

Press Release

For Immediate Release

A Testament to Friendship and Freedom: English Edition of *The Dalai Lama & Havel: Warriors for Truth & Love* Launched to Mark Two 90th Anniversaries



Figure 1: Kateřina Bursíková Jacques presenting the book to Czech president Petr Pavel

Brussels/Prague, 12 November 2025 — The International Campaign for Tibet (ICT) Europe, in partnership with the Václav Havel Library, proudly announces the launch of the **English edition of *The Dalai Lama & Havel: Warriors for Truth & Love*** — a timely and inspiring tribute to two extraordinary moral leaders, **His Holiness the Dalai Lama** and **President Václav Havel**, as both would celebrate their 90th birthdays in 2025 and 2026.

Originally published in Czech in 2021, this landmark book by **Kateřina Bursíková Jacques** and **Kateřina Procházková** brings to life the deep friendship between the Tibetan spiritual leader and the first president of the Czech Republic — two men united by compassion, courage, and a shared belief in the transformative power of truth and love.

“The story of friendship between President Václav Havel and the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet clearly demonstrates that features such as compassion, love, tolerance or altruism know no

borders and are universally compelling.”

— **Petr Pavel**, President of the Czech Republic

“This book beautifully captures the friendship of two extraordinary men whose lives remind us that compassion, truth and courage are the greatest forms of leadership. Their example could not be more relevant today.”

— **Richard Gere**, Chairman of the International Campaign for Tibet

The English edition offers readers worldwide the chance to explore, for the first time, the personal encounters and moral convictions that bound Havel and the Dalai Lama — two figures who stood firm against oppression and inspired millions to uphold freedom, dignity, and human rights.

Beyond a portrait of friendship, *The Dalai Lama & Havel: Warriors for Truth & Love* also serves a higher purpose: to draw attention to the ongoing suffering of the Tibetan people and the existential threats facing Tibet’s culture, religion, and environment under Chinese occupation. The book reminds us that the defense of Tibet is not only a moral duty but a test of the strength and integrity of democracy in the free world.

“How we respond to the plight of Tibet,” the authors write, “reveals how strong our democracies are — and how willing we are to defend humanity itself.”

Through the stories of two global visionaries, the publication affirms a timeless truth: that compassion and moral courage transcend nations and generations.

Book Details

Title: *The Dalai Lama & Havel: Warriors for Truth & Love*

Authors: Kateřina Bursíková Jacques and Kateřina Procházková

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Available at: www.savetibet.nl/shop

About the Authors

Kateřina Bursíková Jacques is a Czech human rights expert and government official with a long record of advocacy for democracy and civil society. She co-founded *Czech Support Tibet* and currently serves as Chief Human Rights Ombudsperson at the Czech Ministry of Defence.

Kateřina Procházková is a Czech journalist and China analyst based in Prague. A veteran correspondent for Czech Television and Radio, she now works with Sinopsis/AcaMedia, focusing on Chinese politics and its global influence.

About the International Campaign for Tibet (ICT)

Founded in 1988, the **International Campaign for Tibet** works to promote human rights and democratic freedoms for the Tibetan people. With offices in Washington, D.C., Brussels, Berlin, and Amsterdam, ICT amplifies Tibetan voices and fosters international support for a peaceful resolution of the Tibet issue.

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