



## 2010 European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

**STEP FORWARD**, join the Human Ring to support the fight against poverty and social exclusion!

**12 OCTOBER 2010**

**“Poverty is everyone’s business – ending poverty and social exclusion is possible”  
if we make the right political and societal priorities.**

Officially 79 million people live in or at risk of poverty in the EU, or 16% of the EU population.

On **Tuesday 12 October (midday)** we hope that the **Human Ring around the European Institutions in Brussels** will bring together civil society, trade unions, MEPs, **concerned citizens and many other stakeholders** to highlight the need for **strong political outcomes from the 2010 EU Year**.

The aim is to obtain a strong declaration by Heads of State in December to affirm the **European Union’s commitment to undertake measures to combat poverty and social exclusion across all policy fields**.

On this day in towns and cities all over Europe events small and large will be organised at relevant locations to give thousands of people the chance to engage in this action. Details of events near you will be advertised locally and/or will be available on the website [www.endpoverty.eu](http://www.endpoverty.eu).

Join in these actions and show your support for **building a Europe for all**.

Why 12 October?

Midday on **Tuesday 12 October** has been selected since it is during the week leading up to October 17<sup>th</sup>, the **International Day for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion** (Many more activities will be arranged to mark this international day). It also coincides with a **Group week in the European Parliament**, when there will be the maximum number of MEPs available in Brussels. One of our challenges will be to motivate them and their colleagues to come out and join our action.

**The Human Ring will circle the main buildings of the European Institutions:  
The Parliament, the Council (Justus Lipsius), the Commission (Berlaymont), the Committee of  
the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee.**