

A close-up photograph of a woman wearing a bright yellow headscarf and a yellow top. She is looking slightly to the right with a gentle expression. She is holding a young child in a blue wrap against her chest. The child has dark, curly hair and is looking down. The background is blurred, showing other people in a crowd.

# The First 30 Years



Šimon Pánek with a humanitarian aid convoy. We went to Bosnia and Herzegovina to help for a total of five years, from 1993 to 1998, during the war and the post-war period. To the besieged towns of Sarajevo, Tuzla, Goražde or Maglaj we brought food, medicine, sanitary supplies, as well as candles and matches.

Photo: PIN Archive

## We are not indifferent

It all started 30 years ago with the simple need to help. As freedom brought with it a sense of shared responsibility, a small group of volunteers convinced the Czech public that this could be done, and we began delivering concrete help to war zones and crisis areas. Much has changed, but the values have remained the same: Respect and humility towards those we work with and for, self-confidence and courage towards the world, obstacles, politicians, determination to succeed, focus on results and making an impact. We have grown...

We are a humanitarian, development, human rights, social and educational organisation that aims to help effectively, change things for the better, fight against injustice and promote the self-esteem of individuals, communities, and civil societies. We believe in the right of people to make decisions about their lives, to live in dignified conditions and to have their rights and freedoms guaranteed.

Putin's aggression against Ukraine is a kind of culmination of the pragmatic, forceful, and cynical currents of how to view the world that have undoubtedly increased in recent years around the world. On the other hand, it has also led to a great outpouring of solidarity and the rebirth of the knowledge that aggression cannot be tolerated and that freedom, human rights and peace are not guaranteed. We must take care of these ideas and show that the values of good based on helping others, kindness, truth, and love have not disappeared and must not be forgotten. Indeed, these are the most important things we have.

Šimon Pánek, co-founder and CEO

People in Need has been helping in crisis-affected areas and promoting respect for human rights since 1992. During our 30 years of operation, we have become one of the largest non-profit organisations in Central Europe. Every year, we implement projects worth millions of euros for more than three million people who were born in less fortunate places on this planet.

## UKRAINE

For eight years, shelling, the lack of drinking water, and power outages, these were the everyday reality for the people of eastern Ukraine – even before the Russian invasion of 24 February 2022. For four years, people living along the line of contact had no running water from their taps. We started to bring drinking water into the municipalities and to work on the restoration of the water pipes.

This work had to be put on hold as a result of the intense fighting. It became necessary to adapt immediately to the new acute needs throughout the country. In the first six months following the invasion, we provided aid worth 14 million euro to the victims of the war – thanks to the SOS Ukraine Emergency Appeal. This appeal became the most successful collection in Czechia, after two more months, 76 million euro were donated by the Czech public.



# Helping victims of crises and striving for sustainable development for 30 years

We help people in emergencies, both in wartime crisis and in areas affected by natural disasters, whilst also focusing on places where it is difficult for people to escape the vicious circle of poverty without support. Humanitarian assistance to victims of armed conflict abroad was the initial undertaking of People in Need when we began working in the 1990s. Over time, we began to deal with longer-term problems, such as shortages of safe drinking water, restricted access to quality education, promotion of healthcare, poverty reduction, and prevention of environmental degradation.

## We are looking for systemic solutions

We think beyond project frameworks and base our interventions on a sound understanding of the root causes of a situation and in collaboration with the key stakeholders. We believe that joint advocacy with local actors and drawing on evidence from the places where we work must be part of our approach, and working to these ends are the main purposes of our external communications.

Our Relief and Development Department operates in 23 countries, with permanent offices in 15 of them. Every year it carries out projects worth millions of euros for hundreds of thousands of people born in the disadvantaged regions of the world.

### HUMANITARIAN AID

responds to natural or man-made disasters. The main aim of humanitarian aid is to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain human dignity. It covers areas as food and nutrition, shelter, healthcare, water and sanitation and education in emergencies.

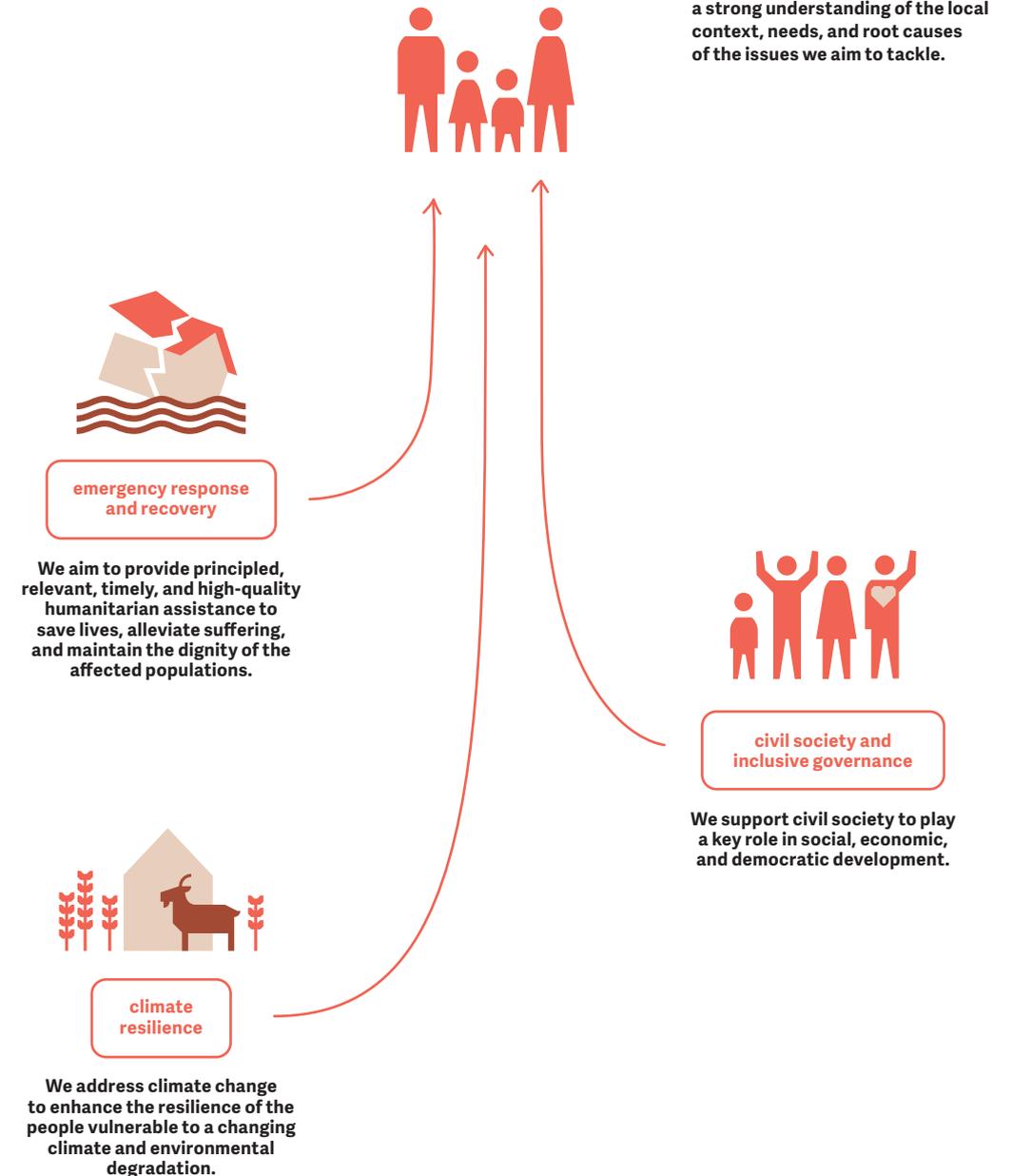
### DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

helping people to become self-sufficient in the long term in a sustainable way.

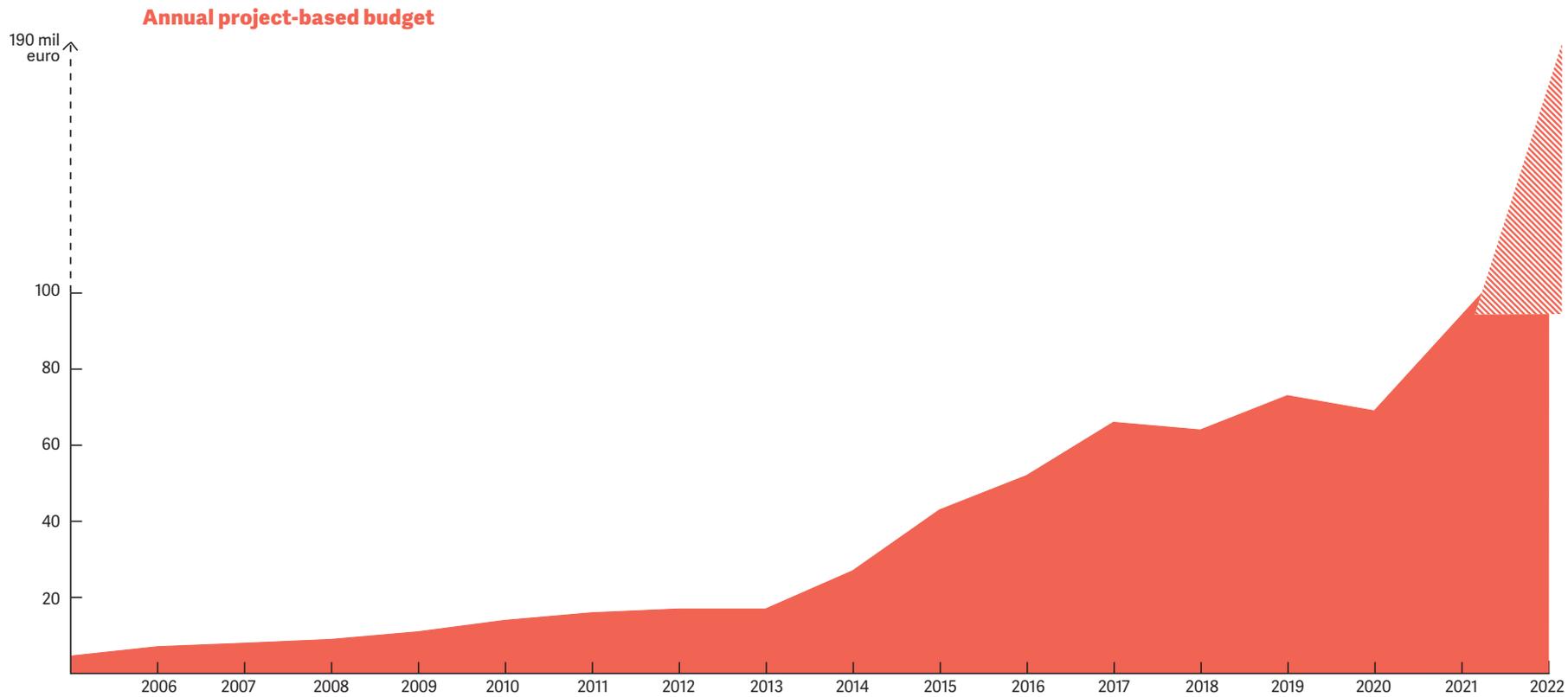
### ALLIANCE2015

Together with Weathungerhilfe from Germany, Helvetas from Switzerland, Concern Worldwide from Ireland, ACTED from France, Ayuda en Accion from Spain, and Cesvi from Italy we formed the strategic partnership Alliance2015. Together we work in 90 countries worldwide with yearly turnover of 1,000,000 euro.

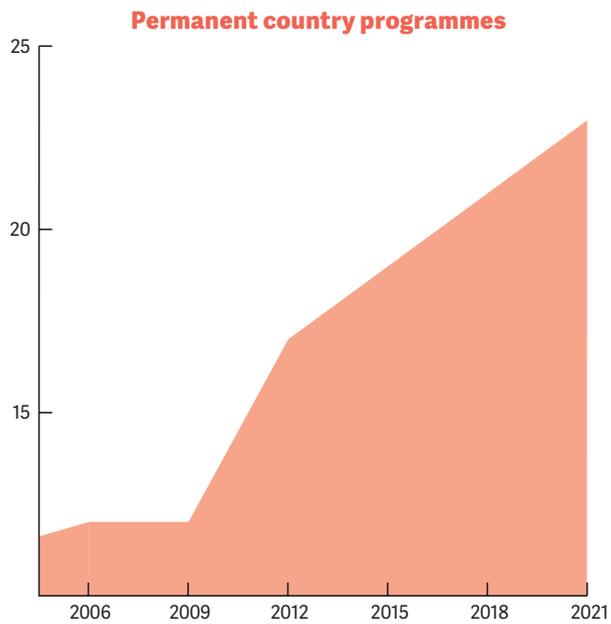
# Programmatic pillars



We promote solutions that strengthen systems and lead to sustainability. We invest in the analytical skills of our staff and draw on outside experts to ensure that all our work is grounded in a strong understanding of the local context, needs, and root causes of the issues we aim to tackle.

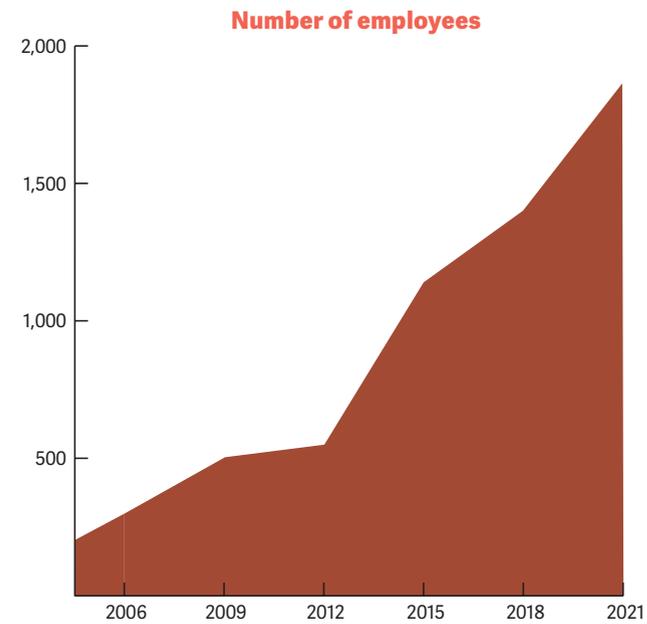


**190 million**  
Annual project-based budget of Relief and Development department for 2022



**23**  
permanent country programmes abroad

**56%**  
of our beneficiaries are women



**92%**  
of our employees are national staff

# Emergency response and recovery

In the past three decades, the number of people in need and the consequent global humanitarian needs has grown exponentially, driven by increases in armed conflicts and protracted crises, more frequent and severe natural disasters, and the global pandemic and the pressures of urbanisation.

## Challenges are growing

Furthermore, the high numbers of displaced people, a growing funding gap, difficulties with access to affected populations, and severe protection issues require more investment in global collective humanitarian efforts.

## From recovery to development

We provide principled, relevant, timely, and high-quality humanitarian assistance to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain the dignity of the affected population, followed by recovery assistance and resilience building.

Our humanitarian aid is based on the core principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence.

### OUR FOCUS AREAS



Nutrition-sensitive food security



Recovery of livelihoods integrated with social safety nets and markets



Shelter and non-food items including infrastructure rehabilitation



Water, sanitation, and hygiene



Multipurpose cash assistance



Education and integration in emergencies



Psychological support and child protection



Protection mainstreaming

# Our emergency response during 30 years

We have responded to major natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones, floods, and droughts, and more frequently to conflicts and protracted crises.

- Conflicts and protracted crisis, forced displacement
- Earthquakes and tsunamis
- Climate disasters (storms, floods, droughts, extreme temperatures)





More than 2.4 million children in Syria are out of school. In 2021 alone, we provided safe access to education for some 21,500 children and supported more than 1,100 educators. We have also repaired, expanded, or built 22 schools in northern Syria. Children here are catching up on what they have missed because of the ongoing war – they are learning subjects such as maths, English, and Arabic.

# Supporting people to fulfil their potential and live sustainable lives

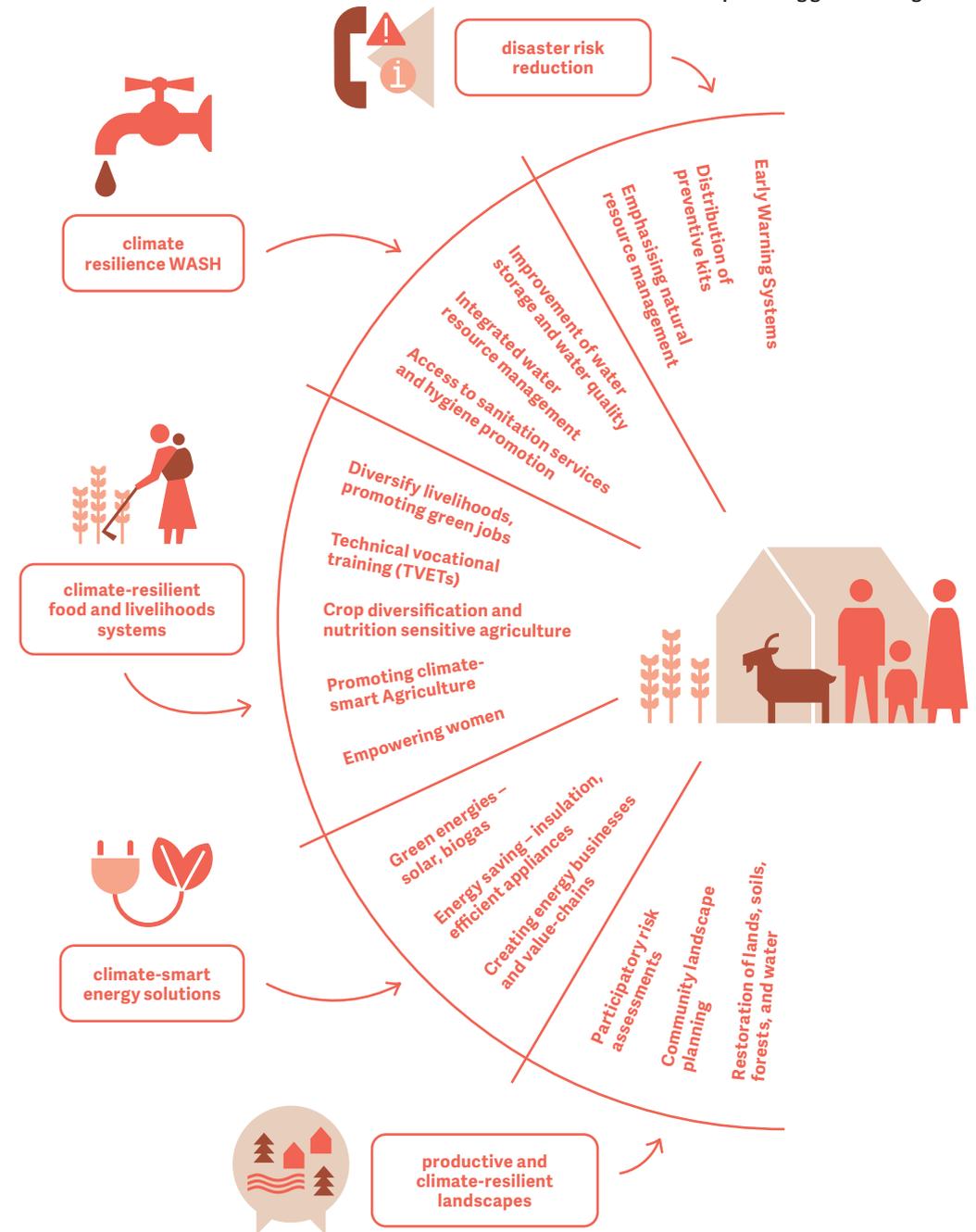
Development cooperation tries to support people in their efforts to take themselves out of poverty. We often follow up on our humanitarian activities with development projects, so we can help prevent future crises or reduce their negative impact. We work on long-term problems such as lack of access to quality education, healthcare, WASH, sustainable livelihoods, as well as addressing climate change to enhance the resilience of those vulnerable to a changing climate and environmental degradation by trying to harness solutions that are in line with green growth and circular economy principles. We also invest into innovative technical solutions and processes.

## Working with the local community is key

We involve beneficiaries and partners in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of our projects and programmes and we inform them about progress to enhance sustainable change. We also support local civil society to play a key role in social, economic, and democratic development in our target countries. We provide opportunities for civil society actors to develop their technical skills and mechanisms to become more effective governance and development actors. We promote active citizenship, empowering individuals to exercise their rights, engage in democratic processes, and hold government officials accountable.

# Supporting resilience to climate change

We want to increase climate resilience and at the same time promote greener and environmentally friendly initiatives, such as reducing/sequestering greenhouse gases.



**4 million**  
beneficiaries annually

**160**  
humanitarian and development projects annually

**1,800**  
employees work for relief and development department



## CAMBODIA

In Cambodia, flooding is an annual threat and until recently people living in flood-prone areas had no warning of approaching high water. This is why we created the EWS 1294 early warning system for those who are at risk from these devastating floods. EWS 1294 sends a warning of an impending disaster before it strikes via a mobile phone message, giving users enough time to secure property and evacuate to safety.

The system is now used by more than 120,000 people throughout Cambodia

# Helping those who fight for human rights

The Centre for Human Rights and Democracy supports people who are persecuted for advocating for the protection of human rights. Our first human rights program has been operating since 1997. The first country where we worked in the field of human rights was Cuba. We now support individuals and entire organisations in 18 countries across various regions of the world: from Latin America to North Africa, in Eastern Europe, from Central Asia to Vietnam.

We help both in countries with strongly authoritarian regimes, where basic human rights are severely suppressed and civil society is more or less paralysed and in countries undergoing a transition, where the Czech experience can serve as an inspiration for the emerging civil society. The form of our support varies according to the degree of freedom – or rather, unfreedom – in each country.

We support our clients materially, financially, legally, and professionally. We stand up for the persecuted, we relocate people in imminent danger to safe countries, we fund lawyers, psychologists and therapists who help the affected individuals and their families. Our assistance goes to, for example, independent journalists, lawyers, and non-profit organisations. We also strive for systemic change. We regularly visit important institutions, we present our expert analysis at international conferences, and we meet with important domestic and international policy makers and personalities. Every year, we also award the Homo Homini Human Rights Award to personalities who have made significant contributions to the promotion of human rights, and we organise the One World Human Rights Documentary Film Festival in Brussels.

**1,100**

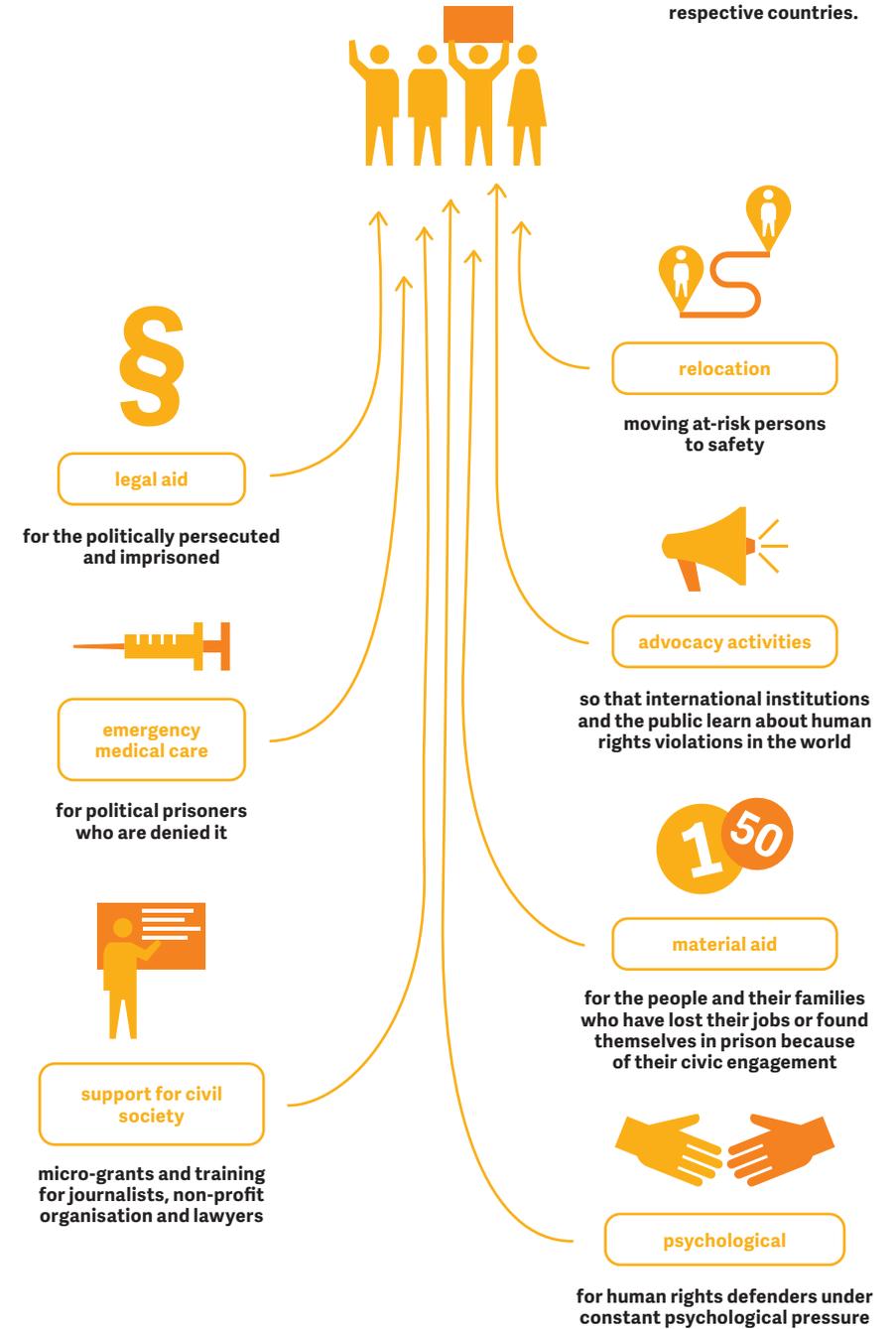
When the Centre for Human Rights and Democracy was established, we were providing direct assistance to fewer than 100 people a year. Today, we help 620 to 1,100 activists every year.

**1,500**

In addition to Czechia the One World Human Rights Documentary Film Festival also takes place in Brussels, where the average number of visitors in the last 5 years has been more than 1,500 people.

# We support human rights and democracy

We help lawyers, independent journalists, bloggers, students, and activists who care about the fate of their country, believe in fundamental human values and are persecuted for this in their respective countries.



**TRANSNISTRIA: HOW  
A YOUNG WOMAN'S LIFE WAS  
CHANGED BY ONE BOOK**

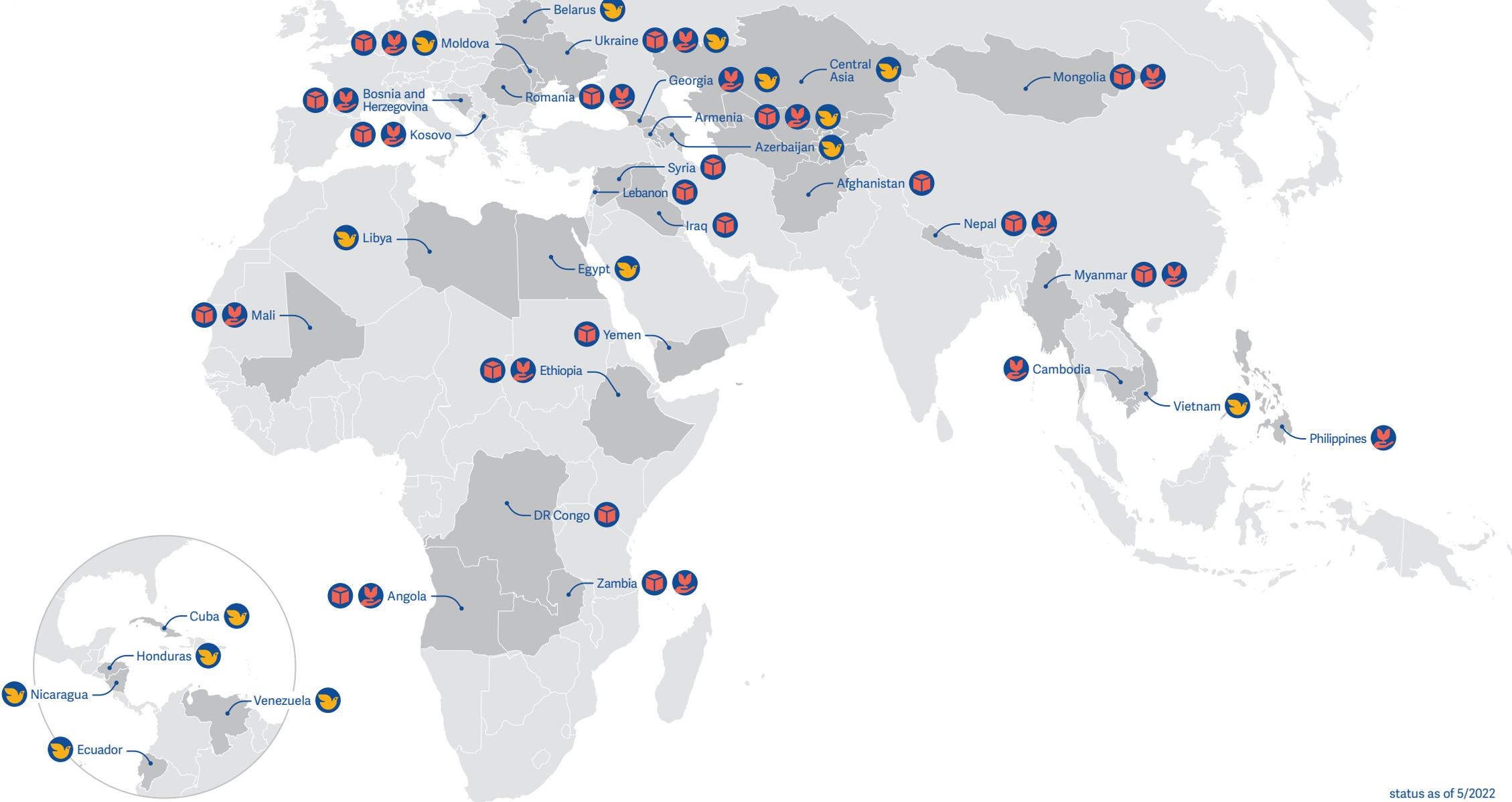
Up until the age of 22, Larisa Calic lived a normal life in Moldova, albeit in the separatist enclave of Transnistria, but with quite typical problems. Then a friend of hers enlisted in the Transnistrian army and told her about the terrible conditions that prevailed there. Larisa interviewed 11 other recruits and decided to write a book about their experience. When the book was published with our support, her life changed beyond recognition.

However, this book put Larissa on the radar of Transnistria's state security services. She was summoned for questioning, which she ignored for a long time. However, in February 2020, she repeatedly saw a car with Transnistrian licence plates pass by her home in Chisinau, Moldova, where she relocated. She soon realised that she may no longer be safe and decided to seek refuge. With our help, she left Moldova for a safer country, where she lives today. Nevertheless, she has continued to pursue her human rights activities.



# International activities

-  Emergency Response
-  Development Cooperation
-  Human Rights



# Our help in numbers

**70**  
countries in the world where we have helped

**3,300,000**  
recipients of our assistance per year

**51,000**  
graduates of teacher training courses

**4,177**  
schools involved in our educational programs

**427,000**  
pupils participated in discussions and screenings with witnesses since 2005

**1,699,384**  
tickets sold during the 24 years of the One World Human Rights Documentary Film Festival

**3,250**  
volunteers who tutored children in Czechia

**860**  
human rights defenders, whom we help in a single year

**2,656**  
sources of drinking water (water tanks, wells, pumps, etc.)

**993,105**  
people gained better access to drinking water and sanitation in 2020

**2,669**  
employees that work for us

**18,773,600**  
euro distributed after floods in Czechia

**7,300**  
residents supported after the tornado in Moravia

**46,280**  
people gained access to health care and treatment for malnutrition

**11,207,000**  
euro was our financial turnover in 2021

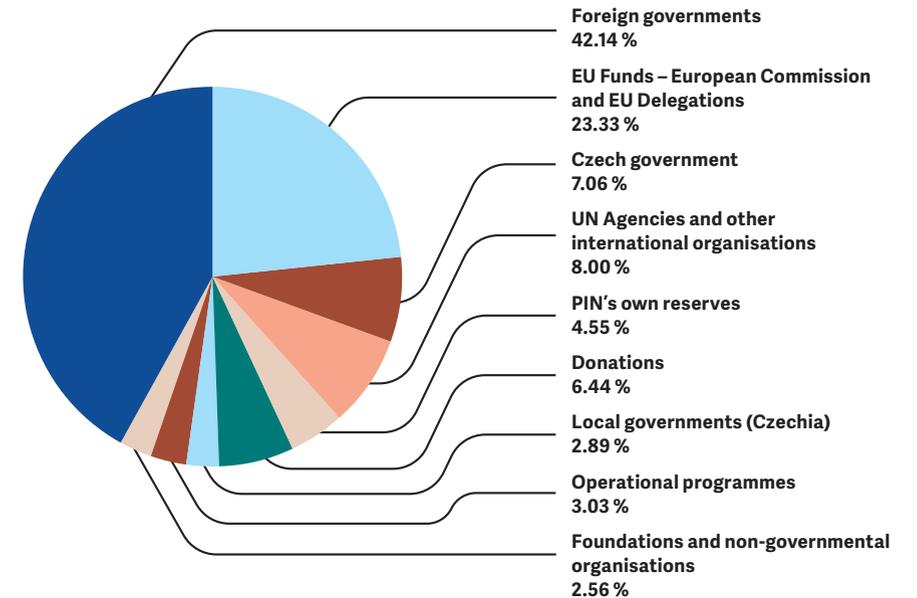
**794**  
separate projects that we administer annually

**2,443,895**  
accounting items processed for the last year

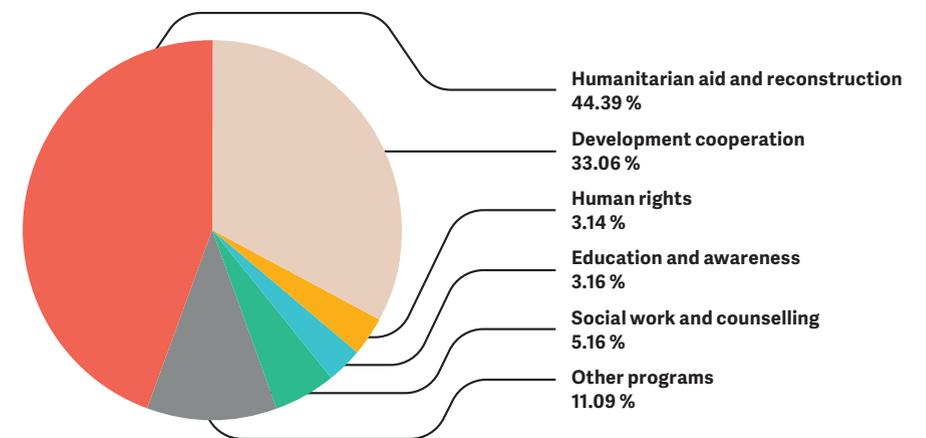
**84,496,500**  
euro used for projects since 1995

# Finance management

## Revenues



## Expenditures



Costs and revenues from last 3 audits

# 30 years of help

**SOS Sarajevo:** The largest humanitarian operation from post-communist countries to help the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Humanitarian convoys with food and hygienic items were sent into besieged places, three airlifted shipments of medicines were delivered to Sarajevo hospitals.

1993



We help clean up the aftermath of the massive floods in **Moravia**. They provide food, drinking water, hygiene supplies, coordinate volunteers, clean wells, dry out houses, etc. in the affected areas.

1997

The **Belarusian Centre** is founded, providing objective and independent information on the Lukashenko dictatorship and the monitoring of human rights violations.

1998



A permanent humanitarian mission in **Afghanistan** is opened, starting with the delivery of food aid, the repairing and reopening of schools, and helping refugees return to their homes.

2002

1992

At the initiative of Jaromír Štětina, Lidové noviny founded the journalist-humanitarian team Epicentrum, which announced the public collection drive **SOS Nagorno-Karabakh**.



1994

For the first time, the **Homo Homini** Prize is awarded for a significant personal contribution to the defence of human rights and the promotion of democratic principles. Recipients include: Sergej Kovaljov, Ales Bialiacki, Nataša Kandić and other human rights defenders.

1999



The Community Social Work Project, a precursor of today's **Social Integration Programmes**, is founded. Its aim is to increase social capacities among various groups of socially excluded inhabitants living on the margins of society.

2000

Second war in Chechnya. We were the first humanitarian organisation to cross into Chechnya. We travelled alone with a large supply of food during a time of intense fighting. We eventually became the largest executive partner of the UN World Food Programme and the UNHCR.



Attendance at the **One World Film Festival** surpassed the 100,000 audience mark for the first time. The festival which since its inception in 1999 has screened documentary films about human rights from all over the world.



2008

We began to help the victims of the conflict in **Syria**. In 2016, the UK Government entrusted us with the management of a consortium of humanitarian organisations helping in Syria. As a result, we were able to manage our largest ever humanitarian project, worth £30 million, over the next few years.

2012

We send one of the first teams to the typhoon-stricken islands in the **Philippines**, and a new humanitarian mission is set up in the easternmost part of the country.



2013



We got to work immediately after the tornado hit **South Moravia**. Thanks to the **SOS Morava** public collection, we distributed building materials for repairs to damaged houses, and we provided immediate financial assistance to the affected municipalities and individual families. Later, we participated in the restoration of gardens and local small businesses.

2021

2005



At the end of 2004, Sri Lanka was hit by a tsunami triggered by an earthquake in the Indian Ocean. The total number of victims was estimated to be a quarter of a million people. Immediately after the disaster, our colleagues began distributing basic humanitarian aid and thanks to the enormous solidarity of the Czech people, the **SOS Sri Lanka** collection account raised 5,200,000 euro.

2010

In April, the first run of the **Student Elections** educational project took place, in which young people vote in mock elections to become more acquainted with basic democratic institutions. 135 secondary schools took part and students submitted 20,233 valid ballots.

2015

We provide humanitarian assistance in **Nepal** after the country's devastating earthquake



2022

The Russian invasion in February 2022 provoked an unprecedented wave of solidarity across Czech society. The **SOS Ukraine** emergency appeal, which had already raised 68 million euro by May of this year, has become the most successful public collection in Czech history.

# We help people to have a better life in Czechia

We work with people who usually need to solve not just one issue, but a whole complex of serious problems. These include insufficient education, extreme indebtedness, living in various “bad neighbourhoods”, or long-term unemployment. We offer help to individuals as well as entire families. We want our support to lead to the acquisition of vital life skills and knowledge. Our goal is for those who use our services to be able to become independent and to organise their own affairs in the future. Therefore, we consider the active participation of the client in finding solutions to their problems to be a necessary prerequisite for mutual cooperation.

## Quality education is a driving force

We dedicate a large part of our energy to working with children and young people. We believe that quality education is a driving force for moving beyond a life in socially excluded localities. We try to work with children from pre-school age and, if possible, we accompany them throughout the course of their education. We run 11 preschool and 8 low-threshold clubs.

## We help people out of debt traps

We try to help people out of debt traps. We run a helpline and our debt counsellors are available at 57 locations across Czechia. Every year, we publish analyses comparing consumer credit providers. We negotiate with politicians about changes to the system, and thanks to our financial collection SOS Graceful Summer, the enforcement proceedings for more than 4,000,000 euro worth of debt will come to an end.

**23,000**

In the last calendar year, we have helped more than twenty-three thousand people in Czechia who have found themselves in a difficult life situation. In addition to direct work, we also conduct analytical activities, especially in the area of debt and education.

**13**

regions in the Czechia where we are active.

**57**

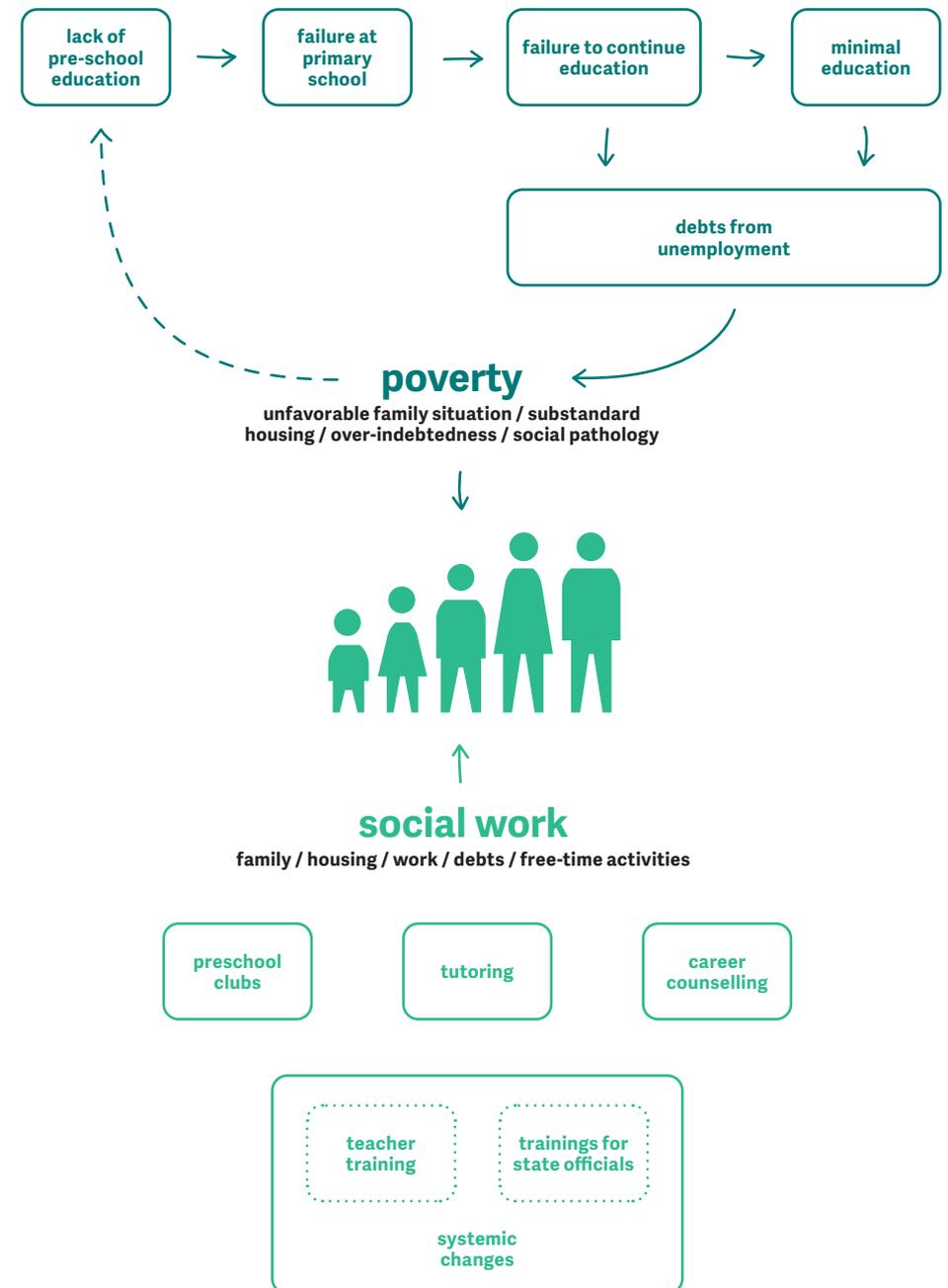
places in the Czechia where you can contact us.

**10**

regions of Czechia where we are currently helping Ukrainian refugees. We help with money from the SOS Ukraine emergency appeal throughout Czechia.

Across the we help people in need through a helpline and online counselling.

# The most common problems? Education, debt, work, housing...





Thanks to the fact that Lenka attended our preschool club, she managed to transfer to the zero grade of primary school without any major difficulties. We try to work with children from preschool age and, if possible, we accompany them throughout the course of their education. We run 11 preschool clubs for the youngest pupils and we offer tutoring or career counselling for older students. In the club, children learn among other things, independence, as well as cooperation and responsibility, so that their lives get off to an easier start.

# We are building a better school for everyone

We operate in more than three quarters of schools in Czechia. We help to make schools a place that develops the talents and individual abilities of children and that, through modern methods, teaches children how to navigate the contemporary world. We want today's generation of children to remember school as a pleasant place full of knowledge and respect. And we want the schools of today to be able to raise children to be active, decent, and confident citizens who can change our society for the better. That is why we bring important topics to schools through documentaries, discussions with witnesses of recent history, and experiential activities that draw children into the topic in an attractive way. We focus on media education, human rights and global problems, modern Czechoslovak history, social issues, equal opportunities in education, and stereotypes and prejudices. We want students to understand the impacts of climate change and to not give up on fighting against its worst-case scenarios.

## Helping to successfully educate all pupils

The personality of teachers is crucial for pupils and students. Together they create an environment in which children experience their successes and failures, form their opinions, and prepare for life. However, many pupils do not get the support they need at the right time and fall unnecessarily out of mainstream education. That is why we develop the competencies of teachers when it comes to working with pupils with special needs – we train them in working with emotions, prejudices or otherness and help them in further development. We organise conferences for teaching assistants, provide supervision and training, and offer teaching materials and online courses that are available to everyone.

**51,000**

graduates of teacher training courses

**110**

schools involved in the Global Schools program

**4,000**

schools registered on the jsns.cz portal

**40,899**

high school students voted in the 2021 student election

**427,000**

pupils have participated in discussions and screenings with witnesses since 2005

**36**

winners of the Stories of Injustice Award since 2009

**24**

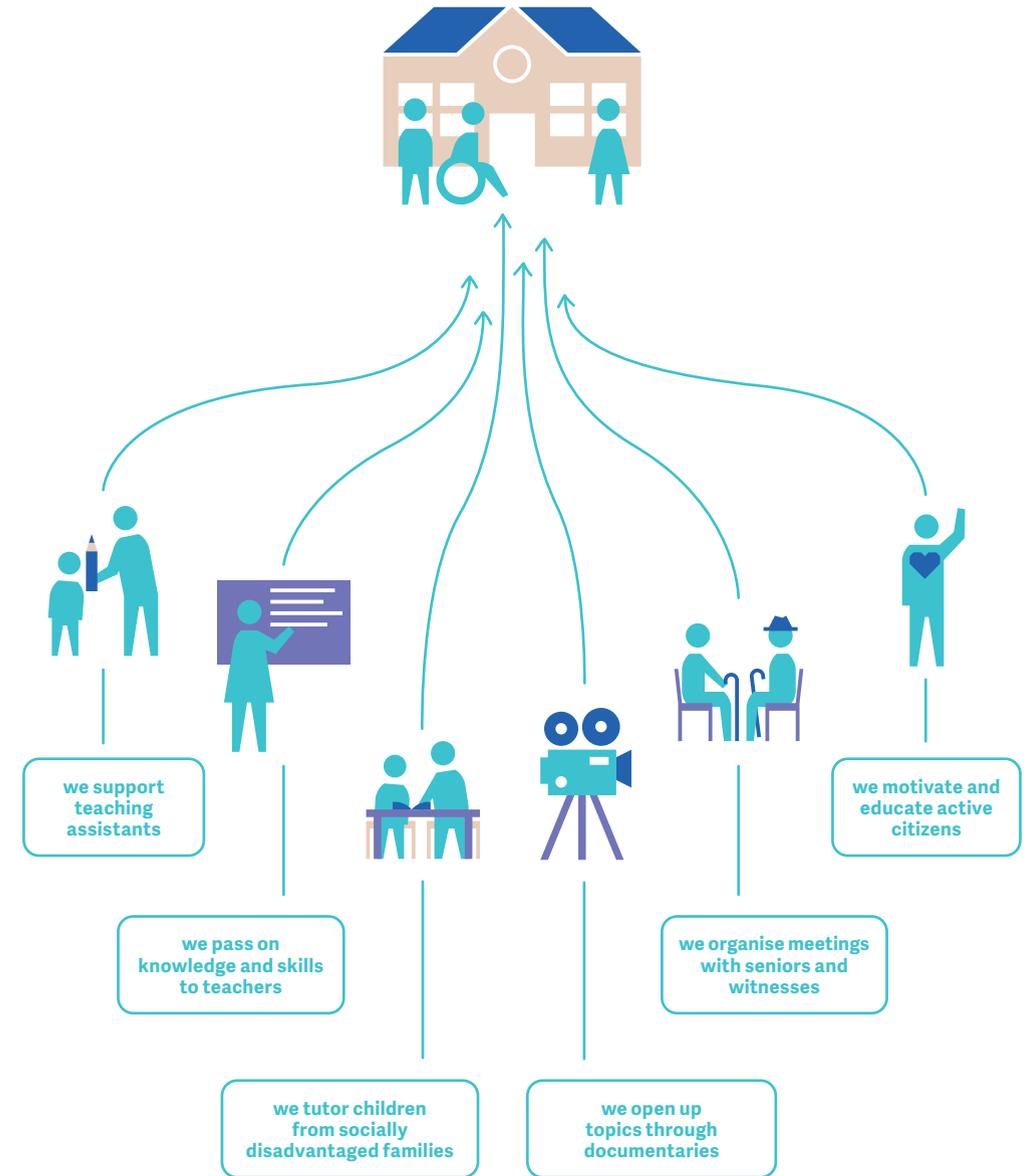
years of the One World International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival

[www.peopleinneed.net/varianty](http://www.peopleinneed.net/varianty)

[www.jsns.cz/en/home](http://www.jsns.cz/en/home)

[www.jsns.cz/en/projects](http://www.jsns.cz/en/projects)

# We want to give all children a better school



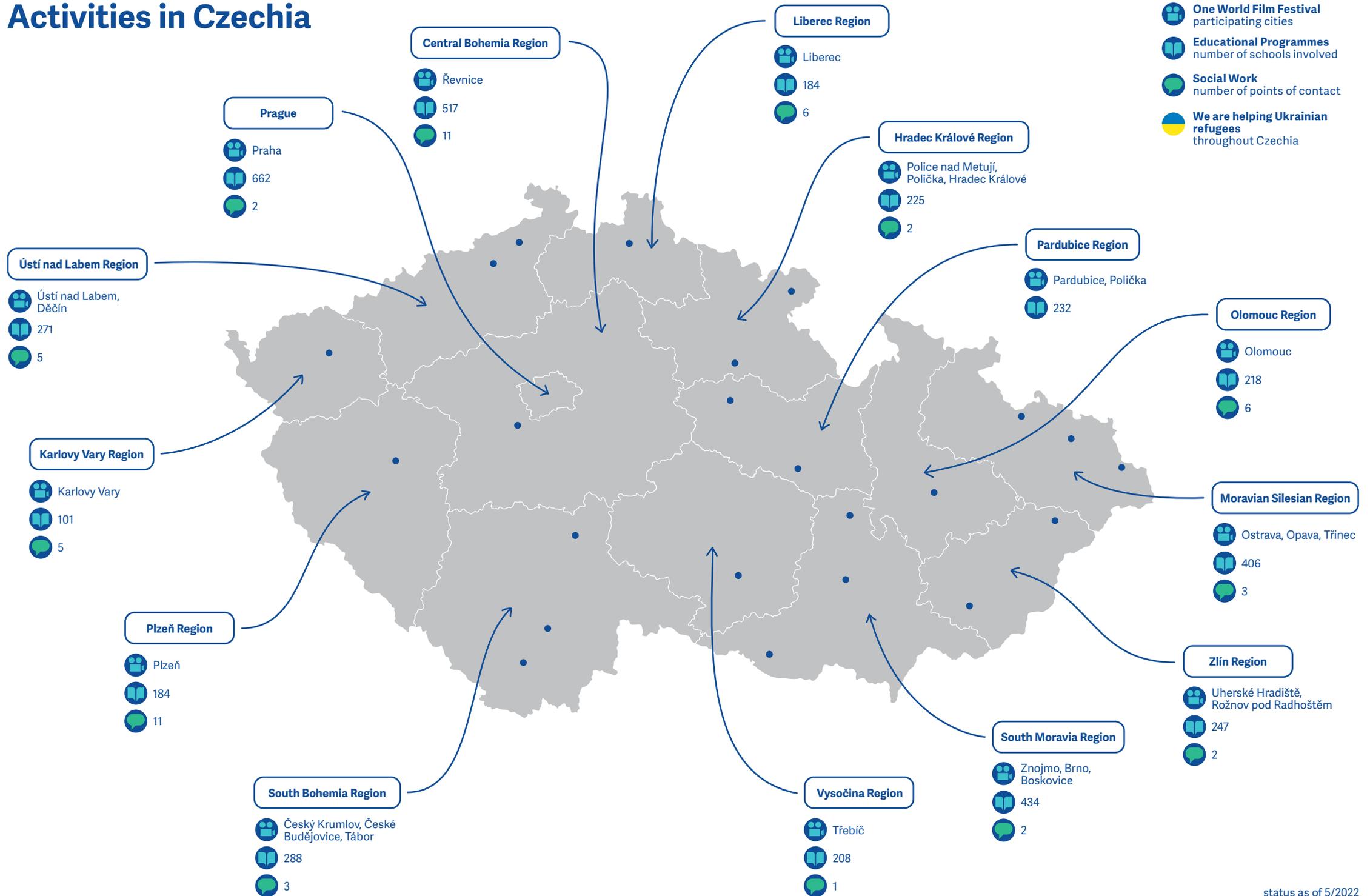


**AWARDS CEREMONY  
ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS  
OF THE 11TH BOHOUS AND  
DÁŠA CHANGE THE WORLD  
COMICS COMPETITION  
IN DIVADLO X10**

When creating a competition comic, pupils and students had the opportunity to think about urgent societal and global topics. In 2021, the Faces of Climate Change, a wall project by the street-art artist Toy\_Box and People in Need, became the inspiration for the competition.

In the same year, a total of 211 works entered the competition in three categories: lower elementary schools, upper elementary schools and high schools. The 50 best comics could then be seen by the general public at an exhibition in the Langhans Center in December.

# Activities in Czechia



- One World Film Festival** participating cities
- Educational Programmes** number of schools involved
- Social Work** number of points of contact
- We are helping Ukrainian refugees** throughout Czechia

In drought-stricken Ethiopia, many people lack access to drinking water. That is why we are repairing wells in the country and helping to build new water resources as a means of improving hygienic conditions while also reducing the risk of water-borne diseases. Donors who bought a tap or a water pump at the Real Gift charity e-shop are also helping us do this work.



# Support us



## Why private donors are crucial for us?

Although we are trusted by international and national institutions, private donors are the most valued to us. Thanks to them, we are able to provide help quickly and flexibly in countries affected by war, natural disasters or in countries lifting themselves out of poverty. The money raised from private donors has also made our organization stronger and more efficient. Although it represents less than 10 % of our budget, these are crucial resources that allow us to respond flexibly in the event of sudden disasters, launch new approaches to aid others and gain institutional donors' support.

[www.peopleinneed.net/donate](http://www.peopleinneed.net/donate)

## Help children in Czechia

We don't only provide help abroad, but also at home here in Czechia. We tutor children from socially excluded or at-risk families. We work at almost three quarters of Czech elementary and secondary schools. We train teachers on how to work with gifted and disabled children.

[www.lepsiskolaprovsechny.cz/en](http://www.lepsiskolaprovsechny.cz/en)

## Get your company involved

Why? Because you can stand up in support of something that makes sense and shows your employees, partners, and clients that you are not indifferent. Because we are a trusted and respected organisation that is worth having associated with your brand.

[www.peopleinneed.net/major-donor](http://www.peopleinneed.net/major-donor)

## Join our team

Throughout the year, we are looking for capable people both for our activities in the Czechia and for our foreign missions.

[www.peopleinneed.net/career](http://www.peopleinneed.net/career)

## Contacts for donations

E-mail: [dary@peopleinneed.net](mailto:dary@peopleinneed.net)

Tel.: +420 734 428 384

We will be happy to issue you a certificate of the donation and we will inform you about the use of your donations.

# Why did the supporters decide to help?

**"I appreciate the work of People in Need, it is more and more necessary and I like that everything is well thought out and also transparent. So even if I can only help by making a small contribution, I'm happy about it, because people have to help each other."**

A. P.

**"We support People in Need because we have hot water at home. Because we can eat whatever we want. Because we can walk safely on the street. And most of all, because People in Need is a courageous professional organisation that works hard to ensure that people who are not so fortunate can have the same."**

P. M.

**"I am not indifferent about the fact that some people suffer from a lack of basic necessities. My sympathies go out to families fleeing war..."**

K.

**"Among other things, People in Need made me realise what a good life I have. I have a home, a job, friends, and a family that is safe. Not to mention, healthcare along with more services and things than I need. I wish that for everyone else."**

M.

**"Helping doesn't hurt. On the contrary, good deeds make both sides happy."**

P. S.

Photo – Title page: Jan Mrkvička, Ethiopia  
Photo – 30 Years of Help: Michal Przedlacki,  
Lukáš Bíba, Jakub Hlaváč, Petr Štefan,  
Tereza Hronová, Ray Baseley and PIN archive  
Editors: Lucie Šíchová, Tomáš Urban,  
Kateřina Gabrielová, Dermot Nolan, Ondřej  
Lukáš, Táňa Abrahámová, Jitka Holasová,  
Eva Kroupová, Tereza Ocetková, Milan Votypka  
and others.

Translation: Scott Hudson

Graphic design: Studio Marvil

**People in Need**  
**Člověk v tísni, o. p. s.**

Šafaříkova 635/24

120 00 Praha 2

Czech Republic

e-mail: [mail@peopleinneed.net](mailto:mail@peopleinneed.net)

IČ: 25755277

DIČ: CZ25755277

[www.peopleinneed.net](http://www.peopleinneed.net)

[facebook.com/peopleinneed](https://facebook.com/peopleinneed)

[twitter.com/people\\_in\\_need](https://twitter.com/people_in_need)

[instagram.com/peopleinneedcz](https://instagram.com/peopleinneedcz)

[linkedin.com/company/people-in-need](https://linkedin.com/company/people-in-need)

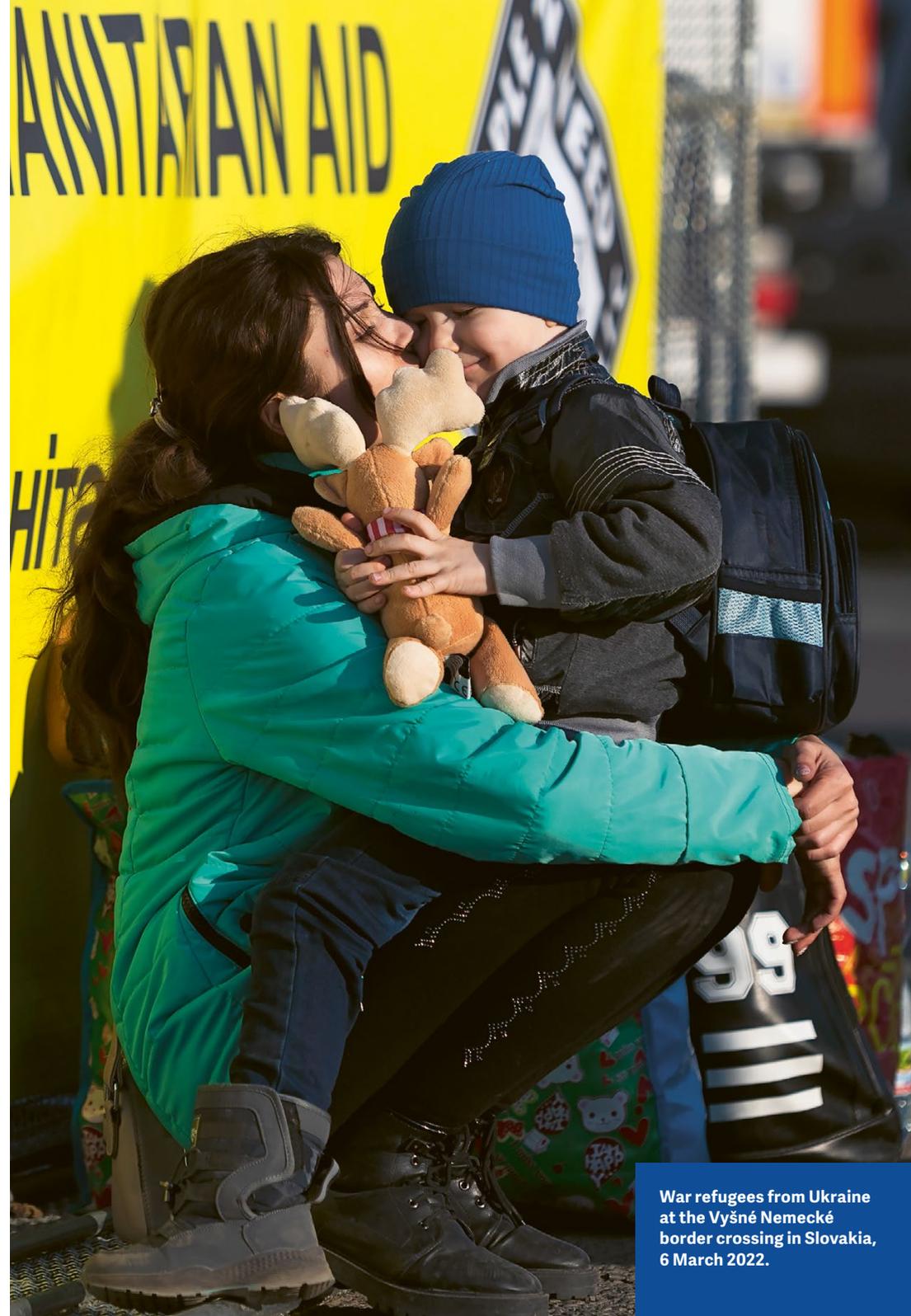


Photo: Ondřej Deml

War refugees from Ukraine  
at the Vyšné Nemecké  
border crossing in Slovakia,  
6 March 2022.

Do you believe that helping others makes a difference?

Support us!

[peopleinneed.net/donate](http://peopleinneed.net/donate)

