

Luxembourg, July 10, 2017

## Press release



### A global campaign to overcome poverty and for peace

During 2017 ATD Quart Monde can look back on three important events – a good reason for action.

- **Joseph Wresinski**, founder of the movement, was born in France in 1917 in an internment camp. His life was marked by the experience of bitter poverty;
- together with the inhabitants of an emergency settlement on the outskirts of Paris, **he founded ATD Quart Monde in 1957**, a movement which is active against the exclusion and discrimination of the poor;
- 30 years ago, on **October 17, 1987**, 100,000 people at the Trocadero in Paris followed Joseph Wresinski's call for a nonviolent struggle against misery and became the initiators of the **world day for overcoming poverty**. It was recognized by the United Nations in 1992 and since then has been an annual occasion to raise awareness for the struggle to overcome poverty.

### 2017 - Worldwide call for action

In memory of Joseph Wresinski and his work a worldwide call to action was launched, which is a nonviolent response to the violence of misery. He has encouraged many distressed people to break the silence, to act with others, and to make themselves heard. [www.atd-quartmonde.org/stop-pauvreté/](http://www.atd-quartmonde.org/stop-pauvreté/)

*« Poverty is a form of violence. It leads to prejudices and humiliations, concealed by a wall of silence. It destroys human life. It is the greatest obstacle to peace and a sustainable future of our planet. »*

## **Save the date – Events 2017**

In cooperation with the "Center Culturel de Rencontre Neimenster" (CCRN), 17 October 2017 is celebrated in Luxembourg with various events.

On **17 October 8 pm** with the **concert** "Unissons nos voix" - Eglise St. Jean, Luxembourg-Grund

On **17 October 6.30 pm - vernissage** of the exhibition «Une nouvelle humanité sans misère verra le jour ...» in the Neumünster chapel until **5 November 2017**

On **25 October 7.30 pm** with the **conference** on culture in the fight against poverty  
Salle José Ensch

Further details about the exact program sequence shall be communicated in a later press release and via our new website.

*"Wherever men and women are condemned to live in poverty, human rights are violated. To come together to ensure those rights be respected is our solemn duty "*  
Joseph Wresinski, founder of ATD Quart Monde