



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



# A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

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## **Dear OPU readers and supporters,**

You are opening the Organisation for Aid to Refugees's (OPU) Annual Report from the year 2022. 2022 was different in every way. The war in Ukraine started on February 24th. A few days before that, we had already started preparing the opening of a hotel in Prague in cooperation with Mr Barta. The onslaught of new arrivals was enormous, and our hotel Telesyk filled up very soon. Within a few days, we became a refuge not only for many Ukrainian women with children but also for many unaccompanied minors, groups of senior citizens, cancer patients and the Ukrainian Roma. We quickly assisted and provided accommodation in new and new accommodation facilities in Prague and other cities where we operate. In Ostrava, we were the very first and in Brno, we were also very active. Once again, it showed us how much faster, more flexible, and more helpful NGOs are than large institutions.

The City of Prague soon made us the main coordinator of the reception of newly arrived Ukrainian refugees at the Prague Central Station. In cooperation with many partners and the City of Prague, we created the centre of the first reception at the train station with a temporary hostel and medical assistance. Thanks to the Consortium we had a large database of people willing to host refugees and thanks to Deloitte we had a 24-hour semi-automated telephone helpline for Ukrainian refugees. Hundreds of volunteers helped us at the station every day. An estimated 900,000 Ukrainian refugees passed through the station under our command in 2022. No help from the state came to us at this stage, and yet we managed it brilliantly.

# A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

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We owe a great deal of thanks to the solidarity of thousands of Czech citizens, dozens and perhaps hundreds of companies, thousands of volunteers, and large foundations. We did it thanks to them. After that, we created the great OPU adaptation centres for Ukrainian children, when Generali - Czech Insurance Company gave us huge premises in Prague and Brno for free that hosted specialised help for child refugees thanks to UNICEF support and for adults thanks to UNHCR support and many other activities.

In addition to the Ukrainian refugees, we also continued to help other refugees in refugee camps and immigration detention centres where unfortunately we could not be as often as we should have been due to obstacles from the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. Many people have stood up for us in this dispute and we hope that we will once again be allowed to help asylum seekers and people in detention personally and regularly. In short, it has been a turbulent year with more than 500,000 Ukrainian refugees in the country, enormous challenges, and with great public and corporate support, for which I thank all our supporters.

It has been an honour to lead OPU at this time and, as I do every year, I thank all my colleagues in OPU with admiration and respect for their endless, dedicated work.

**Martin Rozumek**

Director of OPU



# THE OPU ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

The Organization for Aid to Refugees (OPU) is a non-profit, non-governmental and humanitarian organization founded in Prague in 1991 as a civic association. Since 2014, OPU has been an association under the Civil Code. OPU has been helping refugees and foreigners in the Czech Republic for almost 30 years and strives to be a bridge between newcomers and our society.

In addition to the assistance to Ukrainian refugees described above, one of the main activities of OPU was the provision of free legal and social counselling to applicants for international protection and other foreigners in the Czech Republic.

We always strive to assist and legally represent those clients in the refugee group who have a well-founded fear of persecution in their country of origin and are concerned about their lives at home. Other foreigners have visited OPU offices with many different problems, including overstays, discrimination and exploitation in the labour market, family reunification, problems with employment agencies, work-related injuries, hate crimes because of different origins, races or religions, etc.





# THE OPU ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

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We specialize in helping vulnerable refugees, especially unaccompanied minors, mothers with children, LGBT clients, stateless persons, victims of sexual violence, etc.

In 2022, OPU also organised educational programmes for the general and professional public and other activities aimed at supporting the integration of foreigners, and we are grateful for the support of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. OPU was very active in its volunteering activities, both in refugee camps and detention centres and in pairs to help people who need to find their way in a new city or a village. The Bader Philanthropies Foundation has supported us significantly in this activity.



# THE OPU ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

For more than 15 years, OPU has had a special unit to help underage children who find themselves in the Czech Republic all alone, unaccompanied by their parents or other relatives. We operate a halfway house in Prague for unaccompanied foreign minors who have had to leave their children's homes. The halfway house serves to help these young people find new housing and employment so that they can become independent and successfully step into adult life. In 2022, we have added another apartment for Ukrainian children, and we are planning a new halfway house in Brno.

One of the main objectives of OPU is also to combat xenophobia and racial and national intolerance. In 2022, OPU organised a number of leisure and artistic activities in which it connected refugees and foreigners with interesting people in their neighbourhoods. Last year, European projects played a less significant role, for which there was simply very little time and energy left in 2022 due to the war in Ukraine.





# OPU PROJECTS IN 2022

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## HOTEL TELESYK

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February 2022 – 30. 6. 2023

- Accommodation capacity for up to 280 Ukrainian refugees with children

## RECEPTION CENTRE FOR REFUGEES - MAIN RAILWAY STATION PRAGUE

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March 2022 – 31. 5. 2022

- Municipality of the Capital City of Prague  
- Entry point for about 900.000 Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic

## TENT CITY FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES MALEŠICE / TROJA

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June 2022 – August 2022

- Temporary accommodation capacity mainly for the Ukrainian Roma

## ADAPTATION CENTRES - PRAGUE AND BRNO

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May 2022 - August 2022 in Brno

May 2022 - December 2022 in Prague

- Teaching Czech language and Czech realities to Ukrainian children  
- Supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports



## **EMERGENCY PROJECT OSTRAVA**

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**March 2022 - December 2022**

- Municipality of Ostrava
- Help with accommodation and basic needs of Ukrainian refugees in Ostrava

## **HALFWAY HOMES**

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**1. 1. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Social Services Programme B, Prague 14 City Hall
- Support for unaccompanied children of foreigners who have left a children's home and are looking for new accommodation and a new job in Prague and the Czech Republic

## **COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FOREIGNERS V.**

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**1. 1. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- The capital city of Prague
- We organised socio-cultural activities in the form of short trips for children-foreigners from 5 to 17 years of age and young adults from 18 to 26 years of age from the halfway houses.

## **SLAM POETRY AND THEATRICAL IMPROVISATION OF CHILDREN-FOREIGNERS II.**

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**1. 1. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- The capital city of Prague
- The project consisted of a workshop on a specific style of slam poetry for children foreigners aged 10-17. The aim of this activity was to support the complex personal development of children foreigners in the psychological, linguistic, social and cultural aspects

## **SOUTH MORAVIAN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS III.**

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**1. 8. 2022 - 31. 7. 2023**

- The European Union, The Ministry of the Interior, The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)
- Providing services aimed at improving the social, legal, linguistic and cultural situation and status of foreigners in the South Moravian Region

## **COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES**

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**1. 1. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- UNHCR
- Long-term cooperation on monitoring and improving the situation of asylum seekers in the Czech Republic and on the integration of asylum seekers was significantly complemented by comprehensive assistance to Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic

## **COMPREHENSIVE COUNSELLING FOR APPLICANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION II.**

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**1. 9. 2019 - 30. 4. 2022**

- The European Union, The Ministry of the Interior, The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF),
- Legal and social counselling and assistance to applicants for international protection and foreigners in refugee camps and in private
- It was terminated on behalf of the Ministry of the Interior

## **IRIS II.**

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**1. 11. 2020 - 31. 10. 2022**

- The European Union, The Ministry of the Interior, The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF),
- Return counselling in facilities for immigration detention and at OPU branches in Prague, Brno, Plzeň, Ostrava and Hradec Králové. It was terminated by the Ministry of the Interior

## **A HOME IN A NEW COUNTRY**

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**1. 9. 2019 - 30. 6. 2022**

- The European Union, The Ministry of the Interior, The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF),
- Improvement of the situation of minor asylum seekers and foreigners who come to the Czech Republic unaccompanied by their parents or other relatives and are placed in a specialized institutional facility and their integration into Czech society

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL COUNSELLING AND FIELDWORK IN THE TERRITORY OF THE PRAGUE 14 MUNICIPALITY**

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**1. 1. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- Municipal district of Prague 14, The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
- Professional social counselling and fieldwork provided to foreigners living in the Municipal District of Prague 14

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL COUNSELLING IN THE FIELD IN PRAGUE 13**

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**1. 5. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- Municipal district of Prague 13, The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
- Fieldwork in Prague 13

## **SOCIAL SERVICES**

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**1. 1. 2022 – 31. 12. 2022**

- The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, South Moravian Regional Office, Pilsen Regional Office, Municipality of Brno, Municipality of Pilsen, Prague 14
- Provision of professional social counselling services to foreigners in the Czech Republic, including social rehabilitation services and field services



## **SUPPORT FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

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**1. 9. 2019 - 28. 2. 2022**

- The European Union, ESF, Operational Programme Employment
- Support for the prevention of social exclusion targeted at four areas of a foreigner's life (Czech language, residence status, orientation in rights and obligations, orientation in everyday life in the Czech Republic). The project is implemented in the regions of South Moravia, Moravia-Silesia, Hradec Králové, Pilsen and Central Bohemia

## **SUPPORT FOR THE CARE OF ALIEN CHILDREN IN HOST FAMILIES**

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**1. 9. 2019 - 30. 6. 2022**

- The EU, ESF, Operational Programme Employment
- Putting innovation into practice in the Czech system of foster family care and supporting host families for child refugees

## **COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR FOREIGNERS AND THEIR CHILDREN**

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**1. 3. 2021 – 28. 2. 2023**

- The European Union, OPP PR, Operational Programme Prague - Half Growth of the Czech Republic
- The aim of the project was to develop a space that supports the active participation of people from the target groups, to connect the target group with the majority population and to prevent social exclusion of target groups

## **EPIC**

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**1. 12. 2019 – 31. 3. 2022**

- The European Commission, The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
- Exchange of experience from 4 countries in foster family care for foreign minors and refugees

## **GATHERING SUPPORT FOR THE REFUGEE CAUSE**

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**1. 10. 2019 – 31. 12. 2022**

- OSIFE
- Awareness-raising activities especially on social media aimed at the Czech public

## **DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE AID TO REFUGEES**

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**1. 10. 2020 - 31. 03. 2023**

- Norwegian funds
- Education, management skills, fundraising, HR support, coaching

## **WE STRIVE FOR A FAIR MIGRATION POLICY**

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**1. 3. 2020 – 31. 12. 2023**

- Norwegian funds
- Advocacy activities in cooperation with SIMI and the Consortium

## **EUROPEAN NETWORK ON STATELESSNESS PROJECT**

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**1. 1. 2020 – 31. 7. 2022**

- The European Network on Statelessness
- The aim is to improve the legal status and living conditions of stateless persons living in the Czech Republic

## **SOLIDARITY IN A FUTURE EUROPE**

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**1. 3. 2020 – 30. 9. 2022**

- The European Commission, Europe for Citizens Programme
- A series of conferences in 7 cities in 7 EU Member States on various topics related to refugees, migration and the future of the European Union

## **SUPPORTING REFUGEES' INTEGRATION INTO THE LABOUR MARKET**

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**1. 4. 2020 - 31. 3. 2022**

- The European Union, ESF, Operational Programme Employment
- Integration of refugees into the labour market living in the Czech Republic, implemented in five regions

## **DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND SOCIAL WORK IN OPU PRAHA**

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**1. 5. 2020 - 30. 4. 2022**

- The European Union, ESF, Operational Programme Employment
- Development of social work and social services through quality audits, the introduction of the position of social work methodologist, revision of quality standards for social services, the introduction of innovative methods in the field of social work

## **INTEGRATION SERVICES FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTION HOLDERS 2022**

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**1. 7. 2022 – 31. 12. 2022**

- The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
- Support for unaccompanied refugee minors from Ukraine, development of host care

## **GRANTS TO SUPPORT VOLUNTEERING**

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**1. 1. 2022 – 31. 12. 2022**

- The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
- Support for work of volunteers with foreigners and refugees in the Czech Republic, including the work of volunteers in the facilities of the Administration of Refugee Facilities of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic



## **SOCIAL SERVICES - FIELD PROGRAMMES AND PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL COUNSELLING**

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**1. 1. 2022 – 31. 12. 2022**

- Pilsen Region and the Municipality of Pilsen
- Ensuring the operation of the social service field programmes in the Pilsen Region

## **LEGAL ADVICE TO FOREIGNERS IN CONNECTION WITH VIOLATIONS OF EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS**

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**1. 1. 2022 - 31. 12. 2022**

- Municipal district Pilsen 3
- Legal advice on the integration of foreigners in the field of labour law

## **CZECH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR FOREIGNERS**

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**1. 6. 2021 - 31. 12. 2021**

- Pilsen 3 Municipal District and the Municipality of Pilsen

## **EMERGENCY GRANT FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES CRISIS – SIGRID RAUSING TRUST**

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**2022 - 2023**

- Legal and social assistance to Ukrainian refugees in 5 cities of the Czech Republic

## **INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE – EMERGENCY GRANT – UKRAINE**

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**1. 12. 2022 – 30. 11. 2023**

- Legal protection and social assistance to Ukrainian and other refugees in the Czech Republic

## UNICEF – REFUGEE RESPONSE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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**1. 7. 2022 – 31. 7. 2023**

- Providing legal counselling and psychosocial support to unaccompanied minors and children separated from their parents and strengthening the capacity of the system of protection of refugee children in the Czech Republic.

## MIGRATION EDUCATION IN PRAGUE SCHOOLS

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**1. 3. 2022 – 31. 10. 2023**

- The European Union, OPP PR, Operational Programme Prague - Half Growth of the Czech Republic  
- A project aimed at educating pupils and teachers in Prague schools about the issue of migration and integration of foreigners in the Czech Republic



# ORGANISATION FOR AID TO REFUGEES FUNDING IN 2022

In 2022, the organisation's operations were funded from the following sources:

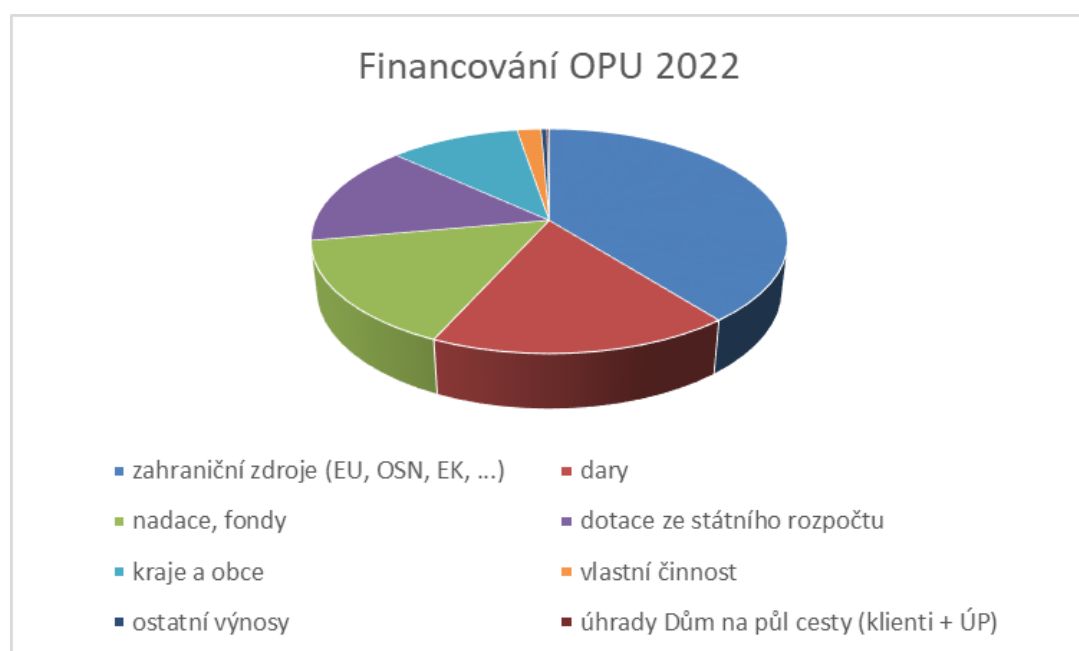
FINANCIAL RESOURCE	AMOUNT
EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)	15 327 277
Donations	9 885 810
OSN (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNVFT)	7 312 834
Ministry of Education	6 221 101
European Social Fund (OPZ, OP PPR)	4 928 216
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	3 926 207
Generali Česká pojišťovna	3 813 251
Prague City Hall	3 211 309
People in Need	2 221 881
Gift Jan Barta	2 184 846
Pilsen Region	1 675 499
Own activity	1 399 373
Open Society Fund	1 338 883
Sigrid Rausing Trust	1 300 296
Ostrava Municipality	1 000 000
EPCG Foundation	911 876
South Moravian Region	833 000
European Commission	680 961
ČEZ Foundation	616 186
Bader Philanthropies	480 385
Ministry of the Interior	412 388
The Kellner Family Foundation	410 853
Municipal District of Prague 14	368 968
Phospha	367 969
Other income (foreign exchange gains, interest)	346 007
Brno City Hall	264 000
Municipality of Pilsen and the Municipal District of Pilsen 3	243 717
Reimbursements from clients and the Job Centre (Halfway House)	131 184
The International Rescue Committee	80 771
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71 895 048</b>



# ORGANISATION FOR AID TO REFUGEES FUNDING IN 2022

## Revenue by source group:

RESOURCE GROUP	AMOUNT
Foreign sources (EU, UN, EC, ...)	28 330 059
Donations	12 438 625
Foundations, funds	11 093 611
State budget subsidies	10 559 696
Regions and municipalities	7 596 493
Own activity	1 399 373
Other income	346 007
Reimbursement Halfway House (clients + UI)	131 184
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71 895 048</b>



# ORGANISATION FOR AID TO REFUGEES FUNDING IN 2022

## Breakdown of costs by type:

EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
Material and energy consumption	3 037 106
Repair and maintenance	96 441
Travel	278 378
Other services	12 327 439
Labour costs	45 856 920
(gross wages and contributions)	
Other costs (bank charges, foreign exchange losses, insurance, administrative fees)	83 998
Contributions made	3 627 197
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65 307 479</b>

# DONORS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE WORK OF THE OPU



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA  
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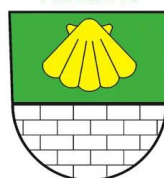
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MĚSTSKÁ ČÁST PRAHA 14



MĚSTSKÁ ČÁST  
PRAHA 13



MĚSTSKÁ ČÁST  
PRAHA 5



**OSTRAVA!!!**

Město  Plzeň



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2022