

EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE!

350 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS IN 37 COUNTRIES



emmaus
INTERNATIONAL

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE



ABBÉ PIERRE, THE FOUNDER WITH A VISION

Born into a family of French industrialists, Abbé Pierre was ordained a priest in 1938. After his time as a resistance worker during the Second World War, he was elected into parliament from 1945 to 1950. Very early on, he decided to devote his life to the most excluded. His house in Neuilly-Plaisance welcomed the first companions. **The first Emmaus community was born.** The builder-companions, who later became ragpickers were able to regain their dignity, by being offered an unconditional welcome, through sharing and work.

Confronted with entrenched poverty in France and the authorities' lack of concern, Abbé Pierre launched his renowned appeal of 1 February 1954, which had a global impact.

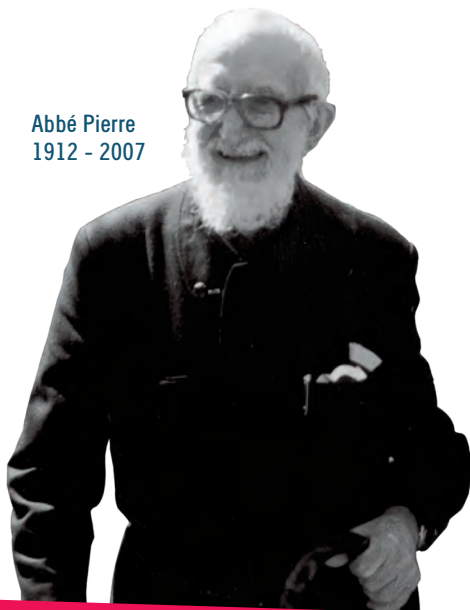


Abbé Pierre and the first companions.
France - 1953



Lucie Coutaz
& Georges
Legay,
co-founders
of Emmaus

Abbé Pierre
1912 - 2007



From 1954 onwards, Abbé Pierre travelled the world, became involved in the global fight against poverty and told others of his experiences with Emmaus. Groups began springing up in many countries, such as Switzerland and Argentina. After surviving a shipwreck in 1963, it struck him how urgent it was to organise the movement. In 1969 the world's Emmaus groups met for the first time in Switzerland. **Emmaus International was officially set up in 1971.**

The world assemblies gradually created the identity of the movement, which continued to grow. Abbé Pierre died in Paris in 2007, he now rests in Esteville (France), beside the very first Emmaus companions. His house there has been transformed, offering a place to live and to remember.



COUNTLESS POLITICAL STRUGGLES IN FRANCE AND AROUND THE WORLD

- ✓ Opposing **dictatorships** and campaigning for **democracy** (in Chile and Benin, among others),
- ✓ fighting **debt** in poor countries,
- ✓ against world **hunger** (support for the Food and Agriculture Organisation campaigns).
- ✓ For global **federalism of peoples**,
- ✓ for **Peace** (contribution to the drafting of article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights),
- ✓ for the right of all to **decent housing** (condemnation of property speculation and evictions),
- ✓ for the right to **asylum and welcoming** of 'undocumented persons'/migrants,
- ✓ for **inter-religious dialogue**...

A LIFE OF TRAVELS AND MEETINGS



Denmark - 1963



Argentina - 1959



Sahara - 1962

A tireless
freedom fighter.
Burkina Faso - 2003



www.actemmaus.org

'In the Footsteps of Abbé Pierre'
Discover his life's struggles
on our interactive platform.

EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL TODAY



Founding text approved in 1969.

A COMMON OBJECTIVE

Emmaus International is a pluralist movement which fights against the causes of poverty and exclusion.

A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES

From income-generating activities to solidarity, adapted to local needs (education, handicraft, agriculture, recycling, etc.)



1 group = 1 vote. World Assembly - Italy - 2016

INTERNATIONAL AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

- ✓ The movement's elected members are stakeholders from all four continents, (Asia, Africa, the Americas and Europe).
- ✓ Every four years, at the World Assembly, the members set out guidelines for the movement and elect its representatives.



A DECENTRALISED ORGANISATION

At international level, the elected bodies on each continent supervise the implementation of the movement's guidelines, with support from salaried staff.



FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE AND TRANSPARENCY

Each member gives a yearly subscription, and income from a special sale dedicated to international solidarity, to form the main part of the movement's budget. Every year an auditor reviews our accounts and an annual report presenting a financial assessment is drawn up (available on our website or on request).

STATUTES

Emmaus International is a general interest organisation, governed by the French law of 1901. It has consultative status on the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).



“The Emmaus Movement springs from individuals meeting and, on seeing others suffering, deciding to combine their efforts.”

Hunger and Thirst magazine - 1970

Abbé Pierre

SOLE LEGATEE OF ABBÉ PIERRE

In his will, Abbé Pierre made Emmaus International responsible for sharing his ideas, protecting his memory and continuing his struggles.



Abbé Pierre's archives are kept at the national world of work archives (ANMT) in France.



EMMAUS FIGHTS THE CAUSES OF POVERTY



Humanist values
passed on from
an early age.
Emmaus school,
Cuna Nazareth - Peru



Work, a core value
and guiding principle
at Emmaus, to
enable some of
the most excluded
members of society
to gain back their
dignity. Emmaus
Buga - Colombia

OUR VALUES

- ✓ Unconditional welcome and support
- ✓ Solidarity, a strength in the face of loneliness and conflicts
- ✓ Openness to understanding individuals and their points of view
- ✓ Respect for individuals as people, of diversity and their environment
- ✓ Sharing in all of its dimensions – human, material and financial.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- ✓ Prioritise action with the most excluded, who come up with their own solutions and gain independence
- ✓ Promote sustainable activities, that are socially fair and equitable
- ✓ Organise solidarity within the movement to share resources to build groups' capacities and finance local activities
- ✓ Work in networks with a wide range of entities (organisations, researchers, local authorities, the media).



Dialogue, to get together
to develop alternatives.
Emmaus Luanda - Angola



Solidarity, a vital source of
strength in conflict zones.
Emmaus AEP - Lebanon



The Emmaus Community -
a place to live and work.
Emmaus Coventry - United
Kingdom



HERITAGE FUND

Bringing to life what we have inherited from Abbé Pierre by promoting his archives.



Abbé Pierre
aged 15.



Thousands of archives
still to be processed.

“A little gesture or small act is worth much more than a big, beautiful dream that never becomes a reality. It’s by taking action that we’ll change things for the better. That’s what solidarity is really all about.”

France - 2004

Abbé Pierre

CONTAINER PROGRAMME

Solidarity through the sharing of resources – materials collected in Western Europe are then sent to Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe to be sold there.



Loading.
Emmaus Angoulême - France



Unloading.
Emmaus Jekawili - Côte d'Ivoire

EMERGENCY FUND

For a quick and efficient response
to urgent situations



Assistance for flood victims.
Emmaus Piura - Peru



Support for foreign refugees.
Emmaus Mars NGO - Togo



EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGNS AND RAISES AWARENESS

Since the creation of Emmaus International, one of our guiding principles inspired by Abbé Pierre has been to live out solidarity as a political engagement. In this way, since its very beginnings, Emmaus International has been contributing towards structural change in our societies, helping in the struggle “until the cause of each ill is eliminated” and defending “access to fundamental rights for all”. (The Universal Manifesto of Emmaus, 1969).



Know your rights in order to defend them.
Emmaus Thanapara - Bangladesh



The “voice of the voiceless”. Beirut - 1959

“It is not enough to act,
we must conquer - defeat
the forces pushing against us”.

Lebanon - 1959

Abbé Pierre





EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL LEADS THREE STRUGGLES ACROSS THE GLOBE FOR:

AN ETHICAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY, TO THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE

AGAINST a prevailing dominant global economic system that serves competitiveness and the most powerful, giving rise to forced labour, inequality between men and women, financialisation of the economy and fiscal optimisation, etc.



WE ARE CAMPAIGNING FOR:

- ✓ a redistribution of wealth and defence of commonly-held resources,
- ✓ working to serve the wider community,
- ✓ seeking a lasting balance between individuals, their communities and their environment,
- ✓ effective alternatives to the neoliberal capitalist system, to live together, in dignity.



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Recycling to tackle pollution and the over-exploitation of natural resources.
Emmaus Recife - Brazil



© Yurko Dyachyshyn

Serving the wider community.
Emmaus Oselya - Ukraine



Microcredit: an alternative in order to earn a living and take back control of your life.
Emmaus Pahou - Benin



Training sessions in order to fight inequality.
Tara projects - India



The soil, a commonly-held resource, to share and protect. Emmaus Toulouse - France



Access to healthcare for the most excluded members of society. Healthcare in Benin, India and Burkina Faso.
Emmaus Pag-la-Yiri - Burkina Faso

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

AGAINST a global system that is creating growing inequality due to political and economic power that is out of the control of the people; a climatic and environmental situation that is worsening; breaching of rights to health, education and housing, among others.

WE ARE CAMPAIGNING FOR:

- ✓ the democratisation of public decision systems,
- ✓ fair access to natural resources and people's sovereignty over them,
- ✓ civil and penal responsibility of States or economic entities with regard to cases of despoilment, pollution and legal violations, etc.,
- ✓ food sovereignty and agroecology.



PEACE, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND RESIDENCE FOR UNIVERSAL CITIZENSHIP

AGAINST a global system that is creating exclusion and conflict, inhumane and costly migration policy that implements a selective form of freedom of movement, putting migrants in competition with each other, thus breaching their rights...

We are campaigning for:

- ✓ welcoming the most vulnerable,
- ✓ condemnation of violations of basic freedoms,
- ✓ the right to freedom of movement and the real possibility of moving freely,
- ✓ fighting against all discrimination,
- ✓ supporting peace processes and democratic transitions,
- ✓ establishing a model of universal citizenship.



Moral, logistical, legal and political support for migrants. **Calais - France**



Leading an awareness raising campaign and denouncing human trafficking.
Emmaus IFS - Bosnia



Support for former child soldiers to help them build a future. **Emmaus CAJED - DR Congo**

To learn more, support our actions
and share our struggles!



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**66% of your donation is deductible from any taxes paid in France,
up to a maximum of 20% of your total income*

www.emmaus-international.org | www.emmaus-international.migrations.org



Find out more about our struggles of the past and our struggles
today on our collaborative platform www.actemmaus.org

*All of Emmaus International's documents are published in the movement's
three official languages: English, French and Spanish.*



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