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Dear Friends,

How can we look for positive stories where pain and uncertainty take centre stage? This is exactly what I was thinking about while writing this piece on displacement. I would love to bring you only good news, but the reality of today's world is different. **Nearly 120 million people** have been forced from their homes, and we are witnessing the highest number of active conflicts since the end of the Second World War.

Forced displacement takes many forms, and yet in some ways it is always the same. **It means leaving behind the place where you feel safe, the place of your memories and your family.** The reasons for leaving differ: war, natural disasters, poverty, human rights violations, or the impacts of climate change. Many people, even after fleeing, remain within their own country, moving to safer areas. Millions in Ukraine, where Caritas has been providing long-term assistance, are living as internally displaced persons. Tens of millions of others cross borders in search of safety elsewhere. So, is there any positive news? **Recent figures suggest that more and more people are returning home.** The end of the civil war in Syria, for example, has made it possible for some to return, but returning does not necessarily mean finding the home they once knew.

Understanding, celebrating courage, and the ability to start again - this is what World Refugee Day in June reminds us of each year. This year, we focus on safety, the fundamental feeling we so often associate with home. Let us take a moment to remember that for millions of people around the world, it is not something they can take for granted.



Zuzana Haniková

International Communications Manager

CARITAS CZECH REPUBLIC IN THE WORLD



What concrete forms does displacement take, and **how does Caritas Czech Republic help refugees in different parts of the world?** [Read the article](#) that shows how, with Caritas's support, people cope with everyday uncertainty and rebuild their lives. We present real-life stories of individuals whose experiences are shaped by the loss of home, but also by the courage to start again.

Even war did not stop creativity and the determination to start anew. Tetiana's story from Ukraine shows how, with the support of Caritas, [she turned her passion into a successful business](#), and her children's books are now reaching audiences around the world. **Caritas has already supported dozens of small entrepreneurs** through educational and business grants.



[What impact has Caritas Czech Republic left in war-affected Iraq?](#) Over time, we have transitioned here from immediate humanitarian aid to restoring livelihoods, housing, and infrastructure. For example, thanks to this support, Rashid was able to secure dignified housing for his family. We present **an overview of how, throughout our presence in the country, we have helped people get back on their feet.**

Development cooperation creates new opportunities not only for local communities, but also for Czech companies. In Zambia, [Caritas connects farmers with Czech technologies](#) that increase productivity and resilience to climate change. Our activities bring tangible impacts in the field while also **creating space for Czech know-how** to be applied in international markets.

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