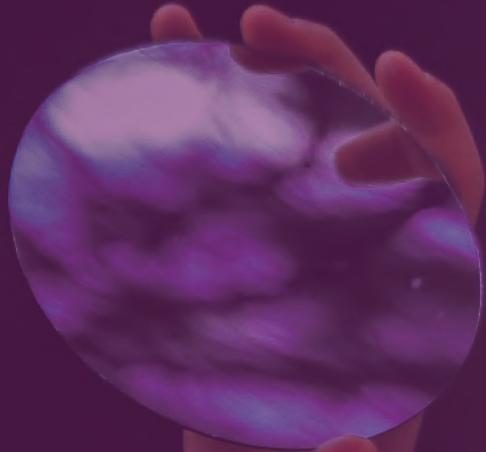


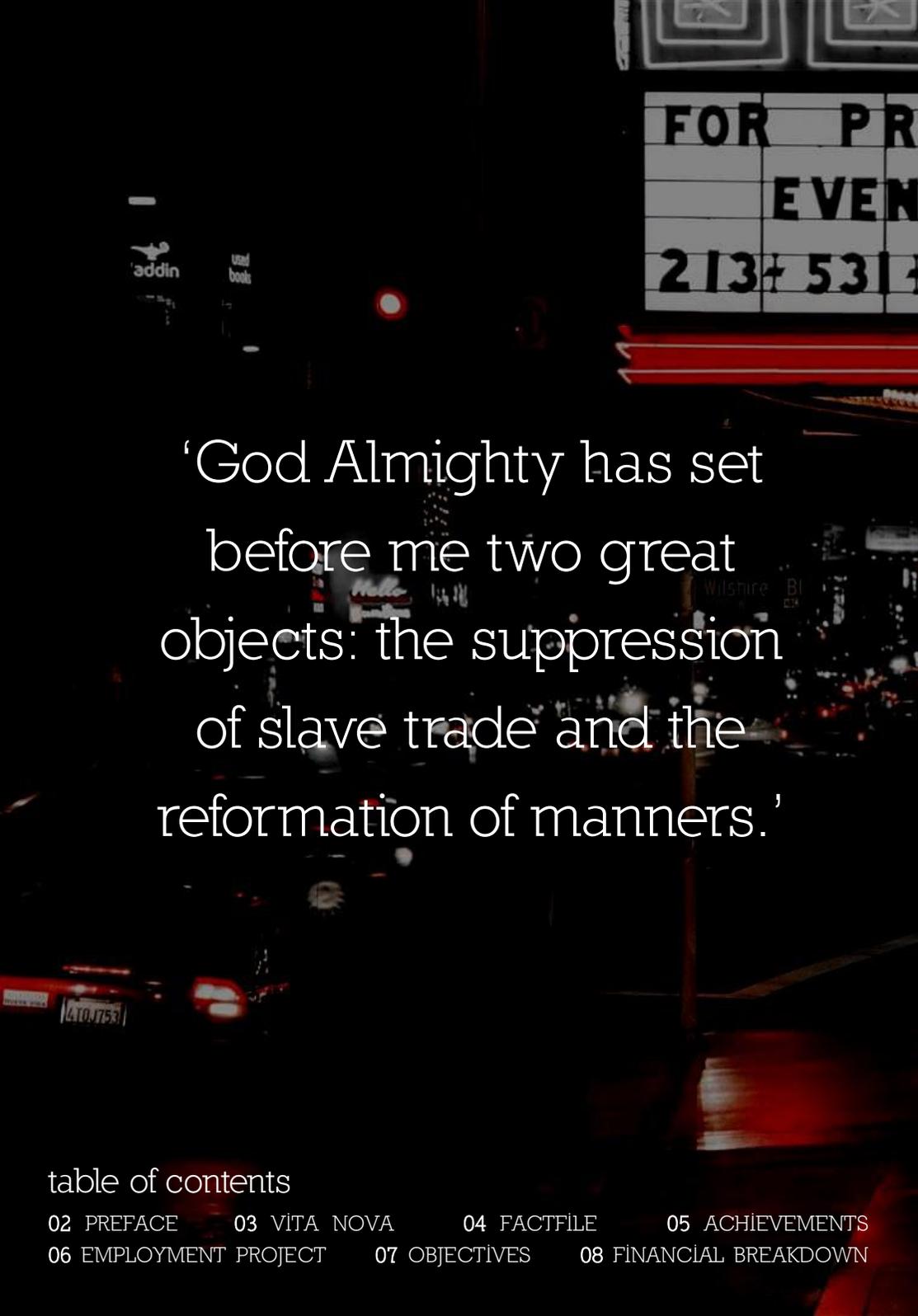


vita nova

a shelter for victims of human trafficking



annual report 2019



‘God Almighty has set  
before me two great  
objects: the suppression  
of slave trade and the  
reformation of manners.’

# preface

Dear friends and partners,

We are thrilled to write you at the closure of 2019 about all the objectives we have achieved. After two-and-a-half years of preparation we were able to launch our foundation in the Netherlands. This gave an overwhelming boost to our work in the Czech Republic.

Due to your prayers, financial and practical support we were able to start preparing for our first employment project: a baby and children’s clothing store. In accordance with William Wilberforce who once said: ‘God Almighty has set before me two great objects: the suppression of slave trade and the reformation of manners,’ we want to provide women a way out of sexual exploitation as well as changing the local community’s approach towards these women when they meet them in our store.

It is with great joy that we present you our first annual report and we are looking forward to cooperating with you in the future making a stand against sexual exploitation in the Czech Republic and beyond.

For justice,

Tobias and Margit, founders of Vita Nova Foundation

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# vita nova

## Human trafficking around the world

Trafficking in human beings ranks third among worldwide illegal businesses in terms of generated income, following arms and drugs trafficking with an annual income of approximately USD 32 billion. It is a crime of global scale, present in the majority of the world's countries. According to the UN, citizens of 152 different states were identified as victims in 124 countries across the world. Each year around 2 million people fall victim to this malpractice, of whom one-third are children.<sup>1</sup> Europeans cannot console themselves by saying that this is primarily a problem experienced by poor countries. In fact, Europe has the highest per capita rate of sex slaves.

## Prostitution in the Czech Republic

According to the Global Slavery Index 2018, the Czech Republic is home to an estimation of 31,000 people living in modern slavery (mostly sex and labour exploitation) making 0.3% of the population. Prostitution in the Czech Republic is neither explicitly legal or illegal. Although the Czech government made effort to regulate prostitution, the proposed Acts (2013) were both rejected. Organized prostitution (e.g. brothel ownership) is illegal, but the Czech Republic largely tolerates organized prostitution especially near the borders with Austria and Germany. In the nineties these border areas were overrun by street prostitution. Although not so visible anymore, there are still a lot of women and children who are being prostituted in the border areas. An increasing number of prostituted women offers sex in night clubs, escort services or private flats. Nobody knows exactly how many people in the Czech Republic are in prostitution, but estimates differ from 13,000 – 20,000. How many of these people are trafficked is even harder to say.

<sup>1</sup> Global report on Trafficking in Persons, United Nations, New York, 2014.

what we believe

every man, woman or child has a  
God-given right to live a life in dignity

what we want

to break the chains of sex  
trafficking in Europe

how we work

we provide psychological care,  
education and employment to those  
we shelter from a holistic point of  
view based on Biblical standards

providing transport and storage  
collecting clothes, furniture and prams  
crocheting mascots and sewing clothes



6 presentations



70 volunteers



3 business partners



31,500 euro donated

provided by churches, companies,  
a charity fund and individuals

factfile 2019

# achievements

## 1. Vita Nova Foundation established in the Netherlands

Vita Nova foundation was officially registered in the Netherlands on the 5th of April 2019. The foundation received its ANBI status one month later. This means that the Dutch tax authorities consider the foundation as an organization for the benefit of the community. Donations are therefore tax deductible in the Netherlands. Vita Nova foundation is registered at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce (74527274) and has a Dutch bank account (IBAN: NL39SNSB0785507493).

## 2. Vita Nova Foundation installed its first board

The board of Vita Nova foundation consists of three members. They gathered in three official meetings in 2019. The board has agreed on three major topics: the content of the website, the opening of our first employment project in a rural town in Southern Bohemia and the necessity to have Vita Nova registered as an official NGO in the Czech Republic as well.

## 3. Vita Nova Foundation expanded its name recognition

Vita Nova Foundation has had the opportunity to hold six presentations mainly in churches in the Netherlands due to our small, but strong network. The presentations were about our first employment project and have resulted in a lot of support in a financial and practical way. The presentations have led to a snowball effect with many new donors and volunteers across the Netherlands.

### ColliCare Logistics in the Netherlands has decided to donate to the Vita Nova

This year, ColliCare Logistics in the Netherlands has decided to donate to the "Vita Nova organization in the Czech Republic", instead of spending this money on Christmas gifts for our customers. Very much inspired by a colleague in our Groningen office whose wife is already an active volunteer for this organization. Vita Nova is stepping up for abused women and wants to help them getting a safe and normal life.



voor een nieuwe tegenvaller voor consumenten gaat zorgen. NU: Trump voert heffingen in op staal en aluminium uit Brazilië en Argentinië



Christmas donation from ColliCare Logistics

Volunteers crocheted many mascots for our employment project

First official promovideo of Vita Nova Foundation

Presentations being held in churches in the Netherlands



# employment project

## Baby and children's clothing store

Because of the growing demand for fashionable, but affordable clothes for babies and children in the rural area in the Czech Republic where Vita Nova is located, the board of Vita Nova foundation agreed on the opening of our first employment project. This store both serves the local community and the women who will be sheltered in our safe house.

## Klokan

The store will be named 'Klokan', which is Czech for 'kangaroo'. The kangaroo symbolizes the hidden purpose of the shop. Women who have been trapped in sexual exploitation and are recovering in our shelter will be given a place to work. The shop will provide a wide range of activities such as sorting, sewing, labelling, washing, ironing and selling clothes, as well as serving beverages, cleaning and even designing things for the shop. Our foundation will serve as a kangaroo to protect the women in their first steps of rehabilitation, before they are ready to stand on their own feet.

## Huge boost

This employment project gave a huge boost to Vita Nova foundation. Different churches and companies supported this specific project financially and practically. Tiles and toilets have been bought, many people, including three clothing banks, started to collect clothes, people donated prams and shop inventory, volunteers promised to help renovating the shop and people offered transport to bring all the goods to the Czech Republic.



A company offered transport to bring goods from a storage unit to the shipping container

Volunteers from a clothing bank collected numerous bags of clothes

Volunteers offered a 60m<sup>3</sup> shipping container to store 6000kg of goods

The truck with shipping container arrives at a storage box in Austria.



# objectives

## **1. Register Vita Nova in the Czech Republic**

The statutes of our Czech NGO are ready and must be approved by the local court in Jihlava. After registration, we will open a Czech bank account and apply for a special business license in order to run the store on a legal basis.

## **2. Open our first employment project**

We expect to open our first employment project in August 2020. In the months prior to the opening, a lot of volunteers will help painting, laying the floor, preparing the lavatories and hanging the lamps. We are preparing a special event on the day we open the store for the first time.

## **3. Providing stable housing in the Czech Republic**

Vita Nova Foundation is renting a house in the Czech Republic and its rental agreement terminates in February 2020. The house is for sale and can be used as a shelter. The house costs €115,000. If there will not be any possibility to purchase the house, Vita Nova will renegotiate about the rental agreement.

## **4. Expanding our team in the Czech Republic**

Our growing foundation needs more team members in the Czech Republic. We are looking for a social worker and another couple that is willing to work with us on site.

## **5. Expanding our network**

Vita Nova foundation values a strong network. We plan to expand our network in the Netherlands and visit the European Freedom Network's conference in Budapest in October 2020. We will deepen our relationships with the Salvation Army in the Czech Republic, Freedom Network Czech Republic and KARO e.V. in Germany.

# financial breakdown

We are very grateful for an unexpected incredible first year of Vita Nova Foundation in which the financial contributions of many fueled our local and global anti-human trafficking work.

## income

- General resources €17.518,57
- Housing €2.800
- Employment project €10.838,56
- Volunteer fee €125

€31.282,23

## expenses

- General resources €840,88
- Housing €5.500
- Employment project €1.935,54
- Anti-human trafficking projects €3.000

€11.276,42

A major part of our net income of **€20.005,81** will be used for our first employment project that we hope to open in the summer of 2020.