



Concern Online Debates Programme

Teacher Training

In today's session:



1. Introduction to the Concern Debates Programme
2. Changes to the Concern Debates Programme going online
3. Video tips
4. Materials and support

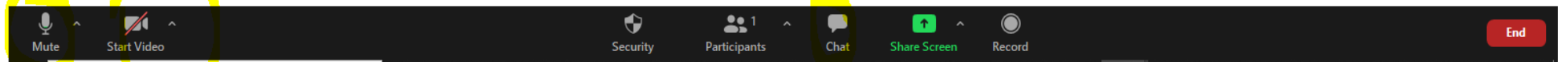
Zoom housekeeping

- Please keep on mute for the session
- Please use the chat function for questions while we go through the information session
- We will take breaks for questions and will have breakout rooms where you can chat with other teachers

Join Audio
Computer Audio Connected

Share Screen

Invite Others



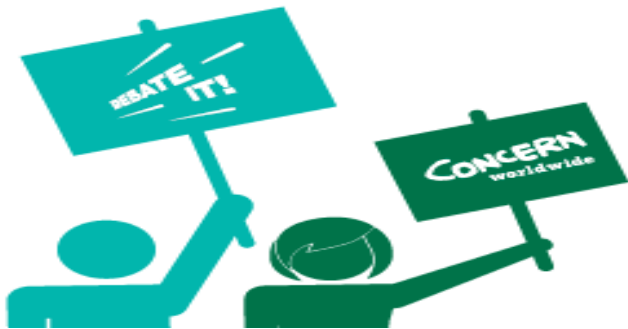
Our work in Ireland

The Concern Debates have been running since 1984. They are a core element of Concern's Active Citizenship programme which seeks to encourage further learning and debate about issues of global justice and human development.

Concern thanks you for agreeing to volunteer your time and expertise as an adjudicator, the debates simply could not happen with you.

The aims of the Concern Debates are:

- To promote a deeper awareness and understanding of the global issues affecting the lives of millions of people in the developing world.
- To provide students with a public forum to develop skills in research, critical thinking, and debating.
- To encourage students and teachers to become lifelong advocates on issues relating to development, poverty, justice and human rights.



- **Concern's Active Citizenship Unit works with over 8000 students each year in Ireland through a variety of programmes**
- **The Concern Debates are our flagship programme**
- **Around 120 schools take part each year**
- **Over 300 Concern Debates volunteer adjudicators take part each year**
- **Our adjudicators are tasked with marking the debates per Concern rules and our marking sheet**

Meet the team

MEET THE CONCERN DEBATES TEAM

Geraldine Carroll
085 254 0574



Geraldine organises debates in Cork, Claire, Waterford, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Limerick. She has a BA (Hons) Sociology and Politics from Queen's University, Belfast, an MA in International Organisations from Dublin City University and recently graduated from University College Cork with an MSc Integrative Counselling and Psychotherapy. Her favourite motion is: "For women to access leadership positions, gender quotas must be implemented"

Interesting fact: She has skydived from a plane at 15,000 ft.

MEET EMMA HASSARD



Emma Hassard
07402997698
debatesni@concern.net

Emma looks after schools in Northern Ireland. She has a MA (Hons) in English and Italian from St Andrews University, Fife. Emma worked for the NI Council for Integrated Education and is currently a parent governor at her local integrated primary school. Emma then took up a role with the Comber Foundation - an Irish NGO who work in orphanages in Romania, before joining Concern six years ago.

Interesting fact: Emma is a fluent Italian speaker and lived in Venice for just under a year.

Olga Brodescu
085 803 1801

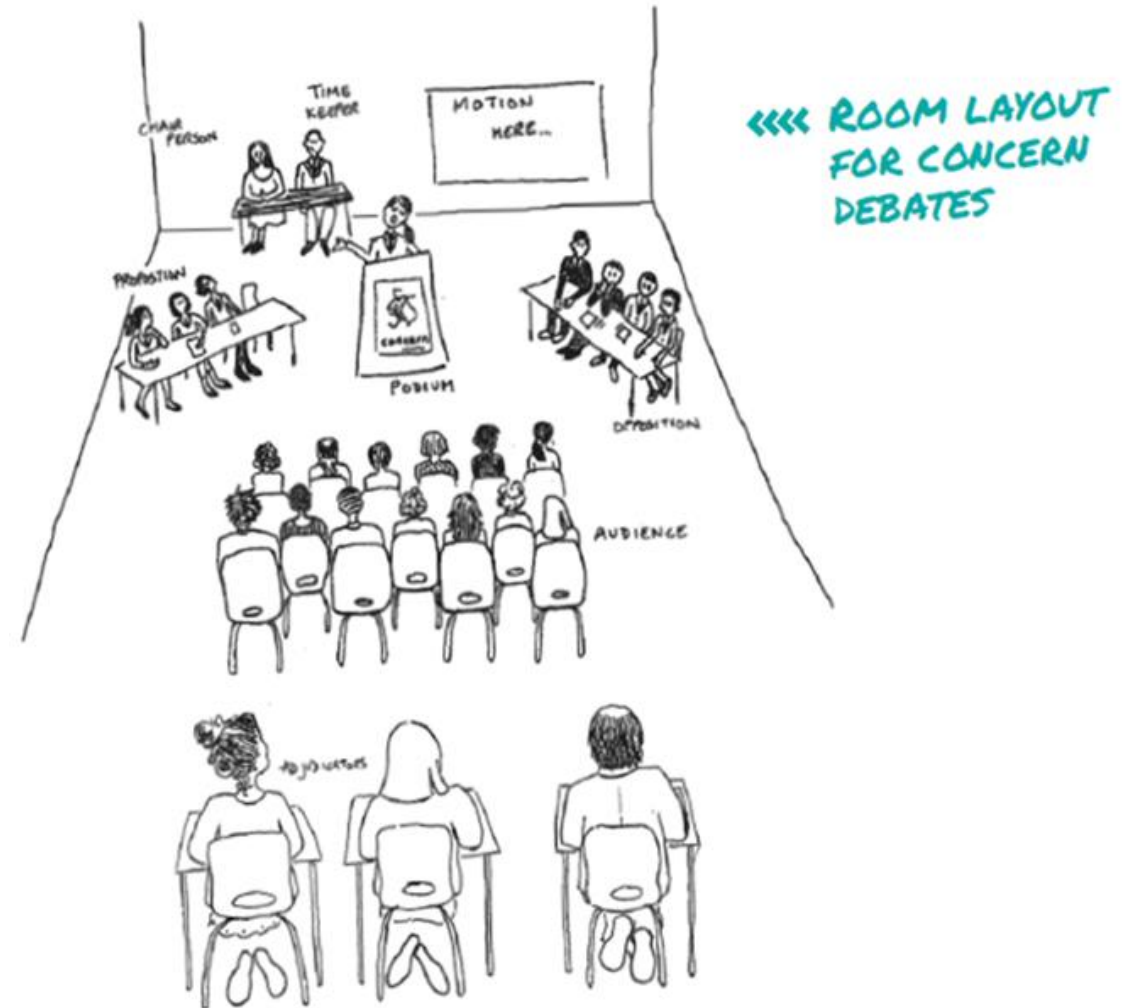


Olga organises debates in Dublin, Kildare and Meath. Born in Republic of Moldova, Olga studied the piano in music school and went on to university to study Applied Foreign Languages. From a very young age Olga was keen to understand the way car engines work and would usually spend days on end in her father's repair shop dismantling engines and trying to put them back together. Olga has always been passionate about development issues and for this reason has worked with a number of NGOs over the years

Interesting fact: She dreams of one day opening her own animal shelter/coffee shop.

The Concern Debates: The Basics

- The Concern Debates programme is now in its 37th year
- Over 25,000 students have taken part
- Over 20,000 debates organised
- Each year the Concern Debates Team organises over 560 unique debates between schools
- 1300 volunteer adjudicator placements to attend and mark debates
- We have 120 + post primary schools taking part each year
- In 2020-21 we will be bringing the programme online



The Concern Debates: The Basics

- Open to senior cycle post primary schools in ROI and NI
- Four on a team but schools may have larger teams made up of researchers etc
- At a given debate- four students speak with the captain speaking twice (opening and closing speeches)
- Each student has 4.30 to speak and time penalties will incur if students go over
- Debates are marked by volunteer adjudicators
- Motions are on development/ social justice issues
- Each school has four debates at league stage phase
- If a school fails to compete, a bye is awarded to the other school
- **If you are unable to compete in a debate- please note this will mean that you will not be guaranteed a place in the Concern Debates programme in the subsequent year**



Students from De La Salle Bagnelstown, Debates quarter final 2019.

League Phase and Knockout Phase

- The league phase of the debates begins in October and finishes in January
- All schools will have **FOUR DEBATES** to complete in this time
- Schools will propose two motions and schools will oppose two motions
- The knockout phase then begins in February
- The knockout phase is divided into the Cup and the Shield – this is a new as of 2020
- The top 16 schools will go into the Cup and will have knockout debates until there are two schools for the final in May
- Schools 17-32 will go into the Shield and will have knockout debates until there are two schools for the final in May

Place in competition	School Name	Debates Completed	Total Wins	Unanimous Wins (3 points)	Majority win (2 points)	Minority Loss (1 point)	Byes	Points
1	School A	4	4	4				12
2	School B	4	4	4				12
3	School C	4	4	4				12
4	School D	4	4	4				12
5	School E	4	4	4				12
6	School F	4	4	4				12
7	School G	4	4	4				12
8	School H	4	4	4				12
9	School I	4	4	3			1	12
10	School J	4	4	3			1	12
11	School K	4	4	3			1	12
12	School L	4	4	2			2	12
13	School M	4	4	2			2	12
14	School N	4	4	3	1			11
15	School O	4	4	3	1			11
16	School P	4	4	3	1			11
17	School Q	4	4	2	2			10
18	School R	4	4	2	2			10
19	School S	4	4	2	2			10
20	School T	4	4	2	2			10
21	School U	4	3	2	1	1		9
22	School V	4	3	2	1	1		9
23	School W	4	3	2	1	1		9
24	School X	4	3	2	1	1		9
25	School Y	4	3	2	1	1		9
26	School Z	4	3	2	1	1		9
27	School AA	4	3	1			2	9
28	School AB	4	3	1			2	9
29	School AC	4	3	1			2	9
30	School AD	4	2	2	1	1		9
31	School AE	4	4	2	2	1	1	9
32	School AF	4	4	2	2	1	1	9

What is involved in the Concern Debates Programme?

- All schools will be required to complete four debates in the league phase of the programme (October – January)
- Points will be awarded for wins. Points are awarded as follows – 3-0 or 2-1
- Read the Concern Debates Handbook, refer to this presentation and ask our staff to clarify anything that is unclear
- **Understand that the Concern Debates programme is NOT a public speaking competition. We focus on knowledge as opposed to public speaking. It is not a toastmasters competition**
- **Access to a phone to record student debates**



Students from Lary College, Debates Champions 2019.

Preparing for the Concern Debates Programme

- Read the materials on the USB provided
- Watch footage of past debates
- READ THE DEBATES HANDBOOK
- UNDERSTAND THE MARKING SHEET- We frequently see amazing schools and speeches but they fail to pick up points as they are missing key things on the marking sheet
- Understand that the Concern Debates programme is first and foremost an educational programme
- While public speaking is important, the majority of the marks awarded are for content and knowledge of the motion
- **Ensure that parents/guardians have signed and completed consent form. We require consent forms for all students taking part due to video component. This must be returned by Sept 10th by teacher for each school**
- **Have a team of four students ready to take part. Subs are allowed and teams can be interchangeable**
- **Have access to a phone/camera to record student speeches**

Concern Online Debates Programme

- Due to social distancing restrictions, the Concern Debates programme is now going online
- **Adjudicators will not visit schools to mark debates**
- **Schools will not travel to other schools for debates**
- Schools will now pre record videos of their speeches and send to the Concern Debates team
- The Concern Debates team will then upload to YouTube on a secure private link
- Adjudicators will be assigned debates to watch on YouTube. Adjudicators will mark the debates at home using the Debates marking sheet.
- The Concern Debates team will then inform the schools of the result of the debate
- **Adjudicators will not mark higher for schools with higher video production- i.e including school crests etc. Stick to content and the marking sheet**
- **We ask that teachers record videos in a horizontal/landscape fashion. We also ask that teachers don't incorporate fancy graphics/logos etc. A simple video is fine. Marks will be awarded on content of speech- not video production**
- **Ensure that the audio is good**

Debating Online



Concern Debates Online



Schools will receive four dates from Concern indicating the motion they will be debating, the school they are up against and whether they are proposition or opposition



Schools will be required to video their students presenting their speeches. We ask that individual speeches are filmed rather than all the speeches together



At the start of each speech the speaker must clearly introduce themselves stating their name, school and the position within the debate (ie Captain Opening Speech or Speaker 2)



Students have 4.30 minutes to speak. If they go over this penalties will be incurred



Schools will then be asked to send the videos of all speeches to debates@concern.net or debatesni@concern.net for NI schools.

Concern Debates Online

- We cannot accept videos after the given day of your debate. Please ensure you send videos by 5pm
- Please note that schools cannot see each other's speeches. We will not send videos of minors to teachers for safeguarding purposes



Videos of speeches must be sent on the day given for your debate- i.e your school was given the day of October 26th- the videos must be received by Concern on October 26th



Concern will then upload the speeches of your school and the opposing school to a secure private youtube link. As the link is private, neither school will see each other's speeches



Concern will source a volunteer adjudicator to mark speeches from both schools as per our usual marking sheet via the private youtube link

School	Speech	Mark	Comments



Concern will then receive feedback from the adjudicator and the result of the debate. Concern will then email both teachers with feedback and the result. Concern will let both teams know of the marks

Concern Debates Online: Summary

- Each school must complete four debates on the given dates by Concern
- Teachers must ensure all students participating must have consent forms signed by parents/guardians and returned to Concern by Monday September 22nd 2020
- Debates must be filmed by schools and sent to debates@concern.net in a timely manner
- Teachers must ensure that speeches for the Captain's Opening, Speaker 2, Speaker 3, Speaker 4 and Captain's closing speech are sent to Concern. If a speech is not sent, marks will be lost as adjudicators will be unable to mark
- Teachers must ensure that speeches are labelled correctly i.e Captain Opening Speech; Speaker 2 etc
- If a school cannot complete a debate on a given day, schools must contact each other and work out a new date in line with the Concern Debates calendar. Schools will only be permitted to change one date. Change of date form here must be used <https://www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates/get-your-school-involved/change-date>
- If schools fail to submit a video for their scheduled debate, that school will automatically forfeit and a bye of 3 points will be awarded to the other school



Concern Online Debates FAQ



Frequently Asked Questions

How will I send videos to the debates team?

It is saying the file is too large to send via email to debates@concern.net

You can use www.wetransfer.com to transfer large files for free to debates@concern.net

Can students send their videos to the debates team?

We will not accept videos from students for GDPR/safeguarding reasons

Do I send separate videos for each student or can I send a video of all the debates filmed concurrently?

We ask that individual speeches be sent. Please ensure to label videos correctly.

We will be receiving 500 + videos between October and January so please make sure that your video has the following:

1. School name
2. Motion and if Prop or Opp
3. Label which speaker: Captain Opening Speech etc



St Mary's Knocklyon,
Speaker 2 Hunger Prop.mov

Concern Online Debates FAQ



How do I film my student's speeches?

We would recommend that you film speeches on a phone in a landscape format.

Please do a rehearsal to make sure that students can be heard clearly.

Do I have to send the first recording of the debate or can we film many times and send the best version?

Debates team can film numerous times and choose the best recording. Once Concern Debates HQ receive the recording of your team's speeches on the allocated day we will be happy!

Do we need to add graphics to our video? Will it gain us more marks?

Graphics are not necessary but you are welcome to add your school crest or names. Speeches will be judged based on the criteria of the marking sheet as per usual, not on the quality of video production.

Why can't we use zoom or google meet and do a live debate with the other schools?

Logistically it would be very hard for Concern to manage this. In addition, we would worry that some students and schools would not have access to high speed broadband. When we get to the knockout stages of the competition, we will look at the feasibility of organising live online debates.

How will we know if we won our debate?

The Concern Debates team will receive results from the adjudicator and will relay these to debates mentors via email. We will update the league table here <https://www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates/competition-stages> every two weeks.

Concern Online Debates FAQ

Can I speak to adjudicators regarding constructive feedback of our speeches?

All adjudicator feedback will be captured in our adjudicator feedback form. This will then be sent via email to debates mentors by the Concern Debates team. Adjudicators will not be contacting schools.

Can I view the speeches of our opposing team?

Unfortunately no. Both schools must send videos for their debate. These videos will be uploaded and only viewed by the adjudicator marking the debate and the Concern Debates team.

If the debate is not live, how will my team refute or rebut the other team?

We appreciate that this is difficult for teams. There are 10 marks available on the marking sheet for refutation and rebuttal. We encourage teams to do the following:

1. Predict what the other team may say by researching both sides of the argument
2. Refute general arguments to the position their team is holding

If teams fail to include any refutation or rebuttal, adjudicators will be unable to award them points in this category.

I have concerns about GDPR and the videos sent to Concern. Will they be secured safely?

We fully recognise concerns regarding GDPR and safeguarding when dealing with videos of minors.


All videos received will be stored securely on Concern's internal network. Videos will only be accessed by a maximum of four members of the Concern Debates team. Videos will be password protected and deleted as per our data policy at the end of the academic year.


All schools will be asked to fill in GDPR compliant consent forms for all members of their team. For more information, please view our [privacy policy here](#).


Once videos of speeches have been marked by adjudicators, we will remove the videos from the private youtube link.


All adjudicators marking videos have been screened by Concern and are Garda / Access NI vetted. Adjudicators will be receiving full training on moving to an online format.




+ Add your files 
 Or [select a folder](#)

Email to 


Your email 
 claire.marshall@concern.net

Message 

 **Transfer**

A verified email address lets people trust that transfers have been sent by you. To change this email, update your personal details.



 Antoine Poirier



Captured with Huawei P40 Pro

How will rebuttal/ refutation work if the schools cannot interact?

- Schools will still be asked to include counter arguments in their speeches
- If there are no counter arguments- adjudicators cannot award marks
- Students must include a counter argument
- For example- *Uniforms are a good idea for schools*
- *The team proposing that uniforms are a good thing should research the opposite side of the motion and refute some of the arguments they find- i.e they are expensive, hamper individuality etc*
- Schools do not need to 100% predict what the other team say but must include a counter argument
- We appreciate that this is difficult and will be running online training sessions for students before the debates begin



Marking Sheet

Venue: _____ Date: _____

Proposing team: _____

Opposing team: _____

Speaker One	Speaker Two	Speaker Three	Speaker Four	TOTALS
10	10	10	10	40
5	5	5	5	20
5	5	5	5	20

A. Content

Knowledge and Understanding of the subject	10	10	10	10	40
Relevance to the motion	5	5	5	5	20
Use and variety of sources	5	5	5	5	20

Speaker One	Speaker Two	Speaker Three	Speaker Four	TOTALS
10	10	10	10	40
5	5	5	5	20
5	5	5	5	20

Speaker Two	Speaker Three	Speaker Four	TOTALS
10	10	10	30
10	10	10	40
5	5	5	20

B. Debating Skills

Refutation and Rebuttal	10	10	10	30
Ability to persuade, communicate and engage	10	10	10	40
Logical and well constructed argument	5	5	5	20

Speaker Two	Speaker Three	Speaker Four	TOTALS
10	10	10	30
10	10	10	40
5	5	5	20

Opening Speech		TOTALS
10	10	20
5	5	10

C. Captains' Duties

Definition of the motion or response to definition	10	10
Outline of team's arguments	5	5

Opening Speech		TOTALS
10	10	20
5	5	10

Closing Speech		TOTALS
10	10	20
10	10	20

Summary and defense of team's arguments	10	10
Rebuttal of other team's arguments	10	10

Closing Speech		TOTALS
10	10	20
10	10	20

10	10
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D. Team Work

Display of team work during the debate	10	10
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10	10
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-	

Subtotal	
Less time penalties	-
TOTAL	

-	

Marking sheet: Video 1.11- 5.45



B. Debating Skills				
	10	10	10	30
Refutation and Rebuttal				
Ability to persuade, communicate and engage	10	10	10	40
Logical and well constructed argument	5	5	5	20



The Concern Debates: The Basics

- Points are awarded in two forms
- 3-0 OR 2-1
- Please see across on how points are awarded
- We removed the draw 1.5-1.5 after consulting with teachers and schools

How do I award 3-0 or 2-1 result?



If the difference on the marking sheet is 1- 9 points between prop and opp teams this would class as a majority win.

If the difference on the marking sheet is 10 points and greater between the prop and opp teams this would class as a unanimous win.

FOR EXAMPLE

TEAM A score 100 points

TEAM B score 109 points

This would be a majority win as there is 9 points in the difference - 2-1

TEAM A score 100 points

TEAM B score 108 points

This would be a majority win as there is 8 points in the difference - 1-2

TEAM A score 100 points

TEAM B score 120 points

This would a unanimous win as TEAM B has scored 20 points (above the ten point threshold) - 0-3

TEAM A score 150 points

TEAM B score 100 points

This would be a unanimous win for TEAM A as they have scored above the ten point threshold - 3-0

Breakout Rooms

- You will have the chance to speak with fellow teachers now for three minutes
- Please share your thoughts on the new changes
- Please note your breakout room and choose one member to feedback
- We will then take questions

Concern Debates Fee

- **An invoice will be emailed to you in October outlining your fee to the Concern Debates**
- **Please ensure to pay promptly**
- **Many schools pay through ETBS- please inform of us if this is the case as we receive payments and then cannot link them to the relevant schools**

Emails from the Concern Debates Team

- We ask that teachers please read emails carefully
- The Concern Online Debates has many moving parts and we want to ensure that teachers and students are aware of the next steps and requirements

Support Materials

- All participating schools will receive a usb with all the materials you need for next year
- It will contain a list of the motions, handbooks, key dates etc
- Please read it carefully

Motions for 2020 League Phase

MOTION 1:

'Criticism of the WHO over its handling of Covid-19, is irresponsible and unfair.'

MOTION 2:

'This time, after the death of George Floyd, 'things' will be different.'

MOTION 3:

'To tackle wealth inequality, billionaires should not exist.'

MOTION 4:

'Nuclear Power is essential for a clean energy future.'

MOTION 5:

'Brexit will be good for Africa'

- Research links will be provided for each motion in USB pack
- Please note that each school will do four motions out of a possible five

Questions

I want to change the date of my date

- The Concern Debates team require two weeks notice. If a date does not suit, please let us know and we will put you in contact with the teacher of the opposing school to arrange a new date.

I am not happy with the result

- Please email the Concern Debates team and ensure you have received your feedback. Results are final and in the first couple of weeks will be cross checked by the Concern Debates team.

Can I rerecord the speeches or do you have to send the first draft?

- You can rerecord as many times as you like once the speeches are delivered to us Concern on time

What does a bye mean?

- A bye of three points is awarded to a school where their opposing school fails to send in their videos. As of 2020 a bye will have equal standing to a win for logistical purposes.

Do I need a chairperson or a timekeeper?

- No- if you keep the speeches under 4.30 min no time penalties will be incurred. The Concern Debates team will check this and add penalties to marking sheets if students go over the time

The Concern Debates Handbook references debates taking place in schools

- Please note this was written pre lockdown. We would strongly encourage teachers to still read as there are valuable pieces of information on how to get your team started. We would also encourage students to read

Child Safeguarding

- **All Concern Debates Adjudicators are required to undergo Garda Vetting (ROI) and Access NI (NI). Concern will accept and comply with any findings, arising from the vetting process, that deem a person unsuitable to serve as an adjudicator.**
- **Debates Adjudicators are required to read the Concern Debates Adjudicator handbook and to strictly adhere to Concern's Child Safeguarding policy.**
- **Concern Debates Adjudicators are required to treat minors with respect and dignity and to deliver feedback from the debate in a constructive and positive manner, as detailed in the Concern Debates Adjudicators handbook.**



SAFEGUARDING

Questions?



- If you have any questions, please contact a member of our team by emailing: debates@concern.net or debatesni@concern.net
- Please read the materials on the USB and consult our website here <https://www.concern.net/schools-and-youth/debates>
- Also check in with our twitter- [@concerndebates](https://twitter.com/concerndebates)

CONCERN
worldwide

**ENDING
EXTREME POVERTY
WHATEVER
IT TAKES**