

**Global Refugee Forum**  
**13 – 15 December 2023**  
**Statement by the Czech Republic**

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Czech Republic very much supports the concerted implementation of the Global Refugee Compact and of its goals related to prevention and sustainable solution of forced displacement.

Since February 2022, Czech Republic has welcomed around **600 000 refugees from Ukraine**, mostly women with children, as result of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine. We tested our national systems as well as the European cooperation in accommodating hundreds of thousands of vulnerable refugees in a short period and during the harsh wintertime.

The EU-wide coordination functioned well in this crisis and the common **scheme of temporary protection should be highlighted as a good practice**. It allowed quick access for refugees to the national social security systems, to health care and education, on equal footing with national citizens.

We mobilised both national, regional and local government structures, as well as the civil society and private sector. And I have to also add, that we **commend the work done by UNHCR and IOM** in anticipating and responding to this regional refugee crisis.

**All national funds invested into assistance to refugees from Ukraine both in Czech Republic and in Moldova were additional**, not affecting the regular humanitarian and development budgets.

Czech Republic also continued its comprehensive assistance to refugees in the **Syrian regional refugee crisis** through both bilateral, EU-based and international programs. We also continued our humanitarian-development and peace assistance in Africa.

We joined **the global pledge presented by the International Network on Conflict and Fragility**.

The specific Czech contribution is related to anticipation and prevention of forced displacement and to risk reduction and climate security for displaced and hosting communities.

As members of the Global Coalition on HDP nexus, we also joined **the multi-stakeholder pledge on Agriculture, food systems and food security**. We will contribute through mapping and support for sustainable landscape planning, to begin with in Ethiopia and Zambia.

With these pledges, we will contribute to the implementation of the main goals of the Global Compact on Refugees, while stressing not only pledges and solutions but also anticipation and prevention of forced displacement.