A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear friends and supporters of SIMI,

In 2017, we celebrated 25 years since Dana Němcová and Anna Grudová set up the Czech Helsinki Committee’s Counselling Centre for Refugees. It was an organization with a clear but difficult task: to defend the rights of migrants in the Czech Republic and to support them and the society during the integration process. Looking back, I think we have been successful in fulfilling this task. Indeed, both of the founders keep supporting us as members of the SIMI Board of Directors. On the following pages, the past 25 years are described briefly, and you may read in more detail about our work in 2017.

What may not be as apparent when reading these pages is the huge amount of work, personal commitment, mutual support, and cooperation that underpin the history of SIMI’s activities. A huge thank you to our current and former employees, volunteers, donors and all other supporters. Working in SIMI’s friendly team is an amazingly varied and interesting experience. However, the work is also very demanding. Our clients are often in very difficult situations that seem impossible to solve. They are under enormous stress, often worrying about themselves or their loved ones, not knowing what the future will bring. They live for years under the strain of housing uncertainty, and serious personal difficulties. Our counsellors help solve these and many other issues, providing the legal, social and psychosocial forms of support. This already challenging work is regularly exposed to hate speech from the xenophobic sectors of Czech society and many of the more hateful politicians. Being called traitors or human rights leeches are among the least offensive abuses. I admire all the employees that continue working at SIMI while coping with the increasing pressure and attacks on our work, legitimacy, and our role in society.

I am convinced that SIMI is a successful civil society organization. During our history we have supported tens of thousands of migrants, held debates at hundreds of schools, conferences or public events, won and lost thousands of judicial and administrative proceedings, and found housing, school, doctor or employment for thousands of people. I firmly believe that we will continue to fulfil our founders’ vision in the next 25 years and that our activities will help the Czech and European society to overcome the surge in hatred, racism and xenophobia that we have been experiencing in recent years.

Magda Faltová
Director

Association for Integration and Migration (SIMI)
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Addenda: Magda Faltová
Director
Individually and in groups, the first major influx of refugees arrived mainly from war-torn Yugoslavia, later also from Cuba or Romania. Dana Němcová together with Pavla Reháková, a lawyer, started touring humanitarian centers. They helped under the auspices of UNHCR and unofficially established the Counselling Centre for Refugees. Anna Grušová joined them later.

The Counselling Centre for Refugees was established officially under the wings of the Czech Helsinki Committee with the support of the Embassy of Canada. It was led by Anna Grušová with the help of Dana Němcová and with Sulejman Jahič as the head of the Board of Directors. Based on Senovážná street in the center of Prague, the aim of the organization was to help refugees and migrants and to defend their rights. From the beginning, it was clear that it would be difficult to achieve this mission in the heterogeneous Czech society.

On the initiative of the employees of the Czech Helsinki Committee’s Counselling Centre for Refugees, the Center for Migration Issues emerged. This new associated organization focused on immediate help to all migrants and on integration activities. The Executive Board included Dana Němcová and Ivan Medek, with Markéta Hronková as the executive Vice-President and a crucial figure in the functioning of the organization.

The Czech Helsinki Committee’s Counselling Centre for Refugees was one of the founding organizations of the Consortium of Refugee Assisting Organizations (today’s Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organizations). This was an important milestone: a beginning of an umbrella organization and a much-needed joining of forces within civil society.

The number of applicants for the international protection in the Czech Republic culminates; every month, approx. 1000 clients uses the legal and social counselling of the Czech Helsinki Committee’s Counselling Centre for Refugees. This is the highest number in the center’s history.

The Counselling Centre for Refugees separates from the Czech Helsinki Committee and starts to operate as an independent civic association. The primary mission of the Czech Helsinki Committee (human rights protection) and the mission of the Counselling Centre for Refugees (protection of the human rights of refugees and migrants) remain to be the guiding principles of the new organization. However, the organization ceases to be financed by the UNHCR and has to fight for survival for the first time. It has lived through ten years of daily work of lawyers, social and psychosocial workers and many volunteers.
The Counselling Centre for Refugees merges with the Center for Migration Issues adopting a new name: the Association for Integration and Migration (Sdružení pro integraci – SIMI). Dana Němcová, Ivan Medek and Anna Grusová are the first honorary members of the new organization.

Downturn in the organization’s functioning. Due to economic recession, decreasing funds from corporate donors, as well as delay of grant programs, these are so far the most difficult times for the organization. At the same time, more and more clients flow in. SIMI provides them with services only thanks to former employees who work for free and in their spare time. A huge thanks belongs to Jiří Knitl, Světlana Kravtsova, Pavla Hádečková, Věra Holíková, Daniela Javorská, Tamara Akulasvili, Marie Hádečková, Eva Varentová, Ilka Ch. Pechová, Radka Hájčová and many others of our long-term volunteers.

The situation stabilized. Magda Faltová, the Director, and Pavla Hádečková, the Program Director, take the lead of SIMI after Jiří Knitl, who was himself preceded by three years of management by the slightly conservative, Jaroslav Gramel. Jiří Ruml stays as the Head of the Board of Directors since 2007.

SIMI celebrated its 20 year anniversary. The number of clients served since the organization’s establishment exceeded 40,000.

SIMI moved to the current headquarters on Baranova 33 in Žižkov, Prague.

SIMI changed from a civic association to a public service company. The name and management stayed the same. Vladan Brož became the new head of the Board after Jan Ruml. SIMI began to face a wave of xenophobic attacks on migrants in connection with the so-called refugee crisis. This situation continued during the years to follow.

SIMI celebrates 25 years – the team changed but the mission and enthusiasm has stayed the same as at the beginning. Magda Faltová remained as the director, while the founders (Dana Němcová, Anna Grusová) continued as members of the Board. The number of clients reached 50,000. Despite anti-immigrant feelings of the majority of the Czech society, the views of the organization’s next 25 years remained positive.

*This year, SIMI celebrates 25 years since its foundation in 1992 as the Counselling Centre for Refugees. Since then, this organization has been one of the key actors in the field of integration of migrants in the Czech Republic. SIMI is partners in the EU and worldwide and strong know-how in both the direct practice with migrants and in the conceptual and expert issues. For the Consortium, SIMI is the key member organization and so we wish them a lot of enthusiasm in the following years.*

Anna Dumont, Director of the Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organizations

*In the upcoming years, I wish SIMI – besides much success and many satisfied clients – especially much, much better social environment.*

Anna Grusová, founder of the Counselling Centre for Refugees (today’s SIMI)

*The involvement of SIMI in the women’s rights issues is highly beneficial, crucial, and important. Every year, SIMI organizes very beneficial activities bringing together women who are learning about their rights. The emancipation of women is an integral part of a successful society and SIMI contributes greatly to this issue.*

Sagar, personal development coach

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2008

2009

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Sagar, personal development coach

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2012

2013

2015

2017
SIMI provides free counselling to all migrants regardless of their residence status in the form of:

- legal advice
- social counselling
- psychosocial support
- services of intercultural workers

The aim of our counselling is not only to help solve our clients’ problems but also to help them to be able to understand the issue as much as possible. We are convinced that supporting and strengthening their independence and legal awareness helps to reduce the risk of discrimination and social tensions, which they often have to face.

THE YEAR OF 2017

During 2017 we have carried out several self-help meetings of migrants, so-called “focus groups”, to find out what the real objectives of the migrants are, and how we can support the process of their integration. We then pass the outputs of these meetings to the local level community planning – especially in Prague 3, or we prepare suggestions for other relevant actors (Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Government Legislative Council, etc.).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN</th>
<th>OUR CLIENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1330 individual clients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>462 anonymous queries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>804 Female</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>526 Male</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, Moldavia, Nigeria, Syria, USA, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, India, Algeria, Egypt, Cuba, Bulgaria and others.
THE ISSUES THAT WE HELP DEALING WITH:
• staying in the Czech Republic
• obtaining citizenship
• international protection
• employment
• housing
• education (available schools and kindergartens; degree validation, "nostrification")
• social security
• health insurance
• loans
• reconciliation of work and family life
• handling the care for a senior or handicapped while being employed
• pensions
• mental issues
• domestic violence

USED LANGUAGES:
• Czech
• Russian
• English
• French
• German
• Mongolian
• Vietnamese
• Spanish
• Arabic

THE PLACES OF CONSULTATIONS:
• the office of SIMI
• the Integration Center Prague
• in the field
• while escorting to the authorities, the doctor’s or other institutions

THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF RESIDENCE PERMIT:
• permanent residence
• temporary residence
• long-term residence permit for the purpose of family reunification
• residence for the purpose of study
• employee card

"We were contacted by a client from the USA who came to the Czech Republic in 2014 and started a business here. In the same year, he found employment and no longer had any independent income, however, out of ignorance he did not officially cancel his trade license. In 2017, he wanted to apply for a permanent residence permit and only then, from the negative decision of the Ministry of the Interior, he found out that he had a debt on social insurance. We began to deal with the situation together; the client submitted a declaration of honour, stating that he no longer exercised any self-employed activity, and thus did not have any profit from the trade license. He also provided the Czech Social Security Administration with a summary of his income and expenditure for the preceding years, his debt was calculated and they agreed on a payment schedule."

"In 2017, a client with a permanent residence permit contacted us, because his wife faced proceedings leading to a possible administrative expulsion from the Czech Republic. She had arrived as a tourist in 2016, while being pregnant. However, because of the trip, the state of her health had worsened and the doctor had not recommended further traveling, as both mother’s and child’s health would have been at risk in order to stay in the Czech Republic at least until the delivery or until the doctor allowed her to travel. She submitted an application for a sufferance visa. When she came to the Ministry to ask for information about her application, the foreign police were called and they initiated the proceedings on administrative expulsion. The client was eventually obliged to leave the country, which is a milder alternative to being expelled. After a series of postpartum examinations and vaccinations, she left the Czech Republic together with her daughter.

Meanwhile, due to the Ministry of the Interior not keeping the statutory deadline for responding to our client’s application, her other visa had expired and thus she had been on the territory of the Czech Republic without any valid visa or a residence permit. When she came to the Ministry to ask for information about her application, the foreign police were called and they initiated the proceedings on administrative expulsion. The client was eventually obliged to leave the country, which is a milder alternative to being expelled. After a series of postpartum examinations and vaccinations, she left the Czech Republic together with her daughter.

After his daughter was born, the client submitted a residence permit application for the child born on the territory of the Czech Republic. At first, the Ministry rejected the request, arguing by the fact the client's daughter lived together with her mother abroad, and so evidently did not intend to reside in the Czech Republic, which is a basic condition for granting a permanent residence permit. Together with the client, we appealed against that decision and after months of fighting with the authorities his daughter received the residence permit, to which she was legally entitled. After her country of origin, the wife of the client filed an application for a long-term residence for the purpose of family reunification so that she could live in the Czech Republic with her husband and daughter, who already had had permanent residence permits. However, her request was rejected by the Ministry on the grounds that in the past 5 years, she had committed a violation of the Aliens Act as she had stayed in the country illegally. Thanks to our request for a re-assessment of the reasons for refusal of the visa, the client was eventually granted the residence permit. The family finally managed to live together in the Czech Republic and they expect another child at the beginning of 2018.1"
ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP IN NETWORKS

• In the long term, we participate in shaping and influencing the migration and asylum legislation of the Czech Republic, and the public policies related to the integration of migrants.
• We point out the intersecting dimensions of integration, in particular in relation to gender equality or aging issues.
• We submit initiatives in case of local or systemic changes, publish expert articles, and join statements, petitions and campaigns of other organizations or platforms.
• Overall, we strive for better and more favorable conditions for migrants’ lives in the Czech Republic.
• We are active in the Government Council for Human Rights’ Committee for the Rights of Foreigners and in a number of working groups on migration and integration issues.
• As a member of many national and European human-rights networks we participate in formulating migration and integration policies; more recently also policies concerning gender equality issues.

SIMI IN NETWORKS

• Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organizations (the Consortium)
• Czech Women’s Lobby (CWL)
• The Working Group on Economic Migration at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic
• Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
• European Network Against Racism (ENAR)
• European Network of Migrant Women (ENoMW)
• Research Network for Domestic Workers’ Rights (RN-DWR)
• European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA)

THE FOREIGNERS’ LEGISLATION FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF THE CONSORTIUM OF MIGRANTS ASSISTING ORGANIZATIONS

(www.migracnikonsorcium.cz)

In the first half of the year 2017, the Consortium ran a joint campaign against a proposal of some of the members of the Parliament. That proposal would have, amongst other restrictions, reduced the rights of migrants to get a judicial review, or to run their own businesses.
• The Chamber of Commerce, the Confederation of Industry and Transport, and the Bar Association also joined the campaign.
• The proposal was criticized by the Committee for the Rights of Foreigners, the Government Council for Human Rights, and by the representatives of the judiciary and academia.
• The Senate returned the amendment to the Chamber of Deputies, which outvoted the veto.
• Only the right to judicial review in immigration cases remained.
GENDER EQUALITY ISSUES RELATED TO MIGRANTS, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CZECH WOMEN’S LOBBY (www.czlobby.cz)

- In 2017, SIMI became a member of the Czech Women’s Lobby, which supports our advocacy efforts in migration-related gender issues. Within CWL, we are active in the Working Group Against Violence.
- We presented the gender issues in migration to several government authorities:
  - Permanent Commission on Family Issues, Equal Opportunities and Minorities of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament.
- We have developed initiatives to promote systemic or legislative changes, making recommendations to the policy makers:
  - a complaint to the Public Defender of Rights in regards to the access of migrant women to housing;
  - suggestions to the Government Council for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in regards to collecting statistics and multiple discrimination against migrant women;
  - comments to the forthcoming Guidelines for implementation of the Concept of Integration in 2018.

COOPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN NETWORK PICUM, ESPECIALLY IN REGARDS TO THE EQUAL ACCESS OF MIGRANTS TO THE LABOUR MARKET (www.picum.org)

- Magda Faltová, the director of SIMI, is a member of the Board of this influential European network.
- We participated in a public hearing at the European Parliament – together with other members of PICUM, we presented our findings on the difficult situation of female migrants working in households all over the EU.
- We have joined several common statements of the PICUM network and a number of European civil society’s representatives: e.g., in regards to the EU and Libya cooperation on the fight against smuggling of migrants (over 70 organizations) or to the plans of the European Commission about returns and detentions (over 90 organizations).
- We have participated in the Czech translations of materials for policy makers: i.e., recommendations for effective filing of complaints against violation of the labour rights of migrants in European countries. We have also participated on a leaflet about the integration of foreign workers without a residence permit into the trade unions (in collaboration with the European Trade Union Confederation, ETUC).

CITIES AND INCLUSIVE STRATEGY

It is essential that at the local level, in the regions, towns and municipalities where the people live, that the integration must take place. Which is why the aim of the project Cities and Inclusive Strategy is:

- To assess the integration of all groups of foreigners in the Czech Republic at the local level.
- To build a knowledge-based platform for all participants of the integration process.
- To set up the integration policies in a way that they reflect the needs of foreigners better.

The project’s implementation has been in progress since September 2017, with the support of the European Social Fund’s Operational Programme Employment, call number 124, which focuses on stimulating an innovative environment. Besides SIMI, the experts from The Center for Social and Economic Strategies of the Faculty of Social Studies of the Charles University (CSES) and from The Multicultural Center Prague participate in the project’s implementation. Other project partners include the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic and several regions: Prague, Liberec, and the South Moravian region.
Together with the OSF Foundation and the Consortium, we discussed the refugee and integration issues with Czech society. With the help of the Czech leading personalities, we asked people in several cities: What would make you flee from the Czech Republic? How do we recognize that a refugee integrated? Where would you go in case of a war? You may find the answers on www.jsmetomy.cz.

DEBATES ON MIGRATION IN THE REGIONS

During 2017, we were offered to organize debates with the locals and colleagues in the regions outside of Prague. Some of the events are planned to be held in 2018. For example, we have established cooperation with the following organizations and institutions:

• The Centre for Integration of Foreigners in the Central Bohemian region
• Organization NESEHNUTÍ, in Brno
• Regional branches of the Czech Women’s Union
• Pierrot Agency, in Uherské Hradiště
• Integration Centers, in Pardubice and South Moravian region

1154 people have agreed with the manifest
1328 fans on Facebook
318 700 views on YouTube
PUBLIC EVENTS ABOUT WOMEN IN MIGRATION

• A Living library, a workshop with female migrants and a speech in a panel discussion on the interdisciplinary conference Women’s Congress with the topic of Women and Public Space (www.kongreszen.cz).
• Women in the Fight for Oppressed Groups’ Rights debate in ALTA Studio as a part of the multi-genre project Living Realities (www.altart.cz).
• The documentary film Women Next Door has been screened more than 10 times. After the screenings, discussions on the migrant women's position in the Czech Republic followed – the Czech National Library of Technology, Kino Pilotů in Prague, Kino Hvězda in Uherské Hradiště, community center Komunitní středisko Kontakt Liberec, Regional Research Library in Liberec, Langhans Gallery in Prague and others.
• A discussion about the movie Sonita and a lecture for the Czech Women’s Union’s members (www.cz.cz).

EDUCATIONAL AND EXPERT EVENTS ON WOMEN IN MIGRATION

• Expert seminar “Migrants as victims of domestic violence” for the workers of the Refugee Facilities Administration, in cooperation with ACORUS, z. s. (www.acorus.cz).
• Lectures at summer schools on migration in Prague.
• Academic conference papers at Czech and foreign universities: various faculties of the Charles University in Prague, University of West Bohemia in Plzen, Central European University in Budapest (HU), University of Bergen (NO), and others.
• Seminars for Czech and US students at Charles University in Prague.
• Debates and round tables with the Czech Women’s Lobby and other representatives of Czech civil society.

EVENTS TO PROMOTE THE SIMI ACTIVITIES OR THE INITIATIVES OF MIGRANT WOMEN

• Exhibition of tapestries “This morning a rose bloomed for me” at the premises of the Lastavica Association. The event was organized by women with migration experience, who presented their artwork.
• A pilot activation workshop “how to deal with the self-development?” was organized at one of our regular Intercultural meetings. It was led by a migrant woman for other migrants and for participants from mainstream society.

INTERCULTURAL MEETINGS

The aim of these Intercultural meetings is to mediate contact between migrants and Czechs in an environment in which they would normally rarely meet. Members of the majority Czech society have an opportunity to talk with, get to know and spend a pleasant evening with people who they would otherwise see only in the subway, by the counter in a supermarket, as construction workers, or as smart young managers rushing to work.

On the Intercultural meetings, we have the opportunity not only to meet and talk with migrants, but also to learn about their life, how and why they had travelled to the Czech Republic, what they think and dream about, and what troubles them. On the other hand, the migrants have a chance to find out more about Czechs, who are generally somewhat reserved and withdrawn.

176 participants
22 countries
**Debates at schools** – with the Crossing Borders and Crossing the Borders in Prague projects we organized discussions on migration and refugee issues at schools in Prague and the Central Bohemia region. A guest migrant participated in the discussions, sharing their personal story and experience of arriving to and living in the Czech Republic. The discussions also included workshops during which the students cooked a traditional dish from the migrant’s country, created musical instruments, or put themselves into the role of a journalists to find out about the manifestation of hoaxes and disinformation in the media.

**Training for teachers** – for Kladská elementary school and Evolution Jižní Město grammar school, we prepared a training for educators to learn about the current situation in migration and refugee issues in the Czech Republic and worldwide. Participants also learned about working with intercultural topics in education, and other information about the duties and responsibilities of intercultural workers.

**Cooking classes** – under the supervision of migrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Uzbekistan, and Afghanistan, the participants tried goodies from various places around the world, and learned to prepare some of the dishes. You may find the recipes on our SIMI Foodblog in a collection along with the stories of our „chefs“: [http://foodblog.migrace.com/](http://foodblog.migrace.com/).

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575 students  
50 participants of the cooking classes  
15 debates  
15 participating migrants  
4 cooking classes  
10 trained teachers  
11 participating schools

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“I see SIMI as the closest and professionally very valuable partner of the Organization for Aid to Refugees, and I wish SIMI every success and happiness in the years to come.”

Martin Rozumek, Director of the Organization for Aid to Refugees (OPU)

“Hello, it has been more than two years since I contacted you last time – I was marrying a woman from Algeria then. We came for a consultation and we were very pleased about the result, because we received comprehensive information. My wife and I are still very grateful for your help.”

A Client of SIMI

“The Counselling Centre for Refugees/SIMI meant for me a great team of people, professional and empathic, who were doing all they could to protect the dignity of the migrants, to make them feel accepted. Today, I wish SIMI to have the support and trust of the government and the society.”

Věra Roubalová Kostlánová, a psychotherapist and a former social worker in the Counselling Centre for Refugees
Debates at schools with journalist Fatima Rahimi, grammar school Jana Keplera, Let’s talk together (about migration)

- Foodblog SIMI – recipes with stories from all over the world http://foodblog.migrace.com.
- “Gender v migraci” (Gender in Migration) newsletter – news about our activities, events in the Czech Republic and Europe www.migrace.com (section “Integration/Migrant women among women”) http://www.migrace.com/cs/regularizace/migrantky.
PEOPLE IN SIMI

People

PEOPLE IN SIMI

Goranka Ojača, The Prix Irene Award-winner – for activities contributing to the peaceful coexistence of diverse people

EMPLOYEES

Directors
Magda Faltová, Director
Pavla Hradečná, Program Director

Legal Department
Klára Holíková, Head of the Legal Department
Katerina Matulová, Lawyer
Petr Chmelar, Lawyer

Social Department
Pavel Duba, Head of the Social Department
Vlasta Stulíková, Social Worker
Anna Darazhenka, Social Worker
Lenka Svobodová, Social Worker
Eva Vojtošová, Social Worker
František Chřítal, Psychosocial Worker

Intercultural workers
Dinara Akhmetová
Natallia Allen
Mónica Márquez Bobadilla
Mayada Elhissy
Otgon Erdene Erdenebat
Marianna Kuzmovych
Viktoria Valeeva
Chima Youssefová

Experts
Eva Čech Valentová, Expert in International Cooperation & Project Coordinator
Katerina Dekérová, Coordinator of volunteers & Public Relations
Marie Jelínková, Sociologist
Petr Ezzeddine, Expert in Equal Opportunities
Goranka Ojača, Media Expert
Petr Kušera, Social Geographer
Marie Konrádová, Social Geographer
Filip Pospíšil, Foreign Affairs Expert
Selma Muhič, Sociologist

Financial Department
Petr Veselý, Financial Manager
Hana Krňánová, Accountant
Jana Hořejší, Payroll Accountant

Board of Directors
Vladan Brož, Chairman
Jan Ruml, Member
Anna Grušová, Member
Pavla Hradečná, Member
Markéta Hronková, Member
Dana Němcová, Member

Supervisory Board
Daniela Bednírková, Chairman
Jiří Knitl, Member
Růžena Kulhánková, Member

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Eva Čech Valentová, Expert in International Cooperation & Project Coordinator
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Jiří Knitl, Member
Růžena Kulhánková, Member

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VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

Volunteers and interns helped us with a number of activities:

- practicing English with migrants
- monitoring of the human rights situation
- accompanying clients to the authorities
- preparation and implementation of events
- helping at SIMI stand at festivals
- editing and researching texts

We acknowledge:


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR SUPPORT:

For their support and cooperation in the activities of SIMI, we appreciate the following institutions and individuals:


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS FOR COOPERATION:

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"For me, the partnership approach and mutual openness is the basis of good cooperation – also trying to be constructive. This is what can be expected from the well-established organization that SIMI is. Moreover, SIMI adds professionalism and enthusiasm even in times when unfortunately almost everyone ‘understands’ the migration and refugee issues. Therefore, I keep my fingers crossed that you keep contributing to the professional and sophisticated social discourse, using arguments, facts, and years of your experience!"

Barbora Hořavová, Program Director of The Open Society Fund Prague, Manager of the program Let’s Give (Wo)men a Chance – Norway Grants
If you never got yourself into a situation when you needed protection, advice, guidelines or just a friendly word, if you never found yourself defenseless, sick, in danger or disoriented in a foreign country, you cannot fully understand the importance of such organization whose people are humane and ready to help with all their knowledge and abilities. I am one of those, who against their own will had to leave their home and seek protection in a foreign country. In those days, some Czech people came up to selflessly help and they have continued to help for years. They knew that by helping those people, they helped themselves so that those who might have caused troubles and conflicts out of ignorance and inability to understand a foreign culture and customs, did not linger in the Czech Republic longer than necessary. I am deeply aware of the value of these organizations and SIMI takes a place of honour among them. Besides other things, it is also thanks to the unforgettable help of Dana Němcová, the founder, during our beginnings in the Czech Republic, but also because of their difficult mission to continue helping in today’s times of tensions. People who are able and willing to help others should be supported and financed, because they do very important work for the Czech society.

Zvjezdana Marković, Art Manager
A discussion about Congo with the first graders at the elementary school Kladská, Crossing Borders

### OPERATING SUBSIDIES IN 2017 IN CZK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Donor</th>
<th>Amount in CZK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Society for Europe (OSIFE)</td>
<td>602,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund</td>
<td>827,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prague City Council</td>
<td>1,540,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silicon Valley Community Foundation - Ebay</td>
<td>43,398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European structural and investment funds - ESI (Operational Programme Prague - Growth Pole of the Czech Republic)</td>
<td>828,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Social Fund, the Operational Programme for Employment</td>
<td>1,286,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of the Czech Republic</td>
<td>644,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of the Interior</td>
<td>48,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prague 3 - Municipal District</td>
<td>70,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authorities as Drivers for Development Education and Raising awareness (LADDER)</td>
<td>37,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Network Against Racism (ENAR)</td>
<td>50,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEA Grants (Civil Society Development Foundation)</td>
<td>61,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Society Fund Prague</td>
<td>346,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,386,468</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount in CZK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Materials consumed</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs and maintenance</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel expenses</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representation expenses</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services</td>
<td>1169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>4,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and health insurance</td>
<td>1,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other taxes and fees</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other fines and penalties</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange rate losses</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other expenses</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provided member contributions</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,321</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount in CZK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sale of services</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interests</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other revenues</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received contributions</td>
<td>782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating subsidies</td>
<td>6,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,274</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assets (status as of 1 January 2017 in th. CZK)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status as of 1 January 2017 in th. CZK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated depreciation-software</td>
<td>-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets under CZK 10,000</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated depreciation tangible assets under CZK 10,000</td>
<td>-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,787</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscribers</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating advances</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for subsidies and other settlements with state budget</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for subsidies and other settlements with authori- ties of the territorial self-governing unit</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated accounts active</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash register</td>
<td>3,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank accounts</td>
<td>5,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-paid expenses</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued income</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,851</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assets (status as of 31 December 2017 in th. CZK)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status as of 31 December 2017 in th. CZK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated depreciation-software</td>
<td>-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets under CZK 10,000</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated depreciation tangible assets under CZK 10,000</td>
<td>-73</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,798</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscribers</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating advances</td>
<td>1,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for subsidies and other settlements with state budget</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for subsidies and other settlements with authori- ties of the territorial self-governing unit</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other receivables</td>
<td>211</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated accounts active</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash register</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank accounts</td>
<td>5,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-paid expenses</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued income</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,862</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>status as of 1 January 2017 in th. CZK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own resources</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds</td>
<td>1 009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts based on profits</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The profits and losses account</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profits from approved processes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained earnings, accumulated losses from previous years</td>
<td>-575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>3 151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppliers</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advances received</td>
<td>1 993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other liabilities</td>
<td>152</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payables to the state budget</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities for social security and health insurance</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other direct debts</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payables to the authorities of the territorial self-governing unit</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another liabilities</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>3 851</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROJECTS WERE SUPPORTED BY**
For its 25th birthday, I would like to wish SIMI that it keeps its characteristic style given by its employees. They put their heart into the work and always look for a solution no matter how complicated the situation appears. Thus, they restore the feeling of trust and safety in those who turned to them for help.

Jana Hajná, head of the Department of Integration of Foreigners and National Minorities, Municipality of Prague