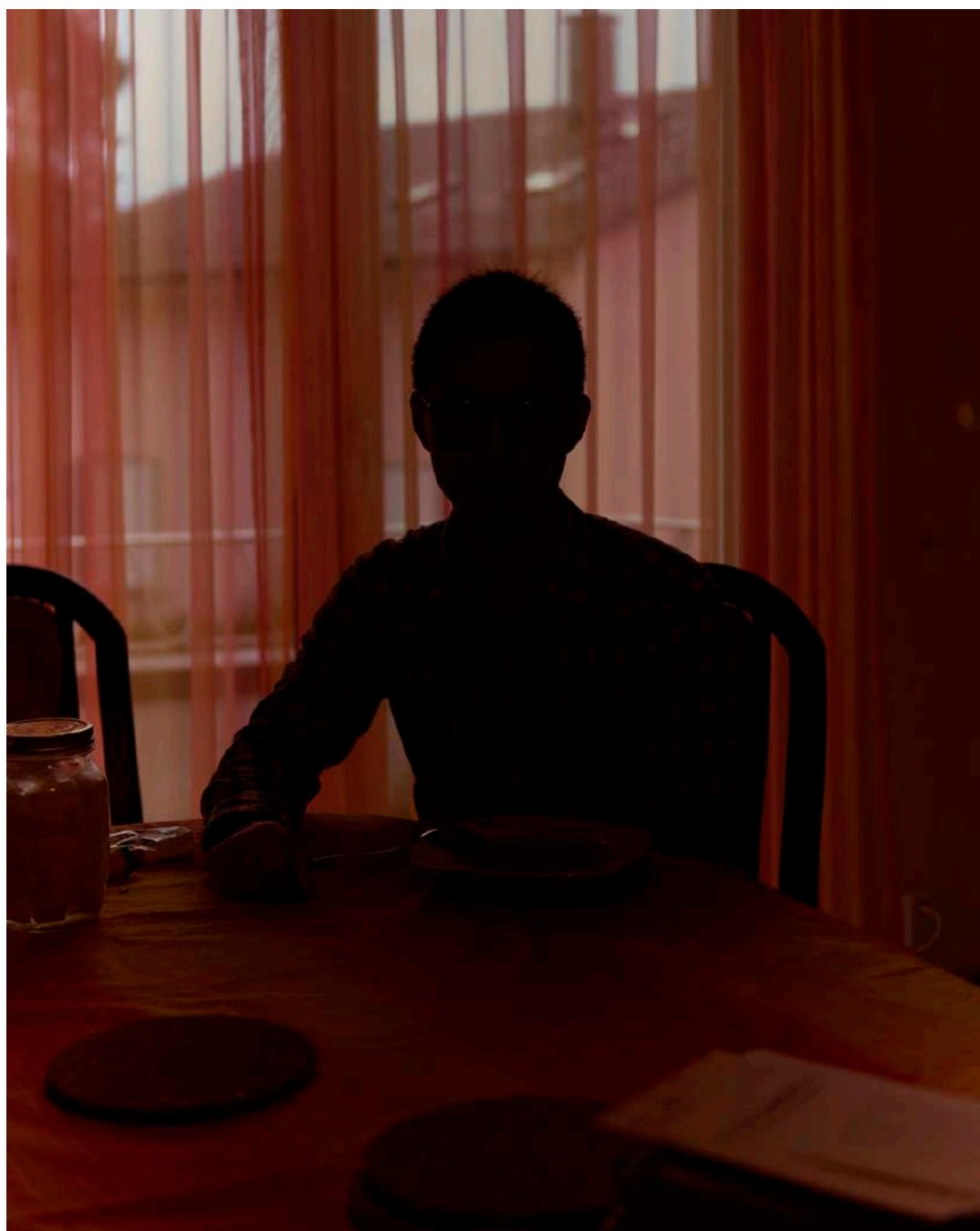


**PHOTO  
ELYSEE**  
MUSEE POUR LA PHOTOGRAPHIE

# DIALOGUES ON HUMANITY

AN EXHIBITION PRODUCED BY PHOTO ELYSEE, SWISS MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, IN CONVERSATION WITH ICRC



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# COMMITMENT OF A COUNTRY, A HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION AND A MUSEUM

## Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs

While the Humanitarian Principles of Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality and Independence are rooted in Swiss history, they are now more relevant than ever. Indeed, in an increasingly complex and polarised humanitarian environment, principled humanitarian action continues to make a difference in effectively preventing suffering as well as accessing and serving populations in need. We can strengthen these principles by constantly reaffirming and demonstrating their value; by fostering their understanding; and by supporting all actors to implement them. With this art project we want to raise awareness of what it means to apply the Humanitarian Principles not only to humanitarian action, but also to our everyday lives.

## International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

The ICRC is committed to this project as it engages on the four Humanitarian Principles in a different way. It expands the horizon and shows the parallels between art and humanitarian action. The message and essence of the Humanitarian Principles are common and remain undeniably universal. However, the prisms of reading are different from one individual to another; from one situation to another; and from one culture to another. Overall, photography offers a fantastic opportunity to open a necessary dialogue at a time when our attention spans are dramatically decreasing.

## Photo Elysée

As a museum for photography, we want to challenge the parallelism between art and the Humanitarian Principles and recognise that these principles reach beyond natural disasters as well as wars and are oblivious to age, gender, culture and language. They are equally present in the details of everyday life. Moreover, we consider photography a powerful and relevant medium to offer new perspectives and different representations that echo with societies and the universal issues they raise. In the digital age, many artists challenge new images in their practices. The exhibition offers visitors the opportunity to view the Humanitarian Principles from different angles. As a collection, these photographs remind us not only of the diversity of human experience and the daily presence of humanitarian acts, but also of the versatility and power of the image to convey them.

## Acknowledgements

Photo Elysée, the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ICRC wish to express their deep gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the realisation of this project. Special thanks goes to the artists for their enthusiasm and commitment to this project. We would also like to extend our gratitude to all humanitarian workers around the world for putting their own lives at risk to help the people affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts.

## Conception and Production

This project is the result of a partnership between Photo Elysée and the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in conversation with the ICRC.

**PHOTO  
ELYSEE**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA

# HOME & SPACES

The notion of home is manifold. Commonly understood as shelter, it gives us a sense of security and constitutes more than just a physical home. It emanates a feeling of safety, be it in the domestic, professional, private, environmental or spiritual spheres. Human beings naturally tend to create spaces where they feel at home, wherever they are. The feeling of belonging to a place or a family contributes to our identity formation. It allows us to be ourselves.

For people affected by humanitarian crises, home is much more fluid as a concept when the world around them falls apart and they are forced to leave their cities or countries. Sometimes a home does not exist; sometimes it is very fragile; and sometimes it remains a dream. People reinvent their homes and create a new space where they feel safe. A place where they can bring up their families and build traditions. A place where they can imagine and cherish a future.

# HOME & SPACES ARTISTS' IMAGES



Which places matter to you?

What makes you feel safe?



What does "home" mean to you?

How are domestic sphere and society linked?



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