

Sunday, 14th February 2016



Today, on
Valentine's Day,
we call on all
#GE16 candidates
to be ready to show
their **#Hearts4Justice!**

Next Saturday, World Day of Social Justice, **we invite all #GE16 candidates** to use the hashtag **#Hearts4Justice** on social media and tell Irish citizens of their commitments to the 17 **#GlobalGoals** of the **#2030Agenda**.

www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/

Saturday 20th February 2016 is World Day of Social Justice! The observance of this United Nation's day should support efforts of international, national and local communities to eradicate poverty, to promote full employment, decent work, gender equity, access to social well-being and justice for all. These are some of the main goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development agreed on by Ireland in September 2015.

From January 2015 onwards, a large number of Irish-based Civil Society Organisations from the sustainability, development, environment and social sectors have been meeting to consider in which way all Irish stakeholders can contribute to the implementation, monitoring and follow-up of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, both in Ireland and beyond.

The Government, the private sector, the education sector, civil society, the media, we all have a role to play to build a better future for people and planet ! Now, after the adoption of the **#GlobalGoals**, it's time to walk the walk! It will be the task of the new Government to make sure we keep the promises!

Next Saturday, World Day of Social Justice, it's showtime!

If you are **#GE16 candidates**, use the hashtag **#Hearts4Justice** on Facebook and Twitter and **#TellEveryone** the role you will play to get the job done!

For ATD Ireland, Day of Social Justice will be a day to call on all candidates to commit to:

- asking the next Government to develop an overarching Irish Sustainable Development Strategy and a concrete implementation plan which coordinates the achievement of the 17 goals, 169 targets and their indicators. This new Strategy and its associated implementation policies should be subject to a **broad consultation** with all stakeholders through an institutionalised and inclusive process.

- ensuring that this new Strategy does not cherry-pick the easiest or preferred goals and **must go beyond policy-as-usual** by aiming for the highest level of ambition in all the targets, guaranteeing that **no-one is left behind** and that the **environmental challenges** are met.

- making sure that Ireland will design **strong monitoring, review and accountability mechanisms**. As "Ending poverty, everywhere and in all its forms" is the central goal of the **#2030Agenda**, we call on new TDs to create **permanent spaces for reflection and dialogue with people who have experience of poverty** and together with other partners. This will ensure that the people able to contribute to the definition and evaluation of the policies that affect them.

- recognising that sustainable development challenges and solutions for Ireland and beyond rarely sit within local or national borders. **Ireland must develop with the EU a means to differentiate** between the parts of the 2030 Agenda for which EU member states are primarily responsible versus those for which an EU lead is necessary and for which the EU must be held to account.

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All T^ogether in Dⁱgnity