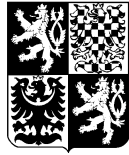


# THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



## RESOLUTION

### OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

No. 669 dated 9 July 2003

concerning the Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002

The Government

I. t a k e s n o t e of the Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002 contained in Part III of submitted document ref. no. 840/03;

II. r e q u i r e s the Prime Minister to submit the Report provided for in point I herein to the Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.

To be done by:  
the Prime Minister

The Prime Minister

PhDr. Vladimír Š p i d l a represented by Mgr. Stanislav G r o s s, the First Vice-Prime Minister



**Report on the Issue of Extremism  
in the Czech Republic  
in 2002**



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Key to Criminal Offences According to the Sections of the Criminal Code

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# 1. Introduction

The “Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic” (hereinafter “the Report”) was drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior along with the Ministry of Justice, although the representatives of the following ministries and organisations also participated in its preparation: the Security Intelligence Service, the Foreign Relationship and Information Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, and the Czech Government Human Rights Council.

**The Report is the consensual view of state administration bodies on the issue in question.**

The objective of the Report is to provide a summary of information on extremist issues (and related issues) in the Czech Republic and the impact that these had on internal security and public order in 2002, and to assess the efficiency of measures adopted by Government Resolutions No. 720/199, No. 684/2000, No. 498/2001, No. 903/2001, and No. 994/2002. An evaluation of how the assignments contained in the Annexes to the Government Resolutions have been met is included in the individual chapters of this Report. The wording of any assignment is always stated in the relevant footnote.

## 2. Term Definition

The term **extremism** should be understood as clear ideological attitudes which deviate markedly from the rule of law and constitutional law, show elements of intolerance, and attack democratic constitutional principles as defined in the Czech constitutional order. These principals are as follows:

- respect for the human and citizens’ rights and freedoms (Article 1 of the Constitution);
- a sovereign, unified, and democratic state of law (Article 1 of the Constitution);
- the inadmissibility of change to the essential requisites of the democratic state of law (Article 9(2) of the Constitution);
- the sovereignty of the people (Article 2 of the Constitution);
- the free competition of political parties respecting fundamental democratic principles and rejecting violence as a means for the implementation of their interests (Article 5 of the Constitution);
- the decisions of the majority respect the protection of minorities (Article 6 of the Constitution);
- all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights; everyone is entitled to imprescriptible, inalienable, not subject to the statute of limitations, fundamental rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status (Articles 1 and 3 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms).

Extremist attitudes are eligible to transform into destructive activities, and, whether directly or in terms of their long-term consequences, act destructively against the existing democratic political and economic system - i.e. they endeavour to replace the democratic system with an antagonistic one (a totalitarian or authoritative regime, dictatorship, or anarchy). This kind of activity is dealt with by the Security Intelligence Service under Act 153/1994 Coll., pursuant to Sec. 5 (a).

Thus the Report uses the unified term extremism for activities aimed at the destruction of the constitutional establishment and the values which this system protects. Extremism usually takes the following forms: historical revisionism, social demagogy, activism, verbal and physical violence against its opponents and against clearly defined social groups, and conspiracy theories. World literature on politics usually distinguishes left-wing from right-wing extremism, as well as religious, environmental and (in some cases) nationalist extremism (regional extremism).<sup>1</sup> The latter three forms

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<sup>1</sup> Certain scientists describe national extremism as ethnic extremism. See for example Zariski R., “Ethnic Extremism Among Ethno-Territorial Minorities in Western Europe: Dimensions, Causes and Institutional

have clearly appeared in the Czech Republic only very rarely, or not all. **Explanation will therefore focus on right-wing extremists (inspired by and predominantly using national, racial, and ethnic hatred, and demonstrating their sympathy with historical fascism and Nazism)<sup>2</sup> and left-wing extremists (motivated mainly by social, anti-cultural hatred and with a liking for historical communism and anarchy).**

Although in an ideal right-left model left-wing and right-wing extremism would represent opposite poles, the reality is more complicated since a role is also played by the social, cultural and historical context in the background of which there are manifestations of those ideal types. This leads to the fact that these opposite poles can show manifestations in individual areas of very different intensities of anti-constitutional conduct, and people can perceive such socially dangerous conduct with a varying sensitivity.

Further to this, the Report contains an evaluation of the impact of extremism on crime and thus deals with crimes arising from extremism. **By the term “crime with an extremist context” this Report means such types of crime which are reasonably judged to have been motivated or influenced by extremist attitudes.** As an alternative, the term "crime motivated by racial, national or other social hate" can be used.<sup>3</sup> This is understood as conduct which fulfils the recognised conditions of the factual basis of a crime or misdemeanour, and is *a priori* motivated by hatred of the race, nationality, religion, class or another social group to which the attacked belongs. A specific example that could be included in this crime category is a crime against the symbols or representatives of an existing social system if it is *a priori* motivated by hatred against it. In reality the following crimes should be considered:

- public menace,
- violence against a group of people or an individual,
- defamation of a nation, race, or conviction,
- incitement of national or racial hatred,
- breach of peace,
- murder,
- injury to health,
- restriction of personal freedom,
- extortion,
- restriction of the freedom of religious worship,
- violation of domestic freedom,
- violation of the freedom of association and assembly,
- damage to another’s property,
- genocide,
- support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms,
- persecution of the population.

On 1 July 2002 Act No. 134/2002 Coll. amending Act No. 140/1961 Coll., the Criminal Code extended the qualified requisites of the crime of “violence against a group of inhabitants and against an individual” under Sec. 196 (2) of the Criminal Code, the crime of “defamation of a nation, race or

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Responses”. In: Comparative Politics 21 (April 1989), pp. 253 - 272. It is currently negligible due to the limitation of the activities of the most militant national supporters of Moravia. Their activities climaxed when the so-called Moravian Provincial Army or Moravian Army of Liberation sent letters written from 1993 until 2001, threatening terrorist attacks against the enemies of Moravia, which, however, remained unimplemented. See the 2001 Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic, The Ministry of the Interior. Security Policy Department. Prague 2002, p. 8, footnote No. 2

<sup>2</sup> According to some political scientists the following types of nationalism are usually related to radical and ultra right-wing organisations: 1. conservative integral nationalism (deification of the own nation to the absolute principle, standing higher than democracy and humanity, requiring legal and social dominance of the own nation even in relation to minorities and foreigners, which does not need to be always connected with a racial understanding of the nation; 2. biological and racial conception of a nation as a community of blood corresponding with Nazism and fascism; and European pan-Aryans corresponding with neo-Nazism.

<sup>3</sup> Similar to “hate crimes”, which is a term used in Anglo-American criminology.

conviction” under Sec. 198 (1) of the Criminal Code, and the crime of “incitement of national and racial hatred or restriction of human rights and freedoms” under Sec. 198a (1) of the Criminal Code, in order to provide penal and legal protection against severe attacks against members of certain ethnic groups. The crime of “injury to health” under Sec. 221 and 222 of the Criminal Code and the crime of “extortion” under Sec. 235 of the Criminal Code against members of ethnic groups have also been modified so that they are stricter. Further, the crime of incitement against a group of persons or restriction of their rights and freedoms under Sec. 198a has been made stricter by adding paragraph 3, pursuant to which (*inter alia*) an offender will be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of from six months up to three years if he/she actively participates in activities carried out by groups, organisations or associations promoting discrimination, violence or racial, ethnic, or religious hate. However what is considered to be most significant is the establishment of a stricter punishment for murder under Sec. 219 (2), by which it is possible to punish with an extraordinary sentence (i.e. a sentence of up to 25 years of imprisonment or a life sentence) a murder committed because of the victim is a member of a certain ethnic group.

It is necessary to state explicitly and definitely that offenders of crimes described in this Report are not automatically to be considered supporters of extremist organisations. On the contrary, in the majority of such crimes it is not possible to prove any relationship between the crime with such motivation and any certain organisation ranked within the extremist spectrum.

So-called crime with an extremist context, as it is described herein, is very often a consequence of a certain extreme situation and in a number of cases it can be objectively doubted whether the attack was really motivated by hatred against a certain group of people or whether it was just an external manifestation of poor interpersonal relations in the context of the situation. Therefore the Report may also include as extremist crimes offences where an extremist motivation cannot be excluded without any doubt, since even criminal offences assumed to be extremist crimes can negatively impact on the stability of society.

## 3. Extremism and its Development in the Czech Republic in 2002<sup>4</sup>

### 3.1 General Characteristics<sup>5</sup>

In 2002, as in previous years, the following extremist movements were active in the Czech Republic:

- Right-wing extremist groups, i.e. neo-Nazi and fascist groups as well as groups showing their hatred for a certain nation; and
- Left-wing extremist groups and organisations (anarcho-autonomous groups, neo-Bolsheviks, and groups or organisations showing their support and sympathy).

**The following text contains the names of actual organisations, including ones registered with the Ministry of the Interior, which form by their activities or personal links a basis (a hot-bed) of logistics and political support for Czech extremism and its criminal manifestations. Unfortunately, in some cases the respective state authority cannot intervene with regard to the position and activities of such organisations as it should under the rule of law applying to civic associations, political parties and political movements. Activists of extremist organisations are well orientated in the legal environment under which they exist, and they endeavour to present**

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<sup>4</sup> The Security Intelligence Service has constantly fulfilled the task contained in item 5 of the Annex to Government Resolution No. 720/1999 (“To create an updated list of individual extremist organisations operating in the Czech Republic, including an estimation of the numbers of their members and supporters, and to monitor their co-operation with foreign extremist groups”), as well as the task based on Government Resolution No. 648/2000 imposed on the Director of the Security Intelligence Service and on the Minister of the Interior (“To submit summary information within the Report on the Issue of Extremism on findings concerning civic associations, political parties and political movements, as well as other organisations registered with the Ministry of the Interior or the Ministry of Culture respectively, if their activities show extremist manifestations or if their activities directly contradict any laws.”) Furthermore the Director of the Security Intelligence Service has met, on an ongoing basis, the tasks included in Item 2 of the Annex to Government Resolution No. 903/2001 (“To draw up, submit to the Minister of the Interior, and regularly update a) lists of right-wing extremist music bands operating in the Czech Republic including a list of foreign right-wing extremist music bands which have performances in the Czech Republic; b) to detail information on all available findings relating to the composition of such bands especially with regard to their links and contacts; c) documents and information on extremist entities mainly those mentioned in the Report on Extremists Issues in the Czech Republic in 2000 (especially ideological sources, membership base, and foreign contacts including information not officially presented”).

<sup>5</sup> Scientists in the field of politics working at the Department of Political Sciences and at the International Institute of Political Sciences and the Institute of Strategic Studies of Masaryk University in Brno deal with the issues of extremism and terrorism (M. Mares, M. Bastl, M. Strmiska and others). The most comprehensive and up-to-date view of the issues of right-wing extremism and radicalism is contained in **Pravicovy extremismus a radikalismus v CR (Right-wing Extremism and Radicalism in the Czech Republic)** by Miroslav Mares, Publishing House Barrister and Principal, The Centre of Strategic Studies, 2003. It is a well-grounded and very extensive monographical book providing, *inter alia*, a comprehensive view of the development of the ultra right-wing spectrum in the Czech Republic after 1989 ( p.175 – 527). With respect to political parties and movements as well as unregistered organisations mentioned in this Report, Miroslav Mares provides sophisticated political analyses of the following entities: Association for the Republic – Czechoslovak Republican Party and the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek (p. 187 – 224), the Right Alternative (p. 224 – 242), the National Unity (p. 247 – 250), the National Party (p. 250 – 254), the Patriotic Front (p. 283 – 296), the National Patriotic Congregation (p. 334 – 335), the Movement of National Unity (p. 312 – 319), the Defence of the Nation (p. 335 – 336), the Mother Country.cz (p. 339 – 341), the National Resistance (p. 489 – 497), the Knights of the Solar Circle (p. 499 – 501), Ahnenerbe (p. 501), the National Socialist Education Centre (p. 502), Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/Auslands- und Aufbauorganisation, the Czech Section (p. 502 – 503), Nordfront (p. 504), the Bohemia Hammer Skins (p. 470 – 473), the Blood&Honour Division Bohemia (p. 481 – 485).

themselves legally to a great extent, i.e. they do not spread their hate directly but they use carefully chosen demagoguery just “on the edge of the law” (see the extracts in the text).<sup>6</sup>

To directly name actual, existing organisations is of a predominantly preventative nature (both towards the public and towards those organisations’ members), and therefore such publication should not be perceived as scandalising those organisations, nor as an effort to criminalise their members. The main intent is to involve all organisations where there is well-founded suspicion of extremism in the sense in which this expression is defined and used in the Report. Merely mentioning a registered organisation in the Report on Extremism does not have any legal consequences as such.

Furthermore, this approach is in compliance with the Conclusions of the Committee for Eliminating Racial Discrimination (CERD), adopted together with the third and fourth Periodical Reports of the Czech Republic, because in terms of its nature such an approach can be considered a **targeted preventative measure**.<sup>7</sup> It takes into account the necessity to pay attention to current as well as newly established organisations, in light of their respective unlawful activities and subject to the fact that such activities could create a background for very dangerous crimes committed by individuals. In addition to the fact that such criminal offences committed by individuals are, no doubt, very dangerous manifestations of extremism, the inflow of support as a potentially wide voter base for extremist organisations is at least equally serious. These are mainly organisations which are trying and will try in the future to enter the political scene in the Czech Republic. **An approach should be found to help Czech citizens in their basic understanding of the extremist scene. One way of doing this is, using sufficient information, to build a barrier against the inflow of new members, and also supporters, of the extremist scene**

Currently, the most radical and the most dangerous entities acting on the extremist scene in the Czech Republic are considered to be the National Resistance (a right-wing extremist, neo-Nazi unregistered organisation) and organisations co-operating with it. Further, with regard to the left-wing extremist spectrum, there is the Federation of Social Anarchists (FSA), primarily the Antifascist Group of the FSA and a group of the Antifascist Action (AFA), demonstrating marked militant features. Moreover in 2002 these entities showed, and it is assumed that they will show in the future as well, an obvious effort to call mutual open, physical clashes.

### 3.2 Right-Wing Extremist Scene

The development of right-wing extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002 demonstrated a trend typical of 2001, i.e. proven efforts to enter the political scene.<sup>8</sup> Significant representatives of the right-wing extremist scene tended to use the platform of civic associations or political parties and

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<sup>6</sup> This situation is not particular only to the Czech Republic, a fact which can be proven by using findings from foreign countries. There are right-wing extremist political parties or various organisations in a number of European countries. To this end we can mention for example the British National Party (BNP) in Great Britain, the Front National (FN) in France and primarily the Nationaldemokratischen Partei Deutschlands (NPD) in Germany and many others.

<sup>7</sup> See **Conclusions of the Committee for Eliminating Racial Discrimination (CERD), adopted on 14 August 2002 at the 57<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CERD (see CERD/C/304/add.109), the Czech Republic**. This approach was also reflected by the Government in its Resolution No. 1225 of 15 November 1999 concerning the Report on Meeting the Commitments of the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination. This Report deals with civic associations which are suspected by the Security Intelligence Service of performing subversive activities. Many of their attitudes can be, anyway, substantiated from open sources, internal materials, etc.

<sup>8</sup> An essential role in this respect was played by the Patriotic Republican Party (PRP), registered with the Ministry of the Interior since 1990, and its new members coming from the registered civic association National Alliance as well as from the unregistered National Resistance. In addition there were members of the registered civic association Patriotic Front.

movements in achieving the aforementioned objective. Undoubtedly the success achieved by foreign right-wing extremists served as a model for them.<sup>9</sup>

In 2002 they deviated from efforts to put themselves across and to become successful in politics on the republic-wide level. They began to focus their attention on municipal policy. However even in this area they did not achieve their expected results. The right-wing extremist scene continued in qualitative changes, however it struggled. The right-wing extremist scene continued their qualitative changes repetition, however it had to fight with the different views of various entities. In spite of efforts taken by activists this political platform has not yet become a unifying element of right-wing oriented citizens.<sup>10</sup> Neither the Patriotic Front, nor the political party National Unity, initiated by the Patriotic Front, nor the National Party which foundation was initiated by the civic association Mother Country. Cz have become entities able to unify the right-wing extremist scene.

In spite of the above-mentioned facts it is obvious that visible movements occurred within the right-wing extremist scene. An impulse for becoming more political was an establishment of the above-mentioned nationalistic political parties the attitudes of which were built on **“the legitimacy to express opinions”** relating to the political situation and society-wide issues. This process was accompanied by some topics such as internal political topics or international political topics they were engaged in. In particular, the increase in their activities against the Czech Republic’s accession to the EU, criticism and rejection of the Czech Republic’s membership in NATO, as well as topics linked to the “Sudeten-German issues” and the role of the Federal Republic of Germany in the European Union, should be mentioned. All of this was supported by distinguished attitudes towards the USA, Israel, and the Middle East as a whole, resulting in criticism of American and Israel foreign policy.

### 3.2.1 Open Neo-Nazi and Fascist Organisations and Associations

#### National Resistance (NR)

This unregistered organisation was established in the second half of 1999 after an unsuccessful attempt to register the civic association Junge Nationaldemokratern (JN). The activities, objectives and strategies of the National Resistance are based on the activities of the Blood&Honour Division(B&H DB).<sup>11</sup>

After its establishment the NR more and more often began to organise demonstrations, rallies and protest marches, and in this field they actively co-operated with other right-wing entities, such as the registered organisations Patriotic Front and the National Alliance which is not currently in existence. In 2001 the National Resistance undoubtedly participated in the foundation of and the activities of the Right Alternative political party (formerly PRP, which publicly presented itself as the National Social Block (NSB)). NR members take part in the activities of the Right Alternative whose membership base of existing or being newly established local organisations to a large extent corresponds with the NR membership base. This movement represents the most aggressive and the most active entity on the right-wing extremist scene. Right-wing extremists from other movements participate in its activities. Such activists are represented by aggressive individuals who master various kinds of fighting styles.

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<sup>9</sup> For information on Western European right-wing extremists see Božena Bankowiczova, Extreme Right-Wing in Western Europe. *Politologická revue* 2, December 2002, p. 42 –58. Information on the nationalistic political concepts of the Czech ultra right-wing see Jan Rataj: Nacionalni politicke koncepty ceske krajni pravice ve volebnim roce 2002 (The Nationalistic Political Concepts of the Czech Right-Wing in the Election Year 2002) , in: Volby, *Acta Oeconomica Pragensia*. a scientific journal of the University of Economics in Prague, No. 4/2002, p. 51- 71. For information on Czech nationalism see Jan Rataj: The Czech Nationalism and Identity in the Concept of the Current Ultra Right-Wing Movements in the Czech Republic. In: *Spory o dejiny IV*. Collection of Critical Studies. Masaryk Insitute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague 2003, p. 44 – 83.

<sup>10</sup> See Pavel Sedlacek, Nothing But the Nation, Integration of the Czech Ultra Right-Wing before the 2002 Elections. 1<sup>st</sup> edition, Prague 2003.

<sup>11</sup> The National Resistance was inspired by German right-wing extremist organisations. The majority of the nationalistic and national-social scene is called Nationaler Widerstand.

The National Resistance does not have any central management, is not based on a hierarchical principle, and operates as an autonomous movement. Its activists work either independently or in groups or cells. This makes infiltrating their organisation more difficult. The fundamental pillars of their activities are “combating communism in all its forms”, the recruitment of new members, and community activities in places of residence aimed at “building up a national liberation zone<sup>12</sup> in the place of activists’ residence”. They profess neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism. This organisation is against the Czech Republic’s accession to the EU. It declares its support of any movement “fighting for its national identity” and explicitly of the Palestinians.<sup>13</sup> During their events they use a black flag which, according to their explanation, “symbolises the current decline of our country and of the whole of our civilisation”.<sup>14</sup>

The members of the NR, who deem themselves to be "authentic skinheads", have taken over the role of former Blood&Honour D.B. in the field where they operate. Apart from organising concerts and the publishing and distributing of the CDs of skinhead bands, they also deal with the sale of trademark clothes and clothing accessories. However NR members are involved in other activities as well.

The following organisations present themselves through their own web sites:

- NR Prague
- NR Ceske Budejovice
- NR Jihlava with the motto: “We are watching the peaceful sleep of our children.”
- NR Svetla n/Sazavou&Havlickuv Brod

On their web site the NR refers for example to the following foreign entities: the British National Party (the United Kingdom), the Front National, Mouvement National Republican (France), NPD, DVU, WiderstandNord, Nationaler Widerstand (Germany), Vlams Blok (Belgium), Sverigedemokraterna (Sweden), European American Nationalist News, New Nation News (the USA).

## Activities in 2002

In 2002 a trend of the NR to return to the actions organised “in the street” instead of applying political ambitions was confirmed. The largest NR demonstration was held on 1 May 2002, with the participation of about 350 persons. This demonstration was meant to demonstrate force in relation to left-wing extremists.<sup>15</sup> The NR expressed its anti-system attitude in its rejection of the opinion

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<sup>12</sup> “An interview with a free nationalist”: “...This can be achieved just by such activities. By recruiting potential supporters you will get “manpower”. By carrying out community activities you will win over local inhabitants and by fighting with the opposition you can paralyse it in the place of your residence. In such a moment you’ve just built up a small “national liberation zone”, you’ve created a small island of freedom.” Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

<sup>13</sup>: “An interview with a free nationalist” where it is stated that: “The struggle of the Palestinians against expansive and racial Israel is an example for us which should be recognised. By wearing a Palestinian scarf we are expressing our symbolic support of their struggle against Zionism which, by the way, does not threaten solely Palestinians.” Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

<sup>14</sup> “An interview with a free nationalist” where it is stated that “the black flag appeared for the first time in the hands of National Resistance activists during the demonstration held to honour “the last victim of the World War Two” on 21 August 1999” (Note of the author: it was held to commemorate Nazi war criminal Rudolf Hess). Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

<sup>15</sup> In its comments relating to the May Day demonstration published on the NR’s web sites they state in the introduction, *inter alia*, the following: “Each action calls for reaction. Frequent violence of the so-called Anti-fascist Action against young nationalists and activists of the national opposition called unusual solidarity among the NR scene. The majority of our friends have understood that violence on the side of left-wing activists is not only part of various demonstrations but it is calculated and focused on individual groups of the national scene and randomly also on young people who, in their appearance, look like right-wing radicals. Although the so-called AFA operates mainly in Prague, an increase of left-wing supporters is considerable in Brno and in South Moravia. Thus activists of the National Resistance refused to celebrate this year’s May Day in Prague and decided to face left-wing violence in Brno”. Downloaded on 22 April 2003. The NR tried to call a confrontation with AFA members again on 8 June 2002 while celebrating the 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany. See the same web sites.

concerning the results of the Parliament elections held in June 2002.<sup>16</sup> In connection with the November NATO Summit held in Prague, the leading NR activists discussed and planned actions that were aimed mainly against left-wing radicals and extremists. Due to security measures taken in Prague the planned attacks did not occur.

Compared with 2001 the NR organised less concerts; however its efforts to produce and distribute CDs with right-wing extremist recordings continued. Contact between leading personalities with similarly focused foreign persons and organisations were recorded.

In 2002 NR activists started to create a database, similar to the AFA database, of persons ranking among left-wing radicals and extremists, with the objective of disclosing on their web sites as much personal data as possible, including their places of residence and employment, with an appeal to attack them.<sup>17</sup>

### **Defence of the Nation (DN)**

An unregistered organisation which came into existence in the skinhead environment operates in the Mlada Boleslav District. Since 1999 it has been trying to achieve registration with the Ministry of the Interior.

At the very beginning it considered itself to be a successor of a rebellious organisation of the same name from the period of Nazi occupation. With the gradual change of the Defence of Nation's leaders it has shifted ideologically from Czech nationalism towards neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism.

This organisation publishes a journal called Defender.

It also operates with a group considered to be local hooligans who support the Mlada Boleslav football club. During the course of 2002 DN members participated in some other events organised by other right-wing extremist organisations.

### **Movement for National Unity (MNU)**

An unregistered organisation showing fascist elements was established in Brno at the beginning of 1996. It is a fascist, hierarchical, leader type organisation. This organisation openly models itself on the former Franco and Mussolini regimes. The MNU programme also involves **anti-Semitism and racism**. Its publicly declared objectives are "corporate democracy", a ban on abortion and pornography, radical solutions to the drug problem and manifestations of anarchy, and a halting of the inflow of economic refugees from the third world and their settling in the Czech Republic. They also reject the Czech Republic's efforts towards integration. This movement shows sympathy with an international organisation called the International Third Position (ITP). This organisation publishes a journal called Slovanska hraz (Slav Barrier).

### **Activities in 2002**

In 2002 a certain dampening of its activities was seen. In spite of this fact, MNU members turned up in 2002 in the list of candidates of the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek for the elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, however they were on such places on the lists that they did not have any chance to be elected. With regard to the NATO summit this organisation participated in organising demonstrations aimed against NATO and the EU in Blansko in

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<sup>16</sup> See the statement of the Action Committee – Bohemia concerning the Parliament election results of 18 June 2002 stating: "...A ballot does not change a wrong system. But our resistance can change it! Thus the election results do not change anything for us, the activists of the National Resistance. Our struggle for freedom, right and our cultural survival continues! Every day it must be more intensive. **The longer we allow the System to be in power, the longer we will have to rectify the damage caused by it.** Boycott the official policy and build autonomous, free structures of national resistance. **Revolutionarily, freely, together.** – **Action Committee-Bohemia**". Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

<sup>17</sup> For example on the Jihlava NR web sites in the section "Monitoring" there are names of alleged activists of the AFA, anarchists, punks, and hippies, as well as "the most aggressive Gypsies". See the Jihlava National Resistance. Downloaded on 22 April 2003. The Prague National Resistance in the section called "Anti- Antifa" provides information on anarchist groups operating in the Czech Republic, and on trades supporting the AFA. In the photo gallery, which was last updated on 31 May 2002, they disclosed "well-known anti-fascists found" and "wanted antifascists" whom they need to find the identity of relating to the published photographs. See the same web sites. Downloaded on 22 April 2003



which about 50 persons took part. It also participated in the establishment of the National Unity political party which did not impact on the independence of this unregistered organisation.

### **Knights of the Solar Circle (KSC)**

An unregistered organisation with its seat in the North Moravian Region. The KSC was established in 2001 as an association helping imprisoned skinhead movement members. It does not have a firm membership. It has supporters both in the North Moravian Region and in Silesia, as well as in the Czech Republic as a whole, in the Slovak Republic, and elsewhere. The largest part of its supporters is registered in the Karvina District, followed by the Havirov, Opava, Olomouc, Ostrava, and Vsetin Districts. There are about 40 registered persons. The activities of the KSC show strong elements of racism and anti-Semitism. The KSC has links to similar associations operating in Slovakia under the name of “the Clan of Slovak Knights – CSK”, utilising the same means as the KSC to enforce their aims.<sup>18</sup>

### **Activities in 2002**

In 2002, as well as in 2001, this organisation endeavoured to support emotionally and financially individual skinhead movement members who had been apprehended for their unlawful conduct. This was assistance to persons charged with a crime - so called POW, i.e. “prisoners of war”,<sup>19</sup> in current criminal proceedings or assistance whilst in jail or in custody. Such assistance consisted of arranging collections of money to pay attorneys and similar activities, but it lay also in providing their prison addresses to other skinhead movement members who then exchanged letters with them and supported their ideological conviction in the prison. It published a number of publications in the form of 'zines or CDs and in 2002 offered 16 various titles, all racial and anti-Semitic. In addition to the most widely spread, **INNOCENT**, it distributed also **AHNENERBE**<sup>20</sup>. ‘Zine pages of **INNOCENT**, an aggressive publication promoting German Nazism render homage to Nazi leaders, described as defenders of the white race, publish articles dealing with the history of individual Nazi military groupings, along with articles aimed at racism and anti-Semitism. The distortion of history and manipulation of historical facts serve to justify Nazism. These documents are distributed in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia. To spread these materials the KSC organisation utilises Internet domains and e-mail addresses, some of which are also outside the Czech Republic - webhosting is located in the USA.

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<sup>18</sup>The KSC have links to the organisations called the Freedom Flames and the foundation fund Fiducia. See ‘zine **Innocent**, 2000, No. 3.

<sup>19</sup> P.O.W. is an abbreviation formed from the English words ‘*prisoners of war*’, which has been used by KSC members while in this connection **the war is understood to be the war with the SYSTEM, i.e. with the current state establishment or state power respectively.**

<sup>20</sup> **AHNENERBE** was the name of the “research institute” established by Reichsführer SS Heinrich Himmler. This “Society for Studies of Ancestors’ Heritage” dealt, apart from with occultism and astrology, intensively with archaeological research. H. Himmler was convinced that, with the help of various methods which led into experiments tested on concentration camp prisoners, the origin of the Nordic race would be revealed. On the Internet there are also web-sites of neo-Nazi organisations known as **AHNENERBE (HERITAGE OF KITH AND KIN)**. The appellation of the organisations demonstratively expresses a principle of kin relations which was represented in Nazism, and represents today for neo-Nazis the reason for their association. The presentation of this organisation was published on the web sites as follows: *“AHNENERBE is a national socialist organisation, the aim of which is mainly popular cultural activity, i.e. to publish and distribute pro-Arian journals, publications and other documents. Our creed is “Am Ende der Sieg!” This simple slogan explicitly expresses everything which is the objective of our work, which we believe in, and which we struggle for. We do not conceal our conviction and we openly declare that we recognise only one political system and one leader for whose bequest we are willing to sacrifice all! Heil Hitler!”* On these web sites were available neo-Nazi journals **AHNENERBE No 1** and **DIE TREUE No 1**, publication called **88 ZAKONU (88 Laws)** ( by David Lany, *the gallery of paintings of Rudolf Hess*, and poetry known as **WHITE POWER**. According to available information these pages have been cancelled (as of 22 April 2003)

## NORDFRONT

On the Internet there were also web-sites of an association known as Nordfront. The web-sites offer to interested parties NS games, MP3, war artefacts, 'zines, comics or information on Celts and Vikings, and the opportunity to publish articles and opinions. The sites presented especially an article dealing with the tactics of the fight of “patriots” under the name “*Options of Our Current Combat*”.<sup>21</sup> The author evaluates various approaches according to the following variations:

- to get rid of any similarity with skinheads, to change the style of clothing and presentation of themselves;
- “to mitigate” opinions presented, to talk about problems lying heavy on people in a given region - mainly about social or ecological issues; and to offer solutions and attract people to their side, representing the optimal yet long-term variation of the “struggle”;
- to lead violent combat according to the example of The Order, which, however, does not seem to be optimal in given circumstances and could lead to the “definitive end of all pro-national organisations which would be the end of hopes”,<sup>22</sup>
- to infiltrate police forces and to put out feelers as to what and when an intervention against N.S groups and individuals is being prepared, and to inform them;
- to bribe policemen, while concentrating on policemen working in anti-extremist groups, and to gather findings on their weaknesses (alcohol, prostitutes, gambling etc);
- to infiltrate various “fighters for human rights”, as for example people from the Antifascist Action, etc.

The statement is finished with the following words:

*“These are roughly all the alternatives which came across my mind. The time will show which is the most beneficial, however the truth is only one and THE TRUTH WILL WIN over this rotten system which denies the fundamental principles of reason and belief. **The day will come when traitors appearing every day on television will be hanged and their children will be under interdiction for the crimes committed by their parents.** We perhaps will not be alive to see it but our successors will and therefore do not give up our struggle, not to be lost, and do not be spoken about as about those who rather did not see and did not hear. It is only up to us how we will struggle, stand up and FIGHT, otherwise we will be deceased. 14 WORDS -whitecop-”.*<sup>23</sup>

## **Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/Auslands- und Aufbauorganisation (NSDAP/AO) – the National Socialist German Workers Party /Foreign and Fundamental Organisation and the National Socialist Education Centre (NSEC)**<sup>24</sup>

At the turn of 2000/2001, documents drawn up by the NSDAP/AO were disclosed on the Internet in the Czech language<sup>25</sup>. **So far five volumes of Internet NS News have been published**<sup>26</sup>.

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<sup>21</sup> Downloaded on 22 February 2002.

<sup>22</sup> Concerning this variant the author points out the different situation between Czech and American organisations, and problems with raising funds for weapons and building training camps. In addition he/she states: *“If, despite these facts, somebody would like to prepare for armed struggle, I recommend contacting an organisation in the former USSR where there are training experts such as Afghan veterans or KGB spies who will initiate you into the secrets of enciphering and diversion. There is the advantage of the high corruption of civil servants who, for a dollar given underhand, cease to see anything. I do not see this option as appropriate, however time will show”.*

<sup>23</sup> Downloaded on 22 February 2002.

<sup>24</sup> The National Socialist Education Center (NSEC) was established on 25 September 2000 after “the opinion was reached that the education of today’s supporters of National Socialism and Arians in general are one of the most important elements required for the final victory of our Arian Race”, downloaded on 3 June 2002.

<sup>25</sup> Downloaded on 31 May 2002. Organisation Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/Auslands - und Aufbauorganisation (NSDAP/AO) was established in the USA in 1972 by an American citizen of German origin – Gary Rex Lauck, who uses his German first name Gerhard. He was born in 1952 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and since his childhood he has inclined to Nazism. AO abbreviation meant only “Auslandsorganization” (foreign organisation) and related to his operations in the USA. After an illegal network of this organisation was built in Germany it gained another significance, namely that of “Aufbauorganisation” (fundamental organisation). NSDAP/AO requires permission for NSDAP to be a political party which would be eligible to participate in the German elections. Its target is to establish a national-socialist state in a free, sovereign and newly unified Great

They contain articles on historical personalities of Nazism and reports dealing with national-socialism, particularly with NSDAP/AO. **The sites are located on the US server.** In terms of their content of national socialism, racism and anti-Semitism, this organisation is an important distributor of neo-Nazi materials.

On 19 March 2002 the Nationalist Socialist Education Centre – NSEC - became an official ally of NSDAP/AO, which from this date has been in charge of the Czech section of the organisation.<sup>27</sup> Among the books offered on their web-sites for download there are “Mein Kampf” by Adolf Hitler, “White Power” by G.L. Rockwell, a leader of the American Nazi party, “Protocols of Zionist Wise Men” “Anglo – Jew Alliance” by Wolf Meyer Christian, and “An International Jew” by Henry Ford.<sup>28</sup>

In connection with unregistered groups we can mention supporters of the “**Czech Fascist**” movement recruiting mainly among skinheads. Their part is active in North Moravia particularly in the Karvina (about 30 persons) and Jeseník (about 39 persons) Districts. This “movement” does not have a fixed membership base. Ideologically it professes national-socialism. It speaks of second-rate races (Romans and Asians) and enforces Czech nationalism. It uses symbols of the Third Empire and three sevens in a circle representing South African apartheid.

### ***Organisations which did not perform any activities in 2002***

#### **Blood & Honour Division Bohemia (B & H DB)<sup>29</sup> Bohemia Hammer Skins (BHS)**

Unregistered skinhead organisations.

In 2002, as in 2001, no notice of organised activities carried out by neo-Nazi groups Blood&Honour DB and Bohemia Hammer Skins as Czech branches of supranational organisations was registered in the Czech Republic.<sup>30</sup> This was related both to the dampening of their activities in previous years and changes in the right-wing extremist scene itself.

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German Empire, and to achieve a new order on a racial basis in the whole Arian world. These objectives should be achieved mainly through the distribution of press materials, especially a journal called NS Kampfruf published since 1973. Recently also by providing Internet services including the spread of neo-Nazi computer games or by operating Internet radio broadcasting. G. Lauck has focused for quite a long time predominantly on Germany, however currently he is distributing materials in many other “Arian” languages, among others, in Japanese. Thanks to orthodox Nazism and an unwillingness to adapt Hitler’s original thoughts to nowadays reality, NSDAP/AO is often perceived by right-wing extremists in the USA as well as in Germany as an “Action –unable curiosity” without any actual influence. Materials distributed, for example stickers with a Nazi flag and signs such as “*Wir sind wieder da!*” are quite popular souvenirs for young neo-Nazis.

<sup>26</sup> The following issues are taken into account: No. 106(200/2001), No. 110 (2001/2002), No. 111 (Spring 2002), No. 112 (Winter 2002/2003), and News of the NS from 2001 not dated.

<sup>27</sup> See Nazi Lauck NSDAP-AO NS News Bulletin 106- Czech version. Downloaded on 3 June 2002 from the Internet.

<sup>28</sup> In News No. 112 NS it is stated: “In 2002 this web-site was visited by 25 million of people, Hitler’s Mein Kampf was downloaded 50,000 times...now we can produce CDs and DVDs. Within the last four months of 2002 two dozen original films of the Third Empire and books with English or German comments were published on DVD. Our A3 printer which was bought at the beginning of January started to print journals and books ...” Aggressive messages can be found in the section called “Letters to the Editor”. Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

**Poor Czech and bad spelling mistakes are typical of these web-sites.**

<sup>29</sup> This is not only an English name of a group or a movement but it is an **appellation which intentionally uses one of the principal slogans of Hitlerjugend**, which is “**Blood and Honour**”.

<sup>30</sup> It is possible to download Blood&Honour Division Bohemia web-sites with the heading in the English language “Blood&Honour Bohemia Strikes Back!” However only two blocks of four offered are accessible. They are again only in English. The first of them is “Rudolf Hess Home Page”, last update is from 4 April 2003 saying that this is an “apolitical web-site. We do not participate in and do not support any neo-Nazi activities.”. The second one is Blood&Honour Worldwide Links.

### 3.2.2 Organisations Registered or Applying for Registration with the Ministry of the Interior

**The Right Alternative (RA), formerly the Patriotic Republican Party (PRP), presenting itself publicly in 2001 as the “National Social Block” (NSB)<sup>31</sup>**

The current name of this political party was registered by the Ministry of the Interior on 29 November 2001.

**Chairman:** until March 2002 Jan Kopal, now allegedly Ludek Hlinka

**Honourable Chairman:** Miroslav Rousek, a former immigrant, current publisher of a regional newspaper – Nachodsky Necas<sup>32</sup>

**Registered seat:** Prague

**Local organisations** of the Right Alternative operated in the following municipalities:

Prague, Valasske Mezirici, Veseli nad Moravou, Karlovy Vary, Svratouch, Jablonec nad Nisou, Hradek nad Nisou, Klenci pod Cerchovem, Rakovnik, Olomouc, Zabreh na Morave, Jihlava, Pilsen, Usti nad Labem, Ceske Budejovice, Most, Tanvald, Roudnice nad Labem, As, Vsetin, Pribram, Litomysl, Litvinov, Pisek, Bystrice nad Pernstejnem, Chomutov, and Liberec.<sup>33</sup>

#### Published Periodicals

- the official periodical NARODNE SOCIALNI VYZVA (National Social Call). The journal of contemporary patriots, and members and supporters of the National Social Block. (Editorial board: NSB Jihlava, chief editor – Michal Podolak; distribution – NSB Svratouch)
- AKCE (ACTION). The magazine of national revival.
- NACHODSKY NECAS (NACHOD UNTIMELY)

*AKCE which is registered with the Ministry of Culture ranks along with NACHODSKY NECAS among periodicals the intention of which is to promote the Right Alternative.*

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<sup>31</sup>Establishment genesis of the Right Alternative: the Ministry of the Interior registered in **1990** a political party under the name *the Radical Republican Party* with its registered seat in Brno. Afterwards this party changed its name several times, while in 1995 it was renamed as *the Patriotic Republican Party*. The main programme objectives of this party were contained in the “Complete Political Programme of the Patriotic Republican Party”. They were formulated very generally so that they did not leave the bounds of other political parties and their programmes and did not break the legal framework. This party publishes its journal, called VLASTENEC (PATRIOT), in Ostrava. In **2000** the 6<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Congress of the PRP was held on 5 August. Changes to the party management and commissions were made at this Congress. Its seat and the Statutes were changed as well, and these changes were registered with the Ministry of the Interior (15 September 2000). Since the above-mentioned Congress, the PRP has actively participated in events organised by right-wing extremist entities where the Secretary of the PRP, Jan Kopal, has made speeches side by side with representatives of the National Alliance, Patriotic Front, National Resistance, or National Revival. A part of the members of the National Alliance (NA) as well as a part of the members of the unregistered National Resistance (NR) organisation entered the PRP at the beginning of 2001 with the intention of initiating substantial changes within the party. On **3 March 2001** the 7<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Congress of the PRP was held and proved to be a successful culmination of such tendencies. The whole management of the party was recalled along with the members of the Supervisory and Audit Commissions and the party decided on changing the name to the National Social Block (NSB) and also on changing the coat of arms of the party. This Congress also approved another change – the modifications to the Statutes being, *inter alia*, the aforementioned alteration of the name to “National Social Block” (“NSB”). Despite the fact that the Ministry of the Interior refused to register the changes to the Statutes, thus rejecting also the change of the name from the Patriotic Republican Party to the National Social Block, this party presented itself publicly for the whole year of 2001 as the National Social Block which, however, did not exist legally.

<sup>32</sup> According to some information Miroslav Rousek has left the Right Alternative (RA) together with Jan Kopal, and therefore he should not act as honourable Chairman. Allegedly the Nachod Necas averted from the Right Alternative.

<sup>33</sup> Kopal’s management states that they have established local organisations in 40 municipalities of the Czech Republic.

**Nowadays the Right Alternative is not practically functional.** It does not have any presentation on web-sites, and its original web-sites have been discontinued.

### **Activities in 2002**

The declared priority of this right-wing extremist party in 2001 was to achieve election success in 2002 that would guarantee its entrance into real policy and bring profits from Parliamentary seats awarded. In March 2002 Jan Kopal “was removed” from his office of the Chairman. He left the PA and became a member of the National Democratic Party for which he also became a candidate for a Deputy of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament. In his office of Chairman he was allegedly replaced by L. Hlinka. With regard to J. Kopal’s dismissal the management of the Right Alternative changed completely. After he left he was to allegedly co-operate with Witiko-Bunde, the most radical part of the Sudetendeutsche Landsmannschaft. Changes in management led, apart from other things, to the fact that the Right Alternative did not submit the intended list of candidates for 2002 June elections to the Chamber of Deputies. Candidates of the Right Alternative appeared in November municipal elections, namely in Rakovnik and in the capital city of Prague, in particular in Prague 12, where they however did not succeed.<sup>34</sup>

### **Patriotic Front (PF)**

Since 17 June 1993 the PF has been registered with the Ministry of the Interior as a civic association under Act 83/1990 Coll. on Associations of Citizens.

**Chairmen:** The PF’s first Chairman was Jiri Fiedler from Brno who, in 1999, was replaced by Ing. Miroslav Knapovsky, (the original Chairman of the local Patriotic Front organisation in Ostrava). He was followed by Jan Skacel, elected to the head of the PF at the Republic Congress held in Pardubice on 17 April 2000. After the resignation of Jan Skacel, **David Machacek** was elected a chairman at the PF Congress held in September 2001 and he chairs the party today.<sup>35</sup>

**Registered seat:** Prague

**Local organisations** (the most important ones): Praha, Ostrava, Kladno, Brno, Chrudim, Ceske Budejovice, and Pardubice.

**Estimated total number of registered members:** about several tens of members. The majority of members and supporters are young, nationalistically orientated people who ranked or have ranked among skinheads. However, this organisation also hosts people who have never had anything in common with skinheads.

**Periodicals: Obrana naroda (the Nation’s Defence)** (1996 – present)<sup>36</sup>, **Hlas narodni mladeze (the Voice of the National Youth)** (1997 – the end of April 1999). Furthermore, the Patriotic Front has its own Internet newsletter called **Zpravodaj Vlastenecke fronty (Newsletter of the Patriotic Front)** (1996 –present)<sup>37</sup>.

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<sup>34</sup> 15 persons having an average age of 21.87 years stood for the PA. In Rakovnik four candidates of the PA received 221 votes (0.24%), of which the largest number (90) was given to Vladimir Skoupy; in Prague 11 candidates of the PA received PA 1,965 votes (0.00%).

<sup>35</sup> PF Chairman, David Machacek, who after being elected on 17 September 2001 stated to the Czech Press Agency that “he intended to maintain the legal statute of the movement with the aim of extending its activities”, and that “ it was necessary to gain especially young people for nationalistic ideas and his intention was to train them”.

<sup>36</sup> The journal named Obrana naroda was, starting from its first issue of 2002, to be published independently without any links to the Patriotic Front. It was published by Miko Press, especially as a consequence of conflicts between Mgr. Frantisek Rozhon and PF Prague management.

<sup>37</sup> The authors of the web-sites for “Zpravodaje Vlastenecke fronty” (Newsletter of the Patriotic Front) partially moved to the Newsletter prepared by editors of Obrana naroda (Nation’s Defence) and Narodni myslenska (the National Idea).

The PF came into existence within the skinhead movement, from which it has, over the course of time, partially separated and developed its own ideological profile.

In 1999, the Ministry of the Interior notified the Patriotic Front that they had been performing activities contradicting Section 4 of Act 83/1990, Coll. on Associations of Citizens, and in compliance with this Act they were asked to cease such activities. Reprehended shortcomings were immediately removed.

The PF tries to cast doubt upon the civic principle, which is the basis of the Czech democratic system, and instead they promote a principle according to which citizens are given rights and freedoms based upon their ethnic or national origin. The PF applies this ideological concept publicly by refusing to offer advantages to minorities, by fighting against possible positive discrimination through the requirement of giving everybody the same opportunity. This kind of demagoguery is generally used by right-wing extremists all over the world, which means that their legal recourse is quite complicated.

In addition to regular club activities, the Patriotic Front operates publicly by organising various demonstrations, concerts and similar rallies, by distributing leaflets and publishing a range of publications which are either distributed in an environment friendly to their ideas, or through Internet web-sites.

In the past PF members often participated in public events along with the skinhead organisation which is currently not active, Blood&Honour D.B. (1998), or with the no longer existing organisation National Alliance or the unregistered National Resistance (1999, 2000). The PF maintains numerous contacts with foreign ultra-right-wing organisations and entities and has close links to domestic right-wing extremists belonging to skinhead or neo-Nazi movements. In contrast to neo-Nazi groups, the PF is more anti-German.

### **Activities in 2002**

Although it is gradually loosening its influence on the right-wing extremist scene it can still be considered a very important entity. It was the membership base of the Patriotic Front from which the following right-wing organisations recruited: the civic association **MOTHER COUNTRY. cz**, registered with the Ministry of the Interior in Autumn 2002, and a new civic association known as **the Czech Patriotic Front (CPF)** with its seat in Ostrava, registered on 6 December 2001 with the Ministry of the Interior by persons having links to the PF<sup>38</sup> as well as two nationalistic political parties, **the National Unity (NU)** and **the National Party (NP)**, registered with the Ministry of the Interior in 2002.<sup>39</sup>

The National Party (NP) was established from the civic association MOTHER COUNTRY.cz. The Patriotic Front directly participated in establishing the National Unity political party.

The PF co-operated with similarly focused organisations and arranged some events or at least participated in their organisation (a march against bolshevism – 27 April 2002, or the commemoration of General Gajda – 16 February 2002). Among its foreign partners it preferred the French Front National (FN).

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<sup>38</sup> Stanislav Bzonek, Miroslav Hlinka, Mgr. Frantisek Rozhon and Ladislav Svoboda were the members of the Preparatory Committee.

<sup>39</sup>In 2000 the PF particularly strove to penetrate the Czech political scene. The then PF Chairman, Jan Skacel, wanted to found a new political party as soon as possible under the name **The National Unity** which would profess the heritage of a party which performed under the same name in the Czech Republic in the 30s of the last century, under the leadership of K. Kramar. The aim was also to preserve the civic association Patriotic Front. Nevertheless, this political party was registered as late as in 2002 after the PF Chairman resigned in September 2001 and devoted himself fully to foundation of this political party. Contrary to the National Alliance and the National Resistance this party decided to enter the political scene using the “classical” way of setting up a new party. A part of the membership base separated from the PF in July 2000 under the leadership of M. Knapovsky and established a **civic association – the Mother Country.cz**. Soon after its establishment, the members of the association Mother Country.cz attempted to found their own political party, which was supposed to operate under the name **National Party** and their intention was to compete with other registered right-wing extremist entities. The Ministry of the Interior rejected their application for the registration of the National Party since it did not meet all legal requirements for registration. As a consequence of a dispute among the preparatory committee members, two preparatory committees were established. They developed activities aimed at submitting a new application for the registration of the National Front.

## **National Unity (NU)**

A political party registered with the Ministry of the Interior on 12 April 2002.

Chairman: Mgr. Jan Skacel<sup>40</sup>

Vice-Chairman: Ladislav Svoboda

Registered seat: Prague

The bodies are as follows: the Republic Congress, the General Board, the Control and Auditing Commission, and the Court of Conciliation.

The National Unity began to issue an internal information irregular periodical called *Otevri oci* (Open Your Eyes).

This party professes traditions of the political party established by JUDr. Karel Kramar on 28 October 1934 and performing under the same name in the First Republic. The party describes itself as “a national political party following the National Revival and originating from the cultural traditions of Christianity and Classical times”. It defines itself as being against NATO, the Czech Republic’s accession to the European Union “an artificially created” multi-cultural society, against drug legalisation and against so-called “registered partnership”.<sup>41</sup> It is for “maintaining national states on the European continent since only their existence guarantees development in Europe and its civilisation values”.

### **Activities in 2002**

On 23 June 2002 the Constituent Congress of the NU was held where the Manifesto of the Party was adopted. Further the NU disclosed on its web-sites the “NU Economic Programme Related to Ecological and Social Market Economy”. The NU co-operated with the National Party, discussions were held on the possible unification of the National Democratic Party with the NU reflecting mainly current financial problems. Even possibilities of a protest against the Prague NATO Summit were considered, however the party management eventually rejected such ideas. NU representatives participated in activities carried out by similar right-wing extremist entities.<sup>42</sup>

The most important activity of the NU was participation in the November municipal elections. The NU lists of candidates contained, apart from its own members, also members of the National Democratic Party (NDP) and candidates who were not members of any party. In total there were 153 persons having an average age of 37.7 years. The NU received the most votes in Prague, 4,164 (0.03%), and in the Central Bohemian Region 3,923 (0.06%); however generally this party failed in these elections.<sup>43</sup> The former chairman of the Right Alternative, Jan Kopal, who was in the same elections a candidate for the National Democratic Party, became a member of the NU.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> The former chairman of the Patriotic Front civic association.

<sup>41</sup> See the National Unity: Who We Are. What We Want. What We Reject. Downloaded on 22 April 2003. An interview with Ladislav Svoboda, the NU Vice-Chairman, who defined the philosophy and sense of the NU. Published by Obrana naroda IV/September 2002. Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

<sup>42</sup> For example on 28 October 2002, on the anniversary of the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, representatives of the NU, Patriotic Front and other entities held speeches at Palacky Square. After that there was a march to Vysehrad and participants chanted mottos like: “Nothing else but the nation, Bohemia to Czechs, we do not want what is not ours, but do not give away what is ours”.

<sup>43</sup> For why the NU participated in the November elections see Frantisek Nonnemann: The National Unity and Municipal Elections. Results of Municipal Elections. See <http://volby.cz>

<sup>44</sup> See “An open letter to the President of the Republic prof. Ing. Vaclav Klaus, CSc – a letter of a member of the National Unity to the President of the Republic dated 5 March 2003”. In his letter Jan Kopal addresses the President of the Republic as a leading representative of the NU in the case of conviction of V. Pechanec for racially motivated murder and asks him to instigate investigations into this case and consider an option to grant a pardon. Jan Kopal states: “I’m writing to you in relation to the case of Vlastimil Pechanec who was on 4 March 2003 found guilty by the Prague High Court of so-called racially motivated murder and sentenced to an unconditional sentence in the term of 17 years. It is an obviously unjust judgement affected by political pressures which would lead to our liquidation. It is not a public secret that Vlastimil Pechanec was not a murderer. At the same time the name of the murderer is declined in all cases in all journalist lobbies of courtrooms....The term “racially motivated murder” is strange, vague, purposeful and in a way it is a product of topsy-turvy racism. It is

Activities of 2002 are followed by NU attitudes in 2003. Currently the NU calls citizens to express in the referendum their disapproval of the Czech Republic's accession to the EU. The NU issued a "proclamation to the intervention to Iraq", etc.

The future objective of the NU is to take over the power and to initiate a range of changes, however they **do not declare a violent form of taking over power**".<sup>45</sup>

### **National Party**<sup>46</sup>

This political party came into existence as a result of the decision issued by the Supreme Court on 31 October 2002 after the party filed for a remedy. The Constituent Congress of the National Party which confirmed the Political Programme as well as priorities and guidelines for the next year and elected executive bodies of the party, including the new chairman, was held in Prague on 1 March 2003.<sup>47</sup>

Chairman: Mgr. Petra Edelmannova

Deputy-Chairman: Michal Polanecky

Registered seat: Prague

The party publishes: Edition Narodni politika (National Policy). The first issue of this edition was published in February 2003.<sup>48</sup>

This party actively presents itself on its web-sites.

The National Party declares itself to be "a party of patriotic focus, primarily orientated towards conservatism and national traditionalism". Its objective is to "defend Czech identity and national interests". In its "Political Programme" the party strongly emphasises for example "a strong national state, the system of direct democracy, strengthening of the state authority" (points 1, 2, 3). In point No. 4 it defines its opinion on immigration policy, national minorities – ethnic groups, where it stands for "making immigration policy stricter, setting up clear and uncompromising rules for granting state citizenship". Furthermore, this party "is against providing any advantages to ethnic minorities, i.e. against positive discrimination and it will stand up for so-called equality before law and obligations".<sup>49</sup> It is essentially against the Czech Republic's membership in NATO and against its accession to the EU.<sup>50</sup> As an alternative to membership of the EU it offers "co-operation on the basis of a Europe of

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essentially used only in the cases of killed Gipsies, although such murders are motivated by a lot of other things including everything else except for racial hate. A murder is a murder and should be followed by the same act and not by increasing the terms of those sentenced according to the ethnic origin of a victim on the basis of the discretion of courts and personal decision of judges...".

<sup>45</sup> According to the opinion of a political scientist, M. Mares "...It will not probably strive to proclaim expressly antidemocratic opinions. The prospects of gaining a relevant position in the system of political parties are low. Nevertheless, the National Unity owns a certain potential to integrate Czech nationalists from different organisations". See M. Mares, *Right-Wing Extremism and Radicalism in the Czech Republic*, p. 250.

<sup>46</sup> The establishment of the National Party was initialised in the civic association Mother Country. cz founded by former members of the Patriotic Front in 2000. **The Security Intelligence Service includes this political party among nationalistic extremist entities.** The monographic book written by political scientist M. Mares (*Right-Wing Extremism and Radicalism in the Czech Republic*, p. 254) focuses on this political party.

<sup>47</sup> Pavel Sedlacek was a chairman of the preparatory committee of the National Party, while Mgr. Petra Edelmannova was its Deputy-Chairman.

<sup>48</sup> Pavel Sedlacek, *Nothing But the Nation. Integration of Czech ultra-right-wing entities prior to the 2002 Parliamentary election*. The first edition. Prague 2003.

<sup>49</sup> See the Programme of the National Party. Downloaded on 28 April 2003. This party for example gives a voice against "economic migration", "revision of the Benes' Decrees", expresses the idea of establishing "patriotic home-defence – the National Guards", is against "any drug legalisation", and stands up for the "renewal of the death penalty", etc. Downloaded on 28 April 2003.

<sup>50</sup> In this respect it founded the National Press Centre (NPC) as an integral part of an on-going project No-to EU. According to its declaration the NP "concentrates information concerning the EU, integration conditions and forced accession to the EU. The NPC enables the publication particularly of commentaries of independent publicists, political scientist and economists..." Downloaded on 28 April 2003.



nations and a Europe of democracies” This is for example its project “NO to EU” and “EU-thanasy campaign of the national countries”. At the same time it declares its refusal of “European isolationalism and national chauvinism”.

### **Activities in 2002**

In 2002 this party co-organised activities of related right-wing extremist entities it co-operated with during the whole year. In November 2002 (22 November) it arranged demonstration against the Prague November Summit where the speeches of its foremost representatives could be heard. With regard to the fact that it was officially established in October 2002, its activities have been more visible since 2003. With respect to this it is possible to mention for example the commencement of the campaign NO to EU, organisation of the International Euro-sceptical Congress in Prague (8 February 2003), and a demonstration against “settlement of the Sudeten-German Landsmanschaft in the Czech Republic (1 April 2003).

The future goal of the NP is to take over power and to perform a number of changes; however they **do not declare a violent means of taking over power**..<sup>51</sup>

### **The National Patriotic Congregation (NPC)<sup>52</sup>**

This organisation was registered with the Ministry of the Interior on 29 May 2000 as a civic association.

**Registered seat:** Tisnov na Morave

This organisation closely co-operates with the Patriotic Front. It requires the creation of a strong national state and within the framework of classical right-wing extremist issues it clearly declares itself to be against drugs, homosexuals, etc.

### **The Republicans of Miroslav Sladek (RMS)<sup>53</sup>**

A political party registered with the Ministry of the Interior on 25 January 2001.

**Chairman:** PhDr. Miroslav Sladek

**Registered seat:** Prague

**Seat of main secretariats:** Prague, Havlickuv Brod, Brno

**Periodicals:** Republika (Republic)

The Republicans of Miroslav Sladek follow ideologically the AFR – CRP. They promote EURONAT on their web-sites.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> See the interview of the NP Chairwoman for Free Newspapers, vol 2003, No. 1, published in the opinions section on the NP’s web sites, in which she answers a question about how she sees NP chances in the next Parliamentary elections: “According to the analysis of the election results from 2002 prepared for us, a strong, contemporary, pro-national party honourably and consistently defending national interests has an election potential between 7 and 9 per cent. In the case of all right-wing parties standing for elections being connected so that they do not compete one another, this potential would considerably increase. NS Through our work we are heading towards electoral success”

<sup>52</sup> **As a matter of fact according to the Security Intelligence Service the National Patriotic Congregation ceased its existence.**

<sup>53</sup> The Ministry of the Interior registered a political movement named the **Independent Republican Youth** on 12 July 2000. **The Congress held on 9 December 2000** in Prague adopted changes to the Statutes under which the movement has transformed into a political party named **the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek**. The Ministry of the Interior registered this change on **25 January 2001**.

<sup>54</sup> See Us and Europe. Downloaded on 25 June 2001. **Euronat (established in 1997)** and its satellite youth organisation **Euronat Jeunesse (established in 1998)** on the occasion of 14<sup>th</sup> summer university organised by Front National de la Jeunesse, which is a satellite organisation of Le Pen’s Front National) **represent a free association of extreme national European political parties**, chaired informally by a French nationalist, Jean-Marie Le Pen. The objective of this association is mainly to co-ordinate the joint procedure of these political parties against European policy and Euro-Atlantic Security integration. An attempt to establish a Europe opposed to the USA and a Europe of nations rank among the basic objectives of the Euronat association. **A Europe of nations is declared by the Euronat as an alternative to a unified Europe. The Euronat professes ideological resistance against globalisation.** The political parties associated in the Euronat, *inter alia*, endeavour to set up a

**The 2002 Programme of the Republicans** "fully corresponds in all its items to the denunciation used by the former AFR – CRP. Its objective is to seize power and make a wide range of changes; however, it does not openly declare this."

### Activities in 2002

The activities of the "new" political party were in essence preparations for both the Parliamentary and Municipal elections. An unambiguously declared aim of the RMS was to gain deputy seats in the Czech Parliament. On 15 – 18 February 2002 the Czech delegation, led by M. Sladek, participated in the presidential convention of the Front National of J. M. Le Pen, in Lyon. The Czech delegation addressed the present members of the European Parliament and asked them to provide the supervision and assistance of foreign representatives during the course of Parliamentary elections in the Czech Republic and when votes are counted.<sup>55</sup> Soon after this event, on 24 February 2002, the second part of the 1<sup>st</sup> RMS Congress elected Miroslav Sladek to be chairman of the RMS.<sup>56</sup>

The RMS neither succeeded in the Parliamentary elections nor in the November regional elections. In the June Parliamentary elections they received only 46,352 votes (0.97%), the majority of these in the Usti Region (1.89% votes), followed by the Moravian-Silesian Region (1.12% votes) and the Central Bohemian region (0.96% votes).<sup>57</sup> In the November elections the RMS did not achieve any extraordinary success either.<sup>58</sup>

This party continued its orientation towards European nationalistic political parties and entities. During the course of 2002 they declared their attitude of rejection towards Czech Republic's accession to the European Union and criticised Czech membership in NATO. The motto of the RMS remains "Europe of Nations".<sup>59</sup> From the beginning of 2003 this kind of language became stronger both in *Republika Weekly* and in the presentation on the RTMS web-sites.

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new national right-wing in the European Parliament after the elections which are to be held in 2004. Also the chairman of the former AFR – CRP used to be mentioned in connection with the Euronat. The ideological principals of the Euronat Jeunesse are identical with the principals declared by the Euronat. The First assembly of the Euronat Jeunesse was held in September 1998 in Madrid and another one was organised in Rome in the same year. In May 1999, a National Youth Holiday was organised in Paris under the auspices of Euronat Jeunesse.

<sup>55</sup> See *Republika Weekly*, No.11, 14 March 2002. Downloaded on 2 April 2002 from the Internet.

<sup>56</sup> The first part of the RMS Congress was held on 30 September 2001 in Havlickuv Brod. The Congress was attended by foreign guests such as the vice-chairman of the French Front National Dominique Chaboche and chairwoman of the Belgium New Front Marguerite Bastien. After a temporary board of the party was elected the Congress was closed and the election of the party's chairman was postponed until 2002. The Congress deputies approved the draft programme thesis.

<sup>57</sup> **340 persons stood as RSM candidates in the elections to the Chamber of Deputies.** Their average age was 47.18 and there were only 19 women. The majority of the candidates (165) was in the age group of 50 years and over, whereas in the age group of 21 – 29 years there were only 45 RMS candidates.

<sup>58</sup> The RMS chairman, Miroslav Sadek, stood in his place of residence, Brno – Utechov (for Independent Candidates – Security and Prosperity) and first became the Deputy Mayor. He is currently the Mayor.

<sup>59</sup> "The European Union is the end of our country, the end of political and economic sovereignty and the end of self-sufficiency in agriculture, it is also the end of our language and culture". See the 2002 Republican Programme. Downloaded on 25 April 2003. **On 17 – 19 January 2003 RMS representatives participated in Moscow in the first World Congress of Patriotic Parties held on the initiative of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia chaired by V. Zirinovskij.** M. Sladek participated here in two TV shots. This Congress "should meet in plenary session annually. In the meantime the Committee should work. This arrangement would solve current problems, prepare the next Congress and ensure the practical co-operation of participating political parties in their struggle against the efforts of globalisers and their supporters to liquidate nations and national states. This Committee will, *inter alia*, assess the conditions for holding plenary meetings of the Congress." The delegates adopted as their motto the statement of Jean- Maria Le Pena "**Patriots of All Countries Unify!**" See *Republika*, vol. XIV,2003, No. 4.

## Extracts from “The 2002 Programme of the Republicans”<sup>60</sup>

### **Section 1 - Family**

#### ***We propose:***

(Point 4) *“To amend the tax system to allow a decrease in income tax according to the number of children. Flat child allowances are only a transitional phase since they do not distinguish between individuals who work, and parasites living off the number of children. Therefore we are proposing to decrease the income tax of a working parent by each child so that with 5 children no income tax would be paid. **This would automatically exclude those groups of the population which use child allowances as the source of their living and bring disadvantages to citizens of high integrity and those people who are economically active**”.*

### **Section 3 - Immigration**

*“Our principal efforts are to reject a multicultural society on behalf of saving our national identity”.*

#### ***We are proposing:***

(Point 1) *“To terminate refugee inflow using strict controls on our national border so that crossing our border would be made impossible for persons without our entrance visa”.*

(Point 2) *“The unification of families causes a further inflow of refugees who follow the first groups. **We are for the uniting of families and we will support it, but exclusively in the country of their origin**” ...,*

(Point 5) *“To implement an effective procedure of expulsion of illegal immigrants. They will be uncompromisingly, and as quickly as possible, returned to the country of their origin. They will not be entitled to any allowances or support and for the period between their apprehension and expulsion they will be guarded in a special (detention) facility”.*

### **Strengthening and protecting nationality with respect to form and content**

(Point 1) *“Czech nationality is reserved for all children who come from a Czech father and a Czech mother. The right to vote is given only to citizens of Czech nationality.”*

(Point 3) *“It is necessary to condition the acquisition of citizenship by strict verification, examination of language, culture and spiritual values, and knowledge brought to our nation. The same applies to certificates of the guarantors of a candidate for Czech citizenship. The same procedure applies in the event of a marriage as for example in Switzerland, where the approval of a local council and neighbours is required.”*

(Point 4) *“The loss of citizenship should be introduced for all naturalised persons who commit serious criminal offences such as murder, terrorism, kidnapping, child abuse, rape, or drug trafficking. **Having regard to humanitarian reason the loss of citizenship applies to the whole family since it is not in our interest to split the family apart.**”*

(Point 5) *“**It is absolutely essential to prefer our nationality while preserving or applying for a job or while allocating social flats. Child allowance and any other social benefits must be reserved only for Czech nationals.**”*

### **Dissolved Parties<sup>61</sup>**

#### **The Republican Youth (RY)**

This organisation has been registered with the Ministry of the Interior since 18 July 1997. The Constituent Congress of the Republican Youth was held on 24 October in Prague.

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<sup>60</sup> Downloaded on 3 April 2002.

<sup>61</sup> The Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic shall always mention only those entities dissolved by the Ministry of the Interior in the year evaluated in the relevant Report. This is the reason why the text does not include information on the civic association National Alliance (NA) which ceased its existence on 15 April 2001. See 2001 Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic, the Ministry of the Interior, Prague, p. 24.

**Chairman:** Martin Zbela<sup>62</sup> (since 24 October 1998 when he was elected to this office by the Constituent Congress of the RY)

**The seat of the Central Council of the RY:** Prague

**Provincial Board in Bohemia:** Prague, the provincial head - Jiri Stepanek

**Provincial Board in Moravia:** Brno, the provincial head - Pavel Prochazka

**Provincial Board in Silesia:** Karvina, the provincial head - Martin Kleinedler, the provincial secretary - David Dembiński.

**Dissolution:** The Ministry of the Interior decided on the dissolution of the Republican Youth (the RY) on **5 February 2002**.<sup>63</sup> The decision of the Ministry of the Interior was confirmed by the Supreme Court on **13 December 2002**, and it came into force on **30 January 2003**.

This organisation functioned as an organisation of young people for the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek (formerly the Association for the Republic – Czechoslovak Republican Party = AFR – CRP). Its members were recruited also from among skinheads, and co-operation with the political party called the Right Alternative and the civic association Patriotic was seen. This organisation is strictly against the situation: “*when individual nations are losing their identity and are gradually giving over their political as well as economic powers to multinational institutions*”. It inclines to the views of Euronat Jeunesse (the European National Youth). Its orientation with European right-wing extremist entities is supported by the links on its web-sites.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>62</sup> M. Zbela was at the 6th Congress of the SPR-RSC (AFR – CRP) held in Ostrava on 28 March 1998, elected to the Board of the AFR – CRP, and simultaneously became the head of the Secretariat of the AFR – CRP. He was confirmed in this office on 9 December 2000 at the Congress of the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek. At the same time he is chief editor and publisher of Republic Weekly. He was a candidate of the RMS for the 2002 Parliamentary election in the Region of Karlovy Vary.

<sup>63</sup> The RY prepared for the election year of 2002. The programme it wanted to implement was disclosed on its web-sites. As a satellite organisation of the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek’s political party it included among its political aims, for example: “*the rejection of the Czech Republic’s membership of supranational organisations such as NATO or the European Union*” and “*the requirement to declare the neutrality of our country*” (Policy and Army, item IV). It also declared some of the following attitudes, such as: “*We reject any advantages given to various ethnic groups, mainly Gypsies, in their enrolment at secondary schools and universities (Education, point VI)*” or “*Finally, to resolve the issue of ethnic groups being unable to adapt, for example Gypsies – inter alia, by the renewal of certificates of native domicile, by eliminating all unjustified advantages, etc. Nobody may and nobody will be a parasite on our society (Security, item III)*”, and in addition they require “*the state to cease the inflow of refugees from third countries*”, and “[*the state*] to forbid anarchist and other groups which by their activities negatively influence the healthy development of youth (Security, item VI)”. The programme of the Republican Youth was assessed by the Ministry of the Interior as being discriminatory and, with regard to the part called “Policy and Army”, as inconsistent with Section 1(3) (a) of Act No. 83/1990 Coll., which excludes from the regime of this Act the association of members of these forces in political parties and political movements. Therefore the Ministry applied against this association a call under Section 12 (3) of Act No. 83/1990 Coll. on 27 July 2001. The opinion of the RY on the call in question, submitted to the Ministry of the Interior on 1 November 2001, stated the alteration of item II of the “RY Programme” by omitting the words “*by renewal of certificates of native domicile*”. The truth is that as of 31 January 2002 the “RY Programme” was still presented on the Internet sites of this association in its original version, which means that the association continued the activities which the Ministry of the Interior objected to. As a consequence the Ministry proceeded to dissolve this organisation. Downloaded on 18 April 2002.

<sup>64</sup> The links are to the web-sites of the Front National and its youth organisations FNJ-Front National de la Jeunesse -le site officiel whose motto is “La France aux Français!”, as well as to other similar entities. We can find among them for example alleged members of Euronat such as Alianca Nacional (Portugal) Democracia Nacional (Spain), Ellinico Metopo (Greece), Slovenska narodna strana (Slovakia), Partituda România Mare (Romania), Sverige Demokraterna Ungdom (Sweden), Isänmallinen Kansalliset Liitto (Finland), or so-called observers such as Vlams Blok Jongeren (Belgium), Deutsche Volkunion - DVU (Germany) or MIEP (Hungary). The British National Party is also named among allied entities.

## Activities in 2002

The activities of the RY were marked by the February dissolution of the civic association by the Ministry of the Interior as well as by the upcoming elections in which some RY members stood. In 2002 as well as in 2001 the most active RY Provincial Board was in Karvina which started to operate under the **RY – National Resistance of Silesia**. It also has well-wishers in the districts of Opava, Olomouc, Ostrava, Vsetin, Sumperk, and Jeseník, and it is headed by David Dembiński and Martin Kleinedler. According to police findings the RY – National Resistance - has links to the PF and RA in the District of Ostrava. In 2002 the District of Karvina, especially in Havířov, and the Districts of Vsetin, Olomouc, and Opava saw an increase in the operations and activities of the RY – National Resistance of Silesia - and of the Right Alternative.<sup>65</sup> Their well-wishers are the bearers of a new strategy of concealing activities, and moreover it is a strategy focusing on violent action. They continue to aim against all so-called “inferior races” that are considered to be expressly Romas and then all dark skinned persons, Jews, physically and mentally disabled persons, and sexual deviants. In 2000 they continued to publish a periodical of the RY of the Moravian Silesian Region called “Student Torch” of which the editor-in-chief is D. Dembiński.

After the Supreme Court confirmed the decision of the Ministry of the Interior the former provincial leader of the RY – Bohemia, Jiri Stepanek, established a political party known under the name of **New Force**, which was registered by the Ministry of the Interior on **20 December 2002**. The Constituent Congress of this party was held in Prague on 18 January 2003 and adopted the change of its name and renamed it “**Workers’ Party**”. This change was registered by the Ministry of the Interior on 22 January 2003.<sup>66</sup> Jiri Stepanek was elected the Chairman while the former chairman of the Republic Youth, Martin Zbela, became the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman of the party. This party was also open to youth over 15 years of age (the Youth of the Workers’ Party – YWP), who become candidates of membership in the WP. The party takes an opposing position towards membership of NATO, the Czech Republic’s accession to the EU, and criticises phenomena accompanying the integration of the Czech Republic in to Euro-Atlantic structures.<sup>67</sup> The first public WP’s presentation was held during the manifestations organised under the name “With Citizens About the EU”, arranged by the National Party (17 March 2003).<sup>68</sup> *On the first Congress of the Workers’ Party (WP), held on 31 May 2003, the central bodies of the party were elected. Tomas Vandas became the Chairman and Jiri Stepanek the Vice-chairman of the party.*

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<sup>65</sup> For example on 24 February 2002 the Right Alternative organised a gathering in Valasske Meziřici (with the participation of about 15 persons and further there were present about 100 anarcho-autonomous supporters); on 23 March 2002 they held the demonstration of the Republican Youth “Against Bullying on the Side of the Ministry of the Interior” – with the participation of about 15 persons; on 21 August 2002 there was an assembly of right-wing extremists commemorating the anniversary of occupation of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic by the Warsaw Treaty Armies, and on 28 October 2002 a similar gathering was held in Ostrava to celebrate the national holiday of the Czech Republic.

<sup>66</sup> This Congress adopted the constituent manifesto of the Workers’ Party beginning with the words: “WE, citizens of the Czech Republic, are becoming anxious about the current economic situation and social policy of our country, losing our trust in current political representation seething with corruption and rushing only for posts, we decided as a protest against the sloppy work of politicians and mainly as our obligation which we owe to the future generations of our beloved country, to establish a brand-new social movement – the Workers’ Party”. The introductory preamble of the party’s programme then reads: “The Workers’ Party pursues a view that radical changes can be achieved only by real – radical – opposition”.

<sup>67</sup>: With regard to the issue of asylum seekers the Chairman of the party, J. Stepanek, in the article “The Czech Republic Must Not Become an Asylum Country” says: “...In the majority of cases, refugees applying for asylum do not want to adapt to cultural customs and the ways of life of our country. They arrogantly insist on preserving their, for us, unacceptable life and cultural customs. It is not a manifestation of xenophobia but a mere fact when we are saying that thanks to refugees from the Balkans and the former USSR, tuberculosis, which had been almost wiped out, spread again. There is a serious danger of spreading AIDS which can be spread, apart from by homosexuals, also by immigrants from Africa...” Downloaded on 23 April 2003.

<sup>68</sup>The Workers’ Party prepared without any larger response an event to be held in Prague on 1 May 2003 connected with the commemoration of the 113<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the workers celebration of May Day and with the official presentation of the first number of the renewed publishing of Worker’s Papers founded in 1872.

## 3.3 Left-Wing Extremist Scene<sup>69</sup>

### 3.3.1 “Anarcho-autonomous” Scene

The anarcho-autonomous scene was also in 2002 marked by its division according to membership in individual organisations since their activities did not succeed in unifying it on the basis of a programme enabling the coexistence of various streams of opinion.

A doctrinal discrepancy between the Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists – Solidarity (the ORAS) and the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (the CSAF)<sup>70</sup> on one side, and the Federation of Social Anarchists (the FSA) on the other side, has continued.<sup>71</sup> This fact has been proven by controversy appearing on the ORAS and the FSA web-sites.<sup>72</sup> In 2002 the FSA continued to be in isolation within the anarcho-autonomous scene, contrary to the AFA, which is trying to maintain contact with all anarcho-autonomous entities. The AFA, rather, is inclining towards the FSA, mainly because some AFA members are simultaneously active in the FSA. The aforementioned discrepancy substantially weakens the anarcho-autonomous scene, particularly in its ability to unify all entities at least during significant events.

The largest and the most important anarchist organisations operating in the Czech Republic have remained the following: **the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (formerly the Czech Anarchist Federation), the Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists – Solidarity (ORAS) on one side, and the Federation of Social Anarchists (FSA) on the other side.** A common manifesto of these three organisations is the rejection of the state, and of a capitalist organisation of the economy. Contrary to the CSAF, the ORAS and the FSA emphasise purely political activities. An essential role on the anarcho-autonomous scene is still played by the **Antifascist Action (the AFA)**.<sup>73</sup> Recently the radicalisation of certain groups in connection with “street storm troops” has been seen, which is a favourite way of fighting the skinhead movement. **From a police point of view (endangering the public order and the carrying out of crime) the Antifascist Action together with the Federation of Social Anarchists within with the Antifascist Group FSA rank among the most dangerous entities of this scene**

In 2002 most activities carried out by such entities aimed at preparing protest actions against holding the November NATO Summit in Prague. At the same time a new trend was recorded – important events were transferred outside Prague. The reason could be both concerns as to the preparedness of the Prague police and the efforts of extremists to take advantage of lesser experience police forces outside of Prague. This concerned also for example May Day celebrations which have been every year in Prague accompanied with fights between left-wing and right-wing extremists and

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<sup>69</sup> The latest attempt to describe the phenomenon of the radical left in the period of the past twelve years is the work of Brno political scientist M. Bastl: “Radikalni levice v Ceske republice – devadesata leta 20. stoleti” (The Radical Left in the Czech Republic – 1990s of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century), published by Mezinarodni politologiccky ustav MU (International Institute of Political Sciences of Masaryk University), Brno 2002.

<sup>70</sup> According to the findings of the Security Intelligence Service the Czechoslovak Anarchist Association (the CA) mentioned in the Report on the Issues of Extremism in 2001 did not develop any activities; its last known event was anarchist May Day in 2001.

<sup>71</sup> **The Federation of Social Anarchists (FSA) considers itself to be the only authentic anarchist organisation in the Czech Republic.**

<sup>72</sup> These are disputes among members of both associations focusing on the issues of the dictatorship of proletariat and power, in which the ORAS is, according to its opinion, unjustly denounced as professing Marxist ideology and is not far from Leninism. See for example the essay “In Defence of Communism or the Misery of Left-Wing Theories”. Contained in Alarm, Internet newsletter of the Libertinien Communism. Downloaded on 22 April 2003.

<sup>73</sup> See Martin Bastl, Anarchismus v Ceske republice (Anarchism in the Czech Republic). In: Stredoevropske politologicke studie, vol. 4, 2000, No. 4. <http://www.iips.cz/cisla/texty/komentare/anarch400.html>. The CAF was founded in 1995. In 1996 a Moravian syndicalist group “Solidarity” separated from it and became a foundation stone of the Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists - Solidarity (ORAS). In 1997 another group separated from the CSAF and this group established the Federation of Social Anarchists a (FSA).

the police. At the end of 2002 the activities of entities operating on the anarcho-autonomous scene were dumped. This was probably caused by unsuccessful protests against NATO.

### **Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (CSAF, drive CAF)**

An unregistered organisation. In 1997, after the Slovak branch joined the organisation, the IV Congress of CSA (established in 1995) decided to change the name of its organisation to that of the CSAF.

*“The Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (the CSAF) is an anti-authoritarian organisation of liberal people who do not intend to tolerate the current social system which is based mainly on two pillars of oppression and exploitation – the state and capitalism. However, we are not only negativists who merely criticise visible or hidden shortcomings. We are striving to actively propagate our alternative vision of arranging a free and self-governing society”.*<sup>74</sup>

In its programme rhetoric, the CSAF strictly avoids using wording such as *class struggle*. Whilst criticising the system, it concentrates on the connection between the power (coercion) and capital. Its fundamental thesis, which is frequently used, is that the state came into existence to protect private property and that capitalism needs to operate under efficient conditions controlling society. The capitalist organisation of the economy itself is criticised, especially in areas which are typically symptomatic of global capitalism, the manifestation of such areas being: consumption and related over-production, the exploitation of sources of raw materials and energy, the destruction of ecosystems, the growing power of multinational corporations - and as well the impossibility of controlling such corporations, large investors, and financial speculators. The set of issues relating to the CSAF's view of societal reconstruction is perceived by the CSAF in such a way that the unprivileged classes must fight to be able to keep freedom and social justice. This organisation's programme is primarily aimed at young people.

### **Organisational Structure**

The CSAF functions using the principle of volunteers. Decision-making processes, as well as all activities, start at the bottom, at the membership base. There is no central body.

The future direction of the CSAF, the rotation of functions, or any respective organisation-wide changes, are always discussed at the Congresses of the membership base, usually held twice a year. The Czech and Slovak sections of the CSAF are autonomous in making decisions. The CSAF is active mainly in Prague, Prerov, Chrudim, Vimperk, and Bratislava.

**The membership base** of the CSAF comprised more than 30 persons at the end of 2002 (of these, 10 members were in Prague; the South-Western, Eastern and Moravian regions each had up to 5 members; and 10 members were in Slovakia).

**Periodicals:** The anarchist revue, *Existence*, is published quarterly. Presented on the CSAF web-sites are: *A-kontra*, *Solidarita (Solidarity)*, publications of Slovak organisations Zdola (From the Bottom) and Priama akcia (Direct Action).<sup>75</sup>

Further, the CSAF issues posters, leaflets and publications predominantly focused on anarchist theory and practice. They have also an established distribution network of the above materials.

Among their activities, the CSAF organises the following events:

- miscellaneous cultural events at which funds are raised for their activities;
- public actions (**demonstrations**, information stalls, etc.) that are mostly a part of campaigns by the CSAF. Demonstrations are primarily aimed against fascism; globalisation, the IMF/WB, the EU,

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<sup>74</sup> The Manifesto of the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation. Downloaded on 2 April 2001

<sup>75</sup> Downloaded on 22 April 2003. A-kontra journal is published by the CSAF and more or less today non-functional CAS. An anarchist journal Confrontation ceased to be published.

NATO, capitalism, supranational corporations, wars, and US policy. They usually co-organise so-called Street Parties;<sup>76</sup>

- solidarity demonstrations to support imprisoned domestic as well as foreign anarchists and left-wing activists.

Outside the anarchist movement the CSAF tries to co-operate with organisations which target specific problems of the current time, and they do not enforce the objective of preserving a “*socially unjust society*” in their programmes.

### **Activities in 2002**

CSAF activities related particularly to the preparation of protests against the November NATO Summit held in Prague. The campaign against the summit was commenced by the CSAF in Prague by organising two demonstrations (2 February and 9 February 2002). The public speeches of CSAF members at these demonstrations confirmed their intention to hold peaceful protest actions through which they wanted to simultaneously express solidarity with protests against the NATO Conference being held at the beginning of February in Munich. Further, they announced that the CSAF intended to organise protest actions against the NATO Summit regularly until November 2002 when its activities would climax.<sup>77</sup> The CSAF organised and co-organised a number of events held in Prague.<sup>78</sup>

### **Extracts from the Manifesto of the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation**

#### ***Against the state and capitalism***

*“...The state and the capitalist system are established on the principles of the dominance, authority and prevalence of natural as well as human sources. Historically, a state was established to defend private property and means of production – i.e. it was established on social theft and exploitation.... Governments and political parties are directly or indirectly under the influence of capital, the interests of which they protect... The interests of large contemporary amounts of capital are enforced by international commercial, financial, and military institutions, treaties and associations such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB), North-Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the European Union (EU), North-Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), and so on, that directly impact the decisions made by the governments of national states. The selfish interests of multinational corporations and foreign investors determine conditions in many countries, especially in countries of the Third World, which are still a source of cheap raw materials and labour forces. The situation in some regions looks like a planned genocide realised through the support of local wars, dictatorships or the prohibition of production of their own medications for curing diseases, killing thousands and thousands of people. Global capitalism has become dangerous because of its unlimited power and because it is uncontrollable... People are intentionally brought up on “consumer” ethics, which makes them blind but evokes a semblance of being free. The consequences of this process are the cultural degradation of society and man, and frequent pathological manifestations. We are opposed to any form of social oppression; not only to open capitalism, but also to proletarian dictatorship since it is a mere dictatorship of a party elite or of one leader. The environment of any authoritative social or economic system produces a range of negative phenomena in society, such as xenophobia, racism, fascism, nationalism, sexism, homophobia, and so on. Some of these phenomena are exacerbated by aggressive authoritative ideologies and churches.*”

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<sup>76</sup> According to police findings for example the international ecological movement EF! (Earth Especially!) as well as Streets for People! (the branch of the British organisation Reclaim the Streets!) operate under the CSAF.

<sup>77</sup> For more detail see sub-chapter The NATO Summit in Prague in November 2002

<sup>78</sup> For example the CSAF organised May Day gathering on Strelecky Island followed by the march across Prague – with participation of about 250 – 300 persons. On 8 May 2002 it co-organised a demonstration against fascism on the occasion of the end of the Second World War held in the Square of Peace (namesti Miru) which a group of skinheads attempted to disturb. The demonstration, attended by about 200 persons, finished with a march towards the building of Czech Radio Broadcasting where speeches were read and wreaths laid. On 21 September 2002 this organisation arranged a Street Party attended by about 150 persons.



## ***For Free Society***

### ***The Journey to Freedom and Social Justice***

*“...Anarchists represent those who are included on the black list of repressive power as item number one. This is not because they are dangerous to society, but because they represent the greatest danger to the state power and the interests of capital. To withdraw from our name – that of anarchists - for tactical reasons would be unacceptable to us, since doing so we would dishonour the memory of our predecessors.... The establishment of a free, state-free socialist society should follow the existing self-governing associations in production and social spheres. ...**Whilst changing the current authoritative society we might not be able to avoid defending ourselves against violence by repressive forces either belonging to the state or multinational companies**... Nowadays, and in the near future of several years, we do not consider actual social movement towards the free arrangement of society as realistic due to the low political maturity of the unprivileged classes and the insufficient experience of Czech and Slovak workers with day-to-day social struggle”.*

### **The Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) (alongside the CSAF)**

The ABC-CSAF ranks among the most important Czech groups supporting prosecuted supporters and well-wishers of the anarchist movement. It operates within the organisation as an initiative assisting, mainly financially, anarchists and other radical left-wing non-authoritative activists who are persecuted by *“the state power, taking the form of the police and courts”*. Sending protest e-mails, letters and faxes and organising protest demonstrations in front of embassies, among others, are all activities of the ABC. *“The lobbying actions of Czech anarchists are directed towards the Office of the President, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of the Interior.”*

### **Activities in 2002**

The Anarchist Black Cross organised a public gathering in March 2002 in front of the Embassy of the Polish Republic in Prague to support a Polish political prisoner, the antifascist Tomek Wilkoszewski.<sup>79</sup> In the same context in June 2002 representatives of the ABC handed a petition for the release of Tomek Wilkoszewski to the Ambassador of the Polish Republic in Prague.

### **The Federation of Social Anarchists (FSA) – a membership section of the**

**International Workers’ Association (IWA-AIT)**

This unregistered organisation was established in 1997 when politically oriented anarchists of the CSAF split away from it. It is profiled as a radical organisation ideologically oriented towards anarcho-syndicalism.

For the FSA, the state is a tool of the governing class that serves as a defence for its interests. In the FSA’s opinion, economic struggle is only a part of the struggle for a new historical chance enabling mankind to develop a class-free society based on co-operation, solidarity, and mutual help. The FSA operates on the principle of the idea of a gradual establishment of small propagandistic groups at worksites or places of residence, which will join together in a common federal organisation. The gradual extension of agitating cells to stronger local organisations is to be accompanied by the move of a centre of activities towards the support and organisation of social struggle. The precondition for any success is for the FSA to sell its aim of a self-governing and class-free society to a substantial part of society.

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<sup>79</sup> Six years ago T. Wilkoszewski was sentenced to 15 years of imprisonment for the murder of a skinhead. In the anarchists’ opinion he was convicted only on the basis of indirect evidence. According to the court he killed the skinhead with a knife in a skirmish among neo-Nazis and young antifascists. Wilkoszewski’s friends were sentenced to a term of imprisonment of from several months to three years. In 2001, after serving one third of his sentence of imprisonment, Wilkoszewski, according to anarchists, unsuccessfully applied for mitigation of the conditions of his imprisonment. However, he does not have any hope for decreasing the term of his punishment and his only hope is the pardon of the President.

**Periodicals:** FSA newspaper Svobodna prace (Free Work) (published monthly)

Additionally, the FSA makes intensive efforts in publishing and also establishing anarchist trade unions called **ROVNOST (EQUALITY)**, which are a part of the International Workers' Association. According to a statement made by FSA representatives, the establishment of the anarchist Trade Unions is *"the expression of a political theory under which we want to achieve revolutionary political changes and to do so we need a workers' organisation; the Trade Union forms its part"*. Members of the trade union visit regions with a high unemployment rate where they organise lectures and assemblies at which they endeavour to convince especially the citizens of worker professions of the necessity of demonstrations and calling for riots.

The **Antifascist Group FSA (AFS FSA)** has operated within the FSA since 2001. This group co-operates mainly with the AFA and pursues similar ideas. Besides promotional activities, cultural events and educational activities, the removing of fascist propaganda and arguing against fascists, it stresses the monitoring and "liquidation of Nazi activities", while home guards are considered to be the most effective solution.<sup>80</sup> In this group's opinion antifascists should use all available means in antifascist combat, since *"there is only one response to violence – to use our strength. Neo-Nazis themselves constantly prove that strength is the only argument they understand"*.

Activities carried out by members of the Antifascist Group FSA are based on direct action and they are able to pursue their goals forcefully. The most radical persons in demonstrations recruit from them. They usually create a defence against attacks from the side of right-wing extremists, mainly skinhead movement supporters. They are trained in Asian fighting sports and they improve their physical condition. Their aggression can be seen in directly attacking supporters of Bolshevik, communist and Trotskyist organisations during demonstrations. Some anarchist groups refuse to co-operate with this group due to the militant attitudes of its members, however the other organisations tolerate it and use it in their events for protection purposes.

### **Activities in 2002**

The FSA, which was clearly excluded from the broad anarchist campaign against NATO in the course of 2002, did not have a clear vision of protests against the Summit, including usable plans. Contrary to the CSAF it preferred an international element. The only anarcho-autonomous group which co-operated with the FSA in 2002 was the AFA. They prepared together for demonstrations. In August 2001 the AFA alongside the FSA organised a joint event – a training camp of the AFA, Camp 2002, with international participation, thus confirming a very closed, militant and conspiratory feature of their actions.

### **Extracts from the Texts of the FSA**

#### **Who Are We And What Do We Want? – The Basic Programme Points of the FSA *Society at the threshold of a new millennium***

Shall we remain people or shall we become human resources?

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<sup>80</sup>Monitoring the activities of individual Nazis and gathering information about them (addresses, photos, phone numbers, where they study or work, where they go). The same applies to their associations. The mutual exchange of such information among antifascists. Home guards (territory army) – a mutually well informed and well organised network of antifascist activists. It is necessary to realise that an individual, alone, face to face with a fascist threat will fail; and therefore it is important to organise people of the same views into larger units. At the very beginning such a network consists only of individual activists who are afterwards grouped according to their places of residence into larger groups always ready to fight. With a view to capacity for action, such groups must be in mutual contact, both personal (because of co-ordination of long-term plans), and via technology, for a quick response to the unexpected problems caused by neo-Nazis." The speech at the end of the demonstration held near tram stop Donovalska; AFS FSA leaflets "How to proceed against neo-Nazi activities?" Downloaded on 2 April 2002. **Another demonstration against fascism was organised by the Antifascist Group FSA in South Town of Prague on 20 April 2003.** It was attended by about 100 persons. Members of the skinhead movement tried to provoke demonstrators however both camps were after physical contact cordoned off by the police.

*“...The global economy showed that even a minor shock to the new world order beckons a wave of crisis all over the world, which again will push a section of workers closer to the poverty line. “The democratic regime” ceased to be orientated towards “human” values a long time ago and people are considered merely as distracting insects requiring various social allowances. People are just “human resources”, figures to be written off... What will happen after a few years? Our country will become a poor province of the European Union where one third of people live a miserable existence claiming unemployment support and receiving poor salaries from their part-time jobs and seasonal employment.”*

### **Work and Society**

*“...So anarchists reject any state establishment and want to replace such establishment with a state-free, i.e. class-free, society, which is the only really free society”.*

### **The Social Revolution and Foundation of a Free Society**

*“...Any governing class will not give up its powers and privileges without a struggle! The social change we are calling for must have revolutionary features. It will take the form of an irreconcilable struggle between two antagonistic social classes ...*

*...The social revolution means a fundamental change in the structure of any state. It does not only mean a transition from capitalism to an anarchist economy based on co-operation and egalitarianism, but also the **elimination of a state and of all hierarchical structures**. The social revolution is not organised, it will just break out; in most cases in connection with intensified state repression of revolutionary movements.*

*Its possible that the beginning may be a general strike paralysing practically all the operations of a capitalist state. In such a moment workers would start to expropriate the means of production and transfer them so that they were under collective management. **The establishment of voluntary militia units is also required**. These will stand up to repressive state forces that try to reverse such a revolutionary process using violence. Armed militia units will be under the control of workers and their organisations and will have a common command. **If a class-free, really free society, is to be established successfully, it will be necessary to consistently liquidate state and capitalist structures during the revolution....***

*...Today we face only two possibilities. We will either fall to the bottom of a class-society, which will get stronger, or we will eventually try to grasp our destiny in our hands.”<sup>81</sup>*

### **The Antifascist Action (AFA)**

The AFA is an unregistered organisation associating together radical (militant) antifascists establishing action groups that operate mainly in individual locations or regions. The Czech AFA was founded in June 1996 and is linked to related foreign AFA organisations. After the restriction of their activities in 1997–1998, the AFA started to organise itself again at the beginning of 1999, and ranked among the most significant entities of the anarcho-autonomous scene. It is the most radical organisation. Headed by several leading personalities it associates persons who through their attitudes and acts pursue the ideas of the international movement ANTIFA.

The main task of this organisation is to struggle against manifestations of racism, anti-Semitism, fascism, xenophobia, Bolshevism, and in particular against neo-Nazism in any society. However it also pursues the struggle against capitalism and the state and in relation to this it promotes anarchists ideas. Nevertheless, the aforementioned goals are in a number of cases misused and they are becoming only an excuse for street skirmishes during demonstrations and for attacking people who are recruited from the skinhead movement environment. Such ideas also serve to insult Trotskyist, communist, and Bolshevik groups. During mass demonstrations of different anarchist organisations and groups the members of this organisation march primarily at the head, hidden behind banners, wearing black clothes, their faces masked by masks and scarves. In addition to demonstrations the AFA organises concerts, lectures, workshops, and training camps. Furthermore, it monitors right-wing, mainly skinhead, events and concerts. Photos of persons documented by AFA activists during such events are then regularly disclosed on their web-sites alongside with other related data.

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<sup>81</sup> Downloaded on 2 April 2001

The AFA co-operates mainly with the FSA, especially with the Antifascist Group FSA, the Feminist Group of 8 March as well as with less radical organisations such as the CSAF and ORAS.

**The AFA describes itself as follows: “The priority of the AFA is to protect the political and public space of the revolutionary anarchist movement, to ensure its extension through promotion and social struggle, to protect it from the attacks of neo-Nazi and right-wing groups and organisations as well as the repressive forces of the state administration. This is a fundamental sense of the existence and work of the Czech AFA, contrary to other foreign organisations having the same name...The AFA considers eliminating capitalism and the state and establishing a free, socially just and class-free society to be a basic precondition of preventing the rise of fascism and growth of extreme right-wing organisations. This is only possible at the time of real social change reached through a social revolution, which will be initiated by the revolutionary anarchist movement. In terms of its long-term revolutionary objective, the AFA sees its task in preparing the conditions for such revolutionary changes”<sup>82</sup>.....The AFA strictly rejects pacifism in the antifascist movement and considers it to be a poison which has caused millions to die and suffer. The AFA plans to spread its militant spirit in its antifascist struggle.<sup>83</sup>**

The AFA operates in the Prague, Brno, Northern Bohemia and Zlin regions. It published a journal: *AKCE! (ACTION!)* and has set up an e-mail mailing list.

### Activities in 2002

In 2002 the AFA concentrated on a long-term project called “Campaign against NATO” and at the same time it organised several differently focused actions and participated in similar events arranged by similarly orientated associations.

It called an anti-demonstration against the February demonstration of the Right Alternative against the broadcasting of the RFE/RL held under the “Withdrawal of the Radio Free Europe from the Czech Republic” which was attended by about 200 persons. This event was supported also by attendance of well-wishers of the CSAF, ORAS and some independent anarcho-autonomous activists. The participants of the anti-demonstration, among them supporters of the CSAF, ORAS and independent anarcho-autonomous activists (approximately 50 persons) tried to disturb the demonstration and speeches of the RA members by loud whistling and screaming. The largest action organised by the AFA was the May Day demonstration held in Brno with a participation of about 300 people. The demonstration and the following march across the city were anti-actions against a demonstration of right-wing extremists from the National Resistance whose invitation to join their demonstration was the motto “Arrive to liberate red Brno!” According to an AFA statement their aim was “to organise and radicalise Brno skinheads and hooligans who do not yet show clarity in their political view” in the situation when “attacks by neo-Nazis and hooligans became night local colour of Brno”.<sup>84</sup> AFA activists openly called for an attack against a simultaneous demonstration of right-wing extremists. On their side there was an attempt to break the police cordon and to come to violence with the police.<sup>85</sup>

The militant AFA group considered CSAF ideas on the form of protests against the NATO Summit not to be radical enough and therefore planned its own actions. In the summer it organised the AFA 2002 Camp. The agenda included lectures and discussions of the respective topic, shows of fighting styles and tactics of passive as well active resistance, practical advice on how to behave before any action, during it or at the police station in the case of being brought there. The demonstrations against NATO where the AFA presented itself as an organiser were held for example in Brno and Jihlava in November.

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<sup>82</sup> See The Antifascist Action, Brno, 31 July 2000

<sup>83</sup> See the same web-sites.

<sup>84</sup> See AFA-Brno. Antifa.net. The Antifascist May Day in Brno. The AFA followed, according to its statement, three objectives: “First of all this demonstration should have shown antifascists that there was a strong antifascist movement against them which does not want only to watch them; secondly it should have tried to prevent the march of the “brown dirt”; and last but not least it should have notified the general public of the danger of neo-Nazism and engaged as many people as possible into the antifascist movement. “

<sup>85</sup> For more details of the AFA struggle against neo-Nazism see AFA-Brno. Antifa.net An Interview with the AFA for the magazine REFLEX.

The AFA also set up new Internet pages on which it disclosed the “**Programme Strategy of the Czech Antifascist Action**”.<sup>86</sup> Apart from other things this reads:

*“A real antifascist struggle cannot be led by the police, courts of justice or administrative machinery, but only through the direct action of endangered groups. The antifascist struggle is not just loud anti-racism in a democratic coat. It is mainly action from the bottom of society, a combat which is held on more fronts – both against bullying right-wingers and against those who deprive us of our social rights and pass workers into the hands of fascists promising to improve the economic situation ...*

*...Antifascists can put up stiff resistance to their enemies from the ultra right and the state only if they are well organised and if they have sufficient background. All this is the task of a revolutionary organisation such as the AFA. **The Antifascist Action assembles those who have decided not to give in easily to the growth of Nazi and racial activities and the state system of repression. We are not going to just watch murderous racists, police despotism and terror any longer. Our journey is antifascist combat by organised groups who confront neo-Nazi activities. Our combat has many forms, from monitoring ultra right-wing activities ... through to efforts towards the public confrontation of Nazis during their rallies and demonstrations, including directly fighting with them....***

*...Nowadays, AFA activities are directed especially towards efforts to suppress a unified neo-Nazi movement in the Czech Republic in the form of the newly established ultra right-wing party – the National Social Block...”<sup>87</sup>*

### **The Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists Solidarity (ORAS)**

This is an unregistered organisation established from the Moravian group of syndicalists - Solidarity - which originally came into existence in 1996 by separating itself from the then CAF (the current CSAF). Since its foundation, the ORAS has concentrated on a programme of social self-governance and industrial syndicalism.

The principal objective of the ORAS is freedom for each individual. However the struggle for an individual is conditional upon a collective struggle against an economic system based on the oppression of free development of the individual. The ORAS suggests that anarchist activists participate in the everyday social fight of workers, in day-to-day discussions with workers, disseminating anarchist ideas and supporting self-governing organisations. A special emphasis is put on the role of trade unions. It suggests that trade unions should end bureaucracy and intensify the involvement of workers in their activities. An essential part of the transformation should be an increase in solidarity both inside and outside of trade unions, not only at a national level but also in the international environment. Essentially, its aim is to remove the capitalist establishment against which it raises society without any state organised on the principles of a federation of production, regional or other units.

The ORAS is a federation of local organisations connected by a unified political programme, tactics, and responsibility.

This organisation published **Solidarity** journal and a newsletter called **Cernorudy zpravodaj (Black and Red Newsletter)**.

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<sup>86</sup> These web-sites are contained in the section Monitoring photos of “neo-Nazis” and “boneheads” with their full addresses, phone numbers or mobile phone numbers, or a commentary. There is also a list containing contacts and addresses of “Czech neo-Nazis”. Downloaded on 12 February 2002.

<sup>87</sup> AFA CZ! Against fascism and social oppression! The programme strategy of the Czech Antifascist Action, Downloaded on 12 March 2002. Recently the AFA has disclosed on its web-sites an alleged invitation by the National Resistance for the May Day demonstration in Brno. Regarding this fact the AFA calls for an anti-demonstration because: “...*These neo-Nazis from the National Resistance have a very weak membership base in Brno and it is merely this demonstration which will serve them to acquire new supporters who will be willing to fight for the cleanness of the race and the nation, and at the same time it is meant to positively affect the general public. Come and say NO ...*” Downloaded on 18 April 2002.

### **Activities in 2002**

The ORAS was an organiser or co-organiser of a number of demonstrations against NATO, the EU, the IMF/WB, the state, and capitalism. Although members of this organisation try to arrange peaceful demonstrations, during some of these demonstrations the unlawful conduct of some individuals who are aggressive and try to pursue their own objectives in a more radical manner could be seen. In 2002 the ORAS actively participated in the preparation of the demonstration against the November NATO Summit. ORAS representatives, besides participating in protests during the NATO Summit, were for example co-organisers alongside the CSAF of the May Day demonstration on Strelecky Island. Its central idea was resistance towards fascism, NATO, capitalism, etc. In the evening the demonstration was followed by the concert and a lecture focusing on the development of fascism in Italy.

In August 2002 there was an ORAS Congress attended by delegates from Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Zlin, Prerov, and France. They evaluated the ORAS situation, its position and its task in the society, foreign contacts, the financial situation, and in particular the plan of further procedure for the ORAS and other anarcho-autonomous organisations in the Czech Republic. In its periodical "Solidarity" this association called for mobilisation against the summit and for establishing action groups at workplaces, schools and the places of residence which would be provided with materials against NATO free of charge.

At the beginning of March 2001, anarchist girls (particularly from the CSAF and ORAS) established their own group under the name **the Feminist Group of 8 March (FG8M)**. It is an organisation striving for feminism not to be impacted and governed by authoritarian ideologies either from the left-wing or right-wing spectrum - it strives for anarcho-feminism. **Contrary to any other feminist organisations it assumes direct action.** This anarcho-feminist organisation also fights against fascism, racism, xenophobia, sexism, capitalism, and the state. Its female activists regularly participate in various events held by anarchist and autonomous groups. The FG8M organises demonstrations against NATO, the EU, and the IMF/WB. In 2002 the FG8M collaborated mainly with the CSAF and ORAS. Some particularly radical members of this organisation, however, co-operated with the AFA and the FSA. Moreover, this organisation actively participated in preparing protest actions against the NATO meeting. It publishes a journal called Prima cesta (Straight Way). Independent anarcho-feminists issue a 'zine under the name Bloody Mary.

### **3.3.2 Neo-Bolshevik and Pan-Slavonic Groups and Organisations**

#### **The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPC, formerly the Party of Czechoslovak Communists – PCC)**

The PCC/CPC was established on 22 April 1995 at the Restoration Congress, and afterwards was registered with the Ministry of the Interior. It is a political entity ideologically based on Marxist-Leninist ideology.

Yet by its name - the PCC - it declared its continuity with the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPC) that governed Czechoslovakia from 1948 until 1989 and that was by Act No. 198/1993 Coll. of 9 July 1993, on the Illegitimacy of the Communist Regime and Resistance Against It, declared to be a criminal and abominable organisation. In 2000 the party confirmed such a view by changing its name to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, and was registered by the Ministry of the Interior on 16 February 2000.

Under Section 8 (1) of Act No. 424/1991 Coll., a decision regarding the registration of a new party or movement, or the registration of any alterations to party's Statutes, should be exclusively based upon the Statutes of the organisation in question. The reason for rejecting any such registration may only be that what is stated in the Statutes is found to be inconsistent with Sections 1-5 and 6 (3)(4) of the Act. As those activities declared in the Statutes did not contradict the cited rule of law, there was not any reason for rejecting the changes in the Statutes in question.

**Chairman:** Ing. Miroslav Stepan

**Registered seat:** Prague

**Membership base** consists of approximately 18 600 regular members (according to M. Stepan)

**Periodicals:** Ceskoslovensky komunista/Jiskra (Czechoslovak Communist/Spark)<sup>88</sup>

### Activities in 2002

In 2002<sup>88</sup>, as in 2001, the CPC again represented a political group based directly on Marxism-Leninism, declaring as its objective the establishment of a “dictatorship of the proletariat” in the Czech Republic.<sup>89</sup> The activities of the CPC aimed at establishing a totalitarian system suppressing human and civic rights and freedoms; a system which is not compatible with a plural democracy and the conception of a legal state (i.e. that a law is superior to a state). **However, the Statues of the party do not explicitly state such an objective.**

The CPC builds up its ideology on faithfulness to Marxism-Leninism and rejects new tendentious explanations of the doctrines of Marx, Engels, and Lenin. The CPC looked to the heritage of Klement Gottwald and emphasised his role in the development of the Party which he led to victorious socialism and to the start of the building of socialism. The so-called counter-revolution in 1989 was basically caused by treason against the working class and communist movement. According to the CPC it was Gorbachev who was undoubtedly responsible, as a “traitor and agent of imperialism along with his supporters who unambiguously betrayed socialism and dishonestly sold themselves to imperialism”. The division of the Czechoslovak state is named as treason. The CPC is against membership of the Czech Republic in NATO and is against Czech Republic’s accession to the EU.<sup>90</sup> In 2002 the CPC concentrated mainly on party internal matters. The majority of its activities were devoted to preparation for the XX Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPC). On 23 February 2002 the nation-wide get-together – the 10<sup>th</sup> public meeting of the Central Committee

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<sup>88</sup> Opinions similar to those of the CPC are also presented in a journal called “Dialogue – Questions, Answers” which is not however the periodical published by the CPC. A North-Moravian wing of the CPC presenting itself as CPC-CSPW tries to be more visible through its periodical called “New Bruntal Region”.

<sup>89</sup> In May 2001 the CPC organised a festive meeting attended by foreign guests to celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of the party. M. Stepan expressed his opinion that “*the adverse situation after the defeat of socialism by the counter-revolution in 1989, and an assessment of uniform regularities, lead the CPC to the conviction that the process of the renewal of socialism is irreversible*”. At this meeting “**the CPC unambiguously and unconditionally professed to holding to its past beliefs**”.

<sup>90</sup> **These CPC attitudes are reflected in its opinions adopted in 2003.** On 22 March 2003 the Board of the Central Committee of the CPC issued a statement “**Stop the murderers from the USA and Great Britain and their servants! Stop the Third World War!**” saying, *inter alia*, “...The outbreak of war against Iraq is a commencement of the Third World War... We are against the war in Iraq, we are against the militant and aggressive world rule of US policy and Zionist circles...The aim is to ensure, under the threat of using army force for a longer period of time, the unshakable world ruling position of their USA and Jewish militant circles which have suffered some losses in recent years. ... Furthermore they intend to demonstrate their power, threatening increasing numbers of those who worldwide reject the world ruling role of the USA built on aggression and countless numbers of dead people, and those who would like to stand up against such a role. The aim is that each individual should be afraid of having a different but pro-American opinion. Essentially, it is a new division of the world, world markets in the interest of the USA and their world ruling policy....We are supporting the just struggle of the Iraqi people against the so-called elite of the present world... The Board of the CC of CPC calls the UN to initiate the establishment of the international tribunal with the originators of the commencement of the Third World War and their supporters. It calls the Government of the Czech Republic to resign”. The second document adopted by the participants of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Central Committee of the CPC uses the same wording; it is called “**Declaration of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on the Occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Death of K. Gottwald and J.V.Stalin and on the Occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of J. Fucik – the Everlasting Heritage for Today in the Struggle for Socialism, National and Social Emancipation**”. This Declaration evaluates K Gottwald and J.V.Stalin as “giants of the workers’ and communist movement” and proclaims that: “Reactionary powers in the past, but especially after the temporal defence of socialism in a part of the world at the end of 1980s, hated them and hate them even today for their communist conviction and for their communist adamantine. Therefore, they were after 17 November repeatedly unanimously vilified both by government reactionary members and their servants as well as by representatives of the post-November Communist Party and later by the representatives of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia...” Downloaded on 19 April 2003.

of the CPC<sup>91</sup>, attended by over 300 participants from the whole Czech Republic - announced that the 20<sup>th</sup> CPC Congress would be held in December 2002. Thus the CPC obviously showed that it was the only authentic communist party of this name and that it did not take into consideration the foundation of the CPC – CSPW or any of “its successors”.<sup>92</sup>

*The Board of the Central Committee of the CPC decided on 9 March 2002 that the CPC would not participate in the elections to be held in June 2002. This was substantiated by an explanation that “the CPC did not want to participate in the renewal of capitalism and took the view that not voting is a choice as well”.*<sup>93</sup> However, the actual reason for this decision was the fact that negotiations with the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS) on election support were unsuccessful for the CPC.

At the end of the year the XX Congress of the CPC was held. The delegates approved the “Report of the Central Committee of the CPC – the Party for Peace, National Identity, Work, for the Party on the Alert” and adopted the “Programme Document – for Peace, National Identity, Work, for the Party on the Alert”. Miroslav Stepan was again elected the General Secretary of the CC of the CPC.

The CPC, as in previous years, disclosed on its web-sites the speeches of Fidel Castro made in Havana on the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Globalisation and Development Issues (14 March 2003) and in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) at the XIII. Conference of Representatives of States and Governments of the Movement of Independent Countries (25 March 2003).<sup>94</sup>

### **The Communist Youth of Czechoslovakia (CYC)**

This unregistered organisation was established in April 1999. Neither formally nor organisationally is it a part of the CPC, although it operates as its organisation for young people. They publish a journal called **Pochoden (“Torch”)**.

The organisation defines itself as follows “*Our organisation, comprising about 150 people, operates in the whole of the Republic. It is strongest in North Moravia and Silesia. We organise events (such as demonstrations, protests, provocations...)* and strive to **fight in the spirit of Marx, Engels and Lenin for socialism and communism.**

*We are a warlike group of young people co-operating with the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPC). We also maintain contact with the Communist Union of Youth (CUY) and a few revolutionary members of the CPBM. Further, we develop contacts with the Movement for Self-governed Moravia and Silesia (MSMS), together with whom we have organised events against the bombing in Yugoslavia.*

***We are against NATO, the EU, and against capitalism. We do not intend to co-operate with any of the bourgeois parliamentary parties, including the CPBM, unless they change their revisionist and opportunistic line”.***<sup>95</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> Disputes started to be visible after the 19<sup>th</sup> Congress (December 1999) of the party, and climaxed in the calling of the 20<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary CPC Congress to Bruntal (24 February 2001) initiated by the North-Moravian wing headed by L. Zifcak. More than a hundred delegates from all regions of the Czech Republic decided to merge with the unregistered Czechoslovak Party of Work (CSPW) and to change the name of the party to the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia – the Czechoslovak Party of Work (CPC – CSPW). During the Congress a new board of the party was elected. L. Zifcak was elected to chair the party, while M. Stepan and “his group” were excluded. The General Secretary of the CPC, M. Stepan, tried to brush off the division in the party, rejecting it saying that L. Zifcak had not been a member of the party for more than a year, and therefore the party disregarded his activities. **However in 2002 as well as in 2003 the CPC – CSPW presented itself on its web-sites as “the only consistent, revolutionary, Marxist – Leninist and communist party in the Czech Republic”.** Downloaded on 28 April 2003. **The CPC – CSPW is an unregistered association using without any legal basis the name of Stepan’s party.**

<sup>92</sup> See The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. From the meetings of the CPC bodies. Downloaded on 11 March 2002.

<sup>93</sup> Downloaded on 5 April 2002.

<sup>94</sup> Downloaded on 29 April 2002.

<sup>95</sup> A ‘Welcome’ on the web-sites of the Communist Youth of Czechoslovakia. Downloaded on 6 November 2000.



The Vice-Chairman of the CPC and press speaker of the Unified Front (UF), David Pecha, was charged with and is being prosecuted for the crime of supporting and propagating movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms.<sup>96</sup> He ceased to publish the periodical Torch on the Internet but he started to disseminate a periodical called Ruda Vatra (Red Camp Fire). In addition he worked as a chief editor of Nove Bruntalsko Newsletter.

### **The Communist Movement of Czechoslovakia (CMC)**

An unregistered organisation. The CMC applied for its registration as a civic association with the Ministry of the Interior in February 2000; such registration was rejected. Proceedings concerning a legal remedy were suspended by the Resolution of the Supreme Court from 22 January 2002 since legal charges relating to the proposal to commence such proceedings had not been paid.

On the pages of *Pochoden* (Torch) (October 2000) the CMC presented itself as a unit of a revolutionary movement that unifies active, militant and Marxist focused people (particularly young people) from various communist parties and organisations. The CMC strives for a revolutionary struggle against capitalism and the kind of state entailed by capitalism. The movement considers the recently renewed Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPC) and its youth organisation, the Communist Youth of Czechoslovakia (CYC), to be its main links and closest entities. However, it is possible for members of other organisations as well as people who are not members of any party to become members of this movement.

*“The CMC is aware that without activity, without its own radical activities and without a stronger struggle by the majority of people it is not possible to renew socialism. The movement contributes to this struggle, initiates, educates and organises it. It disseminates socialist ideas, and makes an effort to unify the communist movement so that it will come to its final victory in the next (and not only) struggle of our nation. SOCIALISM IS UNAVOIDABLE! JOIN US AS WELL!!!”*<sup>97</sup>

### **The Unified Front (UF)**<sup>98</sup>

This unregistered organisation was established at the turn of 1999 and 2000 with the intention of operating as an organisation integrating various extremist or radical streams. The Communist Movement of Czechoslovakia (CMC) and the Communist Youth of Czechoslovakia (CYC) particularly participate in the activities of this newly established organisation. The above-mentioned organisations operated particularly under the auspices of the UF.

### **“Pan-Slavonic Orientation”**

Support for the **programme of “pan-Slavonic mutuality”** is spread among left-wing extremists of a mainly neo-Bolshevik orientation. In their opinion, after the break-up of the socialist block, countries in Central Europe with a predominantly Slav population are threatened by an aggressive “Germanisation” masked by the integration process of NATO and EU accession. Thus the Slavonic nations have only the option of preserving their identity and independence – of contributing to the powerful position of Russia and integrating themselves into its sphere of influence.

The principal representative of “Slavonic mutuality” is the **International Slav Committee**, whose seat is in Moscow. Pan-Slavonism is becoming an important international activity which will, no doubt, serve various power aims, since the idea of Pan-Slavonism is relevant to both non-communist public and right-wing extreme nationalists thanks to a stressing of “national interests”.<sup>99</sup>

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<sup>96</sup> In his self-published journal (so-called samizdat) **Pochoden (Torch)** he challenged people to act in favour of the proletariat dictatorship and nationalisation, even with the help of violence. In one issue of *Pochoden* he printed photographs of foremost Czech politicians who were labelled “criminal traitors”. His case continued in 2002 since the High Court returned it for further investigations.

<sup>97</sup> Join the Communist Movement of Czechoslovakia. Downloaded 2 April 2001.

<sup>98</sup> For more details see Miroslav Mares, *Sjednocena fronta (The Unified Front)*. In: *Analyzy a studie (Analyses and Studies)* 4, 3/2001, *Ustav strategickych studii Masarykovy univerzity v Brne (The Institute of Strategic Studies of Masaryk University in Brno)*

<sup>99</sup> Downloaded on 3 April 2001.

### **The Slav Committee of the Czech Republic (SC CR)<sup>100</sup>**

An organisation registered with the Ministry of the Interior on 24 April 1998.

In 1998 this organisation arranged a Pan-Slavonic Congress with an attendance of 5,000 delegates from 12 Slav countries. The congress adopted the following documents: the Manifesto of the 1998 Pan-Slavonic Congress in Prague; a Proclamation to the Nations of Slav Countries, Their Heads, Parliaments and Governments, Leading Representatives of Social Movements and Political Parties; a Call to the Parliaments and Governments of Slav Countries to Establish an Inter-Parliamentary Union; a Call to the Parliaments and Governments of Slav Countries to Mutually Repeal Visas and Consular Fees to Ensure Free Movement of Citizens of Those Countries; a resolution supporting the indivisibility and inviolability of Serbia; and a resolution concerning the necessity of the cancellation of all international prohibitions and sanctions against the citizens of Yugoslavia.<sup>101</sup>

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Pan-Slavonic Congress** was held in Moscow in April **2001** and should have contributed to bringing together multiform Slav nations, to preserving and developing their distinctive traditions, friendship and mutual relations among nations, and to strengthening peace on principles of equality, freedom, and sovereignty.<sup>102</sup> The objective of the Congress was to strengthen the international movement for Slav unity and to help to broaden integration processes in the Slav world. Approximately 1,200 delegates attended the Congress, and with the exception of Serbia all Slav countries were represented. The Czech Republic's delegation had 24 members and they openly rejected "*dragging the Czech Republic into NATO and the European Union, the tools of criminal capitalist globalisation.*"<sup>103</sup>

The Congress "... *In its protest resolution... denounced the apprehension of the former Yugoslavian President, Slobodan Miloschevic ... At the same time the Congress supported the unification of Slavs and ensuring their rights for survival in a period of American global fascism which unscrupulously usurps the right for world-rule detrimental to Slav nations.*"<sup>104</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> According to the Security Intelligence Service the Slav Committee of the Czech Republic's and the International Slav Committee's objective is the unification of all Slav countries including the strengthening of Russia as a world power to be a counterbalance to the democratic structures of the Western world, because "a unipolar globalised world is a pathological, rotten anomaly threatening civilisation!" With regard to the fact that everything "Western" is rejected and attacked by the SC CR as an attempt towards Germanisation for installing world-rule, for racist hate towards Slavs, "mainly against Russia", etc, it is obvious that Pan-Slavonic entities see the only alternative in creating a Pan-Slav society in the form of an inter-state structure, as a counterbalance to the USA, NATO, "global forces", etc, and their efforts to divide and split off Slavs territorially, to exploit and enslave them. Only the association of Slav countries and their joint action against such efforts will enable Slavs their future existence. **Having regard to these facts, the SC CR is included in the Report on Extremist Issues in the Czech Republic and it is not possible in any event to talk in this context about "an attempt" to subordinate the freedom of opinions of a Czech citizen to a sort of contemporary censorship and ideological unification.**

<sup>101</sup> Downloaded on 3 April 2002.

<sup>102</sup> This Congress was, *inter alia*, justified by the need for "a response to the expansion of imperialistic intervention in the world". The Congress had another context – it became a celebration of the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of union of Russia and Belarus. N. I. Kikischev, the chairman of the International Organisational Committee of the Pan-Slav Congress and the chairman of the Slav Committee of Russia, officially opened the meeting. In his speech he criticised NATO aggression and its expansion in Europe, and at the same time he emphasised his happiness that a protest had been lodged against the apprehension of the former Yugoslavian President, Slobodan Miloschevic. He stated that "...*the USA and their allies, who megalomaniacally assume the right to dictate their rules as to how the nations of the whole world should behave have gained advantage from the crisis of Slav nations...*" and called for "*the establishment of an inter-state structure in the interest of unity of the Slav countries, as was created by the countries of Western Europe that unified in the European Union'...*" During the Congress Professor Ing. Bretislav Chvala, DrSc was again confirmed in his office of chairman of the International Slav Committee. However he died soon after the Congress and **N. I. Kikischev** has become the chairman of the ISC. **As chairman of the Slav Committee of the Czech Republic, Professor Chvala was replaced by Jan Minar.**

<sup>103</sup> See Halo noviny (Halo Newspaper) of 4 April 2001.

<sup>104</sup> See Halo noviny (Halo Newspaper) of 5 April 2001: Message of the Pan-Slav Congress on the Unity of Slavs. Also see *Spigl*, vol. 12, No. 90, 17 April 2001: "*The VIII Pan-Slav Congress 2001 in Moscow. Slavs must defend themselves against enslavement by world imperialists.*" *Spigl*, vol. 12, No. 91, 18 April 2001: "*The Czechs had a decisive word. Observations from the VIII. Pan-Slav Congress.*" According to this

**Periodicals:** a journal called *Slovanska vzajemnost*, i.e. Slav Mutuality (published monthly); its objective is to provide information on political and economic issues which are interesting subjects to the SC CR, as well as information from Slav countries, and information on the activities of the International Slav Committee.<sup>105</sup>

## Activities in 2002

The most important event held in 2002 in which the Slav Committee of the Czech Republic and related “pan-Slavonic” organisations participated was **the international conference “Poland – the Czech Republic – Slovakia – Lusatian Serbians: Possibilities and Prospective of Co-operation and Development”**. **This conference was held in Warsaw on 30 November** and chaired by the Polish Slav Committee headed by Bolesław Tejkowski.<sup>106</sup> The Czech delegation comprised 20 members<sup>107</sup>.

The participants issued at the end of the conference a **“Resolution”**, which should become a directive for the activities of the International Slav Committee and Slav committees of individual

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article the Congress came to the following conclusions: “1. Slavs having 300 million inhabitants represent a great force in the world which must be used; 2. instead of dividing Slavs and integrating and dissolving them into non-Slav global organisations (NATO, the EU), a unified Slav alternative to such associations should be created, thus to protect Slav culture as well as Slav languages; 3. the Congress denounced the bombing of Yugoslavia as a war crime by NATO and the USA, and proposes bringing the offenders to the International Court Tribunal; 4. the Congress unambiguously stands behind setting Ex-President S. Miloschevic free, and declares itself against the interference of the NATO countries within internal matters of Yugoslavia; 5. the Congress supports the unification of Slavs, first of all of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine, and wishes this unification to come about by the next Congress. This is the only way to prevent the destruction of the Slav nations.”

<sup>105</sup> Downloaded on 30 April 2003.

<sup>106</sup> Bolesław Tejkowski is the Chairman of the Polish non-parliamentary political party called Polska Wspólnota Narodowa, which ranks among the right-wing extremist, nationalistic spectrum. In his speech which he gave in Ostrava at the Congress of CCP on 21 September 2002 he stated that “...*All Slavs who were unified by socialism created for a half of the century for all their nations big opportunities of demographic, cultural as well as economic development and a growth of fortune... The year 1990 became the beginning of Slav disintegration and of huge expansions by the West against Slavs. Most threatened are Western Slavs ... the accession of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland to the European Union planned by Western Europe would be practically an occupation of Western Slavs by Germany. It would mean to cross out the results of the Second World War...It would be a preparation to force us to participate in armed aggression against Russia ...*” See *Slovanska vzajemnost*, monthly periodical of the Slav Committee of the Czech Republic, vol. V, No. 49. Downloaded on 30 April 2003. Similar wording can be found in his speech made at the conference: “...*globalisation is the highest grade of capitalism and imperialism as well as a present form of the US and EU dominance over other states and nations, it is a system which takes away sovereignty and national identity... The year 1990 became the start of an avalanche-like disintegration of Slav nations... How much own stupidity and how much Western diversion, mainly American and German, is present, will be assessed by history...What is most serious – in terms of programme almost all Slav countries oppose Russia which brings large political, economic, commercial, and social damage... Efforts to put them against eastern Slav nations, especially against Russia, equals to a revision of the results of the Second World War... Western Slav nations are being offered, as a guarantee of sovereignty and of development, the confederation or federation of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland, sympathetically supporting Lusatian Serbians.. Such a community will become once and forever a barrier to any Drang nach Osten... Our mission is to oppose globalisation and to raise a new establishment of social justice, a new fair world order providing equal rights to all states, a new Slav civilisation and a strengthening of our creative opportunities”.*

<sup>107</sup> The delegation stated at the forum the following: “...*After a counter-revolutionary coup d’etat – the restoration of capitalism is usually hidden using phrases about democracy and human rights - Slav states were broken up – Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia ... thus Europe returned to the situation before the First World War ... We have come through three stages of enforced destructive development – broken states, property take-over and a dragging into NATO committed aggression and war crimes against brotherly Yugoslavia. Now we are facing the fourth stage – a dragging into the European Union. That is as well as NATO a part of global capitalist integration... Germany remains a leading force of the EU; the Union is being changed in German Europe according to the Hitler model of “New Europe”. Therefore Germany has also the greatest interest in EU enlargement in the Eastern direction in the sense of the traditional German expansion policy Drang nach Osten...*” See the same web-site.

countries. The introduction of the Resolution reads: “*We cannot identify ourselves with the new world order forced upon us by the United States of America and NATO as well as by the European Union striving to subordinate all world countries to American-Union global dominance. Thus, nations face an increasing threat that they will be deprived of their ownership and identity, that they will be deprived of sovereignty, that the sphere of exploitation and poverty will be extended .... Today Drang nach Osten appears not only through the territorial and property claims of some German groups denying the results of the Second World War but is mainly manifested by the global penetration of the United States, NATO and the European Union into the territories of all Slav countries*”.<sup>108</sup> The main conclusions resulting from the Resolution contained the necessity to reject EU membership, to rise against integration with NATO and to reject its enlargement to the East since it is “*an attempt to drive a wedge between Russia and other Slav countries*”; and to initiate close and versatile co-operation with Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Lusatian Serbians which could be a starting point for the establishment of a Polish – Czech – Slovak confederation.<sup>109</sup> Such co-operation is to be carried out in close mutual relations with the countries of South and East Slavs since “*this creates the preconditions for even closer appurtenance of all Slav nations and countries*”.<sup>110</sup> Furthermore, the conference adopted a “*Proclamation to the Governments of Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia, requiring them to decisively defend the sovereign interests of the people of these countries at the international level*”.<sup>111</sup>

In 2002 the Slav Committee of the Czech Republic maintained contact with partner organisations and actively operated within the International Slav Committee. In 2003 (7 February) it participated in the “*Opinion of Patriotic Organisations Against the War in Iraq*” and in the “*Protest of Patriotic Organisations Against Opening the Office of Sudeten-German Landsmanschaft*”, sent to the central state bodies of the Czech Republic. Resistance to the EU led representatives of the SC CR to establish contact with nationalistic entities from the right-wing extremist spectrum (the NP and the NU). Currently they are preparing for the meeting of the International Slav Committee in Uzhorod which is to contribute to “*the unifying efforts of national Slav initiatives*”.

### 3.4 Protests Against the Prague NATO Summit in November 2002

#### Preparations

A single concept of a protest movement using similar strategies did not exist in 2001 with regard to the expected meeting of NATO representatives in Prague in November 2002. However, a meeting initiated by the anarchist organisations CSAF and CAS was held. Its aim was to establish a platform against the NATO meeting in Prague in 2002. This meeting was also attended by representatives of the Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists – Solidarity, Street for People, Earth First! the Feminist Group of 8 March, and the Antifascist Action. The Federation of Social Anarchists did not take part in the meeting. A platform against the NATO – **aniNATO Platform** - was set up at

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<sup>108</sup> See *Slovanska vzajemnost*, a monthly periodical issued by the Slav Committee of the Czech Republic. Vol. V. No. 50/2002. Downloaded on 30 April 2003. Further see *Halo noviny* from 3 December 2002 (“*Western Slavs Openly Against the EU*”)

<sup>109</sup> In this context the protagonists of the proposal refer to a historical concept of the Czechoslovak – Polish Confederation negotiated during the Second World War by the exile governments in London (E. Benes and W. Sikorski). It was a concept then conditioned by the period of when it was born, a project which ended up for many reasons unsuccessfully. See for example *Czechs and Poles in the Past II*. Prague 1967; Tadeusz Kisielewski, *Federacja środkowo-europejska*. Warszawa 1991; Ivan Stovicek, Jaroslav Valenta: *Czechoslovak – Polish Negotiations about Confederation 1939 – 1944*. Czechoslovak diplomatic documents, vol. 1 - 4. Prague 1994.

<sup>110</sup> Furthermore the “*Resolution*” expressed irritation with the refusal of the Czech Government to provide a visa to the Belarus President A. Lukashenko for the purpose of his participation in the NATO Summit in Prague; their protest against “*unlawful imprisonment*” of Slobodan Miloschevic in the Hague and the requirement for his immediate release, and eventually a protest against “*the prepared armed aggression of the USA and NATO against Iraq and the continuing aggression of Israel against Palestine*”; while at the same time they called for “*establishment of the sovereign Palestine state and for cancellation of the embargo against Iraq and for a peaceful resolution of Iraq problems*”.

<sup>111</sup> See *Slovanska vzajemnost*. Vol. V. No. 50. Downloaded on 30 April 2003.

this meeting which was to fulfil the same assignments as the platform called the Initiative Against Economic Globalisation (INPEG) did in 2000 during the protests against the IMF/WB meeting which was held in Prague<sup>112</sup>. Later also the course of protest preparation organised by the aforementioned organisations followed a similar model of protest actions carried out in 2000. As early as in February 2002 the first activities of foreign activists commenced, focusing on the renewal of the activities of the **Independent Media Centre (IMC)** in Prague.<sup>113</sup> Activities of the Internet radio “Jeleni” which came into existence in relation to anti-global actions during the IMF/WB Meeting in 2000 were renewed as well. During preparations a range of problems cropped up which the organisers were not able to adequately resolve (searching for suitable facilities to have an appropriate organisational background, collecting funds, accommodation for foreign participants, etc). In February 2002 supporters of the CSAF provided information to people abroad professing the same ideas on protest preparation and they simultaneously stated that the Czech party did not have enough resources or funds to ensure such events.<sup>114</sup> All these problems were accompanied by troubles relating to planning protest actions themselves arising from the heterogeneity of antiNATO platform entities on the view of the assumed course of individual demonstrations. In connection with the preparations for protest actions the CSAF initiated several international meetings of anti-global activists in Prague. The first meeting, in March, unambiguously showed **the different ideas which Czech and foreign activists had as to the nature of intended protest actions against the Summit.**

Activists recruiting from the purposely founded antiNATO platform preferred decentralised, peaceful actions while foreign activists wanted to organise traditional anti-global riots.<sup>115</sup> Activists of the Independent Media Centre (IMC), who participated in several international meetings with Czech organisers in the first half of 2002, inclined to mass and violent actions. The July meeting of the antiNATO platform was followed by a text, published on the IMC Prague server, called “Proposal of the Form of Protests during the NATO Summit, 21 – 22 November 2002”, including a concrete proposal of actions to be held in Prague which the representatives of organisers associated in this platform had agreed on. The CSAF announced on its web-sites that on 21 September 2002 there would

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<sup>112</sup> In April 2002 the CSAF implemented special web-sites devoted to “NATO and antimilitarism generally” where they placed an archive of articles and texts related to the above topics. The web-sites were to serve as an information source about street protests being then prepared. The proclamation of the CSAF contained the following: *“For millions of our hard-earned taxes, tens of country heads, often responsible for causing the outbreak of wars or guilty of supporting dictators or terrorists, will be hosted here. The reason for their meeting is to discuss how best to defend “civilisation”, as they ostentatiously call the system in which they are powerful and in whose decisions the majority of other people are not able to interfere. This system is in fact not possible to maintain, which is proven by the increasingly high numbers of social and ecological disasters which are a result of it, as well as by wars, the arms race and other consequences of militarism... Therefore we have decided that on the occasion of the NATO meeting we will come up in our campaign not only against this particular meeting but against NATO and militarism as such, and against the system which has given rise to them ...”* Downloaded on 18 April 2002. A leaflet *“Give peace a chance! Stop the NATO meeting”* provides basic information of the CSAF about *“the NATO meeting, structures of this organisation; it denies some fundamental myths about this organisation and provides information about the opinions of anarchist organisations”* A special issue of A-kontra was available on these web-sites presenting the opinion they stood for on NATO.

<sup>113</sup> The Independent Media Centre (IMC) was set up during demonstrations in Seattle in November 1999 as an independent journalist centre co-ordinating the course of the protest actions and at the same time providing information to the mass media. The **Czech Branch of the IMC** was established in the course of preparation of the protest actions against the Meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Prague in 2000; it participated considerably in managing the protest actions. However after this meeting its activities were dumped and it was only renewed at the beginning of 2002 in relation to the preparation of protest actions against the NATO Summit. **The principal objectives of the IMC in Prague in 2002 were:** 1. to explain from an ideological point of view the reasons for the protests; 2. to cover the protests against the Summit; 3. to a certain extent to manage and co-ordinate the course of the protest actions; 4. to receive feedback, 5. to provide information adjusted to the needs of anti-global activists, to media all over the world, and 6. to organise press conferences.

<sup>114</sup> See <http://www.ainfos.ca>

<sup>115</sup> A “riot” is a typical demonstration characterised by a “rolling crowd”, blocking city transport or services, having a certain “carnival atmosphere” and often accompanied with violent excess from the side of participants.

be an “AntiNATO Street Party”, which should be a “rehearsal” for police repression. This Prague event followed a similar Street Party organised in Bratislava on 14 September as part of the international resistance movement. Representatives of the antiNATO platform also agreed that under a situation when Czech state bodies refused to allow foreign participants to enter the Czech Republic, solidarity anti-summit actions would be held abroad, for example in Poland, Germany, Austria, or in Slovakia.<sup>116</sup>

The form and then also the course of the protest actions themselves against the November NATO Summit were predetermined by the small response from the side of foreign activists whose radical attitudes the organisers relied on.<sup>117</sup> A certain role was also played by the presentation of measures adopted by the police forces prepared directly in Prague as well as measures taken on the Czech national border and stricter security measures adopted in neighbouring states.

### **Actions Against the NATO Summit**

The “overture” to the demonstrations against the NATO Summit announced on 21 – 22 November 2002 was a commemorating assembly held on 17 November 2002 followed by a march across Prague. The motto of this event was “After thirteen years of capitalism we need a new revolution.”<sup>118</sup> Contrary to what was anticipated as being a mass event, the march was attended by about 150 persons who did not allow to any disturbance of the public peace. On 20 November 2002 the first street protests of the antiNATO platform were organised. There was a protest against the festive dinner of Summit participants: *“The whole protest is to stress the fact that delegates who are hidden behind several police cordons and will, using silver cutlery, tuck in to luxurious delicacies served on Meiseen porcelain, are the same who will the next day, at rest, agree on the further killing of thousands of innocent civilians. The armament costs of the NATO countries would be able to feed all the starving people in the world. In spite of this, more and more money is spent on new weapons.”*<sup>119</sup> About 250 persons participated in this event and they finished in front of the closed zone around the Municipal House in Prague. The main demonstration held on 21 November 2002 did not disturb public order either. According to police estimations it was attended by 1,000 – 1,200 persons (according to the activists of the antiNATO platform there were about 4,000 people). From the gathering place on the Square of Peace participants marched along Rumunská Street where they divided. One part continued towards Nuselský Bridge where they protested in front of police barriers, whilst the second part continued along Belohradská Street to Nusle. Both streams merged in Belohradská Street and the march continued along Otakarova and Kresomyslova streets, passed the theatre Na Fidlovacce and continued to Jaromirova, Na Slupi, and Svobodova streets to the Rasin Embankment, and then along Resslova and Jecna streets to the Square of I.P.Pavlov and along Jugoslávská Street back to the Square of Peace where the event finished at about 8:30 p.m. On 22 November 2002, activists (about 200 people) organised a march from the Square of Peace to Nuselský Bridge where they put in front of the barriers a paper dummy of a tank and returned, taking the same

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<sup>116</sup> Protest organisers were aware of stricter security measures on the Czech national border where all legal regulations were used to prevent militant activists from entering the Czech Republic. In larger towns near the border so-called Border Points were established (Dresden, Wratislaw, Vienna, Bratislava) which provided activists with information on the most suitable and safest points for crossing the national border. Information was spread also on the Internet.

<sup>117</sup> The expected interest of foreign activists was neither shown during the event called “The Second European Conference of People’s Global Action” held in Leyden, the Netherlands (August 2002) nor in the event organised under the name of No Border Camp held by Slovenian militant anarchists alongside with the Italian Ya Basta!, attended by a representative of the CSAF (28 August – 1 September 2002). Foreign activists paid attention mainly to the anti-global event “European Social Forum” held in Florence which immediately preceded the NATO Summit in Prague. A part of potential German demonstrators in Prague could have been “drained” by protests of anarcho-autonomous activists against the transportation of nuclear waste CASTOR to a dumping site in Gorleben. The assumed participation of anarchists from post-communist countries was not confirmed either.

<sup>118</sup> See ANTINATO news. “antiNATO: for the first time in streets.” Downloaded on 26 November 2002.

<sup>119</sup> From the press statement of the antiNATO platform. Downloaded on 30 April 2003. On 20 November 2002 the so-called Convergence Centre (CC) was vacated. This centre was established in the former hall of the CKD enterprise. The rent agreement was terminated by a notice given by the company director. See ANTINATO. Downloaded on 26 November 2002.

route back to the Square of Peace, and after 4:00 p.m. they started to break up.<sup>120</sup> Contrary to the demonstrations against the IMF/WB Meeting in 2000 the public peace was not seriously disturbed during the 2002 demonstrations and participants proceeded in compliance with the instructions of organisers and the Czech police. The only breach of the Summit was an incident at the final press conference where two members of the Russian Nationalistic Bolshevic Party threw tomatoes and hit George Robertson.

Compared with the anti-global event “European Social Forum” held on 8 - 9 November 2002 in Florence at which about 500,000 people gathered, the participation in the protests against the NATO Summit in Prague was almost negligible.<sup>121</sup> The evaluation of the organisers of the protest actions against the NATO Summit in Prague is based on the statement that “The police and representatives of executive and legislative power have threatened NATO adversaries for a long period of time and adopted a number of drastic measures to restrict freedom of assembly, association, movement, and other rights...”<sup>122</sup> After experience of actions carried out against the IMF/WB Meeting in Prague and after statements of the Czech police prior to the commencement of the NATO Summit on the state of preparation to ensure order in streets, they allegedly changed their tactics. Such a change consisted in intentional arrangement of peaceful demonstrations in accordance with the plan drawn up in advance. In fact, anti-global activists were not able to ensure scheduled protest actions either in terms of organisation or with regard to money. The demonstrations held by them in any single case did not meet assumptions advised by activists themselves on the nature of the protests, thus the demonstrations did not meet their expectations.<sup>123</sup>

Right-wing extremists also expressed their disagreement with the Prague NATO Summit, however their actions were, in comparison with events organised by left-wing extremists, only marginal. No large action was seen. The demonstration of the National Party held on 22 November 2003 at Old Town Square could be considered the most significant one.

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<sup>120</sup> According to the statements made by the antiNATO platform the intention of the marches toward Nuselsky Bridge was to show that it is the Czech police “*that violated the laws during the NATO Summit. Although we being anarchists (i.e. adversaries to this establishment and its rule of law) met all our obligations, despite this the police prevented us from using our right of assembly...The long and short of it: the aim was to show that laws apply only sometimes and for some people*”. See ANTINATO. Downloaded on 26 November 2002.

<sup>121</sup> In the framework of the “European Social Forum” the topics relating to NATO, the relationship between Europe and the USA, the continuing war against terrorism, and relations of the Western world with Islam were discussed. Militant anti-global activities known by the growing aggression and commitment of violent offences, seeking clashes with police forces as representatives of repressive state units did not push through at the huge anti-global action.

<sup>122</sup> See the press realise of the AntiNATO platform – We are living in a police state. Downloaded on 28 April 2003. According to the published statement of J.W.Krovinek on 15 December they submitted to the relevant authorities a complaint on the procedure of the police and they lodged criminal information in this context. Before the demonstration an analysis criticising the police “Decalogue” under the name “**The Police Decalogue = the Police State**” was published on the Internet. The analysis ended as follows: “*the police calls show that the police do not wish their intervention in the streets to be under public control and they do not wish any contact of citizens with demonstrators. But citizens have a right to both which cannot be challenged – this must be remembered*”. Downloaded on 26 November 2002.

<sup>123</sup> The evaluation of the Czech police’s security measures and the strategy of state authorities in preparing a safe NATO Summit in Prague. See the Report on the Situation in Public Order and Internal Security in the Czech Republic in 2002 (in comparison with 2001). This report will be submitted to the Government by 30 June 2003.

### 3.5 Dangerous Sects and Pseudo-religious Organisations<sup>124</sup>

With a range of sects and pseudo-religious organisations operating in the country, the situation in the Czech Republic in 2002 was in no way different to that in other European countries. **In 2002, as well as in previous years, no demonstrable crime by dangerous sects was recorded in the Czech Republic.** In this area, the Czech authorities **can make use of information from abroad and take it into account in their approach.**<sup>125</sup> Despite this, it is essential to note the main potential threats to the state in connection with the existence of such organisations. **In terms of intelligence services, sects could be dangerous if their activities go against the principles of the state. According to the police, a destructive sect is one whose declarations and whose members' actions are in conflict with criminal law.**

To determine the social danger of a sect it is first of all necessary to assess from all points of view its nature and potential. This means to possess fundamental data such as the number of members of a sect and their locations, the internal structure of a group, contacts abroad, attitude towards the state, sources of income, or extension of economic activities. Among the most serious risks is the infiltration of state structures, including the armed forces, by members of pseudo-religious organisations. All over the world these groups try to penetrate state structures with subversive objectives, or with the aim of acquiring know-how, or of gaining positions which would allow them to use their influence to the benefit of the group to which they belong. A further risk is a religious group that is convinced of a mission it is to fulfil – their members may try to gain corresponding technical knowledge in the armed forces or may use violent means against the armed forces as a symbol of the “despised state”. Threats coming unexpectedly from small groups which have not previously been recorded as a potential threat tend to be the most dangerous. Even a smaller and less organised sect can become dangerous in the event that its members have links to members of terrorist, extremist, and other criminal organisations. This is a new point of view which should be taken into account after the terrorist attack committed against the United States on 11 September 2001.

Most sects however do not make themselves visible and establish their communities in seclusion and in remote areas. The security units are informed of such communities after affected persons lodge complaints, or on the basis of local and personal information and findings.<sup>126</sup> ***This is a very complicated issue which is not approached uniformly in European countries and is the subject of extensive discussion.***

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<sup>124</sup> This Chapter is drawn up from open sources. See Jiri Dvoracek, *Sekty a nove nabozenske smery na konci milenia* (Sects and Religious Trends at the End of the Millennium) in *Kriminalisticky sbornik*, No. 1, 2001, p. 36-40; Miloslav Zan, *Sekty –aktualni problem* (Sects – an Actual Problem), In: *Kriminalisticky sbornik*, No. 2, 1999, p. 34-38; Ladislava Kulikova - Lenka Simkova, *Sekty nebo nabozenska hnuti?* (Sects or New Religious Movements?), In: *Kriminalisticky sbornik*, No. 1, 1999, p. 30-36. A lot of monographic books deal with these issues, described from various points of view. (e.g. Zdenek Vojtisek: *Netradicni nabozenstvi u nas* (Untraditional Religions in Our Country), Prague 1998; Dusan Luzny: *Nova naboizenska hnuti*. (New Religious Movements), Masaryk University, Brno 1997, Jean – Marie Abgrall: *Mechanismus sekt* (Mechanism of Sects) Charles University Prague 1999; Lubos Kropacek: *Islamsky fundamentalismus* (Islamic Fundamentalism), Prague 1996).

<sup>125</sup> In 2002 according to available findings this issue did not represent any risk in the Central European Geopolitical Area. See Chapter 5. The Extremist Scene in the Central European Geopolitical Area. Dangerous Religious Sects and Pseudo-religious Organisation Issues.

<sup>126</sup> **The Society for Sect and New Religious Movement Studies, with its seats in Prague and Brno, and which also co-operates with the Czech police, monitors and watches apparent sects and so-called new religious movements on a long-term basis**



### **3.6 Terrorism as a Potential Means of Achieving Extremist Objectives**<sup>127</sup>

Terrorism is a method of threatening political opponents using violence and threats of violence. Persons employing terror attempt to create extreme psychological pressure among individuals and groups of citizens.

Manifestations of terrorism are affected by the internal political situation and by development in the international situation. Generally, the Czech extremist scene, as any other similar scene, is a classic environment for the emergence of politically oriented internal terrorist activities. The main potential risk here is the radicalisation of domestic extremist groups, their links to more militant foreign groups, and their potential misuse by other organisations for their own purposes or interests. The possibility of a single, spontaneous reaction by an individual or a small group still remains.

In connection with the current international political situation the world is paying attention to the issues of Islamic fundamentalism, the consequence of which is Islamic extremism and related risks.<sup>128</sup> Although the Czech Republic, unlike some EU Member States, is not a country with a strong Islamic community, the risks linked to the growth of Islamic extremism cannot be excluded in its territory either.

### **3.7 Notes on the Relation of Some Subcultures with Manifestations of Extremism**

Some special subcultures are sometimes linked to extremism. Squatting, spray painting (graffiti) and so-called fan violence (hooligans) are worldwide elements and do not represent any special phenomena in the Czech Republic. State administration bodies and the national police of all states struggle with these. Problem relating to the existence of squatting and spray painting are perceived differently and resolved in different manners with more or less tolerance. A different view is, in the Europe-wide framework, taken in relation to fan violence, which is perceived as a very serious problem requiring permanent attention at the prevention level as well as at the level of repression, not only at national levels but particularly at the level of supranational co-operation. This arises from the fact that fan violence nowadays reflects to a larger extent racist and other xenophobic manifestations which must be eliminated.<sup>129</sup>

The issue of so-called darkers and pharkers is a mere Czech invention and has not been seen abroad.

The issue of techno-parties and motorcycle gangs can be mentioned marginally.

Techno-parties are sometimes included among extremist activities. Persons recruiting from the anarcho-autonomous environment and their supporters as well as young people with non-conformist opinions without any links to the anarcho-autonomous scene participate in them.

Motorcycle gangs are also perceived in connection with extremism. However their inclusion among extremist entities is not quite accurate. Their activities are mainly linked to organised crime and presently they can be described as a serious problem of a global nature. The Czech Republic does not have experience of such gangs comparable with that of other foreign countries.

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<sup>127</sup> By its Resolution No. 385 dated 10 April 2002 the Government approved “The National Action Plan on Combating Terrorism“. The National Action Plan on Combating Terrorism (updated text for 2003) was adopted by Government resolution No. 361 dated 14 April 2003 and is available on the Ministry of the Interior’s web-sites – in the documents section. For more details and adopted measures see “The Report on Public Order and Internal Security Situation in the Czech Republic in 2002 (in comparison with 2001).

<sup>128</sup> For example John. F. Murphy. Jr., *Sword of Islam. Muslim Extremism from the Arab Conquests to the Attack on America*. New York 2001; Albert Hourani: *Historia Arabów. Narody i cywilizacje*. Gdańsk 2002. EUMC (European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia) paid after 11 September 2001 its attention to manifestations of Islamofobia in 15 EU Member States See <http://eumc.at> : Summary Report on Islamofobia in the EU after 11 September 2001.

<sup>129</sup> See Racism, Football and the Internet. European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia 04/2002.

## **Squatting<sup>130</sup>**

A squat is established by the illegal occupation of desolated or unused real estate by a group of mainly young people. Squatting, as a movement, is perceived by squatters themselves in very different ways. Some consider it a life philosophy, for others it is a temporary solution to their current life situation, while the rest see in it a kind of vanguard of social revolution. However, what is common to them all is a criticism of the current social system. They consider this to be unethical, immoral, and based on profit and exploitation.

**By its nature squatting is close to the anarcho-autonomous scene and the majority of squatters incline to radical left-wing ideas.** Squatting does not have its own comprehensible and single ideology and the motto of squatting is “occupy and live”.<sup>131</sup>

## **Legislative Framework**

Whilst squatting, i.e. illegally occupying unused premises, squatters breach the law and commit the crime of trespass of house, flat or non-residential premises under Section 249a of the Criminal Code.

## **Spray Painting – Graffiti<sup>132</sup>**

This is a contemporary form of vandalism consisting of spray-painting the facades of buildings, walls, or trains and, in many cases, cultural sights and other spaces, with pictures of various colours or unintelligible texts and signatures.

This phenomenon came to the Czech Republic in the 1990s. Of course it was Prague which became the centre of the sprayers’ creativity. Currently the number of sprayers is estimated in the Czech Republic to be several thousand. Their motivation is different - from efforts to express resistance to the consumer society, to mere adventure. Sprayers cause high damage to the Czech Republic, amounting to CZK several hundred million a year. Local bodies try to fight such phenomena using all possible means (from announcing rewards for catching sprayers to attempting to mark off several places where sprayers can draw with impunity).<sup>133</sup>

## **Legislative Framework**

Sprayers may be committing a crime under Section 257 (damaging another’s property) of the Criminal Code. By amendment to the Criminal Code, from 1 July 2001 a new subsection – 257a was included besides Sec. 257. This subsection regulates damage to another’s property by painting,

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<sup>130</sup> The words squat and squatter come from American English where they originally meant settlers settling at a territory owned by nobody. Within the last decades these words have been used for little groups made up predominantly of young people occupying deserted flats or houses.

<sup>131</sup> Within the Czech Republic Prague has become a centre of squatting where, since 1990, seven squats in total have been established. These were the Smichov colony Budanka cleared out by the police in 1992; “Golden Ship” house in Naprstkova Street in the Old Town (cleared out by the police in 1994); the house generally called Sochorka in Prague 7 (cleared out by the police in 1997); a squat in Liben in Zenklova Street (cleared out by the police in 1998); and the Landronka farmhouse (cleared out by the police in 2000). The last known squat is the currently occupied villa Milada situated in Troja. The only legal squat in the Czech Republic was established on the basis of the agreements concluded between squatters and the Municipal Board of Prague 7 – it is the squat in the street Za Papirnou (a squat project of the Centre of Free Education) where squatters pay a symbolic rent – one Czech crown per a square meter per year.

<sup>132</sup> Graffiti came into existence at the turn of the 1960s and 1970s in the USA. Graffiti reached its climax in New York with start of hip-hop and black rappers in the middle of the 1980s.

The development of graffiti started discussion as to whether graffiti is or is not art. Graffiti, step by step, came to galleries and exhibition halls. In the middle of the 1980s this phenomenon was perceived in France as a special form of pop art. Unintelligible signs, colourful surfaces and “tags” on the walls of city buildings attracted the attention of sociologists, psychologists as well as art theoreticians. At Paris Sorbonna and at several private universities departments for graffiti studies were established. However, there have been more and more painted spaces, the motives have been repeated and sprayers have not saved even private properties or historical buildings and the public have started to reject graffiti.

<sup>133</sup> Since 1 July 2000 the capital city of Prague has marked off several places where sprayers can draw with impunity. These “legal” surfaces were even before marked off in a number of towns in the Czech Republic. However, as was shown later, this in no event solved the problem with spray painting.

spraying or writing on it with paint or any other substance. This crime is punished by a sentence from 2 to 8 years of imprisonment for an offender who by his/her conduct causes extensive damage.

Separate, however, are very serious manifestations of spray painting falling under Sec. 198a of the Criminal Code on the incitement of national or racial hatred or the violation of human rights and freedoms, and under Sec. 260, 261, 261a – the support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms. It is necessary to add that this is a different kind of offence, and it is not possible in any event to identify such offenders with “classical” sprayers.

### **Spectator Violence<sup>134</sup>**

Crowd violence of fans, so called football “hooliganism”, is also sometimes considered to be extremism. Hooliganism is based on physical attacks by fans who are enemies of individual clubs, and riotous conduct before, during and after sport matches.

In our republic “hooligans” aroused public notice more seriously in 1985 when disreputable fans of the Prague club, Sparta, coming back by fast train from Banska Bystrica made a mess in a train and caused damage of more than half a million Czech crowns. Within the next several years, more or less organised groups of “fans” of the largest football clubs, such as Sparta Prague, Banik Ostrava, and Slovan Bratislava, came into existence. After splitting of Czechoslovakia, when the Czech league was established, the situation in the football stadiums temporarily calmed down. In the past the fans of one club had used be a quite heterogeneous group who met ad hoc during matches of their team.

Nowadays there are actual, yet not very numerous, gangs of well organised “fans”, one club having even several such gangs (e.g. Red Pirates Sparta, Sparta Prague, Slavia Hooligans). A great extent of organisation can also be proved by the conclusion of so-called coalition agreements between individual gangs, even at the international level, which then travel to express their support during so-called “risky matches”. They have their trains, signs and web-sites, on which they present and evaluate individual “trips” to matches, conclude truces or declare hostility. They are not very interested in the course of the football matches themselves.

A lot of hooligans recruit from supporters of the skinhead movement who exclusively intend to cause disturbances and want to breach public peace. Among well-known in the past and traditionally problematic football hooligans are supporters of AC Sparta and FC Banik Ostrava, and the current hooligans of SFC Opava, where the absolute majority of them are skinheads; and hooligans from Liberec, who also recruit among skinhead movement supporters can be added. In 2002 in Brno the Johny Kentus Gang, that also attacked local alternative and ultra-left-wing young people, was the most militant.

The “ideology” of hooligan movements is a cult of violence consisting in initiating riotous conduct and physical attacks. It is not rare for innocent people to also be drawn into such conflicts. A security risk of this movement consists of drunk hooligans easily directing their aggression against anybody at hand. This movement can not be unambiguously labelled as extremist (in the sense in which the term extremism is defined for the purpose of this Report), but thanks to a large amount of support for skinhead movements among hooligans and the number of crimes committed having an extremist context during football matches, it contains elements of extremism.

### **Bodies Dealing with This Issue**

A Co-ordination Commission on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular Football Matches, was established in the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic in 1996 on the basis of Government Resolution No. 27, through which the Czech Republic joined the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular Football Matches. Members of the Commission are representatives of the Ministry of the Interior, the

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<sup>134</sup> English rowdies started with disorderly conduct in stadiums in the late 1970s, a wave of violence they passed into Europe. The public peace is also broken by temperamental girls in South America, Africa, and Asia. Raging spectators cause tremendous damage to property and football history is marked by the blood of many people injured, and also the dead. A breakthrough in the struggle against football hooliganism was the Brussels tragedy in 1985 during the finale of the Master’s Cup, when directly in the auditorium of Heysel Stadium 42 spectators died either crushed by the ruins of a destroyed wall, or were trampled down. The attack was led by the fans of the English Liverpool team, while the victims were predominantly fans of Juventus Torino.

Czech police, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports; and invited co-operating entities are representatives of the Czech-Moravian Football Union and the Czech Union of Ice Hockey. One of the assignments of the Commission is to draw up annually a National Report on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular Football Matches. This Report is submitted at the meeting of the Permanent Committee of the European Convention.

In 1995 an Agreement on Mutual Co-operation While Ensuring Public Order, the Protection of People and Property Security During Football Matches was concluded between the Czech police and the Bohemian-Moravian Football Union. This Agreement was concluded for a year, however every year before the League starts, the Police President and the Chairman of the Bohemian-Moravian Football Union sign its extension. Further, there is the Commission for Safety at Stadiums operating alongside with the Bohemian-Moravian Football Union which is to assist with the implementation of the five-year programme aimed at modernising stadiums.

On 15 – 18 April 2002 there was a meeting in Brussels of professionals from the whole of Europe for the prevention and resolution of fan violence. The participants came to an agreement on procedures to exchange information relating to the prevention of violence and to security measures during international matches. They also agreed to establish “National Football Information Points” in countries with teams in European cups or playing qualifications matches for the European or World Championships.

### **Legislative Framework**

During football matches “hooligans” very often commit crimes under Sections 202 (hooliganism), 257 (damaging another’s property), 225 (brawling), 221 (injury to health) and last but not least, when getting into conflicts with the police, also Section 155 (an assault on public officials) of the Criminal Code. Through the amendment to Act No.405/2000 Coll., it is possible to classify their conduct as being under Section 198a (incitement of national and racial hatred or violating another person’s rights and freedoms). **The absolute majority of these “hooligans” are right-wing extremists, and there are skinheads among them. So frequently we can hear at the stadiums fascist greetings (*Sieg Heil*), which means that such persons commit a crime under Section 260 (support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms).**

**Within fan violence, manifestation of extremist conduct can be seen.** The reasons why policemen involved in extremism from the District level to the Czech Police Presidium deal also with this phenomenon are described above. Of course they work in co-ordination with uniformed police forces.

### **Darking and Phreaking**

**Darking** is a kind of “hacking” and it is an exclusively Czech invention. It is underground entertainment lying in disconnecting electricity in large areas by destroying sections of high voltage (HV). **Phreaking** is most frequently linked to damaging telephone switchboards and public telephone boxes, calling free of charge abroad and by connecting to the Internet network. Another illicit activity is related to the abovementioned offences – “hacking” of so-called “phreaking”, i.e. the hacking of the web-sites of individuals and corporations by penetrating their e-mail boxes or by producing false telephone cards.

Only one group used to be involved in darking, the group that devised this “adrenalin sport”. This foundation group which was set up in November 2001 calls itself **Darkers Group No. 1** and is subordinated to a larger group of hackers RJ – 11 Security Alliance. They commenced their activities by attacking Cesky Telecom, a.s. (a.s. = joint stock company) and continued by attacking the high voltage equipment of the energy distribution network of the CEZ company. They “promoted” their work on the Internet and called other interested people to join them. The main part of the group comes from Bohemia but it was gradually joined by other persons coming from North Moravian, South Moravian, North Bohemian, South Bohemian, and Central Bohemian Regions who work partially independently. On publicly accessible web-sites they publish for example, under the name Darking, descriptions of unauthorised interferences with electricity equipment including the resulting consequences and a description how to successfully proceed when attacking Cesky Telecom, a.s. and

other large companies.<sup>135</sup> Such activities are carried out by young people mainly at the age between 17 and 20 years who are proficient with a good knowledge of software and hardware and information technology.

The danger of their acts lies mainly in the fact that the equipment they damage ensures the supply of electricity to municipalities or their parts, to institutions of general interest including health facilities, and thus the endangering of health and lives cannot be excluded. The fact that well-wishers of darking and phreaking provide publicly available instructions on how to perform such activities is very serious. The Czech police started to deal with such cases in April 2002. **Investigations showed that darkers intended to use their experiences with darking and phreaking during the course of the NATO Summit in Prague in November and thus to present themselves in the environment of the Czech anarcho-autonomous scene.** As a consequence the Czech police started to closely watch these groups from 7 November 2002.

Although the groups of people linked to darking and phreaking cannot be connected directly to the extremist scene, generally their proficiency and sophistication makes them useful to the representatives of such a scene. **Therefore, the risk of their possible use by extremists cannot be neglected.**

### **Legislative Framework**

By their acts darkers commit the crime of common danger under Sec. 179 (1), (2) (a) of the Criminal Code, and the crime of damaging and endangering the operation of a public utility under Sec. 182 (1), (c), (2) (a) of the Criminal Code.

### **Techno-parties**

A new kind of a protest against the consuming society are techno-parties. Contrary to the announced techno-parties which have usually been held in closed areas, where participants have to buy tickets and the parties are organised by a stewarding service, **unauthorised techno-parties** are organised in the countryside, no rules are observed and the atmosphere among participants evokes a feeling of “absolute freedom”.

The scenario of unauthorised techno-parties is always the same. Groups of individuals owning sound equipment advertise on web-sites an offer to arrange musical productions in the open air. In the case of good weather they can manage via the Internet but more often by using mobile phones to call within a quite short period of time (about 12-16 hours) an assembly of several thousand people. Foreign supporters of such actions know the approximate time in advance and they arrive in the Czech Republic. For their private transport they also use vehicles laid up by the army; their technological condition does not correspond to the conditions for transport on land communications and they jeopardise road safety. The exact place where the party is organised is found by the participants on the Internet, where info-lines are available in the shortest possible time in advance and they work only 3 or 4 hours before the beginning of the event. Using the form of an “endless loop” the organisers record directions for the journey to the destination of the event. On the day when the party is held there are long lines of vehicles which are directed by the organisers to the right place which is then occupied without the relevant bodies or land owners being informed. Once organisers step back and are not seen, the event itself lasts several days. Musical production is not managed and there is total anarchy among participants, including the abuse of alcohol and drugs. Hygiene and safety conditions are not ensured either. The owners of the sound systems also operate stalls with refreshment with very high prices, at which the simultaneous sale of narcotic substances can be assumed. Techno-parties in the Czech Republic are frequently attended by foreign visitors since they do not have the opportunity to organise similar events in their mother countries thanks to well elaborated legislation (e.g. the prohibition on parking more than two caravans on a lay-by – the Netherlands, or prohibition on stopping a caravan outside a lay-by – Germany). During these events the participants exchange extensive experiences from similar actions held abroad and make new contacts, which means indirect possible preparation of future parties.

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<sup>135</sup> They disconnected ground sections of high voltage, and they penetrated electric branch boxes which they damaged causing fall-out losses of electrical energy and failures in electricity supply.

## Legislative Framework

In the case of “unauthorised techno-parties”, these are considered to be uncontrolled actions where organisers occupy land without informing the owner and without informing the relevant bodies pursuant to respective legal regulations. The organisers of such events disturb public order and peace and breach generally binding regulations including the Act on Assembly; they also violate health regulations, etc.

During techno-parties illicit acts are committed, in particular **crimes** under **Sec. 181b of the Criminal Code** (endangering the environment by negligence), **Sec. 187 and Sec. 188 of the Criminal Code** (unauthorised production and possession of narcotic and psychotropic substances and poisons), Sec. 188a (spreading of addiction), Sec. 152 of the Criminal Code (infringement of copyright) and a range of **misdemeanours** under **Act No. 200/1990 Coll.**

## Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs – OMC

Motorcycle gangs appeared in the USA after the end of the Second World War. The **HELLS ANGELS** - pilots of fighting aid squadron – were among the establishers of this style. They became the first motorcycle gang carrying out large illicit trade. All other motorcycle gangs which followed this model however always lagged behind. The HELLs ANGELS gained more and more influence – they took over drug markets, “trade in sex” and eventually they got under their control the majority of illicit markets in arms.<sup>136</sup>

The motto for motorcycle gangs is “Fuck The World” (FTW). Members of gangs use it very often on their “club colours” or tattoos.<sup>137</sup> Motorcycle gangs changed their image a long time ago. A tramp-like appearance, wearing “colours” or racists symbols arousing the interest of the police, are presented only during so-called “rides” and at joint rallies, events and especially when they want to threaten people. Today’s typical representative of a motorcycle gang does not differ from other populations of society

The fundamental philosophy of OMC gangs includes, apart from the above-stated motto, values such as revenge, faithfulness, and life priorities (own colours, a club, and a motorcycle). Their members from an ideological point of view identify themselves with the superiority of the Aryan race, and thus with the views of A. Hitler. It frequently results in their tattoos, emblems, and badges, the members wear swastikas, clenched fists of White Power and little badges propagating the “superiority of the white race”. They very often distance themselves from such manifestations in the public since the propagation of fascism and Nazism is in many countries, mainly in Europe, strictly monitored, and a good pretext for the police to intervene. Although members of motorcycle gangs propagate the “superiority of the white race” they co-operate with all nationalities and they do not distinguish between them if it brings them profit. Traditional racism against Afro-American and Hispanic gangs was not in compliance with the commercial interests of motorcycle gangs, and therefore manifestations of racism were strictly removed from the “commercial activities” of motorcycle gangs. They realised the advantages of co-operation with or subordination of “other than white gangs”, and thus they are linked through commercial interests with Arians Brotherhood as well as Afro-American street gangs. **Nevertheless, it is impossible that anybody else other than a member of a “white race” could become a member of the OMC gang.**

Nowadays motorcycle gangs have become a serious problem in the area of criminality in many countries of the world. This problem seems to be growing. Their acts demonstrate a high level of brutality arising from criminal offences committed by gang members (trading in women and drugs, extortion, kidnapping, robberies, thefts as well as contracted murders, etc). At the same time their

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<sup>136</sup> See Yves Lavinge, *Taking Care of Business*. Toronto 1987. The Canadian author writes in his book: “Sonny Barget (*a charismatic leader of the HELLs ANGELS at the turn of 1970s and 1980s*) did for the HELLs ANGELS as much as Lee Iaccoca for the Chrysler Corporation – he rebuilt a negligent, unmanaged organisation as the reliable, creditworthy, and strictly organised corporation. He removed from the HELLs ANGELS branches and individuals demonstrating primitive manifestations and directed the HELLs ANGELS to such expansion that in 1987 HELLs ANGELS owned in total 67 motorcycle gangs (in 1965 there were only six of them)”.

<sup>137</sup> Currently it is perceived in a new dimension because of economic profit and the expansion of motorcycle gangs to the whole world as a multinational corporation.

organisations can boast of very good and elaborate structures, they frequently have their “people” among the police, justice, and other state authorities. **Therefore it is a form of well-elaborated organised crime which could spread to the Czech Republic in future.**

*For several years there has been a worldwide project called ROCKERS under the auspices of the INTERPOL focused on efforts to find a solution to the problem of motorcycle gangs. Policemen dealing with this issue meet within this project and exchange their findings and procedures used in combating motorcycle gangs.*

### **Legislative Framework**

Members of motorcycle gangs commit extensive and mainly organised serious crimes resulting in a range of criminal acts. **However, up to date no prosecution has been led in the Czech Republic with regard to motorcycle gangs.**

## **4. Crimes Having an Extremist Context<sup>138</sup>**

### **4.1 Background**

**Mostly right-wing extremist supporters of the skinhead movement, left-wing extremist “anarcho-autonomists”<sup>139</sup>, and also citizens of the majority of society who do not have any links to any extremist movements and who do not profess any extremist ideology in the so-called “situational conflict”, committed crimes with an extremist context.**

As in previous years, the occurrence of crimes with an extremist context remained the same in terms of its percentage share of total crime– not very high. Such a low percentage share of this type of crime, however, does not diminish the fact that it is very serious, since not all offences of this kind were reported to the Czech police and latent crime often arising from stereotypes of society represents a certain danger. **No terrorist crimes were committed in connection with extremism.<sup>140</sup> No information confirming offences committed by sects was proven either.** The relevant state bodies regarding state security need to protect the current constitutional establishment and also pay attention to the activities of organisations which profess an active desire for a return to the totalitarianism of before 1989 or to its more contemporary authoritative modification. The supporters of such movements do not commit any criminal offences, however there are serious concerns relating to their subversive activities resulting from, apart from other things, the introduction of social tension in certain regions.

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<sup>138</sup> This Chapter was processed with the help of information provided by the Service of Criminal and Investigatory Police of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic. The information provided contained an assessment of the situation regarding the extremist scene and the information of regional experts dealing with extremist issues. **As a synonym for the term “crime motivated by racial, national or other social hate”, the Report uses a term “crime with an extremist context” (extremist crime/criminality).** This Chapter deals with crimes ascertained and does not take into account latent crime of this kind.

<sup>139</sup> **The summary term for anarchist, Trotskyists, and autonomous attitudes.** Those attitudes possess some common features, however there are some differences which can end up in deep dispute. (The degree of organisational structures and centralisation, relations to politics, willingness to co-operate with extremist organisations of a different type, etc).

<sup>140</sup> In 2003 (21 – 22 May) a monument in the area of the Cross of Reconciliation in Teplice upon Metuje was damaged. The whole monument was painted black and was drawn with white headings saying “Death to Germans”, symbols of swastikas, and symbols of SS troops. Furthermore a container with an unknown substance was placed here. An ascertained booby trap was sent for special verification. **This case is being investigated under Sec. 257b/1 a Sec. 198a/1 of the Criminal Code.**

Out of the total number of 372,341 ascertained crimes committed in the Czech Republic in **2002**, extremist or racial crimes accounted for **0.1 %**, i.e. 473 crimes (in 2001 0.1 %, 452 crimes); of which **79.1 %** crimes were solved (in 2001 89.8 %, -10.7 %).<sup>141</sup>

In 2002, in comparison with 2001, there was a moderate increase of **4.6 %**, **+21 crimes** (in 2001 increase of 24.2 %, +88 crimes).<sup>142</sup> This increase was accompanied by a lower number of solved crimes (-7.9 %, -32) and by a lower clear-up rate (-10.7 %). The number of prosecuted offenders decreased by 3.95 % (-23). The above-mentioned increase, among other things, reflects a higher quality of work by the police in the field of extremism and their ability to search for such a kind of crime. At the same time it reflects, as in the previous year, the higher number of complaints or reports of crimes with an extremist context lodged by members of the Roma community. In 2002 the case of leaflets called “The Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German” impacted on the lower number of solved crimes which of course reflected a lower clear-up rate. In relation to the repeated occurrence of such leaflets a number of criminal complaints were filed by the persons or institutions receiving such leaflets. Due to the fact that the Czech police despite all their efforts were not able to find the offenders these cases remained under investigation or were suspended because of the unknown nature of the offender.

**483 persons**<sup>143</sup> were prosecuted for committing the above-mentioned offences, mainly for the support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms – 213 persons (44.1 %), for the defamation of a nation, race or a conviction – 118 persons (24.4 %), or for violence against a group of people or an individual – 92 persons (19 %). **22 persons were prosecuted for intentional injury to health (4.5 %)**. In 2002 there was no marked increase in this kind of crime. **In 2002, contrary to 2001, no murder and injury to health resulting in death were committed.**

Penal proceedings against the offenders of crimes with an extremist context which were closed predominantly by bringing charges against them - 289 offenders (59.8 %), in summary pre-trial proceedings pursuant to Sec. 179c/1, 44 offenders were convicted (9.1%), 84 offenders are being still investigated (17.4 %), and pursuant to Sec. 159/2 and Sec. 159/3 57 cases were left in abeyance (11,8 %). Pursuant to Sec. 172/1d four cases were discontinued (0.8 %), and three cases were conditionally terminated under Sec. 307 (0.6%). Two foreign offenders were, pursuant to Sec. 173/1d, delivered to their home countries to be prosecuted there (0.4%).<sup>144</sup>

In 2002, if the age of offenders is taken into account, offenders of the 21-29 years age category prevailed, as in 2001 (156 persons, -10), followed by offenders of the 18-20 years category (99 persons, -6) and 15-17 years (80 persons, +6). In the category of under 15 years of age, there were 36 offenders (+2).<sup>145</sup> In terms of education attained, persons having a basic education and an apprentice certificate continued to prevail among offenders (211, -4), followed by persons having a basic

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<sup>141</sup> See **ANNEX No. 1: The Development in the Share (%) of Crimes with an Extremist Context in Total Crime in 1996 - 2002. Diagram.**

<sup>142</sup> According to official police statistics extremist crime developed in the Czech Republic, from 1996 to 2000, as follows: **in 1996**: 131 crimes motivated by extremism were recorded, 152 persons were prosecuted; **in 1997**: 159 crimes motivated by extremism were recorded, 222 persons were prosecuted. *Trend: increase* in crime by 22.1 % (+28) and the number of prosecuted persons by 50.6 % (+77). **In 1998**: 133 crimes motivated by extremism were recorded, 184 persons were prosecuted. *Trend: decrease* in crime by 16.3 % (-26) and the number of prosecuted persons by 19.6 % (-45). **In 1999**: 316 crimes motivated by extremism were recorded, 434 persons were prosecuted. *Trend: increase* in crime by 137.6 % (+183) the number of prosecuted persons by 135.9 % (+250). **In. 2000**: 364 crimes motivated by extremism were recorded, 449 persons were prosecuted. *Trend: increase* in crime by 15.2 % (+48) and in the number of prosecuted persons by 3.5 % (+15). This increase was accompanied by a higher number of crimes solved (+19,8 %, +54 crimes) and a higher clear-up rate (+3,5%) **Of the total number of criminal offences ascertained in the Czech Republic, crimes having an extremist nature accounted for 0.03 % (1996), 0.04 % (1997), 0.03 % (1998), 0.07 % (1999), 0.09 % (2000), and 0.1% (2001).**

<sup>143</sup> See **ANNEX No. 2a: Development in the Share (%) of Offenders Committing Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Total Number of Offenders in the Years 1996 - 2002. Diagram.**

<sup>144</sup> See **ANNEX No. 2b: Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context Divided According to the Termination of Penal Proceedings in the Czech Republic and in the Regions of the Czech Republic in 2002. Diagram**

<sup>145</sup> See **ANNEX No. 2c: Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context Divided According to Age Categories in the Czech Republic and in the Regions of the Czech Republic in 2002. Table and Diagram.**



education and no qualification (143, +28), then followed by persons having a secondary education, however at a considerable distance (26, -6). Only two offenders had university education.<sup>146</sup>

Offences included attacks motivated socially, ethnically, or racially. No offences by which offenders wanted to reach a total change of the social or political order were reported in 2002.

In 2002, according to police estimations, the number of skinhead movement supporters contrary to 2001 decreased by 6.7% (-510), while supporters of the anarcho-autonomous scene slightly increased by 2.7% (+140). The total number of these two extremist groups was about 12,500 persons (in 2001 it was roughly 13,000 persons), which is a total moderate decline of about 3%.<sup>147</sup> This decrease was considerably seen in South Bohemia (-200) as well as in North Bohemia (-200), followed by North Moravia (-80), West Bohemia (-70), and East Bohemia (-30). An estimated increase in the number of these persons was recorded in Prague (+210 persons) while in Central Bohemia and South Moravia the number remained unchanged, staying at the level of 2001.

In the republic-wide average this decrease in the number of right-wing extremist supporters of the skinhead movement (hereinafter “skinhead movement supporters”) represented approximately 6.7% (-510), whilst in 2001 an increase in their number by about 23% (+1,140) was recorded. Contrary to this, in 2002, as in 2001, only a slightly increasing trend was registered with regard to anarcho-autonomous groups which accounted for 2.7% (+140)<sup>148</sup> in comparison with 19% (+820) in 2001. **The largest number of people leaning towards these extremist ideologies was observed in the capital city of Prague (3,350; 3,140 in 2001; 2,350 in 2000; 1,490 in 1999), followed by South Moravia (2,600; 2,600 in 2001; 2,370 in 2000; 1,800 in 1999), North Moravia (2,530; 2,610 in 2001; 1,450 in 2000; 1,210 in 1999), and North Bohemia (1,400; 1,600 in 2001; 1,600 in 2000; 1,000 in 1999).**

In comparison with 2001, the total number of these persons mostly increased in 2002 in Prague (+6.7%). Such an increase is exclusively linked to the growth in the number of anarcho-autonomous supporters, which accounted for 19.7% (+300). On the other hand, the number of skinhead movement supporters decreased by about 5.6% (-90). The largest decrease in the total number of persons from the both extremist scenes was recorded in South Bohemia (-23.5%, -200), where, however, the largest decrease was caused by the decrease in the number of skinheads - 75% share.<sup>149</sup>

The above-stated figures represent the approximate estimations of police experts, describing the approximate numbers of persons both from the right-wing and left-wing extremist spectrum who commit such offences or are potential offenders. However it needs to be stressed that **the stated numbers represent skinhead and anarcho-autonomist support and cannot in any event be interchanged with the numbers of members of the hard core of these extremist movements** ready to conduct violent acts as per their programme.<sup>150</sup> Their numbers are lower.

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<sup>146</sup> See **ANNEX No. 2d: Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context Divided According to Their Education in the Czech Republic and in the Regions of the Czech Republic in 2002. Table and Diagram.**

<sup>147</sup> See **ANNEX No. 3a: The Estimation of the Numbers of Skinhead and Anarcho-Autonomist Supporters in Individual Regions of the Czech Republic by 31 December 2002 (compared to 2001). Table.**

<sup>148</sup> A sharp increase in anarcho-autonomous supporters was recorded in 2002 - 62%, (+1630), which related, *inter alia*, to the enhanced ability of police experts to monitor persons showing extremist orientation..

<sup>149</sup> In 2002, compared to 2001, the estimated numbers of skinhead movement supporters decreased also in West Bohemia (by about 19.4%), North Bohemia (by about 10%), and North Moravia (by about 2.4%). Contrary to this the numbers remained unchanged in Central Bohemia, East Bohemia, and South Moravia. The numbers of anarcho-autonomous well-wishers increased mostly in Prague (by 19.7%) and West Bohemia (by about 16.7%) and decreased in South Bohemia (by about 12.5%), East Bohemia (by about 23.5%), and North Moravia (by about 5.3%); they remained unchanged in Central Bohemia and South Moravia.

<sup>150</sup> See **ANNEX No. 3b: The Total Number of Skinhead and Anarcho-Autonomists Movement Supporters Compared with the Total Number of Extremist Crime Offenders in the Czech Republic in 1998 - 2002**

## 4.2 The Most Important Cases from the Point of View of the Police of the Czech Republic<sup>151</sup>

In 2002 the following were considered by the police to be the most serious cases: particularly, offences committed by skinhead movement supporters which resulted in injuries to health, mainly to that of Romas, as well as of foreign nationals; and verbal attacks accompanied by threats. Only in one case was there grievous bodily harm; the offenders were Romas who had been attacked.

As in the previous year, there were **two cases of policemen having committed the crimes monitored**. One policeman was charged with committing the crime of defamation of a nation, race, or conviction under Sec. 198 (1) (a) of the Criminal Code and the crime of hooliganism under provisions of Sec. 202 (1) of the Criminal Code, when after having consumed alcoholic drinks he first verbally and then also physically attacked Japanese guests of the restaurant where he was thinking that they were Vietnamese citizens, and then he attacked the Chinese owner because of his race. In the second case, prosecution was commenced against a traffic warden for a crime under Sec. 198 (1) (a), which he had committed while on duty against a Roma driver. According to the statement of the Inspection of the Minister of the Interior both cases represented only a negligible share of those crimes ascertained as having been committed by policemen in 2002 (0.44 % of the total number of 453 cases).

Further, a case of the crime of support and propagation of a movement suppressing human rights and freedoms, as well as cases of spectator violence and one case of darking were included among the most serious cases. In South Bohemia the police considered the most serious the case of distributing the leaflet “The Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German” and “Dear Inhabitants of the Sudeten”; however the offender remained unknown.

Of the total number of the most serious cases (26) the Czech police suspended two cases under Sec. 159a/4 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and eleven cases are being investigated, of which in six cases (aforementioned dissemination of the leaflets) the offender is unknown. **Of the aforementioned 26 most serious cases the Czech police concluded 13 (i.e. 50%) by filing a motion for bringing charges and six of them were concluded by pronouncing a court sentence; while five cases are under judicial proceedings.**<sup>152</sup>

## 4.3 Typical Features of Crimes with an Extremist Context

In 2002 changes in the tactics of right-wing extremist skinhead movement supporters seen in previous years were confirmed. Skinhead movement supporters further enhanced the thorough secrecy of their meetings, parties, and concerts, and masked them as, for example, birthday parties and so on. There were smaller celebrations in private flats or family houses, it means in an environment which the police cannot easily penetrate. A lower number of people participated in such parties since these were primarily closed groups. According to police findings on such occasions CDs, T-shirts, journals and other improper materials are distributed. Individual people do not declare their support for this movement as publicly as in previous years - some even outwardly reject their membership in the

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<sup>151</sup> See **ANNEX No. 4: The Most Important Cases from the Point of View of the Police of the Czech Republic Committed in the Czech Republic in 2002**. This overview is followed up by an analysis of all filed cases during the period starting 1 January 2002 and ending 31 December 2002 where there was suspicion that a crime or misdemeanour committed had an extremist context, including cases motivated by racial or national hatred or committed by extremist group supporters regardless of the final criminal law classification. See **ANNEX No. 13**. Regarding the fact that the list of all cases which occurred is especially valuable because it demonstrates the frequency, the cogency and also the structure of offences having an extremist nature, regardless of their final criminal law classification. This list is presented every year on the web-sites of the Ministry of the Interior in the section called “Documents”, sub-section “Extremism”, under the title “Overview of cases comprising suspicion of criminal acts or offences having an extremist context, including cases motivated by racial or national intolerance, or committed by supporters of extremist groups without regard to their final criminal classification – the complete text.”

<sup>152</sup> The situation in the solution of cases as of 20 June 2003.

movement. Views of racial and national hatred are not usually presented as openly as they were before. Older supporters try not to show aggression publicly, but use existing right-wing extremist political parties of civic association within which they try to assert themselves. They try to keep up the appearance of peaceful citizens respecting the Czech police and other public authorities. Younger skinhead supporters represent the opposite pole. The larger part shows an inclination towards aggression and therefore these supporters move to football or ice hockey stadiums where they purposefully seek out verbal and physical skirmishes. Currently the majority of hooligans belong to the skinhead movement. Cases of clashes called by skinheads were recorded but these were mostly unplanned actions by individuals. Also in 2002 individuals recruiting both among skinheads and anarchists attacked policemen. Mutual hostility between skinheads and anarcho-autonomists in 2002 crystallised into efforts to seek mutual confrontation. It can be assumed that this trend can be pushed through in a more considerable manner in 2003.

#### 4.4 Extremist Crimes in Individual Regions<sup>153</sup>

In 2002, according to official criminal statistics, 473 crimes with an extremist context were registered in the Czech Republic.<sup>154</sup> **The majority of such crimes were committed in North Moravia (106), the capital city of Prague (84) and in South Bohemia (70), Central Bohemia (55) and North Bohemia (53).** These were followed by East Bohemia (51), West Bohemia (32), and South Bohemia (22).<sup>155</sup> Within the Czech Republic the share in crimes of an extremist nature of Prague, North Moravia, Central Bohemia, and North Bohemia reached about 74 %<sup>156</sup>. **The sharpest increase in such crimes was recorded in South Moravia, East Bohemia and West Bohemia.** By contrast, the largest decline in crimes monitored was reported in North Moravia and Central Bohemia. The lowest number of such crimes in 2002, as in previous years, was registered in South Bohemia.

**After three years during which an increase in crimes having extremist context was recorded in North Moravia, in 2002 this region saw a decline of about 17.2%** (+ 52% in 2001; +55.5 % in 2000; +28.6 % in 1999). The highest occurrence of extremist crimes was registered, as in 2001, in the regional city of Ostrava and in the districts of Karvina, Opava, and Prerov. A considerable increase in monitored crimes, of 225%, was recorded in the district of Vsetin (2002 - 13 crimes; 2001 - 4 crimes). In 2002, 114 persons (in 2001 - 154 persons) were prosecuted in connection with this kind of crime.

The situation in the area of extremism and related crimes did not see, in comparison with 2001, any extensive changes in North Moravia. Among monitored cases were particularly cases of repeatedly occurring so-called situational conflicts, i.e. conflicts of mutual physical, or more frequently, verbal, attacks between the members of majority and minority communities. Such conflicts were often based on the immediate “emotional” state of the offenders. **In 2002 however there was a**

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<sup>153</sup> The Czech police is organised, from a geographical point of view, into individual administrative units in accordance with Act No. 36/1960 Coll., on the Geographical Division of the State as amended. The statistical data provided is therefore related to the following regions: Central Bohemia, South Bohemia, West Bohemia, North Bohemia, North Bohemia, East Bohemia, South Moravia, North Moravia and an independent territorial unit – the capital city of Prague. The proportion of individual regions (new division into self-governed regions) of crimes with an extremist context in the Czech Republic in 2001 is illustrated in Annexes 7b a 7c.

<sup>154</sup> See **ANNEX No. 5: The Number of Crimes with an Extremist Context and Their Share in Republic-wide Crime of This Kind in 2002. Table**

<sup>155</sup> See **ANNEX NO. 6 a - c: Racially Motivated Crimes or Other Crimes with an Extremist Context Detected in the Czech Republic in 2002. Detected Offenders of Racially Motivated Crimes or Other Crimes with an Extremist Context in 2002 (according to official criminal statistics). Maps**

<sup>156</sup> See **ANNEX No. 7a: Proportion of Individual Regions in Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2001. Pie diagram.** Situation in crime in 2001 in terms of self-governed regions in the Czech Republic see **ANNEX No. 7b: Proportion of Individual Newly Established Regions (new division into self-governed regions) in Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2002. Diagram ANNEX No. 7c: Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Regions (new division into self-governed regions) of the Czech Republic in 2002. Table and diagram**

**change in the proportion of verbal and violent crimes.** The number of such violent crimes increased by 62.5%, such crimes being usually committed along with verbal attacks. North Moravian militant extremists, including football fans, limited their activities to street skirmishes; however attacks of some extremely radical individuals concentrated on selected minority groups of citizens, particularly Romas and foreigners. From the point of view of the police and in their experience, North Moravian, mainly right-wing, extremists have increased, and their organisation and activities have increased. Gradually militant individuals have been profiling among them. They concentrate on seeking violent clashes and they recruit especially among skinheads and supporters of the RY – National Resistance of Silesia. The growing militarism of such groups and their interest in violent action against their adversaries including the usage of usual and improvised fighting means (for example cold steel, chains, burning bottles) represent to the North Moravian police a potential danger to public order, health, property, and the security of citizens.

The trend of an increase in crimes monitored seen during the previous year continued in **South Moravia** (+40 % in 2002; +31.6% in 2001).<sup>157</sup> During the course of 2002 there was considerable activation of right-wing extremists in this region and the number of organised events went up (skinhead concerts held in the Districts of Hodonin and Uherske Hradiste, visited also by foreign skinheads, mainly from Slovakia and Poland). With regard to the composition of crimes, both verbal and physical attacks against Romas as well as against foreigners were recorded. For 70 crimes, of which 57 were solved, the police prosecuted 70 persons. In 2002, as in previous years, the town of Brno retained the first position within the region in terms of the total number of crimes, as well as in terms of accumulation of individuals from various extremist groups. 30% of all extremist crimes committed in this region were registered in Brno. The second highest rate of crimes was recorded in the districts of Hodonin, Prostějov, Zďar n.Sazavou, and Breclav. In the Breclav District the increase was visible in comparison with the year 2001. In Brno, where individuals from both extremist scenes accumulate, an increased activity of hooligans was registered. The majority of them support the skinhead movement. They also participated in several attacks on demonstrations held by supporters of anarcho-autonomous movements. Considerable aggression accompanied by efforts to call various clashes is typical for them.

After a considerable increase in crimes motivated by extremism in **Central Bohemia** in 2001, there was a decline in such activities in 2002. Such crimes decreased by 15.4% (55 crimes in 2002; 65 crimes in 2001). The highest number of this kind of crime was recorded in Kladno. It accounted for 32.7% of the total number of crime monitored in the region. In 2002 no extremist events were held in Central Bohemia such as commemorating assemblies, marches, demonstrations, etc. (a decline of 100%), while in 2001 there were seven such events. This fact was also influenced by the strict approach of the police towards extremists.

The number of detected monitored crimes **decreased** also in **North Bohemia** (-13.1%), where an increase had been recorded in previous years (+38.6% - 2001; +46.6% - 2000) as well. According to the Czech police the specific features of this region remained the same, the largest share in the occurrence and volume of racially motivated crimes is caused by social problems, and unemployment relating to the fact that it is impossible to make one's presence in society, and the low educational level of inhabitants. One of the causes of activation of extremist movements is a fact that it is a borderland with a higher representation of Romas and foreigners. Most crimes with an extremist context were committed in the districts of Most (12) and Litomerice (11). In 2002 there were no essential changes in the form of crimes committed. Cases of verbal and physical attacks against Romas were especially investigated, followed by the propagation of fascism by shouting Sieg Heil or by publicly worn extremist symbols on clothes. An increase in the propagation of fascism in the form of swastikas and "SS" signs in public places, on walls, and so forth was recorded.

The situation in **West Bohemia** and **East Bohemia** was in 2002, contrary to in 2001, **marked by an increase in crimes having an extremist context.**

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<sup>157</sup> According to the Czech police from the South Moravian Region Administration such an considerable increase in crimes was caused especially by the fact that the police prosecuted some crimes which had been in the past classified as misdemeanours (various verbal attacks and graphic manifestations in the form of extremist symbols).

In **West Bohemia** after the decrease in crimes with an extremist context seen in 2000 and 2001 (-23% - 2000; -33% - 2001), there was an increase of 60%, however this increase was partially caused by the distribution of leaflets “The Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German”. The highest number of such crimes was traditionally recorded in the town of Pilsen (34.4% of the total number in this region). Crimes were, as in previous years, committed mainly by skinhead movement supporters. These were verbal and physical attacks against Romas but also against other citizens. Crimes having a racial context were also committed by Romas, especially in the form of verbal attacks against citizens from the majority society.

An increase in crimes having an extremist context of 59.4% was reported in **East Bohemia** (-42% - 2001; +107% - 2000). Most crimes committed were recorded in Pardubice (15) and Hradec Kralove (11), which accounts for 51% of such crimes in the regions. This increase was caused primarily by activities and skirmishes of groups of young people in these large city agglomerations, recorded also in 2001 and perceived negatively by the Czech police. Clashes with an extremist context were reported in connection with sports events (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> football leagues, Extra-league of Ice Hockey) and performances of musical bands.

In **South Bohemia** which has reported for a long period of time the lowest rate of crimes with an extremist context saw an increase in this type of crime, namely of 37.5% (22 crimes –2002; 16 crimes – 2001). As in the case of West Bohemia this increase was directly influenced by distributed leaflets “Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German”.

**In 2002, the most affected areas or districts in individual regions were as follows:**<sup>158</sup>

- **North Bohemia:** Ostrava (31), Karvina (20), Vsetin (13), Opava (8), Prerov (6), Bruntal (5); Frydek-Mistek (5), Jesenik (5), Sumperk (5);
- **the capital city of Prague:** Prague 10 (20), Prague 1 (17), Prague 2 (8), Prague 4 (8), Prague 6 (8), Prague 5 (5); Prague 7 (5), Prague 8 (5);
- **South Moravia:** Brno-city (21), Hodonin (9), Prostejov (8), Zdar n. Sazavou (7); Breclav (6), Zlin (5);
- **Central Bohemia:** Kladno (18), Pribram (7), Benesov (6), Kolin (5), Melnik (5);
- **North Bohemia:** Most (12), Litomerice (11), Liberec (7), Ceska Lipa (6);
- **East Bohemia:** Pardubice (15), Hradec Kralove (11), Nachod (7), Trutnov (5);
- **West Bohemia:** Pilsen - city (11), Domazlice (6);
- **South Bohemia:** in 2002 no district reported more than five monitored crimes.<sup>159</sup>

Of the aforementioned, the following areas or districts in 2002 are, from a long-term view, repeatedly most affected (since 1996) by crimes with an extremist context: the districts of **Karvina, Ostrava, Opava, Prerov, Bruntal (NM), Kladno (SCB) Pardubice, Trutnov (EB), Most, Ceska Lipa (NB), the town of Brno (SM), Pilsen (WB), Ceske Budejovice, Pisek (SB).**<sup>160</sup> Measures which could positively affect this unwanted situation should be directed at these areas, at the level of all state bodies.

### **Crimes Committed During Concerts of Skinhead Bands and Intervention by the Czech Police**

The Czech police had to face strong criticism in the first half of 2001 for not preventing the escalation of right-wing extremist activities in the Czech Republic. Consequently the Czech police increased their strike force, which was reflected in police interventions at concerts as well as in prosecuting crimes committed through media, symbols and emblems.

<sup>158</sup> The evaluation is compiled from official criminal statistics. There are only districts/areas where five or more crimes were committed.

<sup>159</sup> In the past years these crimes were typical for Ceske Budejovice and Pisek. With regard to the fact that the occurrence of extremist group supporters are reported from these locations they will be further included among places being affected by such crimes for a long period of time. In 2002 the districts of Ceske Budejovice, Cesky Krumlov and Pisek each reported four crimes of this nature.

<sup>160</sup> See **ANNEX No. 8: Districts/Areas Affected on a Long-term Basis by Crimes with an Extremist Context (1 January 1996 – 31 December 2002). Map.** They are mainly locations or districts affected for a long period of time by crimes of an extremist nature and they must be perceived as risky in terms of this kind of crimes.

As a consequence the year 2002 saw the decline in the number of domestic as well as foreign participants at concerts of skinhead bands. Most of these events were held in South Moravia in the districts of Hodonin (3), Uherske Hradiste (1), Zlin (2), and in Brno (2).<sup>161</sup> According to police information, in comparison with 2001, Czech bands almost did not perform at any such concerts, however bands from abroad arrived, particularly from Slovakia and Poland. This was influenced by successful intervention against the musical band "Voice of Blood" in Karlovy Vary and particularly police action named Patriot taking place in Central Bohemia since the half of 2001.

In the first case, pro-skinhead orientated "Voice of Blood" musical band recorded in 1999, a CD called "Fight in Bohemia" which was afterwards published.<sup>162</sup> With the participation of about 250 persons the members of the band "baptised" this CD on 20 April 2000 at a concert in Cejetice (the district of Mlada Boleslav), where it was distributed among participants. They committed the same act on 16 September 2000 in the village called Nove Hamry (the district of Karlovy Vary) in the restaurant Zivr. R.J. (\*1977), M.K. (\*1974), M.K. (\*1980) and P.P. (\*1981), and were on 4 September 2002 charged with the crime of support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under provisions of Sec. 260/1,2 of the Criminal Code. The State District Prosecutor's Office in Karlovy Vary submitted an indictment at the District Court.

The second case, was of an operative investigation carried out by experts dealing with extremist issues. This commenced in August 2001 under the code name of "PATRIOT" and it focused on the organisers of and stewarding service at concerts of skinhead musical bands in Central Bohemia linked to the unregistered organisation National Resistance and the platform Arian Pride, established in Senohraby merely for the purpose of organising concerts.<sup>163</sup> Within the commenced prosecution on **27 May 2002** were carried out six searches of premises during which the police seized approximately 372 CDs containing recordings of domestic and foreign skinhead bands, 328 audiocassettes with the same musical production, 37 pieces of floppydisks and other electronic media, and 51 videocassettes. Simultaneously, the police confiscated 186 cloth bands, clothing parts and clothes decorated with skinhead, Nazi or neo-Nazi graphical signs, 580 photographs or negatives, 10 pieces of computer technology, and 521 sheets of various written material. Within the criminal proceedings several persons were ascertained as having participated in distributing, exchanging or lending musical media of skinhead bands, while the ascertained facts are currently subject to further investigation. On **31 October 2002** pursuant to provisions of Sec. 160 (1) of the Criminal Code the prosecution of nine

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<sup>161</sup> See **ANNEX No. 9: Concerts of Right-Wing Extremist Skinhead Bands in Czech Republic in 2002. Map.** The following concerts of right-wing extremist skinhead bands were held in the Czech Republic: on 20 February 2002, Hrob, the district of Teplice (NB) attended by about 100 persons; on 2 March 2002, Javornik, the district of Hodonin (SM) attended by about 120 participants (of them 40 people from Slovakia); on 13 April 2002, Javornik, the district of Hodonin (SM) attended by about 200 persons (of them 20 people from Slovakia); on 4 May 2002, Olomouc (SM) a musical performance of skinhead bands attended by about 100 persons; on 22 June 2002, Lestkov, the district of Tachov (WB), a private celebration with a musical performance attended by about 100 persons; on 29 June 2002, Tisova, the district of Karlovy Vary (WB), attended by about 200 persons from the Czech Republic and from abroad (Slovakia and Germany); on 29 June 2002, Straznice, the district of Hodonin (SM), attended by about 150 participants (of these 15 persons from Slovakia); on 30 August 2002, Bilina, the district of Teplice (NB), birthday celebration with musical performance attended by about 100 persons; on 4 October 2002, Cejetice, the district of Mlada Boleslav (CB), attended by 150 people (from the Czech Rep. and abroad - Germany); on 12 October 2002, Osov, the district of Beroun (CB), attended by about 120 persons including Slovak well-wishers; on 19 October 2002, Brno (SM), attended by about 100 persons; on 3 November 2002, Frystat, the district of Zlin (SM), attended by about 50 persons; on 30 November, Zahorovice, the District of Uherske Hradiste, attended by about 250 persons (of these 25 were from Slovakia); on 7 December 2002, Brno (SM) attended by about 100 persons; on 14 December 2002, Velke Brezno, the district of Usti n/Labem (NB), a private celebration with a musical performance attended by about 150 persons; on 14 December 2002, Olomouc (NM) attended by about 100 persons from the Czech Rep. and abroad (Slovakia, Poland and Germany); and on 19 December 2002, Zlin (SM), attended by about 160 persons.

<sup>162</sup> This recording was made sometime during September v 1999 in the ATTACK studio in Becov n.Teplou, in the district of Karlovy Vary

<sup>163</sup> Namely these were organisers of the following concerts: "Joe Hammer Rowan Memorial Gig" ( in Doubek, the district of Prague – vychod (East) on 21 October 2000), "concert of your blood" ( in Zlonin, the district of Praha - vychod on 20 January 2001), in Kolesovice, the district of Rakovnik (17 February 2001), and in Senohraby, the district of Praha - vychod (7 April 2001) under the name "concert for your race".

persons was commenced, namely for the crimes of support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms, under Sec. 260 (1), 2 (a), b) of the Criminal Code and Sec. 261 of the Criminal Code.<sup>164</sup> The case is being further investigated by the Czech police.

The stricter approach of the police towards organisers and other people involved in organising such events led in 2002 to a change in their strategy – private musical performances are organised at a higher level of conspiracy. A new trend in holding skinhead concerts is for example to send “explorers” to the place the concert is to be held who first of all verify the situation, i.e. whether the police are present, and only then will other participants arrive. In the case that the police are present they are able to rapidly change the place or to sell the aforementioned goods outside the place where the concert is held. The number of participants directly depends on the presence of the police. Thus police forces are required to use local knowledge for more intensive work with the municipal statutory representatives or the owners of restaurants, “concert” halls, and similar facilities. They should utilise such an approach for gathering information on the locations and dates of the above-mentioned actions.<sup>165</sup>

### **Detection and Prosecution of Crimes Committed Through Printed Materials, Symbols and Vicarious Symbols**

The Czech police have continuously dealt with this kind of crime since 1998. As in the preceding years they devoted particular attention to this kind of criminal offence in 2002, consisting in the Czech Republic mainly of:

- publishing and distributing press materials;
- publishing, distributing and selling audio MCs and CDs;
- producing, spreading and selling badges, cloth badges, stickers and other “relics” from the era of the Third Empire;
- promoting and demonstrating public sympathy towards movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms on clothes and clothing accessories;
- using symbols and emblems when decorating bodies with tattoo;

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<sup>164</sup> These are following persons M. F. (\*1980), F. S. (\*1978), Z. S. (\*1977), J. S. (\*1981), M. B. (\*1983), O. M. (\*1979), S. L. (\*1981), V. K. (\*1980) a M. H. (\*1978). All persons are being prosecuted unapprehended (F. S. is presently imprisoned in the prison in Pilsen - Bory). Investigated by the Service of the Criminal and Investigation Police, Central Bohemia, under ref. no. CTS: PSC-18/OOK-2002. The case is currently under investigations.

<sup>165</sup> In this connection a subculture known as national-socialist black metal or pagan metal, respectively, can be marginally mentioned. These have started to show their appearance in the Czech Republic recently. This musical, subculture stream came into existence at the beginning of 1990s in Scandinavia, particularly in Norway where a part of the members of originally pure Satanist black metal subculture endorsed Nazi and local pagan traditions within their struggle against Christianity. This stream has spread into a range of other countries while in the environment of Slav countries it frequently appears as a variant of “Slavonic Power Metal”. Although it is very often connected with the ultra-right-wing scene, this is not a rule. In the Czech Republic there are some musical bands which avowed this stream (Ogmias from Brno and Inferno from Karvina), however foreign formations have also performed in our country such as the Immortal Hammer from Slovakia. Promoters from the Czech Republic as well as from abroad presented themselves in various ‘zines of the metal environment a part of which, however, strictly protested against racist and neo-Nazi tendencies in metal music. The internet ‘zine Brennus is considered to be the most open, national-socialist ‘zine Racist and anti-Semitic opinions were in 2002 presented by Brno ‘zine Eclipse, even though its publisher kept aloof from it. Foreign experience shows that the approach for security forces against national-social black metal and pagan metal are complicated. The meaning of various complex formulations in texts is hard to prove and moreover the texts are usually sung in such a manner that it is difficult to understand their motivation and the severity of the views disseminated. The relative freedom allowed in organising pagan metal concerts in the Czech environment is misused by neo-Nazi skinhead musical bands which endeavour, often under changed names, to go to such events frequently attended by right-wing extremist skinheads at some places. The activities of this subculture are in the most risky locations monitored by security forces and are under the pressure of mass media and general public. Several pagan and national-socialist black metal concerts were cancelled by the owners of facilities where the concerts should have been performed. See M. Mares: Pravicovy extremismus a radikalismus v Ceske republice (Right-wing Extremism and Radicalism in the Czech Republic), p. 440 – 444.

- utilising various signs containing phrases and slogans of the Third Empire and other xenophobic graffiti.

The investigation of such criminal offences requires expert opinion from the fields of political science, history, sociology, and other branches. This is also reflected in the proving of crimes, which has become more demanding and more extensive, and therefore has negatively impacted promptness in punishing offenders committing such crimes.

In 2002 the police reported a fall in right-wing extremist periodicals which was related to the continuing trend to transfer such negative activities to the Internet.<sup>166</sup>

**Spreading leaflets and stickers “*The Sudeten Was and Will be Again German*” became a phenomenon of 2002.** The first occurrence of leaflets and stickers was reported in Prague and Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad) during the first months of the year 2002. Other cases were in Opava and Vsetin (NM), Mikulov (SM) and Chomutov (NB)<sup>167</sup>, Pobezovice, Mariánské Lázně, Frantiskovy Lázně, As, Cheb, Luby, Kynžvart, Zlúte, Primda, Tachov (WB), Cesky Krumlov, Kaplice, Vyssi Brod, Dolni Dvoriste (SB), and Kolin (CB). Such leaflets were distributed mainly to municipal offices and in some cases to schools, or they were delivered directly to the mail-boxes of individual citizens. The text on the reverse side of the leaflet repeats the requirements of some Sudeten-German Provincial Retinues (SDL) which currently operate mainly in Germany and partially also in Austria. According to the opinion of experts the text corresponds to the rhetoric used in the 1950s and to the propaganda of the most aggressive Sudeten-German groups.<sup>168</sup>

In relation to the distribution of the aforementioned leaflets, penal proceedings were commenced in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 260 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure against Z.H. (\*1977) for the crime of support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms which he had committed on 26 February 2002 when he, in a not exactly ascertained restaurant in Prague 1, Wenceslas Square, had given to F.J. (\*1980) an envelope containing about 30 stickers and leaflets with the heading “THE SUDETEN Was and Will Be Again

<sup>166</sup> It however does not mean that such cases did not occur; in 2002 some cases of 2001 were solved. For example on 5 April 2002 the Service of the Criminal and Investigation Police in Karlovy Vary was submitted a proposal (delivered from Prague) to prosecute the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260, 261, 261a of the Criminal Code, committed by L. H. (\*1976), residing in Karlovy Vary. This person, as a supporter of the skinhead movement and one of the leading personalities of the right-wing extremist scene, is suspected of from March 2001 until October 2001 committing the aforementioned crimes in connection with the distribution of periodicals published by the National Social Block (“NSB”), when as a NSB manager disseminated them among its members and well-wishers. These periodicals contained a defence of the Nazi state and legal system and in them Nazi criminal acts were publicly denied or cast doubt upon. Periodicals were published and also available on the Internet. This case is being investigated. In Opava a case from 2001 was solved as well. In the period from 1 October until 31 October 2001 M.M. (\*1984) offered and then sold at the Secondary Apprentice Centre newsletters called Protektorat No. 1 (Protectorate No. 1), Legie cti (Legion of Honour), Phoenix, Bohemia, and others which, in their content propagated fascism and racial hate against other groups of inhabitants. Prosecution for the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 (1), 2a of the Criminal Code commenced on 14 February 2002. On 13 February 2002 prosecution for the same crime was commenced against J.L. (\*1984), who offered the aforementioned printed materials and then sold them to the suspect M.M. M.P. (\*1980) was investigated in **2002 (13 November)** and charged with the crime under Sec. 260 (1) of the Criminal Code of storing materials of the today non-existing neo-Nazi organisation National Alliance (NA) propagating superiority of the white race, fascism, and neo-Nazism. He offered mainly CDs, books, ‘zines (“R. Heydrich“, “White Power“, “Politicka a spolecenska doktrina B. Mussoliniho” - “The Political and Social Doctrine of B. Mussolini“, “Nemecka esa Wolf, Hess” = “German Aces Wolf, Hess“, and others), posters, pictures and videocassettes. The case is under investigation.

<sup>167</sup> The leaflets were also disseminated in other places in North Bohemia. On 27 July 2002 some steps of criminal proceedings were commenced on the suspicion that the crime under Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code had been committed by an unknown offender who distributed the leaflets. However, to date no offender has been found and thus the case is still under investigation.

<sup>168</sup> An emblem used both on the stickers and the leaflets is the badge of “Sudeten-German Landsmaschaft”. It is a duly registered and permitted symbol in Germany, the usage of which is usually common only within the above-mentioned organisation, mainly in Bavaria. The slogan “*The Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German*” is among slogans used by “Sudeten-German Landsmaschaft” in the period between 1958 and 1978.



GERMAN". This case, filed under ref. number CTS:OR-1-575-SKPV-2002, was closed on 10 June 2002 with a motion to bring charges. On 16 January 2003 the District Court in Prague 1 discontinued the prosecution.<sup>169</sup> A complaint submitted by the State Prosecutor against this decision was rejected by the City Court in Prague on 14 March 2003.

In the second case a patrol of the Czech police apprehended M.H. (\*1983) and M.M. (\*1978), whilst they were pasting posters "The Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German" on the lamp-posts in Chomutov. They had with them 34 posters and 23 stickers bearing the same heading. During a search of the house of M.M. the original poster was found together with other copies. Both M.H and M.M were charged with the crime of defamation of a nation, race and conviction under Sec. 198 of the Criminal Code and with the crime of suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260/1a, 2 of the Criminal Code. This case was ended by the Czech police by bringing a motion to submit an indictment and on 12 November 2002 the charge was raised by the District Prosecutor's Office pursuant to Sec. 176 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The sale of CDs with neo-Nazi themes at market places in border regions, particularly near the border with Germany and Austria, remained a problem. CDs with aggressive, neo-Nazi, anti-Semitic and xenophobic texts are distributed predominantly at Vietnamese market places. For example on 5 April 2002 a prosecution under Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code was commenced against a Vietnamese female citizen D.T.N. (\*1971), who at the market place in Dubi sold CDs containing racist topics.<sup>170</sup> To a large extent this kind of crime is latent.

In connection with this issue the Czech police paid attention to so-called Army Shops which are places where articles with fascist symbols such as badges or cloth badges can be sold. Sellers usually declare such goods as objects of collectors' interest. With regard to the public selling of Nazi symbols prosecution against the owner of Army P.O. (\*1969) was commenced for the crime of support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260/1 of the Criminal Code. The City Court in Brno sentenced him to one year of imprisonment with a conditional suspension of the sentence for two years.<sup>171</sup>

As in the previous year the Czech police paid considerable attention to revealing and prosecuting crimes involving symbols and emblems. Traditionally these were various signs and drawings on walls and other publicly accessible places while such signs recalled the Nazi era or they have a racist or other xenophobic context<sup>172</sup>. In such cases it is not possible to find an offender. Moreover, there were cloth badges on clothes, signs on T-shirts such as "Juden Mord", "Skinheads

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<sup>169</sup> After evaluating all the facts the Court came to the conclusion that the Sudeten-German Landsmanschaft was not an organisation aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms. This conclusion was supported by the fact that it is a duly registered and in two neighbouring states recognised movement whose requirements are officially presented by political representations of both states and that even experts agreed that the text of the leaflets and the symbol used were in compliance with the programme and symbols of this movement. Since the Court did not determine the qualified facts of the crime sued or qualified facts of any other crime the Court decided to discontinue the prosecution as stated in its resolution. See the Resolution of the District Court in Prague 1.

<sup>170</sup> The prosecution of D.T.N. was discontinued under Sec. 172/1b of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The case of October 2001 was also transferred to 2002. During an inspection carried out at the market place U raseliny (the Mountain of Saint Sebastian, the district of Chomutov) two CDs containing texts propagating fascism were seized at a kiosk operated by the Vietnamese merchant P.T.M.CH. On the cover of one of them there is a picture of a soldier with "SS" insignias and the heading "Sieg Heil Victoria", while the other bears a human skull with the sign "Black Label Society". The CDs were confiscated and sent for expert opinion. In April 2002 on the basis of the expert opinion the case was re-classified as a misdemeanour under Sec. 49/1e and was submitted to the Municipal Council of Chomutov to be resolved

<sup>171</sup> This case is currently before the Court of Appeal.

<sup>172</sup> From the point of view of the Czech police it is not easy to perceive criminal qualification of offences where the occurrence of fascist symbols is reported (swastikas and various runes) and an offender is unknown. Mostly it is not clear from the drawings themselves whether the symbol was painted for the purpose of propagating fascism or if it was drawn by children who saw such symbols for example on TV or met with them at school lessons.

White Power”, “White Resistance”, “Blue Eyed Devils (in attack)”,<sup>173</sup> the digits 88 and 14, or the names of skinhead musical bands.

**Table No. 1**

**The total number of crimes recorded in the Czech Republic in 1996 – 2002**

(according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic - ESKK)

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Crimes recorded</b>	<b>Crimes solved</b>	<b>Persons prosecuted</b>
<b>1996</b>	131	58	152
<b>1997</b>	159	132	229
<b>1998</b>	133	100	184
<b>1999</b>	316	273	434
<b>2000</b>	364	327	449
<b>2001</b>	452	406	506
<b>2002</b>	473	374	483
	<b>2,028</b>	<b>1,670</b>	<b>2,437</b>

Table No. 1 provides data on the number of crimes registered in the Czech Republic in 1996 – 2002, crimes solved and persons prosecuted.

**Table No. 2**

**An overview of extremist crimes involving attacks on a nation, nationality or race or on their members, and crimes committed by incitement of national or racial hatred – total numbers in 1996 - 2002 (according to the types of crime)**

(according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic - ESKK)

<b>Sec.</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Sec.196 (2)</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Sec. 198</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Sec.198 (1) (a)</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Sec.219(2) (g)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sec.221 (2) (b)</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Sec.222 (2) (b)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Sec.235 (2) (f)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Sec. 236</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Sec. 238a</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sec.257 (2) (b)</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Sec. 259</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Sec. 260</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Sec. 261</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>123</b>

Table No. 2 gives a summary of the total number of individual crimes with an extremist context within the last five years. It shows that, while in 1996 – 1997 crimes of violence against a

<sup>173</sup> In the case of the sign “Blue Eyed Devils in Attack”, this is written in informal English used in the USA and Canada as an equivalent for marking members of SS troops of Nazi Germany.

group of people or an individual prevailed, in 1998 - 2002 mainly crimes falling under the support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms were recorded.

### **Internet Issues and Activities of the Czech Police**

Currently extremists more often use the Internet, not only for promoting and recruiting activities, but also for gathering funds e.g. in connection to spreading an extremist, mainly neo-Nazi and racist culture. Through the Internet it is possible to order CDs containing extremist recordings, neo-Nazi materials, or to receive data files for domestic production of such CDs.

The creation of web-sites with extremist topics has become a common thing. They serve for the exchange of information among extremists but also, to a larger extent, for attracting new supporters. In 2002 recruiting web-sites were discovered offering the Czech public illustrated books with concealed racist and extremist issues and even crosswords easy enough for children.

The Internet, which is available to the majority of persons supporting the extremist scene, serves also as a reliable means of communication among individual groups. It is used for calling rallies, demonstrations, or concerts. For example participants are informed of the location of a respective event closely before it commences, serving for the concealment of actions up to the last moment so that “unauthorised persons”, including the Czech police, are not informed about them. In the majority of cases foreign providers are used (e.g. providers from the USA or India) or Internet Cafes, which makes it more difficult to find a concrete offender. At the same time information sent via this communication network using enciphering algorithms has increased. They use up-to-date technology represented by the programme PGP (Pretty Good Privacy).<sup>174</sup>

To deliver messages and to activate the largest possible number of supporters they use the programme known under the nickname “mailbomber”, enabling them to automatically send to a selected address a defined number of identical e-mails. Or they use so-called “https protocol” (concealed communication protocol). Selected individuals both from right-wing and left-wing extremist spectra monitor so-called check-domains on an ongoing basis, or they have them under their software control and in the case that the Czech police connects to these sites as a “customer” who does not have special cover, they usually immediately find that their activity is being monitored. It usually leads to a rapid disconnection of the contact the extremist organisation or an individual has with the respective web-site. Internal communication among extremists is carried out also by using e-mail. Cases of mass distribution of extremist propaganda to addressees who did not request correspondence of this kind has been recorded. And thus e-mail, originally determined only for communication, has become a tool for the mass spreading of extremist ideas.<sup>175</sup>

A special problem is created by the use of state-of-art telecommunication technology by extremists. The mass spread of mobile phones and the possibility for their anonymous use in the Czech Republic (in the Czech Republic cards Twist, Go, and Oskar), sometimes in combination with commercial equipment for concealed operations, provide extremists with another tool for the enhancement of their organisations which makes activities carried out by the security forces in combating extremist activities more difficult.

The Internet has become an optimal, and for the purposes of extremists, the most suitable communication medium ensuring a quite high anonymity, speed, offensiveness, and quality. Flexibility and efforts to seek opportunities to become impossible to be caught whilst using the World Wide Web can be seen nowadays. Some web-sites have several times been transferred from a certain Internet address to another server (i.e. to another web-site provider) since criminal information was submitted by citizens or the issue was discussed by the press, television or radio. Thus the Internet is becoming a place where the news is renewed, the past cancelled, and web-sites are continuously extended and appear under a new name however having the same content.

This form of crime is very dangerous since it enables disclosure of more extremist literature and this in turn affects the young generation. It is a very complex issue because it is difficult to combat

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<sup>174</sup> The PGP programme uses an encoding key having 125 bits, which in practice means that taking into account the current speed of up-to-date computers the period necessary to decode any texts encoded with help of the PGP would take several months.

<sup>175</sup> These methods copy the practice used by some companies doing their business via the Internet. Such companies send via e-mail huge offers of their services and other promoting materials.

this kind of crime, and the issue has not been unambiguously solved in other European countries either.<sup>176</sup>

### Activities of the Czech Police

In relation to spreading neo-Nazism, fascism and other ideologies supporting hate through the Internet network the Czech police proceed in the same way as in other criminal cases, i.e. in compliance with Act No. 283/1991 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic and reveals criminal offences and ascertains their offenders. Special features of Internet crime as a whole requested the creation of a special department within the Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic. A Group for Information Crime was established especially to search for and monitor “defective” pages. It does not investigate individual cases and immediately submits such cases, according to the locations and factual issues involved, to other police units. One expert in this group deals exclusively with the issues of extremism.

In 2002 the Czech police thoroughly investigated the web-sites of the neo-Nazi organisation called AHNENERBE, the group known under the name Nordfront, and other similar groups.<sup>177</sup> It took the same approach in all aforementioned cases. The group requested expert opinion on the content of such web-sites and then requested with legal assistance the identity of the provider of the sites whose seat is in the USA. However, replies to such requests were negative. As a result of the suspension of this case all cases related to such “defective” web-sites provided from the USA were terminated.

## 5. The Extremist Scene in the Central European Geopolitical Area 178

Currently, maximum attention is paid to the issues of increasing nationalism and the phenomenon of right-wing extremism within the whole world. The skinhead movement represents the most important base of right-wing extremism in the Central European region. As in the West European region, here there are also political parties perceived as being extremist which use this movement as their “striking force”. Despite the mutual relatedness of the ideas of the above-mentioned entities (anti-system attitudes, a negative approach towards the EU, NATO and globalisation, as well as their involvement in supranational organisations such as the International Third Position, or Euronat), it is possible according to available information to identify in their contacts certain discrepancies. These result from, for example, the focus of Slovak and Romanian nationalists against the Hungarian minority in Slovakia and Romania, a Hungarian requirement for revision of the Trianon Treaty, or

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<sup>176</sup> Crimes committed through the Internet is a European-wide problem and therefore a positive change in combating extremism on the Internet would be brought by a common approach of European countries. In April 2002 an initiative within the Council of Europe was established which should contribute to solving this issue. See “Draft of the First Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime Concerning the Criminalisation of Acts of a Racist and Xenophobic Nature Committed through Computer Systems and its Explanatory Report”. The European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC). On 28 January 2003 the Council of Europe finished the “Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime Concerning the Criminalisation of Acts of a Racist and Xenophobic Nature Committed through Computer Systems”.

<sup>177</sup> These were the following web-sites [www.odpor.com](http://www.odpor.com); <http://go.to/c.18d/>; [ce/-18@post.cz](mailto:ce/-18@post.cz);

<http://white.color.nu>; <http://members.odinsrage.com/ahnenerbe>

<sup>178</sup> This chapter was drawn up on the basis of materials provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office for Foreign Relations and Information. With regard to these issues, the Minister of the Interior (the Office for Foreign Information) and the Director of the Security Intelligence Service in co-operation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs meet, on an ongoing basis, the assignment contained in item 4 of the Annex to Government Resolution No. 720/1999 (“to monitor, on an ongoing basis, the situation and trends in extremism development in the Czech Republic and in the world with an emphasis on the neighbouring states of the Czech Republic”). It is a permanent assignment. For foreign contacts of the Czech extremist scene see **ANNEX No. 10: Foreign Contacts of the Czech Extremist Scene Recorded by the Czech Police in 2002. Map.**

anti-German Semitism pertinent to a part of Polish right-wing extremists. On the other hand these discrepancies do not prevent mutual personal, commercial, and other contact between such entities.<sup>179</sup>

Particularly racist members of supporters of the skinhead movement are offenders of aggressive verbal and physical assaults against especially persons of a different skin colour or different ethnic origin. In Slovakia and Hungary the victims of their attacks are members of the Roma community which is very large in both states, followed by dark skinned foreigners; while in Germany and Austria mainly asylum seekers, immigrants and foreigners are attacked. The skinhead movement in Poland is based on a long-rooted prejudice against Jews and Germans; therefore this movement is openly anti-Semitic. Furthermore, it is aimed against immigrants, people of a different skin colour (Arabs, Asians), and against everything that is “of foreign origin”. Occasional attacks against German tourists can be seen.

## 5.1 Right-Wing Extremist Spectrum

In **Germany** domestic right-wing extremist organisations had approximately 45,000 members while left-wing extremist organisations had about 33,000 members. The number of members of organisations associating foreigners was about 58,000 persons (in 2001 – 60,000 persons), while the most numerous supporters are reported as being from extremist Islamic organisation – about 30,600 persons. From a domestic point of view the biggest danger is represented by neo-Nazi organisations. As in the previous year, thanks to police intervention, it was possible to successfully decrease the number of skinhead musical bands which are still key in establishing and strengthening right-wing extremist associations.<sup>180</sup>

In 2002 right-wing extremist forces were stable; in the case of right-wing extremist parties such as the German People’s Union (Deutsche Volkunion-DVU) and the Republicans (Die Republikaner- REP) the number of their members has increased.<sup>181</sup>

In 2002 with 6,500 members the **National Democratic Party of Germany (the NPD)** remained the most significant right-wing extremist political party. It defines itself as a patriotic and national party. Its aim is to change the Federal Republic of Germany into a German social state (besides the PDS it is the only party which stands out against a market economy since it considers this to be outdated), the reconstruction of Germany in relation to the borders of 1937, and halting immigration. The party is organised on a territorial principle (i.e. according to individual federal states). Its organisations came into existence in the territory of former East Germany in 1992. The organisation of this party, in compliance with its Articles of Association, must not remind the former NSDAP even with regard to its formal arrangement. Its sister parties are the National Democratic Party of Austria (NPÖ) and some small political parties in the Netherlands, Namibia, and Chile which have only a few members. The main periodical of the NPD is *Deutsche Stimme Weekly* (German Voice). A number of personalities of the NPD also contributed to the international neo-Nazi journal, called “*Nation Europa*”, which has been published since the 1950’s in Coburg and has been continuously monitored by the security forces of Germany, France, Belgium, Italy and other countries respectively. The press body close to the NPD is a journal published under the *Junge Freiheit*, which is oriented rather towards the young generation.

In March 2002 this party confirmed its political line at its extraordinary congress which was held without the public present in Koenigsutter, Lower Saxony, and decided despite the threat of dissolution to participate in the elections.<sup>182</sup> The Federal Parliament which provided funds for the NPD

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<sup>179</sup> See Ladislava Tejchmanova, *Projevy extremismu v Ceske republice v evropskem kontextu* (Manifestations of Extremism in the Czech Republic in the European Context). In: *Extremismus, jeho koreny, projevy a vychodiska reseni* (Extremism, Its Roots, Manifestations, and Starting Points). Documents of the International Conference held at the Police Academy of the Czech Republic on 26 – 28 November 2001. Prague 2002, p. 217 – 228.

<sup>180</sup> See Pravo, 14 May 2003. From the speech of O. Schille, the federal Minister of the Interior.

<sup>181</sup> DVU had 15,000 members, REP 11,500 members.

<sup>182</sup> At this Congress Udo Voigt was elected a chairman of the NPD. There is an external wing inside the NPD which markedly profiled in the first half of 2002. It is represented by persons such as Peter Bochert (the head of

as a parliamentary party terminated this support in Spring 2002 stating that it was not a democratic party.<sup>183</sup> With regard to the fact that the management of the NPD, especially in the period from July until September 2002, assumed the possible prohibition of the party, they tried to invest the party's money and amounts received as various gifts into real estate.<sup>184</sup> The election tactics of the NPD were so-called "fight of the street" (it should have been run in the form of joint actions with skinheads and some young local national groups) and so-called "struggle for heads" (they tried to gain possible supporters and well-wishers in NPD training centres). This approach should have been completed by the so-called "struggle for the Parliament" in the election held in September 2002 which, however, ended up as a total failure. After the September election defeat the NPD moved towards tactics of struggle against so-called **American and Zionist imperialism**, against **globalisation** and for a **just solution of Palestinian issues and world peace**.<sup>185</sup> Phrases relating to the struggle against the "holocaust of Palestinians" on the side of Israel and the USA and against the "fascist methods" of the German police in combating German patriots, i.e. neo-Nazis, started to appear more frequently from autumn 2002.

During the whole year of 2002 there were negotiations on the prohibition of the NPD which were initiated by the Government and the Parliament as early as in 2001. In the course of 2002 confidential informants of the Bureau for Constitution Protection inside the NPD and skinhead organisations were revealed and their activities were verified. On 18 March 2003 the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe rejected the request of the German Government and the Parliament to ban the NPD as a neo-Nazi party. At the same time the Constitutional Court ceased the process commenced in 2001 on the initiative of the Federal Government and the Parliament, the aim of which was to create conditions for such a prohibition. The Constitutional Court was not satisfied with the methods of security services used against the NPD.<sup>186</sup> Therefore the NPD continues to be an acknowledged

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provincial organisation in Slesvig – Holstein), Christian Worch, Thomas Wulff, or Frank Schwerdt, a member of Germany-wide management and mainly a promoter of co-operation with skinhead associations "Freie Kamaradschaften". This wing faded into the background before the elections so that it did not jeopardize the party's unity.

<sup>183</sup> In November 2002 the approach of public authorities towards the NPD became stricter thanks to Germany-wide prohibition of using any Nazism remembrance or the Constitution contradicting emblems, flags, badges, uniforms, parts of uniforms or clothes in public assemblies (only the flag and badge of the NPD and the state flag are permitted). Federal authorities also warned representatives of Arabic and Muslim organisations operating in Germany against having contacts with the NPD and against abusing their symbols on the side of neo-Nazis which was usual especially in autumn 2002.

<sup>184</sup> These were e.g. properties such as Elmsteiner Thal (the Palantinate), Trebnitz (Saxony – Anhalt), Fetterode (Thuringia), Langenau- Graenitz (Saxony), Amholz (Meklenburg) and others, when the NPD training centres should have been established from former hotels, chateaus, etc.

<sup>185</sup> The following were the authors of the strategy: Udo Voigt and Horst Mahler, who was in contact with Islamic extremist doc. Shaker Assem, a publisher of the journal "Explizit", and Swiss Islamic fundamentalist Ahmed Huber, allegedly suspected of having contact with organisations such as Hamas, Hezbollah and with Iranian secret services and the promoter of the Islamic organisation "Hizb ut Tahrir" banned on 15 January 2003. According to the statement of a representative of the Bureau for Protection of the Constitution (BfV) there is not yet evidence of direct co-operation between the NPD and "Hizb ut Tahrir" which was confirmed in December 2002 by the NPD chairman, Udo Voigt, who however also informed that the target of his party is to enter into such contacts. On the contrary, according to the representative of the BfV, there was well founded suspicion concerning contacts between the NPD and Hamas and approximately since July 2002 the NPD was getting close to the Iraq embassy in Berlin and consulates of Iraq, Syria, and Yemen in other German cities. The NPD allegedly received through third parties certain financial amounts.

<sup>186</sup> The reason for terminating proceedings on the prohibition of the NPD was the fact that the court senate did not have the two thirds majority necessary for expressing prohibition – of seven constitutional justices only four voted "Yes". Contrary to this three others, among them Winfried Hasserner, a Vice-President, saw as an insuperable legal obstacle the fact that the NPD and mainly the representatives of its management were before and even after the commencement of the proceedings watched by secret services using available intelligence means. The justices of the second senate of the Constitutional Court demurred at the fact that contacts of members of the intelligence service with top members of the NPD at federal and provincial levels were proved and continued a long time after the proposal to prohibit the activities of this party was submitted on 30 January 2001. It is impossible to allow the activities of intelligence services in the boards of the parties about which the Constitutional Court is supposed to make a decision as to their prohibition.

political party and as such it regularly receives contributions for its activities from the state budget, the amount of which will be in 2003 EUR 329,000.

In 2002 several important trials of organisers of neo-Nazis operating also outside the NPD, in the majority repeat offenders who had already been punished for their right-wing extremist activities, were held. In March 2002 a trial, held in Munich, of four skinheads and one neo-Nazi activist who had caused fatal injury to a Greek worker A.T., ended with the deliverance of a judgement the severest of which was a sentence of imprisonment for the term of six years.<sup>187</sup> Further there was a trial against an attorney of the NPD and a former active member of the RAF, Horst Mahler, for his anti-Semitic statements in connection with the terrorist attacks against the USA on 11 September 2001.<sup>188</sup> Police forces intervened in 2002 against the illegal skinhead organisations Blood&Honour, operating in the whole of Germany, and the musical bands DST (“Deutsch, Stolz, Treue”), “Landser”, “Hauptkampflinie”, and “Borussenfront”, and against the musical band of Frank Rennick and others which were convicted for spreading racial hate and contempt of the Constitution.<sup>189</sup>

In 2002 racism was manifested in Germany as anti-Semitism and as bullying mainly against Turkish (and generally against Muslim) inhabitants also in cases when these people were German citizens.<sup>190</sup> The most frequent forms of anti-Semitism were printed and verbal attacks or dissemination of anti-Jewish materials or calls via the Internet.<sup>191</sup> The widest activities in terms of aggressive anti-Semitism were however not carried out by neo-Nazis but by an association of Islamic fundamentalists operating in Germany - “Hizb ut Tahrir” and “Hizb ut Tahrir Islami” (the Party of Liberation and the Islamic Party of Liberation). The press body of “Hizb ut Tahrir” was German written “Explizit”, published in turns in Germany and in Austria and spread also via the Internet. It contained direct calls for liquidating Jews, as supposedly justified by the Koran. After the activities of this extremely radical

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<sup>187</sup> Among the convicted there was a great-grand daughter of the former Vice-Chancellor of the Third Empire Franz von Pappen, Marie von Pappen, who was sentenced to an unconditional sentence of imprisonment for a term of five years.

<sup>188</sup> Horst Mahler, who represented the NPD in the proceedings and who is known as a left-wing extremist, left this party shortly after the decision of the Federal Constitutional Court was published. According to his words he became a member of the NPD in order to express his solidarity with respect to the proceedings aimed at its prohibition. He participated, inter alia, as a representative of the NPD of the “Anti-Zionist Congress of World’s Truth” held in 2002 in Beirut. The aim of such congresses is especially the pseudo-scientific denial of the holocaust.

<sup>189</sup> The activities of some bands were terminated; in the case of DST it was ascertained that the covers for their CDs and MCs were printed in the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Scandinavia. Singer Frank Rennicke received an unconditional sentence of imprisonment for dissemination of racial and neo-Nazi texts.

<sup>190</sup> At the beginning of 2002 the Institution of Sigmund Freud at Leipzig University published a study which stated on the basis of a sociological survey that anti-Semitic and anti-Arabic tendencies are more obvious in the western part of the state, while in the eastern part there is a very considerable fear of foreigners. Anti-American tendencies were mostly seen among supporters of the PDS (61.4%), whilst Jews and Arabs were rejected especially by members of the DVU and the Republicans. The head of the Centre for Turkish Studies at Essen University, Faruk Sen, informed at the beginning of September 2002, that after the terrorist attacks of 11 September each Arab or Muslim in Germany was felt to be in an uncertain position and to be suspected, mainly if he/she is a student, of latent terrorism. The same opinion was expressed by experts in Arabic issues from Bochum University, who at the beginning of November 2002, reported that the strongest general anti-Arabic attitudes exist in Bavaria, Hessen, Hamburg, and Berlin. Federal Government authorities have unambiguously admitted since November 2002 the existence of serious problems of a partially racial nature with Muslim inhabitants in Germany.

<sup>191</sup> At the turn of June and July 2002 the German Federal Parliament considered the situation to be so serious that it adopted the Proclamation on Combating Anti-Semitism in Germany. This Proclamation was commonly drawn up by social democrats (the SPD), the Green Party and the PDS. The CDU/CSU and the FDP did not join this initiative or elaborate their own opinions. In the case of the FDP their opinion was practically identical to the view of the SPD, the Green Party and PDS. The Proclamation of the aforementioned left-wing parties and left-centre parties **ruled any arguments or mere attempts to argue in a manner injuring Jews, casting doubts on the holocaust etc to be out of order.** The Chairman of the Federal Parliament, Wolfgang Thierse (the SPD) stated on 5 July 2002 that reviving anti-Semitic moods and racism is even more dangerous than the activities carried out by the NPD.

Islamic group were in October 2002 revealed, the organisation “Hizb ut Tahrir” was banned on 15 January 2003.<sup>192</sup>

**Austria** did not see substantial changes in right-wing extremist developments. The right-wing extremist scene did not have the potential to threaten democracy in the country. The situation did not profoundly differ from the previous year. In agitations of right-wing extremists racial populism and anti-Semitism prevailed.<sup>193</sup> Openly or indirectly they try to deny everything that happened during the Second World War. However this influences only a small part of the population and they did not manage to increase the number of members. Young skinheads professing the ideology of revisionism co-operated with their German counterparts using the Internet. These are free groupings of young hooligans who commit so-called hate crimes and organise skinhead concerts. Revisionists, Austrian right-wing extremists maintain contact with Germany; Austrian extremists are members of parties similar to German ones. Representatives of the intellectual spectrum of the national and international extremist scenes continued to make themselves more visible. Manifestations of right-wing extremism, especially violence motivated by xenophobia, were more frequent in the western part of Austria where contacts with extremist forces from Switzerland and the Federal Republic of Germany, contributing to increasing aggression mainly among right-wing extremist youth, were apparent.<sup>194</sup> In eastern provinces the traditional events of skinhead bands under the pretext of celebrating birthdays prevailed. The presence of foreign visitors given by good across the border contacts was confirmed. These events were quite profitable for their organisers thanks to the sale of promotional material, MCs or CDs.

As in previous years the Austrian right-wing extremist scene was considerably influenced by foreign impacts. At the end of April 2003 **the National Democratic Party of Austria (NPÖ)** was founded and it closely co-operates with the German NPD. The establishment of national solidarity (Volksgemeinschaft), is supported, followed by the re-introduction of the death penalty and the setting up of an own party militia (Protective Intervention Units – SET). **Kameradschaft Germania**, established in 2001, ranks among particular small groups representing a certain danger. This group organised during March 2002 protests (attended by about 180 people) against an exhibition about the Wehrmacht. In May 2002 there was a range of clashes in Vienna between left-wing demonstrators, mainly members of Trade Unions, and members of Kameradschaft Germania - during which 51

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<sup>192</sup> There is allegedly justified suspicion that this organisation participated in the events of 11 September 2001, had contact with al-Qaeda, supported terrorism, professed radical anti-Semitism, and co-operated with neo-Nazis, and so forth.

<sup>193</sup> In Vienna racism against Africans was manifested. According to a scientist dealing with African matters at Vienna University, Erwin Ebermann, about one third of Viennese inhabitants consider Africans to be less intelligent and 15.7% persons believe them to be drug dealers. In contrast with this, 22% of Africans living in Vienna consider white people to be racists. Furthermore, the aforementioned expert stated that more than one third of members of police corps take Africans to be derogatory persons despite the facts that since 1997 they have been regularly trained as to how to treat minorities. Anti-Semitism was manifested in statements such as “it is necessary to stand up against the Jewish spirit which rules Austrian clubs and organisations and to reject historical taboos which mean especially assessment of the role of Nazism in Austrian history” or by saying that “Jews are guilty of establishing socialism in the early stage of Christianity, the French Revolution, the breaking out the Second World War and the establishment of Stalinism”. The journal “Zur Zeit” is usually connected with similar views.

<sup>194</sup> There were not any substantial changes in the Swiss extremist scene in 2002. Approximately 600 or 700 people, who rank among the skinhead hard-core, dominate the right-wing scene in Switzerland. These people have foreign contacts mainly with Germany, Austria, Spain and Sweden. There was not a considerable growth in movement supporters but their low age (16 – 22 years) is still apparent. Their aggression is growing and is reflected in activities carried out at rallies, increasing violent attacks against asylum facilities and skirmishes with left-wing extremists. Swiss skinheads profess the “heritage” of Rudolf Hess and on the anniversary of his death they organise their rallies. The roofing organisation is formed by “Hammerskins” which is strengthened by inflows of young hooligans attending football and ice-hockey matches. As a fundamental value they confess “Schweizertum” (i.e. Swiss national feeling), and striking words are “country”, “Swiss culture”, and “Independence from foreign influences”. They consider themselves to be “a striking point in the national struggle against multicultural society” Right-wing extremism in Switzerland is concentrated predominantly in German-speaking cantons, mainly in the cantons of Zurich, Aargau, Bern, Luzern, Basil, and East Switzerland, while their presence in French-speaking part of Switzerland is negligible.



people were injured. These clashes were marked as a manifestation of increasing tension between left-wing and right-wing extremists.

In the summer of 2002 representatives of right-wing extremist parties of Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, Hungary, Germany, and Scandinavia met in Schloss St. George, Carinthia. The aim of this meeting was to set out a common election strategy and tactics for the elections to the European Parliament, however a full agreement was not reached.

No substantial changes occurred with respect to the right-wing extremist scene in **Hungary** in 2002. In 2002 the skinhead movement continued creating the largest base of right-wing extremism. Their ideology is marked by requirements for revision of the Trianon Treaty concluded after the First World War, hate against Romas, hate against Jews and foreigners living in Hungary, and efforts to achieve new “real social transformation” which would ensure radical changes since they consider the current change of regime to be anti-constitutional and inappropriate. They profess neo-Nazism, and the cultivation of national socialist ideologies they consider to be their primary task. In comparison with previous years they are increasingly using computer technology and the Internet, allowing them broader promotion and contact with foreigner groups. The best organised group of this type remains **Blood&Honour** (Vér és Becsület), which has contact abroad, the quality of its journals is good; in addition they have their own web-sites and newsletters. Further, it is necessary to mention the Hungarian National Front (Magyar Nemzeti Arcvonal – MNA), 64 Hungarian Districts (64 Magyar Vármegye) or the New Order (Uj Rend).

The Hungarian press revealed in 2002 the activities of **Consciousness Group 88**, led by Imre Kocsis, which spread Nazi, neo-Nazi, and anti-Semitist material through the web-site “Inforum Invest”. Its documents contain calls for co-operation with the Party of Hungarian Justice and Life (MIEP) and its propaganda, besides declaring anti-Semitism as the purification of Hungary from “Jewish-Bolshevism”, is aimed against Slovaks, Serbians, Romanians and sometimes against Czechs. It also co-operates with the Hungarian revisionist movement of Gyorgy Budahacy, the aim of which is to create Great Hungary in the borders from 1942.<sup>195</sup>

The right-wing extremist parliamentary Party of Hungarian Justice and Life (MIEP) was mentioned in connection with pre-election meetings of I. Csurka, where, in March 2002, literature openly propagating Nazism was distributed.<sup>196</sup> In October 2002 joint demonstrations were held in Budapest by the MIEP alongside the “Movements of Clubs of Hungarian Way”, “Hungarian Mothers” and other pacifist forces against a planned intervention in Iraq and in particular against Hungarian participation in such an intervention.

In 2002 **Slovakia** experienced almost a three-fold increase in criminal offences motivated by racial, national or other hatred. During the year of 2002 there occurred crimes committed by skinheads where victims were Romas.<sup>197</sup> Police forces adopted more offensive measures. At the very beginning of the year monitored (10 January 2002) republic-wide action against right-wing extremists was taken. At the beginning of February 2002 a German citizen A.P., the owner of the AFK – Slovakia company was apprehended. He placed an order in Slovak printing facilities to the print of journal “Deutsche Stimme” and various skinhead publications, for example a catalogue called “Patria”.<sup>198</sup> Racial leaflets were disseminated in Bratislava (August, October). They were aimed against Asians and Jews and

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<sup>195</sup> This group can make use of the Internet addresses of neo-Nazi organisations in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Croatia, Belgium, Denmark, and the USA.

<sup>196</sup> These were translations of publications by Adolf Hitler and other top representatives of Nazi Germany into Hungarian, papers of Hungarian fascists from the 20s and 40s of the last century, works extolling Hungarian troops Waffen – SS, including so-called national enthusiastic poetry and so forth.

<sup>197</sup> With regard to manifestations of racism, racial attacks against the Roma community were in the first place even more apparent than anti-Semitism. 28 serious crimes were committed against persons of Roma origin which is, in comparison with 2001, two times as many offences. However Romas also manifested racism, e.g. in April the police had to apprehend eight persons in the Presov region.

<sup>198</sup> Shipment of these material to Germany and Sweden was ensured by Neosolium company. AFK – Slovakia owns the network, apart from Slovakia, allegedly also in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Thailand and Tai Wan.

some of them denied the holocaust<sup>199</sup>. During March, April and November the police intervened against a skinhead organisation called the Slovak Skin Action Group (SSAG), the Slovakia Hammer Skins which spread instructions via the Internet on the production of explosives, as well as other similar groups. A former soldier who actively propagated neo-Nazism in central Slovakia was taken into custody.<sup>200</sup> In 2002 Slovak skinhead music bands promoting racial hatred carried out most of their activities abroad including in the Czech Republic. In connection with football hooliganism the most severe manifestation of racism was seen during a football match between Slovakia and England. The incident was resolved on the Slovak side by an official diplomatic apology to Great Britain.

Generally Slovak right-wing extremists showed an effort to get onto the political scene. The registered extremist organisation “White Slovak Unity” and “New Free Slovakia” announced several times that they were striving to establish a new national political party. However the Slovak National Party (SNS) remained the most significant representative of ultra right-wing and nationalistic ideas in Slovakia. Traditional celebrations relating to the establishment of the Slovak State (during the Second World War) were held in March 2002.<sup>201</sup>

The most important representative of right-wing extremism in **Poland**<sup>202</sup> in 2002 remained mainly the skinhead movement and related political parties. Several neo-Nazi and right-wing extremist organisations operated on the right-wing extremist scene.<sup>203</sup>

Neo-Nazi groups have various names and quite limited membership bases of several dozens of members. They act in a conspiratory manner and carry out their activities illegally in principal Polish cities. They concentrate skinheads with Nazi and racial views professing the idea of “Great Germany”. They maintain contact with their counterparts in Germany, the Czech Republic, and Great Britain. In contrast with neo-Nazi groups, right-wing extremist organisations take a hostile attitude towards non-Slav nations, especially towards Germans, and promote the unity of all Slavs. They are characterised by aggressive anti-Semitism, rejection of the European Union and NATO, and the “defence” of a catholic character of state. Open manifestations of right-wing extremism were seen mainly within youth organisations such as Młodzież Wszechpolska (MW = the All Poland Youth), Liga Republikańska (LR = the Republican League), and Federacja Młodych (the Federation of Youth). However, manifestations of anti-Semitism were apparent not only within the organisation Młodzież

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<sup>199</sup> At the beginning of summer 2002 skinhead music bands distributed a leaflet “Last Warning” in which Gypsies, Jews, Africans, Vietnamese, and Albanians were called “to leave the territory of Slovakia otherwise they will be liquidated”.

<sup>200</sup> In the summer months attacks by skinhead using weapons such as knives, were becoming more frequent. There were six such attacks in Bratislava. The Slovak police responded to this by adopting stricter measures; the Police President ordered the commencement of republic-wide police action aimed at right-wing extremists. The largest police intervention was held in Svrcinovec (2 November 2002), where 101 persons were apprehended, of them 28 Czech citizens and 2 persons from Poland.

<sup>201</sup> Celebrations of the 63<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Slovak State were organised in Bratislava on 14 March 2002 and were attended by about 150 persons, mostly skinheads and supporters of the Slovak National Unity. On this occasion a petition for the Hungarian Embassy requiring the representation of national minorities in the Hungarian Parliament was signed. There was also a requirement to declare the establishment of the Slovak State to be a national holiday. In the second half of March 2002 the board of the “Real Slovak National Party” proclaimed that in Slovakia anti-white racism on the side of Romas had been occurring. These arguments were heard again in autumn. The “Real Slovak National Party” allegedly maintained contact with a free association of European right-wing extremist “Euronat” through the Czech political party called the Republicans of Miroslav Sladek (the RMS).

<sup>202</sup> See Ladislava Tejchmanova, *The Issue of Extremism in the Countries of the Visegrad Four and Austria*, currently being printed.

<sup>203</sup> In 2002 according to available information 29 crimes falling into the category of manifestations of extremism were committed in Poland. With regard to their form these were mainly petty hooligan offences and acts against public order, although in terms of content and motives they were manifestations of ethnic and ideological hate (propagation of fascism and anti-Semitism). Extremism was not a terribly serious security phenomenon in Poland. **The above-mentioned groups do not enjoy the support of society and induce fear in the public due to their ideology which lies mainly in racism, xenophobia, and methods of struggle.**

Wszechpolska, but also in the case of the famous ultra right-wing medium, the Catholic Radio Maryja.<sup>204</sup>

Among the non-parliamentary political parties in 2001 who promoted racism and anti-Semitism were, according to available information, the Polish National Community/Polish National Party (Polska Wspólnota Narodowa/ Polskie Stronnictwo Narodowe – PWN/PSN) and the Polish National Revival (Obrodzenie Narodowe Polski), connected with the skinhead movement.<sup>205</sup> In 2002 in November elections two right-wing extremist political parties came to light: the Self-defence (receiving 15.98% votes), and the League of Polish Families (receiving 14.36% votes). Both these parliamentary parties embody the extreme views of a part of the Polish public on domestic and international political activities while they often use in their rhetoric a strong anti-German, anti-Semitic or anti-Masonic tone.<sup>206</sup> However both are considered unstable and shortly after the elections opposition fractions were formed and some of their elected deputies left the parties.

## 5. 2 Left-Wing Extremist Spectrum

The number of left-wing extremists operating in **Germany** was about 32,900 persons. The involvement of immigrants from Asia, the Commonwealth of Independent States and South-East Europe in activities of the extreme left-wing scene was, with the exception of Berlin, negligible.

In 2002 the majority of political forces in Germany as a rule refused any co-operation with the Party of Democratic Socialism (the PDS). In 2001 the Federal Bureau for Protection of the Constitution came to the opinion that there were extremist tendencies in the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), despite several of its representatives proclaiming that they leant towards social-democratic values.<sup>207</sup> However the PDS was perceived as a successor of the former East German SED, unable to get rid of its hereditary taint. To a certain extent this is witnessed by the internal differentiation of the PDS where the **Communist Platform (the KPF)** continued to be formed. This part of the PDS regarded its strategic target to be the establishment of the new German Democratic Republic on the territory of today's Germany.<sup>208</sup> Considerable election failure in the 2002 elections held in September demonstrated that this party had substantially lost its potential. Although it has a certain influence in several states of German Federation (Saxony, Saxony – Anhalt, Berlin, and partially in North Rhineland – Westphalia) this influence is in decline and the party does not address the young generation. A part of the tactics used by the PDS was the establishment of an organisation called the **Working Club for the Near East** in April 2002. Its members are both citizens of Israel and Germans of Jewish religious affiliation, and Palestinians living mainly in Germany. Its programme is to struggle to ceasing the occupation of the Arabic territories, the abolishment of Israeli settlements in

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<sup>204</sup> This radio station is reproached for its broadcasting manifestations of anti-Semitism and its attempts to deny the holocaust. Disputes relating to the “Radio Maryja” continued during the course of 2002 and climaxed in findings that its broadcasting was enabled with the help of radio stations of the Russian Federation.

<sup>205</sup> In 2002 information on alleged contact between right-wing extremist entities the “Polish Legion” “Self-defence” and “the Polish National Front” with the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia led by Vladimir Zirinovskyj appeared. They had allegedly maintained good contact with the regime of Belarus which provided them with the possibility of appearing on Belarus TV.

<sup>206</sup> They strictly reject for example Poland's accession to the European Union. At the end of November 2002 the League of Polish Families began to talk about “the necessity to bring persons who stand behind Polish accession to the EU to the extraordinary tribunal which would judge them in accordance with law of a state of emergency”. The same party initiated on 9 December 2002 the establishment of the Polish Committee of Independence, the aim of which is to combat the EU and the “continuing liquidation of Polish independence”.

<sup>207</sup> **The Party of Democratic Socialism (the PDS) as a whole is not, despite certain objections, regarded as an extremist one.** Members of the Communist Platform (the KPF), operating inside the PDF, are considered to be left-wing extremist. It continued to verbally reject co-operation with expressly left-wing extremist associations (the Antifascist Action Berlin, AAB, Maoists) although in reality it collaborated with them in particular during a demonstration to support Palestinian rights.

<sup>208</sup> The former German Democratic Republic is formally criticised as an incorrect territorial unit which was not able to develop further.

these territories, recognition of the Palestinian State with its capital city in East Jerusalem, and to fight for enabling the return of Palestinian refugees.<sup>209</sup> In addition to the PDS various autonomous and so-called anti-imperialistic organisation were active in Germany. They can be considered, together with the DKP, to be representatives of the most ultra left-wing extremists in Germany. Radical anti-globalisation movements were represented by a German section of the organisation of radical anti-globalists “Attac” (Association pour le taxation des transactions financières pour le aide au citoyen).<sup>210</sup>

The anarcho-autonomous scene was active in 2002 as well. It was traditionally involved in violent protest actions, a part of which were serious street clashes and plundering (at the beginning of May 2002 – Berlin and Hamburg). At the beginning of July 2002 activities of the Antifa were dampened in Brandenburg and then in the whole of Germany except for Berlin.<sup>211</sup> At the beginning of November 2002 information emerged from the circle of German anarcho-autonomists about an action of “international mobilisation against the top representatives of NATO in Prague”. The necessity to mobilize numerous foreign activists was justified by a weak movement in the Czech Republic. Information on protests against the NATO Summit was brought by Infogruppe Berlin (the Berlin Information Group), the core of which was formed by people apprehended in the course of protests against the G8 Summit in Genoa in 2001. At the same time there were discussions about the form of protests in Prague.<sup>212</sup> As in 2000, in November 2002 offices named “Borderpoint”, organised for providing all round assistance to the adversaries of globalisation and NATO, were opened.<sup>213</sup> But the activities of anti-global activists, in particular the ATTAC organisation, were more important in the whole of Germany. In October 2002, especially in Munich and the Ruhrgebiet, they actively stood against the NPD, and at the end of November they organised in Weimar, Potsdam and Pomerania several large demonstrations. Besides antifascist protests they also stood against the participation of Germany in planned intervention against Iraq. The largest action of environmentalists showing clear-cut extremism, was a series of demonstrations, blockades and transport disturbances which took place during the transportation of burnt nuclear fuel from the French uranium mill in La Hague to a radioactive cemetery in Gorleben (11 – 14 November 2002).<sup>214</sup>

In 2002, as in previous years, the ideological base of left-wing extremism remained unchanged in **Austria**. This scene consisted of Marxist-Leninist and anarcho-autonomous blocks in which the anti-global movement represented the common action platform. In March and then at the end of the

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<sup>209</sup> Working Club for the Near East and the initiative Berlin Jews and Jewish Women, alongside with other pacifist organisations, are to refute the presumption that there is contact between a parts of the PDS and the NPD in struggling for the rights of Palestinians and against American imperialism.

<sup>210</sup> This organisation was established in November 1997 in France where it has 30,000 members.

<sup>211</sup> The decline in operations of this organisation is explained by the transfer of a part of its members to more democratic structures, a decline in interest in punk-rock music but also by the **growth of a national political climate in Brandenburg and north Germany**. The anarchist cultural political journal “Jungle World” published in Berlin is facing extinction. It is close to this group and is said to be the unofficial press body of the PDS.

<sup>212</sup> The participants in these discussions more or less agreed that “breaking shop-windows of Mc Donald’s and burning cars is senseless and counterproductive”. However their views differed on other topics. One part pursued peaceful demonstrations, lying in “occupation” of a part of Prague with masses of demonstrators and using blockades. The other part claimed that similar actions would not be noticed and that if they did not use strong action the current capitalist system would be accepted. However the form of action was not to copy the protests held in Prague in 2000 for which the Czech police would have been prepared. Thus tactics of thoroughly thought-out blockades and directly focused cross-section actions were offered. There was an opinion among Berlin anarchists that the best form of protests would be demonstrations on the day of the NATO Summit in front of military facilities in the whole of Europe.

<sup>213</sup> For example “Borderpoint Dresden” published information on possible conditions for travelling into the Czech Republic to the NATO Summit. Further, anarcho-autonomists recommended how to avoid problems at the Czech-German border in the journey to Prague and a problem free option was recommended as crossing the border from Poland in Zittau and Görlitz.

<sup>214</sup> The protest actions as well as some skirmishes with police occurred. There were also some violent attempts to halt the traffic in **Goettingen (2 persons were arrested), in Mannheim (7 persons arrested), and on the railway near Lueneburg where the blockade could have caused a serious railway accident (27 persons arrested)**.

year monitored activities carried out by the Communist Party of Austria (KPÖ) were more seen. While in March such activities were aimed against neo-Nazis, mainly against the activities of “Kameradschaft Germania” in Vienna, at the end of the year it supported anti-global movements and participated in organising a demonstration in Vienna against military intervention against the Iraq regime.<sup>215</sup> In autumn it operated quite successfully in Varalberg where it managed to involve the local peace and antifascist movement. A side aim of such actions was, however, to create clashes between the youth of Austrian social democrats and its own party.

Left-wing extremist groups showing a trend in the use of violence found themselves in 2002 in isolation, their mobility towards violent actions decreased. For example the demonstration against the dancing ball in the Opera House was accompanied by lower number of violent actions than in the previous year. There were only individual actions by individual groups striving to call a clash with police but they were not, as in 2001, larger groups. An exception was so-called anti-fascist resistance. The protest of right-wing extremist groups against the exhibition about Wehrmacht was accompanied by a demonstration by a large number of different left-wing groups during which left-wing extremists tried to provoke violent acts. The above-mentioned lower capacity for action by radical groups also influenced the fact that Austrian activists did not participate in protests against the NATO Summit in Prague.<sup>216</sup>

The number of crimes which linked to the left-wing extremist scene and caused financial damage remained at the level of the previous year. These were mainly criminal offences relating to graffiti and far behind the criminal acts.

In **Hungary** in 2002, as in 2001, individual actions by anti-globalisation activists and ecologists continued without a great response and with a minimum of interest on the side of the general public. Hungarian anti-global and anarchist movements did not show any interest in protests against the NATO Summit.<sup>217</sup> The Hungarian branch of the ATTAC movement only announced participation in the European Social Forum held in Florence on 6 – 10 November 2002.

In **Slovakia** about one thousand left-wing extremists were operating especially in the Bratislava Region. Slovak anarchist and anti-global activists organised in Bratislava a Street Party against the NATO and the Prague NATO Summit in September 2002. The police did not report any violence on the side of activists. Another reported event, held also in Bratislava, was an solidarity action by demonstrators against the NATO Summit in Prague held on 21 November 2002. Small groups of protesters gathered in the centre of the city and in front of the embassies of the United States and the Czech Republic. The course of this event, organised by a part of the movement of the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (the CSAF), was without any violence on the side of demonstrators.

Anarchists and Trotskyists developed their activities on the left-wing extremist scene in **Poland**.<sup>218</sup> Activities of the anarchist movement lay mainly in organising protests and

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<sup>215</sup> According to words of the chairman of this party, the party “does not agree with the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein, but it does not think that the liberation of the Iraqi people and the restoration of peace in the region could be ensured through American war actions”. In this context the KPÖ expressed its opinions on some aspects of foreign policy in the Czech Republic. It also stood sharply against casting doubts upon the right of Israel in its existence under the veil of anti-Zionism and anti-imperialism, and stood for preserving the strict neutrality of Austria.

<sup>216</sup> Austrian left-wing extremists announced a demonstration in front of the Czech embassy in Vienna which should have been held on 21 November 2002. The reason was that, inter alia, some activists who had travelled to the NATO Summit in Prague by train had not been permitted to enter the Czech Republic. According to a statement by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs the demonstration was not held (the note of the author of the Report).

<sup>217</sup> Only several people of Hungarian nationality travelled to Prague to participate in the protests against the NATO Summit. No larger action against NATO was reported from Hungary.

<sup>218</sup> There also were some ultra left-wing groups called “Black Block”, operating in deep conspiracy. According to available information it is only this group, together with other organisations, which learn to recognise the “modus operandi” of the police, and at the same time it operatively changes its tactics and according to the

demonstrations (the participants of these calling skirmishes with the police and skinheads), in attacks against embassies of foreign countries, and in vandalism using for example “Molotov cocktails”. Anarchists are also the most active group among Polish supporters of anti-globalisation. They maintain contact with their counterparts in Russia, France, Italy, Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Great Britain, Japan, and the USA. Polish anarchists were involved in proposals on the form of protest against the NATO Summit in Prague.<sup>219</sup> In connection with planned protests an information centre 2002 – Borderpoint Wroslaw - was established. It was to serve the needs of anti-global activists travelling to Prague to participate in protests against the NATO Summit. Since 17 November 2002 a call for participation in Prague protests under the name “Be at Anarchist Festival in Prague!” was spread via the Internet in Russia. The text was published by staff of the anarchist magazine called “Abolishing the Borders from Below”. This periodical is published in Poland and deals with activities in anarchist movements in the countries of the former eastern block.

### 5.3 The Issue of Dangerous Sects and Pseudo-religious Organisations

A number of Muslim organisations operate in **Germany**, where 3.2 million Muslims live. The government authorities stated the existence of an Islamic problem.<sup>220</sup> Reports on the operations of radical supporters of Islam, scientologists or other sects were not provided in 2002 from **Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland**.

## 6. Evaluation of the Czech Republic in the International Forum in 2002 in Terms of Quality in Combating Racism and Anti-Semitism

### 6.1 Activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs actively participated in a range of international events and at such international forums consistently presented relevant information concerning the Czech Republic<sup>221</sup>. The need to provide information about respective measures adopted by the Government arose from the fact of the continuing immigration of Roma asylum seekers abroad, from issues concerning attitudes towards minority members, mainly Romas, as well as economic, social and cultural rights including the right to just treatment, and from the continuing occurrence of racially

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nature of the target establishes seemingly illogical “mixed” associations where anarchists stand side by side with representatives of ultra right-wing extremists.

<sup>219</sup> They suggested that one of the protest marches would be formed only by demonstrators from the countries of the former eastern block, i.e. without anti-global activists from the EU. In their opinion it should have been the expression of a symbolic protest against capitalist terror of organisations such as NATO and the EU.

<sup>220</sup> German society is to a certain extent able to accept Turks especially when several generations have lived in the country but people do not trust for example Arabs, Iranians, Palestinians or Muslims from the CIS. On 20 February 2002 the Central Board of Muslims of Germany (ZMD) published on the Islamic Charter in which 19 Islamic organisations renounced radicalism and fundamentalism and declared themselves to be a neutral political platform endeavouring to achieve a balance within German society.

<sup>221</sup> The Ministry of Foreign Affairs met in this way, **on an ongoing basis, task No. 6 contained in the Annex to Government Resolution No. 720/1999. The Minister of Foreign Affairs together with the Minister of the Interior were responsible for meeting this task. (“To ensure at the international level of negotiations that its foreign counterparts are provided with sufficient information on measures adopted by the Czech Government, the Ministry of the Interior, and the Czech police, to punish racially and nationally motivated crimes or other kinds of extremist offences and to eliminate all manifestations of racial discrimination”).**

motivated attacks which were perceived abroad as the consequence of hatred and racial discrimination in Czech society. Despite these facts **the Czech Republic was perceived by international institutions as a safe country.**

Measures relating to human rights adopted by the Czech Government were presented both bilaterally and multilaterally. Consequently the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided information about, for example, measures taken by the Government to increase protection of national minorities (adoption of the Act on the Rights of National Minorities), to continue the integration of Romas into society (implementation of the Strategy of Government Policy Towards the Roma Community Members Helping Them to Integrate into Society), and to fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance (meeting the assignment resulting from the Government Resolution concerning Reports on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic and related Resolutions). The bilateral dimension of Czech foreign policy concerning human rights was implemented in 2002 especially on the informational level. The aforementioned information was presented both during bilateral visits of Czech constitutional executives abroad, and via Czech embassies.<sup>222</sup>

As part of its activities the Ministry of Foreign Affairs monitored issues of manifestations of extremism in the Central European geopolitical area and throughout the world via Czech embassies and consulates, international government organisations, international conferences, and non-governmental organisations.<sup>223</sup>

With regard to discussing issues related to the position of minorities, protection against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, within international organisations such as the UN, the Council of Europe, and the OSCE, or at international conferences, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs consistently met the multilateral dimension of Czech foreign policy concerning human rights at all levels: contractual, informational, and negotiation levels.

## **The United Nations (UN)**

### **Representation of the Czech Republic at the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the UN Commission for Human Rights**

The Meeting of the UN Commission for Human Rights takes place every year in March and April, whilst the structure of the agenda remains unchanged. In 2002, the Czech Delegation made a speech relating to point 6 of the agenda “Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and All Other Forms of Discrimination”. The delegation provided information on internal measures adopted by the Czech Republic in combating racism and xenophobia. In connection with this were presented the Government’s strategies aimed at combating extremism, work commenced on the draft legal regulation focusing on protection against discrimination, and approval of the proposal to adopt the amendment to Article 8 of the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination.<sup>224</sup> With regard to the fact that at the previous 57<sup>th</sup> Meeting principal attention was paid

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<sup>222</sup> In order to ensure that foreign counterparts are sufficiently informed on measures adopted by the Government, the Ministry of the Interior, and the Czech police, aimed at the prosecution of racially, nationally and similarly motivated criminal offences, and to ensure that they are sufficiently informed on efforts focused on eliminating all manifestation of racial discrimination, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs used as a fundamental document the Reports on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic presenting a consensual view of the state administration on the extremist issue. The Report is sent to Czech embassies to be used or presented at international forums.

<sup>223</sup> The Ministry of Foreign Affairs met basic assignment **No. 4** on an ongoing basis **contained in the Annex to Government Resolution No. 720/1999. The Minister of the Interior and the Czech Intelligence Service Director, together with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, are responsible for meeting this task. (“To monitor, on an ongoing basis, the situation and trends in the development of extremism in the Czech Republic and in the world with an emphasis on the neighbouring states of the Czech Republic”).**

<sup>224</sup> Information relating to the Strategy of Educational Activities in the Field of Combating Extremism, the Strategy of Social Work in the Field of Preventing and Eliminating Extremism, and the Strategy of Mediation and Probation Activities in Combating Extremism. The Government by its Resolution No. 25 dated 9 January 2002 approved the **draft to amend Article 8 (6) and new Article 8 (7) of the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination.** The Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech

to the preparation of the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, and Xenophobia and Related Hatred (31 August – 8 September 2001, in Durban, the S. A. R.), the Czech Delegation made remarks on the course of this conference and those activities of the Czech Republic aimed at implementing the conclusions of this world conference.

**Implementation of the Conclusions of the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Hatred (hereinafter “the UN World Conference”)<sup>225</sup>**

Final documents of the UN World Conference on several points, *inter alia*, concern the area of “right-wing extremism“. The preamble of the Declaration of the UN World Conference notices the occurrence of ideology and methods based on racial and ethnic discrimination or superiority; rejects theories of racial superiority and attempts to differ among human races; and emphasises the role of representatives of public power in eliminating such manifestations. Article 84 of the operative part of the Declaration condemns neo-Nazism, neo-fascism and violent nationalistic ideologies based on racial and national prejudices. In Article 85 it condemns political associations and organisations based on these ideological streams; Article 86 contains the requirement for criminal punishment of all ideas based on racial superiority and hate; and Article 87 stresses the commitment contained in Article 4 (b) of the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination requiring the prohibition of organisations disseminating ideas of racial superiority and hatred, or manifestations of thus motivated violence or the defamation of such acts. The Programme of Activities of the US World Conference pays attention to the punishment of manifestations of racial superiority and hatred in the part titled “The Punishment of Offenders of Racially Motivated Crimes“. Articles 84, 86 and 89 of this part express opinion on the negative impact of the impunity of such acts, the necessity of pre-empting such acts punishing them, and on principles for the approach of penal proceeding bodies in these cases *ex officio*.

As a follow up to the European and World Conferences against racism the Ministry of Foreign Affairs elaborated an overview of commitments arising from their final documents. The establishment of an international consultative group was initiated which at its first meeting (22 July 2002) dealt with the evaluation of such commitments whether they were or were not met by the Czech Republic. During the next phase similar materials related to the activities of individual ministries were gathered and became the basis for preparing a national action plan on combating racism. The representative of the Government for human rights was authorised to draw up such a plan and the related agenda was transferred to him.<sup>226</sup>

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Republic by its Resolution No. 2295 dated 30 May 2002 approved this proposal, and on 30 May 2002 this proposal was adopted by the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. **The deed on adoption of the amendment of Article 8 of the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination was signed by the President of the Czech Republic on 22 July 2002.**

<sup>225</sup> **The participants are obliged to meet through the national action plans aimed at combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance** both documents, the **Declaration and the Programme of Activities** (see points 6 and 7 of Follow - up to the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance held on 18 March 2002. CERD General Recommendation 28 (General Comments), the Declaration as well as the Programme of Activities are broken up into parts devoted to the sources, causes, forms, and current manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance (historical events, social exclusion, poverty); victims (vulnerable groups generally, individuals of African origin, Romas and others); preventative, educational, and protective measures at the national, regional, and international levels (ratification and implementation of relevant international agreements, consistent punishment of racially motivated crimes, action programmes, education and educational campaigns, collection of data, tasks of civic society and non-profitable organisations, the role of the media); efficient correction, indemnification, repair, compensatory and other measures (legal assistance, legislation, and development aid and co-operation); strategies to achieve full and efficient equality including international co-operation and strengthening mechanisms within and outside the UN in combating racism and intolerance and their implementation (national institutions, civic society, non-governmental organisations, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, control mechanism, the Commissions for Human Rights, international-legal instruments).

<sup>226</sup> For the purposes of monitoring how commitments provided for in the final documents of the UN World Conference Against Racism are met the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights submits to the UN Commission for Human Rights and to the UN General Assembly an annual report on how the commitments are



### **The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights**

In May 2002 the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights with reference to Article 191 of the Programme of Activities of the World Conference Against Racism requested information concerning internal measures adopted by the Czech Republic in its combat against racism. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed the High Commissioner for Human Rights on governmental strategies concerning the fight with extremism, on the Campaign Against Racism running in 2002, and finally on the Report on Possible Measures to Eliminate Discrimination on the basis of which the assignment to draw up the Draft Act on Protection Against Discrimination was elaborated, including activities aimed at formulating the National Action Plan for Combating Racism.

### **The Council of Europe**

For the purpose of monitoring, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided informative material relating to the activities of the Czech Republic focused on combating racism to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe with regard to non-discrimination, with an emphasis placed on the fight against hatred and racism.

### **The Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

On 9–19 September 2002 the anniversary meeting of the human dimension of the OSCE was held in Warsaw. At this regular implementing OSCE meeting the Czech Republic, during the time devoted to the position of Romas, informed the participants on the updated version of the Government Strategy of Roma Integration. In the presentation of this Strategy the Czech Republic focused on the setting up of priorities the aim of which is, *inter alia*, to eliminate all forms of discrimination against racially defined groups and to create a tolerant environment without any prejudice.

## **6.2 Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations from the Perspective of its Observation of Human Rights**

### **The Report of the Special Rapporteur of the UN Commission for Human Rights on the Current Problems of Racism.<sup>227</sup>**

The Czech Republic was mentioned in the Report drawn up by the special rapporteur of the UN Commission for Human Rights on Current Manifestations of Racism, together with Great Britain and Switzerland, in the section providing information on right-wing extremist manifestations and then in the section including information on measures adopted in individual countries as a follow up to the visit of the special rapporteur. The number of crimes with an extremist context committed in 2000 (364) was included. The report contained also an overview of the most serious cases and the systematic approach of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic to solve such manifestations with reference to measures adopted by the Government of the Czech Republic in the Annex to Resolution No. 903 dated 12 September 2001. Furthermore, preventative measures in relation to Romas were mentioned.

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fulfilled by individual states. In these reports there is, on the basis of the information provided by the Czech Republic, data on the intention of the Czech Republic to draw up and adopt the National Action Plan to Combat Racism, including information on setting up an inter-ministerial commission which should deal with this issue.

<sup>227</sup> The office of the Rapporteur of the UN Commission for Human Rights for current manifestations of racism, racial discrimination and related intolerance was established in 1993 by Resolution No. 1993/20, point 10. From 1993 until July 2002 this office was held by Maurice Glélé – Ahanhanzo (Benin). From August 2002 the office has been taken over by Doudou Diène (Senegal). M.G. Ahanhanza, in compliance with Resolution No. 2001/5 of the UN Commission for Human Rights presented his report at the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Commission (E/CN.4/2002/24). **By Resolution of the UN Commission for Human Rights No. 2002/68 the special Rapporteur was required to submit at its 59<sup>th</sup> meeting the report on meeting recommendations relating to the elimination of manifestations of the aforementioned phenomena, including those ones which are listed in the Report presented at the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

## **The Czech Republic's Meeting Commitments Arising from the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>228</sup>**

In 2002 the 5<sup>th</sup> Periodical Report of the Czech Republic on Meeting Commitments Arising from the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination was finished and submitted to the UN Committee for Elimination of Racial Discrimination in November 2002. The Report also contains Chapters titled Combating Extremism and the Extremist Scene within Article 4 of the Report. **The Report of the Czech Republic will be discussed at the 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Committee which is to be held on 4 – 22 August in Geneva.**<sup>229</sup>

### **U.S. State Department**

The Report of the U.S. State Department on the observation of human rights throughout the world during 2002 indicated, as in 2001, the long-lasting violence of skinheads against Roma and other minorities and problems of the Roma ethnic group including unemployment, a low education rate, poverty, a higher disease rate, discrimination, and inter-ethnic violence.<sup>230</sup> At the same time the Report stated that the progress related to the positive trend of the last four years where an increasing number of registered crimes with an extremist context, including those racially motivated, proves the ability of the police to recognise the racial or ethnic motive for criminal offences committed. In connection with violence against Romas, the report focused on cases presented by the mass media.

## **7. Measures Adopted to Eliminate Extremist Crime**

### **7.1 Activities of the Government of the Czech Republic**

In 2002, as in previous years, the Czech Government paid considerable attention to the area of human rights and to creating an optimal environment for the development of a multicultural, tolerant society as a natural barrier against xenophobia, racial or other similar ideologies. It therefore emphasised educating the whole of society on human rights, the improvement of mutual relations between the majority and the Roma minority, but also education against open or hidden manifestations of xenophobia generally. Special attention was paid to the position of the Roma minority in society

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<sup>228</sup> Issues of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance are at a legal level solved by the UN Committee for Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) which observes how the contracting parties meet commitments resulting from the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination - ICERD (the CSSR became a party to the ICERD from 4 January 1969, the Czech Republic then became a successor of these international commitments with effect from 1 January 1993).

<sup>229</sup> General Recommendation No. 15 of the Committee for Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination dated 23 March 1993 called "Organised Violence Based on an Ethnic Origin" applies to right-wing extremism promoting racial superiority and organised incitement to racially motivated violence. This recommendation provides interpretation of Article 4 of the Convention and states that this provision is legally bound. For the purpose of meeting their stated obligations the states are obliged, besides adopting relevant legal regulations, to ensure effective adherence to this Convention without any delay. Article 4 requires punishing (or prosecuting) four categories of conduct: 1. spreading racial superiority, 2. defamation of racial hatred, 3. violent acts committed because of race, skin colour, or ethnic origin, and 4. defamation of such acts. Such commitments are, in the Committee's opinion, in compliance with the obligation of states not to interfere with the freedom of conviction and speech as it is laid down in the Pact on Civic and Political Rights and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, Article 4 of the Convention expressly requires national legal regulations to punish also the funding of such prohibited activities. From the point of view of the **Czech Republic the provisions requiring the outlaw of organisations and organised and other propaganda supporting racial discrimination and to punish participation in such organisation or such activities are considered to be important.**

<sup>230</sup> See <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2001/eur> U.S. State Department. Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 2002. Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. March 31, 2003. Czech Republic.

and the problems which the minority has to face everyday.<sup>231</sup> With regard to the above-mentioned issues, the Government, in compliance with recommendations by international institutions, focused on the need for a life-long educational process for policemen, state prosecutors and judges, as well as civil servants as a whole. Activities carried out by government advisory bodies such as the Council for Human Rights, the Council for Nationalities and the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs were also directed towards the same target. These bodies of the Czech Government facilitated a dialogue between representatives of the state administration and representatives of non-governmental organisations and the general public, and strived, within their competencies, to improve relations among ethnic minorities living in the Czech Republic and the Czech majority. For example, on 18 July 2002 a twinning project of the Phare programme called “Support of Racial and Ethnical Equality” was completed. The responsible parties were the Department for Human Rights of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, and the British Home Office. This project contributed to new anti-discriminatory legislation in compliance with the requirements of the EU directives.

The Czech Government included as being among security risks in 2002 those forms of extremism which show anti-system attitudes, and procedure taken against this phenomenon was among its key priorities. The Government put an emphasis upon eliminating racial discrimination, minimising racial attacks, and upon punishing such political parties and civic associations which would in any manner support racism or related extremist ideologies. It also stressed uncompromising action to be taken against all racial and other extremist manifestations or activities carried out in the Czech Republic. The Government clearly showed that it was prepared to achieve the largest possible reduction of open as well as latent forms of extremism while using both preventative and repressive measures. It concentrated its attention, at the level of state bodies, on systematic work and rapid punishment of this negative and socially dangerous phenomenon and manifestations related to it.<sup>232</sup> In 2002 the permanent measures resulting from the following Government Resolutions remain valid: Resolution No. 720/1999, Resolution No. 684/2000, Resolution No. 498/2001, and Resolution No. 903/2001.<sup>233</sup> These Resolutions are supplemented, after the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 against the USA, by anti-terrorist measures adopted on the basis of the “National Action Plan to Combat Terrorism”.

In compliance with its priorities in the area in question the Czech Government discussed and took note of the following documents:

- Point 6 of the agenda of the Government meeting held on 16 January 2002 (ref. No.220502) “Strategy of Mediation and Probation Activities in the Framework of Combating Extremism”;
- Resolution No. 169 dated 20 February 2002, “Strategy of Social Work in Preventing and Restricting Extremisms”;
- Resolution No. 268 dated 18 March 2002, “Strategy of Educational Activities in Combating Extremisms“;

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<sup>231</sup> In this regard the assignments arising from the Strategy of the Government Policy Relating to the Members of the Roma Community and Assisting Their Integration into Society, and measures to intensify the implementation of this Strategy, were met during the course of 2002. By its Resolution No. 87 dated 23 January 2002 the Government took note of the “Information on Meeting the Government Resolution Concerning the Integration of Roma Communities and Active Approach of the State Administration While Implementing Measures Adopted by Government’s Resolutions by 31 December 2001”. Moreover, the Czech Government, for example, approved, by its Resolution No. 170 dated 20 February 2002, the “Report on Options to Adopt Measures Aimed at Eliminating Discrimination”.

<sup>232</sup> The text mentions only some of the most important activities of the Government in terms of monitored issues, since a number of Government Resolutions are related to the direct competence of other departments of state administration and their summary in relation to the issues of human rights is provided by the Report on Human Rights in the Czech Republic in 2002 which was approved by Government Resolution No. 548 dated 4 June 2003.

<sup>233</sup> The Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry for Local Development, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Health, and the Director of the Security Intelligence Service, are all involved in implementing measures resulting from Government Resolution No. 903/2001.

- Resolution No. 600 dated 12 June 2002, “Report on the Situation of Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2001”
- Resolution No. 715 dated 10 July 2002, “Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2001” which was submitted to the Parliament of the Czech Republic;
- Resolution No. 761 dated 5 August 2002, “Draft Action Plan to Eliminate in EU Member States and in Norway Applications for Asylum by Members of the Roma Community in the Czech Republic ”;
- Resolution No. 823 dated 28 August 2002, “Fifth Periodical Report of the Czech Republic on Meeting Commitments Arising from the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination”;
- Resolution No. 994 dated 14 October 2002, “Rules for Ensuring Co-operation of State Administration Bodies and Self-government Bodies with the Czech Police When Eliminating Extremist Mass Actions”;
- Resolution No. 85 dated 22 January 2003, “National Strategy for Police Work Relating to Ethnic and National Minorities in the Czech Republic”

In 2001, the Government took further important legislative steps. The following can be mentioned:

- Act No. 3/2002 Coll. on Freedom of Religious Conviction and the Position of Churches and Religious Societies, which came into force on 7 January 2002. In its Sec. 5 conditions are laid out restricting operations of churches and religious societies with the aim of preventing the registration of dangerous religious sects;
- Act No. 134/2002 Coll. amending Act No. 140/1961 Coll., the Code of Criminal Procedure as amended, which came into force on 1 July 2002;
- Act No. 259/2002 Coll. amending Act No. 84/1990 Coll. on the Right of Assembly as amended by Act No. 175/1990 Coll., and amending some other related acts which came into force on 1 July 2002.<sup>234</sup>

In relation to the NATO Summit held in Prague in November 2002, Government Regulation No. 299/2002 Coll., on Inviting Soldiers of the Army of the Czech Republic to Meet Assignments of the Police of the Czech Republic from 16 November 2002 until 24 November 2002, was published.

## **7.2 The Activities of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic**

In 2002, as in previous years, the Ministry of the Interior devoted its all-round attention to extremism. With regard to current development in the international situation after the terrorist attacks against the United States on 11 September 2001, the possible threat of terrorist attacks in Europe and the gradual culmination of the “Iraq crisis”, the risks linked to the existence of the extremist scene representing a classic environment for a possible rise in activities of political terrorism came into the fore. With respect to the fact that the Ministry of the Interior continued perceiving extremism, racism, and xenophobia as supranational phenomenon crossing national borders, it took into account indicators of growing xenophobia and anti-Semitism in the world, danger linked to Islamic terrorism, and the need to face these new challenges. Therefore the Ministry of the Interior put a larger emphasis on functional international co-operation when eliminating these phenomena. Generally, the Ministry

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<sup>234</sup> The amendment to the Act on the Right of Assembly was drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior and approved by the Government but on the basis of the recommendation issued by the Constitutional-legal Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament the Ministry of the Interior elaborated an amending proposal which essentially altered the original amendment approved by the Government.

emphasised the importance of multilateral foreign co-operation accompanied by a mutual exchange of experience and information.

In 2002 the Working Group of the Visegrad Four and Austria for Combating Extremism started to develop their activities under the responsibility of the Czech Republic. The Ministry of the Interior devoted primary attention in 2002 to ensuring the security and peaceful course of the NATO Summit held in Prague in November. This related to a range of activities at the governmental as well as ministerial levels but mainly close co-operation of all state security forces permanently assessing possible security risks connected with extremism and terrorism was required. In ensuring a safe NATO Summit the key role of international co-operation between intelligence services and police was affirmed. **This very demanding task however did not mean the paralysis of other activities of the Ministry connected with the issue of extremism.** First of all permanent assignments and scheduled assignments were fulfilled on an ongoing basis.

The inter-ministerial **Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism, and Xenophobia as an advisory body to the Minister of the Interior** was established. The plenary meeting of this Commission discussed, *inter alia*, **rules for ensuring the co-operation of state administration bodies and self-government bodies with the police of the Czech Republic when restricting mass extremist actions.** These rules, elaborated on the basis of Government Resolution No. 903/2001, were a response to actions carried out by right-wing extremists in the first half of 2001.<sup>235</sup> They are basic rules for co-ordinated co-operation between the Czech police and bodies of state supervision regulating the manner of co-operation between the Czech police and municipal councils when gathering information on organised events reported to a relevant municipal council, at the same time taking into account measures relating to such events and solutions of issues of extremist crime. The rules focus on the maximal utilisation of all legal tools available to the public power, for an offensive approach against extremism. Further, the Ministry concentrated its attention towards the domestic extremist scene, apart from other things, also in connection with June parliamentary elections and November municipal elections. An offensive approach of executive bodies was applied to organisations breaching the legal conditions of their registration. In 2002 the Ministry of the Interior also participated in solving current problems such as the **exodus of Romas to Great Britain** and the **elimination of usury within Roma communities.** Adequate attention was also paid to the **security of Jewish premises and their neighbourhood** within the Czech Republic, mainly in Prague.<sup>236</sup>

With the upcoming accession of the Czech Republic to the European Union an emphasis is being put on increasing the quality of police forces and their ability to react in a suitable manner to new impulses, including policing in relation to ethnic and national minorities. On the basis of Government Resolution No. 761/2002 the Ministry of the Interior drew up the **National Strategy for**

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<sup>235</sup> By drawing up the rules for ensuring the co-operation of state administration bodies and self-government bodies with the police of the Czech Republic when restricting mass extremist actions **the assignment resulting from the Annex to Government Resolution No. 903/2001 has been met. (Item 5 “To create a system of co-ordinated co-operation of the Czech Police with: a) Municipal Councils when collecting information about events/actions which are held with the approval of the relevant municipality, when adopting municipal measures concerning such events, and when solving all matters relating to extremist crime; b) bodies of administrative supervision (such as Trade Licence Authorities, State Construction Supervision Authorities, the Czech Trade Inspection, hygiene stations, and Fire Rescue Brigades of the Czech Republic) in the field of observation of the legal regulations and determined conditions relating to the activities of legal as well as natural persons when organising mass events (e.g. rallies, concerts)”).** This is a permanent assignment. Besides the Ministry of the Interior and the police of the Czech Republic the following ministries are for example involved: the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry for Local Development, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

<sup>236</sup> The Ministry of the Interior dealt with securing Jewish premises on the basis of an assignment arising from the meeting of the Central Emergency Staff of 26 April 2002. The working group was set up and representatives of the Ministry of the Interior, the Czech police, Prague City Council and Jewish institutions are involved in its activities. Possible threats and risks in given locations were mapped and concrete measures were drafted. The most significant Jewish premises are under the permanent supervision of police guards – measures were adopted in the field of safety transport and implementation of camera systems, all of which should take place in 2003. This is under the responsibility of the Prague City Council.

**Policing in Relation to Ethnic and National Minorities in the Czech Republic**, which also reflects the need to involve members of ethnic and national minorities in the work of police units. In 2002, the implementation of a project which had been commenced in 2000 continued. The aim of this project is to establish conditions for the successful enrolment of ethnic minority members in the police service. This project is being implemented by the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Brno. From 2000 until 2002 six one-month training courses “**Preparing Citizens of National Minorities to Join the Czech Police Service**” were held. In 2002, 22 participants attended two training courses and 5 of these were successful and met the requirements for joining the police forces. Since 2000 when the courses were commenced 23 applicants have joined the Czech police and have continued their education on the second type of training courses. There is a **five-month preparatory course for citizens of national minorities** who are already policemen but who have not completed their secondary education. The objective of this course is to broaden and extend the knowledge and skills of students so that they may attend a two-year course through which they would achieve a complete secondary education, undergo professional training and become fully qualified policemen. Assistance, provided to Romas applying for work with the police so that they are able to meet the prescribed requirements, has remained a priority of the Ministry of the Interior.

## **An International Dimension**

### **International Co-operation in Combating Extremism**

The issue of extremism and racism is usually taken into account in new draft agreements on police co-operation. Contractual regulation of co-operation in combating extremism with neighbouring countries and Hungary was as follows:

#### The Federal Republic of Germany

A currently applicable regulation laid down by inter-governmental agreement of 1991 on co-operation in combating organised crime was amended by a regulation on new forms of co-operation. Such regulations are contained in the Agreement Between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany on Co-operation of Police Bodies and Bodies Protecting the National Border in the Borderland Areas, signed on 19 September 2000, and the Agreement Between the Czech Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany concerning Annexes to the European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Affairs, dated 20 April 1995, and on Simplifying its Utilisation, dated 2 February 2000. These agreements provide sufficient legal framework for co-operation in the field of extremism although this area is not expressly included. The first of these agreements was ratified by the Czech party and the ratification process is in progress in Germany. The second will come into effect on 19 June 2002.

#### Austria

A currently valid agreement with Austria of 1988 regulates general co-operation in the field of uncovering crimes typically solved by courts. It however does not contain any contemporary forms of co-operation, such as using operative means, and it is insufficient in terms of providing personal data. At the beginning of 2003, as a counter-proposal to the Austrian text of the agreement, a new Draft Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Austrian Republic on Police Co-operation in Combating Criminal Offences and Protecting Public Order was drawn up. This Draft Agreement provides sufficient legal base for co-operation in combating crimes with an extremist context. Negotiations with the Austrian party will be commenced in the first half of 2003.

#### Slovakia

Negotiations were generally finished on an expert level on a Draft Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic on co-operation in combating crimes and protecting public order, which will replace an older, insufficient contractual regulation in this field of 1992, and the Draft Agreement will in a short period of time be submitted to the governments of both states. The Draft Agreement expressly mentions among forms of co-operation also the combating of extremism, racial hatred, and xenophobia.

## Poland

A new draft agreement with Poland on co-operation in combating crime and protecting public order is in its preparatory phase. The agreement should have the same scope as the draft agreements with Austria and Slovakia and it should replace an inconvenient ministerial agreement of 1991 which does not include the issue of extremism in the lists of areas covered. The current agreement does not regulate contemporary forms of co-operation such as using operative means and it is insufficient in terms of regulation of personal data provision. Negotiations on the new agreement between the Czech Republic and the Polish Republic on Co-operation in Combating Crimes and Protecting Public Order and on Co-operation in the Borderlands were commenced at the end of 2002 and will continue in 2003. The Draft Agreement expressly includes among forms of co-operation also the combating of extremism, racial hatred, and xenophobia.

## Hungary

An inter-governmental agreement of 1996 on co-operation in combating terrorism, illicit trade in narcotic and psychotropic substances and organised crime is presently applicable to relations between the Czech Republic and Hungary. However this agreement does not expressly include extremism. Therefore in the first half of the year 2001 the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic sent to its Hungarian counterpart a draft of a new international agreement on police co-operation which deals with the issue of extremism, racial hatred, and xenophobia. *The Hungarian side, however, has not yet responded to this draft.*

## Preparation of Other Agreements

Draft Agreements on police co-operation with Moldova and Belgium approved by Government Resolutions No. 370 of 14 April 2003 and No. 481 of 19 May 2003 will be soon signed. These agreements provide for explicit co-operation in combating extremism, racial hatred, and xenophobia.

## Co-operation with the European Police Office (EUROPOL)

Effective from 1 January 2002, the scope of powers of the European Police Office was, by the Decision of the Council of the European Union, extended to some new areas of criminal offences. The Agreement on Co-operation Between the Czech Republic and the European Police Office was signed on 5 March 2002, including its alteration agreed on in the form of an exchange of personal notes (the Hague, 13 February 2002; Prague, 5 March 2002), came into effect on 16 August 2002.

## **The Working Group of the Countries of V4 and Austria for Combating Extremism** <sup>237</sup>

In 2002 two meetings of the V4 Countries and Austrian Working Group for Combating Extremism were held. The first meeting was held in Prague on 7 and 8 February 2002. Its participants unambiguously agreed on the need to intensify mutual exchange of information on the issues of extremism. With respect to this they committed to mutually exchange available information about and documentation of extremist scenes, entities operating on these scenes, the development of extremist criminal offences, and any partial problems in the field of extremist crime. The Working Group also recommended initiating within existing regional co-operation regular working meetings of police units of individual neighbouring countries, and recommended entering into personal contact with experts since such links would ensure direct communication. Without any doubt the most important act was **the Agreement on Determining National Contact Centres** on the level of the police or a relevant Ministry which would serve, if necessary, for the direct mutual communication of experts dealing with the issue of extremism. At the same time, the participants consensually decided to call an extraordinary meeting of the Working Group in September 2002 aimed at preparing for a safe

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<sup>237</sup> On 10 October 2001 the meeting of the ministers of V 4 and Austria was held in the chateau of Gödöllő, Hungary. One of the conclusions, which the meeting came to, was the necessity of establishing a Working Group for combating extremism. It is the Czech Republic that is responsible for this task. The Working Group meets regularly once a year in Prague and any extraordinary meetings are called in accordance with the agreement of its members.

November NATO Summit in Prague. They also decided to invite as guests experts from Germany. The working meeting fulfilled its purpose: mutual agreement on focus and options for mutual co-operation of experts in the field of extremism were achieved. In addition, on the basis of results evaluated, it is stated that the Czech Republic overtook the participating countries in managing the issues of extremism from an institutional point of view.

An extraordinary meeting of the Working Group for Combating Extremism was held in Prague on 25 September 2002. Its objective was to ensure operative co-operation of the V4 Countries and Austria and Germany in connection with the preparation of security measures by the Czech party related to the Prague NATO Summit. This meeting brought concrete results: national contact points for the direct communication of experts were activated, conditions and mechanisms for the exchange of information, and findings on risky persons and prepared protest actions were agreed upon, and the provision of all usable information in concordance with the national legal possibilities of individual countries were decided on. The possibility of inviting to the common police team liaison officers from partner countries was discussed. Adopted measures were applied in a positive manner to ensure security during the November NATO Summit. The existence of national contact points for the direct communication of experts showed to be appropriate, co-operation was fully functional and acquitted well. The direct presence of German and Austrian liaison officers in the offices of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic proved to be positive. Experience gained during the NATO Summit confirmed the importance and necessity of the direct co-operation of police professionals dealing with issues of extremism.<sup>238</sup>

Up to date experience has confirmed the significance of the establishment of and activities of this Working Group as a **tool of above-standard co-operation of the countries of the Visegrad Four and Austria in the field of extremism**. In carrying out its activities this Working Group has supplemented activities performed by the Police Working Group on Terrorism (PWGT), which also includes in its agenda the exchange of information on the most significant anti-global events or exchange of reports relating to the issue of Islamic fundamentalism in individual member countries. Through its focus on exchanging information on the expert level it also contributes to Europol activities. Its significance is all round from the exchange of information and findings, through the option to co-ordinate activities necessary to ensure the security of events of extraordinary importance, to seeking joint solutions to and approaches towards the phenomenon called extremism. All of this is on the basis of the direct co-operation of experts focusing on the issue of extremism in participating countries.

*The Working Group at its third meeting held in Prague in February 2003 dealt with, inter alia, misuse of the Internet by extremist organisations. Apart from other things, the participants mentioned the problem of US providers, which is similar for all participating states and is presented by different legal systems in Europe and in the USA. When solving such problems, according to the participants, a considerable significance is given to informal partner relations. At the same time, they mentioned the existence of instructions as to preserve the anonymity and availability of various programmes enabling this. In Slovakia, Hungary and Poland, as well as in Austria, experts dealing with the dissemination of extremist ideas via the Internet work in the same manner as those in the Czech Republic, however they are limited in their number. The participants agreed on the need to intensify the mutual exchange of information and findings and on the ways in which extremist organisations misuse the Internet, as well as on possible approaches against this phenomenon. At the same time they agreed that this theme should be the topic also at future meetings which could concentrate on international legal aspects of this matter.*

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<sup>238</sup> On 26 – 27 February the third meeting of the Working Group for Combating Extremism of the V4 Countries and Austria was held in Prague in the facility of the Ministry of the Interior “Spiritka”. The participants, *inter alia*, evaluated mutual co-operation before, during and after the November NATO Summit in Prague.



## Advisory Bodies Within the Ministry of the Interior

### **The Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism, and Xenophobia (hereinafter “the Commission”)**<sup>239</sup>

On the basis of Government Resolution No. 903/2001, approved by Resolution No. 238 of 6 March 2002, the representatives of the following institutions became the members of the Commission: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Security Intelligence Service, and an authorised representative of the Government for Human Rights. These members could be completed by a representative of the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic, the Prime Minister’s Office, the Office for Foreign Relations and Information, or other experts respectively. In this way the Commission was clearly included in the system of existing advisory bodies at the executory level, and space was created for the establishment of a working team at the expert level, able to operatively respond to the actual development of the extremist scene in the Czech Republic. such arrangement eill enable a rapid and co-ordinated approach of state administration bodies towards this negative phenomenon of society.

The first meeting of the Commission was held on 24 April 2002 at which the Commission was provided with basic information on combating extremism, racism, and xenophobia. The Commission evaluated the current situation in extremism in the Czech Republic. Representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police, the Security Intelligence Service and individual ministries further assessed within their respective competencies how measures adopted to solve the issue in question were met, and discussed a proposal submitted under the preliminary title “Methodological Instruction to Ensure the System of Co-ordinated Co-operation of State Bodies with Czech Police Units in Combating Extremist Activities”. At the end the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism, and Xenophobia were agreed upon. The scope of competencies of the Commission is defined as follows:

- The Commission processes information and draws up draft measures to be adopted for the Minister of the Interior so that he can ensure the co-ordinated approach of state administrative bodies in the struggle against extremism, racism, and xenophobia. Through its members it checks whether the measures adopted are met.
- In particular the Commission:
- every year draws up a proposal for priorities in combating extremism, racism, and xenophobia;
- collects and evaluates information on current ministerial tasks and assignments arising from Czech Government Resolutions; such tasks should be fulfilled by individual state administrative bodies and they should fully or completely relate to the solution of an issue in question;
- deals with current developments and trends in the Czech extremist scene and outlines proposals on how to address identified risks;
- takes opinions concerning proposals of governmental, departmental and other measures relating to the struggle against extremism, racism, and xenophobia;
- assesses possibilities for the co-operation of state bodies with non-governmental organisations dealing with the same issue;

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<sup>239</sup> **The task contained in point 3 of the Annex to Government Resolution No. 903 dated 12 September 2001 was completed by the establishment of the Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism, and Xenophobia.** The constituent meeting of the Commission was held on 8 November 2001 and was chaired by the Minister of the Interior. The participants of the meeting received the Draft Statues and the Draft Rules of Procedure, drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior. During the constituent meeting of the Commission, after evaluating the comments on both aforementioned documents delivered by all relevant Ministries and departments, the Ministry of the Interior came to the conclusion that it would be appropriate to suggest an amendment to Government Resolution No. 903 dated 12 September 2001 so that the Commission could become an advisory body to the Minister of the Interior and the attendance of the members of Government would not be obligatory.

- prepares, negotiates and recommends amendments to legal regulations concerning the struggle against extremism, racism, and xenophobia;
- monitors the compliance of national measures adopted against extremism, racism, and xenophobia with international legal obligations of the Czech Republic and proposes amendments with the view of achieving such compliance;
- is entitled to require the co-operation of relevant state administrative bodies so that it can meet its assignments.

The second meeting of the Commission was held on 10 December 2002. It concentrated mainly on an evaluation of the NATO Summit in Prague with respect to security measures, and activities carried out by entities of the extremist scene. The evaluation of co-operation between the Security Intelligence Service and the Czech police based on the national and later also on the international staff was positive. Due to verification of security risks in relation to the NATO Summit it was possible to map the situation on the domestic extremist scene in full detail. Information on activities carried out by individual ministries and other authorities in combating extremism, racism, and xenophobia was exchanged. The topic for the discussion of this meeting was the most dangerous forms of extremism, which is the support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms.<sup>240</sup>

The discussion resulted in **initiatives which should be taken into account not only in the further work of the Commission but mainly in a broader discussion among penal proceeding bodies.** They were for example some terms which are difficult to define such as “movement”, “propagation” or “support”, and the possibilities of replacing them with more exact terms when drawing up an amendment to the Criminal Code. The problem of so-called “alternative symbols” was mentioned as well, since contrary to the situation in Germany there is not, for example in the form of an Annex to the Criminal Code, an official list of symbols of racist and prohibited organisations.<sup>241</sup> In this case a partial amendment to the Criminal Code should be considered. Another widely discussed topic was the issue relating to abuse of the World Wide Web to which extremist activities are transferred and are difficult to be investigated especially when the sites are located on servers in the USA.

### **The Working Group of the Council of the Czech Government for the Issues of the Roma Community in the Field of Home Affairs and the Czech Police**<sup>242</sup>

This Working Group, which is chaired by the Deputy Minister of the Interior, ensures the solution of both urgent and strategic matters in the field of integration and other issues of the Roma

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<sup>240</sup> The discussion was opened by political scientist JUDr. PhDr. Miroslav Mares from Masaryk University in Brno. In his speech he also mentioned some new trends of extremism in the Czech Republic and court judgments which impacted upon the extremist scene ( particularly the court’s decision relating to the publisher of Hitler’s book “Mein Kampf”, Mr. Zitek, and the related judgment of the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic).

<sup>241</sup> See the Criminal Code of the Federal Republic of Germany (Strafgesetzbuch-StGB). It is useful to point out Article 3 - endangering the democratic state (Dritter Titel. Gefährdung des demokratischen Rechtsstaates), and **Sec. 86a (using signs of anti-constitutional organisations).** These are, under paragraph 1, namely flags, signs (see the Annex to the Criminal Code), parts of uniforms, mottos, the manner of greeting (e.g. “Sieg Heil”, “Heil Hitler”, “Mit Deutschen Gruss”, “Ein Volk, ein Reich, ein Führer” usually including a raised right arm). Other distinguishing marks of supporters of right-wing extremism in Germany are the numbers used (according to German alphabet), e.g. the number 18 for the letters AH or directly for saying Adolf Hitler /1=A, 8=H/, and 88 for greeting “Heil Hitler”. Another frequently used number is 14 /for “fourteen words”, in German “vierzehn Worte”. These fourteen words contain the motto of British right-wing radicals “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children”. Cloth badges with the letters A, C, A, B (All cops are bastards) in German “Alle Polizisten sind Bastarde” are becoming more and more popular. **For breaching provisions of Sec. 86a an offender may be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of three years or he/she can be punished by a financial sanction.**

<sup>242</sup> This is the new name of the working group of the Interdepartmental Commission for Roma Community Affairs in the field of home affairs and the Czech police. As a consequence of the change of status of the Commission its name was changed to the Council of the Czech Government for Roma Community Affairs which was approved by Government Resolution No. 1371.

community, including close contact with “the street”.<sup>243</sup> In 2002 the working group had two meetings. Primarily it discussed issues of transformation of public administration and its consequences for Roma co-ordinators, advisors, and assistants. Further, it devoted its attention to the issue of usury and the growth of prostitution within the Roma community, two phenomena negatively impacting the whole community. The Working Group also participated in drawing up a National Strategy for Police Work with Ethnic Minorities and in Relation to National and Ethnic Education of the Police of the Czech Republic. This Working Group initiated discussions in the form of “round tables” at the regional level with the aim of achieving a better co-existence of majority and minority communities. This group also assessed how the assignments arising from Government Resolutions relating to Roma issues were met. Members of the Working Group in 2002 participated in drawing up the Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2001 by providing information and data.<sup>244</sup>

### **Commission of the Minister of the Interior for Preparing and Implementing the Policy of the Government of the Czech Republic in the Field of Integration of Foreigners and Development of Relations Among Communities (hereinafter “the Commission“)**

This inter-ministerial Commission in which the most important authorities and institutions participating in supporting integration of foreigners are involved, represented a very significant platform for co-ordinating and meeting assignments arising from the Government Strategy on Integration of Foreigners. The Commission discussed important conceptual and practical aspects relating to the implementation of the Strategy in 2002. These were for example the development of the Plans of Integration Policies of Individual Ministries, utilisation of the results of monitoring carried out by district advisory bodies on issues of the integration of foreigners<sup>245</sup>, the situation and position of foreigners in individual districts of the Czech Republic, situational analyses and the position of foreigners in the Czech Republic drawn up by individual ministries, and preparation of the Concept of Selecting and Processing of Statistical Data relating to the migration and integration of foreigners in the Czech Republic, and implementation of projects, studies and research supporting the integration of foreigners. The projects of 2002 focused mainly on an improvement in providing information on the integration of foreigners to foreign nationals as well as to Czech citizens, on providing and developing social and legal consultancy for foreigners, on **support of multicultural activities, on building up and developing community and multicultural centres, and on the prevention of racism, intolerance and discrimination against foreign nationals.**<sup>246</sup>

### **Applying State Power in the Field of the Right of Assembly**

In 2002, in relation to entities operating within the extremist scene in the Czech Republic, the Ministry of the Interior intervened in the activities of the civic association **Republican Youth (the RY)**. By a Decision adopted by the Ministry of the Interior on 5 February 2002 this association was dissolved after it had not responded to a call by the Ministry for it to cease unlawful activities regarding “The RY Programme”. Two points of this Programme disclosed on the official web-sites of

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<sup>243</sup> In 2003 new staffing of the Commission is assumed in relation to the new composition of the Government Council for Roma Community Issues and progress made in public administration reform.

<sup>244</sup> See the Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2001, 7.3 Activities of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic. Co-operation of the Czech Police with Roma Advisors, p. 101-102.

<sup>245</sup> In connection with terminating the activities of the District Offices those activities carried out by district advisory bodies were terminated in 2002 as well. As a matter of fact there was not any legal regulation to ensure their transformation in order to work at the level of regions. It is assumed that negotiations with representatives of self-government authorities to ensure the continuity of advisory bodies will continue in 2003. The necessity and the manner of legislative support of state administration in the field of integration of foreigners and its performance at the level of self-government will be considered.

<sup>246</sup> In 2002 asylum seeker integration continued on the basis of Government Resolution No. 23 dated 9 January 2002. This programme significantly simplifies the integration of asylum seekers into society and assists the good communication of foreigners with the municipality where they live and with its inhabitants, thus this works as a **prevention against respective xenophobic reactions.**

the Republican Youth (the RY) were evaluated by the Ministry as discriminatory since they contradicted provisions of Sec. 1 (3) and Sec. 4 (a) of Act No. 83/1990 Coll., on the Assembly of Citizens. The Decision of the Ministry of the Interior **was confirmed on 13 December 2002 by the Supreme Court** which came to the same conclusion, i.e. that the civic association Republican Youth was carrying out activities which are excluded only for political parties and political movements.<sup>247</sup>

**In connection with application to the Supreme Court for a remedial measure in 2002, the measures adopted within the framework of the state power in the field of the right of assembly in 2001 could be mentioned. The results of the court revisions of submitted remedies are known in the following cases:**

- On 16 April 2002 the Decision of the Ministry of the Interior of 21 May 2001 by which the registration of the Statutes of the **Patriotic Republican Party – PRP (today the Right Alternative – RA)** had been rejected was confirmed.<sup>248</sup>
- On 19 September 2002 the Supreme Court confirmed in its judgement the decision taken by the Ministry of the Interior on 21 June 2001 by which the registration of the Statutes of the **Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPC)**, lying in the change of its name to the name of the “Communist Party of Czechoslovakia – the Czechoslovak Labour Party” and modification of the party’s programme targets was rejected. The proposal in question newly stated that: “The Party strives to establish a socially just and truly democratic society: the target of the Party is socialism. The ideological base of the Party is the Marxist-Leninist view. In its new condition the Party is based on the recognition of social development and its regularity arising from the experiences of communist and anti-imperialistic movements of European and other countries, as well as domestic experiences. It seeks and implements those political activities necessary for achieving the programme target. The Party creates its ideological, organisational and action unity on the basis of the scientific doctrine of Marx, Engels, Lenin, and Stalin. It is a political entity based on the principle of democratic centralism.” **The Supreme Court identified itself with the conclusions of the Ministry of the Interior**, stating that “expression of the programme targets with reference to the Marxist – Leninist view and the doctrine of V. I. Lenin and J. V. Stalin means, *inter alia*, professing that part of the opinions and doctrine of such ideologists, especially Lenin and Stalin, which represent the target of directing the state power towards the dictatorship of the proletariat and the rule of one party without any political possibility to change this situation”. Furthermore, the Supreme Court stated that the Ministry of the Interior had “reasonably assessed the circumstances that these were the programme targets, excluding the possibility that such a modification of the Statutes could be registered in accordance with the relevant act”. Provisions of Sec. 4 of Act No. 424/1991 Coll., on Association in Political Parties and Political Movements “unambiguously prohibit the possibility to establish any parties or movements which would carry out activities aimed at completing targets arising from the aforementioned programme contained in the proposal for changing the Statutes of the CPC”. **As a consequence of the decision of the Supreme Court the above-mentioned modification of the Statutes has not come into effect and the Party is obliged to use when carrying out its activities the current Statutes**

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<sup>247</sup> According to the opinion of the Supreme Court: “It is obvious that the civic association RY does not call itself “civic association” but “political association” in a number of its programmes and other documents. For example in the document “Current Information” of February 2002 it expressly states that the civic association RY is “youth offshoot of the Republican Party...” further it says that “...our association is a political association” and that “...activities of the Republican Youth are political activities which correspond to our Statutes, our programme...” According to the Court **“there is no doubt that the civic association also presented a political requirement of discriminatory nature for the renewal of certificates of native domicile when solving issues of ethnic groups being unable to adapt, e.g. Gypsies.”**

<sup>248</sup> Detailed data concerning the judgement of the Supreme Court on this matter are published in the 2001 Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic (Chapter 7.3 “Activities of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic. Applying the State Power in the Field of the Right of Assembly, p. 93).

**registered with the Ministry of the Interior on 16 February 2000 which comply the legal requirements.** The official web-sites refer to such Statutes.<sup>249</sup>

- With regard to the proposal for registration of the **National Party** and the published decision of the Ministry of the Interior rejecting the registration of this political party in the period from October 2000 until December 2001, **the Supreme Court made its decision relating to one of the submitted remedies on 27 September 2002, stating that the respective decision of the Ministry of the Interior was repealed.** This was the decision of the Ministry of the Interior of 17 July 2001. **The decision adopted by the Supreme Court came into effect on 31 October 2002.** With regard to the provisions of Sec. 7 (6) of Act No. 424/1991 Coll., stipulating that the final and conclusive decision of the Court repealing the decision of the Ministry of the Interior on the rejection of registration, such registration replaces. Thus **the National Party came into existence on 31 October 2002.** The Supreme Court did not identify itself with the justification of the Ministry's decision concerning the intention related to meeting political programme objectives through the will of the nation. According to the opinion of the Supreme Court the term "nation" is in European political thinking understood in two meanings. The first is its meaning as a civic status, membership of a state (Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès); the second is its ethical meaning (Johann Gottlieb Fichte). The decision adopted by the Ministry of the Interior not to register the National Party as a political party interpreted the programme targets in the aforementioned second meaning of a nation, which means that it took into account its possible undemocratic consequences endangering principles of equality and the exclusion of discrimination. However, when registering a political party, the Ministry of the Interior is required to justify such opinions and not to make only a general reference to the values protected by the Constitution. Taking into account the above mentioned general considerations the Supreme Court came to the conclusion that the Ministry of the Interior refused to register the respective political party using justification which lacked a sufficient level of concrete detail, when in the case in question the Statutes of the political party named the "National Party", defining its programme targets, do not contain sufficiently accurate provisions which would, in terms of the determined targets and intended means of meeting the targets of the assessed political party, have justified the conclusion that they contradict the principles of equality and exclusion of discrimination under Articles 1 and 3 (1) of the Charter, Article 2 (1) of the International Pact on Civic and Political Rights, Article 2 (2) of the international Pact on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, and Article 2 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights".

In 2002 the Ministry of the Interior also dealt with the petition of the Jewish Community pointing out anti-Israel opinion, particularly with reference to the publication "The Right of Jews to Palestine" published in 2000 by the **Union of Muslim Students – the Foundation of the Islamic Centre.** With regard to the fact that the list of organisations with an international element in accordance with Act No. 116/1985 Coll., on the Conditions of Activities Carried Out by Organisations with an International Element in the CSFR, as amended, includes the organisation of foreign nationals called the "General Union of Muslim Students in the CSFR" with its registered seat in Prague,<sup>250</sup> the opinions of an expert in Islam, an expert in Judaism, as well as a political scientist were required in the interest of objective assessment. As on the basis of such opinions it was impossible to come to an unambiguous conclusion on this publication, the penal proceeding bodies were asked in January 2003 to investigate whether the crime of incitement of national hatred or restriction of rights and freedoms under Sec. 198a of the Criminal Code had been committed. According to information provided by the respective department of the Czech police **the investigations came to the conclusion that the same case had been investigated in 2002 and the case was suspended. The complaint against this**

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<sup>249</sup> The following resulted from the note of the CPC sent to the Ministry of the Interior after the Congress of this party held on 7 December 2002: **Ludvik Zifcak, who submitted to the Ministry of the Interior the modified Statutes, is not a member of this party on the basis of the decision adopted by the CC of the CPC of 5 February 2000. According to the note it is Miroslav Stepan who chairs the CPC.**

<sup>250</sup> The establishment of the General Union of Muslim Students in the CSFR was approved by the decision taken by the former Federal Ministry of the Interior of 4 May 1992.

resolution lodged by the applicant was rejected by the District State Prosecutor's Office for Prague 9.

**The Ministry of the Interior cannot adopt steps other than those which are based on the Act on Assembly in Political Parties and Political Movements and the Act on Assembly of Citizens. Findings which were at Ministry's disposal, did not allow the Ministry in the cases other than those mentioned above to apply sanctions in accordance with the Acts cited.<sup>251</sup>**

### **Providing Information to the General Public on Threats and Forms of Extremist Conduct**

**Preventative Information Groups of the Czech Police** are playing an important role in support of and everyday contact with representatives of Roma communities. The groups are responsible for providing information about the danger of racially motivated crimes; they should provide legal information to children and adults and help remove prejudice between Romas and the majority population. They help increase trust of ethnic groups in work and the professionalism of the Czech police. Thus information on extremism is provided also at the level of the local police services and it is spread to the media and among citizens.

The Press and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of the Interior paid attention to the issue of extremism and tried to elucidate this to citizens and to reveal the possible risks linked to extremism. The Ministry of the Interior published on its web-sites the Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2001 and disclosed information on the extremist scene, and answered the questions of journalists and citizens relating to this sensitive topic. In 2002 the third round was held of a competition for primary school children "How I See It", which included topics such as "Extremism" and "Racism and Racial Discrimination". Individual schools received material for teachers containing information relating to the topic in question (e.g. an explanation of terms such as racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia or solving racially motivated violent crimes including the way in which they are committed, characteristic features of offenders, Roma history, etc.). The response was considerable. 461 works on the topic of "Extremism" and 721 works on the topic "Racism and Racial Discrimination" were submitted. The Minister of the Interior personally awarded the winners and the best works were used for the production of leaflets about this competition and were published in public city transport.<sup>252</sup> Competitions in the form of quizzes were held on regional and republic-wide radio. Such competitions increased the knowledge of citizens about racially motivated crimes. In 2002 the Ministry of Interior's priority was to provide citizens with information about asylum seekers. During the course of the whole year journalists and the public were invited to open days at asylum facilities in the Czech Republic where there were exhibitions of paintings of asylum seekers' children living in the Czech Republic. The objective of such activities was to provide awareness of life in asylum facilities and the life of asylum seekers via mass media to citizens, thus contributing to a change in attitude of the Czech population towards these foreign nationals. Other media channels which were used in 2002 to reach the general public and increase its awareness of the issues of extremism were the Press Service of Crime Prevention of the Ministry of the Interior, and the journals "Policeman" and "Criminalistics".

### **The Problem of Extremism in the Preventative Crime System**

The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for the activities of the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention. Among the priorities of its work, the implementation of the "Crime Prevention Programme at Local Levels" (hereinafter "the Programme") can be mentioned. This Programme enables the enhancing of inter-ethnic relations and adverse social situations of some Roma

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<sup>251</sup> See The Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2000. Chapter 3 "Extremism and Its Development in the Czech Republic in 2002". Sub-chapter 3.1 General Characteristics, p. 4 – 5.

<sup>252</sup> Further, the best works were used to produce a card game for children called "Quartet", and, together with photographs taken at the awards ceremony, they were used for the production of the 2003 calendars of the MI. Competitions having the topic "Extremism" were also held in regional and republic-wide mass media. Citizens were informed about the issue of extremism and related risks in the form of a test. Its winners received promotional material of the Ministry of the Interior.

communities. The projects are directed towards reducing the social handicaps of Romas and to support their integration into the majority society.

In 2002 in total 58 projects directly aimed at the Roma community (which is almost one fourth of all supported projects of social prevention within the Programme) were supported by an amount of CZK 4,391,000. Approximately 90 per cent of all 279 social prevention projects focused on risk groups of children and youth coming from socially adverse environment, without any social background, having educational problems, experimenting with drugs, or children/youth who had committed some criminal offences. These projects are determined, although not exclusively, also for children and youth from the Roma community. Most frequently such projects were implemented by non-governmental non-profit organisations, municipalities, schools, and religious organisations. The municipal councils which contribute financially are responsible for implementing these projects. One of the principal goals of these projects directed towards the Roma minority is to decrease the risk of social exclusion which can result in an increased danger of racial and extremist moods.

The Ministry of the Interior acts as the Secretariat of the Interdepartmental Co-ordinating Commission for Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular Football Matches. The activities of the Commission concentrate on improving the co-operation of the Czech police with sports clubs whilst preparing and implementing security measures focused on football and ice hockey matches. The Commission also provides information to the Czech police and sports unions on current European trends aimed at enhancing security at stadiums and preventing fan violence (barriers, fences, effective control of a crowd using for example CCTV). The Ministry of the Interior is a representative of the Czech Republic in the Permanent Committee of the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular Football Matches, which was established by the Council of Europe. In compliance with the priorities of the Council of Europe and Resolutions adopted by the European Conference of Ministers responsible for sports, the Czech Republic paid higher attention in 2000–2002 to the prevention of racism, xenophobia and intolerance in sports. On 13 July 2001 the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted the “Council of Europe’s Recommendation to Prevent Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance”, which was drawn up with considerable contribution by the Czech Republic.

The priority task in 2002 was the involvement of the Czech Republic in international co-operation in eliminating fan violence in relation to the Decision of the Council of the European Union No. 2002/348/JHA of 25 April 2002 concerning security in connection with football matches with an international dimension. On the basis of this decision each Member State is to set up a national football information point of a police nature which shall act as the direct contact point for exchanging relevant information and for facilitating international police co-operation in connection with football matches with an international dimension. To begin closer co-operation with police units specialising in fan violence in EU countries a working seminar was held in Prague on 14 March 2002. This was attended by policemen from the Netherlands and Austria, in other words from the countries against which the Czech Republic will play in qualifying matches for the European Championship in 2004. In particular, standards for exchanging police information and police co-operation as such were discussed at the seminar. After that, mutual co-operation began in preparing for risky international matches in the Czech Republic in 2002.

*Conclusions arising from the discussion between the Minister of the Interior and the Chairman of the Bohemian-Moravian Football Union focused on the co-operation of the Bohemian-Moravian Football Union (the BMFU), football clubs and the Czech police in response to the increasing rate of aggression at football stadiums. The agreement was as follows: to amend the Agreement between the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic and the BMFU; to guarantee supervision over completing the BMFU project called Stadiums 2003; to ensure close co-operation among the BMFU, football clubs, and the Czech police (the organisers will be obliged to inform the spectators at a match on the conditions of entering a football stadium including a prohibition on drunk persons and persons under the influence of drugs; (the Czech police will make its comments relating to licence conditions of clubs in the first as well as in the second leagues); and to analyse current legislation and its application.*

## Educational Projects

The preparation and education of the new generation of policemen, including the strategy of life-long education for policemen and investigators, remained among the priorities of the Ministry of the Interior.

A **Czech-British seminar under the name “National Minorities Protection Policing”** including the project **“Training Trainers for Minority Policing”**, within which a study trip for high state civil servants to Great Britain was implemented. Its topic was **“Ethnic Minorities Policing”**. Last but not least a project aimed at drawing up a **“National Strategy for Czech Police Work in Relation to Ethnic Minorities (hereinafter “the Strategy”)** should be noted. These aforementioned projects could be further completed by mentioning the project of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) **Community/Minority Policing Project** approved in autumn 2001 but implemented in 2002.<sup>253</sup>

Eight selected members of the Czech police who attended a one-week training course in the Czech Republic with British facilitators, a one-week training course in Great Britain and a one-day training of trainer's skills participated in training for future trainers. In this way a base of trainers for training Czech policemen for policing in the field of ethnic minorities was created.<sup>254</sup> The aim of the study trip to Great Britain for high civil servants, which was held in January 2002, was to extend their knowledge in the area of ethnic minorities and to compare approaches and measures adopted in Great Britain in relation to the police and ethnic minorities.<sup>255</sup> This study trip considerably supported the development of the “Strategy” and contributed to a change in perception of the nature of police work, to applying a partnership style of work which is a service for general public. Findings gained during this trip were evaluated at the seminar held in the Senate of the Czech Parliament on 14 March 2002.

The main objective of the project “Strategy for Police Work in Relation to Ethnic Minorities”, commenced in August 2001,<sup>256</sup> is to enforce principles of modern police work emphasising the conception of police work as a service for the public, and to find new legitimate sources for police work in a multicultural society. The Strategy should contribute to the improvement of ethnic and national relations in the Czech Republic. The Strategy focuses on members of national and ethnic minorities and on foreigners in all residence regimes in the Czech Republic. Principally it is a summary of preventative mechanisms of policing and is based on a proactive preventative approach of the police in relation to communities of persons which differ on the basis of ethnicity and race from the majority society. In its value assumptions and starting points the Strategy is a systematic response to the challenges to and increased demands made on state administration, and particularly members of police forces, by the multicultural society which is being formed in the Czech Republic. It suggests new mechanisms and measures for communicating with minorities and seeks a way to involve members of minorities in policing. It concentrates on the integration of the Roma community into mainstream society in the Czech Republic. The Strategy reacts to an increased inflow of foreigners, migrants and asylum seekers in the Czech Republic and contributes to active migration and immigration policy. Individual parts of the Strategy provide for a range of measures. In this

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<sup>253</sup> Besides the Czech Ministry of the Interior, the following organisations participated in the project which is simultaneously being implemented in Slovakia and in Hungary: the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, and the foundation “A Man in Need”. The objectives of this Project are as follows: to develop the co-operation of the police, state administration and minority communities at local levels; to organise round tables aimed at seeking joint ways to solve problems of municipalities; and to improve skills in solving conflicts.

<sup>254</sup> The activities of trainers were defined by the draft project “Strategy for Police Work in the Field of Ethnic Minorities” which resulted from the Czech-British project “National Minority Protection Policing”.

<sup>255</sup> A representative of the Czech Senate, a representative of the Chamber of Deputies, the Deputy of the Minister of the Interior, the Police President, the Deputy of the Police President for Criminal Proceedings, the Director of the Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium, the Director of the Czech Police of Central Bohemian Police Administration, the press spokesperson for the Czech police, a representative of national minorities, and project organisers (OBP and OVSPS of the Ministry of the Interior).

<sup>256</sup> This is a Czech-British project for which the British Home Office is also responsible. The Government by its Resolution No. 761 dated 5 August 2002 required the Minister of the Interior to draw up the **“National Strategy for the Czech Police Work in Relation to Ethnic Minorities” (hereinafter “the Strategy”)** and the Strategy should be presented to the Government by 31 December 2002. **The Czech Government approved the Strategy on 22 January 2003 by its Resolution No. 85.**



connection it is necessary to mention individual **pilot projects** linked to the Strategy. These are as follows: the Plan of Activities of the Czech Police in Relation to National and Ethnic Minorities”, “A Liaison for the Issue of Minorities”, and “Police Assistant” (the pilot project for an assistant of the Czech Police for eliminating usury in socially excluded Roma communities). *The implementation of the Strategy will be evaluated by 30 June 2004.*

The main objective of the project “Policing in the Field of Minorities and Communities in Central Europe” is to develop the co-operation of the police, state administration and minority communities at the **local level**. It concentrates on community solutions for problems arising especially from the co-existence of the majority and minority societies. It lies in a partnership approach in order to define such problems, to seek common solutions in which all stakeholders participate, and thus it accentuates the transfer of a part of the responsibility for the security situation from the police to other institutions and individuals. It emphasises the involvement of all parts of “the community” in the process of problem resolution (the police – state administration/a municipality/ – social workers – teachers – non-governmental organisations – representatives of minorities). The police, co-operating with other entities, meet the role of facilitator. Once the project had been commenced in 2002 round table discussions focused on seeking a common way for problem resolutions to be organised. The project is implemented in the North Bohemian Region (Usti upon Elbe and Jirkov) and the North Moravian Region (Ostrava).

Implementation of the “Project of Educational Activities and a Discussion Platform for Policemen in the Field of Combating Extremism so that They Acquire Basic and Special Knowledge on This Phenomenon and Methods of Combating It” ranked among other activities in 2002.<sup>257</sup>

In addition the further education of teachers at police schools continued. The course of “Integrity and Ethics” (June and September 2002) can be mentioned in this context. This was held at the Secondary Police School in Hrdlořezy in co-operation with Transparency International. It focused on the integration of the ethical aspect of police work into all subjects taught at police schools and it was accompanied by a provoked discussion concerning the mission of a policeman and the nature of policing. In May, September and October 2002 three study trips made by pedagogical staff to Great Britain (Lancashire) were organised. Their aim was to develop pedagogical communication skills and to recognise foreign experience in the field of ethical training and education towards human rights.

### **Legislative Measures of the Ministry of the Interior**<sup>258</sup>

**Act No. 259/2002 Coll., amending Act No. 84/1990 Coll., on the Right of Assembly as amended by Act No. 175/1990 Coll., and amending some other related acts** which final version was drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior on the basis of recommendation issued by the Constitutional Law Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament. The objective of this amendment was, *inter alia*, to regulate the responsibility of the organiser of an assembly in cases when the peace is breached during such assembly. Further the purpose of this amendment was to prevent the participants of any assembly from covering their faces in a manner which makes their identification more difficult or makes their identification impossible during intervention by the Czech police. Violating this can be penalised by a fine of up to CZK 10,000.

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<sup>257</sup> The project was implemented by the gradual inclusion of individual block topics from the field of combating extremism and extremism as a whole into the syllabus of subjects concerning security issues at secondary police schools of the Ministry of the Interior and at Training Police Centres of the Czech Police at the level of regions. The further education of police experts directly involved in combating extremism will take the form of specialised seminars and special on-the-job-training, which will also be held at the international level, facilitated by foreign trainers. The responsible parties are: the Ministry of the Interior, the Police Academy of the Czech Republic and secondary police schools of the Ministry of the Interior.

<sup>258</sup> Preparation of the Draft Act on the Right of Assembly was among the most important activities in this field. It was the initiative of the Ministry of the Interior to draw up the legal intention of the Act on the Right of Assembly based on the experience of assemblies which occurred during the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Meeting. One of the objectives of this new legal regulation is to prevent or limit to a high degree disturbances and vandalism during assemblies of crowds of people, including extremist activities. The objective of this amendment was, *inter alia*, to regulate the responsibility of the organiser of an assembly in cases when the peace is breached during the assembly.

**Government Regulation No. 299/2002 Coll., on Drafting Soldiers of the Army of the Czech Republic to Meet Assignments of the Police of the Czech Republic in the Period from 16 November 2002 until 24 November 2002** was drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior in co-operation with the Ministry of Defence and submitted to the Government in relation to the NATO Summit. This Government Regulation enabled from 16 until 24 November 2002 the use of 2,400 soldiers in active army service to meet tasks normally carried out by constables on the beat and the protection service of the Czech police. Soldiers in active army service met assignments in accordance with this Regulation under the command of a member of the Czech police. Except for soldiers in active army service whose task was to watch the international airport Prague – Ruzyně - and members of the Military police, the soldiers met assignments in compliance with this Regulation without any firearms.

In addition, the Ministry of the Interior is currently drawing up in accordance with the Ministry's plan of legislative tasks for 2003 **the legal intention of the Act on Association in Clubs and on an amendment to some other acts** which should replace the currently valid Act No. 83/1990 Coll. on the Assembly of Citizens. The new act should, *inter alia*, enable a more effective approach against clubs carrying out extremist activities. It is proposed that a club which publicly encourages the restriction of personal, political or other rights of individuals because of their nationality, sex, race, origin, political or other conviction, religious belief or social position, publicly incites hatred for the aforementioned reasons, or restricts the above-mentioned rights in a violent manner could be dissolved without any notice in advance. At the same time it is proposed to suspend the activities of such a club from the date that the decision of the Ministry is issued until it comes into effect, which means that the club is permitted to carry out only those activities needed to meet duties imposed by special legal regulations.

## **Elaboration of the Issue of Extremism Within the Czech Police**

### **Organisational Background**

By establishing a special unit at the Police Presidium (1995) and introducing specialisation at the levels of regions and districts (1996), the foundation for combating extremism from the side of the Czech police was laid. By adopting internal management principles at the level of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police Presidium (1999), work on the issue of extremism and the elimination of extremist crimes was systematically and widely facilitated.<sup>259</sup>

The conceptual changes came into effect on 1 January 2002. Criminal Police Units and Bureaux of Investigation were integrated, i.e. the merging into one unit of formerly traditionally separated preparatory criminal proceedings and pre-trial proceedings. As a consequence, **the Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium** was set up on 1 January 2002 and a special group for extremism operating within the Department of General Crime of the then Criminal Office of the Police Presidium was renamed as the **Group for Exposing Extremist Crime**. The response to an ongoing trend of higher professionalism seen among extremist entities, their links to foreign structures and concealed activities, was the establishment of the **Department of Terrorism and Extremism** of the Czech police under the Section for Revealing Organised Crime (SROC) of the Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic on 1 April 2002. This department consists of two units – the **Unit of Terrorism** and the **Unit of Extremism**, which are to combat republic-wide extremist crime with an international dimension.<sup>260</sup>

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<sup>259</sup> Instruction of the Minister of the Interior No.33 dated 30 April 1999 for the extension of punishment and prevention of crimes and misdemeanours of racial or extremist nature, the Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 70 from 23 June 1999 that regulates the activities of members of the Czech police in their fight against extremist crime which, in its Article 6, defines the assignments of experts on fan violence (cancelled in 2002). The Instruction of the Director of the Czech Bureau of Investigation No. 2 of 1 June 1999, which determines the organisation for investigation of crimes motivated by racism, cancelled on 1 January 2002.

<sup>260</sup> **By the establishment of this unit within the SRCO the assignment contained in item 4 of the Annex to Government Resolution No. 903 dated 12 September 2001 was met (“By 31 December 2001 to draw up a proposal on how to methodologically and organisationally ensure the struggle against organised, republic-wide extremist crime with international aspects and through the Report on the Issue of Extremism in 2001 to inform the Government on the measures adopted”).**

Their assignments are, *inter alia*, as follows: to reveal extremist organisations, structures or individuals operating in a conspiratory manner, and the use of concealed police operations, persons or agents who know the environment which is being investigated. The aforementioned organisational changes were supported by methodology contained in the Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 100/2002.

### **Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 100 dated 6 June 2002**

The aim of this internal management instruction was to unify the provisions of the Binding Instructions of the Police President No. 70/1999, No. 40/1996, No. 10/2001, No. 130/2001, and No. 131/2001, and thus ensure at all levels of the Czech police a platform for the effective combating of extremist crime. Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 100/2002 also took into account all changes brought about by a practical application of the above-mentioned internal management instructions. It regulates the activities of policemen working in the field of combating extremist crime and is in compliance with organisational changes made within the Czech police. Staff of the Extremist Unit of the Department of Terrorism and Extremism of the SROC will deal with organised extremist crime, i.e., extremist criminal offences consistently committed by a group made up of a large number of persons which has an internal organisational structure, divided “posts” and activities.<sup>261</sup> The issue of the use of up-to-date technology by extremists when for example a foreign element is contained and web-sites are located on foreign servers is being handled by this department as well. The Group of Extremist Crime of the Department of General Crime of the Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Service of the Czech police and experts in regions and districts dealing with extremism will be involved in the issue of extremism as well, concentrating on exposing offenders of criminal offences related to extremism, racial hatred, xenophobia, and so on. The duty of the Group for Exposing Extremist Crime to gather and analyse data from documents, the press, CDs and other materials concerning activities of extremist entities, and its duty to provide information to the Minister of the Interior on utilising operative technology and police agents when eliminating extremism, are of high importance.<sup>262</sup> The aforementioned Binding Instruction facilitates the coherence of processes used in combating extremism, within all units and all levels of the police. The issue of spectator violence and the assignments of specialists dealing with this phenomenon<sup>263</sup> are included as well. Moreover the Instruction puts an emphasis on more effective co-operation of the intelligence service with penal proceeding bodies.

### **Personnel Coverage of Extremism**

In 2002, as in 2001, the personnel working on the issues of extremism was stabilised, and a range of employees have worked on these issues for a number of years. However, specialists concentrating on extremism also had to meet some other tasks relating for example to crimes committed by youth and against youth, crimes against human dignity, and crimes in spreading drugs and addiction. In some cases they were involved, on the basis of current needs, in working teams solving serious crime. These were not long-term tasks which could have caused a discontinuity of their work on extremist issues. In order that work in extremist cases is successful, the policeman involved should personally know the local crime in the territory which he is responsible for, and he should on an ongoing basis collect and assess data, especially that of an operative nature. However, there were still some outstanding problems related to material and technical equipment (e.g. missing computers, access to the Internet, digital cameras, a lack of motor vehicles). Thus, these specialists could get into adverse situations face to face with offenders of extremist crimes.

### **Preventative Activities of the Czech Police**

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<sup>261</sup> The tasks of the Department of Terrorism and Extremism of the SRCO are specified in Chapter II, Article 8 of Binding Instruction No. 100/2002.

<sup>262</sup> See Binding Instruction No. 100/2002, Chapter II, Article 7. They are inter-ministerial assignments which resulted from the meeting of the Minister of the Interior held on 8 August 2002 and the fulfilment of which is ensured through this internal document.

<sup>263</sup> See Binding Instruction of the PP No. 100/2002. Part 5, Articles 16 - 20

The preventative activities of the Czech police in the field of extremism were considered individually, therefore their level and intensity differed in individual regions. There were mainly lectures and discussions with pupils and teachers at schools and educational facilities, and training courses for policemen working at local police departments. Members of the Czech police maintained contact with the municipal police, Municipal Councils, and Roma advisors and coordinators working until the end of 2002 at District and Municipal Councils. For example police specialists in the North Moravian Region cooperated with such preventative activities with the civic association “Mutual Co-existence” which systematically devotes its attention to the young Roma population in Ostrava. The police prepared lectures for this association and, on the other hand, policemen were invited to cultural events organised by this association. Similar co-operation was developed with an association called “Cechahup” representing the African minority in North Moravia. Experiences from North Moravia confirmed that such co-operation also allows the solution of some problems together with the police on the basis of mutual trust.

### **Training of Policemen and Investigators**

The ongoing education of policemen involved in the issue of extremism remained a priority.<sup>264</sup>

Secondary police schools devoted their increased attention to outlining syllabuses for teaching on the problems of extremism. Extremist issues are now incorporated into the secondary police school syllabus in some of the subjects, for example uniform police service, law, police deontology, or applied psychology, for the students of basic professional preparation. Some special lectures related to extremism are incorporated into human sciences taught to students who are preparing for school-leaving examinations, and to the students of supplementary programmes. This programme was completed, as in the previous year, by discussions with experts. The project “**Neighbours**”, now in its third year, contributed to developing tolerance among the younger generation of policemen.<sup>265</sup> In addition, during the academic year 2001/2002, seminars “**1938 Racism – 2000 Humanity**” (the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague) and “**Extremist Manifestations in Today’s Society**” (the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Jihlava) were held. The following educational texts also contributed to the education of policemen: “*Education Towards Human Rights (a methodological handbook for teachers of human sciences)*”, “*Selected Current Pathological Social Phenomena*”, and the textbook “*Adherence by Criminal Proceeding Bodies to Human Rights*”, issued in co-operation with the Amnesty International.

The Police Academy of the Czech Republic paid considerable attention to the issues in question within its study programmes and topics for diploma works as well. In 2002 the Police Academy of the Czech Republic continued its educational activities in the form of special seminars such as “*The Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and Police Activities*” (16 January 2002); “*The Police and Human Rights*” (20 March 2002); “*Extremism*” (10 June 2002) “*Extremism, Terrorism, and Youth*” determined directly for police specialists involved in combating extremism (November 2002).

In 2002, as in previous years, the further education of policemen and investigators was ensured through basic Czech police units, mainly in the form of lectures and special seminars. In addition, selected policemen participated in seminars organised by foreign partners. Participants attending technical seminars were informed especially about new trends in crimes with an extremist nature, and they were also able to exchange experiences related to the investigation and clearing up of racially motivated crimes. The handbook “*Extremism*” and the publication “*Symbols of Extremist Movements*”, solving issues related to the usage of symbols of extremist movements and crime responsibility arising from their use, remained basic teaching materials for extremist topics.<sup>266</sup>

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<sup>264</sup> In 2002 the Police Academy of the Czech Republic continued its educational activities in the form of special seminars such as “*The Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and Police Activities*” (16 January 2002); “*The Police and Human Rights*” (20 March 2002); “*Extremism*” (10 June 2002).

<sup>265</sup> This project was launched in the academic year 2000/2001 at the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague 9 – Hrdlořezy.

<sup>266</sup> Colonel, JUDr. Jan Chmelík, *Extremismus* (i.e. Extremism), Prague 1997 (1<sup>st</sup> edition), 2001 (2<sup>nd</sup> extended edition);

## 7.3 Activities of the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office

### The Ministry of Justice

In 2002, 194 persons (in 2001, 150 persons; in 2000, 148 persons; in 1999, 166 persons) were lawfully sentenced for crimes motivated by racial intolerance, which accounts for 0.2 % of the total number of 65,099 persons lawfully sentenced. Of the stated number 37 were juvenile offenders (+12; 25 juvenile offenders in 2001), which is 19%; 29 persons were repeat offenders (+10; 19 repeated offenders in 2001). Most persons (118) were lawfully sentenced by the courts of North Moravia.

Most persons (80) were sentenced under Sections 260 or 261 of the Criminal Code – the support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms; 35 persons for violence against a group of people or an individual under Sec. 196 of the Criminal Code; 33 persons were sentenced under Section 198 or 198a of the Criminal Code – defamation of a nation, race or conviction or incitement of national and racial hatred; nine persons under Sec. 221 of the Criminal Code - injury to health; seven persons were sentenced under Sec. 257 of the Criminal Code – damaging another's property; six persons under Section 202– hooliganism; five persons under Sec. 222 of the Criminal Code - intentional severe injury to another person's health; five persons under Sec. 179 of the Criminal Code – common danger; three persons under Sec. 155 of the Criminal Code – assaults on public officials; two persons under Section 235 – racially motivated extortion; two persons under Section 234 – robbery; one person under Sec. 197a of the Criminal Code – violence against a group of citizens or an individual; one person under Section 238 – violation of domestic freedom; one person under Section 250 – fraud; one person under Section 201a - drunkenness; one under Section 213 - evasion of alimony payments; one under Section 171 – frustrating execution of an official decision; and one under Section 199 - spreading alarming news; however **always with a racial motive**.

17 sentenced persons received sentences of imprisonment without a suspension (8.7%); 127 sentenced persons received sentences of imprisonment with a suspension (65.4%); 38 offenders were sentenced to community service (19.5%); eight had a fine imposed upon them (4.1%); and four were not punished (2%).

The Ministry of Justice met on an ongoing basis measures resulting from Government Resolutions relating to the scope of competencies of the Ministry and focused on strengthening the punishment and prevention of crime with a racial or extremist context.

### Examination of Crimes of an Extremist or Racist Nature<sup>267</sup>

The speed and smoothness of court proceedings related to this type of crime was continuously monitored by the Ministry of Justice and by court chairpersons. In 2002 there were practically no delays. In May 2002 the Ministry of Justice in co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior screened smoothness in fifty criminal cases which were in their pre-trial stage and stated that there had not been any unjustified delays.

During the course of 2002 the Minister of Justice did not lodge any complaints of breach of law. In this context it is necessary to mention the amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure which came into force on 1 January 2002. Pursuant to this amendment **the Minister of Justice cannot file a complaint of violation of law to the detriment of the accused or to achieve a cancellation of or alteration to a challenged decision**. Only the Supreme State Prosecutor can ensure that such an unlawful decision is cancelled by applying an appellate review to the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic or he/she can cancel unlawful decisions made by lower-ranked state prosecutors concerning a discontinuation of prosecution or transfer of a case.

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<sup>267</sup> The assignment contained in Item 7 of the Annex to Government Resolution No. 720/1999 has been fulfilled on an ongoing basis. The Government instructed the Minister of Justice to “constantly monitor the speed and smoothness of court proceedings related to crimes of an extremist nature, and provided that the inspection finds more serious failure, to take into account the option of using an extraordinary remedy – a complaint of violation of the law”. This is a permanent assignment.

## **Experiences of Probationary and Mediation Services with Beneficial Public Work from the Point of View of Further Application of This Type of Punishment for Offenders Who Have Committed Crimes with an Extremist Context**

Probationary and Mediation Services are mapping in full detail the situation in the field of probationary and mediation activities carried out with offenders who have committed extremist crimes, including the use of alternative approaches and punishments for such offenders. In solving crimes relating to extremism in the period from January until December 2002 such centres were authorised to prepare documents necessary for community service orders with the subsequent monitoring of such judgements.<sup>268</sup> In cases where the sentenced did not perform the ordered community service the officers from the centres of Probationary and Mediation Services followed the methodological recommendation, i.e. they invited clients for discussions with the purpose of changing their attitude so that they continue to serve the sentence. If the client did not continue to serve the sentence they then submitted to the relevant court a proposal to commute the community service order into a sentence of imprisonment. Experiences to date show that the task of the Probationary and Mediation Services is to continuously provide information to involved penal proceeding bodies on further options of their professional activities and services, emphasising the fact that in their work with offenders they are not only to prepare documents for changes of sentence but that their probationary work should be directed towards recommendations to apply measures in the form of adequate duties of an offender in the framework of his/her alternative punishment (participation in resocialising programmes). Officers of Probationary and Mediation Services drew up, for the needs of state prosecutors and judges, probationary reports containing information on the accused person (the social, work, and family situation) as the grounds for decisions to be taken in such cases. There were also cases when, within the pre-trial proceedings and judicial proceedings, they discussed with the accused his/her opinion on a possible community service order.

From the point of view of the Ministry of Justice the current practice of community service could be considerably changed, meaning that such community service would not be performed only for municipalities but also for “state or other institutions of general interest”. The environment of institutions of general interest offers not only a wider range of working activities for convicts but very often also necessary experts who can be involved in the rehabilitation and resocialisation of criminal offenders. Therefore it is meaningful for the court to use within the preparation of its decision the legal procedure defined in Sec. 184 (3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure and to authorise, within a sufficient period of time prior to the trial or prior to the issue of a criminal order, a probationary officer to gather the requisite information on the accused and his/her situation, as well as information as to whether it is suitable or necessary to impose some of the so-called adequate duties. In this context it can be stated that centres of Probationary and Mediation Services in the whole republic monitored in their respective regions the current and potential options of community service for governmental and non-governmental organisations. Institutions which could be considered as providers of “work” are contacted by probationary officers with an offer of co-operation. The activities carried out in 2002 by the Institution for Probation and Mediation lying in implementation of the project “Strengthening the Role of Non-governmental Non-profit Organisations in Solving Criminal Cases Within the Community” proved to be very beneficial.<sup>269</sup> This one year project, a part of which is an informational and cultural campaign determined for non-profit organisations, has been implemented in close co-operation with the Directorate of Probationary and Mediation Services and in collaboration with centres of Probationary and Mediation Services as well as with non-profit organisations in pilot regions of the Czech Republic, namely in North Bohemia, South Moravia, and East Bohemia.

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<sup>268</sup> See **Annex No. 11: An Overview of Imposed Sentences of Community Service upon Offenders of Criminal Offences Having an Extremist Context. Table.**

<sup>269</sup> The aim of the project is to provide non-governmental non-profit organisations with information on possibilities and ways of involvement in the process of implementation of alternative punishments, including the initiation of new types of projects supporting the development of implementation of community service. **Another objective is to create a functional communication platform for representatives of non-profit organisations, probationary officers and assistants, state prosecutors and other experts who can within their own region contribute to the efficient implementation of community service orders.**

When working with the target group of offenders generally the low experience of probationary and mediation officers in solving issues of crimes with an extremist context are projected in the application of duties and restrictions ordered by a court.<sup>270</sup> In 2001 the Directorate of Probationary and Mediation Services, alongside the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, drew up a conception of mutual co-operation in pre-trial proceedings assuming broad collaboration among centres of Probationary and Mediation Services when solving extremist crimes in 2002. Although during the course of 2002 this co-operation intensified, the analysis of cases administered by centres of Probationary and Mediation Services in connection with extremist crimes showed that the State Prosecutor's Offices involved centres of probationary and Mediation Services in pre-trial proceedings only very exceptionally. This situation is accompanied by two facts: first, in the Czech Republic there are no specialised rehabilitation programmes designed for offenders who have committed crimes having an extremist context; and second, there is only a little experience in involving offenders of this type in existing rehabilitation programmes. In 2002 in several districts there were concrete programmes prepared which were able to engage offenders of extremist crimes, however this possibility was used only minimally.<sup>271</sup>

In terms of the Ministry of Justice a necessary precondition for the successful application and then smooth implementation of alternative punishments is the long-term, co-ordinated and focused co-operation of penal proceeding bodies, Probationary and Mediation Services, and providers of rehabilitation programmes in pre-trial and judicial proceedings. The experiences of 2002 showed how essential it is to establish a standardised process of providing a rehabilitation programme in the system of criminal justice and to create grants for funding specialised resocialisation programmes.

### **The Supreme State Prosecutor's Office**

In 2002 in comparison with 2001, the total number of people prosecuted for crimes of national, racial and other hatred considerably declined. The number of those prosecuted and charged increased only in crimes of support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code and crimes of injury to health under Sec. 222 (1), (2) (b) of the Criminal Code. The same applies to the crime of murder under Sec. 219 (1), (2) (g) of the Criminal Code. Crime under Sec. 196 of the Criminal Code showed moderate growth. The number of all other crimes having the same motives decreased in 2002. **Crime under Sec. 198a of the Criminal Code including data from summary pre-trial proceedings showed the largest decline.**

In 2002 as in the preceding year, crimes of national, racial or any other hatred were distributed in different regions unevenly.<sup>272</sup> The **Regional State Prosecutor's Office in Ostrava** had the highest number of cases, as in 2001 (in 2002 138 prosecuted and 128 sued persons and 21 persons were notified of suspicion and a proposal for punishment was submitted (in 2001 188 prosecuted and 170 sued persons), which means that in comparison with the previous year there was a decline. Ostrava is followed by the **Regional State Prosecutor's Office in Brno** (in 2002 80 prosecuted and 73 sued persons, in summary proceedings 4 persons; in 2001 66 prosecuted and 55 sued persons). The **Regional State Prosecutor's Office in the capital city of Prague** saw a certain decline (in 2002 – 62

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<sup>270</sup> There are three following cases: the centre of PMS Domazlice – an offender was sentenced under Sec. 196/2 and had imposed on him an obligatory anti-alcohol treatment; the centre of PMS Ostrava – an offender was sentenced under Sec. 198a/1 and the court imposed a restriction – not to visit football matches; the centre of PMS Prostejov – an offender was sentenced under Sec. 197a and Sec. 238/1 and he had imposed on him a duty to participate in a programme of social training and training to obtain suitable qualifications. This client was included in the group focusing on social training which was implemented under the management of an experienced psychologist directly in the centre of PMS.

<sup>271</sup> According to the Ministry of Justice one of the reasons can be the fact that judges do not have enough information, or the non-existence of rehabilitation programmes of this service in the district the court is charged with (e.g. in Central Bohemia there was not a single provider of a rehabilitation program in 2002)

<sup>272</sup> Statistics of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office as well as court statistics differ from police statistics with respect to the time period in which a crime is reported. The time when a crime was committed is not what is decisive, but the time when a State Prosecutor prepared a criminal charge, decided on its discontinuation, and so forth. **Therefore these statistics report in 2002 an increase in cases of murder under Sec. 219 (1), (2) (g) of the Criminal Code, however such murders were reported in police statistics already 2001. This kind of crime was not committed in 2002.**

prosecuted and 60 accused persons, 4 persons in summary proceedings; in 2001 83 prosecuted and 75 sued persons). **This type of crime is least frequent in the region under the responsibility of the Regional State Prosecutor's Office in Ceske Budejovice**, even though only closely behind the RSPO in Prague (in 2002 31 prosecuted and 28 sued person, 2 persons were notified of suspicion and one person was proposed to be punished), however in 2001 there only 12 prosecuted and 10 sued persons).

The proportion of all crimes motivated by racism, national or other hate in the total number of crimes is still quite low and is far from 1 %.

This kind of crime creates certain problems, consisting mainly in the fact that this kind of crime is very difficult to prove since it is not easy to find the offenders, especially if they act in groups (which is in the majority of cases). The problem also lies in finding witnesses, who do not want to give their testimony. The aggrieved parties sometimes do not respond to a summons to come to a hearing, which, of course, affects the promptness of pre-trial proceedings. Moreover the aggrieved often protest, without any substantive reasons, that penal proceeding bodies are biased against them. Although it is possible to solve such problems in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure, it is obvious that these are problems which do tend to appear in the practice of application.

In punishing the above-mentioned kinds of crimes the state prosecutors continued to follow the **General Instruction of the Supreme State Prosecutor No. 3/1995**.

It is necessary to stress that requirements stipulated in the aforementioned General Instruction are met by state prosecutors on an ongoing basis. The state prosecutor's offices at lower levels pay more attention to crimes motivated by national and racial intolerance and especially try to find out whether such criminal cases were, in terms of legal classification, assessed in the relevant manner and whether all steps necessary to clarify the offender's motives have been taken. Head State Prosecutors regularly evaluate the police reports on the situation and consider whether the crime has or has not been committed as a result of national or racial hatred. State prosecutors paid more attention to this kind of crime at the level of District State Prosecutor's Offices as well as at the level of Regional State Prosecutor's Offices, which supervise the work of state prosecutor's offices at the lower levels. There are absolutely no practical problems in adhering to the General Instruction in question and this Instruction undoubtedly contributed to an increased efficiency in punishing this kind of crime. The Instruction regulates the procedures for punishment of xenophobic extremist activities which include attacks with a social, ethnic, or racial motivation, as well as political extremism, which include attempts at a complete change of the social and political system. However cases of political extremism are so far exceptional and did not occur in 2002.

With regard to meeting assignments contained in Resolutions No. 720/1999, No. 684/2000, No. 498/2001, No. 903/2001, and No. 994/2002, State Prosecutor's Offices were indirectly involved in the assignment provided for in item 7 of Government Resolution No. 720/1999 – State Prosecutor's Offices are very active and if the decision taken by the relevant court contradicts the final proposal of the State Prosecutor they use not only regular but also extraordinary remedial measures.



**Overview of Persons Prosecuted and Charged  
for Crimes Motivated by Racial, National or Similar Hatred**

CR	Sec. 196/2 prosec. sued		Sec. 196/3 prosec. sued		Sec. 198 prosec. sued		Sec. 198a prosec. sued		Sec. 219/2g prosec. sued		Sec. 221/2b prosec. sued	
1989					44	25						
1990					14	1						
1991					6	4	0	0				
1992					1	1	1	0			3	2
1993					15	9	8	4			1	0
1994					40	36	13	12			3	3
1995	177	162	18	17	112	108	28	22	0	0	13	12
1996	210	179	18	17	74	66	30	29	1	1	90	82
1997	150	119	29	19	107	103	25	20	0	0	56	55
1998	126	111	3	0	124	90	7	6	3	2	40	36
1999	139	123	24	24	103	91	12	11	2	2	42	42
2000	98	84	24	24	150	129	19	14	0	0	22	13
2001	95	92	0	0	127	118	19	16	0	0	28	27
2002	85	81	3	3	105	98	4	3	2	2	21	20
+ - 2001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	10.5%	12.0%			17.3%	16.9%	78.9%	81.3%			25.0%	25.9%

CR	Sec. 222/2b prosec. sued		Sec. 235/2f prosec. sued		Sec. 257/2b prosec. sued		Sec. 260 prosec. sued		Sec. 261 prosec. sued			
1989							6	4	33	30		
1990							3	1	7	2		
1991							1	0	3	1		
1992	0	0					2	0	14	12		
1993	3	1					8	5	11	6		
1994	13	12					34	32	13	13		
1995	23	23	0	0	6	5	13	11	118	101		
1996	42	41	1	1	27	25	30	27	93	84		
1997	45	43	5	5	18	15	29	18	105	98		
1998	28	28	6	6	16	16	27	15	155	129		
1999	30	28	1	0	16	16	52	37	159	136		
2000	12	12	0	0	7	6	79	67	124	102		
2001	6	6	3	3	2	2	51	41	198	164		
2002	24	24	2	2	3	3	75	67	143	132		
+ - 2001	300.0	300.0	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	47.1%	63.4%	-	-	27.8%	19.5%
	%	%	33.3%	33.3%								

## 7.4 Activities of the Ministry of Defence

### Protection of Human Rights and Control of Such Protection

In 2002, despite demanding tasks relating to aid provided to regions suffering from the floods and assistance during the NATO Summit in Prague, the aims set up for the training year of 2002 in individual units of the Ministry were followed. Responsible entities met their tasks connected with the protection of human rights on an ongoing basis.

In 2002, as in previous years, the Chief Inspector for Human Rights Protection of the Ministry of Defence examined several tens of complaints and petitions, **none of them related to issues of racism, racial discrimination, or xenophobia**. Within controlling the observation of human rights, considerable attention was paid to the occurrence of racial discrimination and violations of human rights. No problems related to the observation of human rights were detected during the course of inspection check-ups carried out by authorised staff and by the Chief Inspector for Human Rights Protection.

During the course of 2002 all methods and means possible, including the military police, were used for eliminating any pathological social phenomena occurring within the Ministry of Defence. There were enormous efforts to unify all organisational units of the Ministry of Defence and the Czech army in their approach towards pathological social phenomena, with the emphasis put on improving the work of all entities dealing with such phenomena within the Ministry. The Human Resources Section of the Ministry of Defence also participated in the activities of a number of advisory bodies which advise central state administration authorities handling the issue of racial discrimination and xenophobia with maximum intensity. Representatives of the Ministry met, on an ongoing basis, assignments arising from their membership of individual committees of the Government Council for Human Rights.

### Prevention of Pathological Social Phenomena in the Army

Problems resulting from racism, xenophobia or extremism occurred very rarely within the Ministry of Defence. In spite of this fact considerable attention corresponding to the social dangers involved was paid to prevent such negative social phenomena, both at the level of top management and at lower levels of command. The objective of these preventative activities was not only to prevent pathological social phenomena but also to remove their roots. The main parties responsible for prevention are as follows: the Group of Prevention of Pathological Social Phenomena of the General Staff, the Chief Inspector for Human Rights Protection, and lastly the Chief Command of the Military Police as a repressive unit. Thus, the military police plays in this field an irreplaceable role, continuing to implement measures arising from the “Strategy and Programme to Prevent Pathological Social Phenomena in 2000 – 2004”, and participating in decreasing the unlawful conduct of members of the Ministry of Defence. Prevention concentrated on the following areas:

- education, training and provision of information (learning and preparing);
- conceptual work (mapping out the issue);
- control activities (searching for its roots);
- sanctions (timely elimination of any manifestations);
- public involvement (exchange of experience and mutual co-operation).

The target groups of preventative activities were:

- new national servicemen after joining army service and during their basic training;
- students of schools for lower ranked officers (future commanders of the lowest structures);
- those preparing for military occupation within their professional preparation;
- commanders at the levels of platoon and company;
- members of the troops sent on international missions.

Lectures and discussions were held regularly with national servicemen as well as professional soldiers focusing on the prevention of pathological social phenomena and on increasing legal awareness. With respect to the fact that one of the possible sources of manifestations of extremism in the Czech army are national servicemen taking their views from the civilian environment, the military police alongside with commanding bodies concentrated their attention on training centres for new

national servicemen, always at the time when new national servicemen joined the army. The military police closely co-operated with individual commissions for prevention of pathological social phenomena, and participated in preparatory work for such commissions at the operational levels of the command. They also participated in the work carried out by the ministerial Commission for the Prevention of Pathological Social Phenomena and collaborated with other bodies outside the Ministry dealing with this issue. To reveal signs of crime commitment on a timely basis, co-operation was intensified between the military police and the feedback information system of the Chief of the General Staff of the Czech Army and its integral part Open Army Line. Besides the aforementioned activities the military police in the training year 2002 implemented a range of preventative actions, check-ups and searches at the units and in the facilities of the Czech army aimed at preventing crimes and the timely finding of causes of and conditions for the occurrence of pathological social conduct.

Topics of racism, xenophobia and extremism are included in all forms of military education in compliance with the Order of the Minister of Defence No. 1 of 15 December 1997 "Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Addiction and Other Pathological Social Phenomena". These issues remain a part of educational programmes not only in military schools but especially for specific commanders of units and troops.

The topic was included and taught within various activities carried out by national servicemen and forms also a part of curricula at schools for lower-rank officers where soldiers in basic service are prepared for commanding posts. Future commanders are informed on the danger of individual pathological social phenomena and thus they can react to its actual manifestation. These topics were also included in two-week courses on the prevention of pathological social phenomena for commanders of troops, companies, air squadrons and batteries. These courses were organised centrally. Commanders and teachers at military schools as well as soldiers leaving for international military missions underwent similar courses. Special attention is devoted to units and troops of rapid intervention and immediate reaction, and especially to young professional soldiers who leave on international military missions.

The topic of prevention of pathological social phenomena, including the prevention of racism and xenophobia, is included in the Organisational and Methodological Instructions for Military Academies. The students of secondary schools as well as academies are informed about these problems in humanities studies and they also have special lectures related to this topic.

Within their preparation for commanding posts, professional soldiers are every year informed on current problems related to pathological social phenomena. Special attention is devoted to the issues of nationalism, anti-Semitism, racism, and xenophobia, on training courses for professional soldiers who leave as commanders on international military missions.

### **Activities of the Military Police in 2001**

In 2002 there were regular co-operative meetings concerning extremist issues with the experts of the Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Police Service of the Department of General Crime of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic at the level of Chief Command of the military police. Individual regional commanders of the military police closely co-operated with police criminal service experts (at regional and district levels) while solving actual issues related to extremism. Within such collaboration they mainly exchanged information and prepared the steps necessary for documenting crimes committed by professional soldiers.

In 2002 police units working within the military police investigated altogether 3,599 cases where the suspicion of crime was well founded, i.e. -21.9% compared to in the year 2001 (4,589). Of this number only seven cases (in 2001 six cases) were examined as crimes with racial or xenophobic motives. In all these cases offenders' conduct was classified as being suspected support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sections 260 and 260 of the Criminal Code. In three cases offenders committed unlawful conduct by crying out fascist and racist slogans and using the Nazi greetings "Sieg Heil" and "Heil Hitler" in public; in one case a person was assaulted physically and threatened with death and assault, and this was accompanied by racial name-calling. In a further three cases various written documents containing racial and Nazi texts were found in the barracks. Seven persons were suspected of committing racially motivated crimes (in 2001 only 5 persons), four of these were national servicemen and three were professional soldiers from troops of warrant-officers.

One of the lower warrant officers, V.K., committed one of the most serious acts. In June 2002, totally drunk, he shouted in public “Sieg Heil“, and then “the white race is numerous”; he raised his arm and cried out unclearly specific expressions relating to Rudolf Hess. Before witnesses he said that he owned an SS uniform and that when he touched it the uniform radiated power. At the same time he stated that was able to obtain shoes, teeth and other belongings of people who had died in the Terezin concentration camp. This case was transferred to the relevant Criminal and Investigation Service of the Czech police and simultaneous personnel measures were adopted. In co-operation with police units and the Main Office of the Military Defence Intelligence the serious conduct of a professional soldier, M.P., was documented. He showed from the age of 14 sympathy for and was an active supporter of a right-wing extremist movement. It was also found out that he was a supporter of organised violence by the skinhead movement against Romas, that he actively participated in creating and distributing materials promoting racism and Nazism, and that he actively participated in skinhead meetings. Various documents were seized including a photograph in which he stands with his arm raised in the traditional Nazi greeting. This case was transferred to the competent Criminal and Investigation Service of the Czech police.

Of the total number of seven cases, four were transferred to the Criminal and Investigation Service of the Czech police for adopting further measures; one case was, pursuant to Sec. 159a (1) (b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, submitted for disciplinary sanctions; two cases were under Sec. 159a (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure suspended. The Ministry of Defence perceives the highshare of professional soldiers in crime monitored to be a negative trend. The result of investigations of the aforementioned cases was the commencement of prosecution of several persons followed by the adoption of personnel measures to terminate the service of one professional soldier.

**Neither the military police nor the Military Intelligence Services, during the period monitored, detected the existence of or any activities carried out by extremist groups in the Czech army’s units or regiments.**

## **7.5 Activities of the Ministry of Culture**

### **Grant Programmes**

The role of the Ministry of Culture in this aspect was mainly of a preventative function. With the help of grant programmes the Ministry of Culture supports some cultural events and activities the aim of which is to cultivate society especially through the recognition of the cultures of various nationalities and ethnic groups. Members of national minorities receive funds for the development of their culture and cultural activities through grant programmes. A special grant programme is determined to support the integration of foreigners residing in the Czech Republic whilst another supports the integration of members of the Roma community. The task of implementing such programmes on an annual basis is defined in Government Resolution **No. 40 dated 10 January 2001** relating to *the update of the “Strategy of More Effective Public Support of Culture – the Cultural Policy”*, the text of which was published under the name of *the Cultural Policy of the Czech Republic*. Support of cultural events of members of national minorities and the Roma community was in 2002 regulated by **newly adopted Government Regulation No. 98/2002 Coll.**, laying down conditions and the manner in which to provide subsidies from the state budget for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of integration of members of the Roma community.

Within the programme aimed at **supporting members of national minorities** projects of civic associations of Czech citizens having Hungarian, German, Polish, Russian, Greek, Slovak, and Ukrainian nationalities are given subsidies. These are citizens of nationalities traditionally living in the Czech Republic. However also within this grant programme cultural events of a multi-ethnic nature are subsidised. Such events contribute to the recognition of different national cultures, and thus try to avoid xenophobic manifestations.

The programme aimed at **supporting the spreading and receiving of information in languages of national minorities** supports the publishing of periodicals and radio or television

broadcasting in languages of national minorities, or disseminating information on such minorities. Mass media help distribute information and strengthen ethnic awareness of members of national minorities in the Czech Republic. This form of state support can be considered as prevention against raising extremist moods, resulting from the feeling that national minorities have only a limited opportunity for the development of their language and that they are under a pressure directed towards their assimilation.

In the year 2002 the Ministry of Culture announced for the second time a grant programme for supporting the integration of foreigners living in the Czech Republic. Its implementation arises from (apart from the above-mentioned Government Resolution No. 40/2001) Government Resolution No. 1266 dated 11 December 2000 *on implementing the Principles of Strategy for the Integration of Foreigners Living in the Czech Republic*. Various types of cultural and cultural-educational activities, as well as activities focusing on religion, are supported within this programme. Such projects could involve artistic activities, educational or training activities in various cultural fields, research into national culture and folk traditions of the national minority, documentation of national culture, publication activities, or multi-ethnic cultural events. Projects are not only for foreign nationals themselves, but also for the majority society, because it can be assumed that an extended knowledge of the cultures of other ethnic groups and an approximation of their differences can help break prejudice and to overcome xenophobic and racist attitudes. Other significant projects were, for example, cycles of lectures held by the Multicultural Centre in Prague which organised other multicultural actions as well (*the cycle of multicultural events called "Through Other Eyes"*), and projects "Advisory Offices for Integration" held outside Prague and attended by members of ethnic communities living in relevant locations (*introduction of the culture of ethnic communities living in Usti upon Elbe, in Teplice and in Brno and a multicultural festival "Colourful Planet"*, which was held for the third time in Usti upon Elbe). The *Cultural Religious Centre for Migrants and Refugees* with its seat in Brno continued its activities. It is run by a local association called "Association of Citizens Dealing with Immigrants". The League of Ethnic Minorities continued its medial campaign against racism called "*Coexistence*". Among successful projects supported in 2000 it is necessary to mention, for the first time, *Tolerance and Human Rights – education through documentary films*. Its authors – a society working with Czech Television "A Man in Need" - decided to extend the well-known festival of documentary films, "One World," to regions outside Prague. A small civic association known under the name of Humanitas Africa prepared in Prague a festival of a very high standard called *A Week of African Culture*. A journal for Armenians living in the Czech Republic *Ozer* (Days) also had a high standard and subsidy for its publication was provided to the civic association Information Centre Caucasus – Eastern Europe.

**Support for the integration of members of the Roma community** is very important for the development of ethnic culture as well as for the education of multicultural society to eliminate prejudice, racism and xenophobic attitudes. Among the projects supported within this Programme the following should be mentioned: *Roma Song 2002*, in its 8<sup>th</sup> year, which was organised by the Democratic Alliance of Romas in the Open-air Walachian Museum in Roznov pod Radhostem. The civic association Yetti Climbers Club received a subsidy for producing the final parts of a TV series of short films *Amare Roma*, providing information about the history and culture of Romas, the Romany language and introducing interesting personalities among Romas. An interesting project was implemented by the Roma Civic Association Karlovy Vary: they organised a common concert of the Roma folk-rock music band Gypsy Hery Band and the Karlovy Vary Symphonic Orchestra under the name "*Meeting Two Worlds*". The aforementioned project from the Programme of Integration of the Roma Community was held under the auspices of the Minister of Culture. *The Third Karlovy Vary Roma Festival* also ranked among the successful projects supported within this Programme. It was organised by the Society of Romas in Moravia. *The Museum of Roma Culture* in Brno is undoubtedly among the most significant projects in the field of integration of the Roma community. The importance of this institution in the field of multicultural education will probably increase in the future. Currently this museum, which, in addition to its documentary activities concentrating on lectures and exhibitions, is preparing a permanent exhibition providing information about the cultural traditions of Romas in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia.

### **Mass Media - Legislative Activities**

In 2002 Act No. 192/2002 Coll. amending Act No. 484/1991 Coll. on Czech Radio Broadcasting, as amended, was adopted. The definition of the term “public service” in Sec. 2 (2) of the Act determines that Czech Radio Broadcasting participates in combating extremism by providing objective information and a balanced range of programmes for all groups of inhabitants, so that programmes reflect the variety of a plural society and at the same time strengthen mutual understanding, tolerance and coherence.

In the area of valid legal regulations Act No. 231/2001 Coll. on Operating Radio and Television Broadcasting and on the amendment to other acts, as amended by Act No. 309/2002 Coll., particularly relates to creating conditions restricting racial or other discrimination. The protection of the equal position of national minorities (i.e. also of the Roma community) is reflected in the prohibition on including in broadcasting programmes that incite hate because of race, sex, religion, nationality or membership of a certain group of inhabitants. One of the criteria for an applicant for a licence to broadcast which the Act lays down is the contribution of such an application to the development of the culture of national, ethnic or other minorities living in the Czech Republic (see Sec. 17 (3)). Pursuant to Sec. 31 operators are obliged to provide objective information and a balanced range of programmes for all population groups so that they provide a balanced choice for all inhabitants taking into account their age, sex, skin colour, faith, religious, political or other conviction, ethnic or social origin and membership of a minority.

Among drafted legal regulations the amendment of the aforementioned Act No. 231/2001 Coll., on Operating Radio and Television Broadcasting and on the amendment to other acts as amended by Act No. 309/2002 Coll., should be mentioned. Currently the Government Draft Act is being discussed in the Parliament. It contains a prohibition on commercials and teleshopping attacking religious or political beliefs and a prohibition on commercials and teleshopping containing discrimination on the basis of sex, race, skin colour, language, national or social origin or national or ethnic minority membership.

### **Churches and Religious Life**

In 2002, as in 2001, the Ministry of Culture did not meet, with regard to the area under its responsibility, i.e. within registered churches and religious societies or registered religious legal entities, any manifestations of extremism which could be marked as misdemeanours or crimes motivated by racism, xenophobia or religious intolerance. In 2002 there were no applications for the registration of any religious societies which the Ministry of the Interior as a registering body was obliged to assess in terms of aspects which are subject to governmental measures aimed at increasing efficiency in punishing and preventing crimes and misdemeanours arising from the support, propagation and dissemination of extremist ideologies and crimes with a racial context.

On 7 January 2002 Act No. 3/2002 Coll. on Freedom of Religious Belief and the Position of Churches and Religious Societies and on the amendment to some related acts, came into force (the Act on Churches and Religious Societies). This Act liberalised the potential for churches and religious societies with a lower number of believers to become legal entities. At the same time this Act, in its Sec. 5, lays down conditions limiting the powers of churches and religious societies, the aim of which is to prevent the registration of dangerous religious sects which in various ways influence and manipulate people, especially young people. These conditions were set out also for churches and religious societies which have not been registered due to their members having criminal liability. This is similar to various extremist groups which are established to carry out activities for other than religious reasons.

## **7.6 Activities of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs**

### **Methodological Guidance of Social Workers – Social Assistants, Social Curators, Curators for Youth**

The year 2002 was, in the field of methodological guidance, characterised mainly by preparation to transfer competencies from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs to regional councils. The Ministry is aware of possible risks related to the transfer of social services among the competencies of municipalities after which the state will only become a co-ordinator in the case of activities concerning the target group of so called socially inadapted persons (in municipalities having extended competencies). For social services, in the prevention of pathological social phenomena including extremism, contrary to other types of social services, it is typical that an individual client is often missing (a social worker works with a variable group of e.g. youth at risk) or a client is not motivated to co-operate, and there are no special-interest groups as partners of municipal councils. At the same time pathological social phenomena always attract solutions in the form of the use of force, or there may be tendencies to ignore such phenomena. This is the reason why the MLSA, on the basis of a whole year round analysis of this issue, entered at the end of 2002 into operative co-operation with regional councils, within which an emphasis is placed on monitoring the abilities and willingness of municipalities with extended competencies to pay attention to the needs of services of general interest.

### **“Prompt Intervention Centre” Project in Ostrava (hereinafter “PIC”)**

The PIC project is implemented on the basis of Government Resolution No. 1032 dated 6 October 1999. The Prompt Prevention Centre is a special facility of the City Council Ostrava with the principal mission of ensuring systematic access to juvenile offenders of criminal offences, i.e. that the centre maps, co-ordinates, provides methodological guidance on and supervises the work of all entities actively involved in the system of care for juvenile offenders. In 2002 the MLSA ensured completion of the educational programme for curators for youth which is a part of the project. The trainers for this programme were provided by Strep Praha, o.s. which is the Association for Development of Social Work in Criminal Justice. Other trainers came from Ostrava University. Seven curators for youth, eight social workers, one officer of PMS, and two employees of PIC participated in the programme. Altogether 100 lessons and four one-day observations were held, which were completed by final examinations which for the majority of participants confirmed that their professional competencies had been improved. Experience gathered from the implementation of the programme could be now used for the drawing up of similar programmes for other types of social workers.

The MLSA along with the Ministry of the Interior ensured during the course of 2002 methodological support for PIC Ostrava and participated in drawing up a final report which evaluated the functionality of this facility and to what extent its original goals were met. The evaluation expressed concern that this facility had not met its original goals and rather dealt with administrative, technical, and control activities. Such concern was confirmed in discussions with curators for youth and employees of PIC.<sup>273</sup>

### **Meeting Measures of the Strategy of Social Work in Avoiding and Eliminating Extremism<sup>274</sup>**

#### **1. The MLSA will use mechanisms of the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention to ensure programmes of social work with offenders of crimes having an extremist context**

The MLSA is represented in the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention and uses the material provided by this Committee. On the basis of existing information the MLSA reassessed in

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<sup>273</sup>For more details about PIC see Evaluation of the Efficiency of Adopted Legal Regulations Concerning the Systematic Approach Towards the Care of Delinquent Youth and Evaluation of Activities and Efficiency of an Experimental Project of the Prompt Intervention Centre (for information for the members of the Government – July 2002).

<sup>274</sup>By drawing the Strategy of Social Work in Avoiding and Eliminating Extremism the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs met the assignment imposed on it by Government Resolution No. 903 dated 12 September 2001 related to the “2000 Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic”

2002 this task as being inadequate. Regions and cities with a higher occurrence of criminal offences with an extremist context are known today. The support of social work with offenders of this type of crime was ensured within measures included in item 4.

**2. The MLSA will draw up, together with the Probationary and Mediation Services (hereinafter “the PMS”), an educational programme for social workers and workers of the PMS focused on implementing common approaches towards juvenile offenders of crimes having an extremist context.**

**Deadline: 31 December 2002**

The content, framework and objectives of the common educational programme for curators for youth and officers of the PMS were negotiated in advance with the Directorate of the PMS. The MLSA drew up a proposal for an educational programme and submitted it to the Director of the Probationary and Mediation Services for his comments.

**3. The MLSA in co-operation with methodologists of social work in regional councils will extend the model of PIC into other selected cities in the Moravia-Silesian Region, in the Usti Region, and in the Liberec Region. Co-operation within PIC will be extended to school facilities for the execution of institutional and protection education. Furthermore, co-ordinators of Roma advisors at the level of regions, district Roma advisors and Roma assistants will be involved in such co-operation.**

**Deadline: 31 December 2002**

Within the given deadline co-operation was commenced with regional councils which are, with respect to public administration reform, in charge of methodological management. The posts of methodologists were not staffed in all regions until the end of 2002. Therefore the MLSA included this task in the 2003 plan of co-operation with regional councils

**The MLSA and PMS will unify the methodological guidance of social workers and officers of PMS with the aim of a wider use of mediation programmes in the case of crimes having an extremist context. Deadline: 31 May 2002**

The MLSA and the General Directorate of the PMS in the year monitored considerably intensified their co-operation; four working groups were established. One of these solves the issues of co-operation between the Probationary and Mediation Services and providers of social services.

**4. Within its subsidy policy the MLSA will commence a pilot programme for support of social services focused on social work with groups of young people endangered by the risk of developing towards extremism and on individual social work with offenders of extremist crimes.**

**Deadline: 30 June 2002**

To support priority tasks of the MLSA the Ministry announced as of 10 December 2002 a subsidised programme of pilot (innovative) projects. Within this programme it is possible also to present projects focused on combating extremism. Applications can be filed by civic associations in accordance with Act No. 83/2002 Coll., by religious legal entities under Act No. 3/2002 Coll., and by generally beneficial societies in accordance with Act No. 248/1995 Coll. However, all these organisations must provide social services. Furthermore, applications can be filed also by individuals who, on the basis of a trade licence or other licence, provide social services.

**Meeting Government Resolution No. 994 dated 14 October 2002**

The Minister of Labour and Social Affairs assigned a contact person pursuant to the Annex to the Resolution cited.



## 7.7 Activities of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

### Syllabus

Education towards tolerance and in prevention of extremist opinions and attitudes is an integral part of the school subject 'civics' (or education towards "citizenship") at primary schools and in the lower grades of grammar schools attended by students for 7 or 8 years. Education against racism, xenophobia, intolerance, and extremism, one of the key objectives of civics lessons, is expressed in teaching materials for primary and secondary schools. The concept of education towards "citizenship" is primarily aimed at education in tolerance and esteem for different views, attitudes, and habits as well as in prevention of racial, xenophobic, and extremist attitudes. This concept fully supports the long-term strategy of legal and ethical education in primary schools and grammar schools.

The main aim of all the above-mentioned educational activities is to create a tolerant and multicultural environment in schools and school facilities with an emphasis placed on practical application and on preventing conflicts, strengthening legal awareness, supporting ethnic equality and supporting the implementation of international directives, in particular EU Directive No. 23000/43/EC and the "Declaration on Combating Racism and Xenophobia on the Internet", UN Directive No. A/52/469 Ad 1, relating to the Ten Years of Education Towards Human Rights, the programme of the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, including meeting assignments of the Ministry of Education arising from the National Programme of the Czech Republic's Preparation for EU Membership.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports drew up the **Draft Conception of Educational Activities in Combating Extremism** which was in March 2002 submitted to the Government for its discussion and approved by **Resolution No. 268 dated 18 March 2002**.<sup>275</sup> The draft Conception has been drawn up as a cross-section topic in education and is developed in compliance with the needs of education and of training Romas, foreigners and migrants, and considers the issue of other national minorities living in the Czech Republic. The **Conception**, approved by the Government, **lays down the following key areas and aims for educational activities to combat extremism** :

- In the syllabus for primary and secondary schools to extend human sciences by legal "literacy" in relation to racism, xenophobia and extremism, in particular in the subsystem of technical schools.
- In teaching to accentuate communication and the avoidance of conflicts – racism, xenophobia, extremism.
- To improve the historical awareness of youth in the teaching of history, as an educational subject, stressing the history of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- To support sociological surveys among children and youth which would demonstrate for example the value orientation of individual groups of children and youth.
- To invite professionals to participate in projects aimed at creating educational aids for eliminating the extremist attitudes of pupils, e.g. videos on extremist regimes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, on presenting extremism in Europe, the Czech Republic and elsewhere in the world, videos showing pupils of other cultures and minorities in the Czech Republic, and so forth. To continue publishing a range of information materials for teachers of primary and secondary schools.
- To create instructive videos for different age groups of children and youth which would teach pupils how to behave if threatened by extremist or even terrorist acts.
- To recommend heads of schools so that they may, depending on their actual possibilities:

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<sup>275</sup>By drawing up this material the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports met the assignment contained in the Annex to Government Resolution No. 903 dated 12 September 2001 related to the "2001 Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic".

- within available school hours whilst establishing a school educational programme extend the number of lessons devoted to human sciences with the topics of extremism and racism, placing an emphasis on education towards communication
- support the use of project methods in education
- complete school libraries on an ongoing basis with literature aimed at combating xenophobia, racism, and extremist attitudes
- pay attention to creating a positive school atmosphere, implementing a distinctive culture of groups of pupils and for pupils without adequate family background and to create conditions for their leisure time
- support an all-day educational system
- use specific features of a region – e.g. the presence of a concrete ethnic group - in education towards tolerance
- inform all school staff (teachers, tutors/wardens, and other pedagogical staff) on the nature, form and manifestation as well as security consequences of extremism, since only in this way will they be able to respond to events in society and to provide pupils with a relevant explanation
- In the further education of pedagogical staff to focus on preparing teachers for using activating teaching methods in multicultural education, in media education, in education towards critical thinking and towards human rights; and furthermore to focus teaching aids on topics of extremism and terrorism.
- According to the current needs of a certain location (region) to inform teachers on racism, xenophobia, extremism (including special training aimed at communication and preventing conflicts).
- To support alternative educational projects of universities focused on multicultural, legal and civic awareness, human rights, and extremism.

The following projects of this conception were drawn up in 2002:

- Cross-section topics “Education of a Democratic Citizen” and “Inter-cultural Education” with an emphasis placed on education towards tolerance and against racism and extremism, as a follow up of framework educational programmes; these topics should be structurally reflected in all levels of education – primary, special, and secondary.
- Teaching text – methodology for teachers of civics and basics of human sciences “New Horizons of Citizenship” (civic and legal education – stresses the way in which the teacher communicates with pupils particularly the sequence of ideas which he/she presents, which are of essential importance for the level of “citizenship” in society).
- **Material “What Does It Mean to Be an Extremist?” - in co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior**
  - a) A manual for teachers (basic information on right-wing and left-wing extremism)
  - b) Teaching text for pupils of 9<sup>th</sup> grades of primary schools and for pupils of secondary apprentice centres
  - c) Video-cassette (documentation of a crime, offenders’ characteristics, legal analysis)

This comprehensive set of material focuses on legal awareness, a legal analysis of a concrete criminal offence with an obvious emphasis on criminal punishment of the individual who committed the crime (see racially motivated attacks and activities organised by extremists).

- A manual for teachers “Bases of Media Literacy” (how to use media in training and education, how to recognise for example media violence – document – a programme prepared on purpose,

what is objective reportage, for example the topic of ecological movements, musical bands, anarchists, left-wing and right-wing extremism).

### **Publishing materials for teachers and readers for pupils on an ongoing basis**

In 2002 - Primer of Child Rights (for pupils-lower school age)

Education in European Matters (for teachers)

In 2003 - A Guidebook of Rights for a Teenager (for pupils-higher school age and adolescents)

Extremism via the Internet (for teachers)

- To ensure the organisation of Summer Tolerance Schools for teachers of human sciences and police staff (staff dealing with prevention at the regional level) and court staff – focus on current issues – new religions, sects, foreigners, extremism and other alternative extremist groups of youth).
- To organise training courses for Czech School Inspection staff aimed at new legal regulations (the Act on Minorities, the Criminal Code, civil law).
- To offer to schools training for teachers oriented towards ‘experience programmes’ aimed at practical tolerance, human rights, legal awareness, and extremism).
- Through selected educational entities (public tenders), to gradually implement special training in communication techniques stressing evasion of conflicts for teachers and tutors of primary and secondary schools and in particular secondary apprentice centres and professional apprentice centres.

### **Training and Education of University Students – Recommendation to the Pedagogical Faculties and Faculties of Arts**

- To incorporate the issue of extremism into study programmes for future teachers in pedagogical faculties – into a long-term intention for university development.
- To send a letter to deans of pedagogical faculties and to urge them to introduce education towards democratic citizenship with an emphasis placed on human rights (education towards tolerance and against racism, xenophobia, and extremism) in the study programmes of universities.
- To ask the Accreditation Commission of Universities, when taking into account decisions of the MEYS relating to the accreditation of educational programmes of pedagogical faculties, to place an emphasis on the need to introduce topics of human rights into basic study programmes – to subjects common for all future teachers studying in pre-graduate programmes.
- In the programme of the MEYS “Support of Teachers’ Educational Programme Development and of Other Educational Activities” to introduce a new topic – “Education Towards Tolerance”.
- In the framework of the Fund for University Development to introduce a topic - “Content, Methods, and Forms of Work in Pre-graduate Preparation of Teachers of All Subjects in Education Towards Tolerance and Against Racism”.
- To set up a permanent co-ordinating group dealing systematically with the education of minorities and ethnic groups, refugees and foreigners, intercultural education including environmental education, media education, legal awareness, human rights and extremism (a unit of the department in the group for education).
- On the MEYS web-sites to disclose basic information and documents related to cross-section topics – national minorities, human rights, education towards democratic citizenship, tolerance, and against racism and extremism.
- To systematically inform MEYS staff and staff of other institutions, pedagogical centres and the Czech School Inspection on foreign experience in the field of prevention against extremism.

- To assess on an ongoing basis manifestations of extremism among youth and with the help of the Czech School Inspection and police staff dealing with prevention at the regional level to operatively solve an adverse situation in a given location in co-operation with the respective school.

Higher attention is also paid in this field to new educational programmes (currently under preparation) for primary schools and grammar schools (the Framework Educational Programme for Primary Schools, the Framework Educational Programme for Grammar Schools).

Education against racism, xenophobia, intolerance, and extremism is carried out through school education and different leisure activities organised by schools. Significant factors are the general atmosphere in school, the level of interpersonal relations and stimulating effect of the educational environment.

In drawing up the Framework Educational Programme for Primary Schools the issues of extremism and terrorism will be incorporated into human sciences (e.g. religious extremism will fall under the issues of religions and religious fundamentalism, neo-Nazism will relate to the issue of Nazism and similar ideologies, ecological extremism will be incorporated into ecological education and the endangering of democracy, etc.)

The Framework Educational Programme for Grammar Schools (general section for all educational streams) includes a compulsory cross-section topic *A Citizen in Democratic Society*, which considerably strengthens in the whole curriculum education towards tolerance and thus towards multicultural coexistence and contributes to eliminating extremism. This cross-section topic also takes into account use of the project method of teaching.

In June 2002 the MEYS **entered into the Agreement on Co-operation with the Faculty of Human Sciences of Charles University on establishing a special department for multicultural education - Department for Education Towards Democratic Citizenship**. This “small institution” is financed on the basis of actual orders of the MEYS. The department organises seminars and workshops on current topics for primary and secondary school teachers as well as university teachers from pedagogical faculties, pedagogical centre staff, and employees of PPP and CSI. It carries out analyses, surveys, research and other tasks according to the concrete needs and requirements of the MEYS. The results of the research and monitoring are the basis for further strategies for school systems.

Education towards human rights, democratic citizenship, tolerance and against racism, xenophobia, and extremism is sufficiently incorporated into the Czech school system. However some gaps still exist. **The experiences of schools and sociological surveys show that mainly adolescent youth due to their age peculiarities, and youth attending professional apprentice centres, as well as due to their social and cultural background, incline towards extremism. The present world and its conflicts which arise from extremism cannot be understood without knowing history since all current conflicts lie in history.**

#### **Further Education of Teachers**

The MEYS has drawn up the **Strategy of Further Education of Pedagogical Staff** (DVPP- ref. no. 16 459/2002-25), which, in the section concerning pedagogical centres, imposes on such staff (as a “public contract”), *inter alia*, the duty to ensure a permanent range of education in the field of ethnical minorities, education towards human rights, extremism, and terrorism.

The MEYS financially subsidised the following **educational seminars for teachers**:

- Competition for secondary school pupils “To the Roots of Constitutionality” (support of legal awareness)
- Summer school for teachers of civics (extremism, media)
- Integration of the Czech Republic into the EU and multicultural society
- Seminar aimed at legal awareness - Ombudsman
- Seminar of the project called “Citizen”
- Seminars “How to Teach the Holocaust”

- 15<sup>th</sup> Summer School for teachers of history where the following lecture was presented: “Neofascism and neo-Nazism in the Czech Republic in the 1990s”.<sup>276</sup>

The further education of teachers is included at universities in the programme “**Support of Teacher Educational Programme Development and of Other Educational Activities**”. In the framework of this Programme the following projects were solved in universities in 2002:

- Education towards democratic citizenship and multicultural tolerance (the Faculty of Human Sciences of Charles University)
- Didactical problems of teaching the Czech language – multi-ethnic class (the Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University)
- Multicultural (intercultural) education as a cross-section topic of the Framework Educational Programme (the Pedagogical Faculty of Masaryk University)
- A teacher of geography in a multicultural society (the Pedagogical Faculty of Masaryk University)
- Activating methods and forms of teaching – application of principles of multicultural education (the Pedagogical Faculty of Palacky University)
- Implementation of multicultural education in pre-graduate preparation of future teachers – focus on refugees (the Pedagogical Faculty of Palacky University)
- Supplementary pedagogical studies for teachers working with “discriminated against” groups of the population (the Pedagogical Faculty of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University)
- A course of multicultural education (the Pedagogical Faculty of Liberec Technical University)

#### **Projects Solved Within the Fund for University Development**

(the Pedagogical Faculty and the Faculty of Arts of Palacky University in Olomouc):

- Development of social skills of future teachers
- Pre-graduate education of future teachers in legal issues
- Training and education of minority groups of population in pre-graduate studies

#### **Projects Solved Within Specific Programmes of the MEYS**

- Creative workshops in primary schools in the places where asylum facilities of the Refugee Facility Administration (RFA) of the Ministry of the Interior are located implemented by the Pedagogical Faculty of Masaryk University in Brno (in co-operation with the Pedagogical Faculty of Palacky University in Olomouc) on the basis of an agreement with RFA of the MI.

#### **Projects Solved Within Transformation and Development Programmes of Universities**

PF MU – Pedagogical practice in the refugee camp in Zastavka u Brna.

FHS CU- Education towards democratic citizenship and multicultural tolerance

PF CU- Didactical problems of teaching the Czech language in multi-ethnic class

PF MU- Multicultural education as a cross-section topic of the Framework Educational Programme

PF LTU – Course of multicultural education of the Faculty of Social Sciences of Masaryk University – Ethnic groups, minorities and marginal groups in the Czech Republic

#### **Subsidies**

The MEYS supports in the form of subsidies the programmes of a number of civic associations. Programmes of support are funded either directly by MEYS resources or by Czech Government resources which are transferred to the MEYS for special purposes.

In 2002 twenty civic associations which work with national minorities were financially supported within the **Programmes of State Support of Work with Children and Youth**.

<sup>276</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> Summer School was organised by the National Institution of Professional Education of the Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University. The issue of ultra-right-wing authoritarian systems, racial utopias, and an undemocratic system of communist Czechoslovakia are for example parts of teaching programmes at the Department of Political Sciences of the Faculty of International Relations of the University of Economics.

In compliance with Czech Government Resolution No. 98/2002 Coll., the **Programme of Support of Roma Community Integration** was announced. It focuses on education, multi-ethnic cultural events, pathological social phenomena, leisure activities, summer and winter camps, weekend courses, trips, sport activities, etc. In 2002, 88 projects were supported and subsidies were provided in the amount of CZK 2,000,000.

**The Programme of Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Education** is aimed mainly at all national minorities living in the Czech Republic. The goal of this subsidised programme is to strengthen the awareness of human coexistence and culture of other nations, education towards mutual tolerance and against racism and xenophobia. This programme is divided into three topics:

1. language education of children and youth of members of national minorities;
2. social-cultural, sporting and other educational activities for children and youth of members of national minorities and majority society in relation to minority societies;
3. documentation, analysis, research and creation of educational programmes in the field of national minority education.

In 2002 a total number of 16 projects were adopted and subsidies provided in the amount of CZK 4,539,545.

#### **PHARE Programme - International Projects Financially Supported by the MEYS**

The MEYS drew up the PHARE Project CZ 0002-03-01 **Support to Roma Integration**, the aim of which is (1) to improve Roma education, and (2) CZ 0002-03-02 **Multi-Cultural Education Reform**, which should result in a proposal of curricula aimed at a multicultural conception of teaching for primary education. Changes should contribute to removing mainly anti-Roma prejudice and discrimination against Roma pupils and students.

The Czech Republic participates through the MEYS in implementing a sub-project **Support of Equipping Preparatory Classes**. The objective of this sub-project is to create positive financial conditions for activities of preparatory classes by equipping them to such a standard so that they can meet their mission as best as possible.

## 8. Conclusion

No considerable changes were recorded within basic extremist movements. In 2001, as in the previous year, the Czech extremist scene saw both right-wing and left-wing extremist tendencies.

In 2002, right-wing extremists continued to strive to establish a regular political party. In 2001 the non-parliamentary Patriotic Republic Party transformed into a political party under the name of the Right Alternative which is led by people related to a non-registered organisation, the National Resistance, or to a no longer existing civic association, the National Alliance. However, at present the Right Alternative is not publicly active. Further, in 2002 the Ministry of the Interior registered two political parties of this kind, the National Unity (the NU) and the National Party (the NP). The Right Alternative (the RA) and the National Unity (the NU) participated in the municipal elections (November 2002), however both totally failed. Although the right-wing extremist scene remained fragmented and unable to “win” positions which are typical for West-European ultra-right-wing entities, the establishment of the aforementioned national parties became an impetus for further attempts to emerge on the political scene. The NP and the NU built their attitudes on “the legitimate expression of opinions” related to political events and society-wide issues. In the election year of 2002 the effort to enter “higher policy” appeared as completion of a certain stage; however this trend has continued even after the mentioned election failure of right-wing extremist entities. They related the new possibilities for forming a larger electorate and membership base to the new conditions of the Czech Republic’s accession to the EU assuming the option to raise conflict topics similar to those which the Western-European ultra-right-wing movements have been built on. The year 2002 also confirmed changes seen in the tactics of right-wing extremist skinhead movement members in 2001, lying mainly in consistently conspiring with the aim of concealing their activities. They use, *inter alia*, all available up-to-date communication means. It was also the year when, compared to 2001, participation in skinhead concerts was abandoned. This was influenced by the pro-active approach of the Czech police beginning in the second half of 2001. For left-wing extremists and for the anarcho-autonomous movement respectively the year 2002 was the year during which they were not able to unify the scene on the basis of a common programme enabling the coexistence of different view streams. It was also the year in which they prepared protests against the NATO Summit held in Prague in November. In these preparations the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (the CSAF) played an essential role and activated the antiNATO platform. However, they neither managed to ensure protest actions from an organisational point of view nor from a financial point of view. The demonstrations, including the number of participants, did not meet their expectations.

In 2002 the most radical and most dangerous entities operating on the extremist scene in the Czech Republic were the National Resistance and organisations co-operating with it. With regard to the left-wing extremist spectrum, it was the Federation of Social Anarchists (the FSA), mainly its antifascist group of FSA and the Antifascist Action (the AFA) which showed a considerably militant attitude. Moreover, in 2002 these entities demonstrated an obvious effort to call mutual, open, physical clashes.

In comparison with 2001, in 2002 the number of right-wing extremist supporters of the skinhead movement decreased by about 6.7% whilst the number of anarcho-autonomists increased by 2.7% (+19% - 2001). However, it should be stressed that these are only approximate numbers of the supporters of the movements monitored and not the numbers of their members, so called hard cores ready to commit violence as part of their programme. The highest number of persons inclining towards such extremist ideologies was in the capital city of Prague, followed by North Moravia, South Moravia, and North Bohemia, where the largest number of crimes with an extremist context was committed.

In 2002, as in previous years, crimes with an extremist context were mostly committed by right-wing extremist skinheads and left-wing extremist anarcho-autonomists. Mainly skinhead movement supporters committed crimes motivated by racial and national hatred, followed by

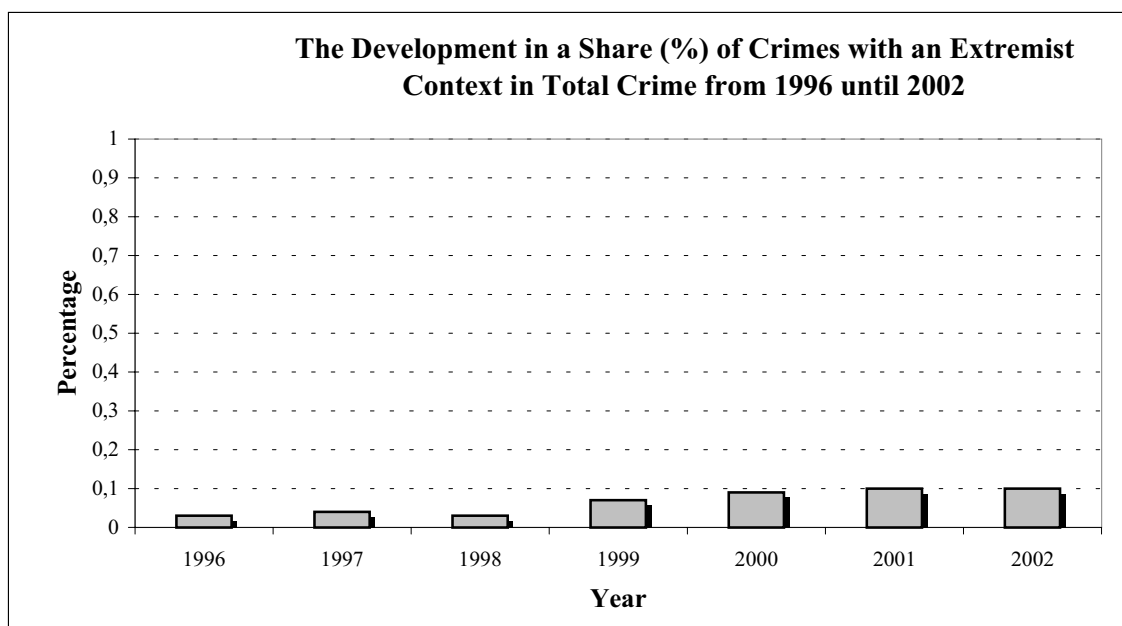
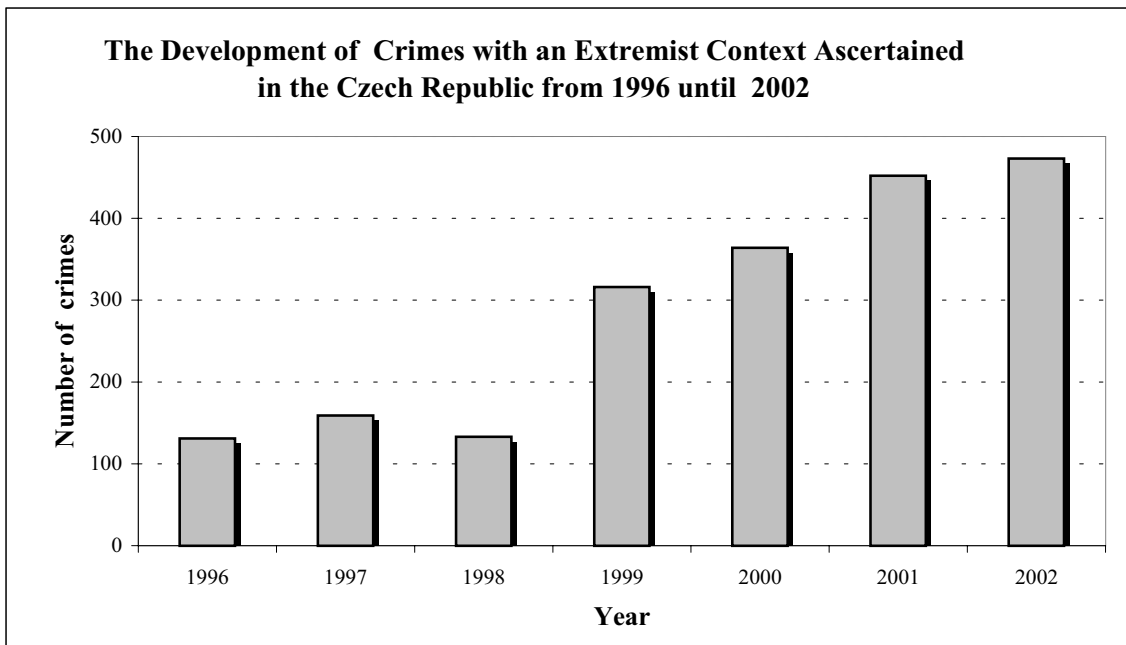
situational conflicts in which citizens from the majority society who did not have any links to extremist movements and did not profess any extremist ideology were offenders. The victims of such crimes were particularly members of the Roma population, and dark skinned foreigners.

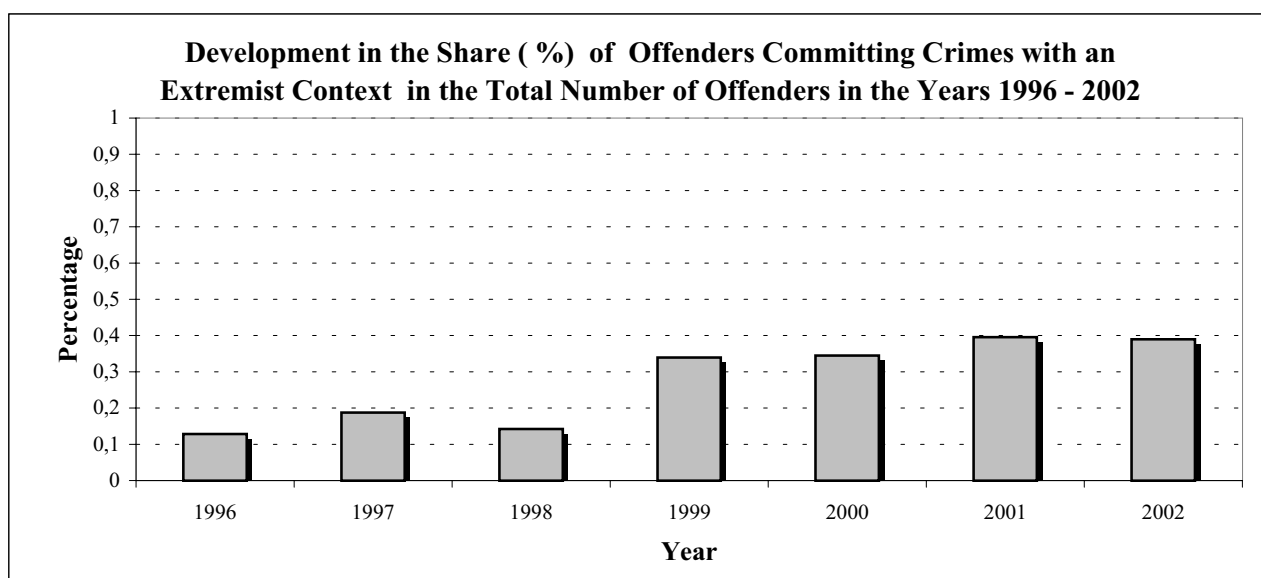
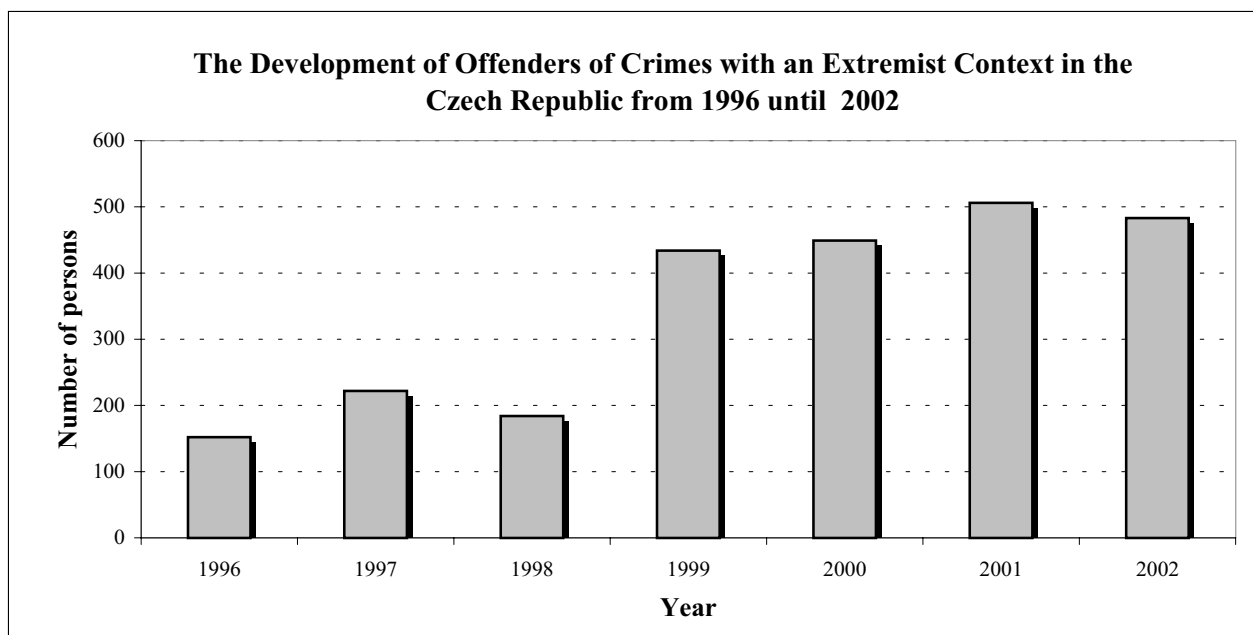
The development of crime with an extremist context saw a moderate increase in the number of such crimes, namely by 4.6%. This moderate rise was accompanied by a lower number of crimes solved and a lower clear-up rate (-10.7%). The growth of ascertained crimes with an extremist context was to a large extent linked to the cases of the sending of leaflets "Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German" which, apart from other things, was reflected in a lower clear-up rate. In terms of composition of crimes, as in 2001, there were crimes of support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms (218 crimes) and crimes of defamation of a nation, race or conviction (105 crimes). In contrast to 2001 serious criminal offences, homicidal attempts and murders with a racial context, were not committed. As in 2001, two crimes monitored which were committed by members of the Czech police were recorded.

In terms of state administration bodies, the year 2002 was a year of targeted conceptual and systematic activities made apparent by adopted repressive, preventative, and educational measures. Their aim was a proactive approach against all racial and other extremist manifestations, and to minimise racial attacks, punish those political parties and civic associations which, in any manner, supported racism and related extremist ideologies, eliminate racial discrimination, further train civil servants and policemen, educate in human rights, increase the quality of instruction at schools of all levels, and consequently to achieve a change of climate in society connected with a higher tolerance. Strict measures adopted by the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police were supported by activities carried out by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs focused on enforcing all-round social prevention without which it is impossible to combat extremism.

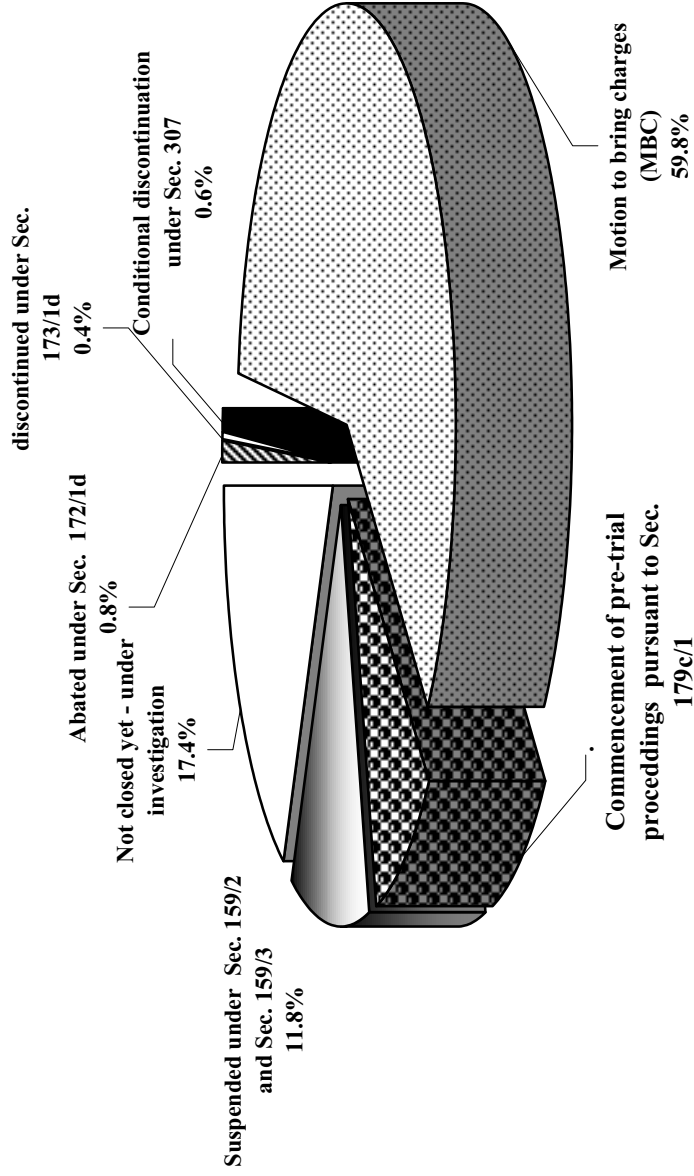
With regard to the development of the current international situation after the terrorist attacks committed against the United States and the possible threat of terrorist attacks in Europe, the risk related to the extremist scene came into the fore after 11 September 2001. This scene represents a classical environment for a possible rise in the activities of political terrorism and therefore the Ministry of the Interior will continue to pay permanent attention to it and penal proceeding bodies will consistently punish any activities arising from this scene by way of criminal repression. The danger of extremist ideologies has recently been shown by the increasing activities of ultra right-wing political parties in Europe, in some cases accompanied by relative successes on the political scene. The same applies to Islamic extremism whose appearance in the Czech Republic cannot be excluded in the future. After the Czech Republic joins the European Union it will be able to become involved to a larger extent in anti-extremist activities within the Euro-Atlantic area.





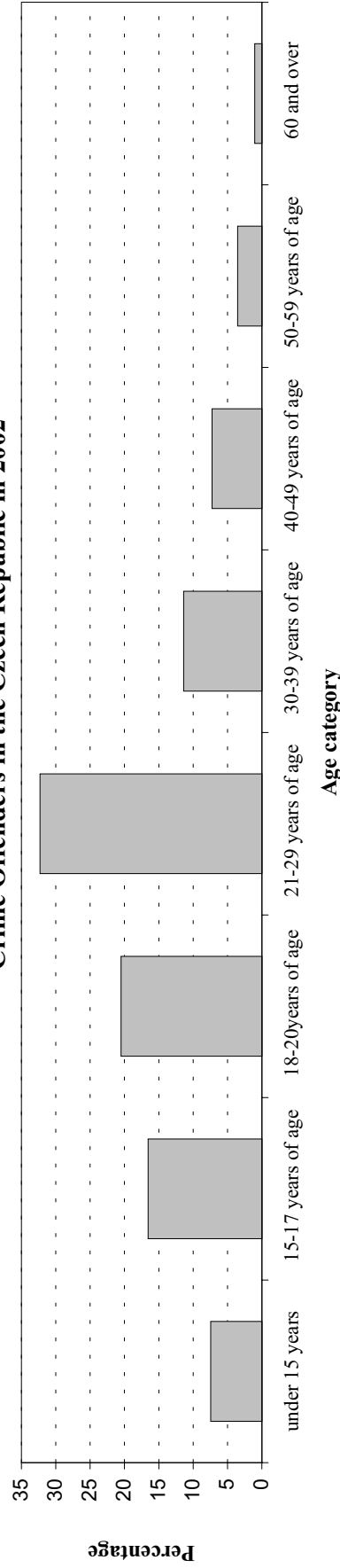


### Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context Divided According to the Termination of the Penal Proceedings in the Czech Republic in 2002



Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context Divided According to Age Categories in the Czech Republic and in the Regions of the Czech Republic in 2002											
Age of an offender	Region										CR
	Prague	Central Boh.	South Boh.	West Boh.	North Boh.	East Boh.	South Mor.	North Mor.			
under 15 years	6	3	5	1	3	11	1	6	6	36	
15-17 years of age	16	4	3	4	19	6	12	16	16	80	
18-20 years of age	10	9	4	2	20	7	20	26	26	99	
21-29 years of age	26	23	6	7	22	15	23	33	33	156	
30-39 years of age	10	7	4	2	4	6	9	12	12	55	
40-49 years of age	4	11	0	4	0	1	2	13	13	35	
50-59 years of age	0	2	0	1	2	2	3	7	7	17	
60 and over	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	

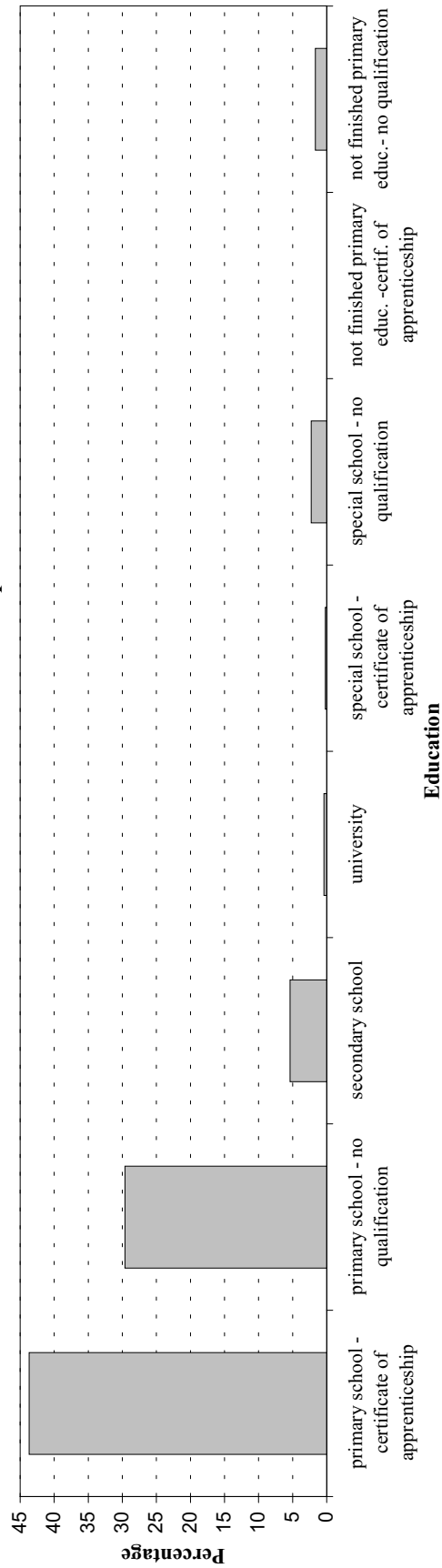
The Proportion of Individual Age Categories of Extremist Crime Offenders of the Total Number of Extremist Crime Offenders in the Czech Republic in 2002



Note: 3 persons were registered by the border police whose units are included under individual regions

Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context Divided According to Their Education in the Czech Republic and in the Regions of the Czech Republic in 2002										
Offenders' Education	Region									CR
	Prague	Central Bohemia	South Bohemia	West Bohemia	North Bohemia	East Bohemia	South Moravia	North Moravia		
primary school - certificate of apprenticeship	36	36	10	6	11	21	38	51		211
primary school - no qualification	14	11	5	6	43	8	16	40		143
secondary school	7	3	0	2	3	1	4	6		26
university	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		2
special school - certificate of apprenticeship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		1
special school - no qualification	2	0	1	1	4	0	0	3		11
not finished primary educ. -certif. of apprenticeship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
not finished primary educ.- no qualification	2	1	1	0	0	2	1	1		8
foreigners, children, not ascertained	12	10	5	7	9	16	11	11		81

The Proportion of Individual Education Categories of Extremist Crime Offenders of the Total Number of Extremist Crime Offenders in the Czech Republic in 2002



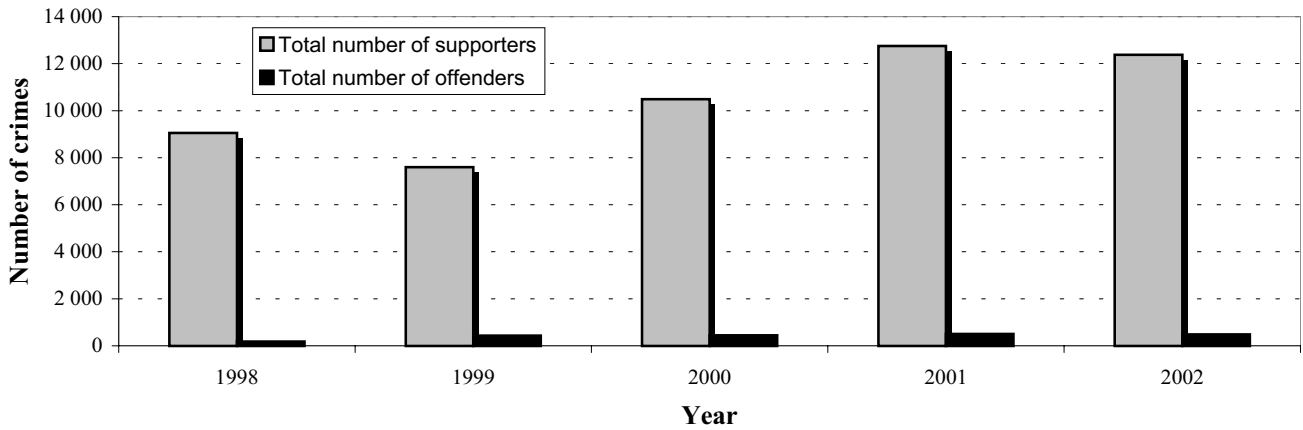
The Estimation of the Numbers of Skinhead and Anarcho-Autonomist Supporters in Individual Regions of the Czech Republic as of 31 December 2002 (compared to 2001) <sup>①</sup>										
Region	Total number			skinheads			Of them			změna
	2002	2001	změna	2002	2001	změna	2002	2001	změna	
Prague	3350	3140	+210	1530	1620	-90	1820	1520	+300	
Central Bohemia	600	600	0	400	400	0	200	200	0	
South Bohemia	650	850	-200	300	450	-150	350	400	-50	
West Bohemia	850	920	-70	500	620	-120	350	300	+50	
North Bohemia	1400	1600	-200	900	1000	-100	500	600	-100	
East Bohemia	400	430	-30	300	300	0	100	130	-30	
South Moravia	2600	2600	0	1200	1200	0	1400	1400	0	
North Moravia	2530	2610	-80	2000	2050	-50	530*	560	-30	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12380</b>	<b>12750</b>	<b>-370</b>	<b>7130</b>	<b>7640</b>	<b>-510</b>	<b>5250</b>	<b>5110</b>	<b>+140</b>	

①

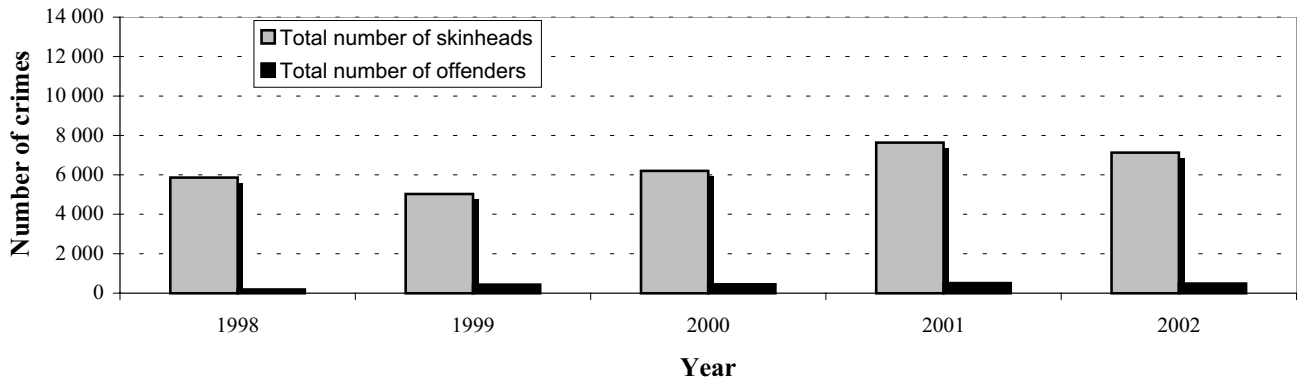
In no event the stated numbers can be interchanged with the numbers of the members of hard cores of skinhead or anarcho-autonomous movements - such a number is considerably lower

\* The average from 450-600.

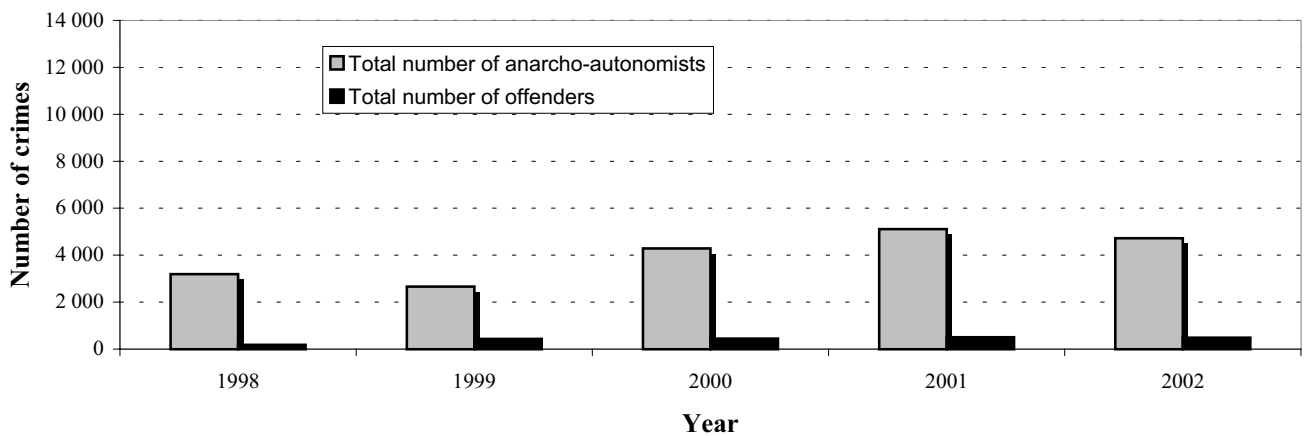
**The Total Number of Skinhead and Anarcho-Autonomists Movement Supporters Compared to the Total Number of Extremist Crime Offenders in the Czech Republic in 1998 - 2002**



**The Total Number of Skinhead Movement Supporters Compared to the Total Number of Extremist Crime Offenders in the Czech Republic from 1998 until 2002**



**The Total Number of Anarcho-Autonomists Compared to the Total Number of Extremist Crime Offenders in the Czech Republic from 1998 until 2002**



## Overview of the Most Serious Cases from the Point of View of the Police of the Czech Republic

### The Capital of Prague

- During 2001-2002 an investigation was in progress in the matter of spreading of the audio recording named “The Truth on the Lie”, promoting racism and xenophobia among the right-wing extremists (on 2 September 2001 the Czech Television broadcasted a piece of news informing on spreading of this audio recording in their programme “Události” (i.e. “Current Affairs”); on 3 September 2001 in the programme called “Fakta” (i.e. “Facts”) a reportage called “Hlas” (“A Voice”) was presented: as the author of the recording was given Ing. Roman Skružný, born in 1932. Based on the ascertained facts the above shown suspicion commenced to be examined (file no.: PSP-445/OBOZ-3-2001). From the statements of experts follows that the audio recording “The Truth on the Lie” is the most serious form of a promotion of Nazism, Neo-Nazism, and collaboration with the Nazi Germany. The audio recording promotes racial, national, religious and partly even class hatred. Investigating the voice from the audio recording and comparing it with Ing. R. S.’s voice, it was proved that R. S.’s voice is identical with the speaker responding to the answers in the presented audio recording. On 20 February 2002 a realizing motion for a crime Criminal and Investigation Service of the Czech police in Prague 5 under the file number ČTS:ORS-317/SKPV-02. The investigation was concluded on 11 March 2002 by notifying Ing. R. S. (\*1932) of the accusation of a criminal act under Section 260/1(2) of the Criminal Code.

#### **Status of court proceedings**

On 11 June 2002 a criminal action was brought against Ing. R. S. On 10 October 2002 the District Court in Prague 5 discharged R. S. from accusation. After the appeal of the state prosecutor, the City Court of Prague set aside the judgement to the full extent and referred the case to the court of the first instance to be heard and judged. An expert was joined in the new proceedings to analyse the voice conformity of the person charged with the voice on the subject recording. On 27 March 2003 further trial was suspended for an indefinite period of time.

- 17 February 2002 – Prague 10 – at 23.59 o’clock – in Zemanická Street in front of Billiard Club M. S., born in 1972, was physically assaulted by an unspecified number of skinheads. They assaulted M. S. so that they kicked him repeatedly and consequently one of the offenders struck the injured person with a baseball bat. The suspects Z. S, born in \*1978, J. P., born in 1978, and P. O., born in 1980, were investigated at liberty, F. S., born in 1978, in detention. Filed in Criminal and Investigation Police Service of Prague 10 under the file number CTS: OR 10-298/SKPV-OOK-2002 for crimes according to Sections 9/2 to 222/1 and 202/1 of the Criminal Code. The case was concluded by a motion to bring charges.

#### **Status of court proceedings**

On 6 June 2002 a criminal action was brought. The trial was suspended for 25 June 2003 by the district court in Prague 10.

- 25 July 2002 – Prague 9 – at 00:30 o’clock after a previous verbal quarrel, J. S, born in 1944, was physically assaulted by J. B., born in 1986, and D. K., born in 1980, the radical supporters of the skinhead movement. The offender J. B. assaulted the injured person’s head with a meter-long metal rod. The injured person, J. S., warded off the attack, and then J. B. poked (stabbed) the injured with the mentioned rod into the eye. The injured J. S. fell on the ground and the offender kicked him repeatedly to the abdomen and to the head. The co-offender D. K. was kicking the injured person’s back. Thus the offenders caused a very serious eye injury to the injured person who may suffer from irreversible loss of faculty of sight or from a very



serious damage of vision. After being notified with the accusation, the offender J. B. was taken to a detention cell with a motion to take him in custody. Both of the offenders are militant supporters of the skinhead movement. Filed in the District Department Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Prague 9 under the file number CTS: OR9-895/2002 for a criminal act according to Sections 8/1 to 22/1, 222/1 of the Criminal Code. The case was concluded by a motion to bring charges.

#### **Status of court proceedings**

On 17 September 2002 a criminal action was brought only against J. B. for a crime according to Section 222/1 of the Criminal Code. On 15 January 2003 the District Court in Prague 9 condemned J. B. to prison for 18 months unconditionally. The juvenile delinquent has been committing recidivism of violent criminal activities. His brutality and aggression are very significant, his motivation as a supporter of neo-Nazis has not been proved. The state prosecutor has appealed to the statement of punishment, and requests a stricter sentence of imprisonment.

- 6 October 2002 – Prague 4 – at 02:20 o'clock in Sturova Street in front of the Bonanza Club a brawl occurred. Eight persons, four of the Ukrainian citizenship and four of the Czech citizenship, were involved into the brawl. The Czech citizens were supporters of the skinhead movement. Two of the Ukrainians succeeded to escape before the arrival of the police. During the brawl a mutual assault of all accused persons took place when an attack was followed by a counterattack. The accused N. A., born in 1975, V. T., born in 1966, M. J., born in 1981, M. L., born in 1977, T. M., born in 1984, and A. Š., born in 1981, endangered the life and health of one another. In the first case, when attacking one of the accused, the accused V. T. caused him two puncture wounds into the upper part of the abdomen, stabbed him twice into the upper part of the thigh, caused him a cut into his left forearm and a puncture wound into the head in the temporal area. In the second attack two puncture wounds of the depth of 5 cm in the sternal area occurred. In the third attack two superficial puncture wounds behind the left ear and a puncture wound into the left hip in the depth of about 5 cm were delivered. The last accused sustained a fracture of nasal ossicles. The accused V. T. was transferred to the police cell with a motion to take him into custody. The rest of the accused were investigated at liberty. Filed in District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Prague 4 (SKPV Prague 4) under the file number: OR-2369/KPV-2002 for crimes according to Sections 225/1, 2; 8/1 to 222/1 of the Criminal Code. The case was concluded by a motion to bring charges.

#### **Status of court proceedings**

On 24 March 2003 a criminal action was brought. On 31 March 2003 the case was submitted to the High Court in Prague to decide on jurisdiction as the court of the first instance assumes the case to be a crime according to Section 8/1 to Section 219/1 of the Criminal Code. The trial has not been ordered yet.

### **Central Bohemian Region**

- 30 May 2002 – Hýskov, the district of Beroun – at about 00:30 o'clock H. V., born in 1962, was both insulted and physically assaulted in the entrance hall of a house in Sportovců Street so that D. R., born in 1961, called on H. V. to come out of her flat to the entrance hall of the house, where D. R. struck H. V. in the face, took her by the hair and knocked her down to the ground and with the help of J. V., born in 1959, who held H. V. by both hands so that she was not able to defend herself. D. R. punched H. V. in her face and kicked her. When H. V. succeeded to free herself, J. V. punched her in the left part of the face so that H. V. bumped her head against the wall. Then J. V. punched in his daughter's face (P. V., born in 1981), so that she fell down to the ground. Then he struck his son J. V., born in 1980, with an overhead console.

When assaulting, D. R. was shouting: "Gypsies should be burned out, they have been always burned out, gypsies to gas, all the gypsies are bastards, they do not have any place in a society because they are gypsies..." J. V. threatened his daughter with following words: "I am going

to kill you at the earliest opportunity as I already know you have been calling the police on me all the time, you tart.” He shouted at H. V.: “Tell me who called the police or I will do you over and kill you right on the spot.” After the arrival of the police patrol J. V. was still threatening verbally: “When I come back from the police I will finish you all off, you gypsy buggers, I will kill all of you, Gypsies should be burned out, anyway they are only wogs.” P. V. and J. V. junior did not sustain any injuries calling for a medical treatment. H. V. sustained a light contusion of head, concussion, a lacerated wound on the forefinger of the left hand. The injuries claimed hospitalisation from 30 May 2002 to 3 June 2002. On 19 July 2002 a criminal prosecution was initiated against J. V. for crimes according to Sections 221/1, 2b, 198/1a of the Criminal Code committed as a co-offender, and for a crime according to Section 197a according to the Criminal Code. On the same day a criminal prosecution was initiated against D. R. for crimes according to Sections 221/2, 2b, 198/1a of the Criminal Code committed as a co-offender. Filed in the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Beroun (SKPV OOK Beroun) under the file number ČTS:ORBE-431/OOK-2002. The case was concluded by a motion to bring charges.

**Status of court proceedings**

On 30 September 2002 the District Prosecutor’s Office brought a criminal action to the District Court in Beroun. On 13 March 2003 a criminal order was issued under the file number: 2T 108/2002-82. On 26 May 2003 the District Court in Beroun condemned J. V. to 1 year in prison with a 2,5-year probationary period and confiscation of a thing (a gun). D. R. was condemned to 6 months in prison with a 14-month probationary period. The criminal order came into force on 19 October 2002

- 28 July 2002 – Kutná Hora – after a statement “Here live black buggers” and when they had broken a glass door panelling before, M. P., born in 1982, J. O., born in 1985, and M. K., born in 1985, broke and entranced the flat in Čáslavská Street inhabited by the injured persons E. P., born in 1965, L. P., born in 1983, and H. P., born in 1955 who were physically assaulted and verbally insulted (“fucking gypsies”). The injured H. P. was transferred to a medical treatment. According to the medical report she sustained a contusion with a hematoma in the area of the left ilium. On 29 July 2002 a criminal prosecution was initiated against M. P. and the adolescent J. O. for crimes according to Sections 198/1a, 2, 238/1,3 of the Criminal Code. On 30 July 2002 a criminal prosecution was initiated against M. K. for crimes according to Sections 198/1a, 2, 238/1,3 of the Criminal Code. Filed in District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Kutná Hora under the file number ČTS: ORKH-485/OOK-2002. The case was concluded by a motion to bring charges.

**Status of court proceedings**

On 9 December 2002 the District Court in Kutná Hora condemned M. P. in prison for 1 year with a 6-month probationary period. J. O. and M. K. were condemned to 6 months in prison with a year probationary period. The criminal order came into force on 7 January 2003.

- Within the period of 16 August to 19 August 2002 an unknown offender sprayed 3 red swastikas on the inner part of a Jewish cemetery wall in Vlašim, the district of Benešov, after he had climbed the wall of the Jewish cemetery. Under investigation by course of the provision of the Section 158/3 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure for a suspicion of committing a crime according to Section 260/1 of the Criminal Code. Filed in the District Police Department in Vlašim) under the file number: ORBN-256/VL-TČ-2002. Suspended according to Section 159a/4 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure.
- 16 November 2002 – Korycany, the district of Mělník – at 02.30 o’clock a group of young adults damaged glass window panelling of a house in the municipality verbally insulting the Romany inhabitants of the house, the Bílý family, with the words “black buggers”. Further one of the offenders threatened the injured person M. B., born in \*1975, with a gas gun to shoot him down. Based on the investigation of the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Mělník the offenders of the action were designated: the adolescent R. U., born in 1986, M. K., born in 1982, M. K., born in 1978, L. K., born in 1984,

and R. J., born in 1980. On 14 December 2002 a criminal prosecution was initiated against the above-mentioned for criminal acts according to Sections 196/2, 202/1, 257/1, 2b of the Criminal Code. Filed in the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Mělník under the file number ČTS:ORME-792/OOK-2002. On 17 April 2003 a motion to bring to charges was filed.

- 24 November 2002 – Neratovice, the district of Mělník – in the period from 20:15 o'clock to 20:30 o'clock unknown offenders smashed up a car of the Fiat Ritmo brand, assuming that the car belongs to Romany inhabitants. Further in Berta Perunčíková Street, where a Romany family lives, they broke a glass window panelling and at the same time they were shouting "black buggers", "Heil Hitler", "Sieg Heil". Near the scene of the crime the persons R. J., born in 1980, and Z. C., born in 1982, were detained. Their description was corresponding with the description of the offenders. They were not able to prove their identity on the spot. The above-mentioned were brought to the Police Department in Neratovice where they started to smash up the equipment, shouted "Heil Hitler", "Sieg Heil", saluted with their raised right hands. They also shouted that they would "finish off all the gypsies". As they ignored the demands to stop, they were pacified with the help of holds and hold grips. Owing to a significant drunkenness of both of the above-mentioned, they were escorted to a detoxification sobering-up station in Kladno. On 25 November another offender T. N., born in 1986, was detected and at the same time a criminal prosecution was initiated against R. J., C. Z and T. N. for crimes according to Section 9/2 to Section 257/1,2 of the Criminal Code in parallel with a crime according to Section 9/2 to 202/1 of the Criminal Code, further for a crime according to Section 9/2 to Section 196/2 of the Criminal Code and for a crime according to Section 9/2 to Section 261 of the Criminal Code. The accused R. J. and Z. C. are prosecuted for a crime according to Section 9/2 to Section 198/1a of the Criminal Code. The accused are investigated at liberty. Filed in the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Mělník under the file number ČTS:ORME-792/OOK-2002. On 17 April 2003 a motion to bring charges was filed.
- 5 December 2002 – Beroun – in the restaurant of "Zanzibar" the offenders physically assaulted J. B., born in 1964. They knocked the injured J. B. down to the ground and kicked him about. Then they undressed the lower part of the body of the injured J. B. and pushed various unascertained objects in his rectal passage (rectum). Then they also physically assaulted his girl-friend I. Ch., born in 1964. They also undressed her lower part of the body, doused her with alcohol leftovers, threw pepper on her and pushed a leg of a bar stool in her genitals. One of the offenders "heiled" at that time and loudly and repeatedly chanted the Nazi slogans "Sieg Heil" and others, standing erect with his right hand raised and extended. On 9 December 2002 a criminal prosecution was initiated against J. L., born in 1973, who committed an accomplicity with other co-offenders of crimes according to Sections 202/1, 221/1 of the Criminal Code and independently committed a crime according to Section 261 of the Criminal Code. Filed in the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Beroun under the file number ČTS:ORBE-791/OOK-202. The case is still under investigation.

### **South Bohemian Region**

- 17 July 2002 – Kaplice, the district of Český Krumlov – 2 pamphlets saying "Sudeten Was and Will Be Again German" were delivered in a letter by the Czech Post to the city council in Kaplice. Further the text of the pamphlets says that the Czechs seized illegally a part of the borderland and a German property, massacred 271,000 of Germans, drove 3,000,000 of Germans of the land, stole their property and plundered the land of the borderland. Further the text reads that the Germans request a revision of property, restitution and restoration. The letter was sent by an unknown offender from Prague.

- 2 October 2002 – Český Krumlov - 4 pamphlets titled “Dear Inhabitants of Sudetenland” were delivered in a letter by the Czech Post to the Secondary Art School of Saint Agnes. The text of the pamphlets says that the Czechs seized illegally a part of the borderland, stole a German property, and plundered the land of the borderland. The offender requested in the pamphlets a revision of property and restitution. The letter was sent by an unknown offender from Prague.
- 15 October – Kaplice, the district of Český Krumlov – 3 pamphlets titled “Dear Inhabitants of Sudetenland” were delivered in a letter by the Czech Post to the Fantova Primary School. The text of the pamphlets says that the Czechs seized illegally a part of the borderland, stole a German property, and plundered the land of the borderland. The offender requested in the pamphlets a revision of property and restitution. The letter was sent by an unknown offender from Prague.
- 15 October 2002 – Černá v Pošumaví, the district of Český Krumlov – a pamphlet titled “Dear Inhabitants of Sudetenland” was delivered in a letter by the Czech Post to the Primary School. The text of the pamphlet says that the Czechs seized illegally a part of the borderland, stole a German property, and plundered the land of the borderland. The offender requested in the pamphlets a revision of property and restitution. The letter was sent by an unknown offender from Prague.
- 15 October 2002 – Vyšší Brod, the district of Český Krumlov – 3 pamphlets titled “Dear Inhabitants of Sudetenland” were delivered in a letter by the Czech Post to the Primary School in Vyšší Brod. The text of the pamphlets says that the Czechs seized illegally a part of the borderland, stole a German property and plundered the land of the borderland. The offender requested in the pamphlets restitution and a revision of property. A paper was attached to the pamphlets demanding to inform all the pupils of the school about the facts shown in the pamphlets. The paper was signed as “Heimatfront”. The letter was sent by an unknown offender from Prague.
- 15 October 2002 – Dolní Dvořiště, the district of Český Krumlov – 3 pamphlets titled “Dear Inhabitants of Sudetenland” were delivered in a letter by the Czech Post to the Primary School. The text of the pamphlets says that the Czechs seized illegally a part of the borderland, stole a German property, plundered the land in the borderland. The offender requested in the pamphlet restitution and a revision of the property. The letter was sent by an unknown offender from Prague.
- 28 April 2002 – the railway station in Protivín, the district of Písek – at about 12:32 o’clock, at the mentioned station about 30 unknown, mostly masked offenders attacked a train with fans of the football club of SK České Budějovice who were travelling to Pilsen to watch a football match. The offenders were assaulting them with canes and stones and tried to break and enter in the carriage with the fans from České Budějovice. The offenders caused damage to the carriage of about 15.000 CZK. During their assault they also made an attack on a policeman of the police guard accompanying the trains. They caused him an injury that required a sick leave. The investigation ascertained that the train had been attacked by football fans from Klatovy and Brno. Most of the participants were designated. The case is investigated according to Section 158/3 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure for crimes according to Sections 155/1a,b,2a; 202/1 and 257/1 of the Criminal Code and is filed in the Regional Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service of the Southern Bohemian Region in České Budějovice under the file number ČTS: PJC-129/TČ-OK-2002. At present the case is in a phase of initiation of a criminal prosecution.

## West Bohemian Region

- 24 January 2002 – the municipality of Dolní Chabry, the district of Cheb – at about 17:00 o'clock, in the scene of a road traffic accident a police inspector of the Traffic Police of the District Directorate for Road Traffic of Cheb shouted at the crew of a passing through automobile (the Mercedes brand) whose driver was of a Romany nationality: "Off with you, you black fucking gypsy bugger". After a question of the driver, who the insult was addressed to, the police inspector answered: "Well, you are surely a black gypsy, aren't you?" Based on a motion of the police body of the Supervision Department of the Ministry of Interior, the state prosecutor of the District Public Prosecutor's Office in Pilsen-city initiated a criminal prosecution against the police inspector for a crime of defamation of nation, race and conviction according to Section 198/1a of the Criminal Code.

## North Bohemian Region

- 30 March 2002 – Hodkovice nad Mohelkou, the district of Liberec – at about 16:00 o'clock, on a road to Turnov, near Hodkovice nad Mohelkou, a bus was blocked. The bus was transporting football players of Sparta Praha football club from a football match held before in Jablonec nad Nisou. The bus was blocked by a total of eight vehicles. The crews of the mentioned cars began to throw various objects at the bus. A damage of about 100.000 CZK was caused to the bus by the action of the car crews. The case is investigated in co-operation with OBOZ Management of the Capital of Prague for a suspicion of a crime of a harm done to a thing of another according to Section 257a/4 of the Criminal Code. Filed in the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Liberec under the file number ORLI-765/SKPV-I-2002. The present status: Section 159a/4 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, on 31 July 2002.
- 5 October 2002 – Liberec – at about 05:00 o'clock in the Merkur restaurant, in front of the entrance to a Meeting klub discotheque in Vrchlického Street, supporters of the skinhead movement physically assaulted two dark-skinned men: D. K., born in 1971, the citizen of Libya, resided in the Czech Republic (Jablonec nad Nisou), and J. M. M., born in 1964, the citizen of Congo, resided in the Czech Republic (Jablonec nad Nisou). As offenders were designated F. F., born in 1983, P. M., born in 1982, both resided in Stráž pod Ralskem, and R. S., born in 1976, resided in Germany. The above mentioned were notified with the accusation of a crime of a breach of the public peace according to Section 202/1 of the Criminal Code, and of a crime of violence against a group of persons and against an individual according to Section 196/2 of the Criminal Code. F. F. was further notified with an accusation of a crime of a bodily harm according to Section 221/1 of the Criminal Code. Filed in the District Department of Investigation of the District Police Directorate of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Liberec under the file number ČTS: ORLI-1874/SKPV-I-2002. The case is still under investigation. A motion to bring charges had been filed which however was referred back on 28 March 2002 by the state prosecutor for an additional investigation.
- 31 March 2002 – Litoměřice – at about 01:00 o'clock, in the Družba restaurant, in a gaming room of the Billiard Club on the first floor, in Pokratická Street, two black-skinned men, J. M., born in \*1977, a citizen of Congo (an applicant for a political asylum), and F. M., born in 1963, a Czech citizen and a native of Congo, resided in the Czech Republic, Prague, were assaulted by supporters of the skinhead movement. In the case, M. H., born in 1978, A. Z., born in 1978, and P. P., born in 1983, were notified with accusation of crimes according to Sections 202/1, 221/1, and 196/2 of the Criminal Code. The case has been submitted by the local branch of the Police of the Czech Republic under the filed number ČTS:ORLT-368/OOK-2002 to the District Public Prosecutor's Office in Litoměřice with a motion to bring charges. The motion to bring charges was filed on 1 October 2002.

**Status of court proceedings**

On 10 June 2003 a criminal action was brought against A. Z., T. B., L. H. and P. P. for crimes according to Section 202/1 of the Criminal Code. The accused A. Z. was also charged with the crime according to Section 196/2 of the Criminal Code.

- 3 June 2002 – České Zlatníky, the district of Most – R. N., born in 1982, was physically assaulted and insulted (“shut up, you black monkey”). As an offender was designated Z. T., born in 1977, who was notified with an accusation of a crime according to Section 202/1 and 8/1 to 221/1 of the Criminal Code, on 20 May 2002. The case was investigated under the file number ČTS: PSV-752/KPV-OK-2002. On 11 October 2002 a motion to bring charges was filed.

**Status of court proceedings**

On 22 January 2003 the District Court in Most condemned the accused Z. T. to 400 hours of community service. The decision came into force on the same day.

- 7 September 2002 – Most – at 16:30 o'clock K. J., born in 1986, and T. D., born in 1987, were at first insulted (“black buggers, niggers” etc.) and then also physically assaulted by supporters of the skinhead movement who punched them and kicked them. The attack was intended as a physical and verbal abuse of Romany persons by the skinheads. As offenders were designated K. L., born in 1986, K. P., born in 1983, H. P., born in 1984, and P. M., born in 1984, and on 7 December 2002 they were notified with an accusation of crimes according to Sections 198/1a, 202/1, 221/1,2b of the Criminal Code. The case was concluded by a motion to bring charges.

**Status of court proceedings**

On 14 February 2002 an action was brought to the District Court of Most. The case has not been concluded upon a final judgment yet.

**East Bohemian Region**

- 7 March 2002 – Pardubice – at about 21:00 o'clock in a Chinese restaurant in Smilova Street, after consumption of spirits and in the presence of another three persons, a member of the Police of the Czech Republic, J. P., born in 1970, insulted with vulgar expressions the present guests, the Japanese citizens, for their racial affiliation considering them to be of Vietnamese origin. He hindered physically one of the injured persons in leaving the restaurant so that he had pushed the injured person's leg to the wall with a chair. After in the presence of another at least four persons he insulted grossly a waitress and the owner of the restaurant, the Chinese citizens, for their racial affiliation assaulting physically the owner of the restaurant as well, so that he grabbed the injured person's neck, tore up his shirt and threatened him verbally. On 17 May 2002 the District Police Directorate in Pardubice (ORP in Pardubice) initiated a criminal prosecution under the file number: ORPA/1/IS/PŘ-2002 for a crime of defamation of nation, race and belief according to Section 198/1a of the Criminal Code and for a crime of a breach of the public peace according to Section 202/1 of the Criminal Code. The case is under investigation in the Regional Public Prosecutor's Office in Hradec Králové and in the inspection of the Minister of the Interior in Pardubice under the file number: IN-12/16-TR-02.

**Status of court proceedings**

On 4 July 2002 (KSZ) the Regional Public Prosecutor's Office brought an action against J. P. On 30 July 2002 the District Court in Pardubice condemned J. P. to 6 months in prison with a 2-year probationary period. The criminal order came into force on 28 August 2002.

**South Moravian Region**

- 21 September 2002 – Břeclav – at about 18:00 o'clock in the Rio restaurant Romany offenders J. D., born in 1983, Z. D., born in 1976, and O. D., born in 1972 at first insulted the injured persons M. O., born in 1964, and M. T., born in 1959, with expressions like “you pooves”, “you white bastards, we'll show you!”, “you white buggers”, “you won't finish your beer!”,

and then they assaulted them also physically. The injured M. O. sustained a serious injury of his left eye with a presumption of irreversible sequelae in a form of either irreversible damage or significantly reduced function of the eye. Investigated by the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service in Břeclav under the file number ČTS:ORB-953/KPV-00K-2002 for crimes of a bodily harm according to Section 222/1,2b of the Criminal Code, a violence against a group of persons and against an individual according to Section 196/2, 3 of the Criminal Code, and a breach of the public peace according to Section 202/1 of the Criminal Code. On 13 December 2002 a motion to bring charges was filed.

#### **Status of court proceedings**

On 19 December 2002 a criminal action was brought. The district court in Břeclav has not concluded yet the case upon a final judgment. The last trial has been ordered on 19 June 2003.

### **North Moravian Region**

- 31 January 2002 – 23 March 2002 – Ostrava – in co-operation with employees of the Police of the Czech Republic in North Moravian Region in Ostrava, an organized group of persons, the so called “darkers” operating in the district of Opava, was disclosed. The darkers caused damages to high-voltage systems of the distribution network of the injured Severomoravská energetika, a. s. (North Moravian Power Engineering, Joint-Stock Company), in Ostrava. Further they caused damages to public payphones and illegally called and surfed on internet through phone switching stations of physical persons (switching stations at family houses of the injured persons) – the injured owner was the Czech Telecom a. s. The darkers’ attacks were carried out on 31 January 2002, 8 March 2002, 22 March 2002, and 23 March 2003. In consequence a common procedure was organized involving the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service of the Police of the Czech Republic of the North Bohemian Region in Ostrava – the District Department of Criminal and Investigation Police Service of the District Directorate in Opava, in co-operation with the office of Central Criminal and Investigation Police Service of the Police of the Czech Republic in Prague, of the District Departments of Criminal and Investigation Police of the North Bohemian Region, the Central Bohemian Region and the South Bohemian Region. In the period from 8 November 2002 to 16 December 2002 the suspected persons P. K., born in 1983, and J. B., born in 1983, were notified with an accusation of a crime of endangering the safety of the public according to Section 179/1,2a of the Criminal Code. In consequence during the investigation another suspected persons O. B., born in 1984, and P. C., born in 1982, were notified with an accusation of a crime of damaging and endangering the operation of generally expedient utilities according to Section 182/1c, 2a of the Criminal Code, and further P. R., born in 1983, was notified with an accusation of a crime of favouritism according to Section 166/1 of the Criminal Code. Investigated by OOK PČR SKPVS of the North Moravian Region in Ostrava under the file number PSM-38/OOK-2002, for crimes according to Sections 179/1, 2a, 182/1c, 2a, 166/1 of the Criminal Code. The case is still under investigation.

**The Number of Crimes with an Extremist Context  
and Their Proportion in the Nation-wide Crimes  
of This Kind**

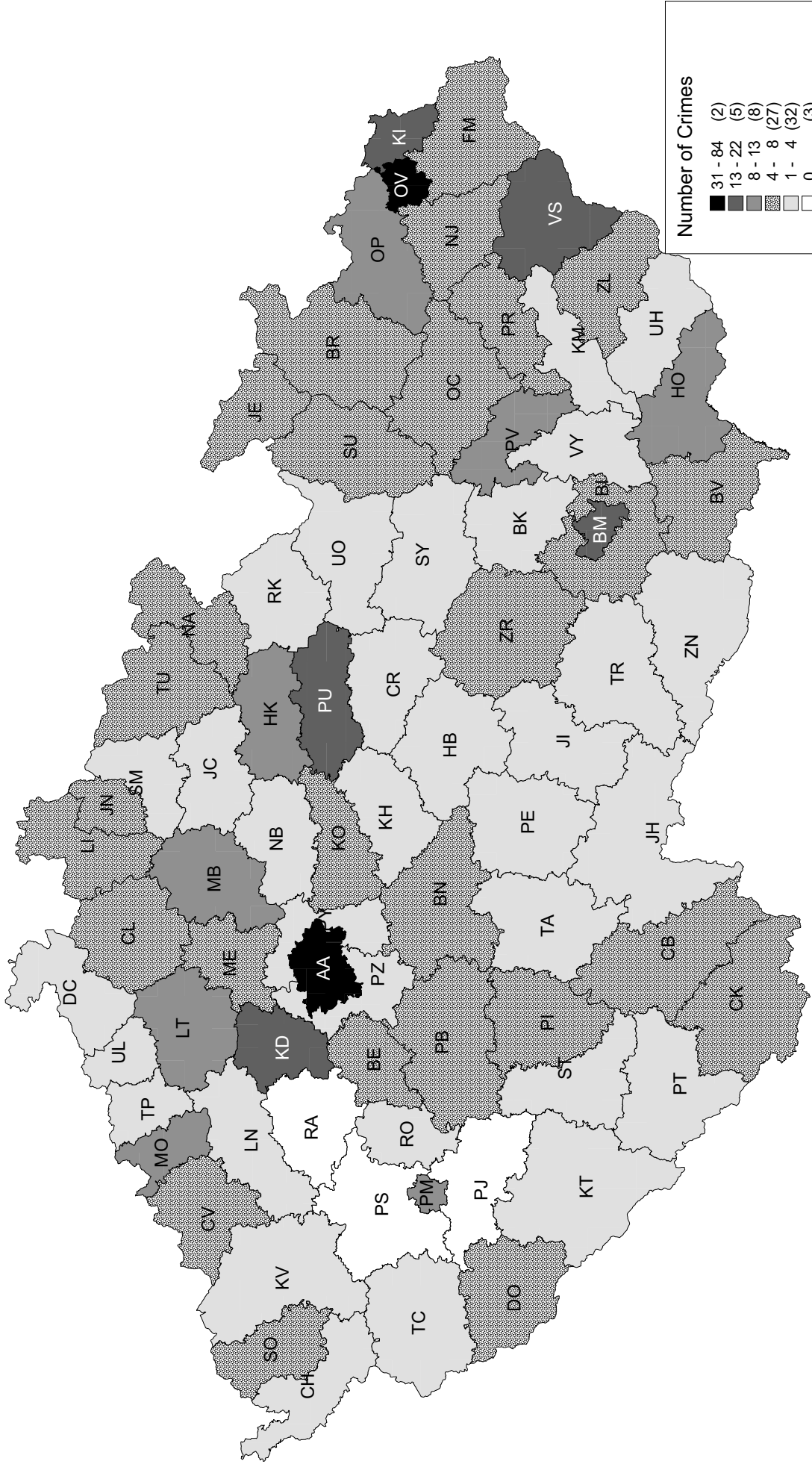
Year		2002		2001		Factual change
	District	No. of crimes	% of total cr.	No. of crimes	% of total cr.	
	Prague	84	17,8	79	17,5	5
<b>Central Bohemia</b>	Benesov	6	1,3	5	1,1	1
	Beroun	4	0,8	6	1,3	-2
	Kladno	18	3,8	11	2,4	7
	Kolin	5	1,1	1	0,2	4
	Kutna Hora	1	0,2	1	0,2	0
	Melnik	5	1,1	12	2,7	-7
	Mlada Boleslav	3	0,6	3	0,7	0
	Nymburk	3	0,6	6	1,3	-3
	Prague -East	2	0,4	5	1,1	-3
	Prague -West	1	0,2	1	0,2	0
	Pribram	7	1,5	9	2,0	-2
	Rakovnik	0	0,0	5	1,1	-5
<b>South Bohemia</b>	Ceske Budejovice	4	0,8	5	1,1	-1
	Cesky Krumlov	4	0,8	0	0	4
	Jindrichuv Hradec	3	0,6	3	0,7	0
	Pelhrimov	1	0,2	0	0	1
	Pisek	4	0,8	0	0,0	4
	Prachatice	3	0,6	0	0,0	3
	Strakonice	2	0,4	1	0,2	1
	Tabor	1	0,2	7	1,5	-6
<b>West Bohemia</b>	Domazlice	6	1,3	0	0,0	6
	Cheb	3	0,6	3	0,7	0
	Karlovy Vary	3	0,6	3	0,7	0
	Klatovy	1	0,2	3	0,7	-2
	Pilsen - City	11	2,3	6	1,3	5
	Pilsen - South	0	0,0	0	0	0
	Pilsen - North	0	0,0	0	0,0	0
	Rokycany	2	0,4	4	0,9	-2
	Sokolov	4	0,8	1	0,2	3
	Tachov	2	0,4	0	0,0	2
<b>North Bohemia</b>	ceska Lipa	6	1,3	7	1,5	-1
	Decin	2	0,4	5	1,1	-3
	Chomutov	4	0,8	3	0,7	1
	Jablonec n. Nisou	4	0,8	5	1,1	-1
	Liberec	7	1,5	4	0,9	3
	Litomerice	11	2,3	1	0,2	10
	Louny	2	0,4	11	2,4	-9
	Most	12	2,5	12	2,7	0
	Teplice	3	0,6	10	2,2	-7
	Usti n. Labem	2	0,4	3	0,7	-1



**The Number of Crimes with an Extremist Context  
and Their Proportion in the Nation-wide Crimes  
of This Kind**

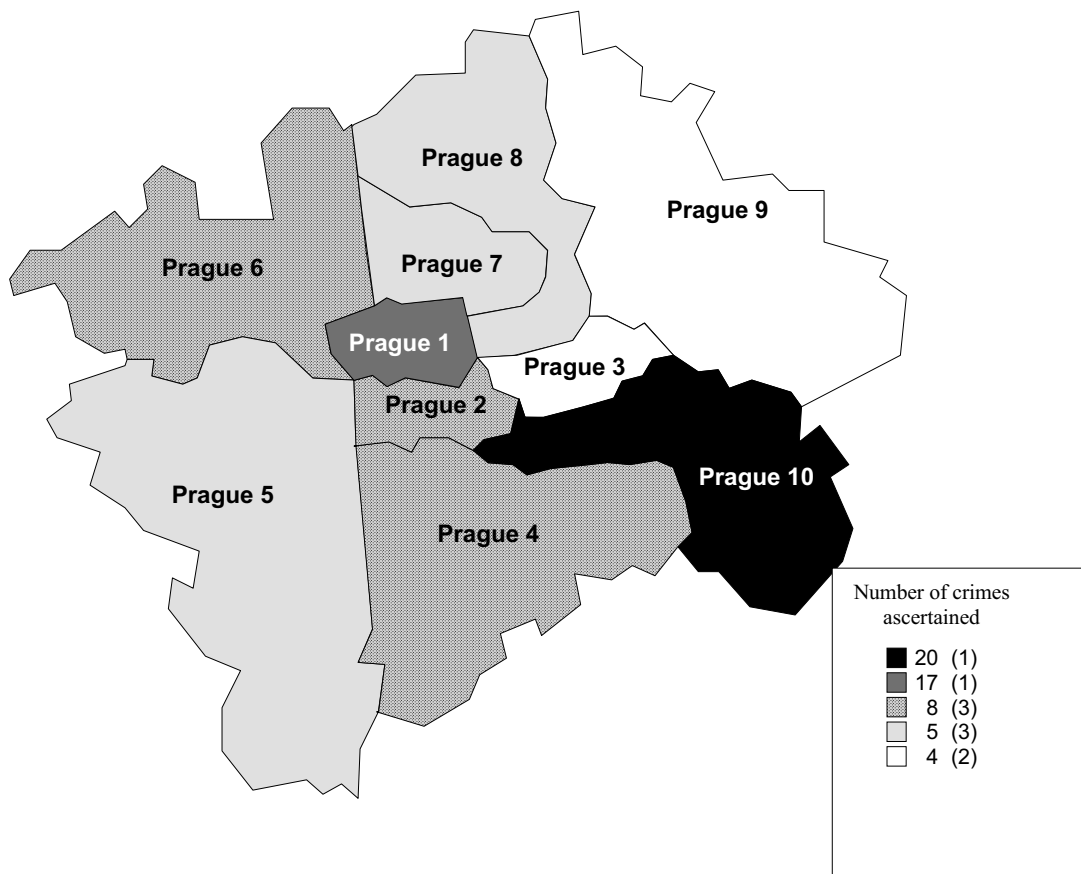
Year		2002		2001		Factual change
	District	No. of crimes	% of total cr.	No.of crimes	% of total cr.	
<b>East Bohemia</b>	Havlickuv Brod	2	0	0	0,0	2
	Hradec Kralove	11	2,3	3	0,7	8
	Chrudim	2	0,4	0	0,0	2
	Jicin	2	0,4	2	0,4	0
	Nachod	7	1,5	6	1,3	1
	Pardubice	15	3,2	8	1,8	7
	Rychnov n. Kneznou	1	0,2	1	0,2	0
	Semily	3	0,6	0	0,0	3
	Svitavy	1	0,2	1	0,2	0
	Trutnov	5	1,1	12	2,7	-7
	Ústi n. Orlici	2	0,4	0	0,0	2
<b>South Moravia</b>	Blansko	2	0,4	1	0,2	1
	Brno - mesto	21	4,4	15	3,3	6
	Brno - venkov	4	0,8	0	0,0	4
	Breclav	6	1,3	0	0	6
	Hodonin	9	1,9	11	2,4	-2
	Jihlava	2	0,4	3	1	-1
	Kromeriz	1	0,2	4	0,9	-3
	Prostejov	8	1,7	3	0,7	5
	Trebic	1	0,2	1	0	0
	Uherske Hradiste	1	0,2	0	0	1
	Vyskov	1	0,2	2	0	-1
	Zlin	5	1,1	4	0,9	1
	Znojmo	2	0,4	2	0,4	0
	Zdar n. Sazavou	7	1,5	4	0,9	3
<b>North Moravia</b>	Bruntal	5	1,1	9	2,0	-4
	Frydek - Mistek	5	1,1	7	1,5	-2
	Jesenik	5	1,1	2	0,4	3
	Karvina	20	4,2	22	4,9	-2
	Novy Jicin	4	0,8	11	2,4	-7
	Olomouc	4	0,8	11	2,4	-7
	Opava	8	1,7	12	2,7	-4
	Ostrava	31	6,6	37	8,2	-6
	Prerov	6	1,3	10	2,2	-4
	Sumperk	5	1,1	3	0,7	2
	Vsetin	13	2,7	4	0,9	9
<b>The Czech Republic - total</b>		<b>473</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>21</b>

### Racially Motivated Crimes or Other Crimes With an Extremist Context Detected in the Czech Republic in 2002

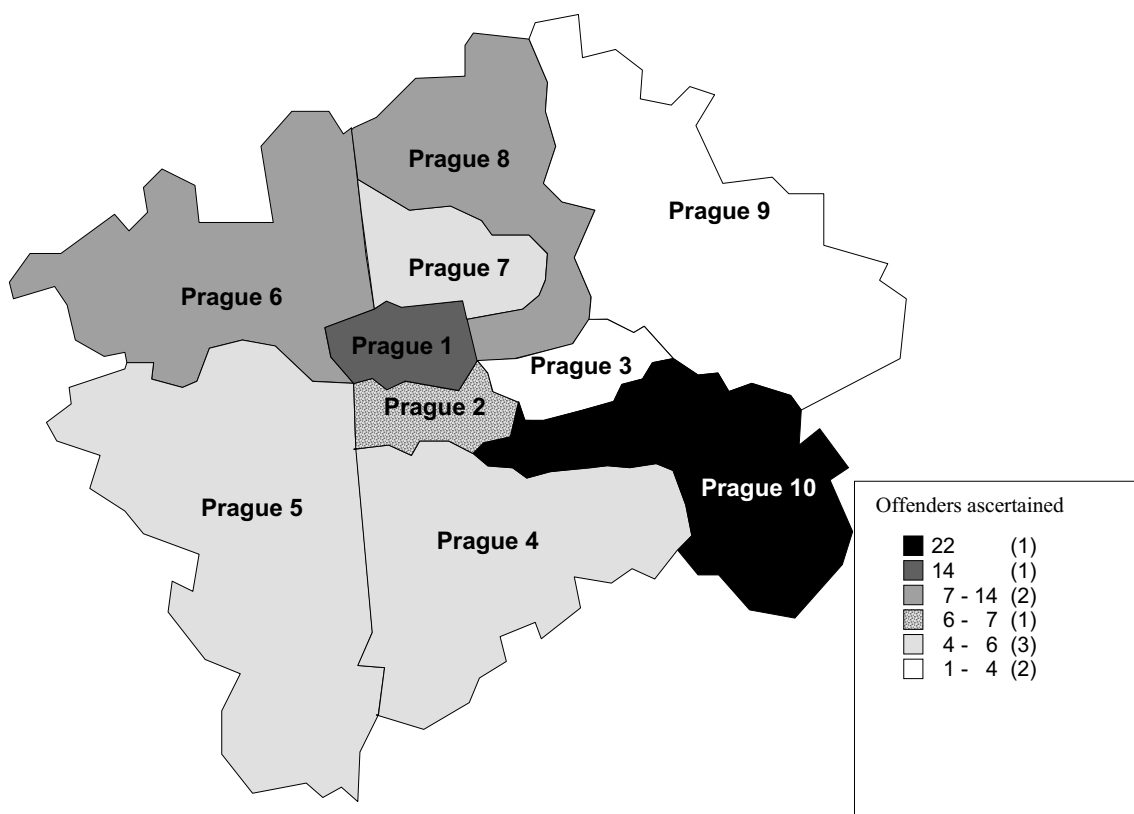




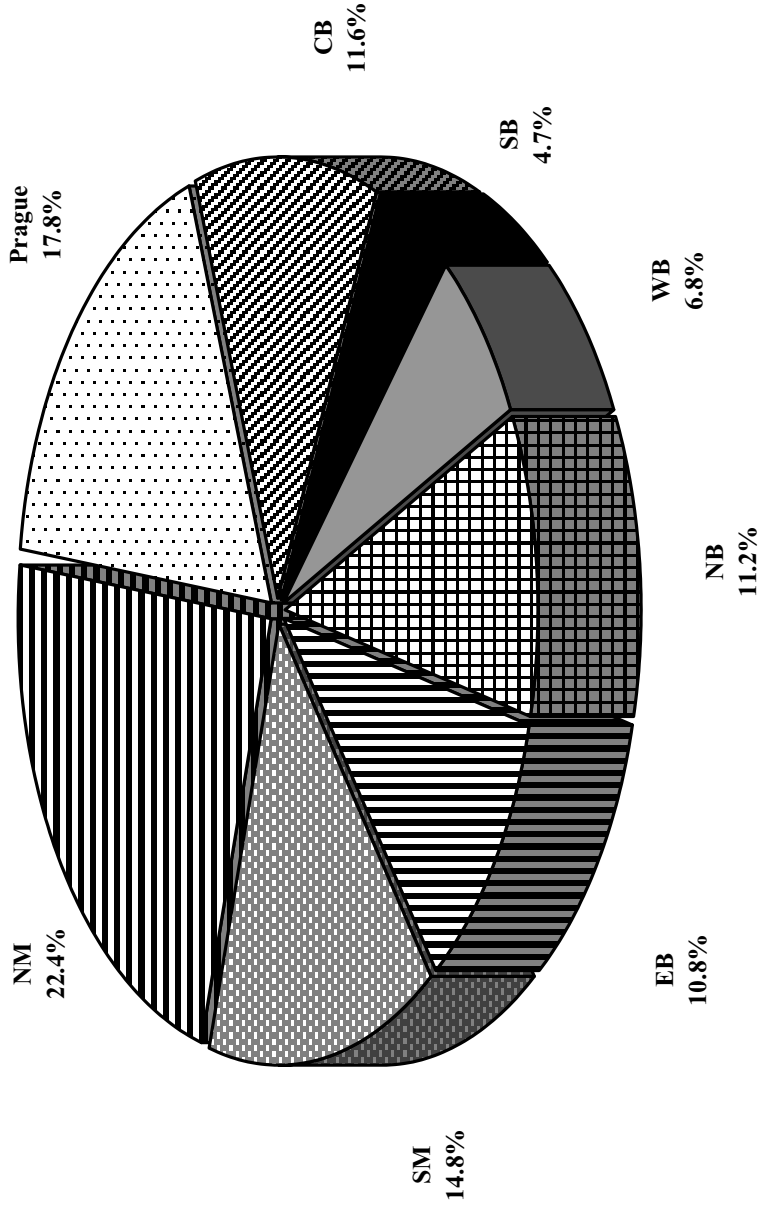
### Detected Crimes with an Extremist Context in Prague in 2002



### Detected Offenders of Crimes with an Extremist Context in Prague in 2002

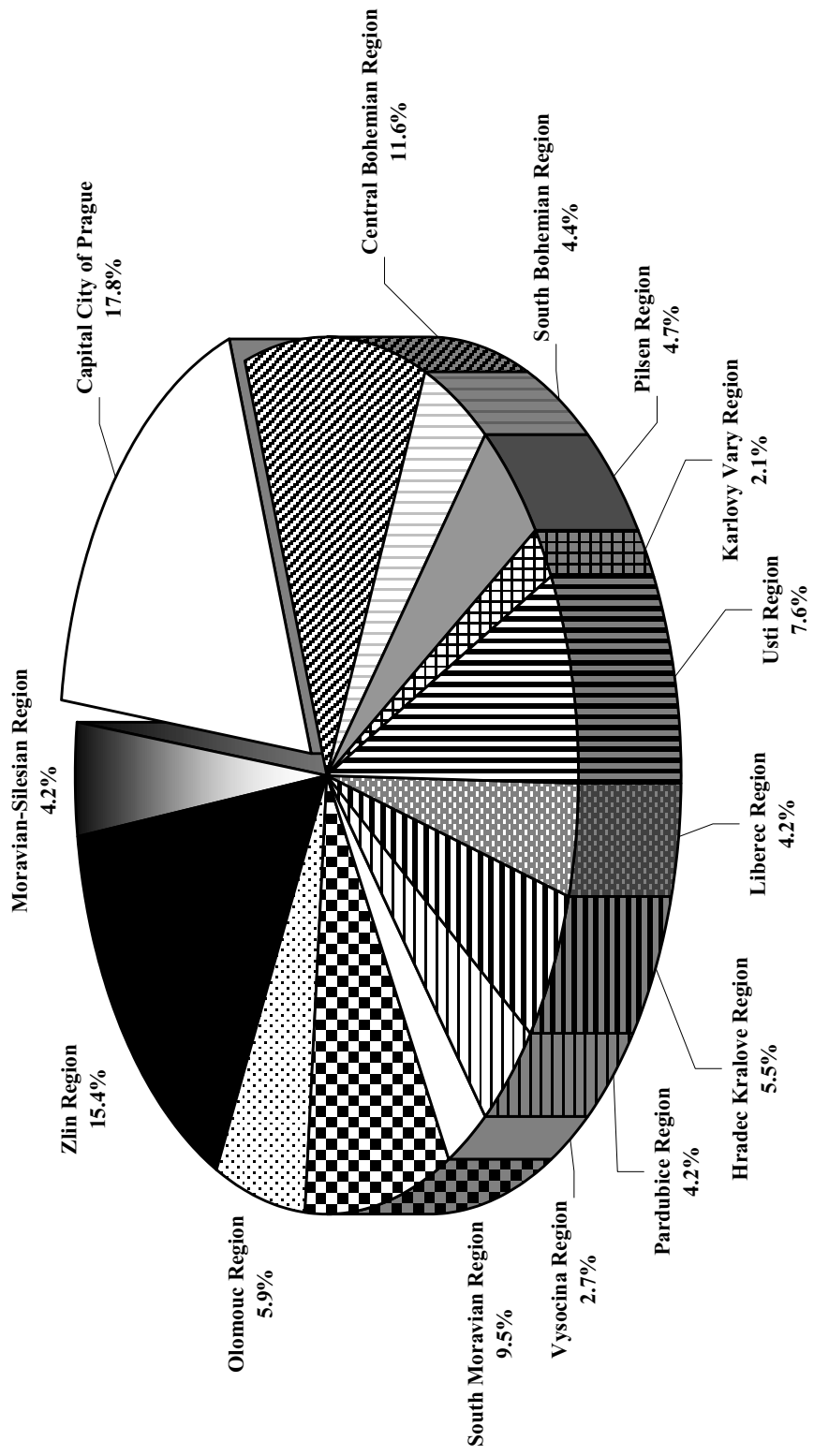


**Proportion of Individual Regions in Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2002**



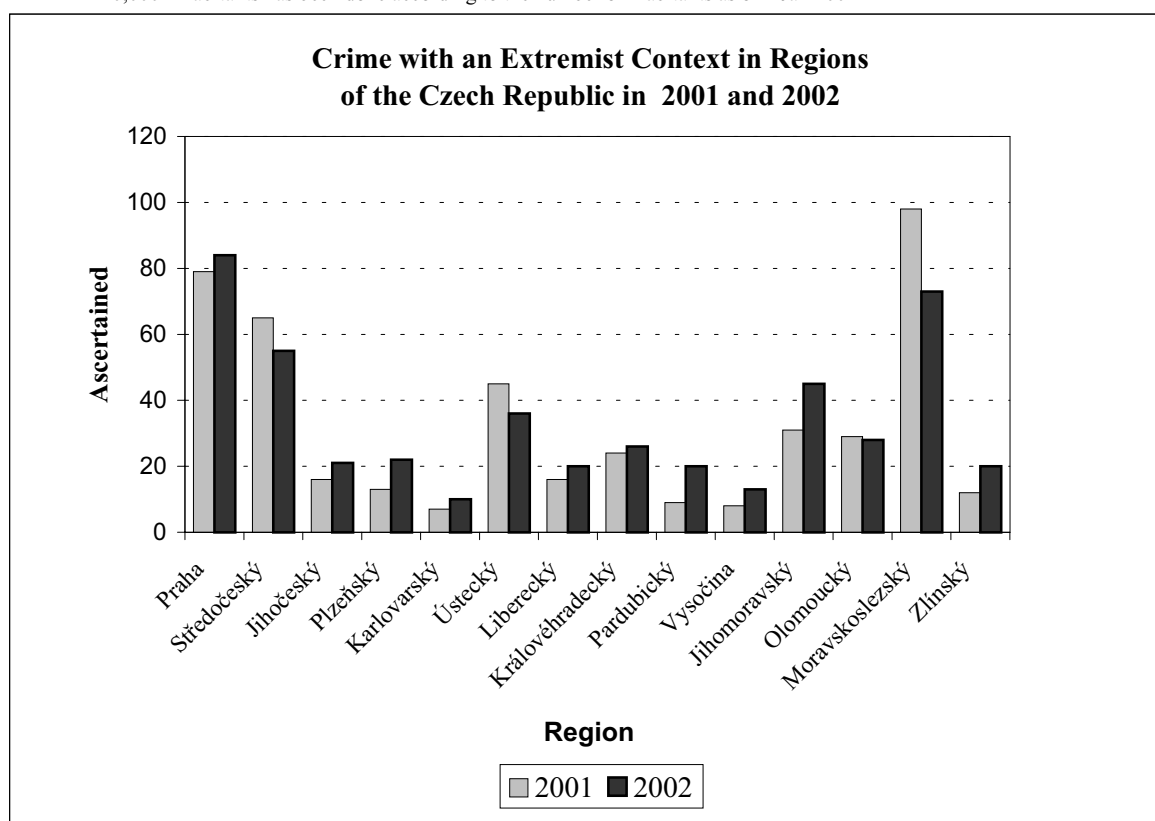
Total: 473

**Proportion of Individual Regions (HTSGU) in Crimes With an Extremist Context Ascertained in the Czech Republic in 2002**



<b>Crime with an Extremist Context in the Regions (HTDGU*) of the Czech Republic in 2001</b>			
<b>Regions</b>	<b>Crimes ascertained</b>	<b>% of the total crimes</b>	<b>crime / 10,000 inhab.</b>
<b>Prague</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>17,8</b>	<b>0,72</b>
<b>Central Bohemian Region</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>11,6</b>	<b>0,49</b>
<b>South Bohemian Region</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4,4</b>	<b>0,33</b>
<b>Pilsen Region</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4,7</b>	<b>0,40</b>
<b>Karlovy Vary Region</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>0,33</b>
<b>Usti Region</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>7,6</b>	<b>0,44</b>
<b>Liberec Region</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4,2</b>	<b>0,47</b>
<b>Hradec Kralove Region</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5,5</b>	<b>0,47</b>
<b>Pradubice Region</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4,2</b>	<b>0,39</b>
<b>Vysocina Region</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>0,25</b>
<b>South Moravian Region</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>9,5</b>	<b>0,40</b>
<b>Olomouc Region</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5,9</b>	<b>0,44</b>
<b>Moravian-Silesian Region</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>15,4</b>	<b>0,57</b>
<b>Zlin Region</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4,2</b>	<b>0,34</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>0,46</b>

Note: \* pursuant to Act No. 347/1997 on Establishment of Higher Territorial Self-Governing Units (Regions) and pursuant to Act No.176/2001. The calculation of crime per 10,000 inhabitants has been done according to the number of inhabitants as of 1 Jan 2001

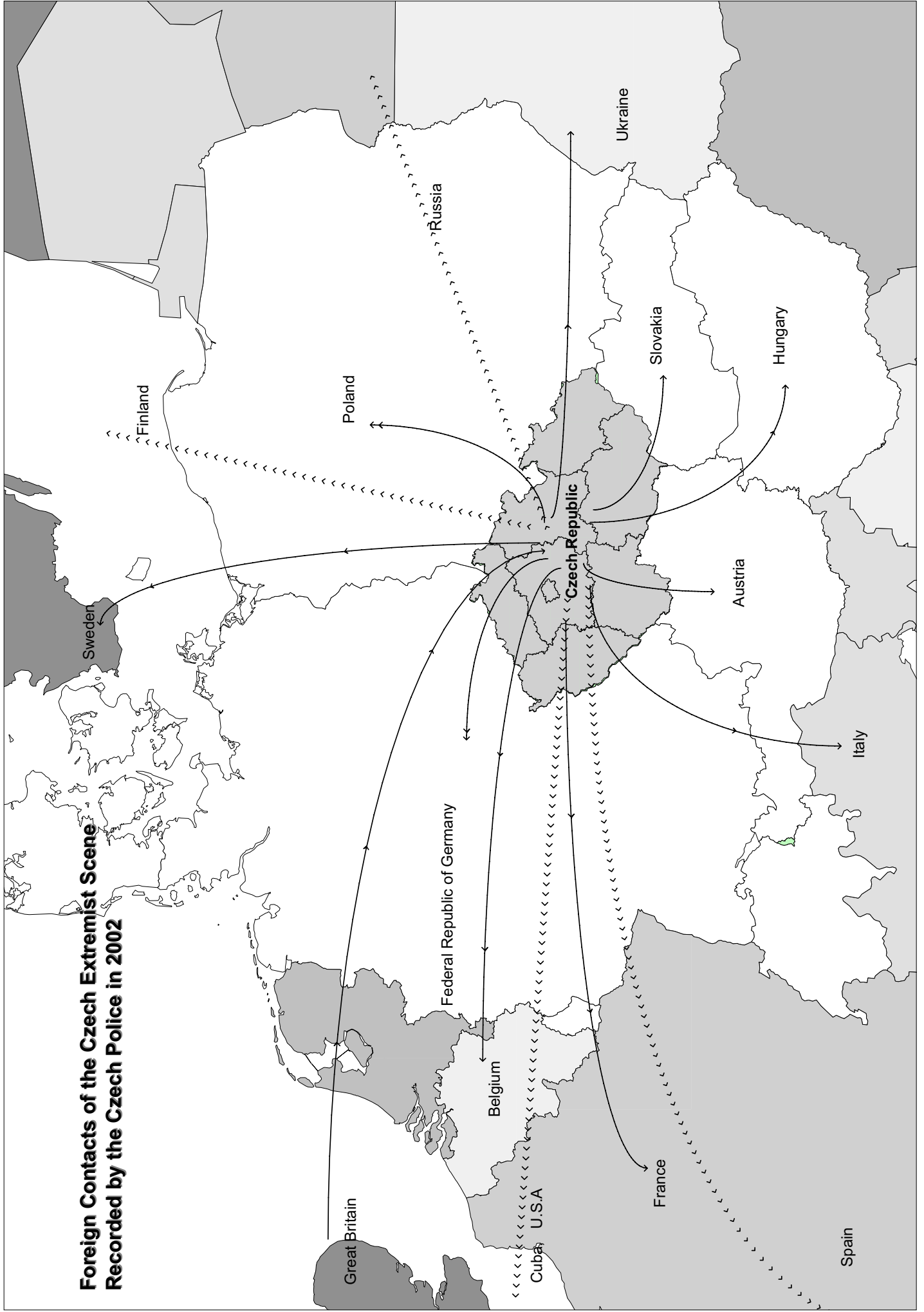








**Foreign Contacts of the Czech Extremist Scene  
Recorded by the Czech Police in 2002**



**Annex no.11**

**An Overview of Imposed Sentences of Community Service upon Offenders of Criminal Offences Having an Extremist Context (from 1 January until December 2002)**

<b>Centre of Probationary and Mediation Service (PMS)</b>	<b>Sentenced under Section(s) of the CC</b>	<b>No. of hours/ sentence to community service</b>	<b>The place of sentence performance</b>	<b>Current situation</b>
Prague 10	Sec. 260/1	300	Under negotiations	
Prague 10	Sec. 257,Sec. 202	400	Under negotiations	
Prague-East	Sec. 198	400	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Beroun	Sec. 257, Sec. 202	400	Under negotiations	
Benesov	Sec. 198	400	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Melnik	Sec. 198	400	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Kolin	Sec. 198	400	Municipal Council	Sentence is not being served*
Kolin	Sec. 261	400	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Kladno	Sec. 198	400	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Klatovy	Sec. 261	300	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Sokolov	Sec. 198/1a	180	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Sokolov	Sec. 199	350	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Nachod	Sec. 196/2	400	Municipal Council	Changed into imprisonment
Pardubice	Sec. 198/1a	80	Municipal Council	Served
Pardubice	Sec. 261	350	Municipal Council	Sentence is being served
Trutnov	Sec. 260/1	150	Under negotiations	
Novy Jicin	Sec. 197a	180	Municipality	Sentence is being served
Novy Jicin	Sec. 197a	400	Municipality	Sentence is not being served*
Ostrava	Sec. 197a	250	Trade, industry, service	Sentence is being served
Opava	Sec. 261	200	Municipality	Sentence is not being served*
Opava	Sec. 261	200	Municipality	Sentence is not

				being served*
Opava	Sec. 196	120	Municipality	Sentence is not being served*
Opava	Sec. 196	200	Municipality	Changed into imprisonment
Brno	Sec. 261	130	Municipality	Sentence is not being served*
Brno	Sec. 260	110	Municipality	Sentence is not being served*
Brno	Sec. 202	80	Municipality	Sentence is being served
Kromeriz	Sec. 197	150	Municipality	Died
Louny	Sec. 202/1	100	Trade, industry, service	Sentence is being served

**Key**

\* - these cases are under negotiations

## Analysis

### **“Overview of Cases Comprising the Suspicion of Criminal Offences or Misdemeanors of an Extremist Context, Including Cases Motivated by Racial or National Intolerance, or Committed by Supporters of Extremist Groups Regardless of Their Final Criminal Classification”**

**(for the period commencing on 1 January 2002 and ending on 31 December 2002)**

**The overview has been drawn up in cooperation with the police Presidium of the Czech Republic, the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, and the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic.**

This annex is a follow-up to the overviews attached to the reports approved by Government Resolution Nos. 192/1998, 720/1999, 684/2000, 903/201, and 715/2002 (since this Resolution the submitted overview along with a full text of the Report on the Issue of Extremism has been published on the web-sites of the Czech Ministry of the Interior) which reports contained cases registered by the police of the Czech Republic (hereinafter “the Czech police”) from 1 January 1996 until 30 June 1997, from 1 January 1997 until 31 December 1998, from 1 January 1999 until 31 December 1999 and from 1 January 2000 until 31 December 2000, and from 1 January 2001 until 31 December 2001. The overview contains cases where the suspicion of committing criminal offences or misdemeanours with an “extremist context” existed, including cases motivated by racial or national intolerance, or committed by supporters of extremist groups. The 2002 Report contains the overview of cases occurring in 2001, cases listed in the 2000 overview updated according to the progress of the investigation carried out in 2001, and cases investigated in the year 2002 but occurring in the previous period.

The purpose of the overview is to document in particular the cases of the so- called “extremist criminality” comprehensively, and among other things, to open a discussion about its correct definition. Simultaneously, the overview should allow the public to get an objective picture of the methods on the basis of which the relevant authorities solve such criminal offences within the valid system of law. The databases of the police Presidium of the Czech Republic, which are based on reporting commitment and contain individual cases registered by the Czech police in 2002, were used for the preparation of the overview. In the overview, these cases are divided into crimes, misdemeanours (misdemeanours which remain under investigation by the Czech police, and offences referred to municipal authorities for their resolution), and cases where the commission of criminal offences has not been proven.

The presented overview includes cases with an extremist context recorded by the Czech police in the Czech Republic in 2002, and introduces cases with an extremist context which were dealt by the Czech police within the period from 1 January 2002 until 31 December 2002 regardless of their final criminal classification, which information is not comparable with the statistical data of the official criminal statistics which, on the contrary, contain only such crimes, which, after investigation, have been finally classified by the Czech police as criminal ones.

This overview is drawn up in co-operation with the police Presidium of the Czech Republic, the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, and the Ministry of the Interior. Criminal activities within the sphere of fans’ violence and sprayers’ acts without an extremist context have not been included.

In 2002, the Czech police recorded a total of 544 cases of an extremist context in the Czech Republic, which is an increase of 10 cases compared to 2001. This total number includes 419 criminal offences, 34 misdemeanours, 80 misdemeanours to be considered by municipal councils, and 11 cases where criminal activities have not been proven, i.e., mostly acts which never happened and have been

fabricated by informers. It should be added that the aforementioned records include also - 26 closed cases, which occurred before the year 2002 but were however solved in 2002.

The largest number of crimes was registered, as in the previous year, in the North Moravian Region - 102, (which compared to 2001 is an decrease of 18) and the South Moravian region - 67. A considerable decline was seen in Prague - 56, which is by 30 cases less than in 2001. The same numbers - 56 criminal offences - are reported from the North Bohemian Region and the East Bohemian Region (in the latter one there was an inc increase of 19 case compared to 2001). The lowest number of criminal offences was registered, as in all previous years monitored, in the South Bohemian Region - 15. With regards to misdemeanours, the largest number was recorded, as in the previous year, in the North Bohemian Region - 36, followed by the North Moravian regions - 28, while the lowest number of misdemeanours is reported from the Central Bohemian Region - 3.

### **Composition of Offenders Committing Criminal Offences with an Extremist Context**

The total number of registered offenders committing criminal offences with an extremist context in 2002 reached 686, of which 185 were designated as unknown offenders, and 64 offenders were designated by the Czech police as supporters of the skinhead movement, and 437 were specified as other offenders without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum. In comparison with the previous year there was a visible increase of unknown offenders - 90 persons, detrimental to offenders which were specified by the Czech police as skinhead movement supporters where a decline by 94 is reported.

#### Verbal Assaults

A total of 114 offenders committed verbal assaults. 88 Czech citizens assaulted another Czech person, of which 84 individuals (73 - men, 11 - women) were without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum, and 4 were supporters of the skinhead movement. In addition, 4 offenders (3 men and 1 women), without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum, attacked one foreign national, while 2 foreigners assaulted Czech citizens. 20 offenders (16 of them were designated as skinhead movement supporters) whose victims were Czech citizens have remained unknown.

#### Physical Assaults

A total of 319 offenders committed physical assaults. 204 Czech citizens assaulted another Czech person, of which 172 (161 men and 11 women) were without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum, and 32 men - skinhead movement supporters. In addition, 8 Czech citizens (7 men and 1 woman) without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum attacked foreign nationals, while one foreigner assaulted Czech citizens and two foreigners - skinhead movement supporters targeted foreign nationals. Of the total number of 88 unknown assailants 86 attacked Czech nationals and two attacked foreign nationals.

#### Sprayers and Similar Offenders

18 of 27 sprayers were unknown offenders and nine Czech nationals without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum. In addition to the above-mentioned sprayers, 36 persons were specified as offenders propagating movements aimed were unknown offenders and 15 (13 men and 2 women) were Czech nationals without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum.

#### Propagation of Movements Aimed At Suppressing Human Rights and Freedoms by Means of CD's.

In 2002, the police recorded 2 offenders, (1 men and 1 woman), foreign nationals, who were selling or distributing CD's containing records promoting racial, national, and other hatred.

#### Verbal Promotion of Movements Aimed At Suppressing Human Rights and Freedoms

A total of 91 offenders verbally promoted movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms, of which 82 were Czech citizens (79 men and 3 women) without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum, 3 skinhead movement supporters, 3 foreigners

without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum, and 3 offenders have remained unknown.

*Cloth Badges, Tattoos and Other Symbols of Movements Aimed at Suppressing Human Rights and Freedoms*

Cloth badges, tattoos and other symbols of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms were found on 38 offenders, of which 32 men were Czech nationals without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum, 5 supporters of the skinhead movement and 1 foreigner without evident signs of being supporters of the right-wing extremist spectrum.

*Criminal Activities Committed Through the Use of Printed Materials*

57 offenders committed criminal activities using printed materials, of which 21 were Czech citizens (19 men and 2 women), 1 offender was a foreigner and 35 offenders have remained unknown.

With regards to the composition of criminal offenders committing crimes with an extremist context it should be noted that the aforementioned categories are mutually linked and individual figures cannot be considered as absolute numbers. Therefore it is not possible to state that 151 offenders committed verbal assaults since verbal assaults are always accompanied by a physical attack and in many cases a verbal attack involves the propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms. Numbers of skinhead movement supporters should be assessed in the same way since they can be evaluated only according to their external signs.

## **Key to Criminal Offences According to the Sections of the Criminal Code**

Sec. 152 Infringement of Copyright, Rights Related to Copyright, and Rights to Database

Sec. 155, 156 Assaults on Public Officials

Sec. 174 False Accusation

Sec. 196, 197a Violence Against a Group of People or an Individual

Sec. 198 Defamation of Nation, Race and Conviction

Sec. 198a Incitement to National and Racial Hatred Against a Group of People or the Elimination of Their Rights and Freedoms

Sec. 199 Spreading Alarming News

Sec. 202 Hooliganism

Sec. 219 Murder

Sec. 221, 222 Injury to Health

Sec. 234 Robbery

Sec. 235 Extortion

Sec. 236 Restriction of the Freedom of Religious Worship

Sec. 238 Violation of Domestic Freedom

Sec. 257 Damaging Another's Property

Sec. 260, 261, 261a Support and Propagation of Movements Aimed at Suppressing Human Rights and Freedoms



## KEY TO THE MAPS

REGION	ABBREV.	DISTRICT
Central Bohemia	<b>BN</b>	Benesov
	<b>BE</b>	Beroun
	<b>KD</b>	Kladno
	<b>KO</b>	Kolin
	<b>KH</b>	Kutna Hora
	<b>ME</b>	Melnik
	<b>MB</b>	Mlada Boleslav
	<b>NB</b>	Nymburk
	<b>PY</b>	Prague – vychod (East)
	<b>PZ</b>	Prague – zapad (West)
	<b>PB</b>	Pribram
<b>RA</b>	Rakovnik	
South Bohemia	<b>CB</b>	České Budejovice
	<b>CK</b>	Cesky Krumlov
	<b>JH</b>	Jindrichuv Hradec
	<b>PE</b>	Pelhrimov
	<b>PI</b>	Pisek
	<b>PT</b>	Prachatice
	<b>ST</b>	Strakonice
	<b>TA</b>	Tabor
West Bohemia	<b>DO</b>	Domazlice
	<b>CH</b>	Cheb
	<b>KV</b>	Karlovy Vary
	<b>KT</b>	Klatovy
	<b>PM</b>	Pilsen
	<b>PJ</b>	Pilsen –jih (South)
	<b>PS</b>	Pilsen – sever (North)
	<b>RO</b>	Rokycany
	<b>SO</b>	Sokolov
	<b>TC</b>	Tachov
North Bohemia	<b>CL</b>	Ceska Lipa
	<b>DC</b>	Decin
	<b>CHO</b>	Chomutov
	<b>JN</b>	Jablonec nad Nisou
	<b>LI</b>	Liberec
	<b>LT</b>	Litomerice
	<b>LO</b>	Louny
	<b>MO</b>	Most
	<b>TP</b>	Teplice
	<b>UL</b>	Usti nad Labem

REGION	ABBREV.	DISTRICT	
East Bohemia	<b>HB</b>	Havlickuv Brod	
	<b>HK</b>	Hradec Kralove	
	<b>CR</b>	Chrudim	
	<b>JC</b>	Jicin	
	<b>NA</b>	Nachod	
	<b>PU</b>	Pardubice	
	<b>RK</b>	Rychnov nad Kneznou	
	<b>SM</b>	Semily	
	<b>SY</b>	Svitavy	
	<b>TU</b>	Trutnov	
	<b>UO</b>	Usti nad Orlici	
	South Moravia	<b>BK</b>	Blansko
		<b>BM</b>	Brno
<b>BI</b>		Brno – venkov	
<b>BV</b>		Breclav	
<b>ZL</b>		Zlin	
<b>HO</b>		Hodonin	
<b>JI</b>		Jihlava	
<b>KM</b>		Kromeriz	
<b>PV</b>		Prostejov	
<b>TR</b>		Trebic	
<b>UH</b>		Uherske Hradiste	
<b>VY</b>		Vyskov	
<b>ZN</b>		Znojmo	
<b>ZR</b>		Zdar nad Sazavou	
North Moravia	<b>BR</b>	Bruntal	
	<b>FM</b>	Frydek- Mistek	
	<b>KI</b>	Karvina	
	<b>NJ</b>	Novy Jicin	
	<b>OC</b>	Olomouc	
	<b>OP</b>	Opava	
	<b>OV</b>	Ostrava	
	<b>PR</b>	Prerov	
	<b>SU</b>	Sumperk	
	<b>VS</b>	Vsetin	
<b>JE</b>	Jesenik		

## The List of Abbreviations Used

AFA -	Antifascist Action
AFG FSA -	Antifascist Group of the Federation of Social Anarchists
B& H DB	Blood&Honour Division Bohemia
BHS -	Bohemia Hammer Skins
SIS -	Security Intelligence Service
CERD -	Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CEP -	Centre of Early Prevention
CSAF -	Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation
CPF -	Czech Patriotic Front
NoF -	number of file
DVU -	Deutsche Volkunion (German People's Union)
FSSC -	Filing Statistical System of Crime
EUMC -	European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia
EU -	European Union
FSA -	Federation of Social Anarchists
FG8M -	Feminist Group of 8 March
MNU -	Movement of National Unity
IMC -	Independent Media Centre
INPEG -	Initiative against Economic Globalisation
JN -	Junge Nationaldemokraten
CMC -	Communist Movement of Czechoslovakia
CYC-	Communist Youth of Czechoslovakia
CPC -	Communist Party of Czechoslovakia
RSPO-	Regional State prosecutor's Office
MIEP -	Party of Hungarian Justice and Life
MNA -	Magyar Nemzeti Arcvonal (Hungarian National Front)
MC -	Ministry of Culture
MD -	Ministry of Defence
LPD -	Local Police Department
MP -	municipal police
MLSA -	Ministry of Labour and social Affairs
MS -	Ministry of Justice
MSPO -	Municipal State Prosecutor's Office
MEYS -	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
MV -	Ministry of the Interior
MFA -	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NATO -	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NR -	National Resistance
MIR-	Minister of the Interior's Regulation
NPD -	Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands (National Democratic Party of Germany)
MBC -	motion to bring charges
NP -	National Party
NSB -	"National Social Block"
SSPO-	Supreme State Prosecutor's Office
NSDAP/AO	Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/Auslands – und Aufbauorganisation (National Socialist German Workers' Party /Foreign and basic organisation)
NPC -	National Patriotic Congregation
NPÖ -	Nationaldemokratische Partei Österreichs (National Democratic Party of Austria)
NSEC -	National Socialist Education Centre
NU-	National Unity
DCOC -	Department for Combating Organised Crime
OMC -	Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs

OSCE - Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe

DN - Defence of the Nation

ORAS - Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists – Solidarity

DD - District Directorate

UN - United Nations (Organisation)

TU – R - Trade Union ROVNOST

DSPO - District State Prosecutor’s Office

RA - Right Alternative

PCR - Police of the Czech Republic (Czech police)

PMS - Probationary and Mediation Services

PP CR - Police Presidium of the Czech Republic

REP - Die Republikaner (Republicans)

RY - Republican Youth

RMS - Republicans of Miroslav Sladek

KSC - Knights of the Solar Circle

UF - Unified Front

SC CR - Slav Committee of the Czech Republic

SROC - Section for Revealing Organised Crime

BCIPS - Bureau of Criminal and Investigation Police Service

CC CPC- Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

BFCI - Bureau for Foreign Contacts and Information

PF - Patriotic Front

PRP - Patriotic Republican Party

(no abbreviation in English)- persons in the interest of the police

BIU PP CR- Binding Instruction of the Police President of the Czech Republic

Notes:







**Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002**

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Publishing House Tiskárna MV, p.o.  
110 00 Praha 1, Hybernská 2

Prague 2003