

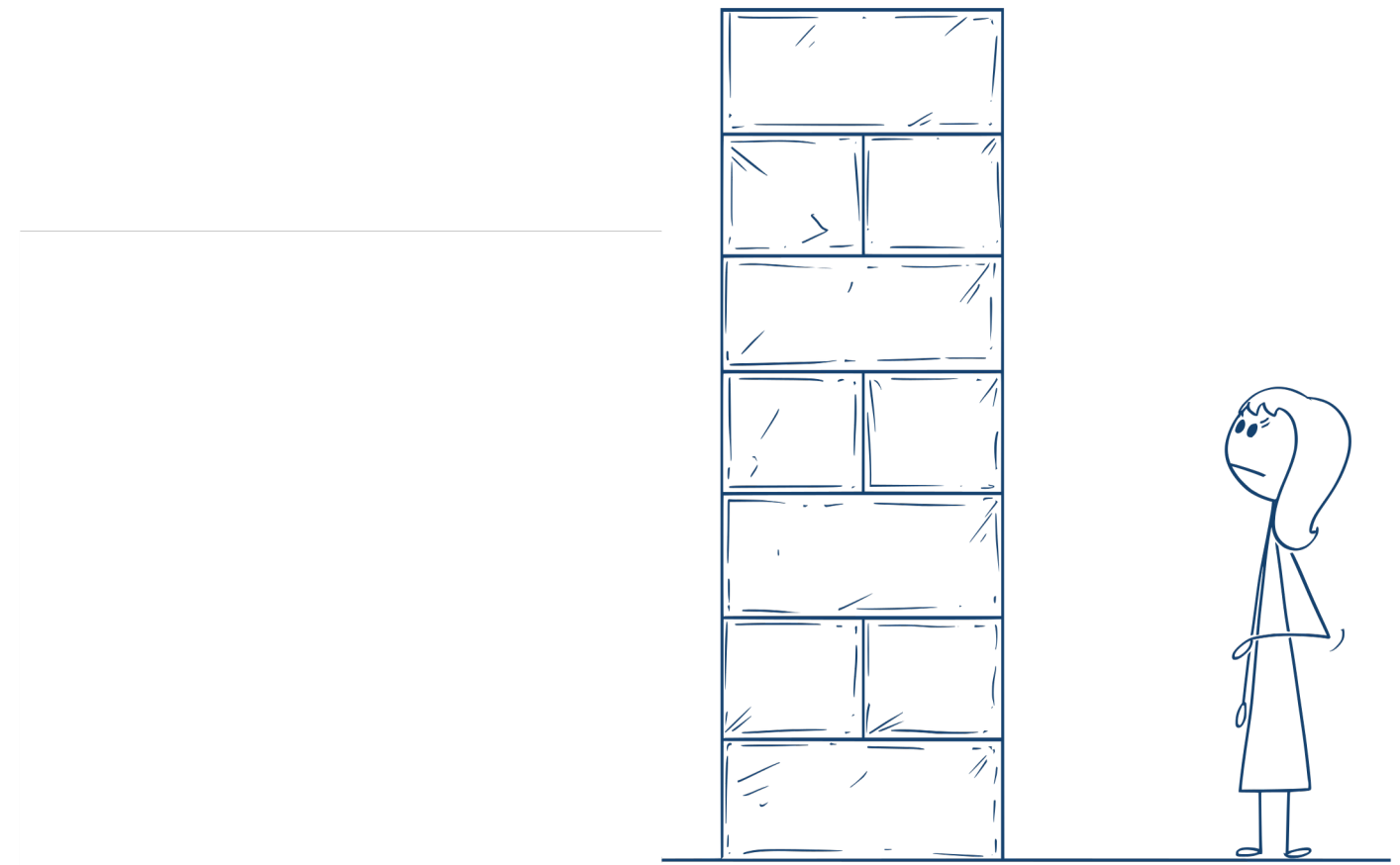
Artsakh women initiate businesses and go through "hell's twists and turns"

They face challenges in renting premises, gaining market recognition, and managing the tax burden etc.

... there are no support programs



Kingdom of the Netherlands





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Coffee lovers will love Ada's apartment. The smell of coffee has captivated it. Ada's "Tesan-Tena" business is there. She started her business in Stepanakert in 2020 after the war and had a small shop.

"After the forced displacement,
my clients asked me to continue
my business in Armenia. You know
about the rents for the premises
– it's very expensive, but we
decided to open."

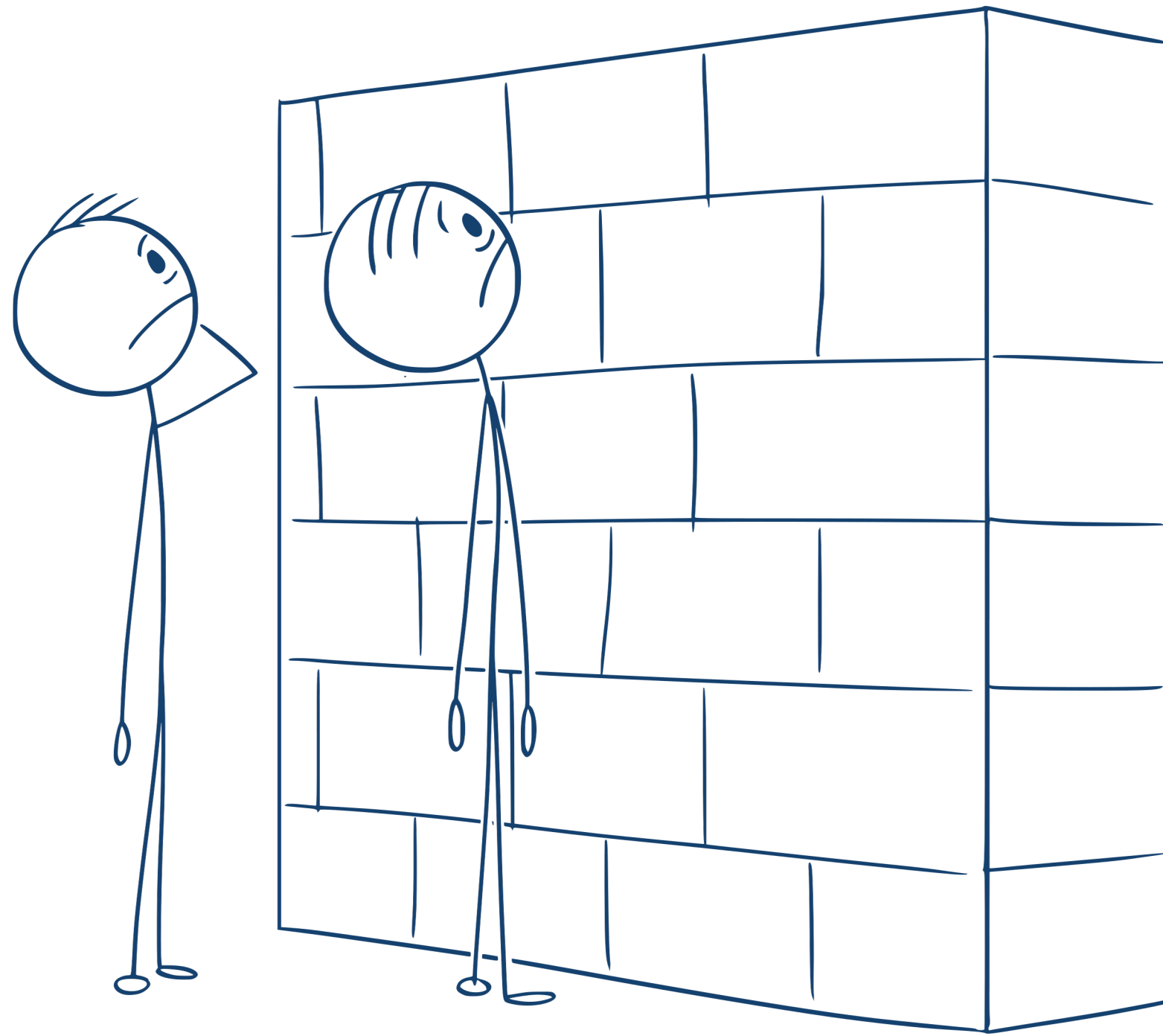
Ada Sargsyan
Founder of the "Tesan-Tenan"



Rents and taxes were high, and the income did not cover the expenses.

After 8 months of struggling, Ada closed the store, but she has no intention of closing the business.





As of January 1, the double increase in turnover tax and all other tax tightening measures also apply to those forcibly displaced from Artsakh who have initiated businesses here.

"This law will also crush local businesses. This will force people to go underground or shut down and leave the country."

Sofia Hovsepyan
Coordinator of the Artsakh Social
Development Foundation



Karine opened the “Ari Ojakh” bakery in Masis because the rental fees for commercial premises in Artashat, where they live, are more expensive.





"There are 4 similar factories next to us in Masis. They have more experience, having worked for a long time. It took me a long time to prove that I also make good bread and that people can buy it from me, too."

Karine Hayrapetyan
founder of "Ari Ojakh"



"If the state helps with finance for 6 months, I will be able to buy at least a refrigerator for cookies and cakes, which is very necessary, but I cannot buy it."

Karine Hayrapetyan



The state has resources and should support the people of Artsakh who have temporarily taken it under its protection. This could be through preferential loans and the provision of commercial premises.

Hrant Mikayelyan
Economist

"Armenia needs to keep the people of Artsakh on the territory of Armenia, and policy should be pursued with that assumption in mind. For example, if people stay or if the whole family stays, then more preferential interest rates on loans should be provided."

Hrant Mikayelyan
Economist

"...The Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia does not implement separate support programs for citizens forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh; however, they can benefit from state support programs developed by the Ministry. We also inform you that the Ministry does not conduct separate registration of citizens forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh."

The Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia

