



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

INFORMATION ON THE ISSUE OF EXTREMISM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2007

Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
Security Policy Department

Prague 2008

Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2007
was presented to the Government of the Czech Republic in the Autonomous Annex to the *Report on Internal Security and Public Order in the Czech Republic in 2007*
(The Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 549 dated 14 May 2008 concerning the *Report on Public Order and Internal Security in the Czech Republic in 2007*).

The submitted **Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2007** follows up the previous independent governmental reports dealing with this phenomenon.

CONTENTS

I. Introduction	1
II. The Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2007	2
2.1 Brief Characteristics of the Extremist Scene	2
2.1.1 Right-Wing Extremism	2
2.1.1.1 The Neo-Nazi Scene	2
2.1.1.2 Ultra Nationalistic Groups	4
2.1.2 Left-Wing Extremism	4
2.1.2.1 The Anarcho-Autonomous Movement	4
2.1.2.2 Marxist-Leninist Groups and Trotskyist Groups	6
2.2 Crimes Having an Extremist Context	6
2.2.1 The Situation Republic-Wide and in Individual Regions of the Czech Republic	6
2.2.1.1 Overall Situation	6
2.2.1.2 Composition of Criminal Offences	7
2.2.1.3 Offenders	8
2.2.1.4 Regions Most Affected by Crimes Having an Extremist Context	10
2.2.1.5 Crimes with an Extremist Context Committed by Members of Police Forces	11
2.2.2 The Most Serious Cases from the Point of View of the Czech Police	11
2.2.3 The Issue of Anti-Semitism and Crimes with an Anti-Islamic Context	12
2.2.4 The Issue of Concerts of Right-Wing Extremist Music Bands and Right-Wing Extremist Demonstrations	12
2.2.4.1 The Issue of White Power Music Concerts	12
2.2.4.2 Demonstrations of Right-Wing Extremists	15
2.2.4.3 Participation of Czech Neo- Nazis at Events Abroad	15
2.2.5 Misuse of the Internet	16
2.2.6 Criminal Activities Related to Spectator Violence	16
2.2.7 Security Risks and Expectations of Possible Developments from the Point of View of the Police of the Czech republic	17
III. The Most Important Activities Carried Out by State Authorities in 2007	18
3.1 The Government of the Czech Republic	18
3.1.1 Draft Antidiscrimination Act	18
3.1.2 Discussion on the Sixth and Seventh Periodical Report on Meeting the Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination by the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	18
3.1.3 Report on Human Rights in the Czech Republic	19
3.1.4 Recodification of Criminal Law	19
3.2 The Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic	21
3.2.1 International Cooperation in Combating Extremism	21
3.2.2 Advisory Bodies Working within the Ministry of the Interior	21
3.2.2.1 Inter-Ministerial Commission for Combating Extremism,	

Racism and Xenophobia	21
3.2.3 Other Activities	22
3.2.3.1 Working Group on the Issue of Right-Wing Extremist Music Performances	22
3.2.3.2 Applying State Power in the Area of the Right of Assembly	23
3.2.3.3 Preventing Radicalisation of Persons from Immigrant Communities	24
3.2.3.4 Strategy for Policing in relation to Minorities for 2006 – 2007	25
3.2.4 The Issue of Extremism in the Crime Prevention System of the Ministry of the Interior	26
3.2.4.1 Preventive Programmes at Local Level	26
3.2.4.2 Preventive Programmes Implemented within the Police of the Czech Republic	26
3.2.4.3 Research and Surveys	26
3.2.5 Educational Projects	27
3.2.5.1 Instruction on the Issues of Extremism within the Basic Professional Training	27
3.2.5.2 Centre for Education towards Human Rights	27
3.2.6 Media	28
3.2.7 Spectator violence	28
3.2.8 The Issue of Extremism within the Police of the Czech Republic	29
3.3 The Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office	29
3.3.1 The Ministry of Justice	29
3.3.1.1 Court Statistics	29
3.3.1.2 Activities of the Ministry of Justice	30
3.3.1.3 Probation and Mediation Service	30
3.3.2 Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office	33
3.4 The Ministry of Defence	34
3.5 Preventive Activities	35
3.5.1 The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	35
3.5.1.1 Legislative Measures	35
3.5.1.2 Curricula	36
3.5.1.3 Training of Teachers	36
3.5.1.4 Integration of Foreign Nationals	37
3.5.1.5 Protection of Children and Youth from Pathological Social Phenomena	37
3.5.1.6 MEYS Subsidy Programmes	38
3.5.2 The Ministry of Culture	38
3.5.2.1 Regional Culture and Culture of National Minorities	38
3.5.2.2 Churches and Religious Societies	39
3.5.2.3 Media and Audiovisual Area	39
3.5.2.4 Art and Libraries	40
3.5.2.5 Protection of Moveable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries	40
3.5.2.6 The Most Important Events in 2007	40
3.5.3 The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	41
3.5.3.1 Commission of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for the Integration of Foreigners	41
3.5.3.2 Strategy for Integration of Foreign Nationals	41
3.5.3.3 Support of NGO Projects	41

IV. Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations with respect to Combating Extremism, Racism and Anti-Semitism in 2007	43
4.1 Activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	43
4.2 Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations with respect to Observing Human Rights	43
4.2.1 The United Nations (UN)	43
4.2.2 OSCE	44
4.2.3 The Council of Europe	44
4.2.4 The Report of the U.S. State Department	44
V. The Situation in the Central European Geopolitical Area	45
5.1 Germany	45
5.2 Austria	47
5.3 Slovakia	48
5.4 Poland	50
5.5 Hungary	51
VI. Conclusion	53

Annexes

Extremist crime in the Czech Republic during a longer period of time with respect to police and judicial statistical records (tables); charts, tables, and a map. The List of Abbreviations. The key to the map and criminal offences under Act No. 140/1961 Coll., the Criminal Code, as amended.

I. Introduction

The submitted Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2007 (hereinafter referred to as the “Information”) follows up previous annual reports assessing the situation of extremism in the Czech Republic. This Information was drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior and represents the consensus of state administration bodies regarding the issue of Extremism. The Information was compiled from documents provided by the Security Intelligence Service, the Foreign Relations and Information Office, the Police of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office, and the Czech Government Human Rights Council.

The concept of extremism, crimes having an extremist context, and other terms used in the Information are identical with the definitions of terms as formulated in previous Reports dealing with the issue of extremism.¹

The Information is submitted in compliance with Government Resolution No. 478 of 2 May 2007 and in compliance with the requirements of the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, FRA (formerly the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia –EUMC), which pointed out in 2007 - and still places an emphasis on - the issue of hate crimes as well the need for annual reports from individual EU Member States in this area.

¹ The last of these was the Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002 which was approved by Government Resolution No. 669 of 9 July 2003. See www.mvcr.cz, section: Documents. Extremism

II. The Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2007

2.1 Brief Characteristics of the Extremist Scene²

2.1.1 Right-Wing Extremism

2.1.1.1 The Neo-Nazi Scene

Situation in 2007

An ever increasing interest of Czech neo-Nazis in participating in public events with a political context³, seen within the Czech neo-Nazi scene in previous years, continued also in 2007. Although neo-Nazis during the events they organised continued to make all efforts to stick to legal procedures and duly reported their demonstrations all in advance and in the required manner, their events were not, when compared to those in 2006, without problems. The development of the neo-Nazi scene was in the past year considerably affected mainly by events related to neo-Nazi marches. As a consequence this part of the right-wing spectrum was both radicalised and acted more professionally. In 2007 international cooperation between neo-Nazis strengthened and an increase in the importance of the internet was apparent.

The **National Resistance (NR)** still plays a dominant role within the neo-Nazi scene and is informally linked to structures of autonomous nationalism. Activists of the NR organised the largest public events of the neo-Nazi movement in 2007 and these attracted the wide attention of the mass media. The most visible events were: the march of the National Resistance held in May in **Brno** and an attempt to organise a march throughout the Old Jewish quarter in **Prague** on the day of the anniversary of the Crystal Night. Although organisers used the services of legal advisors with regard to reporting and organising such events, the events were eventually cancelled and the police intervened against the respective participants.

Activities in 2007

A demonstration held in Brno on 1 May 2007 was attended by approximately five hundred Czech and Slovak extremists and became one of the events thoroughly prepared by neo-Nazis within the several last years. On the basis of a decision taken by a representative of the Municipal Authority the event was terminated shortly after its opening and participants were asked to cease their assembly. As the right-wing extremists did not comply, the police intervened against them, *inter alia*, using repressive means.

The organisers learned a lesson from this and thus those organising the march across the Old Jewish quarter in Prague, which was intended as a revenge event for the 1st May demonstration, decided on a more professional approach. They reported the event as being held by the **Young National Democrats (YND)**, which they later registered as a civic association. With respect to the fact that the event was socially unacceptable and highly risky the organisers were not able, despite their undertaken steps, to prevent the prohibition of their event. The wide ranging interest of the media in the whole case caused for it to be a matter of honour for Czech neo-Nazis to participate in the event. Thus several hundreds of them arrived in Prague in spite of the fact that the event had been forbidden. Thanks to thorough security measures adopted by the police the march was not held. Since the police had primarily paid their attention on eliminating the neo-Nazi march, militant anti-fascists had been given considerable space. These anti-fascists, thanks to their superiority in numbers, several times attacked not only right-wing radicals in the centre of Prague but also the police, who had to intervene against them several times.

² Monitoring of the extremist scene is carried out under Act No. 153/1994 Coll. on Intelligence Services in the Czech Republic, as amended. The “2006 Information” as well as the “2005 Information” also mentioned in sub-chapter I 2.1 ‘Brief Characteristics of the Extremist Scene’ some registered entities. This sub-chapter is within the responsibility of the Security Intelligence Service which drew it up in compliance with Section 5 (1) of Act No. 153/1994 Coll. on Intelligence Services in the Czech Republic.

³ See The 2006 Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic

This assembly of neo-Nazis together with protests by militant antifascists was one of the largest events in recent years.

The course of the aforementioned public events and related circumstances contributed to the fact that neo-Nazis became a **lively political topic**. They, more than in the past, began to point out violations of the freedom of assembly and freedom of speech in the Czech Republic. Interventions of the police who, from the neo-Nazis' point of view, approach right-wing and left-wing extremists in different ways and not with objectivity, attacks of militant antifascists, and a media campaign which was conducted against right-wing extremists, brought about strong negative emotions. **Such emotions may in the upcoming period lead to their further radicalisation, aimed in particular against the police and left-wing extremists.**

In addition to those described above, the most important marches held during the course of 2007 were a number of small-scale public events which were attended by neo-Nazis and were not forbidden. Their organisers required disciplined behaviour by participants and stuck to meeting all conditions guaranteeing a smooth course of events; they strove to eliminate all pretexts for police intervention. Disturbances occurred in the cases when such events were attacked by antifascists.

Actions organised by right-wing extremists focused on traditional topics such as opposition to positive discrimination or support for death penalties. An apparent exception was a demonstration by right-wing extremists held on 24 February 2007 against the planned construction of an American military base in the Czech Republic, which is a topic taken up predominantly by left-wing extremists. Opposition towards the base, however, is advocated by a number of representatives of ultra right-wing entities – as a result of their anti-Semitic focus. They see the USA and its current representatives of the political establishment as 'allies of Jews'.

Besides the NR, the **National Corporatism (NC)** association was also active in organising right-wing extremist events. This organisation cooperates with some Czech ultra-nationalistic entities and less openly also with supporters of neo-Nazi ideology. **Thus the NC has profiled itself as a link between these two scenes.** The operations of the NC are accompanied by disputes between its Moravian and Czech sections.

Although it is obvious that neo-Nazis increased their interest in neo-Nazi demonstrations and political topics, they currently do not strive to enter into political life.

Apart from public events the neo-Nazi scene organised in 2007 different social meetings. These were rather smaller events with music performances, traditionally conceived as birthday parties or sports tournaments. With several exceptions, attendance oscillated from fifty to one hundred persons. These events were organised confidentially and only activists from a limited constituency were invited.

Instead of organising large-scale concerts there is a trend of the Czech neo-Nazi scene which has been apparent from the beginning of 2006: Czech neo-Nazis more and more often visit concerts held abroad. For a number of them it is more acceptable to pay a higher amount for one mega-concert abroad where they are usually not endangered by repressive forces than to visit smaller and uncertain performances in the Czech Republic. This trend has been confirmed by the participation of neo-Nazis at the Fest Der Völker which was held in Jena, Germany, on 8 September 2007. The event was organised by the Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands (NPD) along with Junge Nationaldemokraten (JN) and it was attended by about 1,400 right-wing extremists from several European countries, including tens of right-wing extremists from the Czech Republic. The festival offered a concert of foreign neo-Nazi bands, whilst one was a Czech band - Conflict 88. The described tendency may continue and most probably it will be on the rise in the context of the Czech Republic's accession to the Schengen area. As a consequence, international cooperation of Czech and foreign neo-Nazis may strengthen.

Another permanent trend, apparent also in 2007, was more intensive cooperation by Czech neo-Nazis with part of the black-metal scene (in particular national socialist and pagan black-metalists). Although reception by right-wing extremists was at the very beginning widely differing this trend may gradually be reinforced.

In recent years a long-term increase in the importance of the internet both for right-wing and left-wing extremists has been apparent. The internet is popular since its environment is relatively anonymous, it is increasingly available and the speed is increasingly greater. The internet is used by extremists for a number of activities - presentation of their ideas, mutual communication and the sale of goods with extremist topics rank among the most important. With increasing computer skills, hackers' attacks against the web-sites of their opponents or networks of public organisations can be expected.

2.1.1.2 Ultra Nationalistic Groups

In 2007 overall activities of ultra nationalistic entities decreased which is typical for these organisations in the period in between elections. The Patriotic Front and the National Party were the most marked organisations. Other ultra nationalistic entities presented themselves publicly less actively and concentrated mainly on their internal matters. The disintegration of the European National Front was confirmed within the European ultra nationalistic scene.

The Patriotic Front (PF) can be considered as the only functional nationalistic civic association which has been operating for a long time as a supportive political and ‘cultural’ organisation. In 2007 this association organised several public presentations with the most conflicting being a demonstration co-organised with the **National Unification (NUP)** party on 1 May 2007 in Prague “to commemorate Chicago policemen killed on 1 May 1886 when they intervened against a workers’ demonstration”, which was protested against by an unexpectedly high number of anarcho-autonomists and antifascists.

Another important event organised by PF and NUP was a demonstration held on 1 September 2007 in Prague. A pretext for its organisation was to express support to a former policeman, Tomas Cermak⁴. This event was, besides an unimportant incident, peaceful and public order was not disturbed by any skirmishes.

The most visible entity in the Czech ultra nationalist scene was in 2007 the **National Party (NP)**. Its main goal was to arouse the interest of the media and to enhance the visibility of the National Party, and for this goal it attempted to organise a range, in many cases controversial, of events⁵, with the last one being the establishment of the **National Guards (NG)** on 28 October 2007. Even though the NP presented these guards as a functional quasi-military organisation at the end of 2007, the NG was a mere virtual entity and it does not represent any considerable security risk.

International cooperation between ultra nationalists was fundamentally affected by a split of the European National Front (ENF)⁶ into two entities which do not cooperate. Despite the fact the ENF was at its very beginning conceived as a project which was to unify nationalists throughout Europe and to ensure their collaboration, after some time a mutual grudge began to grow and it resulted in an unofficial split in the ENF. However, it was historical reasons - mainly mutual enmity between German and Polish nationalists - which caused the split in the ENF. Thus it was confirmed that unified cooperation between European right-wing extremists being members of two, in the past hostile, states, was impossible.

2.1.2 Left-Wing Extremism

2.1.2.1 The Anarcho-Autonomous Movement

Situation in 2007

In 2007 the beginning of a new generation of activists was seen in the anarcho-autonomist movement. However, this generation is more interested in fighting against right extremists than in anarchist ideology itself. Militant antifascism, reacting against the activation of the neo-Nazi scene in the past years, substantially contributed to the revival of the activities of Czech anarcho-autonomists. They were active in 2007 more often than in previous years and, apart from other things, such activities were their response to some, according to their opinion, important domestic and international events. At the beginning of 2007 it seemed probable that activities connected to militant antifascism and with the method of ‘direct action’ would attract new members into the most important anarchist organisations, namely the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (CSAF) and the Federation of Anarchist Groups (FAG), which have stagnated in recent years. Nevertheless, this trend has not been confirmed.

⁴ A policeman charged with the abuse of power by a public official for his intervention against Ms. Katerina Jacques on 1 May 2006 during a demonstration by the neo-Nazi National Resistance.

⁵ Representatives of the NP also participated in the prohibited demonstration against the spread of Islam in Europe held in front of the EU Parliament on 11 September 2007. They called their arrival in Brussels a “graceful ride”, which is a term they use also for their journeys/trips to cities or towns where citizens have problems with the Roma community.

⁶A free association of about 15 European ultra nationalistic and ultra right-wing political parties and movements.

In spring 2007 new regional groups were established within the CSAF, whose activists wished to focus mainly on, in addition to antifascism, the promotion of anarchist ideas. However, after initial enthusiasm, their activities were dampened. Although CSAF members were involved in the first half of 2007 in a mobilisation against the G8 Summit their actual participation in this action was insignificant. Individual CSAF groups prepared within the year reviewed a number of predominantly small-scale events. Even though the CSAF began to essentially support antifascist activities the number of their active members did not rise.

The second most significant, from a long-term point of view, anarchist organisation, the FAS, did not see any strengthening of its membership either. Antifascist Action (AFA) became one of the working groups of this federation. Its task was to implement antifascism in the context of anarchist ideas. With regard to the fact that interest in militant antifascism gradually prevailed within this federation and that the majority of its activists were involved in activities carried out by AFA, at the end of November 2007 FAS officially announced the termination of its activities. Besides an AFA group which currently operates after the disintegration of FAS, there are in the Czech Republic many regional AFA groups which are fully autonomous. Such groups which associate a new young generation of anarcho-autonomists work especially in towns where autonomous groups of neo-Nazi operate as well. It is a paradox that with the gradual dampening of FAS activities, the tendencies of some AFA groups to express their opinions on different social problems started to emerge. Some antifascists, however, continue to remain independent from such groups.

Activities in 2007

The majority of antifascist actions organised as a response to marches held by right-wing extremists were not reported in advance, but there were gradually more and more properly reported events. Nevertheless, this change does not have any influence on the participants, who are quite radical, often armed, and ready for physical ‘battles’.

Visible clashes between antifascists and right-wing extremists were seen especially in Otrokovice⁷, Beroun⁸, Přešov⁹, Most,¹⁰ and in Prague¹¹. The most important protests were held on 10 November 2007 against the march of neo-Nazis throughout the Old Jewish quarter in Prague, where several hundreds of antifascists, including supporters from abroad, met. An unexpectedly high number of participating antifascists clearly showed the large mobilising potential of the anarcho-autonomous scene.

When organising protests anarcho-autonomists used to a large extent the internet, where, with the aim of attracting a maximum number of participants, they publish so-called mobilising video shots. Similarly, after the action is over, they usually publish videos and photographs documenting the course of that particular protest, through which they try to present their success. As in the previous year anarcho-autonomists organised, under the heading of the antifascist campaign ‘Good Night White Pride’, several concerts and other social events.

Although in 2007 militant antifascism was a dominant topic for the public and private activities of anarcho-autonomists, contrary to the previous year it was not the only topic. Activities carried out by anarchists and autonomists were apparent also in the context of a number of domestic and foreign events, such as the visit of US President George Bush to the Czech Republic and the G8 Summit held in German Heiligendamm. Some internal political issues became the trigger for activities of anarcho-autonomists. However, anarcho-autonomists are engaged in the campaign against the US radar only on a sporadic basis. Besides several small-scale actions they supported some demonstrations of the initiative ‘No to Military Bases’, where they established an independent anarchist block.

⁷ 13 January 2007 in relation to a demonstration carried out by the National Corporatism and National Resistance organisations.

⁸ 24 February 2007 in relation to a demonstration carried out by the Autonomous Nationalists of Central Bohemia.

⁹ 10 March 2007 in relation to a demonstration carried out by the National Corporatism and National Resistance organisations.

¹⁰ 19 May 2007 in relation to an event organised by right-wing extremists in the memory of Milos Reha.

¹¹ 1 May 2007 in relation to a demonstration carried out by the Patriotic Front and National Unification organisations.

International Cooperation

Within international cooperation Czech anarcho-autonomists communicated mainly with activists from Slovakia, Poland, and Germany. This cooperation was apparent especially in the context of mobilisation for the protests against the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm. It was also obvious on 10 November 2007 during an antifascist demonstration in Prague which was substantially supported by German activists.

Forecast

A decrease in traditional, ideological anarchists associated in the past years within CSAF or FAG will continue, and on the other hand young antifascists, not yet profiled with autonomous identity will grow. An increase in intensity and radicalism of mutual attacks between left-wing and right-wing extremists in 2007 can be expected as a consequence of current clashes.

2.1.2.2 Marxist-Leninist Groups and Trotskyist Groups

In 2007 large differences could be seen between the activities of individual Marxist-Leninist groups which rank among extreme the left-wing. Whilst some groups used current social topics and were very active, others continued dampening their activities. The low number of members of the majority of these groups, mainly those having Trotskyist orientation, forced them to cooperate with larger and more influential organisations. Persons and organisations from the left-wing environment were in 2007 involved, to different degrees, in the activities of those opposing an American military base in the Czech Republic.

A civil association – **Communist Union of Youth (CUY)** – whose dissolution by the Ministry of the Interior was confirmed by a court judgement of 19 March 2008, issued by the Prague Municipal Administrative Court¹², was in 2007 the most active entity in this scene. Apart from struggling against the decision of the Ministry of the Interior, activities in the anti-radar movement were dominant. In addition to its anti-radar activities the CUY participated in a range of small-scale public events such as a public June demonstration against the visit of George Bush in Prague.

Activities both of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (CPCS), which is headed by Miroslav Štěpán, and of an unregistered organisation, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia – Czechoslovak Labour Party (CPCS – CSLP) chaired by Ludvík Zifčák, were in 2007 negligible.

Trotskyist organisations in the Czech Republic have coped for a long time with a low number of members and therefore they often cooperate with other entities. An unregistered Trotskyist organisation known as the Group of Revolutionary Youth (REVO) even more dampened, when compared with previous years, its activities. Its members as well as members of an organisation of reform Trotskyists – Socialist Solidarity – were engaged primarily in activities relating to the anti-radar movement.

As in previous years Marxist-Leninist groups used in 2007 contacts with similarly oriented foreign groups, whereby they most closely cooperated with colleagues from Germany and Slovakia.

2.2 Crimes Having an Extremist Context

2.2.1 The Situation Republic-Wide and in Individual Regions of the Czech Republic¹³

2.2.1.1 Overall Situation

Of the total number of 357,391 criminal offences detected in the Czech Republic, 196 registered crimes had an extremist context, which accounted for 0.05 % of total criminal activities recorded (0.07 % in 2006).

¹² It is expected that the CUY will lodge a cassation complaint to the Supreme Administrative Court, which, however, will not have a suspensory effect.

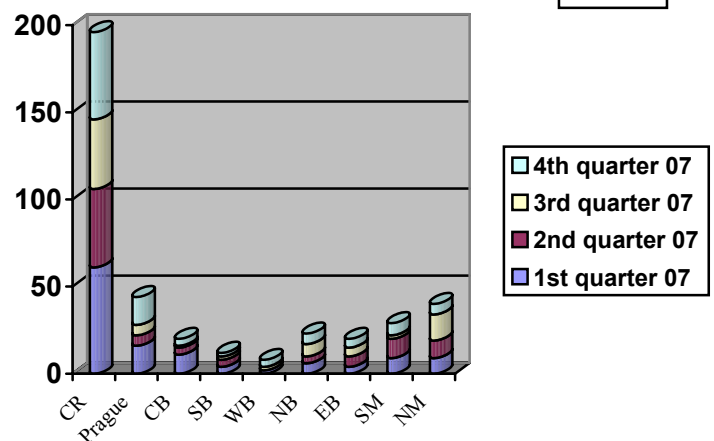
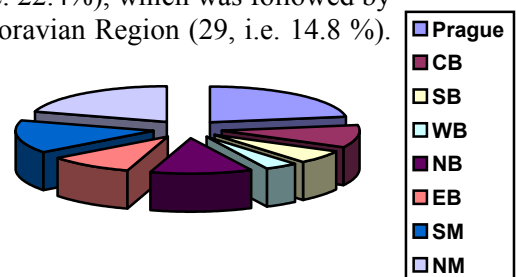
¹³ A basic breakdown of police statistical records (SRS-PP) – seven regions and the capital city of Prague - is in compliance with Act No. 36/1960 Coll. on Territorial Division of the State, as amended.

In 2007, in comparison with 2006, a quite considerable decline in detected crimes with an extremist context was registered: a decline of 52 crimes, which is approximately a decline of 21% (196 crimes – 2007; 248 crimes – 2006, when the decline was, in comparison with 2005, only about 2%). 119 criminal offences were solved, which accounts for 60.7 % (196 crimes in 2006, which accounted for 79%). 181 persons (-61 persons; 242 persons in 2006) were prosecuted for committing the aforementioned crimes.

The total number of crimes with an extremist context recorded in the Czech Republic in 2006 and in 2007¹⁴
(according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic – SRS-PP)

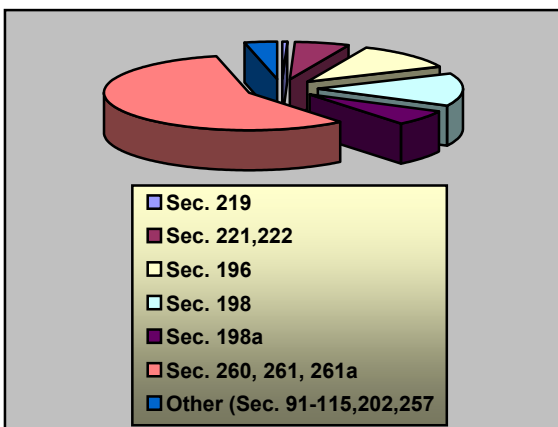
Year	Number of crimes Recorded	Share of total crime (%)	Number of solved crimes	Number of persons prosecuted
2006	248	0.07	196	242
2007	196	0.05	119	181

Most of such crimes were committed in Prague (44, i.e. 22.4%), which was followed by the North Moravian Region (40, i.e. 20.4%), and the South Moravian Region (29, i.e. 14.8 %). The most visible decline in this kind of crime was reported from the North Bohemian Region, a drop by approximately 56.6% (2007 – 23 crimes; 2006 – 53 crimes), from the West Bohemian Region 42.9% (2007 – 8 crimes; 2006 – 14 crimes). This region also displayed the lowest number of such criminal offences registered throughout the Czech Republic. A diagram below shows registered criminal activities having an extremist subtext in individual regions in the first and fourth quarters of the year 2007.



2.2.1.2 Composition of Criminal Offences

In 2007, when compared with 2006 as well as with previous years, no substantial changes were recorded in the composition of crimes having an extremist context. Crimes under **Sections 260, 261, and 261a of the Criminal Code** (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms) continued to prevail – the total was **112 (i.e. 57.1% of all crimes recorded by the Czech police)**, of which 71 crimes (i.e. 60.4%) were solved.



In total 109 persons (i.e. 60.2% of all detected offenders of crimes with an extremist context) were prosecuted. The share of crimes under Section 198 of the Criminal Code (defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or conviction) – 28 (14.3%) - was much lower; 27 persons were prosecuted. The same applies to crimes of violence against a group of people or an individual under Section 196 of the Criminal Code – 22 criminal offences (11.7%), for which 22 persons were prosecuted. According to SRS-PP, if taking into account the statistical period January – December 2007, twelve crimes pursuant to Sec. 221 and Sec. 222 of the Criminal Code were

¹⁴ The data from 1996 to 2007 is included in the section Tables - ‘Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic Covering a Long-term Period. Data from Police and Court Statistical Records’ - Table 1

reported (intentional serious physical injury), for which 18 persons were prosecuted; 13 crimes under Sec. 198a of the Criminal Code (inciting hate against a group of persons or restriction of their rights and freedoms) were recorded for which two persons were prosecuted; and one murder – was prosecuted pursuant to Section 219g¹⁵. No terrorist activities occurred in connection with extremism.

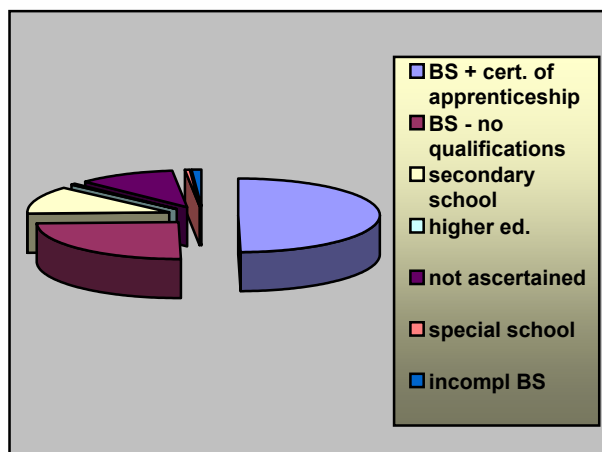
An overview of extremist crimes involving attacks on a nation, nationality or race or on members thereof, and crimes committed in relation to the incitement of national or racial hatred – total numbers in 2006 and 2007 (according to the constituent elements of the crime)¹⁶

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

Year/Sec.	196 (2)	198	198a	198b	219 (2g)	221 (2b)	222 (2b)	235 (2f)	236	238a	257 (2b)	259	260	261
2006	44	52	27	0	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	29	72
2007	18	28	13	0	1	7	4	0	0	0	2	0	47	63

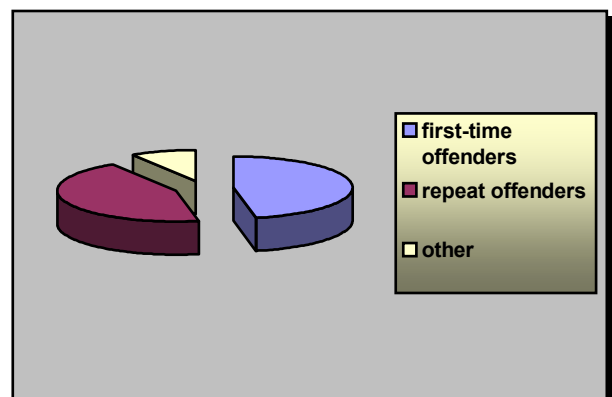
With regard to closing criminal procedures relating to police investigations of crimes having a racist or other extremist context and of their perpetrators, submission of an indictment prevailed – 87 offenders (48.1%), and within summary proceedings pursuant offenders (24.3%) are still being investigated, and four cases (4 offenders, i.e. 2.2%) were suspended under Sec. 159a (2) and Sec. 159a (3) of the Rules of Criminal Procedure. The prosecution of five offenders (2.8%) was conditionally discontinued pursuant to Sec. 307. Six offenders (3.3%) were prosecuted within proceedings for juvenile offenders under Sec. 166 (3). In four cases (2.2%), a proposal to commence proceedings before the Court for Youth, under Act No. 218/2003, (2.1%) was filed.

2.2.1.3 Offenders



ethnicity. The structure of offenders as regards their educational level did not change either. Offenders having only a basic education and an apprenticeship certificate were most prevalent – 90 persons (49.7%) and offenders having a basic education and no qualification totalled 45 persons (24.9%). However, there were also 22 (12.2%) offenders having secondary education, and one having tertiary education (0.6%).¹⁷ There were also 20 (11%) other offenders who were either children or foreign nationals whose educational level had not been ascertained.

In 2007 the composition of offenders of crimes having an extremist context was the same as in 2006 and in previous years. Offenders of the above-mentioned crimes were both activists and supporters of extremist movements as well as citizens of the majority society who do not have any apparent links with any right-wing extremist movements, however in exceptional cases such crimes were also committed by persons of Roma



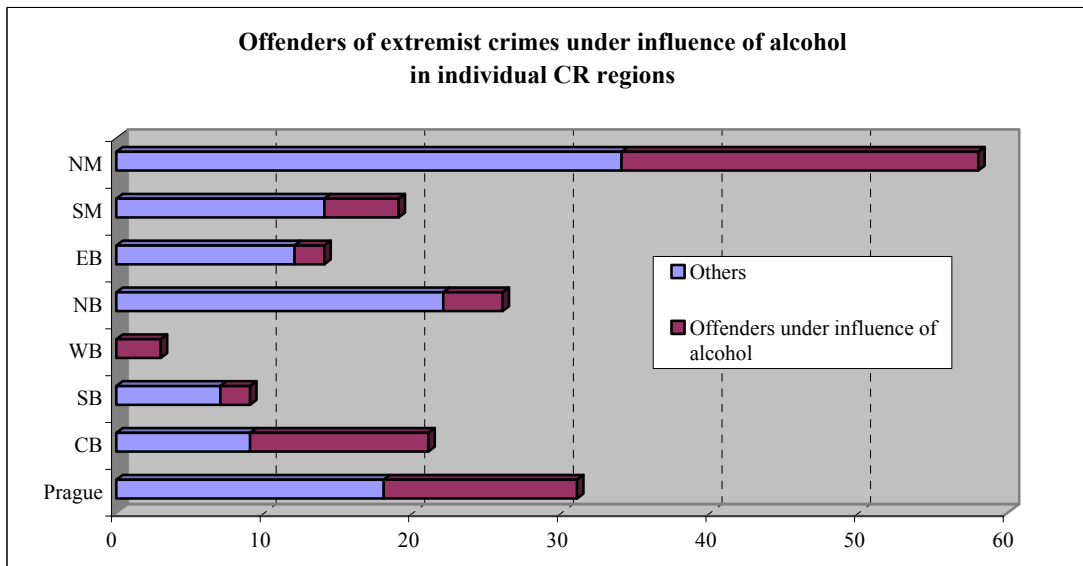
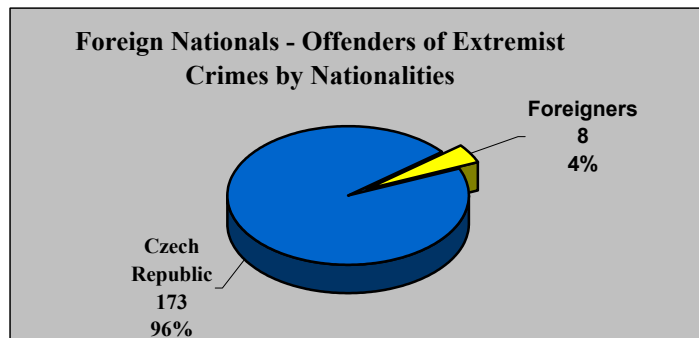
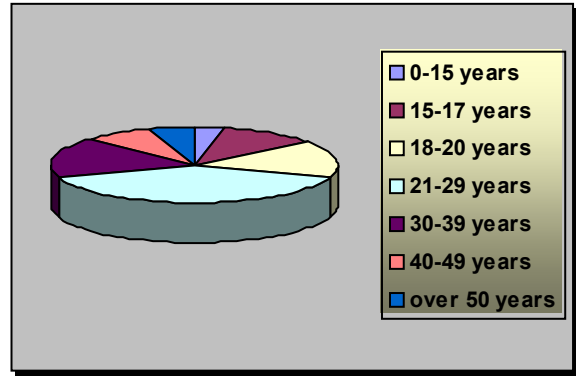
¹⁵ For more detail see sub-chapter 2.2.2 the Most Serious Cases from the Point of View of the Czech Police

¹⁶ Data from 1996 to 2007 is included in the section Tables – Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic from a Long-term Point of View – Police and Court Statistical Records – Table 2

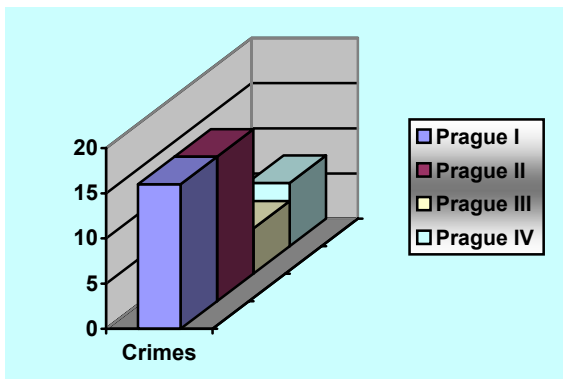
¹⁷ Under Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-school, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act) the following terminology applies: *those who completed basic school and then received an apprenticeship certificate are equal to those who completed secondary school and at the same time received an apprenticeship certificate*, and offenders with secondary education are *offenders who completed secondary education by passing a school-leaving examination* (see Sec. 58 of the Act cited - 561/2004).

Among offenders there was one who had accomplished special school (0.6%) and two persons who did not finish even basic education (1.1%). There were 85 (47%) first-time offenders and 80 (44.2%) repeat offenders.

The composition of offenders in terms of their age did not display any visible changes. Also in 2007, as in 2006, offenders of the 21-29 years age category prevailed (76, i.e.42 %), followed by 18 – 20 year old offenders (41, i.e.22.7 %), 30 – 39 years of age (28, i.e. 15.5%), and 15 – 17 years of age (17, i.e. 9.4 %). The lowest number of offenders fell into the categories under 15 years of age (5, i.e. 2.8%), between 40 and 49 years (5, i.e. 2.8%), and over 50 years (9, i.e. 4.8%). With regard to solved crimes, male offenders prevailed (170, i.e. 94%), whilst there were only 11 (i.e. 6 %) female offenders. 65 persons, which accounts for 36% of the total number of offenders, committed crimes while intoxicated. There were eight 8, i.e. 4%. foreign offenders. They were citizens of Slovakia (3), Poland (2), Russia (2), and Macedonia/FYROM (1).



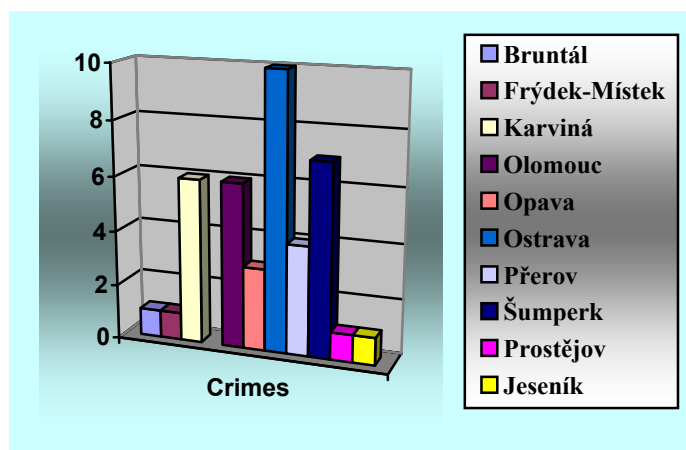
2.2.1.4 Regions Most Affected by Crimes Having an Extremist Context



Capital City of Prague

In 2007 there were not, according to Czech police findings, any substantial changes in the area of extremism. The extremist scene was even more fragmented with widely differing ideological streams. According to police experts, Prague right-wing skinheads were divided into small groups and did not make any efforts to widely cooperate with others. However, it is impossible to speak about a withdrawal of extremist right-wing groups from Prague. Efforts to unify and, to a certain degree, legalise the skinhead movement either in the form of civic associations or registered political

parties will always be topical. The largest unregistered organisation is the neo-Nazi National Resistance Prague (NR Prague) organisation, whose principal activities were directed towards the economic sphere (organisation of concerts for neo-Nazis from the whole Czech Republic, in the majority of cases with international participation). Its hard core utilised, *inter alia*, the support of so called Nazi-hooligans, mainly of AC Sparta Prague club, for large scale events and assemblies during which conflicts with radical anarchists could be expected. In September 2007 the civic association Young National Democrats was registered. According to police experts this was merely an effort to legalise the activities carried out by the National Resistance since those persons who are behind this association are linked with the National Resistance. A grouping known as the National Corporatism (NC), established in 2006, did not develop many activities in Prague during 2007. Thus it has become a non-functional association and its political ambitions ceased to exist. The management of this association was taken over by North Moravian neo-Nazis. A number of supporters of skinhead movements were among hooligans who predominantly intended to cause disturbances, brawls and to disturb public order at stadiums and in their surroundings. In 2007 a growth in brawls ‘negotiated in advance’ at stadiums and in their surroundings was seen. The Czech police are convinced that crimes having a racist context were not committed as planned crimes – these were predominantly excesses of individuals or small groups, frequently committed under the influence of alcohol. Young and local right-wing skinheads, generally known as ‘kinderskins’, committed petty disturbances in small groups, mainly in the surroundings of the places where they resided. Most often they were settling scores with their opponents – i.e. anarchists and ‘skateboarders’. As regards left-wing organisations, the Antifascist Action (AFA) was the most radical in the Prague scene.



North Moravian Region

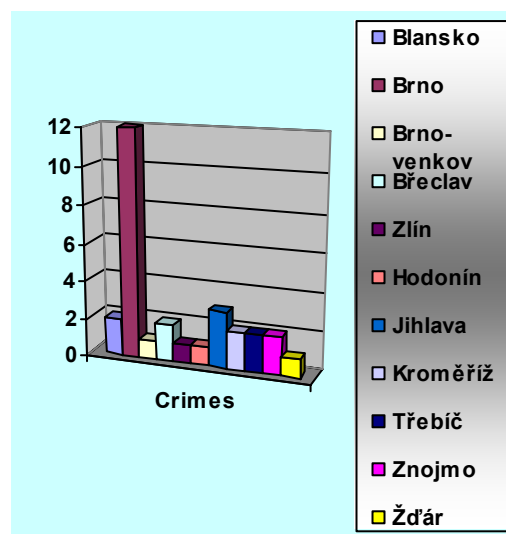
Extremist criminal offences were committed in North Moravia mainly spontaneously without any previous preparation or organisation. Crimes were committed by individuals and resulted from specific situations. Roma prevailed among victims of verbal and physical assaults, committed predominantly by members of the majority population. Although in 2007 a moderate decline in crimes with an extremist context was recorded, the number of open manifestations of ultra right-wing, nationalistic and xenophobic groups and movements increased. According to the

estimates of police experts the hard core of a neo-Nazi organisation – the National Resistance - Olomouc and Silesia Division has about 100 or 200 members, however, the number of supporters goes up to about 600 persons. These supporters are mainly pupils of basic schools and apprentice centres. Students of secondary schools and university students can only very rarely be found among them. According to the

Czech police the North Moravian Region is specific, since about one fifth of young people residing in the regions agree with the views of the activists of the skinhead movement, the support of anti-Semitism, and the fight against drugs. They also agree with pronounced opinions regarding solving the 'Roma problem' and the immigration policy of the Czech Republic. The Czech police also recorded an increased support for ultra right-wing extremists and skinheads by supporters between 10 and 18 years of age as well as among those aged over 18. Open hostility against people with a different skin colour was repeatedly reported from Karviná, Orlová, Bohumín, Ostrava- Přívoz., Vítkovice, and Přerov. In 2007 the National Corporatism, North Moravia, was the most active and most visible right-wing extremist organisation in the region concerned. In police opinion, activities of North Moravian left-wing extremists were insignificant, and they are in the minority when compared to right-wing extremism. They were only seen when they attempted to disturb for example ultra right-wing demonstrations and marches.

South Moravian Region

According to records of the Czech police the amount of extremist crime has remained in the last three years approximately at the same level. In 2007 there were mainly different situational skirmishes, hooliganism accompanied especially by manifestations of support, and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms – for example Seig Heil greetings. Most crimes with an extremist context were traditionally committed in Brno, the largest city of South Moravia, however, larger activities of right-wing extremists were reported mainly from Zlin, Jihlava and Hodonín. In 2007 right-wing extremists were more active than in previous years. This was especially in relation to activities regarding two large scale actions: a joint march of the National Corporatism and the National Resistance in Otrokovice (the Zlin District) held in January where there was a direct confrontation of participants with supporters of the anarcho-autonomous scene; and the march of the National Resistance organised on 1 May 2007 where participants were confronted by the Czech police. About 500 persons participated in both events. In addition to Brno, right-wing extremists have a strong base in the Zlin District where an organisation known as the National Honour Zlin was established at the turn of 2007. It is managed by former members of the National Resistance Blansko. As regards left-wing extremism, activities of anarchists were on the rise. They are associated mainly in the Zlin District under the names Antifa Zlínsko and Antifa Otrokovice. According to findings of police experts the number of their supporters soared at the end of 2007, reaching a total of 300.



2.2.1.5 Crimes with an Extremist Context Committed by Members of Police Forces¹⁸

In 2007, as in 2006, the Inspection of the Minister of the Interior, according to its own statement, did not deal with any crimes having an extremist, racial or otherwise xenophobic context committed by a police officer under Sections 198, 198a, 259, 260, 261, or 261a of the Criminal Code.

2.2.2 The Most Serious Cases from the Point of View of the Czech Police

In 2007 the most serious cases of crimes with an extremist context, from the point of view of the Czech police, were recorded in the capital city of Prague and the South Bohemian, East Bohemian, South Moravian and North Moravian Regions. These were both verbal and physical attacks accompanied by threats of death to the victims. One case ended up in the death of the victim (in the South Moravian Region). However there were also criminal offences of hooliganism which occurred during various

¹⁸ The Inspection of the Minister of the Interior is involved in investigating crimes committed by police officers. According to the reports of this body they very rarely encounter very during the performance of their duties manifestations of extremist attitudes.

extremist events. Those persons most frequently assaulted were of Roma origin. The most serious crime was committed in Hodonin (the South Moravian Region) by skinheads J.L., M.I., M.M. and M.V., who on 17 May 2007 attacked, first verbally and then also physically, a citizen of Roma origin J.T. They punched him in the face, knocked him down and kicked him. He was also hit by a telescopic truncheon. Finally, M.V took a plastic bottle containing an unascertained volatile liquid and poured the substance over the victim's head and shoulders. J.L. (a Slovak national) set fire to the victim's shirt, using a lighter, which immediately caught fire, and the injured suffered heavy injuries, which resulted in his death on 22 May 2007.¹⁹ A brutal assault also took place in Moravska Ostrava (the North Bohemian Region). A group of seven supporters of a skinhead movement agreed on carrying out an assault on 26 October 2007 and on the same day, at night, physically attacked a group of Roma in front of the restaurant MD Club. In the following brawl one of the Roma was stabbed with a knife. The attackers used also telescopic truncheons and pugilists. The assault was accompanied by cries such as "*Come with us for these eight balls you blacks, we'll kill you all*". The police were able to uncover the identity of all the attackers and the case is still being investigated. The Czech police did not record any serious cases in the Central Bohemian Region, the West Bohemian Region, or the North Bohemian Region.

2.2.3 The Issue of Anti-Semitism and Crimes with an Anti-Islamic Context

No serious anti-Semitic attacks and no growth in the number of such attacks were reported in the Czech Republic. The most serious event of 2007 relating to manifestations of anti-Semitism was the event organised by right-wing extremists who on the anniversary of the Crystal Night (10 November) intended to march throughout the former Old Jewish quarter in Prague. The participation of several hundreds neo-Nazis, in particular of supporters of the unregistered association the National Resistance, was expected. However, the only official organiser was the Civic Association the Young National Democrats. In order to ensure that public order was not disturbed in total 144 persons were taken into police custody.

Crimes with an Anti-Islamic Context

No crimes with an anti-Islamic context were recorded by the Czech police in the Czech Republic in 2007.

2.2.4 The Issue of Concerts of Right-Wing Extremist Music Bands and Right-Wing Extremist Demonstrations

2.2.4.1 The Issue of White Power Music Concerts

In 2007 officers from the Unit for Combating Organised Crime registered 25 concerts of white power music where music bands performed. Such concerts were held throughout the whole of the Czech Republic (18 concerts in 2006). This figure means that there was a growth when compared with 2006. Nonetheless, such a rise cannot be attributed only to the increased activities of the ultra right-wing scene but mainly to the fact that the Czech police exposed more local actions than before. Participation in such small local concerts is usually at around 60 persons. The most crowded concert was held in Janderov (a village in the Chrudim District) where about 300 persons met. An average level of participation at similar event oscillates between 120 and 200 persons. The Unit for Combating Organised Crime in cooperation with territorial police bodies succeeded in exposing such concerts prior to their opening. The unit provided competent police bodies with relevant information. Of the total number of concerts **five were cancelled by the Czech police on the spot** since suspicions of criminal offences to be committed were raised. Also in 2007 when arranging such concerts the organisers continued to use techniques to conceal their communication. Only a very small group of organisers knew the place where the relevant concert was about to take place. They often applied information embargos on participants relating to the place of the performance until several hours prior to the beginning of the concert. Information embargos

¹⁹ On 24 September 2007 J.L. was charged with committing a crime under Sec. 219/1.2b of the Criminal Code and Sec. 202/1 of the Criminal Code; M.I., M.V. and M.M. were charged with a crime under Sec. 202/1 of the Criminal Code as co-offenders pursuant to Sec. 9/2 of the Criminal Code.

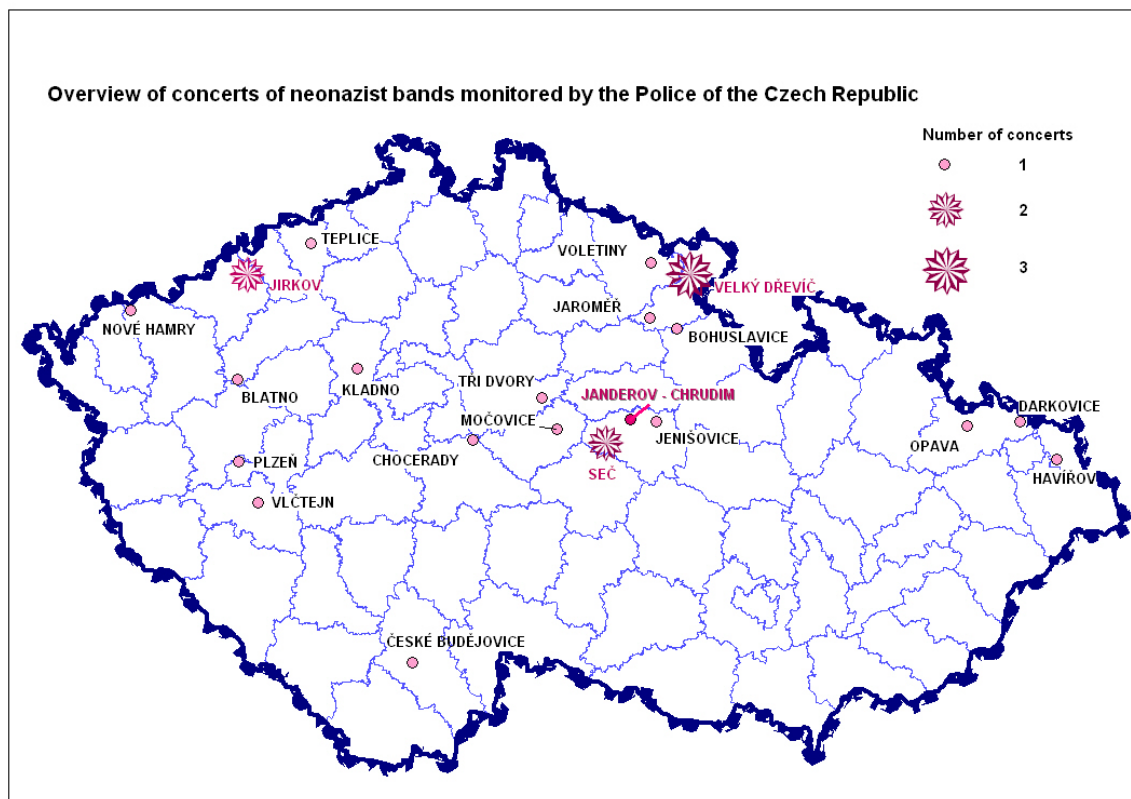
were also applied to the members of white power music bands who were invited to perform. The only known place was generally a meeting point which could be about 100 kilometres from the place of the performance (for example the concert in Nove Hamry, in the Karlovy Vary District, could be mentioned: the meeting point was the Rakovník District). This situation led to lower numbers of participants than there had been in the past since not all interested people had access to the relevant information. This, of course, leads to the lower profits of organisers. Signs such as Blood and Honour or Combat 18 are often hung on the walls or on the stage. The same logos are on the invitations. According to the statement of officers of the Unit for Combating Organised Crime, however, even in 2007 no individual persons associating under such names or within such organisations were known. Thus, according to police experts, they only highlight their efforts to be part of an international network of activities carried out by the “white power” scene. Such visible concerts are to increase the prestige and respect for such events within the aforementioned international scene.

An overview of concerts of neo-Nazi music bands monitored by the Czech police

1. 27 January 2007 Velký Dřevíč, a village in the Náchod District, at the restaurant Sparta: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Conflict 88 (CZE), Before the War (Slovakia), Project Vandal (Slovakia). Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region.
2. 17 February 2007 Havířov 2, Podlesí, at the restaurant Pacalůvka: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Brutall Atak (UK) and another unascertained music band from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the North Moravian Region. Participation was 70 persons.
3. 23 February 2007 Seč, a village in the Chrudim District, at the club Winter Star, the Junior Centre: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Adler, A.V.E. Band, and Klansmen. All bands were from the Czech Republic. Participation was 100 persons. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region.
4. 24 February 2007 České Budějovice, at the club Nexos, Novohradská street: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Project Vandal (Slovakia), Vinland Warriors (Canada), Adler, Imperium, - both from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the South Bohemian Region. Participation at the event was 120 persons.
5. 2 March 2007 Velký Dřevíč, a village in the Náchod District, at the restaurant Sparta: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Conflict 88 (CZE), Before the War (Slovakia) and Vinland Warriors (Canada). Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region. Participation - 160 persons.
6. 31 March 2007 Kladno, club Vítěz, situated on the pedestrian zone: a concert of a neo-Nazi music band - Uličníci 88. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the Central Bohemian Region. Participation - 70 persons.
7. 28 April 2007 Močovice, a village in the Kutná Hora District: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Masakr Gang – Outrage (CZE) and one musician from Serbia - Vladimír Becin, who performed ballads of a neo-Nazi music band Screwdriver which has already ceased its existence. Measures were not taken on the spot; information about the concert was acquired after it was over. Participation was 80 persons.
8. 12 May 2007 Velký Dřevíč, a village in the Náchod District, restaurant Sparta: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Blizzard (CZE), Before the War (Slovakia) and Project Vandal (Slovakia). Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region. Participation was 180 persons.
9. 26 May 2007, Darkovice u Hlučína: a concert of a neo-Nazi music band – the Silesian Division - and at the same time a ‘white pride camp’ was organised in a former sand pit, Bunker Orel. Measures were taken on the spot by the local police directorate. Participation was 40 persons.
10. 23 June 2007, Tři Dvory, a village in the Kolín District, at a local swimming-pool: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands KTC, Ecce Morse, Outrage, and Uličníci 88, all from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the local police directorate. Participation was 80 persons. The title of this event was ‘Sporting Day’.
11. 23 June 2007 Blatno, a village in the Louny District, at the restaurant Bílý Dům: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Conflict 88 (CZE) – who christened a new CD, Outrage (CZE) – who arrived from the above-mentioned concert held in Tři Dvory, Before the War (Slovakia) and Project Irminsul (Germany). Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the North Bohemian Region. During the course of the concert persons present in the restaurant were checked which meant the end of the concert. Participation was 150 persons.
12. 30 June 2007 Seč, a village in the Chrudim District, at the club Winter Star, the Junior Centre: a concert of a neo-Nazi music band - the Outrage. Measures were not taken on the spot, information about the concert was acquired after it was over. Participation was 80 persons.
13. 7 July 2007, Jirkov, the Chomutov District, restaurant Bowling Club Jirkov: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Conflict 88, Blizzard – both from the Czech Republic - and another three unascertained black metal music bands. Measures were not taken on the spot, information about the concert was acquired after it was over. Participation was 60 persons.

14. 4 August 2007 Pilsen, restaurant U Jána: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Squat 96, A.V.E. Band and Ecce Morse – all from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the West Bohemian Region. Participation was 70 persons
15. 18 August 2007 Janderov, a village in the Chrudim District, at a football pitch: event under the title ‘Sporting Day’. A concert of neo-Nazi music bands ExBlizzard, Conflict 88 – both from the Czech Republic; as well as a band known as sProject Irminsul (Germany) and another unascertained band from Germany. No security measures were adopted by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region. It was the largest event in 2007 with a participation of 300 persons.
16. 24 August 2007, Chocerady, part of Poddubí, the Prague-východ District: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Guarda de Honra (Portugal), Outrage, ExBlizzard and Ecce Morse – all from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the Central Bohemian Region. Nazi greetings ‘Sieg Heil’ were documented on the spot and therefore the police terminated the concert. Participation was 180 persons.
17. 25 August 2007 Teplice, at the restaurant Panorama: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Legion S, Nomisterion, ExBlizzard – all from the Czech Republic, and two other unascertained black metal music bands. Measures were taken on the spot by the District Directorate of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service I along with a branch of the unit for Combating Organised Crime. Participation was 50 persons.
18. 6 October 2007 Jenišovice, the Chrudim District, at the House of Culture: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Outrage, Legion S – both from the Czech Republic - Project Vandal (Slovakia) and Project Irminsul (Germany). Measures were taken on the spot. Participation was 120 persons.

Concerts of Right-Wing Music Bands Held in the Czech Republic in 2007



19. 12 October 2007 Vlčtejn, the Pilsen-jih (South) District, at a local restaurant: a concert of a neo-Nazi music band Conflict 88. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the West Bohemian Region. Participation was 60 persons.
20. 20 October 2007 Bohuslavice nad Metují, the Náchod District, at the restaurant Orlovna: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Hlas Krve, Nomisterion – both from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region. Participation was 130 persons.
21. 20 October 2007 Jaroměř, the Náchod District, at the House of culture Vagón (near the railway station): a concert of neo-Nazi music bands A.V.E. Band, Kodex 10, Blizard, Legion S, all from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region. Participation was 100 persons.

22. 2 November 2007 Opava, Kylešovice, at the restaurant U Slaniny: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Adler, Nomisterion, Devils Gard – all from the Czech Republic. As regards the Adler band – their new CD was christened. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the North Moravian Region. Participation was 40 persons.
23. 3 November 2007, Nové Hamry, a village in the Karlovy Vary District, at the hotel Zív: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Nomisterion, Nidhoog, Trymheim, A.V.E. Band, Memorandum – all from the Czech Republic. Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the West Bohemian Region. The police documented texts of songs the content of which represented constituent elements of crime and on the basis of this documentation the concert was discontinued by the Czech police. Participants behaved aggressively and barricaded themselves in the restaurant. Participation was 130 persons.
24. 15 December 2007 Jirkov, the Chomutov District, at the restaurant Bowling Club: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Agonie, Legion S, Pantheon, Adler – all from the Czech Republic, and Project Vandal (Slovakia). The concert was detected by the Unit for Combating Organised Crime V5; measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the North Bohemian Region. The police documented texts of songs the content of which represented constituent elements of crime and on the basis of this documentation the concert was discontinued by the Czech police. Participation was 100 persons.
25. 15 December 2007 Voletiny, the Trutnov District: a concert of neo-Nazi music bands Before the War (Slovakia) and Nomisterion (CZE). Measures were taken on the spot by the Police Administration of the East Bohemian Region. Participation was 115 persons.

In February 2007 the leader of the neo-Nazi music band Imperium (M.M.) from Ceske Budejovice was apprehended together with one of the leading persons of the cells of the National Resistance Ceske Budejovice for the criminal offence of supporting and propagating movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code, because they had recorded and ordered 600 CDs named Triumph of the Will. The content of the recorded CDs met constituent elements of the aforementioned criminal offence. The CD in question was recorded by the aforementioned music band Imperium and the published CDs were to be distributed among supporters of the National Resistance.

2.2.4.2 Demonstrations of Right-Wing Extremists

A different situation regards demonstrations and protest marches. In 2007 there were 27 such events organised by different ultra right-wing organisations. When compared to the previous year, an upward trend can be seen, even from a long term point of view. One of the most visible demonstrations was held on **1 May 2007 in Brno**. It was organised directly under the heading ‘National Resistance’. On the basis of expert opinion which clearly showed that the National Resistance professes ideology of the Great German Empire, the assembly was dissolved in accordance with a decision by the Municipal Authority. When the participants did not comply the police were forced to intervene. Criminal proceedings were commenced against several persons, including the organisers. The criminal proceedings have not yet been closed. Although prepared speeches were not presented at the demonstration they were published later, on 10 May 2007, on the National Resistance websites. In one of them for example an alleged activist operating in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia presents their memory of the Nazi period and German Empire as follows: *“Unfortunately we do not live any more in a world which is ruled by order, justice and natural values. This world died 62 years ago and after that global pseudo-capitalism came into the fore - this means capitalism which is not built on creating values but predominantly on manipulations with money”*.

2.2.4.3 Participation of Czech Neo-Nazis at Events Abroad

Apart from activities of neo-Nazis in the Czech Republic, a strengthening of international cooperation can be seen. This was confirmed by participation of Czech neo-Nazis at concerts and demonstrations held abroad. Concerts in Verona, Italy (7 April) and Vincenze, Italy (14 July), a concert in Hungary (25 August) and a march held in Budapest, Hungary, to commemorate and celebrate the last SS unit defending themselves in Hungary in 1945, called the ‘Day of Honour’ ranked in 2007 among those with the highest participation. Further there were international rallies of ultra right-wing youth in Germany organised by the German ultra right-wing party NPD (Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschland) and its youth organisation - Junge Nationaldemokraten. In 2007 there were two large scale rallies with the participation of two to three thousand of supporters coming from whole Europe. These are known as *‘Fest der völker’ (People’s Festivals)*. They were held on 30 June in Gera, on 4 August in Dresden, and on 8 September in Jena.

2.2.5 Misuse of the Internet

Right-wing extremism closely relates to the issue of the internet where racist and other publicly accessible websites displaying hatred are most often placed on the servers of internet providers in the USA where there is a different legal environment, or in other countries with which the Czech Republic has not concluded relevant agreements. Electronic communication is currently widely used among radicals and extremists and their messages are frequently encrypted with software ciphering. They also use locked-in chat groups. The authors of such texts used different methods to prevent their identification, such as proxy servers, anonymisers and others. This made exposing offenders of extremist activities more difficult. Such kind of website is for example represented by the website of the National Educational Institute. This website contains racist, anti-Semitic, revisionist and other similar texts of hate. These websites are hosted by servers in the USA. In this specific case it is not an organisation but activities carried out by several individuals, a small virtual group, focusing on the “promotion” of the above ideas. This group is also behind the book *‘Auschwitz – Facts Versus Fiction’*, distributed also in the Czech Republic. Similar texts are disclosed on the home website of the National Resistance which is also placed outside the Czech Republic. The fact that both above-mentioned web sites are placed abroad means that the Czech police cannot obtain necessary information on the individual persons who operate and pay for such websites and thus their prosecution cannot be commenced. A similar problem occurs when it is possible to solve a certain case and identify a particular perpetrator. Although the Czech police were successful for example in the case of internet promotion of the journal ‘Last Generation’, this journal is still freely accessible via the internet network and it is possible to download it. According to police expert opinion it is still typical of the issue of misuse of the internet that the perpetrators are permanently ahead of the police.

Legislative Framework

The Czech Republic signed on 9 February 2005 the *Convention on Cyber-Crime*. However, this Convention has not yet been ratified due to demanding work preparing amendments to criminal legal regulations (re-codification).²⁰

2.2.6 Criminal Activities Related to Spectator Violence

During the year 2007 the behaviour of sports spectators internationally identified as ‘potential risk spectators’ became more radical. In particular fans of the AC Sparta Prague, SK Slavia Prague, FC Baník Ostrava and the Bohemians clubs conducted themselves during mutual league matches but also at international sports events with racist and violent actions.

In 2007 the most frequent disturbances of public order in relation to football and ice hockey matches were physical assaults, damage to property and manifestations of racism. During the autumn part of the First Gambrinus Football League fireworks were used more frequently.

With respect to disturbing public order and the committing of criminal offences in relation to sports matches, the trend of previous years was confirmed, in that matches played within the First Gambrinus League and cup matches played within UEFA are of a higher risk than matches played by the national team. The trend of an increase in the aggression of risk fans when attacking neutral spectators was confirmed. And again, the highest risk matches in the Czech Republic were those of FC Baník Ostrava, AC Sparta Prague, 1.FC Brno, SK Slavia Prague, and the Bohemians.

As regards matches of the national team, these were mainly matches during the qualifying stages of the EURO 2008 cup. In 2007 two serious disturbances of public order occurred during matches played in the Czech Republic. The first was a match against Wales held in Teplice, where young hooligans attacked Welsh fans before the kick-off and doing so they seriously damaged public as well as private property. The second case must be considered far more serious. Public order was disturbed during a match against Germany when approximately 500 Czech high-risk fans attacked German hooligans on Wencelas Square in Prague, two hours before the beginning the match. As a result not only were two restaurants completely

²⁰ Obligations arising from the Convention will directly affect the Ministry of the Interior and its subordinate agencies/bodies, especially individual police units targeting cyber-crime. In relation to the future meeting of obligations resulting from this Convention, the number of staff needs to be increased and units dealing with cyber-crime should be developed, from an organisational as well as an economic point of view (for example there is a lack of experts with relevant professional and language knowledge, and specialised software is needed).

destroyed, but they also damaged goods in stalls and several persons were injured, including innocent bystanders. Large numbers of fans travelled to watch foreign matches against rivals such as Germany, Wales, Ireland, or Slovakia whose teams are very attractive for football fans. However, those fans did not commit any unlawful acts abroad. The presence of Czech police ‘spotters’ who communicated with fans and thus prevented problems was confirmed as having been useful.²¹

2.2.7 Security Risks and Expectations of Possible Developments from the Point of View of the Police of the Czech Republic

In 2007, when compared with 2006, the number of demonstrations organised by ultra right-wing groups increased and a clear growth in the number of participants was recorded as well, including radicalisation of their behaviour. For example during the demonstration held in Brno on 1 May 2007, participants actively resisted against police intervention when they without any hesitation attacked mounted police. After that demonstrators beset a nearby rampart from where they attacked the police by throwing stones. Radicalisation and active resistance of participants were obvious also during neo-Nazi concerts – on 3 November 2007 on Nove Hamry, the Karlovy Vary District, visitors to the concert barricaded themselves in the restaurant where the concert was being held and openly fought against the Czech police.

In general it may be stated:

- This radicalisation is rising once security forces are more active, i.e. when information about the majority of all events organised by right-wing extremist groups is divulged.
- The number of events during which the Czech police have to use force when intervening against their participants - and ultra right-wing organisations were frustrated that they were not able to organise concerts or demonstrations.
- Planned future actions were conceived as “revenge” on security forces, however their organisers were not successful, and this caused even more frustration.
- During organised events, whether these were concerts or demonstrations, the use of knives and similar weapons was on the rise; - which shows that participants of such events are more frequently armed and can be a signal of an upcoming trend.²²

In 2007 tendencies indicating a willingness to actively and openly enter public life emerged again within the ultra right-wing scene. The following organisations were involved:

- the most radical neo-Nazi organisation – the National Resistance;
- the ultra nationalistic party – the National Party - which will try to enter public life again in the upcoming regional elections and which attempted to enhance its visibility in 2007 by establishing its National Guards.

Actions taken by the left-wing part of the extremist spectrum concentrated in 2007 more or less on combating ideological opponents within the meaning of the campaign ‘Good night white pride’, which is managed at a European level and is a militant campaign against neo-Nazism. Despite certain passivity the following was and remains obvious:

- **the efforts of persons who participate mainly in actions carried out by neo-Nazis to violently clash not only with their ideological opponent but also with the Czech police; and**
- in the context of such efforts **members of ultra left-wing organisations are also armed.**

²¹ In the upcoming period (1st half of 2008), measures adopted by the Czech police will focus on the 1st league of the Czech-Moravian Football Association, the extra-league of ice hockey, preparations for the European Football Championship (EURO 2008), the Olympic Games in Beijing, and the World Ice Hockey Championship in Canada.

²² The use of gas pistols during a demonstration held in Prague on 10 November 2007 was not exceptional.

III. The Most Important Activities Carried Out by State Authorities in 2007

3.1 The Government of the Czech Republic

3.1.1 Draft Antidiscrimination Act

In 2007 the Government submitted to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic the Draft Act on Equal Treatment and on Legal Instruments for Protection against Discrimination (the Antidiscrimination Act). The Government approved the Draft Act concerned on 11 June 2007 and it was then submitted to the Chamber of Deputies where the Draft Act was discussed on 26 September 2007 at 1st reading as Bill No. 253 and was assigned to four Committees of the Chamber of Deputies.²³

The Draft Antidiscrimination Act was modified taking into account legislative development after the first version of the Act in question was submitted. Thus the new version takes into account some essential amendments submitted by both Chambers of the Parliament of the Czech Republic during discussions on the original version. When compared with the original version the amendments are as follows:

- two more Directives are being implemented (Council Directive 2004/113/EC of 13 December 2004 implementing the principle of equal treatment between men and women with regard to access to and supply of goods and services, and Directive 2006/54/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation (recast);
- **discrimination on the grounds of explicitly defined reasons (race or ethnic origin, nationality, gender sexual orientation, age, disability, religious belief, faith or social views) is forbidden;**
- there is one Draft Act amending some other acts (the previous act was accompanied by another act which expressly amended other related acts);
- the scope of competence of the Ombudsman remains unchanged; see the amendment to Act No. 349/1999 Coll. on the Ombudsman.

3.1.2 Discussion on the Sixth and Seventh Periodical Report on Meeting the Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination by the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Through its Resolution No. 1433 of 9 November 2005 the Government approved the Sixth and Seventh Periodical Report on Meeting the International Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which the Czech Republic had previously submitted for assessment by the Committee for Eliminating Racial Discrimination.

The Report was discussed by the Committee on 1 and 2 March 2007 at its 70th Meeting held in Geneva. The Czech Republic's delegation, composed of representatives of those ministries which are primarily responsible for the issue of racial discrimination, was present at the discussion.

The Committee summarised its evaluation of the Czech Republic with respect to adherence to human rights in its final recommendations (CERD/C/CZE/CO/7), hereinafter referred to as 'Recommendation'.

²³ So far the Draft Act was discussed by the following committees: The Committee for European Affairs (which did not adopt any resolution), the Commission for Equal Opportunities (which recommended approval), the Committee on Petitions (which recommended approval as amended), and the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs (which suspended discussions).

This document determines both positive aspects and problems causing uneasiness. There is also a list of recommendations to be taken to enhance respect for human rights regulated by the Convention. The recommendations mainly concern:

- lack of a comprehensive legislative framework for protection against discrimination;
- policing in relation to minorities;
- the issue of sterilisation of Roma women;
- employment of Roma within public administration and its institutions;
- racial discrimination in applying the right to housing and the protection of vulnerable persons, including Roma, from being evicted;
- the situation of Roma as regards education; and
- a low number of complaints filed by victims of racial discrimination.

The Government took note of the recommendations by its Resolution No. 1130 of 10 February 2007, and required the Government Commissioner for Human Rights to draw up and submit not later than on 29 February 2008 a draft response from the Government to some of the recommendations.²⁴

3.1.3. Report on Human Rights in the Czech Republic

Since 1998 the Government Commissioner for Human Rights draws up an annual Report on Human Rights in the Czech Republic. This Report covers the whole area of human rights including discrimination on the grounds of race or ethnic origin.

The 2006 Report presented in 2007 focuses, *inter alia*, in its Chapter devoted to discrimination, on discrimination on the grounds of race or ethnic origin. It mentions activities carried out by the Czech Trade Inspection and briefly informs about the issue of neo-Nazi concerts. In its introduction the Report states specific problems of extremism, neo-Nazism, xenophobia and the position of minorities, and in this context mainly the status of the Roma minority are described in the reports drawn up by competent bodies. As regards the Roma minority, the annual report is drawn up by the Council for Roma Community Affairs.²⁵

3.1.4 Recodification of Criminal Law

On 30 January 2008 the Government submitted to the Chamber of Deputies the Draft Criminal Code. The New Criminal code should enter into force on 1 January 2009. Although the submitted Draft Criminal Code takes on, to a certain degree, the current interpretation of extremist crimes, certain alterations can be seen:

- **Sec. 322** - The crime of defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief is taken from the valid legal regulation. Circumstances which lead to the use of higher sanctions will include also press, film, radio and television broadcasting, publicly accessible computer networks or any other similarly effective means of publication.
- **Sec. 323** - The crime of incitement of hate towards a group of people and restriction of their rights and freedoms (Sec. 323) is taken from the framework from the still valid Criminal Code. Only paragraph 3 (b) is being amended. Active participation in activities of groups or organisations which profess discrimination, violence or racial, ethnic, class, religious or any kind of hate, is a reason for higher sanctions. Thus a higher sanction is not conditional only upon elements which constitute the crime in question, as it is in the currently valid legal regulation.
- **Sec. 370 – 372** – The legal framework of the new Criminal Code takes on constituent elements of crimes of establishment, support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms (Sec. 372), and manifestation of sympathy towards movements suppressing human

²⁴ The Committee requested information on meeting its recommendation concerning the sterilisation of Roma women, education of Roma children, and the Antidiscrimination Act.

²⁵ The 2007 Report will be submitted to the Government by 30 April 2008 at the latest.

rights and freedoms (Sec. 371); denying, casting doubt on, approving or justifying genocide (Sec. 372) is taken on only with partial specification of the wording of such provisions (compare Sec. 260 and 261a of the Criminal Code, as amended). As regards the crime of establishment, support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms (Sec. 370), only circumstances requiring the application of a higher criminal sanction under paragraph 2(a) are supplemented. A higher sanction shall be applied if the crime is committed through a publicly accessible network (for example the internet) so that it corresponds with the definition of these especially serious circumstances with respect to other criminal offences [for example Sec. 157 (3) (b), Sec. 255 (2) (c), Sec. 322 (2) (b) and so forth]. As regards the criminal offence of denying, casting doubt on, approving or justifying genocide (Sec. 372), protection has been extended to denying, approving or justifying genocide other than that by the Nazi or communist regime.

The wording of the aforementioned extremist crimes is as follows:

Sec. 322

Defamation of a Nation, Race, Ethnic or Other Group of Persons

- (1) Whoever publicly defames
- a) A nation, its language, a race or an ethnic group, or
 - b) a group of persons for their real or alleged race, membership in an ethnic group, nationality, political conviction, faith, or because they are actually or allegedly without any religious belief

shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment up to two years.

- (2) An offender shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment up to three years if he/she commits a crime stipulated in paragraph 1
- a) together with at least two persons, or
 - b) through the press, film, radio and/or television broadcasting, via a publicly accessible computer network, or in any other similarly effective manner.

Sec. 323

Incitement of Hate towards a Group of People and Restriction of Their Rights and Freedoms

- (3) Whoever publicly incites hate towards a nation, race, ethnic group, religion, class or any other group of persons or defends the restriction of the rights and freedoms of their members shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment up to two years.
- (4) A person who conspires or associates in order to commit a criminal offence laid down in paragraph 1 shall be punished by the same sentence as stipulated in paragraph 1.
- (5) A criminal offender shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment from six months up to three years,
- a) if they commit the criminal offence stipulated in paragraph 1 through the press, film, radio and/or television broadcasting, via a publicly accessible computer network or in any other similarly effective manner, or
 - b) if they actively participate in such a criminal offence through the activities of groups, organisations or associations professing discrimination, violence or racial, ethnic, class, religious or any other hate.

Sec. 370

Establishment, Support and Propagation of Movements Suppressing Human Rights and Freedoms

- (6) Whoever establishes, supports or propagates a movement which demonstrably intends to suppress the rights and freedoms of people, or which professes national, racial, religious or class hatred or hate towards another group of persons, shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment from one up to five years.
- (7) An offender shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment from three up to ten years
- a) if they commit the criminal offence stipulated in paragraph 1 through the press, film, radio and/or television broadcasting, via a publicly accessible computer network or in any other similarly effective manner, or
 - b) if they commit such criminal offence as a member of an organised group, or
 - c) if they commit such criminal offence when the state is endangered or during a time of war.
- (8) Preparation shall be punishable.

Sec. 371

Manifestation of Sympathy towards Movements Suppressing Human Rights and Freedoms

Whoever publicly shows sympathy for a movement stipulated in Sec. 370 (1) shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment from six months up to three years.

Sec. 372

Denying, Casting Doubt on, Approving or Justifying Genocide

Whoever publicly denies, cast doubt on, approves or strive to justify Nazi, communist or any other genocide or any other criminal acts of Nazis or communists against humanity shall be punished by a sentence of imprisonment from six months up to three years.

3.2 The Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic

3.2.1 International Cooperation in Combating Extremism

Agreements on Police Cooperation

The issue of extremism and racism is, on an ongoing basis, taken into account in the drafts of new agreements on police cooperation. These agreements expressly mention combating extremism, racial intolerance, and xenophobia.

The **Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Poland on the Cooperation of Police Bodies in Combating Criminal Activities and Protecting Public Order and on Cooperation in the Borderland**, signed in Warsaw on 21 June 2006, came into force on 2 August 2007.

3.2.2. Advisory Bodies Working within the Ministry of the Interior

3.2.2.1 Inter-Ministerial Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism and Xenophobia

The Inter-ministerial Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism and Xenophobia is an advisory body to the Minister of the Interior established by Government Resolutions No. 903/2001 and 238/2002. Currently it serves as a **centre of expertise** for a liaison of the Czech Republic with regard to contact with the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights – the FRA, formerly the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (hereinafter referred to as the ‘EUMC’), and it also serves as a **national focal point for the Czech Republic** for ODIHR OSCE.

The members of the Inter-ministerial Commission obtained in 2007 within the competencies of their respective ministries and offices information and data necessary to draw up the ‘Information on the Issue of Extremism in 2007’. In 2007, as a national contact point for ODIHR OSCE, they further met assignments relating to preparing different supporting documents and completing questionnaires concerning the issues of extremism, racism, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in the Czech Republic, and dealt with measures against such phenomena.

3.2.2.2 Working Group of the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs under the Competence of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic

This Working Commission is chaired by the First Deputy of the Minister of the Interior and its members are experts of the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police, representatives of the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, the Secretariat of this Council and, in particular, Roma coordinators of Regional Authorities. It is the only official working group which assembles Roma coordinators of Regional Authorities.

In 2006 one of the priority topics of this Working Group was the indebtedness of socially vulnerable and excluded groups of the population which can lead, in extreme consequences, to committing crimes against property and violent crimes - for the purpose to repay such debt. If such crime is committed by Roma then this arouses extremist tendencies. **The Olomouc Region implemented in 2007 a pilot project** under the name 'Nothing's Free', subsidised by CZK 578,000. The aim of this project was to commence a campaign which should shed light on the issue, to extend an advisory service and to enhance a professional level of supportive staff in this area. At the same time the project was to test new methods of fighting against this rapidly spreading phenomenon which may become a future pro-criminal factor. The project was evaluated as having been successful and will be offered to other regions within the crime Prevention Strategy for 2008 – 2001.

The Ministry of the Interior responded to the problem of indebtedness by drawing up a brochure titled 'Prevention of Indebtedness of Czech Households with an Emphasis on Socially Vulnerable and Excluded Groups of Inhabitants' which will be published in the first quarter of 2008. The Ministry also organised a series of seminars for officials of self-governing authorities and staff of NGOs. The objective of the brochure and follow up seminars was to provide relevant experts working with indebted clients in various phases of repayment of their debt with information on the issue of indebtedness of socially vulnerable and excluded persons. A further goal was to provide them with guidelines for the prevention, solution and elimination of negative consequences related to indebtedness.

3.2.3 Other Activities

3.2.3.1 Working Group on the Issue of Right-Wing Extremist Music Performances

Through the decision of the Minister of the Interior and the Police President a Working Group dealing with the issue of right-wing extremist concerts in the Czech Republic was established. The principal objective of this Working Group is to unify the interpretation and application of Sections 198a, 260, and 261 of the Criminal Code (these Sections regulate the crimes of supporting, propagating or inciting extremist behaviour) in cases of concerts of extremist music bands. The Security Policy Department is responsible for the work of this Working Group and its members were nominated from security and intelligence services. Furthermore, representatives of the Supreme Court, the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, NGOs and a consultant of the Working Group issuing expert opinions were also invited to participate in the Working Group's meetings.

When investigating crimes of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sections 260, 261 and 261a of the Criminal Code or other criminal offences with an extremist context, the opinion of an expert knowledgeable in the area of extremism is frequently required. However, there was not a suitable branch in the list of experts where such professionals could be included. Therefore the Ministry of Justice was requested to establish a new branch – social sciences and political sciences - and the Ministry of Justice agreed with this requirement.

In the context of assemblies of right-wing extremists, two problems relating to the application of the Act on the Right to Assemble occurred. In particular, interpretation of the term 'reported purpose of an assembly' appeared to be in dispute. The MoI supports the opinion that it is necessary to assess the real purpose of a reported assembly within the overall context of historical and social facts, the place of the planned assembly, the participants and information on them as well as the overall meaning of the purpose

of an event. This interpretation was also supported by the judgement of the Supreme Court issued on 5 November 2007.

3.2.3.2 Applying State Power in the Area of the Right of Assembly

Law on Assembly

In 2007 persons closely linked to the neo-Nazi organisation National Resistance attempted to organise an assembly in Prague, officially reported under a fabricated purpose. First of all this was a march across the Old Jewish quarter on 10 November 2007, i.e. on the anniversary of the Crystal Night. However, this march was reported as a 'protest against participation of the Czech Republic in the occupation of Iraq'. Such activities opened up questions as to the procedure to be taken by public or self-governing authorities in cases where the real purpose of a reported assembly may totally differ from the purpose officially declared.

As regards the above described case, the City Council of Prague issued on 4 October 2007 a decision prohibiting the assembly under Sec. 10 (2) (a) of the Act on the Right of Assembly since the reported purpose was a call for incitement of hate and intolerance towards citizens because of their nationality, origin and religious belief.²⁶ However, the Municipal Court of Prague abolished the decision adopted by the City Council by the Court's judgement of 19 October 2007. A cassation complaint against the judgement of the Municipal Court lodged by the City Council of Prague was rejected by the Supreme Administrative Court on 5 November 2007. The decision of the Supreme Administrative Court reads that the City Council did not duly deal with the issue of the entity which reported the assembly on 27 August 2007. As regards assessment of the purpose of the assembly, the Supreme Administrative Court stated that an administrative authority, when assessing whether the reported purpose of an assembly conforms to legal grounds and whether it contradicts the law, cannot build only on the reported purpose of the assembly. A formally reported purpose of an assembly may conceal objectives and aims which differ from those that are declared. Thus a reported assembly may be forbidden if its reported purpose hides the real unlawful purpose of the assembly. The real unlawful purpose of an assembly must be proved by the administrative body concerned and this means that the administrative body bears the burden of proof.

The issue of reporting a fabricated purpose for an assembly can be solved by its prohibition under Sec.10 of the Act on the Right of Assembly, provided that the administrative authority is able to prove the real unlawful purpose of the reported assembly, or else such assembly can be dissolved on the day on which it is held under Sec. 12 of the Act on the Right of Assembly.

Video-conference on the Act on the Right of Assembly

The Ministry of the Interior addressed in 2007 the Prague City Council and, through regional authorities, all other municipal councils, and requested them to provide information on the problems they when applying the Act on the Right of Assembly. They were also asked to submit respective amendments to the Act in question. The data and information obtained from Prague City Council as well as from regional authorities were evaluated and processed in the light of current decisions of Administrative Courts. On **11 December 2007 a consultative day** for representatives of city/municipal councils and regional authorities was held in the form of a **video-conference moderated by the Regional Authority of the Central Bohemian Region**. Participants were informed about current court decisions relating to the law of assembly and application problems which the relevant authorities may encounter when they execute powers delegated on them.

²⁶ A decision of the Prague City Council was based on the expert's opinion and on the information of the Czech Police Administration of Prague. On the basis of these opinions they came to the conclusion that a formally reported purpose of the assembly 'protest against participation of the Czech Republic in occupation of Iraq' is fabled, in particular when taking into account that the place where this march was to be held, did not have any connection to the military participation of the Czech Army in Iraq.

Law of Association

The civic association the Communist Union of Youth (hereinafter referred to as the ‘CUY’) was dissolved on 12 October 2006 by the decision of the Ministry of the Interior).²⁷ The CUY lodged an action against this decision at the City Court of Prague, which has not yet decided on the case.

In 2007 the National Party announced the establishment of its National Guards. When considering implementation of their intention to establish such Guards, it may be said that as regards the respective proposal of the National Party to register any amendments to their statutes or in the context of their real activities its status or activities may be interfered with only if conditions laid down by Act No. 424/1991 Coll. on Association in Political Parties and Political Movements, as amended, are satisfied.²⁸

3.2.3.3 Preventing Radicalisation of Persons from Immigrant Communities

The Ministry of the Interior does not underestimate the risks of respective radicalisation, including the respective radicalisation of some Muslims. Therefore the MoI analyses, on an ongoing basis, trends relating to this area within the Czech Republic as well as abroad. ***In this context it must be mentioned that no terrorist cells were detected in the Czech Republic and Islamists did not undertake any terrorist attacks in the Czech Republic.***

Despite this the MoI continues to monitor development in the area of prevention of radicalisation and fighting against this phenomenon. This involves for example the preparation of specific documents, and participation of experts of the Ministry of the Interior in professional seminars and conferences focused on this topic both in the Czech Republic and abroad. The MoI is also involved in discussing EU documents dealing with this topic.

In order to understand the situation in the Czech Republic relating to radicalisation and recruitment, the fact that, according to estimates, there are approximately 10,000 Muslims who live in the Czech Republic is important. These Muslims practice their faith with different intensities. The situation in the Czech Republic considerably differs from the situation in some other EU Member States with numerous Muslim communities.²⁹

²⁷ For more information see *Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2006*, sub-chapter 3.2.3 Other Activities (Applying State Power in the Area of the Right of Assembly).

²⁸ Under Sec. 11 of Act No. 424/1991 Coll. the Ministry shall reject any submitted amendment to the Statutes if such amendment of statutes contradict Sections 1 through 6 (3) and (44) thereof. Thus the rejected amendment of such Statutes is, *inter alia*, reasoned by the fact that the party of the movement concerned violated the Constitution or Act under its proclaimed aims, that they intend to remove democratic basis of the state, that their status is not democratic, and that their managing bodies were not established in the required manner; they show an intention to take over state power and to prevent other parties or movements from, using constitutional means, competing by using democratic means (elections) and/or they intend to suppress the equality of citizens and their programme or activities endangers decency, public order or the rights and freedoms of citizens. Furthermore, statutes of political parties and movements are not permitted to proclaim that the party/association in question is going to execute the office of state authorities, to impose duties on persons who are not members of the respective party or movement; the content of the statutes must not support arming or the establishment of their own armed forces. Parties of a movement may lodge an action to the Supreme Administrative Court against the decision of the Ministry of the Interior not to register amendments to the Statutes.

²⁹ However the experience of some old EU Member States show that the Czech Republic must pay attention to the issue of radicalisation and recruitment into terrorist organisations. The MoI is aware of the fact that some EU Member States (the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, and Italy) failed to manage the integration process of a small part of Muslims residing there. It must be taken into account that the Czech Republic is an EU Member State, and the issue of migration and integration of foreign nationals is not a brand new topic for the Union and individual EU Member States are recommended to pay thorough attention supporting Muslim integration (including prevention of radicalisation, recruitment to terrorism and combating Islamophobia). The MoI is the responsible body for developing the governmental document ‘National Action Plan on Combating Terrorism’ which is updated on an ongoing basis. Moreover, the National Action Plan on Combating Terrorism, and its updated version for 2007 – 2009 also notifies security aspects of foreigners’ integration (Part 3. Preventing the Establishment of Closed Communities of Immigrants and Radicalisation of their Members

The interest of the MoI in the issue of integration of Muslims in the Czech Republic can be proved, *inter alia*, by a survey whose results were published by the Ministry on 27 July 2007.³⁰ These were the results of a pilot survey of the integration process of Muslims in the Czech Republic.

The aim of the survey was to capture whether and how Muslims integrate into Czech society. According to the Report the vast majority of Muslims live very well in the Czech Republic, at least if taking into account their economic situation. Only a small part of them find themselves in a marginalised position. The Report also states that Muslims in the Czech Republic in general appreciate two values: education and family. With respect to the further development of Muslims in the Czech Republic the Report considers the integration of newly arriving Muslims to be a key aspect. The survey report states, on the basis of available statistical data, that 11,235 Muslims reside in the Czech Republic. The core of the Report is based on 69 thorough interviews with 44 Muslims. Communication partners who were interviewed were fully informed about the survey objectives and they were aware of the fact that it was the MoI who had requested the survey. The MoI evaluates the results of the survey very positively. In implementing the survey, guidance used (methodology) as well as the division of the survey into two phases (piloting and implementing) proved to be useful. The outcomes of the survey were successfully used in 2007 in training courses for police officers on the life of Muslims in the Czech Republic and these were positively accepted. On the basis of gathered experiences from the presentation of outcomes of the survey a briefer version of the Final report will be drafted. This will be determined for training purposes.

3.2.3.4 Strategy for Policing in Relation to Minorities for 2006 – 2007³¹

The Strategy for Policing of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to Minorities for 2006 - 2007 was adopted by the Government of the Czech Republic by Resolution No. 49 of 11 January 2006. The *Strategy* is a follow up to the previous document - the *National Strategy for Policing of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to Ethnic and National Minorities*, approved in 2003. The aim of the *Strategy* was to assist in the successful adaptation of the Czech police to conditions of increasing social diversity, and to furnish police officers with corresponding social competences so that they will be able to work effectively in relation to minorities, including foreign nationals, while approaching minorities equally.

The following activities were carried out in 2007:

- Liaisons for minorities which were established at regional police administrations and their working groups continued to work.
- The project 'Police Assistant' for work in socially excluded localities was extended with the aim of supporting victims of criminal offences in the environment of social exclusion and to expose latent crime in such localities more effectively. The project is currently carried out in Ostrava, Cheb, Brno, Karvina, and Pilsen.
- A one-year pilot project of supervision held at the Municipal Directorate of the Czech Police in Brno was completed. Its objective was to verify the option to apply supervision as a tool of human resources within the conditions of the Czech police.
- Surveys focusing on mapping crime affecting socially excluded areas continued.³²

³⁰ The survey was carried out from 2005 to 2007 by the Very Vison, s.r.o. company on the basis of the requirements of the Ministry of the Interior. The outcomes of the survey were published on the Ministry of the Interior's web sites: www.mvcr.cz

³¹ The updated *Strategy for Policing of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to Minorities 2008 – 2012* will be submitted to the Government not later than on 31 March 2008. It will encompass a detailed evaluation of adopted measures and will set priorities for the upcoming period.

³² Between 2005 – 2007 surveys of crime were carried out in socially excluded localities in Ústí nad Labem and its surroundings, in Most and its surroundings, in the Sokolov District, in Brno, and in Prague.

3.2.4 The Issue of Extremism in the Crime Prevention System of the Ministry of the Interior

3.2.4.1 Preventive Programmes at Local Level

The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for the activities of an intra-governmental body - the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention, which has among its principal tasks the implementation of a programme which involves cities with the highest crime rates and a culmination of other pathological social phenomena. The essential conceptual document for the prevention policy of the state in the field of crime is the *'Strategy for Crime Prevention 2004-2007'* (hereinafter referred to as the "Strategy"), approved by Government Resolution No. 393/2004. The MoI drew up and the Government adopted at its meeting on 15 October 2007 by its Resolution No. 1150 the *'Crime Prevention Strategy for 2008 - 2001'*. The priorities of the new Strategy are as follows: **victims of crimes motivated by racial, nationalist or religious hatred, high-risk individuals who could become potential offenders or victims (socially excluded individuals and groups; foreign nationals, members of national and ethnic minorities; inhabitants residing in socially excluded localities), criminal offences and delinquent conduct related to radicalisation of sport spectator violence; crimes motivated by racial, nationalist or religious hatred, and unlawful conduct in socially excluded localities.**

The **'Programme of Crime Prevention at the Local Level- Partnership'** (hereinafter referred to as the 'Partnership') is being implemented in the framework of the Strategy for Crime Prevention. The Partnership is a non-repressive method through which it has been possible since 1996 to systematically focus on the improvement of inter-ethnic relationships, to overcome prejudice, to limit xenophobia, to increase tolerance and patience on the side of the majority, and to emancipate, educate and find a place in society for the Roma minority. It is meant to eliminate or at least alleviate the social exclusion of Roma communities, the consequence of such exclusion being also an increased risk of racist and extremist attitudes. Projects focus mainly on children and youth, whose system of values and habits is more open to positive change.

In 2007 in total 19 preventive projects were supported which were subsidised by the amount of CZK 2,881,000. Projects subsidised by CZK 1,330,000 were implemented in twelve towns (Česká Třebová, Kladno, Kopřivnice, Kralupy nad Vltavou, Krnov, Olomouc, Orlová, Ostrov, Praha, Šumperk, Trmice, and Vysoké Mýto). Two regions (the Olomouc Region and the North Bohemian Region) were supported by an amount totalling CZK 1,551,000. Funds were allocated under the Government Resolutions from the Budget Chapter 'General Cash Management', however finance was not earmarked from the budget of the Ministry of the Interior. The condition upon which projects were supported was that of co-financing by a municipality and the active participation of Roma in their implementation.

3.2.4.2 Preventive Programmes Implemented within the Police of the Czech Republic

In 2005 the **'Programme of the Ministry of the Interior in the Field of Crime Prevention until 2007'** was drawn up and approved by the Minister of the Interior. This is a strategic document laying down the rules for preventive activities within the Ministry of the Interior and its subordinate agencies which will significantly contribute to the joint action of all units and forces of the Ministry in implementing the system of crime prevention.

In order to support the aforementioned activities the Ministry of the Interior earmarks each year for this purpose CZK 3.9 million. One of the expressly mentioned areas for possible financial support is the ***'prevention of crimes with a racial and extremist context and prevention of xenophobia'***.

3.2.4.3 Research and Surveys

In cooperation with the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention and the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior initiated and subsidised by the amount of CZK 370,000 a survey with the title 'Causes of Success of Roma in the Czech Republic'. The project was awarded (through public procurement) to the Socioklub – a civic association. The aim of the survey was to describe individual lives of successful Roma, their childhood, family background, the course of their

career, plans for the future, opinions on how to solve problems which plague part of the Roma population, opinions on the coexistence of Roma and the majority, and in particular to track break-even-points or circumstance which have been crucial for achieving success. The results of these surveys will be used for the support of projects affecting the positive development of individuals and their integration in the majority society. The outcomes will also become a basis for planning on integration and conceptual supportive activities. The MoI will receive a final report and documentary DVD during the first quarter of 2008.

3.2.5 Educational Projects

In 2007, as in 2006, the issue of extremism has been a part of educational programmes delivered by secondary police schools of the Ministry of the Interior and training police centres of individual regional administrations of the Czech police within basic vocational preparation and other training courses. Topics such as extremism, racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia play an important role in general training activities. Centres for Education towards Human Rights are involved in further professional training. It should be mentioned that the Police Academy of the Czech Republic devotes particular attention to the above topics and it organises thematic training courses pertaining to the area in question.³³

3.2.5.1 Instruction on the Issues of Extremism within the Basic Professional Training

The aim of basic professional courses was to provide learners with the required competences necessary for meeting tasks of the Czech police and the MoI in the area of security issues. Learners acquainted themselves with issues of extremism in the field of civil and professional skills. These concentrated on political rights, the rights of national and ethnic minorities, the specificities of the work of a police officer in a multicultural environment, as well issues of extremism racism, xenophobia and crimes having an extremist context (crimes against humanity, criminal offences with an extremist context, typical forms and manners in which racially motivated crimes are committed, processing findings on crimes motivated racially, and so forth). Attention was also paid to psychological aspects of interventions of the Czech police against participants at extremist events and performances. The issue of extremism was also incorporated in specialised courses at some police schools of the MoI.

3.2.5.2 Centre for Education towards Human Rights

In 2007 the Centre for Education towards Human Rights operating under the Police College (i.e. post-secondary vocational police school) and Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague devoted to the issue in question a comprehensive training manual - 'Police among Cultures'³⁴ and started to work on the project 'Language Bridges'³⁵ which will be completed in 2008. The objective of the project is to mitigate adverse and unethical behaviour and manifestations of racism and xenophobia among some low ranking police officers when on duty.

In addition a project 'Communication Skills Aimed at Foreigners' was implemented. This was supported by the Asylum and Migration Policy Department of the MoI within the Strategy on the Integration of Foreigners. A pilot project was carried out through three three-day training courses for

³³ Some areas which are the subject of security research, such as the right to assembly or spectator violence, are developed within the Police Academy of the Czech Republic or within its Institute of Police and Security Studies.

³⁴ The training manual comprises a multimedia CD-ROM and printed manuals for teachers as well as students. It contains plenty of information concerning extremism, xenophobia, racism, and discrimination, and in addition to these elements it strives to educate students through short films and good practice taken from real life. This manual was presented in October 2007 at the Secondary Police School in Brno during specific instructive training for teachers at Secondary Police schools of the MoI and trainers at Training Centres of the Czech police. It was also provided for the purpose of basic professional training and life-long learning.

³⁵ The project supported by the Asylum and Migration Policy Department of the MoI within the Strategy on Integration of Foreigners is being revised into its final form now. It concentrated on creating four interactive CD-ROMs for instruction of the Roma language whilst Roma themselves participated in some video sequences.

police offices. Besides communication with foreign nationals and national minorities, police obtained information on the characteristic features of an ethnic group which is considerably represented in the Czech Republic – i.e. the attitudes and conduct of persons of Roma ethnicity.

3.2.6 Media

In 2007, as in the previous year, the Ministry of the Interior published on its website (<http://www.mvcr.cz/dokument/index.html#extrem>), in the section ‘Extremism’, documents relating to this issue.

During the year 2007 the Ministry issued press releases responding to topical events and issues relating to extremism. Employees of Public Relations Departments responded, on an ongoing basis, to questions from citizens as well as journalists concerning topical events relating to extremism. Public Relations Department employees also informed the general public on the issues of foreign nationals residing in the Czech Republic, on asylum issues, and on other activities of the Ministry relating to combating xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism. Ongoing monitoring of media focused on articles and pieces concerning the Ministry of the Interior and the issue of extremism being published in several foremost Czech printed and electronic media. The police communicated with the general public also through ministerial journals *Policista (Policeman)* and *Kriminalistika, (Criminal Sciences)*, the periodical magazine of the crime Prevention Department *Tiskový servis (Pres Service)* and *Informační servis prevence kriminality (Crime Prevention Information Service)*, as well as through web sites, press articles and radio or TV broadcasting and by distributing informative and educational materials. In 2007 information on topical issues of extremism, terrorism, racism, xenophobia and spectator violence was provided on an ongoing basis as in previous years.

3.2.7 Spectator violence

Activities pertaining to the area of spectator violence focused in 2007 predominantly on issues relating to preparation for the 2008 Europe Football Championship in Austria and Switzerland. In this context the following points must be mentioned:

- **Meeting of the Salzburg Forum Working Group**
(Vienna, 13 – 15 June 2007)

An initial meeting of the Working Group of the Salzburg Forum was convened to discuss the issue of security during the European Football Championship in 2008 which will be organised in Austria and Switzerland. The meeting was attended by representatives of ministries of the countries whose football teams will participate in EURO 2008 as well as representatives of all countries which neighbour Austria. Participants were informed on the phase of preparations in Austria itself, in particular they were provided with information on security measures which have been or will be adopted. The option of cooperation with Austrian partners on security measures at the level of the Ministries of the Interior and police forces was discussed.

- **Description of the document ‘Joint Declaration of the Federal Minister of the Interior of Austria and the Minister of the Interior of the Czech Republic on Cooperation on Issues Concerning Security during the European Football Championship in 2008’.**

Within the framework of preparations for the European Football Championship in 2008 the Austrian party declared its intention to express planned cooperation through a written document later issued as the ‘Joint Declaration of the Federal Minister of the Interior of Austria and the Minister of the Interior of the Czech Republic on Cooperation on Issues Concerning Security during the European Football Championship in 2008 (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Joint Declaration’). The draft Joint Declaration was debated several times at the working level with the Austrian party and afterwards it was evaluated by competent departments of the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police. It is a political statement similar to that concluded prior to the World Football Championship in 2006.

The Joint Declaration was signed on the occasion of the meeting of the Ministers of the Interior of Austria and of the Czech Republic held on 6 November 2007. A similar declaration was also signed with Switzerland.

The Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Council of Europe

A meeting of the Standing Committee of the Council of Europe was held in Zurich from 12 to 14 December 2007. The key issue discussed by the forum was how to ensure security during the European Football Championship in 2008.

Representatives of the Austrian and Swiss Ministries of the Interior informed the attendees on the current state of preparations of security measures concerning the European Football Championship in 2008. There were also representatives of FIFA and individual countries who gave their comments.

The meeting further discussed the following issues: development of a seminar for fan coaching, presentation of ECRI projects relating to the fight against racism in football; the issue of a Fan Charter, and discussion about annual reports of individual Member States on spectator violence.

Standing Committee of the Council of Europe

The Ministry of the Interior, namely its Security Policy Department, is the responsible party for annual development of the National Report of the Czech Republic on Spectator Violence. The National Reports are sent to the Standing Committee of the Council of Europe. Representatives of the Ministry regularly participate in meetings of the Standing Committee of the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events, in Particular Football Matches, which is chaired, until 30 June 2008, by PhDr. Radim Bures from the Czech Republic.

3.2.8 The Issue of Extremism within the Police of the Czech Republic

Situation in 2007

The issue of extremism was adequately safeguarded at the republic-wide level as well as at the level of regions and districts. Due to reorganization of the police in 2006 the Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Czech police became the responsible body for the issue in question. Police specialists dealing with the issues of extremism worked at Regional Police Administrations and District Directorates of the Czech police.

3.3 The Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office

3.3.1 The Ministry of Justice

3.3.1.1 Court Statistics

In 2007 courts of the Czech Republic lawfully sentenced a total of 75,728 persons, which is an increase, in comparison with 2006, of 6,349 persons, i.e. about 9.2%. Of this number, **in total 72 persons were sentenced for 155 crimes with an extremist or racist context**. This number accounts only for 0.1% of the total number of lawfully sentenced persons. In comparison with 2006 a further decline was seen in the number of persons lawfully sentenced for a crime having a racist context, since in the previous year 96 persons were sentenced, and in 2005, 159 persons. The share of such crimes also substantially decreased from 217 in 2006 to 155 in 2007 (a decline of 43.8%). It is obvious that the stated number also shows that this segment of crimes has been considerably falling during the last two years.

Offenders were most often convicted of criminal offences below:

Criminal offence	The provision of the Criminal Code	Number of persons		Criminal offence 2005
		2007	2006	
Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms	Sec. 260, Sec. 261	24	34	67
Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or conviction	Sec. 198	13	14	39
Violence against a group of people or an individual	Sec. 196	14	21	26
Hooliganism	Sec. 202	4	7	8
Injury to health	Sec. 221	6	3	5
Assault against a public official	Sec. 155	0	2	5
Extortion	Sec. 235	1	1	2
Dangerous threats	Sec. 197a	1	2	2
Inciting hate against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms	Sec. 198a	0	1	2
Infringement of copyright, related rights and rights concerning the retention of information	Sec. 152	0	0	1
Serious physical injury	Sec. 222	1	5	1
Theft	Sec. 247	1	1	1

As regards the above-mentioned results it must be stated that the reporting of a criminal offence as a crime having a racist context is dependant on the decision of the relevant judge, taking into account the circumstances of the case.

For the aforementioned criminal offences, ten persons received unconditional sentences of imprisonment, which accounts for 14% of lawfully sentenced persons. Of these for one person the sentence was up to one year and for six persons from one to five years of imprisonment. 47 persons, i.e. 65.3% of the sentenced persons, received suspended sentences; whilst 10 persons, which accounts for 14%, were sentenced to community service.

Of the total number of sentenced persons ten were, according to courts, repeat offenders, which accounts for 14%, and on the other hand 35 persons, i.e. 48.6%, were first-time offenders. Only four juveniles were sentenced which accounts for 5.5% of the total number of persons lawfully sentenced for criminal offences having a racist context. And again only four female offenders were sentenced, which accounts for 5.5 %.

3.3.1.2 Activities of the Ministry of Justice

The Ministry of Justice continues to meet tasks laid down by Government Resolutions, since crimes having a racist subtext are paid continuous attention to during regular six-monthly and annual evaluations of activities carried out by courts. These types of criminal activities are reported separately by individual courts. The issue in question is monitored also by supervisory bodies of the Ministry of Justice and within inspections which concentrate on controlling the speed and smoothness of proceedings.

3.3.1.3 Probation and Mediation Service

In 2007, as in previous years, centres of the Probation and Mediation Service (hereinafter referred to as 'PMS') demonstrated exceptional experience when working with offenders of racially motivated criminal offences.

Background

Since its establishment (1 January 2001) the Probation and Mediation Service has processed regular statistical reports on the activities of individual PMS centres and it evaluates how PMS is involved in solving criminal cases linked to extremism. Collected findings show that PMS centres recorded only a minimum number of cases relating to extremism: from 2001 – 2007 the number represents about **0.2 - 0.3%** of the total number of new cases. In 2001 the Ministry of Justice drew up the '**Policy of Probation and Mediation Activities within Combating Extremism**', the tasks arising from which have been met by PMS staff within the assigned deadlines.

Interim information provided by probation service officers and assistants shows that PMS staff work with offenders and victims of extremist crimes during pre-trial proceedings (*most frequently within the drawing up of a report before a decision is taken or if custody is replaced by supervision*), and following the trial if punishment through community work or supervision is imposed. Within their supervision duties officers (*assistants*) work with offenders of this type of crime individually; the inclusion of offenders in a rehabilitation (social) or any other programme is very exceptional. The work of PMS with offenders of such criminal offences reflects the current situation in practice – presently there is not any specialised programme for the perpetrators of racially motivated criminal acts.

Accreditation Programmes

In 2007, after a two-year pilot period,³⁶ due accreditations were commenced for providers of probation programmes who subsequently received accreditation for three years. Such accredited probation programmes were, in compliance with Act No. 218/2003 Coll., recorded in the list of probation programmes maintained by the Ministry of Justice. However, none of these were specifically focused on work with offenders of racially motivated crimes. On the other hand, there are programmes for individuals or groups among which some are aimed at high-risk elements of behaviour and conduct of offenders or of persons falling into certain age categories, in particular juveniles and young adults. Participants are, in the framework of the aforementioned programmes, taught to be aware of their responsibilities and to create alternative forms of behaviour in relation to extremist manifestations and attitudes.

These are mainly motivating and training programmes targeting persons who have been released from prisons as well as juvenile offenders. The aim of the projects ‘Motivating and Training Programmes for Persons with Criminal background as a Measure of Economic and Social Integration and Prevention of Repeat Crime’ implemented by the Association for Probation and Mediation in Justice (APMJ) along with PMS as a partner is to contribute to economic and social (re)integration of persons with a criminal background, in particular persons who are about to be released from prison, persons already released from prison, and conditionally sentenced persons and juvenile offenders, and thus to increase the chances of these people to find and maintain jobs and abstain from repeated criminal activity. Recruitment and training of facilitators of motivating and training programmes as well as selection of suitable clients of such programmes are also made through the above-mentioned project.

For example the ‘Training Programme for Juveniles’, ‘The Law for Everyday’, and the ‘ZZZ Programme – Stop, Think, and Change’ (in the Czech language ‘Zastav se, zamysli se, změň se’) fall within the block of ‘Motivating and Training Programmes for Persons with a Criminal background as a Measure of Economic and Social Integration and Prevention of Repeat Crime’.³⁷

Training Programme for Juveniles

The main target group of the project consists of juveniles between 15 and 18 years who have been ordered by a court or public prosecutor to undergo educational measures and who are obliged to participate in a probation programme. The ‘Training Programme for Juveniles’ acquired due accreditation as a probation programme within the meaning of Act No. 218/2003 Coll. and was recorded in the List of Probation Programmes maintained by the Czech Ministry of Justice. The main target group of the project are juvenile offenders (between 15 – 18 years) who have been ordered by a court or a public prosecutor’s office to participate in a probation programme. They are offenders at an age at which their personality is being formed and they must solve problems relating to their future life (career, relationships, relationship with parents, development of their interests, and so forth). Completion of a specialised training

³⁶ In the second half of 2004 the system of awarding preliminary accreditation for probation programmes as stipulated in Sec. 17 of Act No. 218/2003 Coll. on the Liability of Youth for Illegal Acts and the Judicial System Concerning Youth was established and later applied through cooperation between the Ministry of Justice and PMS. In total 70 entities applied to be accredited within the system.

³⁷ Public prosecutors and judges are informed, on an ongoing basis, on the results of the aforementioned projects through reports produced by implementing teams and by individual PMS centres. Within all the projects mentioned, seminars presenting results in individual judicial districts were held and judicial representatives and representatives of the cooperating institutions were always invited to participate.

programme should increase the probability that the ‘criminal career’ of these young people will discontinue or at least will diminish. The Programme is currently being implemented in the West Bohemian Region, the South Bohemian Region, and in Prague (according to judicial regions). The aim of the project is to extend this model of the programme to other judicial regions/districts in the Czech Republic, including training trainers for the programme who will then be able to deliver the programme. The Czech portfolio version of the programme has been already established. The opinion is that this Programme could be, if necessary, modified for work with specific groups of offenders of crimes having a racist context.

The Law for Everyday

The objective of this Programme, implemented by Partners Czech, o.p.s. along with PMS, is to assist young people who have already ‘crossed swords’ with the law to attain necessary skills and competence in order to emancipate themselves from the adverse effects of their behaviour and social exclusion, to help them understand the consequences and impact of their conduct on their future life in society, on their personal and professional development and on respective events in the relevant municipality, and as a result to contribute to mitigating the risk that they will engage in repeat criminal activities and support their reintegration into society. It is a nation-wide programme with the exception of the capital city of Prague. It is expected that the programme will be continued in future years and will be extended thanks to its multiplication effects. The programme has been drawn up as interactive training in law, democracy and human rights. Thus it develops not only legal awareness but primarily skills necessary in both personal and professional life, such as: conflict solving, critical thinking, comprehensible way of speaking, independent behaviour and an ability to see problems from different perspectives. By the end of 2007 in total 170 trainers who work with juvenile offenders, and 740 young offenders, were trained according to the guidelines developed specifically for the Programme.

ZZZ Programme – Stop, Think, and Change

This brand new programme, which was developed in the framework of the Parole project aimed at strengthening cooperation between judicial organisations within the EU Transition Facility Programme, can also be considered as a programme having **certain potential to be used in solving issues of extremist criminal activity**. The Programme was drawn up in cooperation with the National Probation Service of England and Wales and is utilised both by the Czech PMS and the Prison Service of the Czech Republic, which has been involved in the project as a partner organisation. The Programme is for groups and is used for those who are imprisoned and for those who are under the supervision of PMS.

PMS, Offenders and Victims of Crimes with an Extremist Context

Of the total number of cases being solved by Probation and Mediation Centres (PMS), since the establishment of this service it is clear that the share of PMS cases relating to extremist crimes has been for a long period of time very low. In 2002 PMS was solving 69 cases (i.e. 0.4% of the total number of newly recorded cases); in 2003 they dealt with or solved 102 cases (i.e. 0.4%); in 2004 they dealt with in total 87 cases (i.e. 0.3%); in 2005 the percentage of such cases oscillated around 0.3%, i.e. in total 79; in 2006 there were 46 newly recorded cases (i.e. 0.2%), and in 2007 PMS registered 55 cases, i.e. 0.2% of all criminal offences. With respect to criminal-law classifications, the majority of cases were public manifestations of support for movements stipulated in Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code and other criminal offences having an extremist context (Sec. 257/1, Sec. 202/1, Sec. 197a, and Sec. 199/1). The most common particular criminal offences which were subject to prosecution related to Sec. 197 and Sec. 197a of the Criminal Code – threats of violence and murder, including assaults; and other criminal offences related to Sec. 291 of the Criminal Code – publicly demonstrating sympathy for fascist ideology; and to Sec. 198 of the Criminal Code – verbal and physical assaults by offenders against members of other ethnic groups.

An important prerequisite for developing further PMS activities in the area of programmes aimed at offenders and victims of crimes with an extremist context is to interconnect and make cooperation more effective between PMS and law enforcing authorities and other entities, in particular social and other services. With regard to the fact that PMS centres report only exceptional experiences regarding work

with offenders of racially motivated crimes, it is now impossible to submit an effective model of work with such perpetrators.

Number of cases recorded by PMS in individual regions between 2006 and 2007³⁸

Regions according to court administration	Total number of cases in 2005	Of which with a racial context	Total number of cases in 2006	Of which with a racial context	Total number of cases in 2007	Of which with a racial context
Prague	2,215	6 (0.3%)	1,879	2 (0.1%)	2,076	3 (0.1%)
Central Bohemia	2,415	11 (0.5%)	2,326	4 (0.2%)	2,664	3 (0.1%)
South Bohemia	2,216	4 (0.2%)	1,982	2 (0.1%)	2,276	3 (0.1%)
West Bohemia	3,128	14 (0.4%)	2,467	3 (0.1%)	2,912	7 (0.2%)
North Bohemia	3,957	20 (0.5%)	4,024	10 (0.2%)	4,696	9 (0.2%)
East Bohemia	2,609	2 (0.1%)	2,384	1 (0.0%)	2,742	5 (0.2%)
South Moravia	4,455	8 (0.2%)	4,621	8 (0.2%)	4,990	12 (0.2%)
North Moravia	5,225	15 (0.3%)	4,876	9 (0.2%)	5,010	13 (0.3%)
Total – Czech Republic	26, 220	80 (0.3%)	24, 559	39 (0.2%)	2,7366	55 (0.2%)

3.3.2 Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office³⁹

As regards crimes motivated by racial, nationalist or similar hatred see the table below.

Table1: Crimes motivated by racial, nationalist or similar hatred in 2006 – 2007⁴⁰

Crimes motivated by racial or similar hatred (in 2006 and 2007)	Total number of persons prosecuted	Total number of persons charged
2006	221 (+52 SPP)	192 (+51 SPP)
2007	204 (+36 SPP)	197 (+36 SPP)*

Table 2: The total number of persons prosecuted, charged and sentenced in the Czech Republic in 2006– 2007⁴¹

Year	Prosecuted	Charged	Sentenced	Summary prep. proceedings
2006	81,743	70,477	69,379	27,943
2007	78,545	67,186	75,728	35,268

Table 2 enables the comparison of those monitored values contained in Table. 1, in terms of the total number of persons prosecuted or charged and persons involved in accelerated pre-trial proceedings as well as persons against whom a motion for sentence was lodged during the years 2005, 2006, and 2007.

³⁸ Data from 2002 to 2007 is included in the section Tables: ‘Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic for a Longer Period of Time in Terms of Police and Court Statistics’ – Table 3.

³⁹ Statistics of the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office as well as court statistics differ from police statistics with respect to the time period within which a crime is reported. The time when the crime was committed is not what is decisive, but rather the time when the State Prosecutor prepares the criminal charge, or decides to drop charges, and so forth.

⁴⁰ The data from 1995 - 2007 is included in the section Tables: ‘Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic for a Longer Period of Time in Terms of Police and Court Statistics’ – Table 4.

⁴¹ The data from 1989–2007 is included in the section Tables: ‘Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic for a Longer Period of Time in Terms of Police and Court Statistics’ – Table 5.

The share of all crimes motivated by racial, nationalist or similar hatred within the total amount of crime remained quite minimal in 2007, as it did in 2006. Thus the composition of crimes in 2007 did not see any substantial changes when compared to 2006.

The data of 2007 demonstrates, as compared with 2006, that the number of persons prosecuted and charged under Sec. 198a of the Criminal Code (incitement of hatred against a group of people or restriction of their rights and freedoms) and under Sec. 257 (2) (b) of the Criminal Code (damage to another person's property) increased⁴². On the other hand the number of crimes of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260, Sec. 261 and Sec. 261a of the Criminal Code, defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief under Sec. 198 of the Criminal Code, and crimes of violence against a group of people or an individual under Sec 196 of the Criminal Code decreased. The data more or less unambiguously shows that in 2007 the trend, which was partially discontinued in 2004, continues, and demonstrates as well that since the beginning of the millennium this kind of crime has shown a continuous downward trend. The composition of crimes in 2007 did not see any substantial changes when compared to 2006. Non-violent conduct prevailed in 2007, meaning that attacks were mostly verbal. Public prosecutors' offices reported more crimes committed via the internet. Supervision within the preparatory proceedings ascertained that police bodies do not possess necessary professional knowledge in this regard and are not sufficiently equipped by IT. According to the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office police bodies should fully use guidelines and technical assistance provided by a specialised police unit dealing with cyber-crime

In 2007 public prosecutors' offices followed **General Instruction.4/2006 on punishing motivated by national, racial, political and religious intolerance** which came into effect on 1 October 2006. This Instruction is significant in terms of the clarification of this type of crime as being one of the priorities for public prosecutors' offices. However, it is also important in the area of procedural law (in performing supervision, court proceedings, and reviewing of cases with the option to lodge an appeal or to prepare a draft complaint against a breach of law).

3.4 The Ministry of Defence

The Ministry of Defence continued implementing tasks in compliance with the approved 'Strategy for Preventing Pathological Social Phenomena for 2005 – 2009'. This Strategy defines basic starting points and directions, and lays down priorities and tasks for preventing undesirable social phenomena in their entirety, which concerns also extremism, racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism. Implementation of this Strategy is supported by an internal standards act – the Order of the Minister of Defence No. 20 of 15 August 2005 on 'Prevention of Undesirable Social Phenomena', and the task list of the Minister of Defence No. 190/2004-8764. Through this task list the Ministry of Defence adopted further suitable preventive measures covering the issue of racism and xenophobia, mainly in relation to the Roma ethnic group. In order to solve preventive issues of undesirable social phenomena the Ministry of Defence established the *Ministerial Commission for Preventing Undesirable Social Phenomena*, which is a collective, advisory, coordinating and initiating body of the Minister of Defence.

Preventive programmes targeting undesirable social phenomena are incorporated into the *Programme of Social and Crime Prevention* which was, in 2007, subsidised by the amount of CZK 6,920,000, earmarked from the budget chapter of the Ministry of Defence.

As regards preventive measures, the past years placed a substantial emphasis on the training of chairpersons and authors of guidelines for preventing undesirable social phenomena. In total 410 chairpersons and authors of guidelines for preventing undesirable social phenomena were trained and altogether 114 preventive projects were registered and approved within military facilities and units.

In 2007 the Human Resources Section of the Ministry of Defence working within the Defence University in Brno organised two seminars concerning the protection of human rights and providing education to promote human rights. Lectures concerning the issue of violations of human rights on the grounds of race or skin colour and the issues of equal opportunities for all were incorporated into the content of the aforementioned seminars.

⁴² There were very low absolute numbers and a considerable increase, expressed in percentage, cannot be therefore overestimated.

In order to manage preventive activities in this area a system of information support is used. This system is based on entries made by the Military Police and structures involved in preventing undesirable social phenomena of individual military units and facilities. The outcome was the *Information on the occurrence of undesirable social phenomena within the Ministry of Defence*. The Information is discussed at the Council of the Chief Commander of the General Staff of the Army of the Czech Republic and in the Ministerial Commission for Undesirable Social Phenomena.

As regards off duty activities of members of the Army of the Czech Republic, there was reasonable suspicion that crimes of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms were committed by members of six military units. The cases are still being investigated.

The issues of extremism, racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and their monitoring and solution, are dealt with by the Chief Inspector for the Protection of Human Rights, who works at the Inspectorate of the Minister of Defence. In the year reviewed no employee contacted the Chief Inspector to complain about violations of human rights as a consequence of xenophobia, extremism, racial discrimination or anti-Semitism.

An integral part of measures against extremism, racism and xenophobia was close cooperation between the Military Police and the Office for Combating Organised Crime of the Czech police.

With regard to repressive activities, it should be stated that manifestations of extremism, racism and xenophobia occurred in the Army of the Czech Republic only very rarely. Although the Military Police investigated together with the Czech police two criminal offences motivated by violence against a group of persons under Section of Sec. 197a of the Criminal Code, no racial context was documented as regards these two offences.

In 2007 nevertheless one case which may be ranked as a crime having a racial context was recorded. In November 2007 the nation-wide daily newspaper MF Dnes published an article '*Neo-Nazis Have Penetrated the Army*', in which the author identified three professional soldiers and listed their participation in various neo-Nazi marches and demonstrations. In the context of the information published, the Military Police entered into cooperation with the Unit for Combating Organised Crime and the Military Intelligence Service. On the basis of collected information, including photos, the participation of the soldiers at the events described was confirmed. It was clear that they expressed sympathies for extremist ideologies. However, investigations made by the Military Police did not reveal sufficient facts regarding two of the soldiers to enable the commencement of criminal proceedings in order to prove that a criminal offence with a racial subtext had been committed. As regards one of the soldiers, circumstances justifying the commencement of criminal proceedings were detected. This means that there was reasonable suspicion that an offence of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under the provisions of Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code had been commenced.

The Military Police adopted a measure in the field of extremism, racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism and it led to a long lasting cooperation of the Military Police with the Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Czech Police and the Military Intelligence service, which deals, in compliance with Act No. 153/1994 Coll. on Intelligence Services of the Czech Republic, with collecting, obtaining and collating information concerning the possible penetration of extremism into the departments and units of the Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic.

3.5 Preventive Activities

3.5.1 Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

3.5.1.1 Legislative Measures

In compliance with the provisions of Sec. 2 (1) (a) of **Act No. 561/2004 Coll. on Pre-School, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act)**, education is to be based on the principles of equal access of all citizens of the Czech Republic or nationals of any other European Union Member State to education without any discrimination based on any ground such as race, colour, sex, language, belief or religion, nationality, ethnic or social origin, property, kin, or the health condition or any other status of a citizen. **Act No. 343/2007 Coll., amending Act No. 561/2004 Coll.**, on

Pre-School, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act), as amended, and Some Other Acts, newly regulates the access of foreign nationals to education and school facilities. The amendment ensures that third-country nationals who legally reside in the Czech Republic have access to pre-school, basic education at schools of arts, language training and training concerning hobbies and interests as well as access to other school services under the same conditions as are applied to citizens of the Czech Republic.

3.5.1.2 Curricula

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) issued the Framework Educational Programme for Basic Education (hereinafter referred to as the 'FEPBE'). Schools draw up their own educational documents – school educational programmes - according to the FEPBE. The issue of human rights, multicultural education and education towards tolerance is explicitly included in the educational module 'Man and Society', aimed at forming positive civic attitudes, and strengthening desirable orientation on correct values and the integration of knowledge and skills from various branches, in particular humanities. It develops awareness of coexistence with European civilisation and culture and promotes the adoption of values on which contemporary Europe is being built. An important part of the given educational module is the prevention of racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes, education towards tolerance and respect for human rights, as well as education towards respect for natural and cultural heritage. Cross-reference topics present to pupils urgent problems of the contemporary as well as future world and are becoming an important and integral part of basic education. These are important elements of basic education and help develop pupils' integrity especially with regard to their attitudes and values.

Basic education contains the following cross-reference topics: Personal and Social Education, Education of a Democratic Citizen, Education towards European and Global Continuity, Multicultural Education, Environmental Education, and Media Education. In particular, cross-reference topics Personal and Social Education and Multicultural Education accentuated education towards tolerance, human rights and against racism.

In 2007 MEYS approved the Framework Educational Programme for Secondary General Schools (Gymnazia) (hereinafter referred to as the 'FEPGS') and the Framework Educational Programme for Secondary General Schools Aimed at Sports (hereinafter referred to as the 'FEP GSS'). On 1 September 2007 a two-year period during which general secondary schools will draw up their own educational programmes according to which they will start to teach, on 1 September 2009 at the latest, was commenced. The documents in question encompass a compulsory cross-reference topic **Citizen of a Democratic Society** which considerably strengthens, within the curricula, education towards multicultural coexistence and which contributes to the elimination of extremism. In the field of social awareness MEYS accentuates the formation and enforcement of positive feelings, attitudes, preferences and values. Documents for instruction contain the following topics: political radicalism and extremism; the current Czech extremist scene and its symbols; and youth and extremism.

The issue of extremism is incorporated in the '**Strategy of MEYS for Prevention of Pathological Social Phenomena Pertaining to Children and Youth for the Years 2005 – 2008**'.

As regards **higher (tertiary) education institutions** and their educational, scientific, research, development, artistic and creative objectives, education towards public order is included in the undergraduate education of future teachers. Education towards public order is incorporated in subjects for future teachers at primary schools (the first stage of basic school), and in subjects such as civics, family education, history, special pedagogy, and basics of social sciences.

3.5.1.3 Training of Teachers

MEYS granted accreditation to **the Terezin Memorial and the Educational and Cultural Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague** which are unique educational institutions with exclusive authorisation to organise seminars on the holocaust and anti-Semitism for teachers of basic and secondary schools. As of 31 December 2007 approximately 2,000 teachers have been trained and have become, after completing the seminar, trained facilitators for teaching the holocaust at basic and secondary schools in the Czech Republic.

The National Institute for Further Education offered to teachers seminars taking into account the issue of racism and extremism.

Conference on the History of the Second Half of the 20th Century

November 2007 a Conference on the History of the Second Half of 20th Century was organised by the Association of Teachers of Basic Schools in cooperation with MEYS in the premises of MEYS. It was organised within the project financed by the ESF entitled ‘Through Motivation towards Methodology’. The aim of the Conference was to provide teachers of basic and secondary schools didactical inspiration and guidelines and further information on teaching the history of the second half of the 20th century.

Seminar on Education of Pupils from the Roma Community

On 29 and 30 November a two-day seminar, held on MEYS premises, was organised in cooperation between the Government Council for Roma Affairs and MEYS. The seminar presented examples of good practice in the field of education of children and pupils from the Roma community. Twelve organisations (kindergartens, basic schools, civic associations, church institutions, teachers’ Training Colleges, the League for Human Rights, the Deputy Chair of the Council of Europe’s Commission, and the Faculty of Humanities) participated in presentations.

The Institute for Pedagogical and Psychological Advisory Services offered to teachers and other school staff seminars which covered the following topics:

- Long-term training for managing problematic classes based on practice and experience
- Behavioural disorders – a course for heads and teachers of basic schools, advisors to pupils, and teacher’s assistants
- Diagnostics and intervention to support mental and school maturity of Roma children
- Specialised training for teachers involved in drawing up prevention guidelines
- Community principles and effective team management in homes for corrective education and in orphanages - ‘Tandems’
- A training and supervision programme for Boletce institution (for extreme behavioural disorders)

3.5.1.4 Integration of Foreign Nationals

MEYS is responsible, in the framework of the **Strategy on Integration of Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic**, for free courses for recognised refugees and it provides free schooling for children of recognised refugees and asylum seekers as a part of the obligations arising from international conventions to which the Czech Republic is a contracting party. Another area which draws systematic attention is undergraduate and postgraduate education of teachers. Study plans for undergraduate education of future teachers at Teachers’ Training Colleges encompass education towards tolerance, against xenophobia, and the support of integration of foreign nationals. Within the subsidised ‘Programme on Supporting the Integration of Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic’, projects of multicultural education of children and youth and projects on instruction of the Czech language as a foreign language as well as studies concerning the education of migrating foreign nationals were supported. In 2007 **MEYS supported in total 17 projects by the amount of CZK 1,645,000.**

3.5.1.5 Protection of Children and Youth from Pathological Social Phenomena

On the basis of Government Resolution No. 7343 of 7 April 2003 MEYS has drawn up the Strategy for the Prevention of Pathological Social Phenomena Pertaining to Children and Youth for the Years 2005 – 2008. MEYS annually supports drug and crime prevention through its budget, and projects combating other pathological social phenomena (in 2007 the total amount was CZK 22,904,000, of which CZK 10,202,000 for crime prevention and CZK 12,702,000 for drug prevention).

The Minimal Preventive Programme which encompasses activities of protection against pathological social phenomena including the prevention of extremism was implemented at schools and school facilities. Implementation of Minimal Preventive Programmes has been obligatory since 1 January 2001 and is subject to checks carried out by the Czech School Inspectorate.

3.5.1.6 MEYS Subsidy Programmes

Within the **Programme of National Support for Work with Children and Youth** the amount of about CZK 170 million was provided for spare time activities of children and youth. Civic associations, with the support of state subsidies, prepare for children, regardless of nationality, regular sports, cultural, nature or technology clubs. Associations also increasingly organise for youth who are not members of any youth association or similar organisation, sorts of sports and cultural events putting an emphasis on prevention against xenophobia and racism. Civic associations regularly organise with state support integrated summer camps which both Roma and asylum seekers' children can attend.

Programme of Supporting Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Education

MEYS invites applicants to participate in this programme under Government Regulation No. 98/2002 Coll. laying down conditions and rules on providing subsidies from the state budget on the activities of members of national minorities. This programme may be used for creating training programmes and teaching materials in the area of training ethnic minorities targeting the history and culture of other nations, for education towards democratic citizenship, mutual tolerance, and combating racism, national intolerance, xenophobia, and anti-Semitism. In 2007 MEYS **funded projects by the total amount of CZK 10,461,078.**

Programme on Supporting Integration of the Roma

MEYS every year invites applicants to participate in a programme aimed at supporting the education of Roma pupils and students, and also at educating teachers of Roma pupils involved in pre-school education of Roma children, and at implementing leisure activities for Roma children and youth. **In 2007 MEYS provided a subsidy for 96 projects amounting to CZK 13,722,000.**

Development Educational Programme 'Teacher's Assistant for Socially Disadvantaged Children and Pupils'

This Programme was devised for legal entities executing activities of schools and entities established by registered churches or religious societies which have been authorised to exercise a special right to found church schools. **In 2007 in total 380 teacher's assistant jobs were supported by the amount of CZK 78,000,000.**

Support of Roma Students at Secondary Schools

Since 2006 MEYS twice a year invites applicants to participate in the programme Support of Roma Students at Secondary Schools, and through regional authorities and municipal councils it provides schools with options and conditions for participating in the programme in question. The objective of the stated programme is to support the studies of Roma students whose families have problems financially supporting their children at schools. **In 2007 MEYS supported 2,717 applications by the amount of CZK 11,417,000.**

3.5.2 Ministry of Culture

3.5.2.1 Regional Culture and Culture of National Minorities

The role of the Ministry of Culture is especially significant with regard to preventive actions leading to the elimination of social phenomena such as racism, xenophobia or anti-Semitism. In a wider meaning all cultural activities implemented with the support of the Ministry of Culture and all its subordinate agencies can be understood as prevention of the above defined negative phenomena. Through subsidy programmes the Ministry of Culture supported some cultural events and activities the aim of which was to cultivate society, particularly by recognising the cultures of different nationalities and ethnic groups.

In the framework of the programme on supporting cultural activities of national minorities living in the Czech Republic the following types of projects are supported: projects of civic associations of Czech citizens of Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, German, Polish, Roma, Russian, Greek, Slovak, Serbian, Ukrainian and Jewish nationalities, a programme supporting the integration of foreign nationals

residing in the Czech Republic, and a programme supporting the integration of members of the Roma community. As part of such support, subsidies were provided for multi-ethnic cultural events contributing to the mutual recognition of different national cultures in an effort to prevent xenophobic manifestations. In 2007 a subsidy amounting to CZK 9,545,000 was provided to support 81 projects.

In accordance with Government Resolution No. 994 of 11 October 2000 on measures leading to arranging society-wide and parliamentary discussion on improving relations between the majority society and the Roma minority the Ministry of Culture every year calls for projects, funded by a subsidy programme, aimed at supporting the integration of the Roma community. Subsidised projects may concentrate on artistic, cultural and educational activities, studies relating to Roma culture and traditions, documentary activities, films, TV and radio programmes, and multiethnic cultural events. In 2007 the Ministry of Culture supported within this programme 26 projects by an amount totalling CZK 2,000,000.

3.5.2.2 Churches and Religious Societies

In 2007 the Ministry of Culture as an authority for registering churches as well as religious societies and associations of churches and religious societies and for maintaining the register of religious legal entities did not report any problems with extremist or racist manifestations coming from registered or recorded entities or their representatives.

In 2007 several new churches or religious societies were registered: 1) Buddhism of Diamond Way – Kagjü line; 2) Vishva Nirmala Dharma, 3) the Russian Orthodox Church, subordinated to the Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia; and 4) the Church of the Living God. During the course of registration it was ascertained that the submitted proposals had met all requirements prescribed by the relevant Act. No extremist, xenophobic, racist or other similarly dangerous manifestations of societies applying for registration were detected. Therefore the Minister of Culture issued a decision registering Buddhism of Diamond Way – Kagjü line, Vishva Nirmala Dharma, the Russian Orthodox Church (subordinated to the Patriarch of Moscow and all Russia) and the Church of the Living God as legal entities operating in the Czech Republic.

The provisions of Sec. 5 of Act No. 3/2002 Coll. on the Freedom of Religious Belief and the Status of Churches and Religious Societies and on the Amendment to Some Other Acts (the Act on Churches and Religious Societies), as amended, lays down conditions preventing the influence of dangerous religious groups striving to manipulate people, to develop pressure, to use people's weaknesses or dependency, and so forth. Conditions stipulated in Section 5 are obligatory not only for registered entities but also for religious associations which are not registered with the Ministry of Culture.

The Ministry of Culture does not monitor the activities of unregistered religious groups. Neither is it authorised to monitor the activities of registered churches and religious societies, however it is obliged to react to all information which demonstrates that such churches or religious societies are carrying out dangerous, unlawful activities by requiring them to discontinue such activities. If the respective church or religious society continues such activities, the Ministry of Culture shall commence proceedings to end its registration.

3.5.2.3 Media and Audiovisual Area

The year 2007 saw no legislative change in the Czech Republic pertaining to this area, which falls within the competence of the Media and Audiovisual Department.

Act No. 231/2001 Coll. imposes on operators of radio and television broadcasting an obligation to ensure that broadcast programmes do not incite hatred on the grounds of race, gender, religious, nationality or membership of a certain ethnic group Sec. 32 (1) (i). The Council for Radio and Television Broadcasting is responsible for supervising the above-mentioned activities. In 2007 the Council for Radio and Television Broadcasting did not commence any administrative proceedings which would have related to violation of Sec. 32 (1) (c) or (i) of Act No. 231/2001 Coll.

In the framework of the Programme Supporting Extension and the Reception of Information in the Languages of National Minorities the Ministry of Culture contributes to publishing periodic press and producing radio and television broadcasts in the languages of national minorities or to disseminate information on such minorities through the media.

In 2007 in total 24 projects were supported by the amount of CZK 28,831,750.

3.5.2.4 Art and Libraries

Activities involving art and libraries supported by the Ministry of Culture, namely by its Department of Arts and Libraries, have only an indirect relation to the issue concerned. Within grant proceedings and special grant programmes only activities contributing to human integrity, to cultural dialogue, and to mutual recognition of distinguished cultures, are supported. The Ministry provides funds to organise cultural events which could help decrease negative social phenomena not only through specific grant programmes (such as the support of members of national minorities, the support, dissemination of and receiving of information in languages of national minorities, support for integration of foreigners, and support of Roma communities), but also through the awarding of grants specifically focusing on the support of professional art. In 2007 the Ministry supported 16 projects in the framework of the above-mentioned programme by an amount totalling CZK 3,690,000.

One of the subjects of support through grants is the 'Library of the 21st Century', promoting work with national minorities and the integration of foreign nationals. Funds are provided to applicants (i.e. libraries registered under Act No. 257/2001 Coll., the Act on Libraries, or civic associations the purpose of which is library and informative activities or their promotion, under Act No. 83/1990 Coll.) to enable them to organise discussions and exhibitions with the aim of recognising different cultures and purchasing books for national minorities. In 2007 in total four thematic projects were supported through the 'Library of the 21st Century' programme. The total amount of subsidies was CZK 25, 000.

3.5.2.5 Protection of Moveable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries

In 2007, as in the previous year, a range of museums and galleries included in their programmes education and training towards ethic and religious tolerance with the aim of eliminating a number of negative social phenomena relating to extremism, in particular racism and xenophobia.

This issue was regularly dealt with by the following organisations: the Museum of Roma Culture, the Terezin Memorial, the National Museum – the Naprstek Museum of Asian, African, and American Culture, the National Gallery – Collection of non-European Art (all organisations receiving contributions from the state budget and subordinated to the Ministry of Culture), and the Jewish Museum in Prague (an association of legal entities whose founders are the Ministry of Culture and the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic).

3.5.2.6 The Most Important Events in 2007

The Terezin memorial prepared a cycle of one-day and multi-day seminars for teachers (from the Czech Republic as well as from abroad): 'How to Teach about the Holocaust'. Further, the Terezin Memorial organised cycles of lectures, seminars, workshops and contests for children and youth, for example 'The Role of the Ghettos during the War', 'Children and Youth in Ghettos', 'A typical Day of Ghetto Prisoners', 'Effects of Concentrations Camps on the Development and Psychological State of Prisoners', and 'Famous People and their Destinies' as well as discussions with witnesses of the events: 'Testimony of Witnesses'.

The Museum of Roma Culture, the activities of which, as an organisation partially funded from the state budget, have been supported since 1 January 2005, presented in 2007 a new permanent exhibition - 'The Life of Roma' - and a range of temporary interesting exhibitions. The Museum continued in its cycle of lectures with Jewish and Roma witnesses of the Holocaust - 'We Are Said to Be Lucky'. In March 2007 the Museum commemorated the 63rd anniversary of the transport of Romas from Brno to the Auschwitz concentration camp.

3.5.3 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

3.5.3.1 Commission of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for the Integration of Foreigners

The Commission of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for the Integration of Foreigners (hereinafter referred to as the 'Commission') was established in 2004 by Government Resolution No. 126 of 11 February 2004 in order to implement the Strategy for the Integration of Foreigners of 2003 and to ensure its further development in relation to the Czech Republic's accession to the EU. The Commission is an advisory body to the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs with regard to meeting tasks assigned by different Government Resolutions pertaining to the field of integration of foreign nationals and with regard to creating conditions for developing and implementing the policy of the Government of the Czech Republic in the field of integration of foreign nationals.

In 2007 activities of the Commission lay mainly with activities carried out by Expert Consultation Groups (hereinafter referred to as 'ECGs'). Strategic and Legislative ECGs dealt especially with the health insurance of foreign nationals, instruction of the Czech language for children of third-country nationals, the issue of funds available for supporting the integration of foreigners, and possibilities to coordinate grant programmes of individual ministries. The ECG for Statistics and Research dealt with the issue of selecting and processing statistical data concerning the migration and immigration of foreigners. In 2007 the ECG for Mapping the Needs of Studies and Research on Foreigners and their Communities 2007 updated the list of documents relating to the integration of foreigners; 'Recommended Documents – Integration of Foreigners' was published. A list of surveys, studies, analyses, guidelines and other relevant documents which were published on the website www.cizinci.cz was drawn up. The ECG for Non-Governmental Organisations, Regions and Social Partners dealt with, *inter alia*, the issue of simplifying the administrative process of issuing labour permits to foreign nationals where the principle of gradual acquisition of rights is applied and is dependant on the length of the foreigner's presence in the Czech labour market.

3.5.3.2 Strategy for Integration of Foreign Nationals

The Government of the Czech Republic included the issue of integration of foreign nationals into its policy and thus it joined the shared responsibility of EU Member States in the field of migration and immigration. In this area the Government set several principal goals – to bring the status of legally and long-term foreign residents nearer to the legal status of Czech nationals, and to strengthen the principle of equal approach and equal opportunities, in particular as regards employment and entrepreneurship, housing, culture, religion, language, education, and health care. **The government takes into account also the protection of foreign nationals against discrimination and racism.**

Integration – i.e. the inclusion of foreigners into society - is a condition for maintaining social cohesion in society and achieving social and economic independence of foreigners; at the same time it is an efficient tool for preventing social exclusion of foreigners and preventing the creation of closed ethnic communities, as well as being **a tool for decreasing security risks in relation to migration.**

MLSA annually submits to the Government the Report on Implementing the Strategy for Integration of Foreign Nationals, encompassing also plans for the integration of foreigners in the upcoming period using documents from all those ministries which are involved in the issue of integration of foreign nationals.

An efficient tool for eliminating xenophobia and intolerance in relation to foreign nationals is the support of projects which focus on the development of relations between communities.

3.5.3.3 Support of NGO Projects

A key aspect for successful implementation of the Strategy for Integration of Foreign Nationals is cooperation with non-profit making organisations (NGOS). In 2007 the Government allocated to ministries dealing with the integration of foreign nationals funds amounting to CZK 25 million. The money is to be used for supporting NGO projects.

In 2007 MLSA continued in the field of integration of foreigners to cooperate with individual regions and municipalities both within the Expert Consultative Group for Non-governmental Organisations, Regions and Social Partners, and within bilateral contacts. As in previous years MLSA supported in 2007 a number of NGO projects within the Programme for Supporting Activities Aimed at the Integration of Foreign Nationals – in total **21 projects were supported by the amount of CZK 10.5 million**. The projects focused, *inter alia*, on **prevention, intolerance, racism and discrimination against foreign nationals**, and the development of relations between communities - meaning supporting the development of relations and mutual understanding and support between communities of foreigners themselves and between foreigners and the majority society in the Czech Republic, and on increasing the awareness of the majority society about the conditions of life of foreigners in the Czech Republic.

Some other projects were supported within the funds of the MLSA earmarked for social services. In addition to the state budget some projects were subsidised by EU funds.

The regular Annual Report on Implementing the Strategy for the Integration of Foreign Nationals and a proposal for further procedures will be submitted to the Government by 29 February 2008 at the latest. It will evaluate development pertaining to the field of foreigners' integration in 2007 and will also list tasks and areas which will require special attention in the upcoming years.

IV. Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations with respect to Combating Extremism, Racism and Anti-Semitism in 2007

4.1 Activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

As in past years, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs actively monitored the development of the international extremist scene with a particular focus on Central Europe. Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as usual participated in drawing up and defending the report on meeting obligations arising from the reports of the Convention on Eliminating Racial Discrimination and from activities carried out by the expert group of the Council of Europe on Human Rights in a Multicultural Society.

In 2007, as in previous years, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, along with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and embassies of the Czech Republic, provided information in order to meet on an ongoing basis a task assigned by Czech Government Resolution No. 720 of 14 July 1999, both at bilateral and multilateral levels, which relates to measures adopted by the Czech Republic in order to punish crimes motivated by racial, national or similar hatred and also to the effort to eliminate all manifestations of racial discrimination within Czech society.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs actively monitored the development of the international extremist scene, and embassies and consulates annually draw up information and data, which is used as a valuable source of information for the Czech police. Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs annually participates in preparing and drawing up reports including *the Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic*, *the Status Report on National Minorities*, and *the Integration of Roma Communities*.

4.2 Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations with respect to Observing Human Rights

4.2.1 The United Nations (UN)

On 1 March 2007 the Sixth and Seventh Periodical Reports on Measures Adopted to Meet Obligations under the Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination was discussed at the seat of the UN in Geneva. The Report was drawn up in compliance with the requirements of the Committee for Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination and covered the period from 2002 to 2005. The delegation of the Czech Republic consisted of representatives of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Secretariat of the Government Council for Human Rights.

As a follow up to the discussion on the Report, the Committee for Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination published on 11 April 2007 its final recommendations evaluating how the Czech Republic meets the Convention. As regards the issue of extremism, the Committee registered a decline in the number of neo-Nazi concerts which the police have reported since 2004, as well as the effort made by the Czech Republic to create guidelines for the police serving to prevent the organisation of such concerts. However, at the same time the Committee expressed its deep concern about information on activities taken by public authorities to prevent and punish the organisation of such concerts or participation in them. Such interventions were, in the Committee's opinion, neither systematic nor sufficient. Therefore the Committee called on the Czech Republic to ensure that organisation of racist concerts and participation in them would be systematically and consistently suppressed, prosecuted and punished. The authorities, primarily the police, should adopt pro-active and preemptory methods to eliminate such concerts and to prevent their promotion.

4.2.2 The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

The office of the OCSE for democratic institutions and human rights (ODIHR) published an annual report on hate motivated crimes committed in the region of the OCSE in 2006. The Report concentrates on the responses of states to violent manifestations of hate and intolerance, describes examples of efficient and rapid responses and sheds light on problems which Governments as well as civil societies cope with. At the same time it notes areas which require more effective action to be taken. The Report was compiled on the basis of information provided by individual countries, the media and NGOs. The Czech Republic was among those states which provided good information. ODIHR assesses cooperation with the Czech Republic in the field of gathering data on crimes motivated by hate as very positive and is interested in extending such cooperation for example by covering the area of police training.

4.2.3 The Council of Europe

The Czech Republic participated in activities carried out by the Expert Group of the Council of Europe which prepared the Report on Human Rights in a Multicultural Society. The Report pays attention to manifestations of hate through wearing religious symbols at public, contains an overview of rights and interests in the given area which might contradict each other, and focuses on international instruments available in the field of human rights and on principles found in well-established case law of the European Court for Human Rights and the practice of the Council of Europe and other international mechanisms which can be used in the area of human rights. According to this overview a manual for practical use by authorities will be drawn up. This will, on the basis of already existing human rights standards, identify factors which must be taken into account when seeking a balance between interests which might contradict each other and it will also encompass instructions, in particular procedural instructions, on how to proceed in the case of a conflict between different rights (for example the freedom of religion versus the freedom of speech)

4.2.4 The Report of the U.S. State Department

The annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices of the US State Department describing the year 2006 were published in March 2007 and include a report on the Czech Republic. The report devoted to the Czech Republic provides information on legislation enacted against manifestations of extremism and on how such laws are applied. It also describes incidents caused by neo-Nazis, including manifestations of anti-Semitism. Further the Report states that there is a small, however, very persistent and well organised ultra right-wing movement professing anti-Semitic views in the Czech Republic. According to the Report the Ministry of the Interior continued to intervene against neo-Nazis, which included monitoring their activities, close cooperation with police in neighbouring countries, and a concentration of efforts to terminate early unlawful concerts and assemblies of neo-Nazi bands.

V. The Situation in the Central European Geopolitical Area

5.1 Germany

Right-Wing Extremists

The State (Lande) Court in Mannheim sentenced on 15 February 2007 to five years of imprisonment Ernst Zündel (67 years old), the most famous denier of holocaust in Germany. He has a number of supporters among ultra right-wing circles who argue that he is just applying his rights of freedom of speech.⁴³ On 8 March 2007 the State (Lande) Court in Magdeburg imposed on five men fines and unconditional sentences of imprisonment for the term of nine months for incitement of racial hatred. Members of the German ultra right wing scene between 24 and 29 years of age burned in Pretzeim, in Saxony-Anhal, former East Germany, the book 'The Diary of Anna Frank', and the American flag.

The NPD pays increased attention to new federal German states (Lande) where there is, in general, a worse social situation than in the western part of the Federal Republic of Germany. The main 'promoter' of the NPD, Jürgen Gansel, mentions in his *Handbook for Political Polemics* a 'surplus' of foreigners; he writes about a Jewish obsession to pretend to be victims, which must be stopped, and about a threat of systematic disintegration of traditional values caused by foreign elements. A Gansel's project – an NPD March among the Masses – expects society-wide exposure of NPD in all social areas. According to another actor within the NPD - Peter Marx - who established an NPD parliamentary fraction in the Saxony Parliament, the NPD is a nationalistic party with socialist elements. This 'new' NPD promotes a lower retirement age and a minimum hourly salary of EUR 8.8. It is a strongly anti-American party and it struggles for Germany to leave NATO. "We want to return Silesia, Pomeria, Posen Region, and Prussia. *We do not want a violent change of status quo but we want to negotiate such change*" Peter Marx stressed. The influence of the NPD and the numbers of its supporters have been increasingly on the rise even though the party itself has only a few more than seven thousand members as sources from NPD informed in June 2007.

About three thousand people protested against the gathering of 1,400 right-wing extremists from several countries (including the Czech Republic and Italy) which was held in Jena, Thuringia, on 8 September 2007. The event was organised under the name '*Festival of Nations – We Are Europe!*'. According to the police, protests against the march which had been called by the NPD were loud but peaceful. Police officers from six German States supervised both the assembly and the protest actions. Criminal complaints were lodged against four extremists and five persons who demonstrated against the march. Members of the NPD disturbed by unlawful propaganda celebrations of the 'Day of Saxony' held in v Reichenbach on 8 September 2007, where about 20 of them, under the flags of their party, distributed information leaflets which were not permitted under the law.

Horst Mahler (71 years old), a representative of German neo-Nazis, said during his interview with Michele Friedman, a journalist, that he did not recognise the current German Constitution but only 'German laws of the Reich'. Mahler also affirmed that Jews were striving to obtain worldwide hegemony and the current German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, was their puppet. He designated Adolf Hitler as the saviour of the German people - but not only of the German people. He responded to the objection that Hitler was responsible for the death of six million Jews during the Second World War by saying that "the systematic extermination of Jews in **Auschwitz** is a lie". After the interview, Michel Friedman, as a private person, brought charges against Horst Mahler for his comments.

A leader NPD, Udo Voigt, in an interview with an Iranian journalist which was broadcast by ARD TV station on 10 December 2007, cast doubt on the extent of the killing of Jews during the Second World War, and demanded that territories which Germany had lost after 1945 be returned. A leader of the NPD demanded again the return of Pomeria, West and East Prussia and Silesia. A chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for justice and home affairs, Sebastian Edathy (SPD), announced that he would bring charges against the president of the NPD. According to ARD station, another leader of the NPD,

⁴³ Thus the court satisfied the requirement of the public prosecutor and imposed on Zündel the highest possible sanction. Contrary to this, the defence required a discharge and the release of their client. Zündel himself did not speak during the trial and forwent the right of a final plea.

Sascha Rossmüller, in the same interview with the Iranian journalist, proclaimed that he had asked Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for financial support. However, it is prohibited in Germany to finance political parties through funds transferred from abroad. According to Rossmüller, however, a solution can be found where there is a will to do so.

Federal states in the eastern part of Germany saw on 22 and 23 December 2007 a series of racially and neo-Nazi motivated attacks.

Left-Wing Extremists

The German police undertook on 9 May 2007 a raid against radical left-wing opponents of the G8 Summit which was held in June 2007 on the Baltic coast in Germany. Approximately 900 police officers searched about 40 facilities throughout the country. According to published reports of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office in Karlsruhe, 18 persons were suspected of belonging to a terrorist organisation which had intended to organise arson attacks against the Summit in Heiligendamm and similar violent actions. In addition, the German Public Prosecutor's Office investigated members of a militant group to which can be ascribed about 25 attacks since 2001. German police officers searched Rote Flora premises in Hamburg, which is a traditional 'refuge' of anarchists. In Berlin the police broke into the premises of antifascist left-wing supporters. Investigators seized a number of computers and similar communication technology. On 9 May 2007 about three thousand people in Berlin and about two thousand people in Hamburg protested against the aforementioned interventions. In Hamburg protests transformed into struggles against the police. According to media news the situation in Hamburg was brought to the boil when demonstrators started to throw bottles and other articles at the police. Several people suffered injuries and had to be taken to hospitals for the dressing of their wounds.

The first mass demonstration against the upcoming G8 Summit in the north of Germany did not go without violence. Radicals among demonstrators reduced the demonstrations in Rostock, north Germany on 2 June 2007, into struggles with the police. According to the DPA agency 146 police officers were injured, of whom 25 received heavy injuries. The number of injured demonstrators is not precisely known. The police used tear gas and water cannons against the radicals, nevertheless cars were set fire and burned where the demonstrations took place. Information on the number of those arrested diverges: the police state the figure as being 80, whilst the organisers of the demonstrations talk about 120 arrested people. According to the organisers roughly 80 thousand demonstrators arrived, however the police estimate the number to be about 25 thousand demonstrators. Participation was lower than the organisers had expected. About 500 radicals were engaged in the sharpest struggles. According to the police version of events, demonstrators were from the very beginning throwing Molotov cocktails, fireworks and stones. After that the situation escalated in the Rostock harbour where, on 2 June 2007 in the evening, there was a final protest. The aftermath of this demonstration was brutal and took a heavy toll - about a thousand injured people. The fury of around two thousand radical, masked cosh-boys eventually changed a peaceful protest into a street battle with the police, as announced by the DPA agency. The police stated that about 433 police officers were injured. 30 of them allegedly received heavy injuries and some of them suffered fractures. Demonstrators stated that there were 520 injured persons among them, of whom 20 suffered serious injuries. The police apprehended 128 persons, however, the majority of them were released. The public prosecutor is still prosecuting ten apprehended people. Many of them, according to the data of DPA, allegedly arrived from Spain, Sweden, Austria, France, Russia and Bulgaria. Flags of **Antifa** and other Trotskyist and anarchist associations were seen within the crowds of extremists. Further skirmishes between radicals and policemen were seen in Rostock on 4 June 2007 during another demonstration against the Summit of the Seven Most Developed Countries and Russia. Four violent persons were apprehended by police officers.

Demonstrations by neo-Nazis held on 7 July 2007 in Frankfurt am Main led to violent anti-actions by left-wing radicals. The police temporarily apprehended 130 persons. About 500 neo-Nazis and their supporters arrived to participate in a rally held on the outskirts of Frankfurt. After that about 1,500 peaceful people assembled in the centre of Frankfurt to demonstrate against the ultra-right-wing rally. Some politicians and representatives of the Jewish community repeatedly demanded, on 7 July 2007, the prohibition of the NPD, as the DPA agency reported on 8 July 2007.

On the occasion of the 84th anniversary of the establishment of the Turkish Republic there was tension in Berlin between Turks and Kurds on the night of 29 October 2007. About 200 young Turks attacked a Kurdish institution which is usually connected with the PKK. The incident erupted after a peaceful assembly of approximately 1,200 Turks who met to demonstrate against the PKK ended. When the assembly was dispersing, a group of persons split from the assembly and headed for a Berlin borough, Kreuzberg, where they attacked the Kurdish minority community by throwing stones and bottles. In total 400 policemen tried to separate both groups. During this intervention 18 persons suffered injuries and 15 people were apprehended. According to the Berlin BfV Office there are at least 1,000 supporters of the PKK living in the German metropolis.

5.2 AUSTRIA

Right-Wing Extremists

David Irving, a British historian, known for denying the existence of the holocaust, again bowled over the general public. At the end of January 2007 on Italian television he described Auschwitz as a tourist attraction. Irving was released from an Austrian prison at the end of 2006 where he had spent thirteen months because of such statements. His punishment had been shortened, which had been justified by an affirmation that he had changed and acknowledged his guilt. However, his television interview only confirmed that he had by no means changed his opinions. He also added that historians do not have a deep analysis of the facts available from Auschwitz since they are scared to end up behind bars as he has been.

In the framework of an operation known as '*Last Chance Operation*' the Centre of Simon Wiesenthal (SWC), with a registered seat in Jerusalem, forwarded to Vienna in total 328 names of Nazi war criminals born in Austria. Investigations were commenced in 77 cases, however, according to a representative of the Centre, Mr. Zuroff, these were lengthy and passive.

The situation related to the arrest of the Islamic group on 12 September 2007 was immediately used by Austrian ultra right-wing parties and organisations for populist and nationalistic attacks as Austrian Der Standard reported on 14 September 2007. A day before, on 13 September 2007, about 700 adherents of FPÖ (Freedom Party of Austria) headed by the Chairman of the Party himself, Heinz - Christian Strache, marched in the streets of Vienna. They were supported by around 100 neo-Nazis and together they demanded that the construction of mosques and minarets in Austria be forbidden, that Islamic centres be forbidden, and the wearing of the Muslim chuddar or hijab/niqab be forbidden. Similar requirements were declared by representatives of BZÖ – Union for the Future of Austria, namely Jörg Haider and his successor Peter Westenthaler. The ultra right-wing Freedom Party of Austria (FPÖ) was weakened in 2007 by the establishment of a new formation – the Free Civic List (Freie Bürgerliche Liste, FBL), which was set up by a former politician of the FPÖ, Wolfgang Rauter. Both formations thus split the votes in the election and they both became weaker. The FPÖ received only 2.9 % votes and the FBL only 1.9 % votes, as confirmed by the election in Burgenland. These results were published by the APA agency on 7 October 2007.

Left-Wing Extremists

On 3 and 4 November 2007 street battles between Viennese Turks and Kurds in the Favoriten borough of Vienna took again a heavy toll – at least five persons were injured, of whom two received heavy injuries. Unknown perpetrators on the night of 4 November 2007 threw an ignition charge against the windows of a Turkish cultural centre in Vienna where the Turkish flag was. This attack took place after the demonstration of Turks living in Vienna against the Party of Kurdish Workers (PKK). After this demonstration, calls were placed on the internet to attack Turkish premises in the city. Only a short while before such calls were made a large street battle had burst out with the participation of at least 30 members of both hostile groups. Street clashes were reported also from St. Pölten and Innsbruck. About 50 Turks assailed the seat of a local Kurdish club in Innsbruck where shooting was allegedly heard. Further demonstrations by members of both Turkish and Kurdish communities were held on 10 and 11 November 2007, however these were without any serious incidents although they were originally anticipated with serious concern. Both demonstrations by Kurds in Vienna on 10 November 2007 and a protest by Turks in Linz on 11 November 2007 were peaceful. No larger skirmishes were reported on the night of 11 November 2007 either. Ender Karadas from the Feykom Union (which is an umbrella

organisation of Kurds living in Austria) said that Kurds wanted to demonstrate their peace-loving attitude and wish to ensure fundamental human rights for their nation. However, the Turkish party is not, according to Karadas, interested in a peaceful solution of the conflict and executes a policy of aggression and genocide. Nevertheless, the main participants in the demonstration professed the ideas of the radical PKK and were carrying portraits of a leader of the PKK - Abdullah Öcalan. The demonstration by Turks in Linz held on 11 November 2007 was attended only by 1,500 people which was substantially less than originally expected. About 200 police officers were ready in Linz to intervene if necessary and besides that organisers had at their disposal 70 persons to help them in the case of any disturbances occurring. According to the AP agency the demonstration was supported by mottos of peace and its participants yelled together that Turks and Kurds are brothers – that only the PKK represents a problem.

5.3 SLOVAKIA

Right-Wing Extremists

According to TASR agency, from the beginning of 2007, commendatory statements of the Slovak Archbishop - Ján Sokol (73 years old) - on good living standards in pro-Nazi Slovak state during the wartime [War World II is meant here] caused a stir in Slovakia. Both Jewish and Roma representatives were irritated and on 4 January 2007 such statements were also condemned by 14 Slovak intellectuals and journalists. Sokol's affirmations were rejected by representatives of the Slovak Jewish community and representatives of Slovak Roma. On the other hand the Archbishop was supported by an ultra nationalistic Slovak movement – the Slovak Revival Movement (SHO). “We reject a seditious media campaign against him [Jan Sokol] only because he had expressed his opinion on the period of the first Slovak Republic and on President Tiso,” Robert Švec, a chairperson of the movement, said.

The Slovak Solidarity has a new leader, as Marian Kotleba who is being prosecuted for propagation of anti-democratic movements, voluntarily stepped down. He was replaced by Ivan Sýkora from Bratislava. This happened on 10 March 2007 at the Congress of this extremist organisation which was held in illegality near Zasnovica. Ivan Sýkora then determined the composition of a new management board. This is stated in the Report from the Congress which is published on the internet. After this they all swore allegiance to the new Leader, *inter alia*, with the words as follows: “Even though all Zionists and their henchmen would like us to be defeated and destroyed, even though we are under the permanent pressure of our enemies, national traitors and renegades, the Slovak Solidarity is alive and moves on!” The Leader was sitting behind the front table under the portrait of Jozef Tito dressed in a uniform reminiscent of fascist and guardsman uniforms.

Approximately 100 members and supporters of the National Resistance Prievidza met in Prievidza, a Slovak town, on 17 March 2007. A march across the town of Prievidza which had been reported in advance but which was, however, forbidden was not held. The police adopted extensive measures, controlled the whole route of the march, and verified the identity of participants who arrived from the whole of Slovakia and also from the Czech Republic. Participants of the march were concentrated in several restaurants in Prievidza. According to the information provided by the chief of the Municipal Police in Prievidza, representatives of the National Resistance Prievidza reported the march in question on 5 March 2007. The letter reporting the march was signed by Martin Jurik, Peter Poliak and Lukáš Veselka. However, the report did not contain the data stipulated by the relevant Act and the supplemented report of 14 March 2007 was not complete either. In addition the organisation is not registered by the Ministry of the Interior of Slovakia. As there was a reasonable suspicion that it was an assembly of supporters of the skinhead movement and the march could be to support racial and national intolerance and the restriction of civil freedoms the Municipal Council forbid the march. The decision was duly served to the organisers and it was also published on the municipal notice board.

Approximately 30 young right-wing skin-headed supporters met on 1 May 2007 in the afternoon in front of the Presidential Palace in Bratislava to protest against the accession of Turkey to the European Union. The assembly was organised by the Slovak Solidarity. Under mottos such as ‘Slovakia is Ours Forever’, ‘For God’, and ‘For the Nation’ they marched to the Square of Hviezdoslav. From there they moved, supervised by the police, to the Square of the Slovak National Uprising, where in their speeches they warned against the Islamisation of Europe. About 20 antifascists protested against the assembly. However, the police did not record any incidents. Another assembly of the Slovak Solidarity was held on

the occasion of the 88th anniversary of the death of M. R. Stefanik at the tumulus of M. R. Stefanik on the mountain of Bradlo, on 5 May 2007. About 15 members of this organisation met there. There were about 20 police officers who checked each arriving car. The event itself was opened by a speech by the Slovak Solidarity's Leader. Then the members of the movement, including their former leader Marián Kotleba, honoured the memory of General Stefanik by one minute of silence and by laying a wreath. Remembrance of a priest and politician Andrej Hlinka on the occasion of the 69th anniversary of his death was organised by the Slovak Solidarity on 19 August 2007 in Ruzomberok. Hlinka's memory was honoured at his statue in an almost empty square bearing the name of Hlinka. There were only two members of the Slovak Solidarity who laid a wreath with double cross. The situation was monitored by police officers who were not wearing uniforms. Journalists from various media had superiority in numbers. After laying the wreath the members of the Slovak Solidarity left and refused to talk to journalists.

In Nowy Sad, a town in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina eleven Slovaks were arrested on 7 October 2007. They attempted to participate in celebrations of the anniversary of the birth of SS commander Heinrich Himmler together with Serbian neo-Nazis from the organisation the National Order (Nacionalni Stroj). The above-mentioned Slovaks were released and deported to their home country. The event was accompanied by a number of disturbances and violent acts between supporters of neo-Nazis and a range of other parties, however all riots were started by neo-Nazis. All Slovak neo-Nazis allegedly came from the West Slovakian Region. On 13 October 2007 tens and tens of people commemorated in Bytca the priest and President of the Slovak war state, Jozef Tiso, who was born in this town 120 years ago. The mass for Tiso was attended by crowds of people. The memorial was peaceful and police patrols did not have to intervene. More than two thousand people participated on 27 October 2007 in the village of Cernova the memorial of the 100th anniversary of the tragedy which happened in this village (Hungarian constables shot 15 people demonstrating against a prohibition against the consecrating of a local church by Andrej Hlinka who had been sentenced for an alleged offence of the Hungarian nation during the pre-election campaign). Although media did not exclude possible provocations of extremists, the festival was peaceful.

The majority of right-wing oriented extremist groups in Slovakia are independent of each other and they function as autonomous cells. However, similar ideology or common enemies are connecting links. The spokesperson the Police Presidium of the Slovak Republic said to TASR agency on 9 November 2007: "They enhance their visibility mainly through physical assaults, establishing websites, the distribution of books and CDs, as well as by racist and xenophobic texts." The following groups ranked among those organisations concerned: Slovakia Hammer Skins, Blood and Honour Slovakia, Blood and Honour Cassovia, and Slovakia Rebel Klan Engerau. However recent years also have seen changes in their activities towards radicalisation and efforts to extend their membership base. Right-wing extremists are, according to Korch, still very fragmented and their occasional efforts to establish a political organisation or even a party have always been dashed. Right-wing extremists committed most offences in the Bratislava Region, whilst the Presov and Kosice Regions saw the lowest numbers of such crimes.

Left-Wing Extremists

The left-wing spectrum of the Slovak extremist scene can be deemed to be less problematic. The danger from these groups lies mainly with physical assaults against persons from right-wing extremist forces (ie against supporters of the skinhead movement) and with their foreign contacts. This fact was confirmed by a spokesman of the Police Presidium of the Slovak Republic, Martin Korch, in his interview for TASR on 10 November 2007. According to him it is obvious that ultra left-wing groups are not currently sufficiently equipped, from a personnel as well as a financial point of view, to represent an increased security risk without any assistance from abroad. "Their hostility towards certain layers of society is motivated in particular by social and class differences," he explained. As he stated further, groups with a pro-communist orientation rank among such extremist groups. He also added that other groups consists of anarchists. They are known for not usually cooperating with communist groups. The main 'weapons' of left-wing extremists are demonstrations, public protests, and blockades. Protest assemblies organised by left-wing extremists are in the majority of cases duly reported in advance. As the spokesman said some protest assemblies were also planned beforehand. such planning ahead intends to

create affinitive groups. Such groups comprise five to fifteen persons who, within the protests, perform certain actions. The spokesman continued that such groups had their goals and tactics agreed beforehand and thus they knew to what extent they had to be active, pacific, or aggressive and how much they were ready to risk (for example if they are willing to be arrested).

According to Korch there are ultra left-wing groups which specialise in the monitoring of police officers (which is evaluated negatively), provocateurs, communication, first aid or the establishment of so-called legal watches to help apprehended colleagues. The police consider the most radical movements anti-fascist, anti-racist and anti-xenophobic groups as best organised and even though they might not be currently violent it is necessary to be very cautious in such cases. One of these movements is the Antifascist Action (AFA, ANTIFA). This organisation is also involved in monitoring persons from right-wing groups (their whereabouts, their schools, their jobs). "Unfortunately such information is not provided to the police by the left-wing movement, with the reasons being that the police is allegedly inactive," Mr. Korch said. Attempts to supplement the role of police, unlawful arming and so on have not, however, occurred according to Mr. Korch.

5.4 POLAND

Right-Wing Extremists

President of the European Parliament Hans - Gert Pöttering disciplined on 14 March 2007 a Polish MEP Maciej Giertych (LPR, 70 years old), who, using a logo of the European Parliament on the envelope, issued a xenophobic publication named 'Civilisations at War in Europe'. Mr. Pöttering reprimanded the Polish MEP for disseminating racist and anti-Semitic statements. However, it was the mildest sanction of all. According to Pöttering the brochure published by Giertych seriously violates fundamental human rights and human dignity in particular.

On 12 April 2007 there was a demonstration of about 200 uniformed members of a neo-Nazi organisation the National-radical Camp (Obóz Narodowo-Radykalny, ONR), who were accompanied by several tens of football hooligans and several Arabs. The demonstration which was held on the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of ONR was of an expressly anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi nature. This event was only monitored by the police, since ONR is legal in Poland despite the resistance of a vast majority of Poles. The participating Arabs also yelled rough anti-Semitic 'battle-cries' (also in the English language) and they were carrying the Palestinian flag in the middle of the march. Along with this march a demonstration by opponents of racism was held. About 250 of them assembled, including participants from abroad - USA, Israel, and France. Apart from opponents of racism, several tens of left-wing extremist participated in the demonstration. The case is under the responsibility of the Krakow public prosecutor's office. David Irving, a British writer sentenced in Austria for denying the holocaust was on 18 May 2007 forced to leave involuntarily the International Book Fair in Warsaw. In the stall of one of the British publishing houses he should have read from one of his books but the organisers forcefully required him to leave the fair. "The wife of the President is a witch who should undergo euthanasia. The President himself is a swindler dependant on the Jewish lobby." The above stated sentences were delivered by a Polish ultra nationalist and extremist, Catholic priest Tadeusz Rydzyk. The audio recording caused a scandal in Poland once it was published by a Polish weekly newspaper, Wprost. A number of Catholic politicians and media refused to believe that it was genuine and Rydzyk himself called the disclosure of the lecture an attempt to compromise him. The Office of the President responded cautiously. In addition to the Presidential couple Rydzyk targeted also Jews. He affirms that a problem of Jedwabny, i.e. the massacre of Jews committed by Poles during the German occupation served only Jews, who received USD 65 million as damages.

As Gazeta Wyborcza wrote on 6 August 2007, swastikas and other Nazi symbols appeared on a number of graves at a large Jewish cemetery in Censtochova, south Poland. In order to dishonour the graves vandals used black spray paints and depicted **runes** of SS, swastikas and the sign Jew Out written in the German language. The police have not succeeded in finding the offenders yet. It is one of the most destructive actions. The police spokesperson, Andrzej Gaska, said that the police had not registered for a certain period of time activities of anti-Semitic groups and that this incident was rather disturbing. The

Jewish cemetery in Censtochova is one of the largest cemeteries of its kind in Poland. There are 4,500 graves.

Lefts-Wing Extremists

Several tens of opponents of globalisation demonstrated on 8 June 2007 on Hel, a Polish peninsula, against the military policy of American President George Bush, who had arrived in Poland to negotiate with Polish President Lech Kaczyński. A peaceful demonstration ended without any incidents. Anti-globalists, *inter alia*, demanded a referendum on the intended location for part of an American anti-radar base in Poland. Domestic opponents of the military base from various Polish regions assembled along with foreigners on Hel peninsula. Foreign nationals arrived at the peninsula from German Heiligendamm where a short while before the G8 Summit had been closed.

5.5 HUNGARY

Right-Wing Extremists

Particular manifestations of radical extremism started in 2007 at night-time, from 12 to 13 February 2007, when unknown armed persons attacked, using fire arms, the police headquarters in Budapest. Several bullets hit the building and these caused material damage, however fortunately nobody was wounded as Reuters Agency reported. No specific information is available either about the motives of the attack or about the perpetrators. Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány designated the attack as unprecedented and exceptionally serious. The police offered a reward amounting to HGF 5 million for information leading to the apprehension of an unknown shooter. On 10 and 11 February 2007 a controversial movement known as Jobbik and another ultra right-wing group commemorated the 50th anniversary of the death of General Miklós Horthy by a march in the centre of Budapest. General Horthy ruled Hungary from 1920 to 1944 when Hungary was an ally of Nazi Germany in its war against the Soviet Union as well as other countries and he demanded territories which Hungary lost after the First World War. At that time Hungary also participated in killing Jews in Central Europe.

According to information provided by Rádio Slovensko, a Slovak radio station, on 12 February 2007, a 'Day of Honour' was organised by a successor group of the now prohibited neo-Nazi organisation Blood & Honour Division Hungaria, BHDH, which also operates under the equivalent Hungarian name Vér es Bécsulét Divízió Magyarország, VBDM. According to the organisers, neo-Nazis from Slovakia, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Italy, the Czech Republic, Croatia, and Bulgaria attended the celebration. In the opinion of one of the keynoters the participants of this event may choose, as soldiers defending Budapest, either death or combat. However, today Budapest is besieged by multiculturalism and globalisation as the neo-Nazi internet news station Hírszrező cited one of the speakers. According to a survey carried out by private TV2 television, Hungarians expected new riots to outburst on 15 March. They were worried that these could have the same scope as demonstrations against the government which struck Budapest in autumn 2006. The ultra right-wing Hungarian party MIÉP (not a parliamentary party however) planned, according to their **spokesman** Béla Gyori, who provided this information to the Hungarian press agency MTI on 12 March 2007, a joint celebration of the Hungarian national holiday along with the nationalistic movement – the Hungarian Resistance (Magyar Ellenalás, ME) - to be held on 15 March 2007. This event was to have been organised as a march of these two parties on the Square of Heroes in Budapest.

Radicalisation of the situation of Hungary called a wave of anti-Semitism. Therefore the Jewish religious community asked their members not to go out on 15 March 2007. Rioters, some of whom were wearing balaclavas, destroyed several telephone booths in the streets and in the centre of Budapest they started to build street barricades where they lighted fires. The police repeatedly required the rioters to break up. According to the APA agency the police had the situation under control and supervised streets in the surroundings of the Hungarian Parliament.

Anticipated riots burst out on 15 March 2007 in the evening in Budapest. However, these only showed that anti-governmental radicals are becoming exhausted. The main radical leaders were arrested. Especially György Budaházy, a chief of Conscience 88, must be mentioned. He became popular in the summer of 2002 when, after the victory of socialists, he, together with hundreds of supporters, occupied one Budapest's bridges. Those occupying the bridge demanded new elections. The police prosecuted

Budahazy as one of the principal leaders of the attack against television station in September 2006 and for treasonous activities. Since autumn 2006 he had been hiding and only from time to time had provided an interview with the media, and his calls to fight against the government were regularly heard in recordings at rallies of extremists. On 15 March 2007 the police arrested him while he was walking, masked, in the city. There are speculations in Hungary that the police could have taken this step earlier however they did not arrest him intentionally. They did not want him to become a martyr and were worried about violent reactions of radicals.

The ultra right-wing Hungarian party Jobbik – which is not a parliamentary party (also titled the Movement for Better Hungary; Jobbik Magyarországért Mozgalom, JMM or abbreviated as Jobbik) announced on 1 August 2007 that they were establishing their own semi-military troops, as TASR agency informed. These Hungarian Guards intend to participate in combating disasters, protecting cultural traditions, taking care of soldiers' graves and in organising collections for benevolent purposes. Protection of public order and defence of the nation are also to rank among their principal activities. András Bencsik has become a guard commander. The guards are planning to organise a field exercise for their members without arms however. Every Hungarian inhabitant over 18 years, either male or female and regardless of their nationality, can become a member of the Hungarian Guards (the official title is the Association of the Hungarian Guards, Magyar Gárda Egyesület, MGE). The Guards members are to wear black uniforms. This information was provided by the Austrian APA Agency on 9 August 2007. "We want to extend recruitment to the Guards also among Hungarians residing in neighbouring countries," the Chairman of the Jobbik, Gábor Vona (29 years old) said. At the very moment they allegedly register 300 applicants and the first 56 members took a vow on 25 August 2007 at Buda Castle. Afterwards a mass recruitment of guards was to start. Intelligence services described the Hungarian Guards as a militant, extreme right-wing organisation. Members of a partner organisation – the **National Guard** (Nemzeti Rendőr, NR) from the east of Hungary participated in this 'festive' event. They wear uniforms of a khaki colour with armbands reminiscent of interwar Hungarian Nazis from the movement of the Arrow Crosses.

The Association of the Hungarian Guards (Magyar Garda Egyesület, MGE) accepted on 20 October 2007 during a ceremony in Budapest a further 600 new members among whom are allegedly also Slovak citizens – this information was provided by the APA agency on 19 October 2007. The ceremony was full of seditious speeches against Slovakia, Serbia, Romania, and occasionally even against France.

On the occasion of the 51st anniversary of the anti-communist uprising, street battles appeared again. The police, using tear gas, water cannon and rubber projectiles, rode down the crowd of about three thousand ultra right-wing opponents of the Government. Several people were injured during the riots as the Czech daily paper Mladá fronta Dnes wrote. The protesters assembled to participate in a permitted demonstration in the centre of the Hungarian metropolis. They set off for an approximately one kilometre long march to the Opera building. However this march was forbidden by the police. According to media information there were present members of several ultra right-wing associations (extreme nationalists from the Movement for Better Hungary prevailed) and from the Youth Movement of 64 Districts.

Hungarian authorities wish to terminate the activities of the Hungarian Guards, the establishment of which was sharply criticised by the governments of neighbouring countries. "The High Public Prosecutor's Office lodged on 17 December 2007 a proposal to the court to dissolve the association of ultra nationalists," Attila Morvai, a speaker of the High Public Prosecutor's Office, said to MTL agency on the same day. The main reason is, according to the legal opinion of the public prosecutor's office, that guardsmen through their anti-Semitic and anti-Roma statements and actions incite racial intolerance. According to Morvai, the Hungarian Guards violated several legal regulations concerning the activities of political associations. However, according to the opinion of Gábor Vona, a guard commander, published on 18 December 2007 it would be impossible to dissolve the Guards since all sound forces of the country back the guards up, as Rádio Slovensko informed.

VI. Conclusion

In 2007 the Czech Republic did not see in the field of extremism any changes which could be perceived as a potential security risk. As in the previous year, in 2007 no activities became apparent which would witness an increase in the radical tendencies of the Czech extremist scene and as well signal a real danger threatening the democratic basis of the state. In general it may be said that disunity and heterogeneity prevailed throughout the whole spectrum of extremism which, together with the absence of strong personalities capable of emerging in the public eye and obtaining public support, continued to limit the scene.

According to the opinion of security forces, the most militant groupings were in 2007 the neo-Nazi organisation National Resistance (NR) and the left-wing extremist organisation Antifascist Action (AFA).

When compared with 2006, the year 2007 saw a certain radicalisation within the extremist scene. In 2007 both the number of demonstrations held by ultra right-wing groups and the number of participants at such events increased. Another significant phenomenon was radicalisation of their conduct, displayed for example by active resistance against police interventions either during demonstrations or during neo-Nazi concerts. Another fact which cannot be neglected was an increase in the number of knives and similar weapons seized by the Czech police during their interventions, which displays a more frequent arming by participants at such events. A persistent risk, seen also in the previous year, lies with mutual clashes between right-wing and left-wing extremists, where such clashes display ever higher brutality. Activities of the left-wing spectrum of the extremist scene concentrated in 2007 more or less on 'battles' with neo-Nazis. Left-wing extremists at their events were ready to undergo violent confrontation not only with their ideological opponents but also with the Czech police; it must be stated that their members were also armed. These new elements which have been registered in 2007 indicate a possible onset of radicalisation tendencies within the extremist scene. To what extent this was a phenomenon typical only for the year 2007, or to what extent it will be symptomatic for the development of the Czech extremist scene and its activities in the future, the upcoming period will show. The intelligence services of the Czech Republic, the Czech police and the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic will continue to pay increased attention to the extremist scene as a whole and predominantly to its activities.

When assessing criminal activities it may be said that 2007, in comparison with 2006, recorded a considerable decline in detected criminal offences having an extremist context and this decline accounted for approximately 21% (196 crimes in 2007; 248 crimes in 2006). 119 criminal offences were solved - i.e. 60.7 %. The number of offenders also saw a decrease of 25.2% (181 persons in 2007; 242 persons in 2006). As regards division according to regions, most crimes of this type were recorded in Prague (44, i.e. 22.4%), followed by in the North Moravian Region (40, i.e. 20.4 %) and the South Moravian Region (29, i.e. 14.8%). Police investigations of offenders of crimes with an extremist context were most frequently closed with a motion to press charges - 87 offenders, which accounts for 48.1%. As regards the composition of criminal offences, crimes under Sections 260, 261 and 261a of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms) prevailed – 57.1%, whereby the proportion of crimes under Sec. 198 of the Criminal Code (defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or conviction) was much lower (14.3%; 28 crimes). In 2007 as in 2006, no murders with a racial context (Sec. 219g of the Criminal Code) were committed. In connection with extremism no terrorist activities occurred. Substantial changes were not seen in 2007, if compared with 2006, in the structure of offenders of criminal offences with an extremist context. In the majority of cases such offenders were activists and supporters of the right-wing scene and members of the majority population without any obvious links to right-wing extremist entities. As regards educational level, offenders with basic education prevailed, as they did in 2006. In terms of age categories, persons between 21 and 29 years (42%) and 18-20 years (22.7%) dominated. Eight offenders were foreign nationals.

Persons of Roma ethnicity, as the most visible minority, prevailed among victims of verbal and physical assaults, followed by, as in 2006, foreigners of dark skin, persons of Asian origin, and other foreign nationals. However, there are other endangered minority groups which could become targets of right-wing extremists, as they are demonised in the proclamations of different right-wing extremist entities including those belonging to the nationalistic scene. These are for example immigrants, drug dealers and drug addicts, homosexuals, paedophiles, and also homeless people - called 'scum of the

earth'. However, potential targets might also become foreign workers or members from the majority society due to their religious belief or political conviction. Criminal acts aimed against the aforementioned minority groups may remain latent and may not be manifested openly as crimes with an extremist context, thus it may be difficult for the police to identify such crimes.

In 2007, as in 2006, the situation in the Czech Republic concerning extremism remained comparable with that of other EU Member States. According to the evaluation of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency – the FRA, which is a successor organisation to the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) - the Czech Republic ranks among those Union member states which have in place a good mechanism of data collection for registering racist incidents and which have this issue ensured at a good level. The current anti-extremist policy reflects the attitudes of the EU and international organisations and is among the priorities of security policy. It arises from a range of permanent or long-term measures aiming at repressive as well as preventive programmes. In this context, activities of advisory bodies working under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior or the Working Group established to solve the issue of extremist music performances must be mentioned. Such bodies strive to solve current problems concerning application of the Act on the Right to Assembly and a number of other partial problems, and they are involved in drawing up the Crime Prevention Strategy for 2008 – 2011. Also to be mentioned is a pilot research project focusing on the integration process of Muslims residing in the Czech Republic, the results of which were published in 2007 and which have been made use of for training police officers or for implementing the Strategy for Policing in Relation to Minorities in 2006 – 2007. The issue of extremism has become a permanent part of a number of training programmes of all ministries, including all security forces. Mainly the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Culture were the principal bearers of the wide spectrum of preventive activities targeting education, culture, and multiculturalism

Therefore efforts to consistently expose and punish manifestations of extremism and to endeavour to eliminate both its visible and latent forms remain a priority of anti-extremist policy. In this context an emphasis will be placed on strict punishment for disseminating ideas and for manifestations of neo-Nazism, racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia, and intolerance, including dissemination of hate via internet networks, which remains, as in other EU Member States, a problematic area.

Tables

Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic during a longer period of time with respect to police and judicial statistical records

Table 1

YEAR	Number of Crimes recorded	Share of total crime (%)	Number of solved crimes	Number of persons prosecuted
1996	131	0,03	58	152
1997	159	0,04	132	229
1998	133	0,03	100	184
1999	316	0,07	273	434
2000	364	0,09	327	449
2001	452	0,1	406	506
2002	473	0,1	374	483
2003	335	0,09	265	334
2004	366	0,1	289	401
2005	253	0,07	191	269
2006	248	0,07	196	242
2007	196	0,05	119	181
Total Czech Republic	3426	-	2630	3964

The total number of crimes with an extremist context recorded in the Czech Republic in 1996 – 2007 (according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic – SRS-PP)

Table 2

Sec.	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Sec.196 (2)	85	76	85	80	41	61	71	41	45	29	59	18
Sec. 198	62	46	69	85	111	86	105	71	101	63	63	28
Sec.198 a	11	11	15	18	11	16	18	11	13	14	23	13
198 b	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0
Sec.219 (2g)	0	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sec.221 (2b)	20	19	23	7	11	8	6	14	9	7	7	7
Sec.222 (2b)	4	10	10	4	5	7	4	7	5	11	2	4
Sec.235 (2f)	0	5	0	3	1	3	2	1	4	1	0	0
Sec. 236	5	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sec. 238 a	28	30	28	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sec.257 (2b)	82	51	82	38	11	6	14	4	4	0	0	2
Sec. 259	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sec. 260	33	20	32	70	53	88	95	77	50	35	29	47
Sec. 261	50	62	104	107	95	174	123	123	87	73	72	63

An overview of extremist crimes involving attacks on a nation, nationality or race or on members thereof, and crimes committed in relation to the incitement of national or racial hatred – total numbers in 1996 – 2006 (according to the legal grounds of specific crimes) (according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic – SRS-PP)

Table 3

Number of cases recorded by Probation and Mediation Service (PMS) in individual regions (judicial administrative division) from 2002 to 2007

Judicial Regions	Total cases 2002	Of them with a racial context	Total cases 2003	Of them with a racial context	Total cases 2004	Of them with a racial context	Total cases 2005	Of them with a racial context	Total cases 2006	Of them with a racial context	Total cases 2007	Of them with a racial context
Prague	3 229	16 (0.5%)	3 207	7 (0.2%)	2 698	3 (0.1%)	2 215	6 (0.3%)	1 879	2 (0.1%)	2 076	3 (0.1%)
Central Bohemian Region	2 993	9 (0.3%)	2 812	8 (0.3%)	2 558	5 (0.2%)	2 415	11 (0.5%)	2 326	4 (0.2%)	2 664	3 (0.1%)
South Bohemian Region	1 970	2 (0.2%)	1 993	4 (0.2%)	2 208	8 (0.4%)	2 216	4 (0.2%)	1 982	2 (0.1%)	2 276	3 (0.1%)
West Bohemian Region	3 329	7 (0.2%)	3 242	4 (0.1%)	3 328	11 (0.3%)	3 128	14 (0.4%)	2 467	3 (0.1%)	2 912	7 (0.2%)
North Bohemian Region	5 106	2 (0.0%)	4 284	21 (0.5%)	4 212	14 (0.3%)	3 957	20 (0.5%)	4 024	10 (0.2%)	4 696	9 (0.2%)
East Bohemian Region	2 834	14 (0.5%)	2 931	12 (0.4%)	2 791	12 (0.4%)	2 609	2 (0.1%)	2 384	1 (0.0%)	2 742	5 (0.2%)
South Moravian Region	4 284	7 (0.2%)	4 503	19 (0.4%)	4 970	18 (0.4%)	4 455	8 (0.2%)	4 621	8 (0.2%)	4 990	12 (0.2%)
North Moravian Region	5 546	18 (0.3%)	5 393	27 (0.5%)	5 638	16 (0.3%)	5 225	15 (0.3%)	4 876	9 (0.2%)	5 010	13 (0.3%)
TOTAL – the Czech Republic	29 291	69 (0.3%)	28 365	102 (0.4%)	28 403	87 (0.3%)	26 220	80 (0.3%)	24 559	39 (0.2%)	27 366	55 (0.2%)

Table 4

Crimes motivated by racial or similar hatred (in 1995 – 2007)	Total number of persons prosecuted	Total number of persons charged
1995	508	461
1996	616	552
1997	569	495
1998	535	439
1999	580	510
2000	535	451
2001	529	369
2002	467 (+51 SPP) ⁴⁴	435 (+50 SPP)
2003	325 (+44 SPP)	286 (+44 SPP)
2004	351 (+48 SPP)	326 (+47 SPP)
2005	294 (+46 SPP)	264 (+45 SPP)
2006	221 (+52 SPP)	192 (+51 SPP)
2007	204 (+36 SPP)	197 (+36 SPP)

The total number of persons prosecuted and charged in the Czech Republic by public prosecutors for crimes motivated by racial or similar hatred from 1995 to 2007

(Source: Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, Brno)

⁴⁴ SPP – Shortened Pre – trial Proceeding

Table 5

An Overview of Persons Prosecuted and Charged with Crimes Motivated by Racial, Nationalist or Similar Hatred

(Source: Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, Brno)

Czech Rep.	Sec. 196/2		Sec. 196/3		Sec. 198		Sec. 198a		Sec. 219/2g		Sec. 221/2b	
	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged
1989	0	0	0	0	44	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
1990	0	0	0	0	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	2
1993	0	0	0	0	15	9	8	4	0	0	1	0
1994	0	0	0	0	40	36	13	12	0	0	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
2003	64	56	0	0	81	77	8	7	0	0	28	27
2004	67	63	8	8	105	101	5	5	1	0	21	21
2005	74	67	0	0	90	81	3	2	3	3	18	18
2006	48	45	0	0	58	50	3	1	0	0	11	11
2007	33	31	0	0	37	35	24	24	0	0	24	24
+/- 2006	-31.3%	-31.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-36.2%	-30.0%	700%	2300%	0.0%	0.0%	118.2%	118.2%

ČR	Sec. 222/2b		Sec. 235/2f		Sec. 257/2b		Sec. 260		Sec. 261		Sec. 261a	
	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged	prosecuted	charged
1989	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4	33	30	0	0
1990	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	7	2	0	0
1991	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	14	12	0	0
1993	3	1	0	0	0	0	8	5	11	6	0	0
1994	13	12	0	0	0	0	34	32	13	13	0	0
1995	23	23	0	0	6	5	13	11	118	101	0	0
1996	42	41	1	1	27	25	30	27	93	84	0	0
1997	45	43	5	5	18	15	29	18	105	98	0	0
1998	28	28	6	6	16	16	27	15	155	129	0	0
1999	30	28	1	0	16	16	52	37	159	136	0	0
2000	12	12	0	0	7	6	79	67	124	102	0	0
2001	6	6	3	3	2	2	51	41	198	164	1	0
2002	24	24	2	2	3	3	75	67	143	132	1	1
2003	13	13	0	0	6	4	28	17	96	84	1	1
2004	9	5	4	4	1	1	31	25	96	90	3	3
2005	7	7	0	0	2	2	23	18	73	65	1	1
2006	3	3	0	0	2	2	16	11	78	69	2	0
2007	3	3	0	0	5	5	14	12	63	62	1	1
+/- 2006	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	150.0%	150.0%	-12.5%	9.1%	-19.2%	-10.1%	-50.0%	100%

Diagram 1

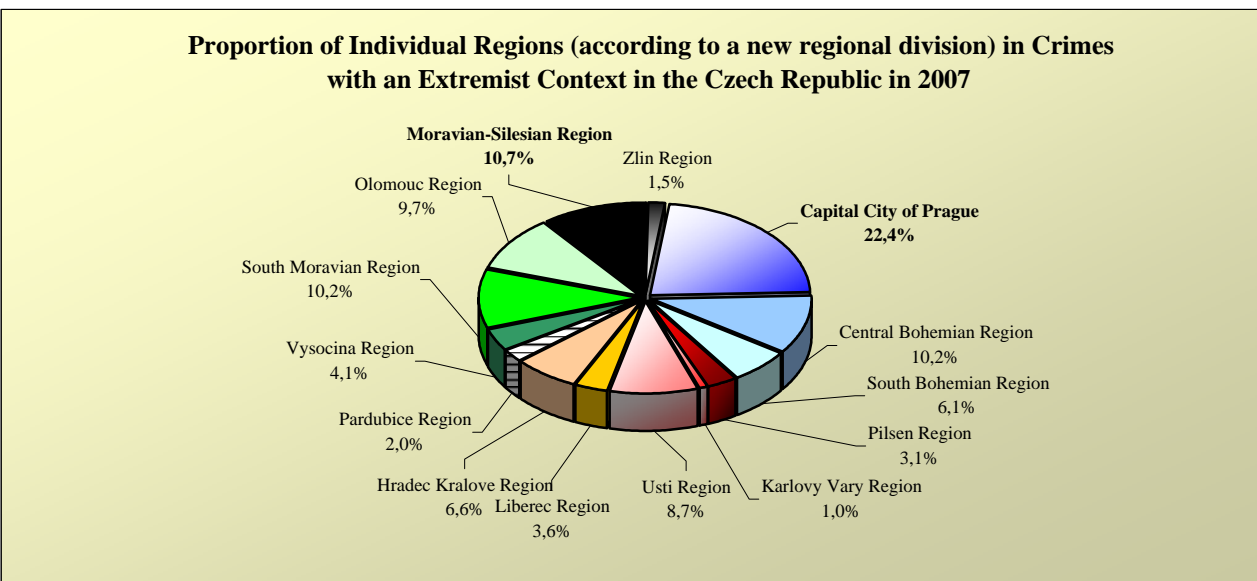
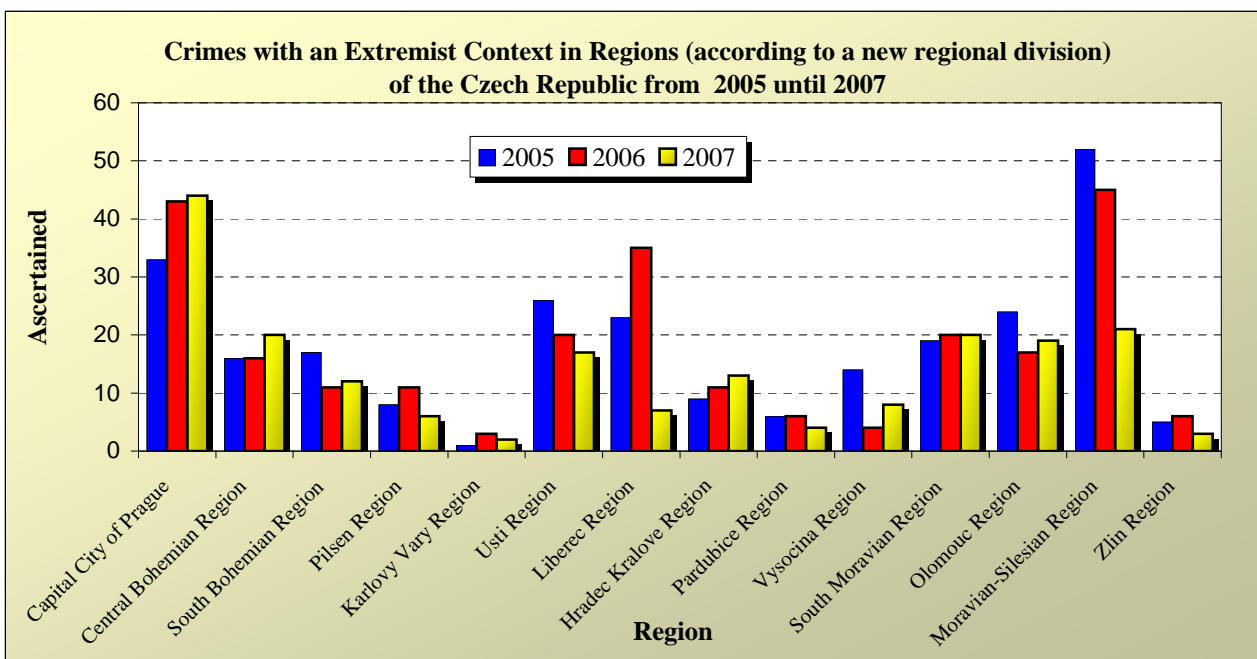
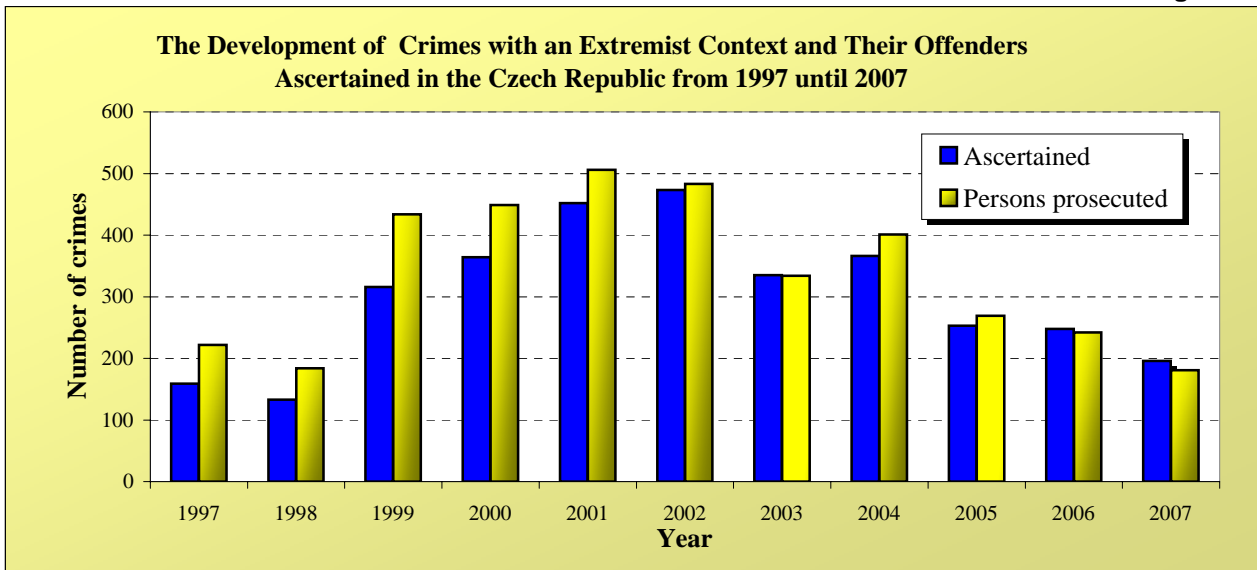


Table 1, Diagram 2

The Number of Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2006 and 2007

Year		2006	2007	Factual change
Region	District	Number of crimes	Number of crimes	
Prague	Praha	43	44	1
	Total	43	44	1
CB	Benešov	0	1	1
	Beroun	1	1	0
	Kladno	1	4	3
	Kolín	0	2	2
	Kutná Hora	1	1	0
	Mělník	3	3	0
	Mladá Boleslav	0	0	0
	Nymburk	3	1	-2
	Příbram	6	3	-3
	Rakovník	1	0	-1
	Praha - venkov ¹⁾	0	4	4
	Total	16	20	4
SB	České Budějovice	3	5	2
	Český Krumlov	3	1	-2
	Jindřichův Hradec	1	0	-1
	Pelhřimov	0	0	0
	Písek	0	1	1
	Prachatice	0	2	2
	Strakonice	3	2	-1
	Tábor	1	1	0
	Total	11	12	1
	WB	Domažlice	1	0
Cheb		3	0	-3
Karlovy Vary		0	1	1
Klatovy		2	0	-2
Plzeň - město		3	4	1
Plzeň - jih		0	0	0
Plzeň - sever		1	0	-1
Rokycany		3	2	-1
Sokolov		0	1	1
Tachov		1	0	-1
Total		14	8	-6
NB	Česká Lipa	5	1	-4
	Děčín	0	4	4
	Chomutov	2	2	0
	Jablonec n. Nisou	22	1	-21
	Liberec	6	4	-2
	Litoměřice	3	0	-3
	Louny	1	0	-1
	Most	10	6	-4
	Teplice	3	3	0
	Ústí n. Labem	1	2	1
	Total	53	23	-30

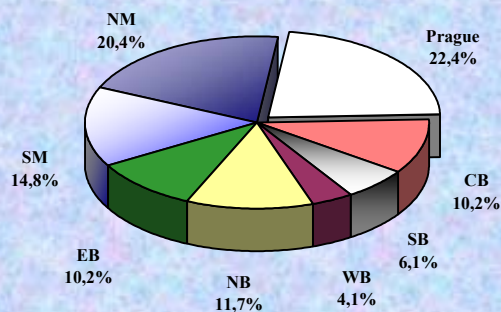
Year		2006	2007	Factual change
Region	District	Number of crimes	Number of crimes	
EB	Havlíčkův Brod	0	2	2
	Hradec Králové	3	3	0
	Chrudim	1	0	-1
	Jičín	0	0	0
	Náchod	3	3	0
	Pardubice	4	3	-1
	Rychnov n. Kněžnou	0	0	0
	Semily	2	1	-1
	Svitavy	0	0	0
	Trutnov	5	7	2
	Ústí n. Orlicí	1	1	0
	Total	19	20	1
	SM	Blansko	0	2
Brno - město		13	12	-1
Brno - venkov		0	1	1
Břeclav		1	2	1
Zlín		3	1	-2
Hodonín		5	1	-4
Jihlava		2	3	1
Kroměříž		0	2	2
Třebíč		2	2	0
Uherské Hradiště		2	0	-2
Vyškov		1	0	-1
Znojmo		0	2	2
Žďár n. Sázavou		0	1	1
Vsetín ²⁾		1	0	-1
Total		30	29	-1
NM	Bruntál	5	1	-4
	Frýdek - Místek	4	1	-3
	Karviná	9	6	-3
	Nový Jičín	4	0	-4
	Olomouc	6	6	0
	Opava	3	3	0
	Ostrava	20	10	-10
	Přerov	4	4	0
	Šumperk	5	7	2
	Jeseník	2	1	-1
	Prostějov ²⁾	0	1	1
Total	62	40	-22	
Czech Republic - total		248	196	-52

Vysvětlivky:

¹⁾ V roce 2007 byla sloučena OŘ PČR Praha-východ a Praha-západ do okresního ředitelství PČR Praha-venkov.

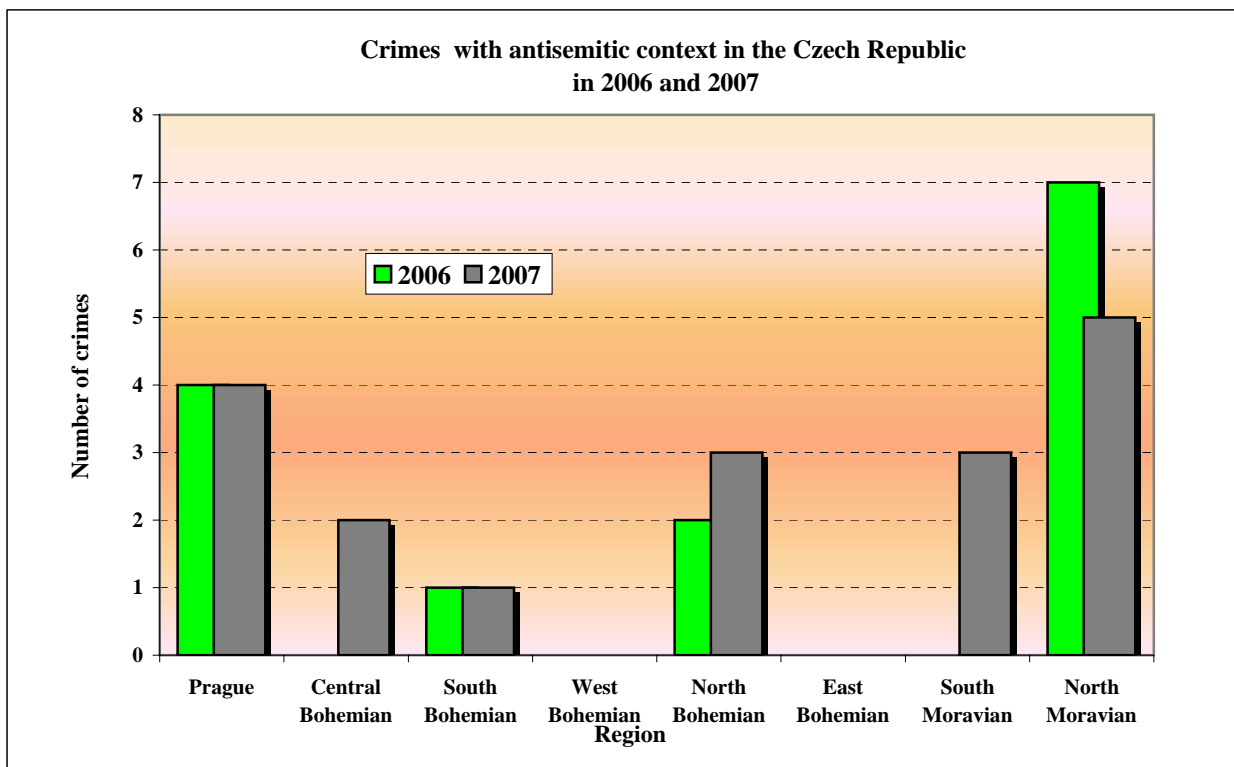
²⁾ OŘ PČR Vsetín se přesunulo pod Správu PČR Jihomoravského kraje a OŘ PČR Prostějov se přesunulo pod Správu PČR Severomoravského kraje.

Share of Individual Regions in Crimes with an Extremist Context Ascertained in the Czech Republic in 2007

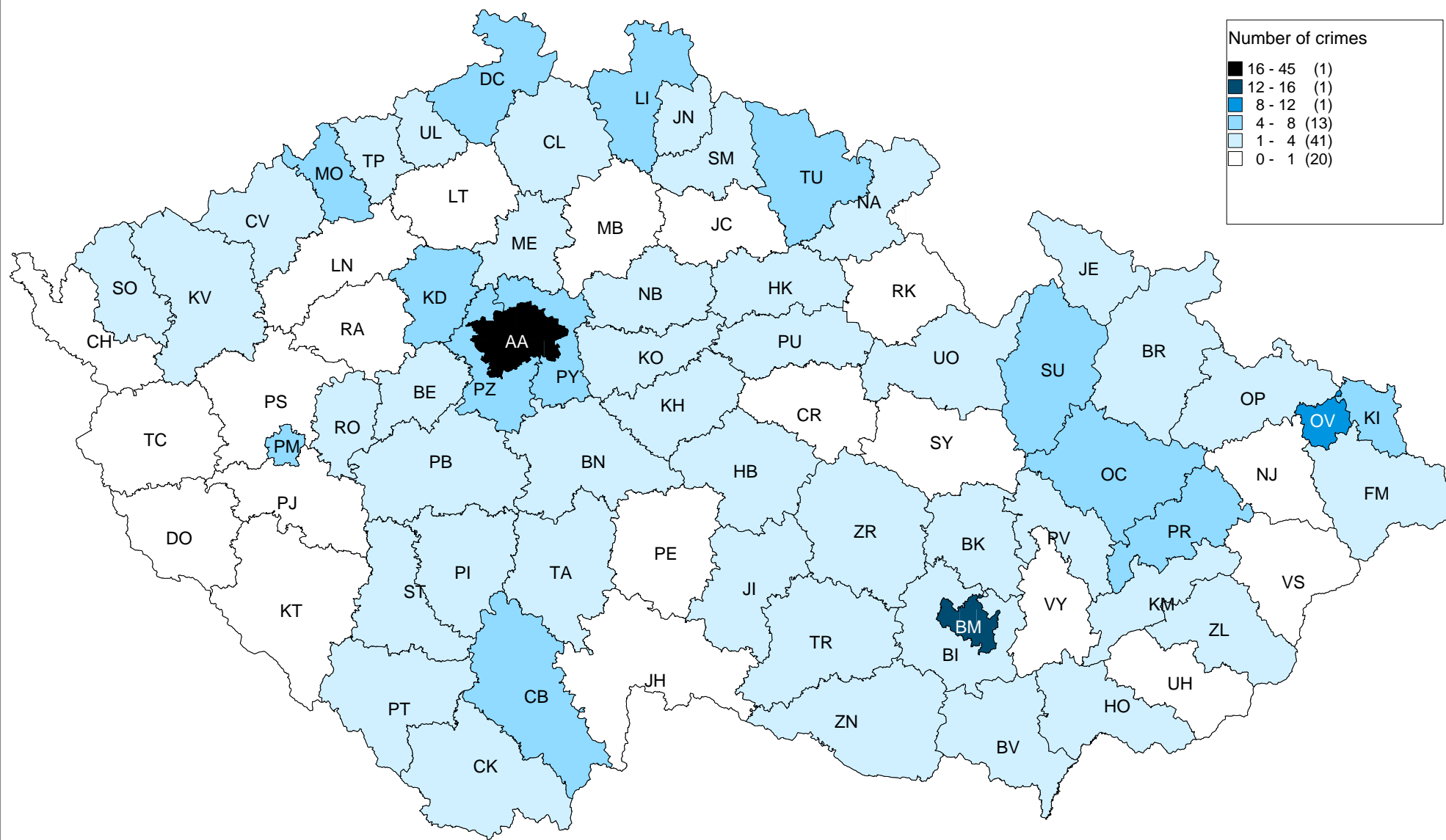


Crimes with antisemitic context in the Czech Republic in 2006 and 2007

Section of Criminal Code	Name	2006 Region					2007 Region					Total
		Prague	South Bohemian	North Bohemian	North Moravian	Total	Prague	Central Bohemian	South Bohemian	North Bohemian	South Moravian	
196	Violence against a group of people or an individual	1				1						
198	Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief	3			1	4	1			1	1	3
198 a	Inciting hate against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms							1	1			2
260	Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms		1		1	2	2	1	1	2	1	7
261	Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms			2	4	6	2		1		2	5
261a	Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms				1	1					1	1
Total		4	1	2	7	14	4	2	1	3	3	18



Crimes with a Racial or Other Extremist Context Ascertained in the Czech Republic in 2007



Key
to the criminal offences in accordance with the Act No. 140/1961 Coll., the Criminal Code,
as amended

Sec. 152 Infringing copyright and related rights and rights concerning a database

Sec. 155, Sec. 156 Assault against a public official

Sec. 174 False accusation

Sec. 196, Sec. 197a Violence against a group of people or an individual

Sec. 198 Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief

Sec. 198a Inciting hate against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms

Sec. 199 Spreading alarming news

Sec. 202 Hooliganism

Sec. 219 Murder

Sec. 221, Sec. 222 Intentional physical injury

Sec. 234 Robbery

Sec. 235 Extortion

Sec. 236 Restriction of religious conviction

Sec. 238 Forcible entry into dwelling

Sec. 257 Damaging another person's thing

Sec. 260, Sec. 261, Sec. 261a Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms

List of Abbreviations

AFA	Antifascist Action
B & H DB	Blood&Honour Division Bohemia
B& H DH	Blood&Honour Division Hungary
BHS	Bohemia Hammer Skins
BI PP CR	binding instruction of the Police President of the Czech Republic
BZÖ	Bund für zukunfftige Österreich (Alliance for the Future of Austria)
CC	Criminal Code
CB	Central Bohemia
CERD	Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CMNU	Czech Movement for National Unity
CPCS	Communist Party of Czechoslovakia
CPCS - CSLP	Communist Party of Czechoslovakia – Czechoslovak Labour Party
CPIS - PP CR	Criminal Police and Investigation Service Office of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic
CPIS	Criminal Police and Investigation Service
CPS	Communist Party of Slovakia
crime(s).	criminal offences / criminal acts
CSAF	Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation
CSF	Czech Social Forum
CUY	Communist Union of Youth
Czech police	Police of the Czech Republic
DD	District Directorate
DPPO	District Public Prosecutor’s Office
DVU	Deutsche Volkunion (German People’s Union)
EIC	Early Intervention Centre
ENAR	European Network against Racism
ESF	European Social Forum
EB	East Bohemia
EU	European Union
EUMC	European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia
FARE	Football Against Racism in Europe
FAS	Federation of Anarchist Groups
IGG	Islamische Glaubengemeinschaft (Community of Islamic Believers), Austria
IMI	instruction of the Minister of the Interior
ISF	Initiative for Social Forums
JN	Junge Nationaldemokraten
LPU	local police unit
MC	Ministry of Culture
MD	Ministry of Defence
MEYS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MI	Ministry of the Interior
MIEP	Party of Hungarian Justice and Life
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MNA	Magyar Nemzeti Arcvonal (Hungarian National Front)
MNU	Movement of National Unity
MP	Municipal Police
MSPO	Municipal State Prosecutors’ Office
MSZP	Hungarian Socialist Party
MW	Młodzież Wszepolska (All Poland Youth)
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NB	North Bohemia
NM	North Moravia
NP	National Party
NPD	Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands (National Democratic Party of Germany)
NPÖ	Nationaldemokratische Partei Österreichs (National Democratic Party of Austria)

NR	National Resistance
NSDAP/AO	Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/Auslands – und Aufbauorganization (National Socialist German Workers' Party /foreign and basic organisations)
NSEC	National Socialist Education Centre
NU	National Unity
NU	National Unity
OFRII	Office for Foreign Relations and Information
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PCP	Communist Party of Portugal
PF	Patriot Front
PMS	Probation and Mediation Service
PP CR	Police Presidium of the Czech Republic
RA	Right Alternative
RMS	Republicans of Miroslav Sladek
RoCP	Rules of Criminal Procedure
RSPO	Regional State Prosecutors' Office
SIS	Security Intelligence Service
SB	South Bohemia
SM	South Moravia
SP - NS	Slovak Solidarity - National Party
SPD MI	Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior
SPP	Shortened Pre-Trial Proceedings
SRS - PP	Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic
SSPO	Supreme State Prosecutor's Office
UCOC	Unit for Combating Organised Crime of Criminal Police and Investigation Service
UCOC	Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service
UN	United Nations
USA	United States of America
WB	West Bohemia
WPM	white power music

**Information on the Issue of Extremism
in the Czech Republic in 2007**

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Graphs, tables and map Jiří Beneš

Translation & Grammar Mgr. Jana Dyčková

Published by the Ministry of the Interior Security Policy Department

Nad Štolou 3, 170 34 Praha 7 – Letná

Edition I.

Prague 2008