

Council of Europe
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Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth

COUNTRY SHEET

ON YOUTH POLICY

IN CZECH REPUBLIC



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1. Statistics on young people

Number of all young people from the ages of 10 to 29 who live in the country: 2.534.517 people

Number and Percentage of young people in global population: 24,12%

Number and Percentage of young people by gender in global population:

- Men 10 – 29 years old: 12,43%
- Women 10 – 29 years old: 11,69%

(Data from 31.12.2009)

2. Actors and Structures

2.1 Public authorities

2.1.1 National public authorities:

Ministerstvo školství, mládeže a tělovýchovy (MŠMT) = Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

- Minister: Mgr. Josef Dobeš (Mr.)
- Duration of mandate: 48 months at most (one electoral period in the House of Deputies of the Czech Parliament)

On the national level, the field of children and youth falls within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic. The duration of the minister's mandate is 48 months, i.e. one electoral period in the House of Deputies of the Czech Parliament. The role of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports consists in efficient contributing to versatile development of children and youth, not only from the viewpoint of school education, but also by supporting all the necessary and useful activities carried out in their free time. This is also related to the active cooperation with and support of all entities organizing such activities for children and youth.

Youth Department in the Ministry:

- Main tasks of the Youth department:

The Department's core tasks include legislative and policy issues, the organization and support of international co-operation, support for non-formal education, NGO subsidy policy via Programmes of State Support for Work with Children and Youth to Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations in 2007–2010, the organization of competitions and events, support for gifted and talented pupils and students, participation and volunteer issues, integration of national minorities, and other activities. The Department for Youth Affairs is also the body responsible for implementing the Governmental Policy Concept on Children and Youth 2007-2013, which has been passed by the Czech Government.

- Number of people who work in this ministry in the youth department: 9
- Director responsible for Youth in the Ministry: Mgr. Jana Heřmanová (Mrs.)
- Contact person in the youth department competent for European youth policy: Mgr. Zdenka Mašková (Tel.: +420 234 811 103, Fax: +420 234 811 122, E-mail: zdenka.maskova@msmt.cz)

Other national public bodies who are directly involved in youth policies:

- Other Ministries:

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry for Regional Development, Ministry of Culture

- Offices:

Výbor pro vzdělávání, vědu, kulturu, lidská práva a petice Senátu ČR (Committee for Education, Science, Culture, Human Rights and Petitions of the Senate of the Czech Republic

Parliament commission in charge of youth issues

Name: Výbor pro vědu, vzdělávání, kulturu, mládež a tělovýchovu (Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport)

- name of president / chair: Committee Head: doc. RNDr. Anna Putnová, Ph.D., MBA (Mrs.)

- role and competence:

Podvýbor pro mládež a sport (Subcommittee on Youth and Sport)

- name of president / chair: Subcommittee Head: Pavel Ploc

2.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field

The territory of the Czech Republic is divided into regions (higher units of territorial self-government), consisting of municipalities (lower units of territorial self-government). There are 14 higher units of territorial self-government (=regions). Regions have their own independent jurisdiction (self-governing) and delegated (state administration). Public administration is ensured mainly by the regional authority, which can be divided into departments and sections for particular spheres of activity. The bodies coordinating the activities of the regional authorities are the respective ministries.

Roles and competences of regional authorities in the sphere of youth policy:

Regional authorities elaborate, assess and complement long-term objectives in the sphere of education and development of educational system in the region. They present the long-term objectives and an annual report for the previous year to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and to the Board of Representatives of the region. They deal with the topics brought up by

school councils operating at basic schools. They also cooperate with the Czech School Inspection (Česká školní inspekce). They perform the tasks ensuing from the strategic documents of the region for the spheres of free-time activities, physical education and sports, crime prevention, activities aimed at protection against misuse of drugs, at the problems of national minorities and at the prevention of socially undesirable phenomena. They ensure conditions for the integration of disabled pupils into ordinary schools and educational institutions. They create conditions for the development of free-time activities of children and youth. They cooperate with non-governmental non-profit organizations in materializing the state policy related to the young generation and sports. They are responsible for organizing competitions announced by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic. They are also responsible for materializing the funding programmes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic in the sphere of the integration of the Romani community, education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing. They are responsible for performing the tasks aimed at fulfilling the objectives of the conceptual framework “Environmentální vzdělávání, výchova a osvěta” (Environmental education, upbringing and enlightenment) in the sphere of education.

2.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field

Municipalities have their own independent jurisdiction (self-governing) and delegated (state administration). Public administration is ensured mainly by the municipal authority, which can be divided into departments and sections for particular spheres of activity (Act No. 128/2000 Coll., on municipalities).

2.2 Youth welfare services (comprising public and/or non public actors)

Social services for youth:

Children’s home: Provides for institutional upbringing of children and youth.

Diagnostic institution: Children’s diagnostic institution is a boarding and upbringing institution carrying out thorough and comprehensive psychological and pedagogic examination of children from the age of 3 years up to the age of finishing of their compulsory school attendance.

Children are placed in these institutions based on a decision of the relevant court of justice ordering institutional or protective upbringing, on a preliminary ruling of the relevant court of justice, or based on the respective application filed, via the relevant authorities, by their own parents or guardians.

Upbringing centre: Since 1991, these centres have been a part of the national network of educational facilities for preventative education and upbringing and educational facilities for

institutional or protective upbringing. The purpose of these centres is to prevent the origination and development of negative aspects in the children's behaviour, to prevent the disturbances of their sound development, to mitigate or eliminate the causes and/or consequences of the behavioural problems and negative influences in the social development and to contribute to the sound development of the children's personalities.

Upbringing institution: These are facilities designated for children and adolescents with non-functional family backgrounds or for children or adolescent subject to the decision of the relevant court of justice ordering institutional or protective upbringing, or subject to a preliminary ruling of the relevant court of justice.

Halfway homes: These facilities provide temporary accommodation to people up to 26 years of age who are leaving (due to their becoming adults, as regards their age) educational institutions where they were subject to institutional or protective upbringing, or for young people leaving other facilities providing upbringing to children and youth. These facilities provide such young people with accommodation; support in their integration into the society; assistance in looking for jobs or re-training courses, etc.; therapeutic activities and assistance in securing their rights and interests. The services are provided for fee.

General welfare services for youth:

“Low-threshold” institutions for children and youth: These facilities provide out-patient services to children and youth endangered by social exclusion. This service is designated for children and young people who do not participate in any group activities and who are endangered by socially pathologic phenomena or who have very special ways of life, not accepted by the majority society. The basic instrument for establish contacts with the target group is a suitable offer of free-time activities. The services are provided free of charge.

Pedagogic and psychological consultation centres: They provide consultancy services to children and youth (and their parents) regarding their future career and important life decisions or in case of problems in their upbringing.

Crisis centres for children and youth: These are organizations whose mission is to help children, youth, their parents, relatives or close friends, especially in case of acute crises, such as home violence, drug abuse, psychical insults, etc..

Endowment funds, such as “Fond ohrožených dětí” (= Endangered Children Fund) are unincorporated citizens’ associations providing assistance and help to socially endangered children (maltreated, neglected, abused, forlorn, etc.). Fond ohrožených dětí operates within the territory of the whole of the Czech Republic.

2.3 Non-public actors/structures & youth services with competencies in the youth field

2.3.1 Youth councils

Česká rada dětí a mládeže (Czech Council of Children and Youth)

Česká rada dětí a mládeže (Czech Council of Children and Youth) is a democratic, voluntary association, independent of any political parties or movements. It was established in June 1998 by eight organizations of children and youth. It is the national youth council in the Czech Republic and a reliable partner of government administration. It is composed of almost 100 non-governmental children and youth organizations with more than 205 000 individual members – the organizations range from very small to the biggest ones, 6 regional youth councils are members of ČRD as well.

Its mission is to promote conditions for quality life and overall development of children and young people. The Council fulfils its mission by supporting non-formal education and activities of its members, especially by creating legal, economical, social and cultural conditions suitable for their activities. It represents interests of its members towards home and foreign bodies, organizations and institutions. Its mission is also to support justified interests of children and youth in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child aimed at assist in versatile development of young people as regards their spiritual, psychic, physical and social aspects.

The Council respects the sovereignty and independence of all its member organisations in compliance with their statutes and has towards these no supervisory or senior power, while representing them in dealing with authorities, organisations and institutions both at the national level and abroad.

Moreover, the Council exercises assignments and powers it is charged and endowed with by its members through the Council's bodies.

President: Aleš Sedláček (Mr.)

Czech Council of Children and Youth

Senovazne namesti 24, 116 47 Praha 1, Czech Republic

tel.: (+420) 234 621 209 fax.: (+420) 234 621 541

e-mail: sekretariat@crdm.cz, www.crdm.cz

Regional councils of children and youth:

They associate children and youth organizations on a regional level; they serve as places for promoting the individual associations and other organizations and provide regional authorities with advice on out-of-school upbringing and education. Their mission is to promote the children movement as such, enforce the requirements of its member organizations and serve as the place for mutual communication among its members.

Jihomoravská rada dětí a mládeže www.jmdeti.cz

Rada dětí a mládeže Jihočeského kraje (RADAMBUK) www.radambuk.cz

Rada dětí a mládeže kraje Vysočina www.rdmkv.cz

Krajská rada dětí a mládeže Karlovarského kraje www.volny.cz/krdmk

Aliance dětí a mládeže Královéhradeckého kraje aliancehk.adam.cz

Rada dětí a mládeže Libereckého kraje (RADAMLK) www.radamlk.cz

Rada dětí a mládeže Moravskoslezského kraje (RADAMOK) www.radamok.cz

Plzeňská krajská rada dětí a mládeže www.pkrdm.org

Rada dětí a mládeže hl. m. Prahy www.prazskarada.cz

Středočeská rada pro děti a mládež www.srdm.cz

Ústecká krajská rada dětí a mládeže www.ukrdm.net

Sdružení dětských a mládežnických organizací SPEKTRUM (Zlínský kraj) www.krdmzk.cz

2.3.2 Youth NGOs

Asociace pro mládež, vědu a techniku - AMAVET (Association for youth, science and technology)

One of the most important activities of AMAVET is finding and assisting further development of young people with scientific and technological talents.

www.amavet.cz

2.4 Other structures

Advisory bodies of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

Rada pro zájmové vzdělávání (Council for Free-Time Education)

Komora mládeže (Youth Chamber)

Koordinační rada poskytovatelů informací pro mládež (Coordinating Council of Providers of Information for Young People)

Advisory bodies of the Ministry of the Interior

Akreditační komise pro oblast dobrovolnické služby (Accreditation Commission for the Sphere of Volunteer Service)

Governmental bodies

Rada vlády pro nestátní neziskové organizace (Government Council for Non-State Non-Profit Organizations)

Organizations under direct control by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports:

Národní institut dětí a mládeže (National Institute of Children and Youth) – www.nidm.cz;

Výzkumný ústav pedagogický (Pedagogical Research Institute) – www.vuppraha.cz;

Národní ústav odborného vzdělávání (National Institute of Vocational Education) – www.nuov.cz;

Ústav pro informace ve vzdělávání (Institute for Information on Education) – www.uiv.cz;

Institut pedagogicko-psychologického poradenství ČR (Institute for Counselling in Education Psychology of the Czech Republic) – www.ippp.cz;

Národní institut pro další vzdělávání (National Institute for Further Education) – www.nidv.cz;

Centrum pro studium vysokého školství (Centre for Higher Education Studies) – www.csvs.cz;

Centrum pro zjišťování výsledků vzdělávání (Centre for Evaluation of Educational Achievements) – www.czvv.cz.

Other institutions:

Institut výzkumu dětí, mládeže a rodiny (Institute for Research in the Sphere of Children, Youth and Family) – associated facility of the Faculty of Social Studies at Masaryk University in Brno – <http://www.ivdmr.fss.muni.cz/info/index.php>

Private institutions dealing with research among children and youth:

Insoma, www.insoma.cz; Millward Brown Czech Republic, s.r.o., www.millwardbrown.com;

Median s.r.o., www.median.cz Factum Invenio, s.r.o., <http://www.factum.cz>,

3. Legislation

Articles of the constitution concerning youth explicitly

Resolution of the Presidium of the Czech National Council No. 2/1993 Coll., on the proclamation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms as a part of the constitutional order of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as the “CFRF”)

Country sheet on youth policy – Czech Republic

Article 29 of CFRF

It stipulates the right of adolescents (15 to 18 years of age) to special working conditions, to increased protection of health at work, to special protection in labour relations and to assistance in preparation for professional career.

Article 32 of CFRF

It stipulates the protection of parenthood and family and special protection of children and adolescents (15 to 18 years of age).

Article 233 of CFRF

It stipulates the right to education.

Link: <http://www.psp.cz/docs/laws/listina.html>

National legislation on youth

- Act No. 218/2003 Coll., on the responsibility of youth for illegal acts and on justice procedures in the matters of youth (Act on justice procedures in the matters of youth)
- Act No. 109/2002 Coll., on institutional upbringing or protective care in educational facilities and on preventative custody in educational facilities
- Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on pre-school, primary, secondary, post-secondary and further education (School act)
- Act No. 140/1961 Coll., Criminal Code, Catch VI, criminal offences against family and youth
- Act No. 359/1999 Coll., on social and legal protection of children
- Act No. 94/1963 Coll., on family
- Act No. 262/2006 Coll., Labour Code, Section 246, prohibition of work by adolescents

Regional and local legislation on youth

- Decrees by regional and municipal authorities
- within the scope of their independent jurisdiction (self-governing) they are focused on particular problems
- Orders by regional and municipal authorities
- within the scope of their delegated jurisdiction (state administration) they are focused on particular problems

(Guidelines or Principles concerning youth policy if there is no special legislation on this field)

Conceptual frameworks and programmes on the nation-wide level

- Conceptual frameworks of the state policy for the children and youth field for the years 2007 to 2013

- Collection of methodological texts for the operation of the centres for free-time activities of children and youth, school clubs and after-school centres
- State support programmes for the years 2007 to 2010 aimed at supporting non-governmental non-profit organizations working with children and youth

4. National Programmes on youth

- National Health Programme – launched by the Ministry of Health

Action plans i.e. official strategies

- Conceptual frameworks of the state policy for the children and youth field for the years 2007 to 2013
- Collection of methodological texts for the operation of the centres for free-time activities of children and youth, school clubs and after-school centres
- State support programmes for the years 2007 to 2010 aimed at supporting non-governmental non-profit organizations working with children and youth, especially in the sphere of regular and long-term free-time activities designated for widest possible range of children and youth and supporting the development, widening of the scope and improving the quality of activities carried out by different organizations of children and youth as well as organizations working with children and youth. (support will follow also for years 2011 - 2015)
- Conceptual framework of further education of pedagogic workers in educational facilities for free-time education
- Special grant program "European Year of Volunteering" (ERD 2011)
- National Action Plan for Inclusive Education (is one of the basic framework document aimed at ensuring equal access for all people to education).

Programmes and actions for specific target groups

- Programme aimed at supporting Romani secondary school students
- Programme aimed at supporting the integration of Romani community

These two programmes are launched by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and their goal is to support the activities of judicial persons for the benefit of the respective target groups, to support the development of their cultural activities, education and multicultural upbringing, to support the integration of Romani community into the society, to prevent xenophobia and intolerance.

- Programme aimed at supporting activities in the field of integration of foreigners in the CR in 2010

5. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth

National level:

No information

Regional level

No information

6. European Dimension of youth policy

6.1 Council of Europe programmes or activities implemented in an important way for youth purposes (including funding schemes of the European Youth Foundation)

European Youth Foundation, EU Solidarity Fund, European Youth Centres,

Translation of the publication Compass – handbook of human rights, plus series of lectures for working with this publication

Translation of the publications of the T-Kit series: Project Management, Intercultural Learning, and Training Essentials

Campaign “All Different – All Equal”

6.2 European Union programmes

1) The YOUTH programme is managed by Česká národní agentura (Czech National Agency):

ČESKÁ NÁRODNÍ AGENTURA MLÁDEŽ

Národní institut dětí a mládeže MŠMT

Na Poříčí 12

110 00 Prague 1

Tel./fax: +420 224 872 280

E-mail: youth@youth.cz; www.youth.cz

The YOUTH Programme was implemented in the Czech Republic from summer 2000 to the end of 2006. The total number of grant applications amounted to 2,886 – out of which 1,843 applications were subsidised (63.9 %) by the total sum of EUR 9,599,000. There were 25,741 young people and their coaches (or other people working with them) taking part in the programme in the Czech Republic. The proportion of women was 55 %.

The programme Mládež v akci (Youth in Action) has been being implemented in the Czech Republic since 1st January 2007. So far, there were three deadlines for filing grant applications, in which 337 applications were presented, out of which 139 applications were subsidised by the total sum of EUR 1,428,000. Česká národní agentura (Czech National Agency) has noticed increase interest in cooperation with countries outside EU (Action 3.1); on the other hand, so far, there is relatively low

interest in new actions of the programme entitled Projekty participativní demokracie (Projects of Participative Democracy – Action 1.3) and Setkávání mladých lidí a činitelů zodpovědných za politiku v sektoru mládeže (Meeting of young people with officials responsible for youth policy – Action 5.1).

2) EURODESK:

EURODESK

ČNA Mládež / NIDM MŠMT

Na Poříčí 12

110 00 Prague 1

Tel./fax: +420 224 872 886

e-mail: euodesk@youth.cz; www.euodesk.cz

Eurodesk is a European information network for youth, which provides young people as well as people working with youth useful information on European educational programmes, study and work possibilities, volunteering and travelling abroad. All the information is provided free of charge.

Other EU programmes implemented in an important way for youth purposes

Comenius: The programme focuses on education from pre-school facilities up to secondary vocational schools and it is also open to education staff working with children, pupils and students of these schools. The Comenius programme aims at supporting the pan-European dimension in education, language learning and multicultural approach at schools.

Erasmus: This programme is designated especially for students, teachers and other staff of universities and other higher education institutions, as well as for coaches and instructors from companies and other entities.

Leonardo da Vinci: European programme for support of innovations and improving the quality of vocational education. Its purpose is to enhance vocational expertise of both young people and adults thus improving their employability.

Grundtvig: This programme is focused on learning needs of people participating in all forms of adult education and on the institutions and organizations offering or promoting adult education.

Jean Monnet: This programme supports institutions and activities in the sphere of European integration.

Erasmus Mundus: This programme is focused on supporting cooperation and mobility in the sphere of higher education. It supports high-quality masters study programmes and provides scholarships for visiting students and scholars from third countries willing to take part in these study programmes taking place in EU countries.

eTwinning: This programme is focused on supporting informal cooperation of pupils and teachers in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools in European Union.

Tempus and others

7. Forthcoming events/conferences

7.1 Current developments/plans with regard to national legislation/guidelines

No information

7.2 Current developments/plans with regard to European youth policy priorities

No information