## **Abstract**

The diploma thesis deals with understanding the motivation of volunteers involved in helping people on the run. The volunteers' motivation has been studied in the case of the Hlavák Initiative, which helps in the so-called Middle East agenda to people from the Middle East or African countries. This area has been viewed negatively by the state and the public in the Czech Republic since the start of the European migration crisis. The theoretical part of the diploma thesis contains basic backgrounds important for examining the motivation of volunteers in informal surroundings. The main focus is on volunteering and individual approaches for exploring the motivation for volunteering. This section also describes the context of the whole aid to persons on the run in the Czech environment. A research methodology is presented in the empirical part of the diploma thesis, followed by a section describing the research results. The results have been achieved by analysing semi-structured interviews conducted with eight volunteers of the Hlavák Initiative. The research of the diploma thesis took place just before the Hlavák Initiative formalised from the informal grouping into an association.

## **Key words**

Informal volunteering, motivation, people on the run, aid, the Hlavák Initiative