new Sustainable Development Goals recently adopted by the UN in New York: 'End poverty in all of its forms everywhere,'” says Janet Nelson.

### ABOUT MISEAN CARA

Misean Cara is the leading faith-based NGO working with Irish religious and lay missionary organisations across over 50 countries. A development membership organisation, our 89 members work in the areas of education, health, income generation and livelihoods and human rights.

We work to bring about transformation by supporting our members and their partners working in some of the poorest communities around the world. We distribute funds to support the international development work of our member organisations across the world. We support them in developing their capacity to deliver results through high quality development projects that meet good practice. Check out the Misean Cara website [www.miseancara.ie](http://www.miseancara.ie) for more information.

### ABOUT ATD IRELAND

All Together in Dignity - ATD Fourth World is an international human-rights organisation that works through grass-roots projects in partnership with people living in poverty. All around the world, it remains focused on constantly reaching out to the most vulnerable families, those who have a long history of poverty and educational disadvantage even in the so-called developed countries. Check out the ATD Ireland website [www.atdireland.ie](http://www.atdireland.ie) for more information.

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