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Dear Friends,

Midway through each year, we have an opportunity to look back and reflect on the one that has passed. For us at Caritas, people are never just numbers or statistics. **Behind every figure representing assistance provided is a real person** with their own story, concerns and challenges. They are people who have found themselves in difficult life circumstances and, thanks to a helping hand, have found support, safety or a new beginning.

Our Annual Report captures the outcomes of this shared effort. It provides an overview of what we have achieved both in the Czech Republic and around the world, and shows how trust and long-term support can transform the lives of individuals and entire communities.

A recent visit to Ukraine allowed me once again to see the results of our work at first hand – in hospitals, local communities and in the lives of people whose resilience is strengthened by the assistance they receive in overcoming everyday challenges. For this reason, I would like to thank all of you, the donors and supporters of Caritas Czech Republic. Thanks to your trust and generosity, we can be present where help is needed most.



Jakub Líčka

Secretary General, Caritas Czech Republic

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Shortly after the devastating earthquakes, we [launched an emergency appeal for Venezuela](#). Three weeks after the disaster, thousands of people remain without a home. Our partner, Caritas Venezuela, is providing assistance directly in the affected areas through the distribution of food, hygiene kits, medical supplies and psychosocial support. **Aid will also be needed in the months ahead to help rebuild the country and enable people to return to normal life.**

How do you know that development aid is making a real difference? When local communities themselves ask you to expand your projects to include them. This is the kind of **trust that Caritas Czech Republic has built in Georgia**, where we are now working to improve access to healthcare and psychological support. [In this interview with our colleague](#), you will learn how we are helping to drive systemic change and how our work is making a tangible difference to people's lives across the country.



In Ukraine, we continue to provide support to communities living close to the front line. **In the Dnipropetrovsk region, we plan to renovate healthcare facilities and accommodation centres**, train healthcare professionals, and expand humanitarian and psychosocial assistance for vulnerable groups. Our goal is not only to help during times of crisis, but also to [strengthen local services](#) and create the conditions for a dignified life in the future.

More than 2 billion people around the world still lack access to safe drinking water. That is why we work in countries such as Zambia and Moldova to support farmers affected by drought and to rehabilitate essential infrastructure. Through these efforts, **entire communities gain not only access to clean water but also improved health conditions and greater resilience** to the impacts of climate change.

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