



## Press release

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## Experience what being a refugee is like

Every day we see images of people who have fled their homeland. But what does it mean to have to leave your home, job, family and country behind? From 29 October 2016, visitors to the 'DISPLACED' exhibition at the National Museum Zurich can get a glimpse of life as a refugee. The exhibition opening is taking place on 28 October 2016. Federal Councillor, Simonetta Sommaruga will be present at the event.

There are currently more than 65 million displaced people in the world, the highest number since the Second World War. DISPLACED addresses the issue from different perspectives, presenting illustrative biographies that retrace the arduous journeys of refugees and refugee families – what it is like to risk a long and dangerous journey and arrive at a place where no one is waiting for you, where you don't speak the language and where you feel you don't belong. But a place, in which you have nevertheless invested all your hope.

Visitors can relive the experiences of people forced to flee their homeland by witnessing a gruelling and dangerous journey through the lens of film director Mano Khalil, himself a refugee. They also learn about who receives protection in Switzerland and other countries and who does not, and about the international aid on which over 90% of all refugees worldwide are dependent. The exhibition also shows how Switzerland provides support and how its asylum process works.

DISPLACED is a joint project by the Federal Commission on Migration (FCM), the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The exhibition will run from 29 October 2016 to 5 March 2017.

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