



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA  
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

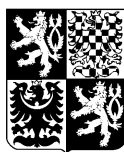
# **STRATEGY FOR COMBATING EXTREMISM IN 2009**

**Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic  
Security Policy Department**

**Prague 2010**

**Strategy for Combating Extremism in 2009**  
**was adopted by the Resolution of the Government No 320 dated 3 May 2010.**  
The part I of the Strategy, including Annex 1 and Annex 2, follows up the previous independent governmental reports dealing with the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic.  
The Part II contains Evaluation of how the Conception for Combating Extremism is being Implemented.

# GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



## RESOLUTION

OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

No. 320 of 3 May 2010

concerning the Strategy for Combating Extremism in 2009

The Government

I. **takes note** of the Strategy for Combating Extremism in 2009 encompassed in Part III of document ref. no. 368/10 (hereinafter referred to as the “Strategy”)

II. **assigns to**

1. the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Defence, the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Industry and Trade and the Commissioner of the Government for Human Rights to continue in implementing tasks encompassed in the Strategy for Combating Extremism adopted by Government Resolution No. 572 of 4 May 2009 and to meet tasks included in Part III of the Strategy;

2. the Minister of the Interior to submit to the Government, not later than on 30 April 2011, the Strategy for Combating Extremism in 2010;

III. **authorises** the Prime Minister to submit the Strategy for Combating Extremism to the President of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.

To be executed by:

the Prime Minister,  
the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Defence,  
the Minister of Justice,  
the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports,  
the Minister of the Interior,  
the Minister of Finance,  
the Minister of Industry and Trade, and  
the Commissioner of the Government for Human Rights

Prime Minister

Ing. Jan Fischer, CSc., v. r.



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- The share of individual regions (according to the administrative division of the Czech Republic) in detected criminal offences with an extremist context in 2009

### **Table 1, Diagram 2:**

- Number of criminal offences with an extremist context in the Czech Republic in 2008 and 2009
- The share of individual regions (according to the administrative division of the Czech Republic) in detected criminal offences with an extremist context in the Czech Republic in 2009

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- Detected criminal offences with an anti-Semitic context in 2008 and 2009 (table)
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- Key to the map



# STRATEGY FOR COMBATING EXTREMISM

## I. THE ISSUE OF EXTREMISM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2009

### 1. Introduction

The Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2009 (hereinafter referred to as “the Report”) is submitted under Government Resolution No. 572 of 4 May 2009 as an integral part of the Strategy for Combating Extremism. It is also a follow up to previous Reports on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic.<sup>1</sup> The Report was compiled by the Ministry of the Interior, however documents provided by representatives of the intelligence services, the Police of the Czech Republic and other governmental authorities have also contributed to the Report; namely 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 Minister responsible for human rights and minorities, and the Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office. Their most important activities relating to the issue of extremism or some aspects of it are set out in Annex 1.

The concept of extremism, crimes having an extremist context, and other terms used in previous Reports are identical with the definitions of such terms as formulated in previous Reports dealing with the issue of extremism.<sup>2</sup>

Although there are links in the Czech Republic between the extremist scene, in particular right-wing extremist scene, and football hooligans the issue of fan violence is tackled within the Ministry of the Interior as a separate subject.<sup>3</sup> Further, the Report does not deal with the issue of sects and pseudo-religious organisations since no activities of

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<sup>1</sup> The Ministry of the Interior has developed Reports on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic since 1998. Twelve such documents are available on the web pages of the Ministry of the Interior.

<sup>2</sup> 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](http://www.mvcr.cz), (Banner "Boj proti EXTREMISMU" = Combating EXTREMISM, section "Bezpečnostní hrozby" = Security threats, sub-section "Výroční zprávy o extremismu" = Annual Reports on Extremism). In this context it is possible to refer to the case law of courts relating to the interpretation of terms such as "movement", in particular the opinion of the Criminal Chamber of the Supreme Court - Tpjn 302/2005 (No. 11/2007 Coll., Criminal Chamber decision), Resolutions of the Supreme Court 5 Tdo 79/2006, Supreme Court 5 Tdo 337/2002, Supreme Court 3 Tdo 1174/2004, and Resolution of the Regional Court in Brno, sp. Zn. 4 T 98/2009.

<sup>3</sup> These links were for example seen during violent clashes in Litvinov- Janov in October and November 2008, when some members of the attacking groups was composed of football hooligans. With regard to fan violence see Annex.1, Chapter 2, The Ministry of the Interior.

such organisations were reported in relation to security risks of penetrating governmental structures, the political or economic sphere, or endangering the democratic foundations of the state.

## 2. Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2009

In 2009, as in 2008, problems pertaining to extremism were associated mainly with the right-wing extremist scene, predominantly with the neo-Nazi spectrum and its activities. Trends seen in this scene during the previous year were fully confirmed. The most prominent and most visible were the unregistered **National Resistance (NR)** and the **Autonomous Nationalists (AN)**, followed by the **Workers' Party (WP)** whose close links to the neo-Nazi scene and its protagonists, seen in 2008, became even more visible in 2009. Mainly these three entities presented themselves in public.

The activities of NR and AN developed during the first and second half of 2009 due to nation-wide police actions (Power, Lotta, and White Justice) held in June and in the second half of the year.

In the first half of 2009 activities conformed to trends identified by security forces in 2008. But what is really significant is that the activities demonstrated more openly and actively potential for radicalisation and support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms. The most serious offence committed by part of the neo-Nazi scene and by which this scene, as a matter of fact, approximated the imaginary boundaries of terrorism, was an attack against a Roma family in Vitkov village (April 2009).<sup>4</sup> This arson attack resulted in heavy injuries of the occupants and total destruction of the house. Increased activity in the first half of 2009 can also be ascribed to an unsuccessful attempt by the government during 2009 to dissolve the Workers' Party, which led to persons connected with the neo-Nazi movement demagogically declaring that, according to that court decision, all their activities were legitimate.

Right-wing extremists typically criticised the so-called "system" and developments after the November Velvet Revolution as a whole. In general, they increased their visibility through anti-Roma and anti-migrant attitudes. They strove to deal with current social topics with a view to manipulating these to their benefit. They tried to assume the role of "guardians of the majority" and "fighters" against "the system" which is, in their opinion, "corrupt and anti-national".

In the second half of the year reviewed, the Czech police launched extensive republic-wide interventions against right-wing extremists, having prepared beforehand for a long time. As a consequence, movements organising neo-Nazi concerts in the Czech Republic were *de facto* paralysed and their other activities substantially affected. On the other hand, such police republic-wide actions led to an increased number of "spontaneous" demonstrations aimed against the police and at supporting persons remanded in custody and undergoing prosecution.

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<sup>4</sup> The Czech police charged four persons coming from the NR Silesia area with the crime of arson. On 9 February 2010 the public prosecutor brought in an indictment at the Regional Court in Ostrava. The preliminary date for commencing the trial is 3 May 2010.

## 2.1 Brief Characteristics of the Extremist Scene

### 2.1.1. Right-Wing Extremism

#### 2.1.1.1. The Neo-Nazi Scene

##### Situation in 2009

In 2009 the neo-Nazi, ultra right-wing scene accomplished their transformation and modernisation in the Czech Republic which had started in 2008. The current model of unofficial local groupings based on the principle of autonomous nationalism was still the prevailing structure represented by **the National Resistance** and **Autonomous Nationalists**, however it was completed by official political representation – through the **Workers' Party**. When cooperating with the Workers' Party (WP), neo-Nazis attempted to become a standard political alternative and to address the general public. They endeavoured to show professionalism and provide concepts for their actions, adhering to the law and last but not least trying to find new issues creating the potential to address their future electorate.

Also in 2009 the unregistered **National Resistance** (NR) remained the most significant Czech neo-Nazi group. Some “foremost” NR activists started to become more involved in the WP, which negatively affected their own activities and overall “fighting power”. At the same time they maintained close contact with German neo-Nazis and used them to strengthen cooperation at the political level between the WP and the German NPD.

NR activists participated during 2009 in organising several public events which were in some cases, however, presented under the name of the WP. In addition to the Brno May Day demonstration for example there was a music festival named “Freedom Day 2”.<sup>5</sup>

Within its own activities the NR strove by means of its actions to activate and attract especially young people inclining toward the ideas of neo-Nazism. For this reason it focused, besides peaceful demonstrations, on different provocative events and the organisation of concerts.

In 2009 the National Resistance completely abstained from public representation, with the exception of on the internet. It was affected by a decision adopted by courts which labelled then as a neo-Nazi organisation.<sup>6</sup> NR supporters responded by using different, slightly modified names such as the Free Resistance, the Resistance, the Free Youth, the Community of Friends, the Nationalists, the Free Nationalists or the National Socialists, or openly presented themselves under the name of the Workers' Party. However, these were all the time the same persons, for whom it was beneficial to carry out their activities under a different “trademark”.

The dampening of activities of some NR cells was certainly also caused by some final and conclusive court judgements against the representatives of such cells. Thus it was clear that application of the strategy of a “leaderless resistance” is not functional for the NR.

In 2009 the migration of individual persons between the National Resistance and the Autonomous Nationalists was visible and more or less depended on situation which was more favorable for them.

The **Autonomous Nationalists** gained during 2009 a more and more significant position within the Czech neo-Nazi scene. Even though they cooperated with both the NR

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<sup>5</sup> Novy Knin, 15 August 2009. Although the festival was officially held under the auspices of the WP no information referring to it was published on the WP web pages.

<sup>6</sup> See resolution of the Supreme Court 5Tdo 79/2006 or the decision of the Regional Court in Brno 4 To 98/2009.

and the WP they maintained a certain autonomy. When this grouping is compared with the NR it looks like a younger and more contemporary organisation whose ideological basis and attitudes are closer to the young generation of right-wing extremists. Whilst in the case of the NR, the activities of its cells have reduced on account of the aforementioned reasons, new local groups are being established within the AN. It cannot be ruled out that the Autonomous Nationalists will become a prevailing structure within the unregistered parts of the neo-Nazi scene and thus replace the National Resistance, whose activities already reached a climax.

From the beginning of 2009 until the Judgement of the Supreme Administrative Court concerning the proposal of the Government for the dissolution of **the Workers' Party**, the WP strove not to develop activities which could result in the dissolution of their association or could lead to losing credit among the general public. A negative decision of the Supreme Administrative Court of 4 March 2009 meant for its representatives a victory, which enhanced their self-confidence. Moreover, in March 2009 a civic association, the **Workers' Youth (WY)**, was established as an organisation of the Workers' Party for young people. This entity was registered by the Ministry of the Interior on 3 March 2009 and was followed by the registration of a periodical journal of the Workers' Youth by the Ministry of Culture in April 2009. The journal was registered in accordance with the Press Act under the name "**National Resistance**".<sup>7</sup>

In general it can be stated that, at the end of March 2009, public activities of the Workers' Party were on the increase. Apart from a number of their own activities the party shielded with its name several events held by activists from the National Resistance and the Autonomous Nationalists. Close cooperation between these entities and links between their members made it complicated in some cases to distinguish between a "standard pre-election meeting" of a political party and a "neo-Nazi demonstration".

On 4 April 2009 a "March against Racism" was held in Prerov. It was the Workers' Party which originally announced the march in Prerov, however, when they withdrew their notification the event was organised by a member of the Board of the party. The event, which was held under the auspices of the Autonomous Nationalists, was attended by about 700 neo-Nazis. An invitation for the event was published on [www.odpor.org](http://www.odpor.org). After the march was officially terminated there were clashes with the Czech police. Some official representatives of the WP were present at the event. The WP published in its Workers' Gazette information about the march and an interview with activists of national socialism dubbed "I'm Going to Prerov because I Do Not Trust the System". This interview was also published on [www.odpor.org](http://www.odpor.org).<sup>8</sup>

Further, the Workers' Party organised in cooperation with neo-Nazis from the NR, presenting themselves under a fictitious name "The Free Youth of Brno," a May Day demonstration with a subsequent march in Brno. This was probably the largest public assembly and it was attended by approximately 650 persons. Speeches were held by both representatives of Czech organisations, such as the Workers' Party, the Workers' Youth and the Resistance Women's Unity (RWU), and members of the German Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands (NPD), and the Slovak Community. Although

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<sup>7</sup> This journal was registered by the Ministry of Culture under the file number E18918 on 8 April 2009 pursuant to Act No. 46/2002 Coll. on the rights and obligations concerning publishing periodical press and on the amendment to some other acts (the Press Act). It should be published quarterly and focus on trade union bodies, political parties, associations.

<sup>8</sup> See the Judgement of the Supreme Administrative Court concerning the dissolution of the Workers' Party of 17 February 2010 Pst 1/2009 – 348: I. The Government proposal including its annexes encompassing all documents relating to the Workers' Party.

the event was presented as a pre-election meeting of the WP, in fact it was a modified form of a traditional May Day march by neo-Nazis.

The Protective Forces of WP DS (PF WP) were in 2009 utilised in “problematic localities,” mainly in the North Bohemian Region where they were to monitor the situation of relations between the majority population and people from excluded communities, who were predominantly of Roma origin.

Events concerning the Litvinov housing estate Janov which occurred in 2008<sup>9</sup> showed that under certain circumstances neo-Nazis are able to attract the support of a segment of the general public. Neo-Nazis enjoyed such support in the first half of 2009, which was proved by the results of June elections to the European Parliament (EP). Neo-Nazis obtained in total 25,368 votes which accounted for 1.07 percent of the total, and this was a relative success mainly of the WP since it managed to surpass the limit of one percent, which meant that the party was entitled to claim a state contribution for election-related costs amounting to CZK 761,040.

In the second half of 2009 the WP focused particularly on the autumn early elections for the Parliamentary Chamber of Deputies. After the elections were postponed new issue was found, which was the advised new governmental proposal for the dissolution of the WP filed with the Supreme Administrative Court in November 2009. The party’s representative had a plan to continue their activities within the **Workers’ Party of Social Justice (WPSJ)** in the case that the court accepted the government proposal; the WPSJ, as was later confirmed, was to serve as a back-up entity if the Workers’ Party was dissolved.<sup>10</sup>

A new factor which emerged in the neo-Nazi scene in 2009 was the motto of “nationalist socialism” modified for the Czech environment to “national socialism”. The aim of this linguistic adjustment was the ability to interpret this term with reference to Czech national socialism and its representatives, among whom were Edvard Beneš and Milada Horáková. Use of this motto in connection with the persons who used and promoted it is reminiscent of the Nazism of the Third Empire (1933-1945). The motto was used by both the National Resistance and the Workers’ Party on their banners and web presentations.

An April visit of David Duke<sup>11</sup>, an American right-wing extremist, should have become an exceptional event for the whole Czech ultra right-wing scene. Duke arrived in the Czech Republic to promote his book “My Awakening” published also in the Czech language. The purpose of Duke’s visit was, apart from other things, to contribute to enhancing the prestige of the organisers of such a visit among Czech and foreign right-

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<sup>9</sup>For more details see the Strategy for Combating Extremism, the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, Prague 2009.

<sup>10</sup>It is the renamed Democratic Party of Social Justice along with the WP who participated in the election to regional assemblies held in autumn 2008. The name of the party was changed immediately after the Ministry of the Interior filed a proposal for the dissolution of the WP on 5 November 2008. On 20 February 2010 Tomáš Vandas announced at a press conference that members of the dissolved WP will be included on the candidate list of the Workers’ Party of Social Justice (WPSJ) and that the transfer of WP members to WPSJ can be expected.

<sup>11</sup>David Duke ranks among the most well-known American right wing extremists. He is “renowned” for his anti-Semitism and conviction about the superiority of the “white race”. His activities are not limited only to the USA but they are known also in Europe and the area of Near East. He partially paid his attention also to Russia and Ukraine. For more information see: [http://www.adl.org/learn/ext\\_us/david\\_duke/default.asp?LEARN\\_Cat=Extremism&LEARN\\_SubCat=Extremism in America&xpicked=28item=4](http://www.adl.org/learn/ext_us/david_duke/default.asp?LEARN_Cat=Extremism&LEARN_SubCat=Extremism in America&xpicked=28item=4). David Duke established in 2000 the European – American Unity and Rights Organisation (EURO). he operates web pages which can best prove his ideological views ([www.davidduke.com](http://www.davidduke.com)).

wing extremists. However, the envisaged purpose of the visit was not accomplished. Duke was during his stay in the Czech Republic apprehended on 24 April 2009 by the police and accused of the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms due to his denial of the holocaust in his book, and he was then expelled from the Czech Republic.<sup>12</sup> However, Neo-Nazis only acquired a new topic to protest against “the system”.

Activities and development of the neo-Nazi scene were, in the second half of 2009, much more affected by police action – for example Power, Lotta, White Justice and some others, during which gradually several prominent neo-Nazis, including suspected perpetrators of an arson attack in Vitkov, were arrested and charged. These police actions always, as the first response, called for a wave of spontaneous demonstrations both in Prague and other cities across the Czech Republic at which participants expressed their disagreement with the police interventions. However, public protests depleted their human as well as political potential.

Another step was to establish several new entities and initiatives which primarily focused on supporting imprisoned extremists. However, their existence contributed to a further fragmentation in neo-Nazi movements.

A similar effect can be attributed also to an arson attack in Vitkov - whilst some individuals identified themselves with it, others who were more moderate and politically oriented took a critical attitude since they were worried about its adverse impact on overall perception of the neo-Nazi movement. These worries proved to be true when the suspects of this attack were detained and it was clear that they were members of the right-wing extremist scene.

The initial reactions of right-wing extremists towards police actions were rather militant but at the same time police interventions caused such extremists to be more attentive and careful. Neo-Nazis also began to devise various strategies and tactics to make the work of repressive forces more difficult.

The above-mentioned police interventions influenced also other parts of activities carried out by extremist actors. Besides the fact that participation in public events generally decreased, a trend, seen already in 2008, oriented toward the organisation of small-scale events with music performances for a small number of attendants, accelerated and became more intensive. Nevertheless, in the second half of 2009 their number dropped to a minimal level. Czech organisers newly organised concerts with Czech participants abroad, mainly in the border areas of Poland and Slovakia. These tactics will probably continue also in the upcoming year.

The arson attack in Vitkov, clashes between right-wing extremists and the police, and information on the White Justice militant group signalled in the course of 2009 increased radicalism of the neo-Nazi movement, accompanied by the willingness of its supporters to get involved in direct confrontation with representatives of the state. Verbally, there were also speculations about attacks against public officials, politicians, public prosecutors, etc. In reality there were several physical assaults. The target of such assaults were not, as before, only ideological opponents from among left-wing extremists, but also police officers intervening in different right-wing extremist events. It is necessary to note that police officers were not in the past exposed so frequently to such attacks.

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<sup>12</sup> The Public Prosecutor’s Office in Prague 1 discontinued on 29 September 2009 the prosecution of David Duke accused of the criminal offence of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms as during the pre-trial proceedings no evidence was gathered to prove that the accused had participated in the crime concerned.

## 2009: Trends in the Neo-Nazi Scene

A continuation of trends seen in 2008:

- Efforts to enter the political scene continued.
- The fact that some representatives of National Resistance cells and other persons linked to the neo-Nazi scene were included in the WP candidate lists in the election to the European Parliament indicated close links between the Workers' Party and the neo-Nazi scene.
- Close cooperation between the Workers' Party and the German NPD continued.
- Migration of individual representatives of this spectrum within several organisations continued.
- Organisation of "spontaneous events" continued and the number of such events considerably increased as a consequence of interventions by the Czech police.
- "Confidential" actions such as for example sporting days of the National Resistance continued and the same applied to militant training actions.
- Radicalism of members of this scene increased.
- The Czech police remained representative of "the system" – supposedly an opponent against whom force must be used to be able to fight against it.<sup>13</sup>

New trends were also recorded:

- Concerts of White Power Music - WPM - moved abroad.
- The motto "nationalistic socialism" changed in the Czech environment to "national socialism" was used.
- The National Resistance quit public presentation (with the exception of its web pages) and started to use names such as Free Resistance, Resistance etc.
- Social networks, in particular Facebook, have been used; the same applies to blogs.
- A new element was an effort by groups to operate their own news outlets by means of internet radio broadcasting.

### 2.1.1.2. Ultra Nationalistic Groups

In 2009 traditional nationalistic organisations were gradually losing their importance, which was negligible anyway.<sup>14</sup> As regards ultra nationalistic entities in 2009, the **National Party (NP)** was most visible, despite the fact that, with just several exceptions, the party did not draw any particular attention.

At the beginning of 2009 the NP continued its activities commenced in the previous year when the party tried, by means of its declared policy towards foreign nationals and other ethnic groups, to influence the general public, mainly running up to the election to the European Parliament.

After the failure of the National Guards, which was only a virtual project,<sup>15</sup> the party strove to attract the interest of the media in 2009 and to ensure free advertising. With the aim of achieving a media response the party introduced its study "Final Solution to the Gypsy Issue in Bohemia and Moravia," dealing with the issue of ethnic Roma in the Czech Republic. They selected a sensitive location. The study, which was presented as a serious scientific work, was introduced on 5 April 2009 in Lety u Písku, at the site of a memorial

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<sup>13</sup> This attitude was obvious during the events in Janov in 2008.

<sup>14</sup> In this context the political party the National Unity and the civic association the Patriot Front can be mentioned.

<sup>15</sup> For example contrary to the Hungarian Guards which were established by the JOBBIK movement headed by Gabor Vona.

to Roma victims of World War Two. *Currently some persons are subject to criminal prosecution for having committed the crime of incitement of national and racial hatred because of this publication.*

However, the party attracted more considerable interest from the media thanks to its election slot, which was broadcast by Czech Television and Czech Radio as part of its election campaign for the European Parliament. This slot was, after its initial broadcasting, immediately withdrawn from the media and criminal reports were filed in relation to it. The National Party totally failed in their bid to be elected to the European Parliament as they obtained only about 0.28 percent of votes.

In the course of 2009 the NP organised several small demonstrations which were attended by about 20 persons. Such demonstrations dealt with, apart from the above-mentioned issues, also the issue of “Islamisation of Europe.” In 2009 the party absolutely quit its “tours” to problematic localities as it was affected by the ever increasing activities of the Workers’ Party and its Protective Forces. Instead of anti-Roma activities, through which the party had become visible, it more and more focused on attacks against Muslims and European integration. Despite all its efforts the National Party started to fall apart. This decline in activities was apparent, and its “fighting” power decreased to a minimum. After the Chair, Petra Edelmannová, resigned, the three most active members of the management Boards resigned as well on 1 December 2009. The web pages of the National Party were closed down. In addition to criminal prosecution of NP representatives, the failure of this party was also due to financial problems.

The year 2009 was also a year of negative changes for the political party Association for the Republic – the Republican Party of Czechoslovakia (AR-RPCS). A range of factors, including a CZK twenty million debt, passive party management and the gradual resignation of some members of the Workers’ Party which weakened the party so much that its definitive extinction cannot be excluded. It is obvious that AR-RPCS exploited its political credit and probably therefore cannot regain it.

The activities of other Czech nationalistic entities were not very important in 2009 when taking security risks into account. The only considerable impulse for their activation was the expression of their disagreement with the Lisbon Treaty.

### **2.1.1.3. Application of State Powers with regard to the Right of Assembly**

#### **Workers’ Party**

From July 2009 the Ministry of the Interior worked on a proposal for the dissolution of the Workers’ Party. Supporting documents for drawing up the proposal were provided by the Czech Police and were also obtained from open sources (the internet, Workers’ Party press, etc.). The principal document was supplemented, on an ongoing basis, by further supporting arguments. On 16 September 2009 the Czech government adopted Resolution No. 1211 on the Government Proposal for the Supreme Administrative Court on Dissolution of the Workers’ Party. The Supreme Administrative Court received the Government Proposal on Dissolution of the Workers’ Party on 23 September 2009. The Senate relevant for proceedings concerning matters relating to political parties dealt with the issue on 30 September 2009. The Workers’ Party’s deadline for delivering its opinion was 17 November 2009. In its statement the WP challenged some allegations of the proposing authority, in particular its participation in organising some assemblies,



interpretation of the programme, expert opinions and links between symbols used and Nazism. The Ministry of the Interior prepared documents necessary to draw up the Ministry's response, continued to supplement evidence and coordinated the work with witnesses. The Ministry proposed as witnesses police officers dealing with extremism within the Criminal Police and Investigation Service and members of the Workers' Party. The Supreme Administrative Court proceedings on dissolution of the Workers' Party were scheduled between 11 and 14 January 2010. The deliberations on the proposal to dissolve the WP concentrated on programme objectives and Articles of Association of the WP, links to neo-Nazi entities, both personal and also through organising joint actions. Both witnesses and experts who drew up an opinion for the court were questioned.

*Court deliberations took place between 11 and 14 January 2010. On 17 February 2010 this political party was dissolved by the ruling of the Supreme Administrative Court. The party filed on 15 March 2010 an appeal with the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic.*

### **Workers' Youth**

In the context of activities of registered civic associations, the Ministry of the Interior began to deal, towards the end of 2009, with activities of the civic association Workers' Youth (WY), in particular with regard to some points of their programme, public manifestations of their representatives, and articles published on the WY's web pages or in the journal Voice of Youth.

The Ministry of the Interior came to the conclusion that some provisions of the WY programme presented on the relevant web pages support the unequal position of minorities. With regard to the fact that these views are not the opinions of an individual but are included in the programme of a civic association they can be considered to incite hatred towards other nationalities or incite intolerance towards foreigners, minorities and persons having a different religious faith (in particular Jews).<sup>16</sup>

The Workers' Youth also professes ideas of national (nationalistic) socialism. The avowal of ideas of national socialism as a principal idea of the association was included in the programme of the Workers' Youth under Article 18 (*"We see the faith in national socialism as a central idea determining the existence and acts of any nation. We take both as a gift. A general interest is a canon for use according to which we will proceed in our acts"*). The number of the Article can be understood as a symbol used by extremist movements (as the number 18 symbolises the initials of the name of Adolf Hitler). Thus this can be a hidden reference to support for the neo-Nazi movement.

The overall orientation of this civic association can be also described by public manifestations (during assemblies, in the press, on their web page [www.delnickamladez.cz](http://www.delnickamladez.cz)) of the Workers' Youth top members. The common denominator of such manifestations is the unjustified creation of negative feelings, a fear of and hate for

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<sup>16</sup> Mainly the following points of the programme can be considered as problematic:

*"1. Our country belongs only to us, not to immigrants and people of different nationalities. To own land or to use it is the right only of Czech citizens. If we want the nation to survive people must behave responsibly toward their heritage which was created and maintained by our predecessors.*

*5. Creative work must have a domain. Immigration gives employers the option to employ a cheap labour force which disadvantages our workers and manual work is losing its prestige. If the nation is to be united it must be cultivated by domestic hand.*

*11. The state's only founder is a nation and its members, which must at the international level be totally sovereign and independent.*

*14. Nationalisation of mass media. It is not admissible for mass media to be in the hands of foreigners."*

different sectors of the population, misleading and misrepresenting statements and an effort to incite hate and intolerance.

Participation by the (female) Deputy-Chair of the Workers' Youth together with several other persons from the WP in an unreported demonstration against Roma crime cannot be stamped out. The demonstration was organised by the Slovak Community on 8 August 2009 in Šarišské Michaľany, a village in Slovakia. Police intervened against the demonstration which was not officially permitted and 30 persons were detained including the Deputy-Chair of the Workers' Youth. According to publicly available information seven people were injured and of them five were police officers. As regards other extremist movements cooperating with the Workers' Youth representatives of the German NPD, Polish Falanga and the Romanian movement the New Right can be named.

On the basis of this information the WY was sent, at the end on 2009, on a call to deliver its opinion on the objections of the Ministry of the Interior. After the evaluation of the one-year existence of the WY, public presentations were partially modified at the beginning of 2010 and according to public statements of the WY the management of this civic association is working on the overall amendment of the WY programme.

## 2.1.2. Left-Wing Extremism

### 2.1.2.1. The Anarcho-Autonomous Movement

In 2009 the unregistered **Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (CSAF)** and **Antifascist Action (AFA)** remained the most important entities of the Czech anarcho-autonomous scene. In addition to these two organisations operating throughout the Czech Republic there were a number of regional anarchist or antifascist autonomous groups. Deep interpersonal links were given by the fact that many members of the aforementioned organisations are simultaneously members of various anti-authoritarian initiatives and groups. The anarcho-autonomous movements are activated by the joint fight against the "system" and extremists coming from the ultra right-wing spectrum.

The CSAF operates in the Czech Republic (and in Slovakia) as a section of the International of Anarchist Federations. It is organised as a federation of regional groups. It considers itself to be less radical.<sup>17</sup> It plays the role of an initiator and cooperates at different events such as for example the action "Against the Aggression of the Israeli Army in Gaza" held in January 2009, or a "Demonstration against Strengthening Police Powers" held in Pardubice in February 2009 or the "May Day Meeting in Prague" in May 2009.

The most radical individuals are associated in the **Antifascist Action (AFA)** who only act at demonstrations. In their programme statement they commit themselves to fighting both on an ideological basis and through violence against fascism, nationalism,

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<sup>17</sup> The CSAF supports in its programme manifesto a decentralised administration, and the establishment of autonomous regions joined in free federations. It supports the principle of a sustainable, environmentally friendly and rational way of life as well as the restriction of production to the degree which acceptable from an environmental point of view. The CSAF publishes the journals Existence, A-kontra, Zdola ("From the bottom"), and Žerme bohatých ("Guzzle the Rich"). The organisation is involved in activities of the international Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) and its task is to protect anarchists from being pursued by state powers and to raise funds for detained and imprisoned activists. Due to its aims and ideas concerning the arrangement of society the CSAF inclines toward the ideology of anarcho-communism and anarcho-syndicalism. The following is stipulated in their programme: – "we promote all equalitarian efforts of people to take back their rights, to fight against social suppression, dismissals from work, the oppression of women, damaging the environment. We are against capitalism and a state as they are founded also on the division of the society".

ultra right-wing groups, racism and all other manifestations of the oppression of minorities. Violence is for them the only correct means to achieve their goals. They objugate pacifism which is, in their opinion wrong and an inefficient tactic which has never shown any results. The AFA publishes the journal AFA – AKCE! and by pursues the ideas of the international movement ANTIFA. In the past they organised training camps known as AFA camps at which they carried out training programmes for their members who were trained for street fighting. There were also shows of martial art and they organised lectures on how to behave during police interventions and during interrogations at police stations. During 2009 no AFA camp was organised in the Czech Republic.

Monitoring the activities of right-wing extremists and publishing this information on AFA web pages has become a basic form of struggle of radical antifascists against the supporters of ultra right-wing organisations. In doing so anti-fascists focused on individual supporters of ultra-right-wing organisations and their roles within the neo-Nazi movement.

In addition anti-fascists continued, as in previous years, in direct physical assaults against their ideological opponents, in particular on the occasions of public events organised by ultra right-wing associations in large cities. Left-wing extremists always started the attack first and their militant actions were, as a rule, well-planned and organised. Rather than attacking ultra right-wing supporters during their assemblies they aimed their attacks against small, isolated groups of supporters after the events had officially ended. In 2009 rare attacks of anti-fascists against persons from among the Marxism-Leninism spectrum were newly reported.

The AFA also participated in the campaigns “GOOD NIGHT WHITE PRIDE” and “WE WILL ROCK YOU, WINSTON KIDS, LOVE FOOTBALL HATE RACISM, WE WON’T FORGET“.

## **2009: Trends in the Anarcho-Autonomous Scene**

- While in previous years anarchist ideology was overshadowed in favour of anti-fascism, in 2009 interest in anarchist ideas was partially renewed and efforts were made to include anarchism as an ideological stream in the movement. This was seen mainly in activities carried out by the CSAF and supported by the establishment of new anarchist organisations.
- Simultaneously with this new trend there were efforts by left-wing radicals to revise the anti-authoritarian movement to unify it and to reactivate it.
- Anarcho-autonomists are striving to find new strategies and utilising topics which could be used to address the general public.

### **2.1.2.2. Marxist-Leninist Groups (Neo-Bolshevism, Trotskyism)**

Whereas the anarcho-autonomous scene saw in the last year a certain shift, the second part of the left-wing spectrum did not undergo any considerable change and the year 2009 was not exceptional, i.e. this scene remained marginal.

Members and supporters of Marxist – Leninist oriented groups paid ongoing attention to traditional activities aimed at propagating and disseminating ideological thought (lectures, publishing journals, publications placed on web pages etc). Some of these groups organised demonstrations against capitalism, NATO and the EU and collaborated with similar organisations abroad.

**The Union of Young Communists of Czechoslovakia (UYCCS)**, which continued the activities of the dissolved **Communist Union of Youth (CUY)** and acted as its successor, was the most visible entity in this marginal Czech Marxist – Leninist scene.

Although it was the only truly functioning civic organisation registered after the dissolution of the CUY and professing its “heritage”<sup>18</sup> it was not able to acquire the necessary support of the general public. They struggled mainly with the problem of a small membership base and high passivity of individual members.

For public presentations the UYCCS usually made use of actions organised by other domestic left-wing entities having the similar ideology. Members of the UYCCS organised their own public events exceptionally and in the vast majority of events cooperated with other entities. In conducting their propaganda campaigns they devoted their attention mainly to hot social topics such as Israeli attacks in Gaza, growing activities of right-wing extremists in the Czech Republic, or global economic and financial crisis. UYCCS tried to communicate with foreign organisations and activities having a similar ideological orientation, in particular with organisations from Slovakia and Germany.

However, the key topic continued to be the propagation of the dissolved CUY and a “fight to renew its activities”. On 28 August 2009 the Supreme Administrative Court decided on the cassation complaint of the CUY against the judgement of the City Court in Prague. The judgement dismissed the action lodged by the CUY in order to appeal against the decision of the Ministry of the Interior. The Supreme Administrative Court revoked the judgement of the City Court in Prague. On 27 January 2010 the City Court in Prague abolished the decision of the Ministry of the Interior on the dissolution of the CUY.<sup>19</sup>

Unregistered Trotskyist organisations also had some activities. With several exceptions such groups were not very visible. As with UYCCS, due to a lack of members they had to participate in public assemblies and demonstrations of other entities.

Activities of other Marxist – Leninist oriented groups were not significant in 2009.

### **2.1.2.3. Application of State Power with regard to the Right of Assembly Communist Union of Youth**

The Supreme Administrative Court revoked by its judgement of 28 August 2009 the Judgement of the City Court in Prague of 19 March 2008 which had confirmed a previous decision adopted by the Ministry of the Interior to dissolve the civic association the Communist Union of Youth.<sup>20</sup> The Court reiterated the conditions necessary to dissolve any association, stating that it is important to assess whether any intervention: 1) was specified under the law, 2) followed a legitimate interest, and 3) was inevitable within democratic society. The reasons to justify such an intrusion in relation to the right to assembly must be relevant and sufficient. The court came to the conclusion that the decision of the Ministry of the Interior did not clearly show whether the issue of inevitability had been assessed. The conclusion on the necessity to dissolve the complainant could not be judged, according to the opinion of the Supreme Administrative Court, only on the basis of documents published on the organisation’s web site.

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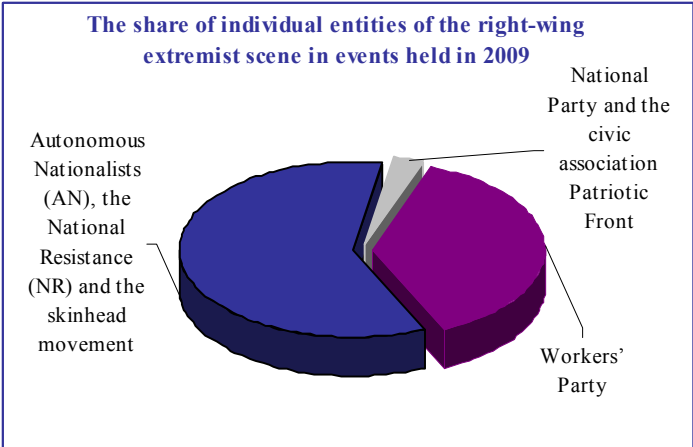
<sup>18</sup> Other successor organisations were: the Communist Youth, the Communist Association of Youth, the Communist Union of Young People, the Young Communists, the Union of Youth, and the Union of Young Communists. These were established by persons from the moderate wing of the dissolved CUY and they are inactive. Their founders continued to operate under the name of the CUY, nonetheless they restricted their activities only to operating the internet pages of the former CUY.

<sup>19</sup> On 13 March 2010 an extraordinary legalisation congress of the CUY was held in Prague. It officially legalised the CUY and its activities.

<sup>20</sup> The Judgement of the Supreme Administrative Court of 28 August 2009, Ref. No. As 29/2008-104 – dissolution of the civic association Communist Union of Youth.

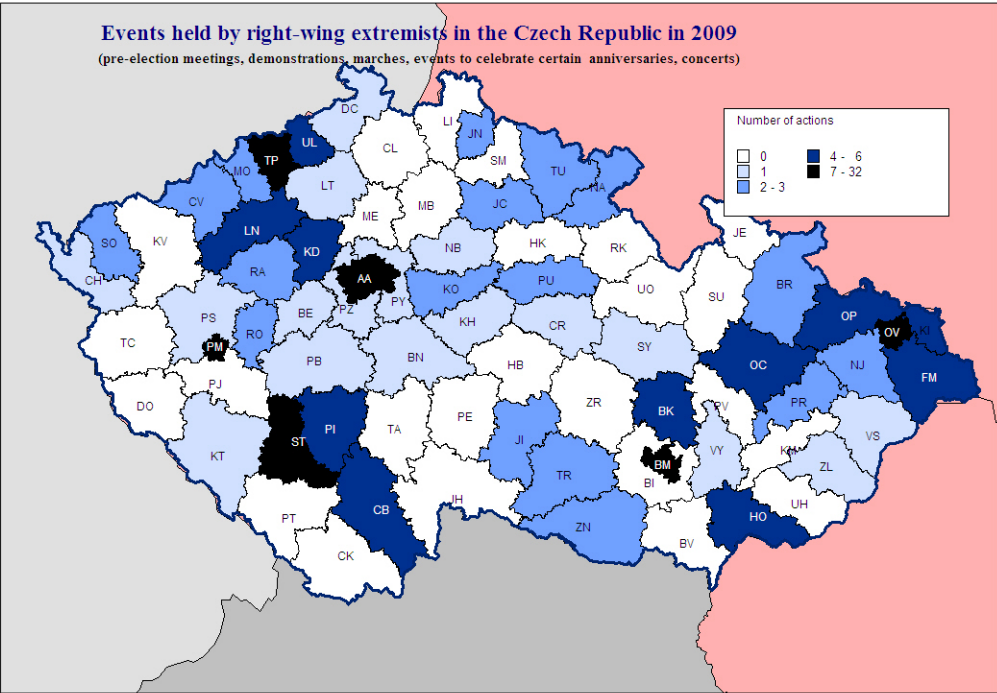
## 2.2. The Issue of Concerts of Right-Wing Extremist Bands and Right-Wing Demonstrations

From 1 January to 31 December 2009 in total 109 events organised by right-wing extremists and their supporters were recorded (pre-election meetings, demonstrations, marches, commemorating actions, concerts). The Workers' Party (WP) participated in 37.6 percent of events, supporters of the Autonomous Nationalists (AN), the National Resistance (NR) and the skinhead movement were involved in 55.3 percent of events.



The activities of ultra right-wing nationalistic entities, i.e. political parties the National Party and the civic association Patriotic Front accounted for 2.8 percent.

The distribution of recorded right-wing extremist events in the Czech Republic is shown on the below map. It demonstrates that the most affected areas were the districts of Teplice (NBR), Strakonice (SBR), Prague (capital city), and the cities of Pilsen (WBR), Brno (SMR) and Ostrava, where there were the most events organised by right-wing extremists. These places were followed by Kladno (CBR), Písek, České Budějovice (SBR), Ústí n/Labem, Louny, (NBR), Hodonín, Blansko (SMR), Olomouc, Opava, Frýdek-Místek and Karviná (NMR).



### 2.2.1. The Issue of White Power Music Concerts

White Power music concerts continued to be organised. The National Resistance, the Autonomous Nationalists and women's part of the National Resistance (the Resistance Women Unity; RWU) were principal organisers of such concerts. Concerts served primarily as an ideological basis for the spreading ideas of neo-Nazism, as a place for recruiting new persons and as a means for radicalisation of current neo-Nazis fighting against the current democratic system. Last but not least, these concerts served for raising funds for financing neo-Nazi activities. When arranging such concerts the organisers continued to use techniques to conceal their communication and try to prevent the police from attending. 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 were also applied to the members of the white power music bands who were invited to perform. As a consequence this situation led to a lower numbers of participants than there had been in the past (100 - 200). In 2009 in total 18 WPM concerts were organised, which is only a half the number of those organised in 2008 (34). Seventeen of them were organised in the first half of 2009, thus it is obvious that the activities of neo-Nazi groups were gaining intensity at the beginning of the year. After republic-wide police action against right-extremists in June, only one WPM concert was held (on 25 July 2009 in Pilsen) which was immediately terminated by the Czech police. Several small events were planned towards the end of the year. These performances aimed to present WPM bands but all were without live music.

A strong trend was seen during the organisation of concerts – an effort to show coexistence with European and even global neo-Nazi movements. Signs such as Blood and Honour, or Combat 18, are often hung on the walls. This fact was recorded to a large extent when foreign neo-Nazi music bands participated in performances and when these concerts were promoted on foreign web servers, representatives of Blood and Honour directly participated in a concert in the Czech Republic. Efforts to the renew activities of the aforementioned organisations in the Czech Republic were recorded<sup>21</sup>, however they were not successful.

In the context of police interventions against the organisers of neo-Nazi concerts, a new trend occurred. Such concerts were organised abroad, however in locations easily accessible to Czech visitors. Such places were found mainly in Poland and in the Slovak Republic (Krzanowice 24 January 2009, Rajcza 28 February 2009, Grodzany 30 May 2009, Bratislava 13 June 2009, Ustron 19 September 2009 and Visla 26 September 2009). These concerts, with several exceptions, were organised by Czech neo-Nazis, and in a number of cases without the participation of their local counterparts. With regard to the fact that these concerts were held without the presence of the local police who did not know about them, their course was quite radical. At the last of these concerts a collection for persons charged with the arson attack against the Roma family in Vitkov was organised. Moreover, the actions of such persons were praised at such concerts.

In 2009 there was a large interest in participating in foreign WPM concerts traditionally organised mainly in Italy and Hungary. Participation in Italian concerts organised by the neo-Nazi organisation “Veneto fronte skinheads” was supported by the performance of the Czech and Slovak WPM bands Vlajka (“Flag”) and Juden Mord. At these concerts the Czech company Hate Core Shop had the opportunity to distribute its

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<sup>21</sup> These efforts related to the growth in militant radicalism. Some persons from among neo-Nazis were not happy with tactics used in “joining the political scene” since they would have preferred an open, violent fight. However, these were just several individuals.

CDs, DVDs and clothes. Thanks to international police cooperation this distribution was prevented and thus a financial flow which was intended to support neo-Nazi organisations was restricted.

### **2.2.2. Demonstrations of Right-Wing Extremists**

At the beginning of 2009 the trend of more or less peaceful demonstrations launched in 2008 continued. The main aim of such demonstrations was an effort to address the general public – the potential electorate, mostly through social topics or anti-minority opinions, as they were aware of the fact that such concepts were successful in the last year. The relation between right-wing extremists and the police did not see any changes as the police remained to be, for right-wing extremists, a representative symbol of the fight against “the system.” The year 2009 brought about the utilisation of more and more perfect and sophisticated weapons usable in clashes with the police, including explosive systems some of which could act as booby-traps or incendiary systems. This was particularly true of the first half of 2009 when one the largest confrontational demonstrations was held in Prerov in April.

As regards the second half of 2009, many “spontaneous” demonstrations were held at which a relatively low number of demonstrators (20 - 100) organised at a place decided in advance participated in demonstrations to promote their goals and views. Such demonstrations are not officially reported and in the majority of cases they do not have an official organiser. In 2009 the participants of spontaneous demonstrations protested against republic-wide interventions by the police during which right-wing extremists were apprehended and evidence was seized through house searches. These police interventions essentially affected the whole neo-Nazi movement and thus spontaneous demonstrations were the only means to protest against the police and criticise their activities and to strive to publicly justify activities because of which some persons were detained. Spontaneous demonstrations were held across the Czech Republic. Due to their frequency and to the fact that such demonstrations were always held after any new police intervention, the year 2009 saw an upward trend in the number of public events organised by right-wing extremists.

In 2009 the Czech police recorded in total 76 assemblies, demonstrations, marches and other public events (39 in 2008).<sup>22</sup> The largest share in such events must be ascribed to supporters of the neo-Nazi scene, however, under this expression the following organisations are included: the National Resistance, the Autonomous Nationalists, the Resistance Women Unity, and also the Workers’ Party, which actively participated in organising a number of neo-Nazi activities. Individual representatives of National Resistance cells and other members linked to the neo-Nazi scene were introduced, for example as candidates of the Workers’ Party for the election to the European Parliament.<sup>23</sup> In 2009 there was close cooperation between the Workers’ Party and the German NPD, and the WP participated in several demonstrations in Germany whilst representatives of the NPD attended events held in the Czech Republic. Representatives of neo-Nazi organisations from Sweden appeared for the first time in the Czech Republic when they gave speeches at the Demonstration of St. Wenceslas held in Kladno in September 2009.

Activities of the National Party, another entity in the extremist scene, were absolutely marginal when they compared with activities of the above-mentioned entities.

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<sup>22</sup> These demonstrations do not include pre-election meetings organised by the Workers’ Party during the election campaign organised before the elections for the European Parliament.

<sup>23</sup> Mutual penetration between the WP and the neo-Nazi scene was evidenced in a document drawn up by the Unit for combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service, which included supporting documents for the proposal to dissolve the Workers’ Party.

This nationalistic political party continued mainly its efforts to become more visible in the mass media.

### 2.2.3 Other Events

In addition to activities relating to WPM concerts and public actions right-wing extremists organised other activities leading to strengthening their identity. The project P.O.W. (Prisoners of War) gained a new dimension as they endeavoured by means of financial collections and other methods of fund-raising to support their “imprisoned friends”. This type of activity was quite costly for the movement when taking into account the number of persons who were either imprisoned or investigated.

In 2009 mostly covert action such as sporting days of the National Resistance or various militant training exercises continued.

## 2.3. The Issue of the Internet

### 2.3.1. Internet Phenomenon

The internet was a phenomenon which affected the form and functions of the extremist scene again in 2009. Its overall social significance has rapidly grown within the last several years and along with its growing availability and the speed of connection, utilisation of the internet by extremists was on the rise. It is particularly the relative anonymity of the virtual environment which contributes to the popularity of the internet. Czech extremists used the internet to perform a range of activities. Most often it was used for the presentation of ideas, mutual communication and the sale of goods relating to extremists topics.

The internet has become for extremists mainly the foremost platform for propaganda. Extremists strove to influence the general public via the internet, and offer independent or alternative to official news, their own views on different topics. At the same time, when they maintained certain security principles so that they can use it as a secured means of communication which can be scrutinised by security forces only with difficulty.

Social networks represent a specific case for using the internet. Mainly **Facebook** played a dominant role in 2009. It has brought about a new phenomenon consisting in communication between extremists linked to different groups or organisations and persons who only more or less openly incline toward racists opinions. As an example, two groups from November and December 2009 can be described. The first group dubbed “Instead of one gypsy have one fan! Let’s clean the Czech Republic”, before its operations were closed down, had gained more than 10,000 members. The second – “A dead gypsy – a good gypsy” attracted after two weeks since its creation 2,000 members. Of course, not all members of these groups were extremists. However, it was clearly shown that the anonymity of the internet environment enabled many “common” citizens to “deblock” their latent racism and demonstrate it openly.

A new element concerning use of the internet was represented by efforts to **operate their own news through internet radio broadcasting**. In such projects moderators conduct discussions, read news and of course, there is also broadcast WPM of different bands. The presenters are usually persons who are well-known to all the movement, which leads to increased listening to the radio. An example of such a current project is radio station Autonom, which is not presently functioning as it is a subject to criminal prosecution.



Internet **blogs** were also abused for spreading racial hatred, neo-Nazism, anti-Semitism and other manifestations of hate. Some blogs are not view-specific which means that apart from normal discussions there are also spiteful contributions enforcing the ideology of nationalistic socialism, nationalism, racism and xenophobia. Certain disorganisation and the fact that the authors are not members of a specific organisation – this means anonymity – are good foundations for the presentation of very radical intolerant contributions. A number of blogs enable the downloading of music of neo-Nazi and skinhead bands. In addition there are blogs which might be described as organised blogs and these are exclusively used for promoting the ideology of nationalistic socialism and anti-Semitism.<sup>24</sup>

### 2.3.2. Extremist Web Pages

Activists of the National Resistance, the Autonomous Nationalists and the Workers' Party were the most active in presenting their views and opinions on the internet. The web pages of the nationalistic National Party were, after their chairperson Petra Edelmannova resigned, gradually paralysed. Official pages of the National Guards disappeared, the section "Official Opinions" were closed on 1 December 2009 by notification of the resignation of the members of the management board, namely Michal Kubík, Mgr. Jan Skácel and Bc. Jiří Gaudin. As of the same date, articles published on this web were terminated and therefore the link to the archive web ceased to function.<sup>25</sup>

The web sites of the National Resistance provided, on an ongoing basis, information on events being prepared by the NR and/or events organised by the Workers' Party. They brought information on actions held in the Czech Republic as well as abroad, including photographs. There were also links to both domestic (for example Altermedia or Zvedavec) and foreign information servers. It was possible to find here discussions and advice, for example, on how to behave during police interrogations and so forth. Mobilising videos were ready for downloading. For their supporters they prepared web-blogs, such as "Radial Revival", "Not Being Blind", "Resist", "Oppose.org!", "Autonomous Media", "Ape Planet", "Awakening" and some others. They also made selection of texts published on other web pages, for example on the Workers Party's website, for their section "Articles from other webs" ("I was fired from the Army, I'm joining the Workers' Party" or "The WP celebrated Christmas with the NPD in Saxony" and so on). As a response to a police action dubbed "Power" they considerably opposed members of the government and mainly the police, who were described as political, serving the regime and "displaying totalitarian elements". The NR tried to play the role of "victim" and "the only anti-regime opposition". In this context an article titled "The National Resistance Crossed the Rubicon" can be mentioned. The article says: "Incursions of corrupt state power cannot mean, in any case, the end of resistance against the rotten system... We have become the only real national alternative to the regime" (7 November 2009). In an article from 11 November 2009 called "Terrorism versus Activism" they wrote: "It is written on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the regime aggression against political opposition in Prague and is devoted to real political activists, both male and female, of anti-regime opposition, who are behind bars at the moment purely because of their political conviction and faith in a better world". On 9 December 2009 the NR

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<sup>24</sup> See general characteristics of the internet space in terms of intolerant manifestations. The project of the Czech Helsinki Committee– [www.helcom.cz](http://www.helcom.cz), section Dokumenty (Documents).

<sup>25</sup> It can be assumed that the topic of the National Guards is closed by this. The guards were often discussed in the mass media but they were also the subject of interpellations despite the fact that the Ministry of the Interior noted that they are imaginary and that the project is unrealistic due to the very limited possibilities of the National Party.

published on its website the instructions “How to Behave during a Police Interrogation” The NR also provided information on its website about events and on the situation of nationalists in Slovakia, and published the texts (10 October 2009) “Memory for Victims of Bombing – Nove Zamky”.

As regards the left-wing spectrum, the website of the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (CSAF) and the Antifascist Action (AFA) can be mentioned.

The CSAF often profiled itself as being a “liberal-minded collective associating workers, the unemployed and students on anarchist principles”. Such principles mean federalism, self-government and activities from the bottom. The following publications are available on their web pages: “ABC of a Revolutionary Anarchist”, “Inhumanity of Democracy”, “Anarchist Organisation of Defence” or “Beyond Resistance: Revolutionary Manifesto for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium”. The Introduction of the latter states the following: “Such a world can only be attained by the complete destruction of Capitalism and the State - by Revolution. The process of the Revolution will be a process of some destruction but more importantly of creation. If the working class is to put an end to its wretched condition under Capitalism and create an Anarchist Communist society during the course of the new Millennium, the coming years must be characterised not only by inevitable class struggle but also by the creation of a united and global revolutionary movement”.

The Antifascist Action writes on its web pages that “Antifascist Action is focused on promotional, informative and practical ways of struggle against all authoritarian ideologies and groups promoting any kind of oppression, particularly against neo-Nazism and right-wing radicals. The AFA is open to everybody who wants to take an active part in the struggle against fascism, Nazism and Bolshevism in all their forms although antifascism is considered as extremism in these days. In the same way, we are not satisfied with the current system, which brings more control over people’s lives, destroys our environment and makes social and economic differences all over the world even deeper”. The AFA were the most sceptical when they expressed their opinion on the police action “White Justice” and the reaction of the media in the article “White Justice – the Truth Versus Fiction”; they regarded this case as manipulated and, according to the AFA, the police and state’s goals were to “...create support for extending their own as well as other repressive steps...”. The AFA published on its web pages findings on the neo-Nazi scene and its actors. As regards the state, they expressed their opinion as follows: “The state will not solve, on our behalf, our problems - just to the contrary the state even deepens our problems. We think that the state (as an entity) does not have any historical justification and thus it is not needed. Fascist or half-fascist political parties such as the Civic Democratic Party try to force their ideas upon us. The state came into existence when classes emerged, and its clear form came with the development of capitalism as a consequence of ever increasing contradictions in society which is not anymore able to manage imminent disputes. Thus a closed governing class came into existence which put itself above society. The state and its repressive forces (the police) cannot, as a matter of fact, solve social problems which are of a class nature, but it serves only for their suppression which means that tension is rising and this tension influences society. Probably each of us noticed a steep growth in eavesdropping and monitoring systems in the streets of towns and cities. At this time the number of tapped telephone calls is on the rise, not to mention CCTV systems used in factories and other workplaces. Such trends are consequences of antagonisms brought about by the state.”

## 2.4. Crimes Having an Extremist Context in 2009

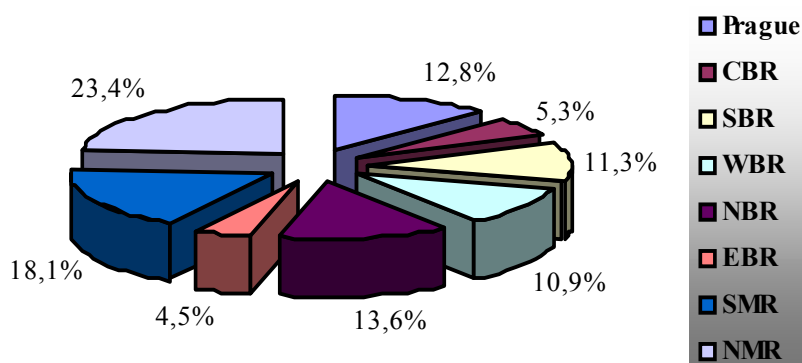
### 2.4.1. The Situation in the Czech Republic as a Whole and in Individual Regions<sup>26</sup>

#### 2.4.1.1. Overall Situation

Of the total number of 332,829 criminal offences detected in the Czech Republic, 265 registered crimes had an extremist context, which accounted for 0.07 percent of total criminal activities recorded (0.06 percent in the same period of 2008).

In 2009:

- An upward trend in the number of detected crimes having an extremist context seen in 2008 continued. In comparison with 2007, an increase, by 22 percent (+ 48) criminal offences was recorded<sup>27</sup>
- 186 criminal offences were solved, which accounts for 70.2 percent (126 crimes in 2008 which accounted for 58.1 percent).
- 293 persons (+98 persons, 195 persons in 2008) were prosecuted for committing the aforementioned crime.



### The total number of crimes having an extremist context recorded in the Czech Republic between 2006 and 2009

(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 (percent)	Number of crimes solved	Number of persons prosecuted
2006	248	0.07	196	242
2007	196	0.05	119	181
2008	217	0.06	126	195
2009	265	0.07	186	293

<sup>26</sup>A basic breakdown of police statistical records (SRS-PP) – seven regions and the capital city of Prague - in compliance with Act No. 36/1960 Coll. on Territorial Division of the State, as amended. From 1 January 2010 the breakdown of police statistical records is identical with the administrative division of the Czech Republic – 14 regions.

<sup>27</sup> In 2008 the growth in the number of detected crimes having an extremist context was recorded – an increase by 21 criminal offences (+ 10.7 percent; 217 crimes - 2008, 196 crimes – 2007). The decline in this type of criminal offence was recorded for the last time in 2007, when it accounted for 21 percent (when compared with 2006).

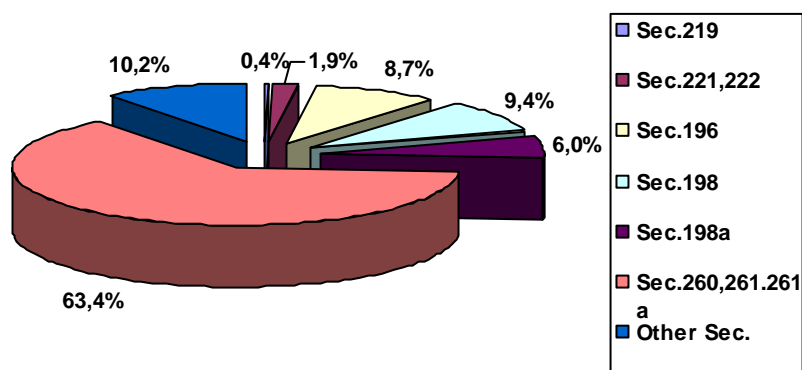
REGIONS <sup>28</sup>	1 January – 31 December 2009 (recorded crimes)	1 January– 31 December 2008 (recorded crimes)	DIFFERENCE
Prague	34	35	-1
Central Bohemian Region	14	29	-15
South Bohemian Region	30	12	18
West Bohemian Region	29	11	18
North Bohemian Region	36	35	1
East Bohemian Region	12	17	-5
South Moravian Region	48	43	5
North Moravian Region	62	35	27
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>48</b>

- Most such crimes were committed in the North Moravian Region 23.4 - percent (62 crimes), followed by the South Moravian Region - 18.1 percent (48 crimes), the North Bohemian Region - 13.6 percent (36 crimes) and in Prague 12.8 percent (34 crimes).
- The most visible growth in this kind of crime was reported in the North Moravian Region (by 77 percent, + 27 crimes), followed by the West Bohemian Region (by 163 percent, +18 crimes) and the South Bohemian Region (by 150 percent, +18 crimes).
- The lowest number of such criminal offences was registered in the Central Bohemian Region and the East Bohemian Region.
- The most considerable decline in the number of recorded crimes was reported from the Central Bohemian Region, by 51.7 percent (-15 crimes).

#### 2.4.1.2. Composition of Criminal Offences

In 2009, when compared with 2007 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



<sup>28</sup> Statistical figures concerning the South Bohemian, North Bohemian, and East Bohemian regions and the South Moravian Region are not comparable for 2009 and 2008 as some districts were shifted among the regions.

freedoms) continued to **considerably prevail** – the total was **168 (63.4 percent)** crimes, of which 122 criminal offences (72.6 percent) were solved. **In total 194 persons** (i.e. **66.2 percent** 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) – **25 (9.4 percent)** was much lower; **20 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) – **23 (8.7 percent)** and **32 persons** were prosecuted for such crime.
- According to SRS-PP <sup>29</sup>, if taking into account the statistical period of January – December 2009, **five crimes** pursuant to **Sec. 221** and **Sec. 222 of the Criminal Code** were reported (intentional serious physical injury), for which **11 persons were prosecuted**; **16 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 **13 persons** were prosecuted; and one attempted murder was prosecuted pursuant to **Section 219g**.
- **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 between 2007 and 2009  
(according to the constituent elements of the crime)**

Year/sec.	196 (2)	198	198a	219 (2g)	221 (2b)	222 (2b)	235 (2f)	257 (2b)	260	261	261a
<b>2007</b>	18	28	13	1	7	4	0	2	47	63	2
<b>2008</b>	25	41	11	1	4	2	2	1	42	68	1
<b>2009</b>	23	25	16	1	2	2	1	6	92	72	4

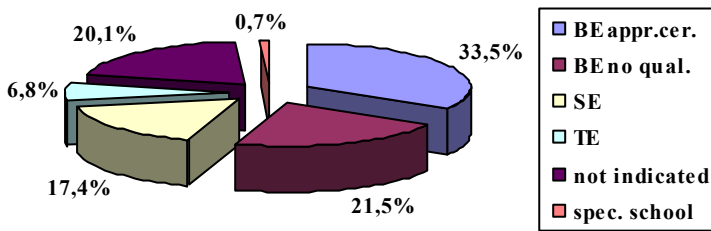
(according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic – SRS-PP)

With regard to the closure of criminal procedures relating to police investigations of crimes having a racist or other extremist context and investigations of their perpetrators, the submission of an indictment was the most common – 129 offenders (44 percent), and within summary pre-trial proceedings pursuant to Sec. 179c (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure 44 offenders (15 percent) were investigated, 94 offenders (32.1 percent), are still being investigated; and the prosecution of three offenders (1 percent) was suspended under Sec. 159a (2) and Sec. 159a (3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The prosecution of three offenders (1 percent) was conditionally discontinued pursuant to Sec. 307 and Sec. 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Two offenders (0.7 percent) were prosecuted within proceedings for juvenile offenders under Sec. 166 (3). In nine cases (3.1 percent) a proposal to commence proceedings before the Court for Youth, under Act No. 218/2003 was filed. In the case of three offenders (1 percent) the public prosecutor filed within summary pre-trial proceedings a proposal for conditional suspension pursuant to Section 179 g (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. One offender – a foreign national (0.3 percent) was extradited to his country of origin to be prosecuted there.

<sup>29</sup> SRS-PP = the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic

### 2.4.1.3. Offenders

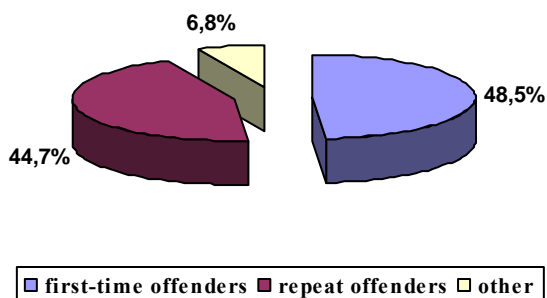
In 2009 the composition of offenders of crimes having an extremist context was the same as in 2008 and in previous years. Offenders of the above-mentioned crimes were both activists and supporters of extremist movements as well as citizens of the majority



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 ethnicity.

The structure of offenders as regards their educational level did not change either. Offenders having only a basic education and an apprenticeship certificate prevailed – 98 persons (33.5 percent) and were followed by offenders having a basic education and no qualification – 63 persons (21.5 percent). However, there was **an increase in the number of offenders having secondary education by 183 percent** (2009: 51 person; 2008: 18 persons) and those having **tertiary education by 133 percent** (2009: 20 persons; 2008: 6 persons).<sup>30</sup> There were also 49 (16.7 percent) other offenders who were either children or foreign nationals whose educational level was not ascertained. Among offenders there were two who had completed special school (0.7 percent). There were ten offenders whose educational level was not recorded (3.4 percent).

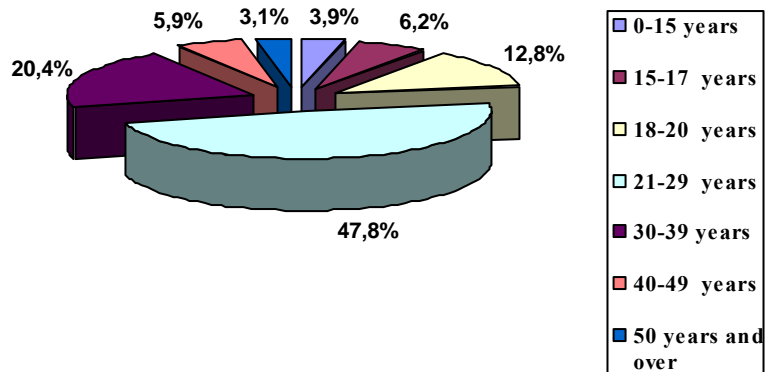
There were 142 (48.5 percent) first-time offenders and 131 (44.7 percent) repeat offenders.



The composition of offenders in terms of their age did not display any visible changes either. Also in 2009, as in 2008, offenders of the 21 - 29 years age category prevailed (138, i.e. 47.1 percent), followed by 30 – 39 years old offenders (59, i.e. 20.1 percent), 18 – 20 years old offenders

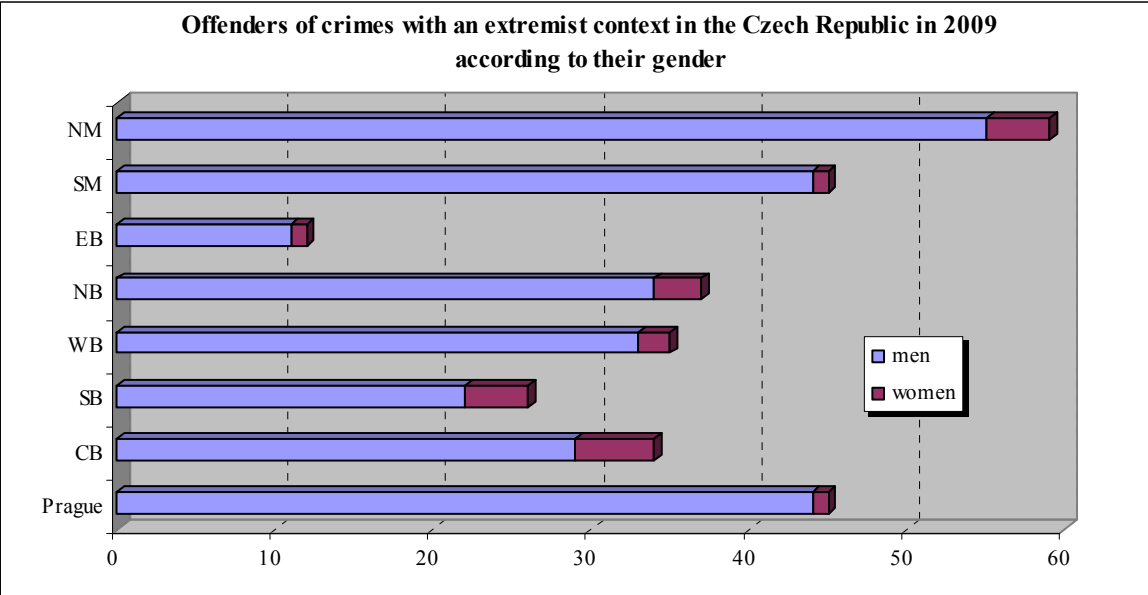
(37, i.e. 12.6 percent), 15 – 17 years old offenders (18, i.e. 6.1 percent) and 40 – 49 years old offenders (17, i.e. 5.8 percent). The lowest number of offenders fell into the categories of under 15 years of age (11, i.e. 3.8 percent), 50 - 59 years (8, i.e. 2.7 percent) and over 60 years (1, i.e. 0.3 percent).

44 persons, which accounts for 22.6 percent of the total number of offenders, committed crimes while intoxicated.



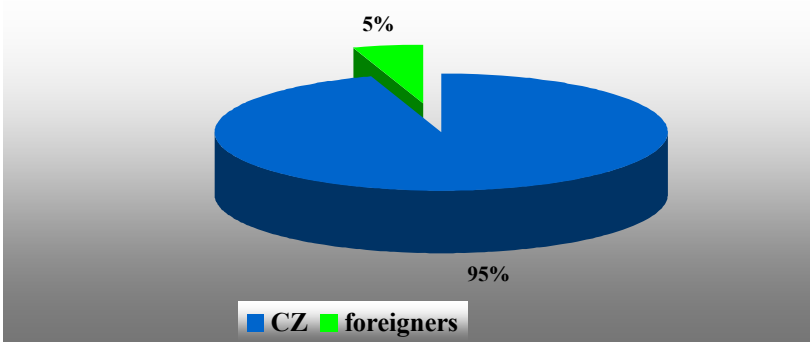
<sup>30</sup> Under Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-school, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act) the following terminology applies: *those who completed basic school and then received an apprenticeship certificate are equal to those who completed secondary school 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).

As regards gender of offenders, male offenders prevailed (272, i.e. 93,2 percent) whilst there were only 21 female offenders (i.e. 6.8 percent), as demonstrated by the below diagram.



There were 15 foreign offenders, which accounted for 5.1 percent. These were citizens of Slovakia (5), Poland (4), Serbia (1) and Germany (5).

Share of foreign nationals in recorded criminal activities with an extremist context in 2009



#### 2.4.1.4. Crimes with an Extremist Context Committed by Police Officers<sup>31</sup>

In 2009 increased attention was paid to criminal offences having an extremist context committed by police officers. Eight inspections were carried out throughout the Czech Republic to check whether extremist assemblies or other extremists events are actively attend by police officers either as active members of extremist organisations or as their supporters. Participation of police officers was not detected.

Further “use of violence” and use of “coercive means” was examined for the period of 2007 and 2008 and for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2009. This examination applied to all members of all Czech police units. No cases of repeat physical violence or use of coercive means in the context of crimes having an extremist context were detected within police units or with regard to individual police officers.

The Inspectorate of the Police of the Czech Republic investigated in 2009 in total **six cases** demonstrating that crimes having an extremist context were committed by police officers. Two of them are still being investigated. One was submitted for disciplinary proceedings pursuant to Part Twelve, Title IV of Act No. 361/2003 Coll., and as regards three cases an extremist motivation for the behaviour of the suspects was not proven and the investigations were discontinued. The six cases were as follows:

- A police officer working at the Police College and at the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague was investigated within the meaning of Sec. 158 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as he was suspected of having participated in extremist assemblies and providing, for pecuniary consideration, personal protection to chief representatives of extremist groups. The initial suspicion was not proven and the case was discontinued
- Fourteen police officers working for the Territorial Unit of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Municipal Directorate Brno-město were investigated pursuant to Section 158 (3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as they were suspected of having committed the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 261 of the Criminal Code, by allegedly manifesting their sympathy for movements suppressing human rights and freedoms, singing racist songs while participating in the birthday celebration of one of them. At least one officer was suspected of using the fascist greeting “Seig Heil”. After verifying all relevant facts the case was, pursuant to Sec. 159a (1) (b) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, submitted for disciplinary punishment pursuant to Part Twelve, Title IV of Act No. 361/2003 Coll., as amended.
- A police officer working for the Highway Traffic Police Department of the Czech police in Velky Beranov was investigated within the meaning of Sec. 158 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure for propagating Nazi symbols. Initial suspicions were not proven and the case was discontinued.
- A police officer working for the Traffic Inspectorate in Chomutov was, on the basis of anonymous information, investigated within the meaning of Sec. 158 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as he was suspected of supporting an extremist movement. Initial suspicions were not proven and the case was discontinued.

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<sup>31</sup> The Inspectorate of the Police of the Czech Republic (in 2008 Inspection of the Minister of the Interior) is involved in investigating crimes committed by police officers. However, the behaviour of a police officer having an extremist context does not always lead to the committing of a crime investigated by the Inspection of the Minister of the Interior



- Six police officers working for the of External Service of the Municipal Directorate Brno-město are being investigated pursuant to Section 158 (3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as they were suspected of having committed the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 261 (1) of the Criminal Code. The investigations have not been yet completed.
- One police officer working for the of External Service Nový Jičín is being investigated pursuant to Section 158 (3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure as he is suspected of having committed the crime of violence against a group of people or an individual under Section 196 (2) of the Criminal Code. The investigations have not been yet completed.

#### **2.4.1.5. Crimes with an Extremist Context Committed by Members of the Army of the Czech Republic**

In 2009 the Military Police investigated in total **ten cases** where there was a suspicion of crimes having an extremist context. In total there were twelve suspects, soldiers of the Czech army.

On the basis of information published in the mass media, investigations of two soldiers were commenced when, during a foreign mission in Afghanistan, they wore Nazi symbols on their helmets. With regard to the fact that these soldiers were dismissed from the army the investigations were taken over by the Czech police, as the Military Police lost its jurisdiction over them. The Czech police investigated the case as an alleged crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 (1) of the Criminal Code.

As a follow up to all documented facts and as part of measures adopted, the Military Police dealt with, in cooperation with commanding bodies of the army and units of the Czech police, further cases of unlawful conduct, and detected five soldiers who had on their bodies tattooed symbols and icons of the German army from the Second World War or who participated in events organised by supporters of right-wing extremism. Apart from this case, all other cases are being investigated by the Military Police who are mainly trying to ascertain whether the said soldiers supported movements suppressing human rights and freedoms. In one case public manifestations of support for the Nazi regime were proven and after a relevant expert opinion was produced the case was transferred to the Czech police along with proposal to commence criminal prosecution for the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 261 of the Criminal Code

Further, the Military Police investigated cases where soldiers used the Nazi greeting “Seig Heil” within their communication with colleagues and subordinates. As regards one case such suspicion was not confirmed and one case was transferred to the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Czech police along with the proposal to commence criminal prosecution on the suspicion that the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 (1) of the Criminal Code had been committed. One case is still being investigated by the Military Police.

The Military Police has also examined three cases where soldiers were suspected of having expressed their support for movements suppressing human rights and freedoms by hanging or wearing symbols used by the movements concerned. In particular they hung up a flag, distributed unlawful literature and wore the aforementioned symbols of SS forces.

in two cases such suspicion was not confirmed while the third case is as described above and was discussed in the media.

All mentioned cases have been investigated by the Military police in cooperation with the Unit for combating Organised Crime of the Czech police and relevant information is provided to the Military Intelligence Service. Commanding bodies of the army are informed on all investigation findings to be able to adopt their own decision with regard to staffing and to implement further preventive measures.

Finally, it can be summarised that the Military Police investigated and documented two cases where it was suspected that the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 (1) of the Criminal Code had been committed, and one case relating to the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 261 of the Criminal Code.

Further seven cases were examined, of which four cases were not confirmed and three cases are still being investigated, while in one case there is a reasonable assumption that criminal prosecution will be commenced.

Apart from investigations conducted by the Military Police, the Czech police, namely the Unit for combating Organised Crime, investigated one case concerning a professional soldier in connection with the activities of right-wing extremist in the Czech army.

In 2009 the Military Police did not record within the Ministry of Defence any findings or activities relating to racism, anti-Semitism, xenophobia, Islamophobia or abuse of the internet for spreading extremist ideologies supporting hate and intolerance.

#### **2.4.1.6. Judicial Statistics**

In 2009 courts of the Czech Republic sentenced by final and conclusive judgement a total of 73,752 persons (in 2008 - 75,751 persons; in 2007 -75,728 persons) which, when these figures are compared to those of 2008, signifies a decrease by 1,999 persons and represents a decline of approximately 2.6 percent. Of this number, **in total 103 persons were sentenced for 257 crimes with an extremist or racist context**. This number accounts only for 0.14 percent of the total number of lawfully sentenced persons. In comparison with 2008 a growth was seen in the number of persons lawfully sentenced for a crime having a racist context, since in the previous year 97 persons were sentenced (in 2007 in total 72 persons were sentenced for the crimes in question). As a result of such increase the share of this type of crimes increased from 192 criminal offences in 2008 to the aforementioned 257 criminal offences in 2009. The growth in the number of crimes with an extremist context in the last year does not necessarily signal a change in the quantity of such crimes. From the perspective of the Ministry of Justice, this is considered to be a relatively small set of data on the basis of which it is impossible to determine a development trend. Trends could only be observed within several years. Moreover, it is not possible to overlook the fact that the determination as to whether a certain offence is considered as an offence with a racial context depends on the deliberations of an individual judge concerning the concrete case and thus the circumstances of the case may not all be assessed in the same way.

Offenders were most often convicted of the criminal offences below:

Criminal offences	Provisions of the Cr. Code	Number of persons		Number of persons 2007
		2009	2008	
Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms	Sec. 260, Sec. 261	40	47	24
Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or conviction	Sec. 198	20	15	13
Violence against a group of people or an individual	Sec. 196	30	14	14
Hooliganism	Sec. 202	60	8	4
Injury to health	Sec. 221	7	6	6
Assault against a public official	Sec. 155	2	0	0
Extortion	Sec. 235	1	0	1
“Dangerous threats”	Sec. 197a	4	0	1
Inciting hate against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms	Sec. 198a	1	0	0
Serious physical injury	Sec. 222	4	1	1
Theft	Sec. 247	2	0	1

Offenders were sentenced most frequency for criminal offences under Sec. 202 (hooliganism committed with a racial context) - 60 persons,+ 52), under Sec. 260, 261 (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms) - 40 persons, +7, under Sec. 196 (violence against a group of people or an individual) – 30 persons, + 16, and Sec. 198 (defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or conviction) of the Criminal Code – 20 persons, +5.

Seven persons were sentenced for the criminal offence of injuries to health under Sec. 221 of the Criminal Code persons (+1, in 2008 – 6 persons); only four persons were sentenced for the racially motivated criminal offence “injury to health” in which serious bodily harm was caused pursuant to Sec. 222 of the Criminal Code (+3, in 2008 – 1 person).

For the aforementioned criminal offences, eight persons received unconditional sentences of imprisonment which accounts for 7.8 percent of lawfully sentenced persons. Of these sentenced persons five were marked as repeat offenders. For all offenders who received unconditional sentences of imprisonment the courts imposed a sentence of between one year and five years. In 2009 in total 58 persons, i.e. 56.3 percent of all persons sentenced for this type of crime, received suspended sentences. When compared to the previous year, courts substantially used alternative punishments, namely the punishment of community work In 2009 courts imposed community sentences for racist offences in total on 29 convicted persons, which accounts for 28.2 percent (in 2008 courts imposed community sentences for racist offences in total on 29 convicted persons which accounted for 29.9 percent).

Of the total number of sentenced persons, 48 persons (46.6 percent) were first-time offenders. Only seven juvenile persons were sentenced, which is 6.8 percent of the total number of persons sentenced for a racially motivated criminal offence. Only four women were sentenced (3.9 percent).

#### **2.4.1.7. Probation and Mediation Service of the Czech Republic (PMS)**

##### **Cases Recorded by the PMS Pertaining to the Area of Extremism Related Crimes**

##### **Development and Characteristic Features**

As the overview shows, 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 the PMS worked on solving 69 cases (i.e. 0.4 percent of the total number of newly recorded cases); in 2003 they dealt with or solved 102 cases (i.e. 0.4 percent); in 2004 they dealt with in total 87 cases (i.e. 0.3 percent); in 2005 the percentage of such cases oscillated at around 0.3 percent, i.e. in total 79; in 2006 there were 46 newly recorded cases (i.e. 0.2 percent); in 2007 PMS registered 55 cases, i.e. 0.2 percent of all criminal offences; and in 2008, 39 cases (i.e. 0.2 percent).

As regards criminal-law classification, 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 subject to prosecution relating to Sec. 197 and Sec. 197a of the Criminal Code – threats of violence and murder, including assaults; and other criminal offences relating 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.

##### **Measures Adopted by PMS**

The PMS Directorate in compliance with tasks encompassed in the 2009 plan monitored, on an ongoing basis, the situation in the area of probation and mediation services provided in cases of criminal offences motivated by extremism, including the use of alternative procedures and punishment for offenders of crimes concerned.

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 where custody is replaced by supervision), and following the trial, if punishment through community work or supervision is imposed. In the case of juvenile offenders, PMS staff work with them under so-called educational measures.

At the present time there is no specialised programme for the perpetrators of racially motivated criminal acts among the resocialisation programme, either for adult offenders or juvenile offenders. None of the programmes focuses on changing the behaviour of offenders who have committed a crime or minor offence relating to extremist manifestations. The majority of available programmes consider this type of criminal activity to be counter-indicative for the inclusion of an offender in the programme. Only some of the programmes built on a cognitive behavioural approach strive to bring about changes in delinquent behaviour of an offender. One example of a probation programme which proved to be motivating is a “Training Programme for Juvenile Offenders”. This probation programme for juveniles was implemented in several court districts in the Czech Republic also in 2009.

The effectiveness of educational and social interventions aimed at preventing the repetition of crimes relating to extremist manifestations, mainly with regard to juvenile offenders, persons who are close to juvenile age, or young adults is, according to available foreign experience, considerably affected by close cooperation between the police, public prosecutors, courts, probation workers and providers of social and other services. One of the possible ways of finding a solution is to implement specific projects within which the

given locality is monitored from the point of view of prevailing types of crime relating to extremist manifestations and the type of offenders who commit the crime concerned. On the basis of gathered results a strategy could be selected for the possible solution of crime in the given locality (as described above). In the case of juvenile offenders it is possible to adopt this procedure within already existing "Teams for Juveniles. These teams have been developed by the PMS in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior, namely with the Crime Prevention Department, since 2005. According to available information the issue of extremism was not included within team work in 2009 and thus was not focused on by teams. The reason for this was the low numbers of relevant cases which were solved by PMS in individual districts.

In the second half of 2009 the PMS began to prepare for the introduction of a new alternative punishment, a ban on entering into sports, cultural and other social events (effective from 1 January 2010). Preparation included the development of guidance for probation officials and assistants in the context of this punishment, with an emphasis placed on close cooperation between the PMS and bodies of the Czech police, public prosecutors, and judges. Such cooperation is perceived by the PMS as a prerequisite for well-functioning practice in the area of executing this new criminal sanction. Although it may be assumed that a large proportion of convicts will consist of offenders of violence and hooliganism committed during sports (most frequently football) events, the legislator in the provisions of Sec. 77 of the Criminal Code took into account also the option to prohibit such offenders from entering "other social events". It may be deduced that these could be also offenders who committed relevant criminal offences when participating in events where extremist manifestations could be seen.

In the context of preparation for the introduction of the aforementioned new alternative punishment the PMS Directorate, in cooperation with the Police Presidium, negotiated during the course of 2009 opportunities for cooperation in order to ensure execution of the said alternative sanction (when checking whether the sanction is being met a probation official may impose a duty on a sentenced person to report at the time of a prohibited event to a determined unit of the police). The outcome of the negotiations was development of the PMS guidelines encompassing procedures to be followed by probation officers and their assistants when ensuring the execution of the aforementioned sanction. The procedure includes the cooperation of probation officials and their assistants with police officers working for the Criminal Police and Investigation Service (specialists for fan violence and extremist manifestations) as well as police officers from public order police teams. In this context Guidelines No. 1/2009 were drawn up and published on 22 December 2009 by the director of the Public Order Police Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic. The Guidelines were drawn up in cooperation with the PMS Directorate.

At the end of 2009 training seminars were organised in cooperation with regional courts as a part of PMS preparation for introduction of the above-mentioned sanction. At these seminars probation officials and their assistants, public prosecutors, judges and police officers discussed options for mutual cooperation when imposing sanctions and executing the punishment of prohibiting entry to sports, cultural and other social events, as well as the punishment of home confinement. Participants evaluated seminars as being a useful part of joint preparation for upcoming practice relating to the adoption of the new Criminal Code.

#### 2.4.1.8. Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office Statistics <sup>32</sup>

As regards criminal offences committed with racist, national or other hateful motives, relevant data is included in the table below.

**Table 1:**  
**Criminal offences committed between 2007 and 2009 with racist, national or other hateful motives**

Crimes motivated by racial or similar hatred	Total number of persons prosecuted	Total number of persons charged
2007	204 (+36 APCP)	197 (+36 APCP)*
2008	215 (+41 APCP)	198 (+40 APCP)
2009	188 (+ 34 APCP)	177 (+ 32 APCP)

\*APCP = Accelerated pre-trial criminal proceedings

**Table 2:**  
**The total number of persons prosecuted, charged and sentenced in the Czech Republic between 2007 and 2009**

Year	Prosecuted	Charged	Sentenced	APCP
2007	78,545	67,186	75,728	35 268
2008	73,722	63,078	75,761	36 685
2009	57,514	49,459	73,787	55 701

Table 2 enables the comparison of 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 punishment was lodged, for the years 2007 and 2008.

Overall statistical data for 2009 signals a moderate decline, by about 6 percent, with regard to this type of criminal offence. This decline was mostly affected by a decrease in the number of crimes pursuant to Sec. 198 and Sec. 222 (2) (b) of the Criminal Code, which accounts for almost 50 percent or 45 percent respectively. A decline was also recorded with regard to criminal offences under Sec. 261 (a) of the Criminal Code. On the other hand the highest growth was reported with regard to crimes pursuant to Sec. 196 (3) and Sec. 221 (2) (b) of the Criminal Code. As regards statistical data showing the highest percentage increase (crimes pursuant to Sec. 196 (3) of the Criminal Code – 600 percent and Sec. 235 (2) (f) of the Criminal Code – 100 percent) it is necessary to take into account their limited occurrence, or indeed absence in previous years.<sup>33</sup>

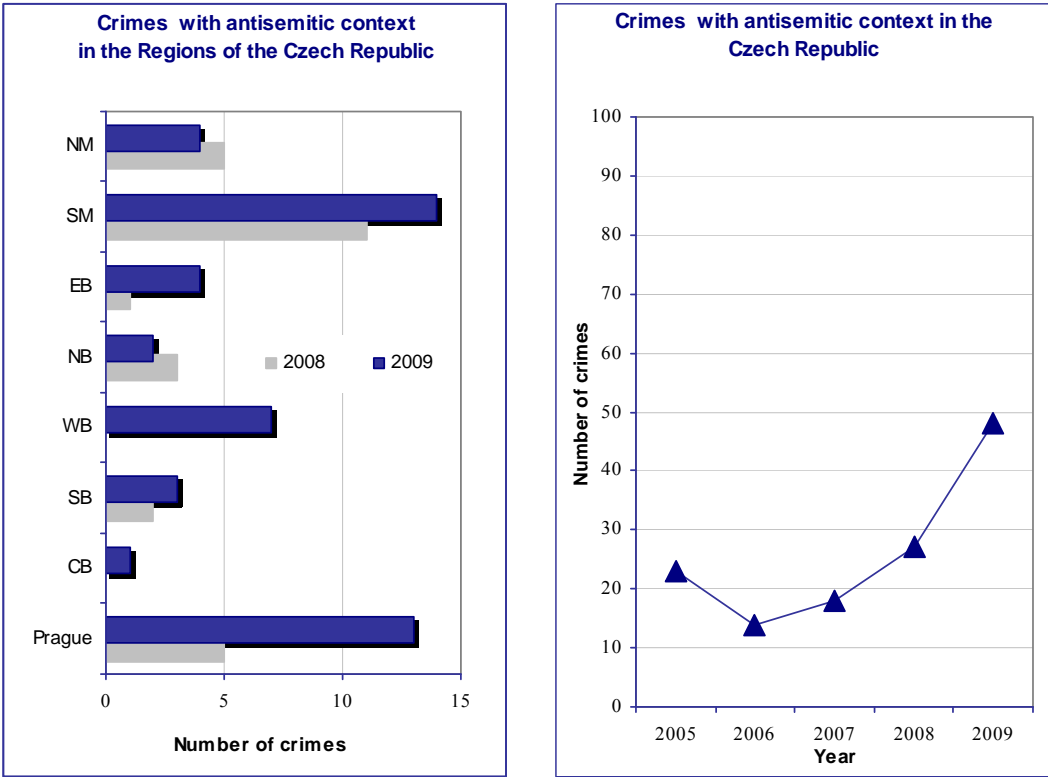
<sup>32</sup> Statistics of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office as well as court statistics differ from police statistics with respect to the time period within which a crime is reported. The time when the crime was committed is not what is decisive, but rather the time when the State Prosecutor prepares the criminal charge, or decides to drop charges, and so forth.

<sup>33</sup> See Tables: table. 5: Overview of persons prosecuted for and charged with criminal offences committed on a racial, national or other hateful basis (Source: the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, Brno).

In 2009 public prosecutors' offices followed **General Instruction No. 1 of the Supreme Public Prosecutor of 29 January 2008 on criminal proceedings**.<sup>34</sup> Despite a very low percentage share of this type of criminal offences in the total number of criminal acts, procedures used by public prosecutors in these cases are considered to be a priority.

In 2009 guidelines for public prosecutors to punish criminal offences having an extremist context were drawn up. This was a comprehensive document depicting the phenomenon of extremism from the public prosecutors' perspective. The document contains a general introduction, deals with theoretical connections, includes definitions of terms, and provides information on the current situation regarding extremism in the Czech Republic. Further, the guidelines can be divided into two parts: substantive law and procedural law. Their aim is to contribute to the correct application of legal regulations to specific constituent elements of crime.

**2.4.2. Criminal Activities with an Anti-Semitic Context<sup>35</sup>**



From 1 January to 31 December 2009 in total 48 criminal offences with an anti-Semitic context were registered which signifies, when this number is compared with 2008, **a growth of about 78 percent** (in 2008 – 27 criminal offences of this type).

When the total number of criminal offences having an extremist context is taken into the account these criminal activities accounted for **18.1 percent**. As regards the

<sup>34</sup> On 1 January 2010 the new general instruction No. 8/2009 on criminal proceedings came into effect. It tackles the issue in question in Article 73 and fully responds to the fact that on 1 January 2010 a new Criminal Code No. 40/2009 Coll. and relating amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure No. 41/2009 Coll. came into effect

<sup>35</sup>As a non-standard statistical output the Police Presidium has processed since 2005 statistical records relating to detected criminal offences having an anti-Semitic context. This enables the monitoring of this type of crime for a longer period of time.

composition of criminal activities with an anti-Semitic context, no substantial changes occurred – as in previous years **criminal offences pursuant to Sec. 260 and Sec. 261 of the Criminal Code** (the crime of supporting and propagating a movement suppressing human rights and freedoms) prevailed. Their proportion in recorded crimes with an anti-Semitic context accounted for 67.5 percent.

Most such criminal offences, as illustrated by the diagram “Criminal offences with an anti-Semitic context committed in the regions of the Czech Republic”, were recorded in **Prague and the South Moravian Region**. The development trend concerning this type of crime is shown in the diagram “Development in the number of criminal offences with an anti-Semitic context in the Czech Republic”, and shows an upward trend.

## 2.5. Security Risks

The development of the right-wing extremist scene, or neo-Nazi spectrum, in 2009 confirmed the validity of the security risk specified in 2008. Links between the Workers’ Party and the neo-Nazi National Resistance as well as with the Autonomous Nationalists became more visible.

It can be assumed that:

- radicalisation combined with violence and preparedness for confrontation with the police as a representative of “the system” will continue;
- an effort to be involved in politics will be made,
- utilisation of minority problems (Romans, migrants) and the opening of topics on society will continue.

The following are perceived to be the main security risks:

- continuing radicalisation and increased use of violence,
- an effort to penetrate directly or indirectly into the security forces, through for example supporters of the respective movements,
- abuse of the economic and social situation along with anti-Roma and anti-migrant “policy” in order to increase the acceptance of extremists by the majority society;

As regards the anarcho-autonomist scene the growth in the number of anarchist groups based on the same or similar principles of anarchist ideology as well as the growth in environmental groups or movements in the future must be taken into consideration. In general, the following must be taken into account:

- the conduct, performance and direction of anarchist groups and informal groupings shows a “fluctuating” aggressive tendency; violent manifestations are not regular, clashes with supporters of other ideological movements and with members of security forces cannot be excluded.



## **2.6. Changes in Possible Legal Procedures**

### **2.6.1. Administrative Law**

#### **2.6.1.1. The Amendment to the Act on the Right of Assembly**

The amendment to Act No. 84/1990 Coll. on the Right of Assembly, as amended was adopted on 22 July 2009 under number 294/2009 Coll. The amendment came into effect on 18 September 2009. The objective of the amendment was to extend the term within which the relevant authority can assess whether the report on an assembly meets all requisites specified by the Act. The time limit was extended from three days to three working days.<sup>36</sup> Thus the provisions of Sec. 11 (1) read as follows:

*The authority shall decide on the prohibition of any assembly (Sec. 10) or on the date of its termination forthwith, nonetheless, not later than within three working days from the time when the authority received the valid notification.*

As regards the aforementioned time limit, it is important to note Sec. 17 of the Act on the Right of Citizens to Assemble which stipulates that: *“If the time limit is determined by the number of days one day is understood to be 24 hours from the event to which the said time limit is related”*.

#### **2.6.1.2. The Amendment to the Act on Minor Offences**

As a consequence of the amendment to Act No. 200/1990 Coll. on Minor Offences, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the “Act on Minor Offences”) and Act No. 84/1990 Coll. on the Right of Assembly, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the “Act on the Right of Assembly”), fines under Act No. 274/2008 Coll. for minor offences against public order and fines for minor offences against the right to assemble increased from 1 January 2009. For example, as regards a minor offence against public order pursuant to Sec. 47 (1) (a), (b) and (c) of the Act on Minor Offences, the fine increased from CZK 1,000 to CZK 5,000; and as regards a minor offence against public order pursuant to Sec. 47 (1) (d) of the Act on Minor Offences, the fine increased from CZK 1,000 to CZK 20,000. The same applies to a minor offence against the right to assemble where the fine increased from CZK 1,000 to CZK 5,000 and fines for other minor offences against the right to assemble were increased as well.

#### **2.6.1.3. Significant Court Decisions**

##### ***Confirmation to Dissolve an Assembly***

On 26 March 2009 the City Court in Prague issued a Judgement (file number 11 C 146/2008) confirming that dissolution of an assembly organised by the National Party on 22 March 2008 in front of the House of National Minorities in Prague conformed to national law. This decision was not challenged by any appeal. The decision is important because the court expressed its opinion in detail on the nature of the dissolved assembly held in the said location and duly justified the dissolution of the assembly. The court also expressed its opinion on what information which can become the basis for any administrative authority to deduce the purpose of an assembly. The court also commented

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<sup>36</sup> The amendment was drawn up by the Minister for Human Right in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior.

on an objection based on the inviolability of the right of assembly as a fundamental human right. In this regard the Court stated that everyone who wants to enjoy the right of assembly must respect fundamental principles and freedoms of other entities.

### *Judgements Issued by the Supreme Administrative Court*

#### **Judgement of the Supreme Administrative Court of 31 August. 2009, ref. number 8 As 7/2008 – 116**

The Supreme Administrative Court (the SAC) decided on 31 August 2009 on a cassation complaint lodged by the civic association Young National Democrats. The Municipal Authority of the Capital City of Prague forbade an assembly as it reasonably considered its purpose was to incite the hate and intolerance of citizens on the ground on their nationality, origin, and religious conviction. This decision was later confirmed by the City Court in Prague. However, the SAC in its decision stated that the Municipal Authority of the Capital City of Prague did not possess sufficient evidence, which led to the conclusion that the purpose of the said assembly was other than really reported.

The SAC in its Judgement expressed its opinion on the option for any authority to examine a purpose other than the reported purpose of an assembly as well as on the evidence which an authority may use for proving the unlawful purpose of any assembly. In point 36 the Court stated: “The legislator obviously intended to allow an administrative authority to prohibit an assembly where its purpose would lead to the predicted consequences.” The Court also stipulated that: *“If the reported purpose is fictitious it does not threaten rights and protected legal interests the protection of which legitimise the prohibition of the assembly - this is because such purpose is not real. In such a case the above-mentioned interests can be endangered only by an actually existing purpose for which an assembly is called”*.

Evidence, almost always indirect, which leads to the conclusion adopted by an authority that the real purpose of the assembly is other than the purpose officially reported and that this purpose contradicts the law must always create a logical, closed and not fragmented system of evidence which is consistent and cannot be refuted by other evidence supporting a different opinion. Evidence must be unambiguous which means that only one conclusion can be reached

#### **Judgement of the Supreme Administrative Court of 17 February 2010, ref. number Pst 1/2009 – 348: dissolution of the political party – the Workers’ Party**

On 17 February 2010 the Supreme Administrative Court (the SAC) decided by its judgement ref. number Pst 1/2009 – 348 on the dissolution of the Workers’ Party. When assessing the Workers’ Party the SAC followed previous case law in examining whether four conditions necessary for the dissolution of a political party were met; namely:

- the detected performance of the political party is unlawful;
- such performance is attributable to the said party;
- this represents a sufficiently immediate threat to the democratic rule of law;
- the intended intervention is adequate for the given aim, which means that the proportionality between the restriction of the right to associate in political parties and the interest of society in protecting other values is not disrupted.

As regards point 1, the Court stated that the real program of the WP, manifestations of its representatives and members of WP and speeches given at assemblies of this party and the opinions published in the party press are directed towards the incitement of racial, ethnic and social intolerance and, as a consequence, they would lead to the restriction of

fundamental rights and freedoms of certain inhabitants of the Czech Republic. WP activities were directed to the suppression of the equality of citizens, in particular on the ground of nationality or sexual orientation. Further the WP, according to the SAC's opinion, follows, due to its programme similarities and symbols used, German Nationalistic socialism, i.e. a totalitarian ideology incompatible with democracy and fundamental human rights and freedoms.

As regards the issue that "such performance is attributable to the said party," the Court came to the conclusion that the proceedings have proven this.

When assessing the immediate risk of endangering democracy, the Court came to the conclusion that the WP was provably linked to almost all important neo-Nazi movements in the Czech Republic for which it created a platform for legalising their ideology. Moreover, the WP provided the members of such movements with space in their party structures and included them on the candidate lists for elections. When enforcing their aims the WP does not forgo violence, which is used for its purpose, and at the same time it publicly approves and celebrates violence committed by its members and supporters. The WP is able, through cooperating neo-Nazi movements, to motivate not negligible numbers of persons to use violence against groups of inhabitants at risk. The WP currently represents a monopoly holding, a highly organised political platform for all "significant" right-wing extremist entities operating in the Czech Republic, which means that policy is directly linked to violence which is prohibited. This is mainly due to a highly organised structure. To a large degree the WP has become a means for implementing the political objectives of right-wing extremist groups.

Finally, the court stated that the WP represented abilities and efforts, so far demonstrated only at the local level, to destabilise the establishment and to escalate violence which could represent an immediate danger to democracy. The court also examined the proportionality of the intervention and came to the conclusion that dissolution of the WP was correct. At the same time the SAC stated that mere individual punishment of WP members or their supporters would not be sufficiently effective due to the nature of the conduct of the WP. However, the SAC also said that it was important to unambiguously name the values represented by the WP and mark them as incompatible with the values of the Czech legal order. Thus the dissolution of the WP sets limits for the conduct of other entities including those in which current members of the WP may operate in the future. The SAC in its deliberations weigh the freedom of speech and association against social peace and security within a democratic rule of law represented by the rule of the majority and the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms. It also stated that, with regard to the goal of the party, the WP abused the right within the meaning of Article 17 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms. The SAC also recalled that the will of the majority representing despotism against the minority will be, in the end, detrimental for all. The court concluded that the possibility for "correction" of the WP is, due to its unlawful nature, almost excluded and would lead to the denial of the reasons for its existence.

*On 15 March 2010 the Workers' Party lodged an appeal against the Judgement of the SAC with the Constitutional Court.*

## **2.6.2. Criminal Law**

### **2.6.2.1. Legal Regulations**

On 1 January 2010 the new Criminal Code (Act No. 40/2009 Coll. the Criminal Code, as amended) came into effect. The new Criminal Code is to a large degree built on the previous legal regulation, however, some parts have been made more precise. Extremist crimes are systematically included in title X – Criminal Offences against Public Order, part 5 - Criminal Offences disturbing Citizens' Coexistence - which regulates, *inter alia*, criminal offences against a group of inhabitants or an individual (Sec. 352), defamation of a race, nation, ethnic or any other group of persons (Sec. 355), incitement of hate towards a group of persons or restriction of their rights and freedoms (Sec. 356); and also in Title XIII – crimes against humanity, peace and war crimes, part 1 – crimes against humanity with, *inter alia*, constituent elements of crimes such as support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms (Sec. 403), manifestation of support for movements suppressing human rights and freedoms (Sec. 404), and denying, disputing, approving and justifying genocide (Sec. 405).

As regards other important alterations, amendment to the constituent elements of a crime of incitement of hate towards a group of persons or restriction of their rights and freedoms (Sec. 356 of the Criminal Code), must be noted, as paragraph 3 (b) has been modified. Active participation and activities of groups, organisations or associations propagating discrimination, violence or racial, ethnic, class, religious or any other hate is a circumstance justifying a stricter sentence so is therefore not taken as a separate constituent element of a crime as it was in the old Criminal Code.

A constituent element of the crime under Sec. 403 newly includes also the establishment of a movement suppressing human rights and freedoms, whilst a stricter sentence relates to a criminal offence which was committed via a publicly accessible computer network.

Regulations concerning the limitation period differ as well (Sec. 35 of the Criminal Code), since, contrary to the previous regulation, exceptions to the limitation period are stipulated also with regard to crimes pursuant to Sec. 403 and 405 of the Criminal Code.

## **2.7. The Most Serious Manifestations of Extremism in the Central European Geopolitical Region<sup>37</sup>**

### **2.7.1. Situation after the Election to the European Parliament**

The 2009 June election to the European Parliament was accompanied by a low election turnout. In many countries ultra right-wing parties and populists became stronger. Thus a quite high number of supporters among union voters was confirmed. Le Pen National Front (FN) will be traditionally represented in the European Parliament. For the first time the xenophobic British National party was elected to the EP although before it had been known only in local elections. One of the slogans of Nick Griffin's campaign was, for example: "Not all migrants are terrorists, but all terrorists are immigrants or their direct successors". After the election Griffin declared that Great Britain is "a Christian country and Islam is not welcomed because Islam and Christianity, Islam and democracy,

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<sup>37</sup> This Chapter is based on the information gathered by the Office for Foreign Relations and Information as well as information from open sources

Islam and women's rights do not match." The Dutch strongly anti-Islamic party - the Party for Freedom (PVV) of Gert Wilders - celebrated a real success when it gained almost 17 percent of votes. Also the Austrian Freedom Party (FPÖ) with the slogan "The West in the Hands of Christians" acquired 12.7 percent of votes. Analysts are convinced that the real winner of the election was the League of the North (LN), which was supported by more than 10 percent of Italian voters. The results of the Finnish nationalistic formation – the Genuine Finns - was a real surprise. Hungarian, Bulgarian and Romanian extremists will also have seats in the Parliament. The Hungarian Jobbik, which became the third strongest party in the country, profiles itself as a strong anti-Roma and anti-Islamic party. The Party of Greater Romania participated in the election with the slogan "Christians and Patriots Will Get Rid of Thieves," and the Bulgarian Ataka bet on an anti-Turk card, saying "No to Turkey in Europe."

With regard to some commentaries, the position of ultra right-wing political parties in individual countries differs and it is not easy to "exclude them from honest society" as for example in the United Kingdom. In this respect the Italian League of the North (LN), which co-participates in government and holds important parliamentary offices, the Dutch Party for Freedom (PVV), which became the second most popular party in Denmark, the Polish party "Rights and Justice" (R and J) and the Slovak National Party (SNP) should be mentioned. The last two parties are part of the official political scene and thus they have a corresponding status.

These political parties will not have, according to analysts, a sufficient number of votes in order to exert real influence on the operations of the European Parliament. According to preliminary estimates, 35 deputies with extremist attitudes will have a seat in the European Parliament.

The Movement for a Better Hungary (JOBBIK), established in Budapest on 24 October 2009, together with other four nationalistic parties from Italy, France, Belgium and Sweden, form the Alliance of European National Movements –AENM.

### 2.7.2. The Right-Wing Extremist Scene

The police in **Slovakia** rode down a demonstration of several hundred people who assembled on 14 March 2009 on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Slovak State." Speakers glorified Josef Tiso and criticised the current government. After that speakers and demonstrators yelled a traditional greeting from the period of the fascist Slovak state – "On Guard". The Bratislava authorities decided to dissolve the assembly of extremists. The police apprehended several people, including a former chief of the extremist association "Slovak Unity," Marian Kotleba. Members of similar Czech and Polish organisations also participated in the assembly.

The Slovak Parliament overrode on 16 June 2009 the veto of the President and approved an amendment to the Criminal Code making punishment for extremist manifestations stricter.<sup>38</sup> The Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic abolished on 1 July 2009 the decision of the Ministry of the Interior on the dissolution of the Slovak Unity due to formal deficiencies and the case was returned for further debate. Therefore, the Slovak Unity is able to continue its activities.

Anti-Roma activities were recorded in Slovakia. On 4 August 2009 the Slovak Unity announced the "National Mobilisation against Gypsy Crime." The association reacted to an alleged brutal assault against a pensioner by two Romas in Sarisske

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<sup>38</sup> The amendment which came into effect on 1 September 2009 enables the imposition of stricter sentences, for example for inciting national, racial and ethnic hatred. Membership in an extremist organisation will be deemed to be aggravating circumstances.

Michalany. They organised a demonstration in that village held on 8 and 9 August with the participation of about from 200 to 400 persons which was dissolved by the Slovak police. It was the nationalistic association New Free Slovakia which reacted to this police intervention and called for an anti-Roma assembly, which they held at Presov on 14 August 2009, with about 600 participants. Of these, there were approximately 300 supporters of the New Free Slovakia, who were supported by participation of local citizens. Further, the New Free Slovakia issued on 25 August 2009 **17 points included in the Memorandum of the First after-November Generation of Slovak Youth** relating to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Velvet Revolution (17 November 1989). The association condemned the revolution as “the act by which the power was given to another group of communist elites”.<sup>39</sup> On 17 November 2009 the Slovak Unity organised in Bratislava the “March for Freedom”. In closing speeches, speakers criticised the development after the Velvet Revolution in 1989.

As regards **Hungary**, this country saw in 2009 an increasing influence of right-wing extremist organisations accompanied by a strong anti-Roma accent, culminating in the brutal murders of Romas.

The right-wing extremist political party the Movement for a Better Hungary (JOBBIK) strengthened its position when it gained in the election to the European Parliament around 15 percent of votes, which means three seats. The Hungarian Guards remained at the centre of activities. The Guards were established by the Chairman of JOBBIK, Gabor Vona and were dissolved by the Budapest court of first instance in December 2008 after a march by its members against Romas in Tatárszentgyörgyi.

On 17 January 2009 Gabor Vona declared at a protest assembly held in front of the building of the Hungarian Parliament that the dissolution of the Hungarian Guards does not mean anything, since this semi-military organisation will continue its activities. About 1,000 persons participated in the demonstration, of whom 300 were guardsmen wearing uniforms. On 2 July 2009 the appellate court confirmed the verdict of December 2008 on the dissolution of the association named the Hungarian Guards. Moreover, it extended its application to the movement named the Hungarian Guards, stating that this was a part of the dissolved association since it is its organisational unit. Gabor Vona refused the Judgement and said that, regardless of the dissolution of the guards, their members will continue their activities. The judgement was confirmed by the Supreme Court of Hungary on 15 December 2009.<sup>40</sup>

In the context of the murder of a hand-ball player belonging to the Veszprem team and a representative of Romania, who was stabbed at a disco (8 February 2009) allegedly by Roma, representatives of JOBBIK accused the government of being soft on “gypsy crime” and they supported on 9 February a demonstration at which there were more than 2,000 people. After this event some brutal murders of Romas started.

- Unknown offenders started a fire in the village Tatárszentgyörgyi and burned down a house belonging to Roma. Two of them, a father (27 years) and son (5 years), were shot when they tried to escape from the burning house.

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<sup>39</sup> The Memorandum contains essential attacks against the democratic establishment, defends the fascist Slovak State, rejects Slovak membership in NATO and requires Slovakia to leave it. It is directed against Israel and expresses support for all groups of Palestinians and, finally, it calls for “a real revolution in Slovakia”.

<sup>40</sup> The case of dissolution of the Hungarian Guards will most probably continue in 2010. Gabor Vona together with a lawyer representing dissolved entities are considering an option to lodge a complaint with the European Court for Human Rights in Strasbourg.

- Another Roma house was attacked in Taska. At night time on 5 May 2009 an unknown offender shot at the house using an automatic firearm from a car driving by quickly; no persons were injured.
- On 3 August 2009 a Roma woman (45 years) was shot dead in Kisleta village and her daughter (13 years) was heavily injured after unknown offenders broke into their house.

On 14, 15 and 16 November there were extensive violent clashes between Roma and members of the Hungarian Guards in Sajobabony. The incident was set off by a disallowed demonstration of JOBBIK supporters and members of the Hungarian Guards. About 100 persons from each side were involved in clashes and the Hungarian police closed the town. As a reaction to this event a march of the Hungarian Guards in Budapest to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the entry of admiral Horthy to Budapest was banned.

In **Poland** authorities monitored public events of right-wing extremist organisations and violations of law with an emphasis placed on manifestations of racial, national and religious intolerance were investigated.

Right-wing extremist organisations continued their activities but they were supervised by relevant state bodies. In 2009 no serious events or clashes with state power occurred. State authorities prosecuted all manifestations of racism and anti-Semitism. In 2009 several trials were held relating to assaults against dark-skinned persons for racist reasons. Imposed sentences were within the upper limits of imposed sanctions.

The following organisations were among the principal extremist entities:

ONR – Oboz Narodowo – Radykalny;  
 NOP – Narodowe Odrodzenie Polski;  
 LPR – Liga Polskich Rodzin;  
 MW – Młodzież Wszechpolska;  
 Oboz Wielkiej Polski;  
 Ządruha; and  
 Biale Orły.

Further, in Poland there are several tens of different small organisations, autonomous nationalists. Their web pages contain links to similar European organisations, including organisations operating in the Czech Republic. The local scene also produces and terminates various “military groups” of neo-Nazi and skinhead movements which are linked together by the ideology of national socialism and strong anti-Semitism. As an example of spreading anti-Semitism via the internet the web pages [www.polonica.net](http://www.polonica.net) can be mentioned.

With regard to the limited number of Roma in Poland there are no target attacks against this minority.

Manifestations of anti-Semitism was frequent in the broadcasting of Radio Maryja, managed by “Father” Rydzyk, as the radio is operated by the Redemptorist Order. This radio station gathered a hard Catholic core.

In the framework of preparations for the 2012 European Football Championship, the “Centre for Monitoring Racism in Eastern Europe” was established in Warsaw and is sponsored by the UEFA. Public manifestations of anti-Semitism can be seen in Poland during football matches.

In 2009 right-wing extremists gained publicity by taking a strong stance against “growing homosexuality” in the country and opposing the Lisbon Treaty.

For example, on 16 May 2009 the police in Krakow prevented a clash between ultra right-wing radicals and participants of a march which was organised by about 500 Polish homosexuals in order to defend their rights. Members of the ultra-Catholic and nationalistic association All-Polish Youth (Młodzież Wszechpolska - MW) and neo-Nazis from the National Revival of Poland (Narodowe Odrodzenie Polski – the NOP) wanted to prevent homosexuals from entering the main Krakow square. In October 2009 the NOP organised (with the participation of around 300 persons) two permitted demonstration in Wroclaw against homosexuals, however during the demonstrations there were clashes between the NOP and the police. The National Radical Resistance (Oboz Narodowo – Radykalny - ONR) organised in Warsaw, on the occasion of National Independence Day (11 November) a demonstration (with the participation of approximately 500 people) which was aimed against signing the Lisbon Treaty and against the European Union in general. The Internet portal of Polish neo-Nazis published on 30 November 2009 a joint statement of the NOP and the political party Freedom and Legality (Wolnosc i Praworzadnosc – WiP) concerning the adoption of the Lisbon Treaty by the Polish government. According to this statement the “limited freedom of Poland” will cease after the adoption of the Treaty. The Chair of the WiP participated on the same day in burning the EU flag in front of the building of Warsaw University. On 1 December about 100 members of the neo-Nazi organisation ONR Falanga from so-called “Small-Poland Falanga” met in Krakow. They condemned the signing of the Lisbon Treaty, stressing that it signified the loss of Polish freedom and independence and the onset of “ultra left-wing experiments.” At the end of the demonstration they burnt the EU flag.

Activities of the right-wing extremist scene in **Austria** did not represent any threats to democratic order. If international activities are taken into account, right-wing extremism was in 2009 at a quite a low level in terms of the number of right-wing extremist structures, the number of members of this scene, as well as the number and nature of events. As regards the number of reported criminal offences motivated by right-wing extremism these were predominantly verbal attacks, damage to property caused by gluing leaflets or spray-painting (for example slogans on the wall of the Mauthausen concentration camp, using greetings used by Hitler, and racist exclamations during celebrations of the end of war in the Ebensee concentration camp) and agitation through sms, email or by postal services. Ideologically motivated right-wing extremism organised in the form of parties or clubs was restricted mainly to activities by the group of people expressing similar ideas. A large internet campaign for a revival of Nazism began at the beginning of 2009 with regard to the trial of Gerd Honsik (67 years), accused of denying the holocaust. The Court in Vienna sentenced Honsik to five years of imprisonment for propagating and spreading Nazism.<sup>41</sup>

The following neo-Nazi organisations were the most active: the Union Of Free Youth (Bund freier Jugend, BFJ) and the Working Association for Democratic Policy (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für demokratische Politik, AFP). In March 2009 an anonymous web page was set up - [www.alpen-donau.info](http://www.alpen-donau.info). It was placed on a server in the USA however it was edited from Vienna and Vienna New Town as a new project of the Austrian neo-Nazi scene. Austrian neo-Nazis maintained very active contact with German and South-Tyrol neo-Nazi communities. For example the participation of Austrian neo-Nazis in a Brno march of the Czech National Resistance held on May day 2009 may be mentioned. The

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<sup>41</sup> Gert Honsik had been previously sentenced to 18 months of imprisonment for having published pro-Nazi publications. However after the sentence he escaped to Spain, where he strengthened his reputation for being a chief publicist of the ultra right-wing scene, and continued to publish the journal Halt in which he disseminated Nazi ideas. He was arrested in Spain and extradited to Austria.



purpose was to “conclude an agreement on overcoming historical hostility between Germans and Czechs”.

In spring 2009 the ultra right-wing National People’s Party (Nationale Volkspartei, NVP) became very active in Upper Austria. A part of its programme was allegedly taken over (word-for word) from the “Curricula of Ideological Education of the SS and Police.” Authorities forbade several meetings of this party. The NVP failed in its efforts to participate in September’s election in Upper Austria.

Latent links between the right-wing extremist scene and the parliamentary party the FPÖ<sup>42</sup> have been a long lasting trend. This fact can be evidenced not only by the participation of right-wing radicals in the party’s events, but also the defence of their activities by FPÖ politicians. FPÖ Chair - Hans Christian Strache – and the third Vice-chair of the lower chamber of the Parliament - Martin Graf – also support activities carried out by German-nationalistic, revisionist Burschenschaft communities. Strache was, for example, the main speaker at an annual congress of Burschenschaften (so-called Kommers) held at the end of November in Viennese Hofburg.

An increasing participation of right-wing extremists at events organised by war veterans was an alarming phenomenon which government actors strove to cope with. Extremists tried to abuse such events for the celebration of Nazism.

According to published news, the membership of both left-wing and right-wing extremist groups (mainly their hard core) strengthened in 2009 in **Germany**. The membership base of the left-wing extremist movement grew to about 6,600 persons, mainly within autonomous extremists (in 2008 - 6,300 members). However, the number of members increased also among supporters of the right-wing extremist scene and this was regards especially neo-Nazis who have about 5,000 members now (2008 – 4,800). This can indicate the threat of violent confrontations in the future. According to experts, attacks targeted against particular individuals cannot be excluded in the future. During such attacks – due to the growing aggression in both camps – the possibility of intentional injuries having grave consequences must be taken into account.

In the course of 2009 several extremist groups were banned. The minister of the Interior - Wolfgang Schäuble - banned a fellowship German Youth Faithful to Their Mother Country (Heimattreue Deutsche Jugend – HDJ). The danger of this neo-Nazi youth organisation having several hundreds of members consisted in the fact that they concentrated on children, taught them about race, and convinced them to fight “for clean blood and continuation of the German nation.” On 31 March 2009 the police made house searches and searched also the offices of the “party’s” representatives in Berlin, Brandenburg, Saxony, and Lower Saxony. On 28 May 2009 the Minister of the Interior of Mecklenburg – Vorpommern banned a neo-Nazi group, Mecklenburg Action Front (Meklenburgische Aktionsfront – MAF). The property of this association was confiscated. According to the Ministry of the Interior the MAF ranked among the most active groups in this part of Germany although its core was formed by only ten to 15 neo-Nazis. Some members of MAF are chief members of the NPD.

On 4 April 2009 an extraordinary congress of the NPD was held in Berlin. The congress was closed to the public. One of the main points of the agenda was the disastrous financial situation of the party and the issue of its management. Udo Pastörs will continue to lead the party. The party received in the Saxonian election (held on 30 August 2009)

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<sup>42</sup> In the election to the European Parliament (EP) the Freedom Party (Freiheitliche Partei Österreich - FPÖ) acquired 12.7 percent of votes and thus got two seats in the EP. A strong rise of the ultra right-wing was brought about by the election in Upper Austria held in September 2009. Populist nationalists from the Freedom Party (FPÖ) gained almost 15 percent of votes.

more than 5.5 percent of votes and thus it again became a parliamentary party in Saxony (Parliament in Dresden). However, it failed in Thuringia, Saarland and North Rhine – Westphalia. Its supporters gave it 1.5 percent votes in the German election held on 28 September 2009.

As in previous years, protest events of right-wing extremists were organised in a number of German cities on May Day 2009.

Representatives of the Workers' Party and Workers' Youth participated in the pre-Christmas annual meeting and pre-Christmas celebrations of the NPD local organisation, held on 11 and 12 December in Chemnitz. Czech representatives were thanked for active assistance in the election to the Saxony Parliament and this cooperation was allegedly evaluated as a model of modern coexistence between Czechs and Germans.

At the end of the year, on 17 December 2009, the Saxony NPD organisation published the Lausitzer Manifesto in which it called for fighting against the existing parliamentary system as a source of all evil. Jürgen Gansel signed, and the document is taken to be the official opinion of the whole party.

As regards court trials, the case of Horst Mahler (73 years) should be mentioned. Mahler, accused of repeated denial of the holocaust, was sentenced on 25 February 2009 to an unconditional sentence of six years of imprisonment.<sup>43</sup>

### 2.7.3. Left-wing Extremist Scene

Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and Austria did not record any considerable problems with exponents of the left-wing extremist scene.

The largest and the most radical protests of left-wing extremists were seen in **Germany** on 1 May 2009. These events were accompanied in Berlin, Hamburg, Mainz and Ulm by violent clashes with the police. For example, in the Berlin borough Friedrichshain the police had to intervene against a group of about 250 aggressive hooligans from various ultra left-wing groups.

The Alliance of Antifascist Groups from Hessen (Bündnis antifaschistischen Gruppen Hessen – BAGH), which is a branch of ANTIFA, organised from 13 to 23 August 2009 for their supporters and helpers a summer camp. Calls for averting “the system” were heard during the camp. According to BAGH the current governmental coalition in Germany is not able to solve any serious current problems, from unemployment, to ever growing right-wing radicalism, immigration and racism.

Between 12 and 14 September there were clashes in Hamburg between left-wing radicals and the police with at least 60 injured persons. An originally peaceful demonstration of about 3,000 persons marching against the NPD turned into violence when the police attempted to divide “camps” of right-wing and left-wing extremists. In street skirmishes left-wing extremists threw stones, bottles and explosives, broke shop windows and burnt police road blocks. About 130 persons were detained.

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<sup>43</sup> H. Mahler was an activist of the Red Army Fraction (RAF) and later became a member of the management of and defender of the NPD. He allegedly denied the holocaust directly in the court room.

### 3. Summary

The issue of extremism ranks among significant priorities of the Czech Government and the Ministry of the Interior. In 2009 particularly the right-wing extremist scene was paid special attention as it was profiled by a number of events and violence. An arson attack against a Roma family which had fatal consequences opened up again a range of questions relating to the fight against extremism and its effectiveness.

In 2009 there were in the right-wing extremist scene in the Czech Republic mainly unregistered groupings, civic associations and political parties. These were as follows: the National Resistance (NR), the Autonomous Nationalists (AN), civic associations the Patriotic Front (PF) and Workers' Youth (WY), and political parties the National Unity (NU), the National Party (NP) and the Workers' Party (WP). As regards these entities, the most active and the most visible were the National Resistance, the Autonomous Nationalists and the Workers' Party. The National Party and the Workers' Party participated in the election to the European Parliament. Both parties had TV spots based on anti-Roma and anti-migrant ideas and as a result these spots were not broadcast and a criminal report was lodged against an unknown offender. While the National Party totally failed in the EP election, the Workers' Party gained about 1.1 percent of votes and corresponding financial support. In 2009 links between the Workers' Party and the neo-Nazi scene were visible and the party also closely cooperated with the German NPD. In September 2009 the Government of the Czech Republic filed a second proposal for dissolution of this political party.

The right-wing extremist party was strongly affected by mainly republic-wide police actions - "Power" implemented by the Unit for combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service, during which right-wing extremists were detained and house searches carried out. The last intervention was held in 2009 on 21 October. As a consequence of such actions the organisation of concerts was paralysed but these also had an impact on other activities of right-wing extremists. On the other hand, such police republic-wide actions led to an increased number of "spontaneous" demonstrations aimed against the police and at supporting persons remanded in custody and undergoing prosecution. The number of participants at such events was relatively low, between just 20 to 100 persons.

The development of the right-wing extremist scene will essentially be effected by whether members and supporters of the dissolved Workers' Party will continue their activities within the Workers' Party of Social Justice as well as whether, and how, the neo-Nazi scene will cope with the intervention of the police, which has hit their hard core.

Although in 2009 the greatest attention was devoted to right-wing extremist entities and their activities, this did not mean that the left-wing part of the extremist spectrum, in particular its anarcho-autonomous part, remained outside the interest of security forces. Due to the fact that this spectrum is often involved in violent confrontations, not only with their ideological opponents but also with police forces, they cannot be neglected in the future.

Of the total volume of crime registered in the Czech Republic in 2009, criminal offences having an extremist context accounted for 0.07 percent. The number of recorded crimes with an extremist context increased by approximately 22 percent (2008: 217 crimes; 2009: 265 crimes). The number of persons prosecuted grew as well – by 50.3 percent (2008: 195 persons; 2009: 293 persons). The highest number of crimes of this type was

reported in the North Moravian Region, the South Moravian Region, the North Bohemian Region, and in Prague.

The share of criminal offences with an anti-Semitic context within total extremist crime was about 18.1 percent. When these figures are compared with those of 2008 there was an increase of 78 percent (2008 – 27 crimes; 2009 – 48 crimes).

In 2009, when compared with 2008 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 continued to considerably prevail.

When evaluating crime having an extremist context it is necessary to take into account the fact that this cannot be connected exclusively with extremist organisations. Such criminal offences are also committed by persons who do not have any apparent links with any right-wing extremist movements, who, however, do profess xenophobic attitudes and might be passive supporters. These were not adolescents who could be marked as primary offenders of such criminal offences: crimes having an extremist context were predominantly committed by offenders between 21 and 39 years. In 2009 the number of offenders having secondary or even tertiary education markedly increased. Although extremist crime displays only very low numbers, this fact can be neither underestimated nor conclusions about a new trend derived.<sup>44</sup> When considering the aforementioned facts it is obvious that crimes committed on the basis of hateful attitudes will require increased attention from law enforcement authorities.

Extremism in any of its forms always represents a potential threat to democracy. Both mainstream and local politicians can have quite a large share in the successful fight against this phenomenon. Their attitudes and opinions can “either open or close the door to entering the political scene”. Therefore in the framework of anti-extremist prevention they face a task not only to openly name this problem but also to endeavour to find factual and timely solutions to complex social and political topics which undoubtedly include, for example, weak law enforcement, corruption, unemployment, abuse of the welfare system, the issue of distribution of drugs, and environmental problems. Extremists should not be allowed to abuse such topics to their benefit in any way.

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<sup>44</sup> In this context it is necessary to state that some right-wing extremists have supplemented and are supplementing their education by studying at higher education institutions.

## **Tables**

**Extremist Crime in the Czech Republic in a Long Term Perspective,  
through Consideration of Police and Judicial Statistical Records**

**Table 1**

**The total number of criminal offences with an extremist context recorded in the Czech Republic between 1996 and 2009**

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

Year	Crimes recorded	Share in total crime (percent)	Crimes solved	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
2008	217	0,06	126	195
2009	265	0,07	186	293
<b>TOTAL CZ</b>	<b>3,908</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,942</b>	<b>4,452</b>

**Table 2**

**An overview of extremist criminal offences committed as an attack against a nation, nationality or race or for membership thereof and by proclaiming national or racial hatred – total number of crimes between 1996 and 2009 according to constituent elements of crimes**

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

Sec.	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Sec.196 (2)	85	76	85	80	41	61	71	41	45	29	59	18	25	23
Sec. 198	62	46	69	85	111	86	105	71	101	63	63	28	41	25
Sec.198 a	11	11	15	18	11	16	18	11	13	14	23	13	11	16
Sec.219 (2g)	0	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Sec.221 (2b)	20	19	23	7	11	8	6	14	9	7	7	7	4	2
Sec.222 (2b)	4	10	10	4	5	7	4	7	5	11	2	4	2	2
Sec.235 (2f)	0	5	0	3	1	3	2	1	4	1	0	0	2	1
Sec. 236	5	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sec. 238 a	28	30	28	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sec.257 (2b)	82	51	82	38	11	6	14	4	4	0	0	2	1	6
Sec. 259	0	0	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	42	92
Sec. 261, 261a	50	62	104	107	95	174	123	123	87	73	72	65	69	76

**Table 3**

**Numbers of cases recorded by the Probation and Mediation Service in individual court regions between 2006 and 2009**

Court regions	Total 2006	of them with a racial context	Total 2007	of them with a racial context	Total 2008	of them with a racial context	C Total 2009	of them with a racial context
Prague	1877	3 (0.2 %)	2128	3(0.1 %)	1792	2(0.1 %)	1 873	6(0.3 %)
Central Bohemian	2326	4 (0.2 percent)	2687	3(0.1 %)	2685	6(0.2 percent)	2 740	9 (0.3 %)
South Bohemian	1977	4 (0.2 %)	2279	3(0.1 %)	1915	2(0.1 %)	1 998	3 (0.2 %)
West Bohemian	2638	4 (0.2 %)	2961	7(0.2 %)	2724	1(0.04 %)	2 680	2 (0.1 %)
North Bohemian	4026	9 (0.2 %)	4775	9(0.2%)	4566	1(0.02 %)	4 414	9 (0.2 %)
East Bohemian	2460	1 (0.0 %)	2764	5(0.2 %)	2371	6(0.3 %)	2 671	4 (0.1 %)
South Moravian	4693	9 (0.2 %)	5006	12(0.2 %)	4711	8(0.2 %)	4 464	3 (0.1 %)
North Moravian	4888	12(0.2 %)	5048	13(0.3 %)	4701	13(0.3 %)	5 011	20 (0.4 %)
<b>CZ total</b>	<b>24885</b>	<b>79 (0.3 %)</b>	<b>27648</b>	<b>55 (0.2 %)</b>	<b>25465</b>	<b>39 (0.2 %)</b>	<b>25851</b>	<b>40 (0.2 %)</b>

Source: PMS

**Table 4**

**Numbers of persons prosecuted and charged by public prosecutors for racially or otherwise hatefully motivated criminal offences committed between 1995 and 2009**

Crimes motivated racially or by any other hate (1995 – 2009)	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 APCP)	435 (+50 APCP)
2003	325 (+44 APCP)	286 (+44 APCP)
2004	351 (+48 APCP)	326 (+47 APCP)
2005	294 (+46 APCP)	264 (+45 APCP)
2006	221 (+52 APCP)	192 (+51 APCP)
2007	204 (+36 APCP)	197 (+36 APCP)
2008	215 (+41 APCP)	198(+40 APCP)
2009	188 (+ 34 APCP)	177 (+ 32 APCP)

*(Source: Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office, Brno)*

**Table 5**

**An overview of persons prosecuted and charged with criminal offences motivated by racial, national or other hatred**

*(Source: The Supreme Public Prosecutor’s Office, Brno)*

CZ	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
2008	31	36	0	0	36	35	7	7	1	1	5	5
2009	33	32	6	6	19	19	7	4	0	0	19	19
+/- 2008	+6.5 %	+6.6 %	+600 %	+600 %	-48 %	-46 %	0 %	-43 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	+380 %	+380 %

ČR	Sec. 222/2b prosecuted charged		Sec. 235/2f prosecuted charged		Sec. 257/2b prosecuted charged		Sec. 260 prosecuted charged		Sec. 261 prosecuted charged		Sec. 261a 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
2008	9	9	0	0	2	2	29	29	72	61	8	6
2009	5	5	1	1	3	3	25	24	66	60	4	4
+/- 2008	-45 %	-45 %	+100	+100 %	+50 %	+50 %	-14 %	-17 %	-9 %	-1.6 %	-50 %	-33 %



## **II. EVALUATION OF HOW POLICY FOR COMBATING EXTREMISM IS BEING IMPLEMENTED**

The Policy for Combating Extremism encompasses tasks to be met by the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the Minister responsible for human rights and minorities, with each task being assigned a specific deadline.

The Structure of Evaluation follow the five chapters (pillars) of the Policy:

1. The power of extremists is based on human ignorance. The only option to fight against their provocative propaganda is communication, openness, and the offering of alternatives.
2. Knowledgeable people are able to create defence mechanisms against dangerous ideas. Schools are the institutions to explain the advantages of a democratic alternative.
3. Combating extremism is a matter that concerns not only the Ministry of the Interior and the police, but also other, governmental and non-governmental, organisations. Extremists can be side-lined and left with the role of unimportant political actor only through mutual cooperation.
4. Experts who fight against extremism must know what to do and must be given enough competence to carry out the required actions. Professionalism is more beneficial than universal repression.
5. Particular offenders of criminal activities need to be uncompromisingly sanctioned with the effective use of readily available means and mechanisms.

### **The Evaluation has the following structure**

1. Meeting specific tasks
2. 2010 Update of the Policy for Combating Extremism, including new tasks.

# 1. Meeting Specific Tasks

## 1.1 Communication against Demagogy

### 1.1.1. Open and Responsible Provision of Information and PR

- The general public as well as the mass media require prompt and intelligible provision of information. The web pages of the Ministry of the Interior and of the Police of the Czech Republic as well as of other governmental authorities must contain easily accessible **materials including information on the extremist scene and its composition, explanations about what its members proclaim, what they want to achieve, and how they intend to achieve it.**

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.*

*Interim deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

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

New information on extremism has been placed on the web pages of the Ministry of the Interior and of the Czech police – see:

[http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnost-a-prevence-bezpecnostnihrozby.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NApercent3dpercent3d:](http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnost-a-prevence-bezpecnostnihrozby.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NApercent3dpercent3d;)  
<http://www.policie.cz/clanek/extremismus.aspx>).

Information is broken down as follows:

- 1) Frequently asked questions
- 2) What extremism is
- 3) What the threat of extremism is.
- 4) Strategy for Combating Extremism
- 5) Annual Report on Extremism
- 6) Interim reports on the extremist scene
- 7) Preventive activities
- 8) Assemblies and coordination agreements
- 9) Important contact addresses and information
- 10) Views from elsewhere

All sections are regularly updated, for example new judgements, decisions of authorities, and analyses are added. The Ministry of the Interior draws up an interim report on the situation in the extremist scene which is regularly published. The Ministry of the Interior agreed with the Security Intelligence service to regularly exchange quarterly reports on the development of the extremist scene which will be published on the web pages of both institutions.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

Tasks are met on an ongoing basis – information on education is to be found at:  
<http://www.msmt.cz/socialni-programy/interkulturni-vzdelavani-a-extremismus>, [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz), [www.vuppraha.cz](http://www.vuppraha.cz),  
[www.nuov.cz](http://www.nuov.cz).

## The Office of the Government

The Office of the Government in 2009 financially supported several projects within a subsidy scheme “2009 Campaign against Racism”. Some of the subsidised projects aimed to provide objective information and PR on the essence of the neo-Nazi scene and its public activities (demonstrations, marches). The following entities were supported: the server Romea.cz, which sends people who cooperate with it to public neo-Nazi events and publishes online news in real time; another supported entity was the society People in Need (Člověk v tísní, o.p.s.) which, thanks to funds from the campaign, issued a collection of texts “Dangerous Courtship - a manual for municipalities which wish to actively prevent assemblies of hate” (<http://www.vlada.cz/assets/clenove-vlady/ministri-pri-uradu-vlady/michael-kocab/tz/Nezvani-hoste.pdf>). The publication summarises the experiences of the non-profit making sector and municipalities (in particular the experiences of Usti nad Labem) with previous public events held by (neo)-Nazis which they have dealt with .

- **It is necessary to consistently distinguish who extremists are and to denominate them precisely.** Generalisation (for example using the term “radicals”) can be misleading for the general public.
- In the case of large demonstrations requiring police intervention it is important to provide information to the public and mass media on the development of the given situation on an ongoing basis, responsibly, and completely. **It is necessary to put disinformation to rights.**
- A range of actions is taken against extremism. It is necessary to provide information about this and to concentrate on **presenting preventive and informative events, and the results of professional conferences and seminars which may be published.**

***Responsible party:** the Ministry of the Interior and other state authorities concerned, in particular the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.*

***Deadline:** on an ongoing basis.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

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

Guidelines for officials working for preventive and informative groups (PR managers) were developed – “Information provided to media on security measures taken during extremist events.” This publication was distributed to PR officers and managers and placed on the Czech police intranet.

In the framework of the new internal management act the Czech police precisely defined the duties and responsibilities of press speakers during security measures adopted in the context of extremist events.

The issue of providing information to the general public is taken into account also in the police “Manual for Commanders Executing the Measures.”

Representatives of middle and top police management, i.e. police officers who are commanders when security measures are used, have to undergo a three-day training course on communication. The course focuses on communication with a) persons in a crowd, b) spectators, c) the mass media, d) the affected population, and e) NGOs. The course also presents the option of cooperation with the Department for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities of the Office of the Government (the Agency), which is to be used for calming down the situation in Roma ghettos during provocation by right-wing extremists. Representatives of non-governmental entities work as trainers.

The Ministry of the Interior organised several press conferences relating to the issue of extremism:

The Ministry of the Interior held preventive and educational events pertaining to the area of extremism after populist calls by right-wing extremists against foreign nationals. The Ministry organised the following events:

- Workshop focusing on the prevention of extremist campaigns against foreigners living in the Czech Republic (22 and 23 June 2009);
- Workshop “Foreigners in the Czech Republic: a Burden or an Additional Driver for Our Development?” (12 December 2009);
- Project “Prevention of Extremism in Basic Schools” (September 2009 – December 2009) implemented by the Organisation for Refugee Assistance. This project targeted basic schools and education concerning the prevention of extremism. Ten basic schools from Most, Litvinov and the nearby surroundings were involved in the project. There were discussion with pupils including an explanation of expressions concerning the issue of extremism, ideology connected with extremist groups, a description of extremist groups operating in the Czech Republic, and the requirements of extremists or extremist manifestations. The issue of extremism was related to relevant areas, i.e. to foreign nationals and attitudes of extremist groups towards the residence of foreigners in the Czech Republic. The locality was selected on the basis of the fact that this locality has been affected by socio-pathological manifestations as well as by extremist activities.

A new project beyond the Policy for Combating Extremism, combining social and situational prevention, the implementation of which was decided on during the course of 2009, was the **project “Daybreak”** that fits one of the priorities of the Government and the Ministry of the Interior which is the fight against extremism.

#### The Office of the Government

Mr. Michael Kocab, the Minister for Human Rights, during the first half of 2009 helped, thanks to his visits to localities where inter-ethnic tension escalated during and consequent to events held by extremists, calm down the situation and prevent violence from the side of the local population. He cooperated with the police and municipal councils when planning and implementing anti-extremist actions. After a particular action was over he always informed the public about such joint activities.

In order to coordinate and enhance the efficiency of procedures the Minister set up a working group for solving crisis situations. Its aim is to appropriately react to possible risks arising from inter-ethnic tension in municipalities with a large concentration of people endangered by poverty and social exclusion.

Within this *ad hoc working group* the Minister coordinated procedures adopted by experts, in particular to deal with the following actions:

- 4 April 2009: a march by the Workers’ Party and the Autonomous Nationalists, Prerov (the Minister, with workers of the Agency for Social Inclusion, participated in procedures leading to the elimination of racist attacks).
- 16 May 2009 a meeting of the Workers’ Party Prerov (the Minister provided the municipal council with an expert who, in cooperation with the secretary of the council, evaluated the course of the meeting of the WP).
- April 2009: a march organised by a local cell of the Autonomous Nationalists in Usti nad Labem: (the Minister monitored the course of the action directly in the street).

- 24 April 2009: a meeting to celebrate the establishment of the local organisation of the Workers' Party in Krupka na Teplicku (the Minister participated in an assembly of citizens called to protest against the march of neo-Nazis and decreased, through his presence, the tension and worries of local citizens).
- 6 June 2009 a gathering officially titled "Honouring the Memory of Victims of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War" in Jihlava

Representatives of the Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities participated in events held by neo-Nazis in potentially risky areas and on risky days (the demonstration of St. Wenceslas of the Autonomous Nationalists in September 2009). They were prepared to act as negotiators between the Czech police and inhabitants of Roma localities and they helped calm down and alleviate their worries.

The Agency prepares regular monitoring of neo-Nazi websites and public speeches with an extremist context. This analysis is distributed to officials of the Section for Human Rights of the Office of the Government, the Ministry of the Interior, and the Czech police.

- The message "extremists represent a threat and the police are partners who protect the general public from it" should be delivered mainly to **children and youth** – this means to the group which ranks among those most endangered by extremism. In doing so, **it is appropriate to make use of the media favoured by young people (particularly the internet) and effective methods of public relations.** Such communication must be considered in detail in advance, must be targeted, and must contain simple and comprehensible messages.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

#### The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

The task is being met on an ongoing basis. It is a long-term task and the MEYS and organisations directly managed by this Ministry tackle related issues in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior. Effective methods of public relations are used in the framework of projects supported by the subsidy programme of the MEYS, for example:

- a training course for of school crime/problems prevention professionals, a Czech Helsinki Committee project;
- Threats of neo-Nazism, a Asi-milování project;
- One World in Schools, a People in Need project;
- Czechkid to More Schools, a Charles University project, Faculty of Humanity Studies.

These projects were presented to the general public for example during a seminar organised by the MEYS – How to Deal with Extremism in Schools – Extremism and Multicultural Education in School. Websites providing information on the issue in question are mentioned above.

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

The Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic were involved in the project "Can I Understand It? – Threats of Neo-Nazism." A supplement to the guidelines was drawn up. It explains activities carried out by the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police against extremism. Representatives of the Czech police participate in

courses for trainers. A pilot training course was held in the form of lectures given by the non-profit making organisation Asi-milování. This related to the issue of extremism and was attended by police officers working for the Criminal Police and Investigation Service, and the PR department and the Directorate of the Public Order Police of the Police Presidium. The training course was conceived as a round table during which participants (mainly teachers) were informed about the issue of extremism in the Czech Republic as well as the status and activities of the Czech police in the area of combating extremism.

The Czech police reacted to several requirements of particular schools which were forced to cope with problems concerning extremism. The schools started to cooperate with specialists from the Criminal Police and Investigation Service.

Representatives of the Office of Criminal Police and Investigation Service will develop in 2010 training courses on extremism for officers working for police PR and crime prevention departments so that those who are involved in prevention may continue such lectures in schools.

### **1.1.2. Mapping out How Extremist Ideas and Extremists Themselves Are Perceived**

Relevant sociological data focusing on the general public's perception of extremism and of extremists is not available in the Czech Republic.

- It is necessary to acquire specific statistical data concerning the perception of neo-Nazi ideas, racism, anti-Semitism, anti-Islamism, anti-foreigner opinion and other manifestations of xenophobia. A planned **survey** should be carried out throughout **all Czech society**. It should gather the attitudes of both genders in all regions and within all age and education categories, covering the urban as well as rural population. The survey must be designed to help the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police as well as other state authorities to formulate concrete, non-declaratory solutions for the problems which are abused by extremists to collect political points. It must also offer recommendations for the wider application of community policing and diversion from repression to prevention. The survey must also be applicable to the case of integration of minorities and foreign nationals.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

The research project "Mapping out Attitudes of the General Public in the Czech Republic towards the Right-Wing Extremist, Racist and Xenophobic Ideas and Their Disseminators with Regard to the Integration of Minorities and Foreign Nationals." CZK 1,250,000 was earmarked from 2010 Security Research.

The research focuses on:

- Statistical data on the representation of the number of supporters of right-wing entities (it is necessary to distinguish between ideas presented by neo-Nazis and ultra right-wing nationalistic groups).

- Statistical data on the representation of potential participants (i.e. people who are willing to become members of a right-wing extremist association and to support it actively) in right-wing extremist entities (it is necessary to distinguish between ideas presented by neo-Nazis and ultra right-wing nationalistic groups).
- An analysis substantiating why specific groups of inhabitants defined by demographic indicators have a liking for extremist entities or wish to participate in them.
- A statistical definition and sociological explanation why the general public become distinct from some minorities.

Research benefits:

- Better preparation and targeting of “counter-propaganda.”
- Collection of information about groups which are, from the point of view of right-wing extremists, at greatest risk and which could become in the future the subject of violence. Therefore we can better foresee extremist activities and be better prepared for them. The information can be also used for developing police guidelines.
- The Czech police and public prosecutor’s offices will obtain statistical data and a sociological explanation which will help them determine effective deployment of specialists in extremism of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service and within public prosecutor’s offices. The research will also provide necessary data for uniformed police (for example where to deploy a special public order unit).
- Better preparation and targeting of integration programmes for foreign nationals and minorities.
- We will acquire information about problems the general public considers to be serious and thanks to which extremists are able to collect political points. Thus we will be able to enhance and better target activities against extremism.

Renowned sociological companies were addressed and the best project will be selected in the second half of March 2010.

- It is necessary to carry out a well-prepared **survey** to find out to what degree stereotypes and prejudices concerning extremism and racism occur; in particular it is important to find the roots of such stereotypes and prejudices, the reasons why some people show a liking for extremist attitudes, and it is important also to map the process of gradual identification with extremist attitudes **among pupils and students**.

*Responsible party: the Ministry Education.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

The MEYS requested the development of three subsequent analyses focusing on the area of educational and methodological support of teachers when solving questions concerning the issue of extremism, xenophobia, racism, ethnic and social intolerance, and, on the other hand, tolerance and human rights in relation to curricula taught in basic and secondary schools. Individual analyses will concentrate on: 1) education programmes for teachers within the System of Further Education of Teachers, 2) guidelines and information documents which are used when teaching the aforementioned topics, and 3) the needs and experiences of teachers in relation to educational and methodological support in the area concerned, including their reflection of the degree and nature of xenophobic attitudes of pupils and students. The results will include processing and interpretation of quantitative data relating to training courses, guidelines and needs, as well

as qualitative data focusing on a contextual, ideological and methodological basis in order to support instruction of the given topics. Such analyses will be published in the first half of 2010.

The MEYS initiated a professional discussion during a seminar “How to Deal with Extremism in Schools,” with the topic “Socialisation of Young Extremists and Pedagogical Work with Them. After the discussion has been evaluated further action will be proposed.

### 1.1.3. Internet without Hatred Propaganda

**Placing illegal content on the internet must be consistently and unconditionally punished.** Thus it is important to concentrate on the following areas:

- With regard to webhosting in third countries it is crucial to cooperate at the European level. It is necessary to continue discussion about “undesirable content” and what type of content cannot be (in terms of human rights) restricted (for example political proclamations).
- It is important to analyse and adopt measures to **remove web pages** with illegal content placed on servers in third countries.
- In combating illegal and undesirable content placed on servers in third countries it is necessary to consistently use available legal regulations or **legal assistance**.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*  
*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

#### Method of meeting the task:

For the purpose of consistent punishment for publishing web pages with an extremist content based on servers in the USA there was a workshop with FBI agents with the aim of finding a solution where the owner of such web pages is detected. However, the results of the workshop were not unambiguous as regards the way to solve this issue due to the necessity to respect fundamental human rights and in particular the freedom of speech in the USA.

The General Crime Department of the Office of Criminal Police and Investigation Service in cooperation with the Cyber Crime Department of the Office of Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic developed procedures to detect the identity of persons presenting extremist views via the internet. However, such procedures apply only to social networks in which individual users present themselves. The Cyber Crime Department of the Office of Criminal Police and Investigation Service addresses the largest providers of internet in the Czech Republic with a view to removing pages containing extremist opinions, as they do for example in the case of child pornography.

The legal team of the project “Fight against Cyber Threats,” managed by JUDr. Tomas Grivna Ph.D., processed an analysis of selected neo-Nazi web pages operated in the USA under US legislation. The analysis has two parts:

- 1) Information on past requests of other countries delivered to the USA and asking to block web pages or to provide information on person/s operating the respective web on the basis of an International Letter of Rogatory.
- 2) Application of an analysis of the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment to the US Constitution directly to real web pages or text contained on such pages. On the basis of specific articles, a further analysis in full detail of the test required by American case



law, with a conclusion and justification as to whether such web pages would be made punishable in the USA or not.

The aim of the Czech police is to obtain registration data on such web pages, which can be delivered only by the relevant provider. These are login data, IP addresses and so forth. For text published on such web pages that are punishable in both the Czech Republic and in the USA it would be possible to request such information on the basis of an International Letter of Rogatory as the condition of culpability on both sides would be met. Recommendations arising from a comparison of individual texts and a test of compatibility with the Constitution will serve as a guideline for the police to know in which cases it is possible to contact the US party with regard to unlawful content on the internet, and when, on the contrary, the published content is protected by the first amendment to the US Constitution.

There are agreements and conventions at the international level the ratification of which would considerably contribute to combating illegal and undesirable content on the internet.

- It is necessary to satisfy national conditions and to ratify **the Convention on Cybercrime**.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*  
*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

The Convention on Cybercrime (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”) was signed by the Czech Republic on 9 February 2005. Its ratification is conditional upon implementation of liability for legal entities in the legal framework of the Czech Republic and legal definition of constituent elements of crimes which are stipulated in the Convention.

The second condition was met after the new Criminal Code (Act No. 40/2009 Coll.) came into effect (on 1 January 2010). The crime of illegal access (Art. 2 of the Convention) corresponds with the provisions of Sec. 230. The crime of illegal interception (Art. 3 of the Convention) corresponds with Sec. 182. The crime of data interference (Art. 4 of the Convention) corresponds with Sec. 230. The crime of system interference (Art. 5 of the Convention) corresponds with Sec. 230. The crime of misuse of devices (Art. 6 of the Convention) corresponds with Sec. 231. The crime of computer-related forgery (Art. 7 of the Convention) corresponds with Sec. 230. The crime of computer-related fraud (Art. 8 of the Convention) corresponds with Sec. 120, Sec. 209 and Sec. 230. Offences related to child pornography (Art. 9 of the Convention) correspond with Sec. 191, Sec. 192 and Sec. 193. Offences related to infringements of copyright and related rights (Art. 10 of the Convention) correspond with Sec. 270.

Thus ratification of the Convention is now blocked only by the fact that liability for legal entities has not yet been implemented in the legal framework of the Czech Republic. With regard to Government Resolution No. 380 of 30 March 2009 no considerable change was made with respect to this issue.

- It is important to meet national conditions and to ratify the **Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems**.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*  
*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### Method of meeting the task:

The Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime cannot be ratified prior to the ratification of the Convention. In order to ratify the Additional Protocol it is necessary to implement liability for legal entities in the legal framework of the Czech Republic and to legally define constituent elements of criminal offences which are included in the Additional Protocol.

The latter condition was met after the new Criminal Code (Act no. 40/2009 Coll.) came into effect.

- It is necessary to implement in a timely manner and within the relevant competence of the Ministry of Justice **Framework Decision 2008/913/JHA** of 28 November 2008 on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Justice*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### Method of meeting the task:

The time limit for implementing Framework Decision 2008/913/SSV (hereinafter referred to as the “Decision”) is two years from its publication in the EU Official Journal, and this time limit will expire on 28 October 2010.

The new Criminal Code stipulates as crimes those offences specified in Art. 1 (1) and Art. 2 of the Decision in Sec. 356 – inciting hate against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms, in Sec. 352 – violence against a group of inhabitants or against an individual, in Sec. 405 – denying, doubting, approving or justifying genocide, or general constituent elements of crimes such as in Sec. 364 – instigating a criminal offence, and in Sec. 365 – approving criminal activities. Aiding and abetting in the commission of criminal activities is punishable pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 24 as required by Art. 2 of the Decision. For conduct stipulated in Art. 1 and 2 of the Decision the legal order of the Czech Republic lays down sanctions which correspond with requirements of Art. 3 of the Decision. The Czech Republic, under Sec. 42, deems national racial, ethnic, religious, class or similar hatred or other especially condemnable motivations as an aggravating circumstance as required by Art. 4 of the Decision.

The problem preventing implementation of the legal regulation in question remains (as in previous points) the fact that the liability of legal entities for criminal offences specified in the Decision is not included in the legal framework of the Czech Republic.

- It is necessary to ratify the **Agreement between the Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the United States of America on Strengthening Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Serious Crimes.**

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### Method of meeting the task:

Ratification of the Agreement between the Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the United States of America on strengthening cooperation in preventing and combating serious criminal acts was completed by the Czech party (at the

national level) in mid 2009. Currently it is expected that the approval process will be completed in the USA. Until it enters into force the Agreement is implemented in the scope compatible with the national law of the both contracting parties.

Internet service providers must also be involved in combating hatred propaganda.

- It is important that **internet service providers** regulate the content of hosted web pages and block, in the interest of maintaining their reputation, web pages with provably illegal content.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of Industry and Trade in cooperation with Ministry of the Interior*

**Interim deadline:** *31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

Activities of internet service providers are regulated in the Czech Republic by Act No. 480/2004 Coll. on Certain Information Society Services, which is a result of the transposition of Directive of the European Parliament of the Council 2000/31/EC on certain legal aspects of information society services. This legal regulation encompasses an expressed prohibition, to “impose a general obligation on providers to monitor the information which they transmit or store, and/or a general obligation actively to seek facts or circumstances indicating illegal activity”.

Cooperation with internet service providers must be solved on the basis of willingness. The Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior developed a document containing a vision for such cooperation. It is inspired by the British model in which there is a blacklist of illegal or undesirable web pages and cooperating providers do not allow any access to them. The document proposes variants according to which institutions could create a Czech blacklist. In 2010 it is necessary to discuss this procedure with principal providers of internet connections. Some Czech providers currently use the British blacklist which however is not fully relevant for domestic conditions.

## **1.2 Using Knowledge to Fight against Totalitarians**

### **1.2.1 Education of Teachers**

As regards the education of teachers, it is necessary to meet the following tasks:

- **To implement further education of teachers in the field of education against extremism, racism and xenophobia** through organisations directly managed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Seminars must focus on professional insight into the topic (information based on framework education programmes) and on establishing teachers’ competencies (development of critical thinking, media training, removing negative stereotypes, solving particular model situations during class instruction, skills for work with groups and group dynamics, self-knowledge and self-acceptance, development of the ability to resist manipulation and to cooperatively solve conflicts, and using the experiences of mediators).
- **To amend guidelines on education against manifestations of racism, xenophobia, and intolerance.**
- To implement seminars relating to the promotion of examples of good practice at schools and school facilities.

- To concentrate **thematic inspections of the Czech School Inspectorate** on the education of pupils and students in the area of prevention of racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes, education towards tolerance, and respecting human rights, which are based on framework education programmes.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

This task is met on an ongoing basis. A list of seminars, including the number of individual courses, the number of participants and brief descriptions of seminars and other forms of further education of teachers, is published in the attached Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic from the Point of View of the MEYS in 2009. Further information on seminars can be found on [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz) and [www.nidv.cz](http://www.nidv.cz).

A working group consisting of experts involved in the issue concerned is finalising a new form of the Guidelines for Education against Manifestations of Racism, Xenophobia and Intolerance. The complete Guidelines along with an updated Annex encompassing recommended literature for teachers will be, after approval by the Minister of Education, published on the MEYS web pages. Regional offices will be provided information on the update of the Guidelines. It is also expected that this publication will be dealt with by the mass media.

The task of organising seminars to promote examples of good practice is being met on an ongoing basis – for example an international conference has been organised: “A Common History of Some Other Sort,” and the seminar “How to Deal with Extremism in Schools” which was held on the premises of the MEYS on 18 December 2009 and was attended by a large number of teachers. On the basis of evaluation questionnaires this seminar was evaluated very positively and the MEYS is planning to continue it in 2010 as it was well accepted by teachers. Examples of good practice are also disseminated by means of other seminars organised as part of the further education of teachers. Further information is to be found on [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz).

The task relating to activities of the Czech School Inspectorate was met. A detailed description of the thematic inspection carried out by the Czech School Inspectorate is published in the attached Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic 2009.

- **Through qualitative research to map seminars organised in individual regions of the Czech Republic aiming to tackle the issues of extremism, racism, xenophobia, tolerance, and human rights.** This research will also include a qualitative analysis of the content of teaching procedures and tools used, an evaluation of large scale programmes focused on influencing attitudes of pupils and students in the area concerned, and a qualitative analysis of procedures used to deal with the issue of extremism at schools. The research will be the basis for establishing a republic-wide overview of activities of schools as regards the issue of extremism, racism, xenophobia, tolerance and human rights in individual regions.
- To map **examples of good practice from abroad.**

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

Quantitative research – the task is being met – see the previous tasks. Requirements were connected also with qualitative research in order to ensure a certain degree of occurrence of stereotypes and prejudices relating to extremism and racism.

Foreign examples of good practice - the task is being met. Examples of good practice from foreign countries are now being analysed and compared with the Czech education system. The conclusions of such surveys will be published on the web pages [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz) and will be presented at special seminars for teachers.

### **1.2.2 Educational and Cultural Materials**

It is necessary to improve the approach to the issues of multiculturalism, equal opportunities and depicting stereotypes in textbooks and other documents for basic and secondary schools. The following tasks must be met:

- to develop **guidelines for publishers, textbook authors, teachers, and the general public;**
- to further elaborate and continue to publish **documents of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports containing information** concerning topical social science issues and to propose further topics; and
- To continue **subsidising the development of guidelines and other similar documents produced by NGOs and other organisations to be used for instruction in schools.** It is recommended to draw up teaching materials concerning not only right-wing extremism but also left-wing extremism and radical Islamism.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

The task is being met with the exception of elaborating on printed documents in bullet 2 above. With regard to the financial situation, documents published in an electronic format are being given preference.

A number of publications and guidelines were developed as the output of subsidised programmes and in the vast majority these were published also electronically on the web pages of the relevant organisations. Links and references to web pages as well as a brief description of the project are encompassed in press releases published on the MEYS' web pages. We can mention, for example, a Manual of Neo-Nazi Threats, and a document resulting from the project Professional Education of School Crime/Problems Prevention Professionals, a project by the Czech Helsinki Committee, and so on. Publication of documents of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports containing information concerning topical social science issues was temporarily discontinued due to the high costs of such publications and the current financial situation. The methodological recommendation concerning the instruction of history is accompanied by a range of documents which are on the MEYS web pages as an integral part of the recommendation.

- To draw up teaching material concerning homophobia.

*Responsible party: the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### Method of meeting the task:

In December 2009 the Office of the Government issued a publication entitled “Homophobia in Pupils’ Communities” It is a supplementary teaching material for basic and secondary schools, having the subheading ”Homophobic Harassment and Bullying – What Their Manifestations Are and How to Prevent Them.” The authors are: PhDr. Irena Smetackova, PhD., a psychologist working for the Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University, and PhDr. Richard Braun, a school and clinical psychologist and psychotherapist. The publication is designated mainly for teachers, in particular for prevention methodologists, but also for all people who are interested in the issue. It was published for teachers so that they will be able to find a tool for situations which can occur in any school with regard to pupils and students with a different sexual orientation, but also with regard to those whose behaviour may be considered typical – or stereotypical - for certain sexual minorities.

The publication deals, in an easy and understandable manner, with homophobia, homophobic harassment and bullying, and what its reasons and manifestations are. It clearly describes manifestations of homophobic harassment and bullying – from jokes, verbal remarks, to sending offensive e-mail messages and even physical assaults. It identifies and describes the types of people who engage in homophobic harassment and the reasons leading them to such behaviour. It also depicts the groups of persons (pupils) who are potentially endangered by homophobic bullying. The publication also takes the form of an instruction, stating what to do against homophobic bullying; it sees prevention as the most important measure. In its didactical part the publication cites certain practical examples of exercises which can be used in lessons. Such exercises are designed for teachers who intend to deal with this topic in more detail and want to work with a class for example within education towards health citizenship or personal education. The publication was prepared and distributed in close cooperation with the MEYS. The publication was reviewed by the Research Institute of Education, a head teacher of one basic school, the Sociological Institute of the Academy of Sciences, and the Institute of Psychology of the Academy of Sciences.

The publication was officially presented at a press conference after the meeting of the Committee for Sexual Minorities held on 26 January 2010.

### 1.2.3 Preventive Actions

The following tasks must be met in the area of prevention:

- **To continually support media activities** in the area of prevention of racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes, education towards tolerance and respect for human rights; and to specifically address all age groups of society, with a specific focus on pupils, students and teachers.
- **To intensify guidance for regional school prevention coordinators** in the area of racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes; to include the issue of extremism in coordination meetings; and to commence multidisciplinary cooperation at the level of regions and municipalities.
- **To support projects carried out by NGOs and other organisations** aimed at preventing racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes and multicultural education through grant and development programmes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports as well as European structural funds. To incorporate into appropriate

development programmes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports the topic of “a positive climate at schools.”

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

Activities concerning the mass media are met on an ongoing basis – see: <http://www.msmt.cz/socialni-programy/interkulturni-vzdelavani-a-extremismus>. The MEYS in cooperation with other entities organised in Velke Bilovice from 23 to 26 September 2009 an international conference having the topic “A Common History of Some Other Sort,” which was a follow up to a project carried out by the Faculty of Arts of Komensky University. Topics of extremism were explained at this conference by using concrete examples from central European history. This international conference was also a follow up to a cycle of conferences with similar topics organised by Bratislava Komensky University and Karlovy Vary University, held in Sturovo under the auspices of the Council of Europe and the MEYS. Information about the seminar was published in a number of mass media outlets.

See: [http://www.msmt.cz/uploads/soubory/zakladni/DS\\_Velke\\_Bilovice\\_clanek.pdf](http://www.msmt.cz/uploads/soubory/zakladni/DS_Velke_Bilovice_clanek.pdf).

A substantial activity, which has impact on further education, is inclusion of this issue in the Framework Education Programmes. Thus the topic is compulsory for textbooks included in the list of accredited textbooks and is obligatory for the approved content of education, further education of teachers and so forth.

Regional school coordinators of prevention and projects by non-profit making organisations – the task is met on an ongoing basis, through continuing support for projects which focus on intercultural education and prevention of racism, xenophobia and extremist attitudes in society. For example in 2009 there were projects aimed directly against extremism. Information on other projects focused on multicultural education, education in minority languages, the integration of foreigners and so forth. All these projects are described in the Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2009 (from the point of view of the MEYS).

- Professional Training of Methodologists of School Prevention, the project of the Czech Helsinki Committee.
- Threat of Neo-Nazism, the project of Asi-milovaní.
- One World in Schools, the project of the People in Need .
- Czechkid to More Schools, the project of Charles University, the Faculty of Humanities.
  
- To support **cooperation with police specialists on prevention as well as supporting cooperation with the public sphere, i.e. NGOs and academics.** The aim of such activities will be to **inform pupils and students about the extremist scene and the danger its exponents represent as well as about activities carried out by the Ministry of the Interior and the police within the public service to that effect**

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

This task is met on an ongoing basis – see aforementioned projects (for example Threats of Neo-Nazism, the project of Asi-milovaní), in which police officers involved in preventive activities along with other police officers of the Czech police participated.

More detailed information is included in the Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2009 (from the point of view of the MEYS) and also in the information on meeting task 1.1. (Open and Responsible Provision of Information and PR).

## **1.3 Single Anti-Extremist Platform**

### **1.3.1 Coordination Agreements**

Act No. 273/2008 Coll. on the Police of the Czech Republic stipulates in its Section 16 cooperation with municipalities and the option of entering into a **coordination agreement**. This tool is highly recommended for cooperation in keeping extremist events under control. Coordination agreements enable the precise definition of cooperation between the Czech police, municipalities, the municipal police and other entities, respectively. Individual points of such agreements should concretise the forms and instruments of cooperation, tasks, liaisons and checks on how such agreements are used. The contractual parties must have balanced rights and obligations resulting from the relevant agreements.

- It is necessary to further elaborate the topics and requisites of such agreements and to distribute such guidelines to the Czech police, municipalities, and the municipal police and/or other entities.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> September 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

Coordination agreements are concluded in compliance with Binding Instruction of the Police President 211/2008 which includes also a sample agreement. As of 17 December 2009 in total 1736 coordination agreements had been concluded. Agreements are entered into by all local authorities. There is a further possibility for entering into coordination agreements with other entities which are involved in the protection of public order and security.

The coordination agreements mainly focus on the area of public order and the security of people and property. Taking into account new a perception of obligations pertaining to this area the Czech police enforces co-responsibility of other entities for their protection. This concerns for example sports events, where responsibility for observing the law during such events was transferred by law to the organisers of sports and similar events.

Coordination agreements affect also the better effectiveness of activities of the Czech police, who can, as a result, to a large extent deal with their primary police tasks. A new work method - “Community policing” – was improved upon, as police officers became more present on the streets and in frequent contact with citizens to solve their problems.



At the regional level cooperation between the police and entities who had become contracting parties of coordination agreements was broadened. Police officers participate in meetings of local authorities and problems at the local level are solved more flexibly.

The passivity of some representatives of local authorities serves to repeat difficulties in concluding coordination agreements. This is not a problem with any authority as a whole, the problem is only with one person. Such situations are usually solved by persuading, arguing and justifying the positive benefits of agreements.

As regards good practice, it is possible to describe the approach taken by the District Department of the Czech Police in Sokolov when implementing the method of community policing. The locality was divided into several parts and each part of the locality assigned to several police officers of the District Department. When solving problems of the assigned area police officers closely cooperate with a concrete representative of the Municipal Authority in Sokolov and with a constable of the municipal police. During joint negotiations they try to seek an optimal approach to achieve their goal and to increase the feeling of safety of the local population. The Czech police evaluated the efficiency of this approach towards police duties in the area and ascertained that communication between fundamental entities responsible for public order had been approved.

The Ministry of the Interior drew up a Manual on Concluding Coordination Agreements which is an integral part of the Manual for Municipalities concerning the Right to Assemble (see below).

The Ministry of the Interior has been negotiating for quite a long time about possibilities to institutionalise cooperation with the Office of the Government's Department for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities in the framework of coordination agreements during the course of provocations by neo-Nazis in socially excluded areas.

### **1.3.2 Municipal Police**

Securing public order in the context of manifestations of extremism falls preferably within the competence of the Czech police. **The municipal police meet in such situations only a subsidiary role, in particular when protecting the security of people and property.** The municipal police may implement, along with the Czech police, relevant measures of a security nature, both preventive and repressive. Cooperation with the municipal police should be recognised in coordination agreements. Municipal police officers (constables) can contribute to exposing extremist crimes, for example by means of monitoring through CCCs. On the other hand, directors of municipal police units should receive, on an ongoing basis, fresh information concerning the extremist scene in a municipality or its near environs.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

Here we refer to the meeting of tasks described in 3.1. – Coordination Agreements

### 1.3.3 Towns and Villages

A key for keeping extremist events under control is also timely communication between the police and mayors. With regard to the requirements of municipalities it is important to draw up the following documents:

- **A handbook for assemblies** which will provide a list of practical measures and standards which should be met as part of securing the public order.
- **A calendar of risk days** which should help reveal the genuine purpose of events announced under fictitious names.

*Both documents will probably be attached to the document submitted to the Government.*

- **An analysis of the current Act 84/1990 on the Right of Assembly.** This document will take into account, in particular, the issue of the length of the time limit for issuing a decision on the prohibition of an assembly and the length of the time limit for announcing an assembly in advance to a relevant authority.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline for providing the document to municipalities: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

In the context of many questions regarding application of Act No. 84/1990 Coll. on the Right to Assemble, as amended, especially questions concerning the issue of banning an assembly or its termination or the dissolution of some assemblies, the Ministry of the Interior drew up a basic overview of Czech legal regulations relating to assemblies and included some recommendations on how to solve situations which may arise during some assemblies. The competences of public administration bodies with regard to the right of assembly of citizens are executed by individual local authorities within so-called delegated competences, by authorised local authorities, by regional authorities, and by the Ministry of the Interior. Municipal authorities possess in this area several important powers, among which mainly the power to ban an assembly within the limits stipulated by law must be mentioned. Further they have the power to dissolve such an assembly. The meaning of such an information handbook is to provide municipalities, and not only municipalities, with legal information on the right to assemble in the Czech Republic and on how to safeguard public order in connection with different assemblies organised in the Czech Republic. Regular updates of the handbook relation to current development of the law concerning the right of assembly will be published on the Ministry of the Interior's web pages. The Manual also encompasses a list of contacts for public officials who are responsible for the issue of the right to assemble in individual regions and who can be contacted by local authorities.

Further the handbook contains a Calendar of Risk Days and a commentary on how to conclude coordination agreements. In total 4,200 publications of the Manual were printed which were distributed by the General Administration Department to individual regional coordinators of the right of assemble. They were responsible for further distribution to municipalities. Prints of the handbook were also sent to the Union of Towns and Municipalities, and some were distributed via the Institute for Local Administration, either during a training course titled "A Municipality and Extremism," or by the training facility of the Institute in Benesov. The Manual is also available on the web pages of the Ministry of the Interior.

- The Ministry of the Interior will organise a **consultation day for those who process assembly issues at the regional level**. Representatives of the City Council of Prague and regional authorities will obtain, within this activity, information on current court judgements and possibilities for solving problems with the application of the law which the authorities have to cope with when executing delegated competences of the state in the area of the law on assembly.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*  
*Interim evaluation deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

Consultation days:

A consultation day was held on 26 May 2009 in Prague and it was attended by regional coordinators of the right to assemble. In addition to representatives of the Ministry of the Interior there were also representatives of the Czech police present. Regional coordinators were provided with information concerning the Manual on the Act on the Right to Assemble and on its distribution. Police officers then informed the public official on activities of the Czech police in this area. They highlighted the necessity of effective cooperation between the Czech police and municipalities.

A videoconference attended by regional coordinators was organised on 9 December 2009. An emphasis was placed on proceedings concerning minor offences relating to the right to assemble. Questions raised by participants were answered.

Training in the Institute for Local Administration:

Seminars “A Municipality and Extremism” were held on 1, 8, 10 and 16 September 2009. Apart from trainers from other organisations there were also trainers from the Ministry of the Interior. The aim of the seminar was to provide information on the extremist scene in the Czech Republic, on issues relating to the right to assemble, and on examples of good practice.

## **1.4 Expertise and Immunity**

### **1.4.1 Training of Commanders Responsible for Security Measures**

A qualitative shift in extremists’ organisation of their events requires in turn the professionalism of, in particular, commanders responsible for security measures/actions.

- The Ministry of the Interior in cooperation with the Police Presidium is preparing **training for the management of police units in the context of extremist threats**. Course participants will become familiar with the following topics:
  - a) Legal standards and internal management acts.
  - b) Importance of the body in managing security measures/actions.
  - c) The procedure and position of the police within the Integrated Rescue System.
  - d) New possibilities of utilising connecting technology.
  - e) Logistics of safeguarding security measures.
  - f) Latest findings gathered from security actions by the Czech police as well as foreign security forces.

NGOs will be also involved in lecturing. The police and NGOs will provide information to each other on their anti-extremist activities, and exchange recommendations regarding their procedure during mass events. The objective of the cooperation is also to increase mutual trust. In the interest of **enhancing services provided to the public** an emphasis will be placed, in addition to training on intervention tactics, on training on **communication with**

- a) the media;
- b) a crowd, using negotiators from anti-conflict teams;
- c) affected inhabitants, through psychological departments of Regional Police Directorates;
- d) representatives of NGOs monitoring the situation.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

In 2009 two courses of the (same) training for police management, i.e. for persons who in command of security measures in the context of extremist activities, were held. The training course was divided into three parts: tactical, communication and the fight against terrorism. Representatives of NGOs and the Office of the Government (the Department for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities) were involved as trainers. A textbook “Manual for Commanders Responsible for Measures” was developed.

- With regard to the necessity of systematic and thorough preparation of future commanders of police actions, the **Police Academy of the Czech Republic** has been recommended to **introduce a new subject** focusing on developing capabilities and skills for **managing and commanding large-scale police action**. Security measures relating to extremist activities should be taken into account in the framework of the proposed subject.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

The Police Academy of the Czech Republic prepared within its regular curricula a three-phase specialisation course for police officers who are specialists working in the area of combating extremism. The issue of extremism has become a scientific research task of the Police Academy of the Czech Republic.

The Police Academy of the Czech Republic in cooperation with specialists from regional Directorates of the Czech police and the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior is developing a set of Guidelines for Investigating Extremist Criminal Activities which should be in the future a document designated for police specialists in extremism as well as for students at the Police Academy of the Czech Republic within the study subject of extremism.

### **1.4.2 Training of Police Specialists**

**A basic condition for the successful detection and prosecution of extremist activities is the specialisation of police experts. Therefore it is necessary to:**

- **continue using the current model of training** of experts with the participation of academics and representatives of the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office; and
- complete such training courses with **findings from political sciences and law** with regard to current trends in the field of extremism. This training must be delivered by qualified university teachers possessing knowledge of the real situation. One of the aims of this specific training course is to prevent excessive use of court experts.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

- In July 2009 a training course for police specialists was held in Brno with trainers from Masaryk University.
- In September 2009 a training course focusing on specific police duties was held in the police training centre in Balkova, attended by specialists working for the Criminal Police and Investigation Service across the whole of the Czech Republic.
- A new specialised training programme aimed at combating extremism is being developed for police officers of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service. The course concentrates on the issue of extremism (right-wing, left-wing, hooliganism, spectator violence, religious sects, xenophobia, racism, and so on) and its external and internal manifestations (demonstrations, marches, concerts, and "private parties"). The course will be implemented in the form of a directed discussion and model situations. The Police Academy of the Czech Republic and the Police Colleges of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague-Ruzyne and Pardubice will be involved in this training programme.
- The issue of extremism has become one of the scientific research tasks of the Police Academy of the Czech Republic.
- A specialised course - "Preparation of Members of Anti-Conflict Teams of the Police of the Czech Republic" was held in Brno. The issue of extremism is taught and explained so that police officers are able to assess legal qualification directly "in the field" as a basis for argumentation and further procedure. All this must be done in compliance with the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Act on the Police of the Czech Republic. In the year reviewed (2009) three of these courses were held.
- The issue of combating extremism, racism and xenophobia is taught in the Police College of the Ministry of the Interior in Pardubice within the subject "Socio-pathological Phenomena." The syllabus of this specialised course encompasses the topic of ethnic groups and the issues of extremism and terrorism.
- From 3 to 5 March 2010 an international MEPA seminar was held in Jihlava, with the topic of international cooperation in combating extremism.

### **1.4.3 Stabilisation and Hiring Police Specialists**

Specialists must have a very good overview of the situation concerning extremism in their region. They have to know perfectly the persons involved in extremism and examine the activities of such persons. **It is necessary to take into consideration that this kind of work is long-term work and its results should be evaluated through a so-called "bar code system". In the interest of maintaining the motivation of such key officers it is necessary for them not to be overloaded through solving other criminal activities.** The

fact that a given territory does not witness extremist events does not mean that there is no group present planning such events in another locality.

- Due to a substantial lack of specialists in some units it is necessary to **stabilise the number such officers and gradually fill open positions.**
- It is recommended, within Regional Directorates of the Czech police, to establish **multi-member groups of specialists.** The duties of such working groups should be to manage operative and investigative activities and the prosecution of extremist groups.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior.*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

In 2009 the police managed to stabilise the necessary numbers of police officers working for territorial units of the Criminal Police and Investigations Service, for the Regional Directorates of the Criminal Police and Investigations Service as well as for the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigations Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic. This task was implemented mainly under an extraordinary measure issued by the Police President under the title “Extremism” within which working groups for combating extremism were established at individual Regional Directorates of the Criminal Police and Investigations Service. The Working Groups consist of both police officers of the Criminal Police and Investigations Service of territorial units of the Czech police, and of police officers working for analytical and information departments of Regional Directorates (PR Departments). The composition of individual working groups reflect the need for relevant police officers to possess knowledge of the local extremist scene. The duties and responsibilities of the working groups are clearly defined so that it is possible to operatively investigate extremist activities, monitor individual extremist events, gather information, and evaluate the information gathered. It is clearly stipulated that these working groups must not be overloaded through investigating any other types of criminal activities.

### **1.4.4 Training of Judicial Officials**

In the past the media pointed drew attention to some surprising decisions taken by judicial bodies in the case of alleged extremist criminal offences. Such information can have a double negative effect. In the case of extremists, there can be a feeling of impunity from prosecution and the general public may believe that judicial authorities are benevolent.

- It is necessary to further **deepen the education of judges, public prosecutors and also auxiliary judicial professions** and to provide them with information, on an ongoing basis, on the most recent trends in the area of extremism, including new aspects of criminal offences having an extremist context, profiles of offenders, and changes in the image of members and supporters of extremist movements.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

In 2009 the Judicial Academy organised two seminars which focused on the issue of extremism and directly related to 18 planned courses aimed at “Recodification of Substantive Criminal Law.” The training courses dealing with substantive criminal law paid attention also to constituent elements of crime concerning activities of extremist groups.

Further, on 7 December 2009 there was a one-day seminar held in Kromeriz on the topic of “Extremism – Religious Societies and Sects.” The seminar was conceived for 100 participants including judges and public prosecutors.

A one-day seminar titled “Human Rights – Freedom of Speech, the Right of Assembly and Extremism” was also held. It concentrated mainly on criminal acts committed by members of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms.

On 21 and 22 April 2010 there will be seminars at the Judicial Academy in Kromeriz on “Combating Extremism” which will concentrate on: a) from the perspective of the police – methods of investigation and evidence gathering; b) selected procedural problems from the point of view of public prosecutors; c) the view of an expert in the Czech Republic and abroad; and d) the issue of freedom of speech. On 31 May and 1 June a two-day seminar will be organised in Kromeriz and the subject will be again extremism, this time with special focus on terrorism in the European context.

Trainers are selected and hired in close cooperation with the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior.

### **1.4.5 Systemic and General Prevention of Infiltration by Extremists**

**Setting up a functional and effective “immunity system” against the infiltration of extremists is a necessary part of professionalism.** It is desirable that protective mechanisms start working within the police and are then also used by other units, i.e. by the army, customs administration, and the prison service.

In order to prevent the phenomenon in question, systematic and thorough work by human resources specialists is required when recruiting new applicants for jobs within the security forces. **The current means and knowledge seem to be sufficient to recognise the most risky applicants. However, communication channels appear to be insufficiently set.** The Ministry of Defence dealt with this issue in 2008 and some measures could be inspiring for other ministries:

- As regards the **Ministry of Defence** it is recommended to continue in its current preventive and training activities focusing on pathological social phenomena including extremism. Signing a statutory declaration during recruitment interviews (or when joining the Army of the Czech Republic and when extending the service of professional soldiers) seems to be beneficial as it regards not supporting or publicly showing a liking for movements suppressing the rights and freedoms of people or professing national or racial hatred. Furthermore, it is important to continue cooperation between the Military Police, the Military Intelligence Service and the Czech police. It is necessary to adopt preventive measures against the abuse of material and weapons (safe storage of sensitive material, setting rules for treating and using such material, and checks by commanders and the Military Police).

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of Defence*

**Deadline:** *on an ongoing basis.*

### Method of meeting the task:

On 1 October 2009 Act No. 272/2009 Coll. Amending Act No. 221/1999 Coll. On Professional Soldiers, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 221/1999 Coll.”) came into effect. After assessing all legal regulations valid within the relevant scope of competence the said amendment implemented in Act No. 221/1999 Coll. altered the provisions of Sec. 3 (1) (c), which stipulate that a citizen can be enlisted as a soldier if he/she does not, apart from other conditions, support, propagate or otherwise promote a movement which provably suppresses human rights and freedoms or professes national, religious or racial hatred or hate against another group of persons (hereinafter referred to as “extremist movement”). Supporting, propagating or otherwise promoting an extremist movement are, pursuant to the amended provisions of Sec. 19 (1) (i) of Act No. 221/1999 Coll., a reason for dismissal from the army.

Despite the aforementioned facts it is important to bear in mind that a public manifestation of support for extremist movements is a criminal offence under Sec. 404 of Act No. 40/2009 Coll., the Criminal Code. However, the above-mentioned amendment to Act No. 221/1999 Coll. explicitly emphasises the inadmissibility of such criminal conduct in the case of an applicant to or a soldier of the army.

Measures consisting of signing a statutory declaration by persons applying to become professional soldiers were adopted to prevent the possibility of activists or supporters of extremist movements joining the Czech army. This is also a preventive measure against the abuse of military material and weapons by members or supporters of such civic associations.

The legal status of civil employees entirely differs from the position of professional soldiers. Civil employees are not restricted in their civil rights. Nevertheless, the group of employees defined in Sec. 303 (1) of Act No. 262/2006 Coll., the Labour Code, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “the Labour Code”) which applies also to employees of the armed forces of the Czech Republic, has specific obligations arising from the special status of state authorities and these focus on their impartiality and integrity when executing duties of state administration. An obligation to refrain from the aforementioned criminal behaviour however is not, contrary to the situation of professional soldiers, explicitly stipulated. The Code of Ethics of Civil Servants is binding both for professional soldiers and for all other civil servants (Czech Government Resolution No. 270 of 21 March 2001). The said Code of Ethics includes the duties of those employees and soldiers who within their jobs execute the obligations and responsibilities of public administration or at least participate in such execution. In relation to political and public activities (Article 4 of the Code of Ethics), point 2 reads as follows: *“An employee shall not perform such political or public activities as could disrupt the trust of citizens in his/her ability to execute service duties impartially”*.

Infiltration into jobs of front line officers as well as managers working with confidential information by active supporters of extremist movements is substantially eliminated as the performance of such positions are conditional upon screening stipulated by legal regulations. From the security level “Confidential” such facts are verified through special security screenings. Due to the above-mentioned facts the submission of a statement of honour by employees of the Ministry of defence is currently redundant and is not legally backed by the Labour Code.

The Ministry of Defence approved on 30 September 2009 the Strategy for the Prevention of Socially Undesirable Phenomena during 2010 - 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the “Strategy”). The Strategy, *inter alia*, deals with the prevention of support and propagation of extremist movements. Preventive activities concentrate on, in particular, education and training. The issue of prevention of manifestations of extremism was



included by the Ministerial Commission for the Prevention of Socially Undesirable Phenomena among the priorities of prevention for the Ministry of Defence in 2009.

In 2009 a number of preventive measures were adopted and implemented. A training project “Extremism in the Army of the Czech Republic” was held at 20 military units and facilities of joint forces and about 1,500 persons were trained. The said project was subsidised from the Ministry of Defence’s Crime Prevention Programme by the amount of CZK 154,000. The prevention of extremism was also included in training courses for chairs and authors of relevant guidelines working for the Unit Commissions for Prevention of Socially Undesirable Phenomena. These courses were attended in 2009 by altogether 459 participants.

The training of soldiers and civil employees of the Ministry of Defence in the area of undesirable social phenomena, in response to the occurrences of such phenomena during 2009 (extremism, drugs) was implemented with a time allotment of four hours per year. An analysis of educational activities concerning the support and propagation of extremist movements was conducted within education and degree programmes at military schools (i.e. secondary military schools and military colleges of the Ministry of Defence and the Defence University in Brno).

The Chief of General Staff of the Czech Army ordered the organisation, within the prevention of undesirable social phenomena, of discussions in all military units aimed at suppressing extremist manifestations and informing all professional soldiers and civil employees on the Organisational Order Ref. No. 80626-52/2006/DP-1618 which prohibits tattoos giving an offensive or defamatory impression (extremist symbols and so forth). The Chief of General Staff of the Army also ordered the checking of military equipment in order to reveal any signs and symbols which are not permitted, and to check facilities, computers and other military aids with the aim of detecting respective manifestations of extremism or the supporters of such movements.

The Ministerial Commission for the Prevention of Undesirable Social Phenomena analysed on 15 December 2009 measures adopted by the Chief of General Staff of the Czech Army, by the Military Police, and by other entities in order to prevent extremism. The Commission adopted a resolution to ensure the coordination of tasks pertaining to the area of prevention of extremism within the Ministry of Defence and subordinate entities. Funds for implementation of the training project concerning the issue of extremism were allocated from the ministerial Crime Prevention Programme (Activity No. 38,622).

After consultations with the Czech army it was agreed to check new applicants to become professional soldiers in police registers by the Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service.

- **The Czech police** must draw up clear and comprehensible guidelines establishing forms of cooperation and communication inside individual police units in order to restrict the infiltration of extremists into the police force.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior.*

*Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

In order to restrict the infiltration of extremists among security forces the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium checks records in police registers for all applicants for a job with the Czech police.

- As regards the **Customs Administration of the Czech Republic**, clear and comprehensible guidelines in order to restrict the infiltration of extremists among customs officers have been drawn up in the form of internal measures and by establishing tools for cooperation with other security forces.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Finance.*

*Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

As a follow up to Government Resolution No. 572 of 14 May 2009 concerning the Strategy for Combating Extremism, the following measure was adopted, in the framework of the task Systemic and General Prevention of Infiltration by Extremists, to restrict infiltration of the Customs Administration by extremists:

The first step preventing infiltration of the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic by extremists takes place at the very beginning of admission procedure. Designated HR specialists from individual Personnel Departments are responsible for the selection of applicants. Their tool is a structured interview aimed at detecting suspicious circumstances. The second step is taken in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior and the Police Presidium of the Police of the Czech Republic when verifying past, as well as current activities of applicants relating to extremism or at the least suspicion that they have been involved in extremist activities. The Personnel Department of the General Directorate of Customs is fully responsible for this step. The third step is defined by cooperation with contractual physicians of the Customs Administration and physicians of health care facilities of the Customs Administration, who are obliged to report suspicious scars and tattoos. The fourth step is implemented within personal eligibility (customs officers) and professional qualifications (civil employees) by means of personnel diagnostics, using specially developed procedures. This step is implemented by a sub-unit of the Unit of Psychology of the Personnel Department of the General Directorate of Customs.

In order to ensure a permanent high level and capability of work in detecting suspicious persons with regard to extremism, or persons inclining toward extremism, it is necessary to develop cyclical and innovative training:

- a) for HR personnel, at least once a year – the first training course was held on 1 December 2009,
- b) for managers and employees who have the potential to be promoted – extremism must be incorporated in managerial training courses.

For the purpose of ensuring the aforementioned measures, the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic will publish in its Journal a special announcement which will encompass a reference to “procedures for preventing infiltration of the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic by extremists,” and specific steps will be distributed through internal channels.

The Ministry of the Interior provided for HR specialist of the Customs Administration a brochure containing a description of extremist symbols.

- As regards the **Prison Service of the Czech Republic**, clear and comprehensible guidelines in order to restrict the infiltration of extremists among customs officers must be drawn up in the form of internal measures and by establishing tools for cooperation with other security forces.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Justice.*

*Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

In meeting this task the Prison Service of the Czech Republic puts an emphasis on systematic and consistent work of HR specialists when recruiting new applicants and during hiring procedures for both customs officers and civil employees. Applicants are checked in police databases maintained by the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium. Measures were adopted according to which applicants sign a declaration that they do not support, propagate or otherwise promote movements which provably support suppressing human rights and freedoms or profess national, religious or racial hatred against a group of people. At the same time applicants are informed that the truthfulness of their statement is verified by the Prison Service by procedures pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 16 (2) of Act No. 361/2003 Coll. which authorises security forces to request an extract from records kept by the Ministry of the Interior. The same procedure applies to persons applying to be employed as civil staff, where such a declaration is a part of personal questionnaire submitted within the hiring procedure. The aforementioned procedure is regulated by the Regulation of the General Manager of the Prison Service of the Czech Republic No. 10/2010. At the same time the Guidelines of the HR Department Manager were drawn up in order to apply new internal regulations. The issue of combating extremism was an important topic at a nation-wide meeting of HR specialists of the Prison Service of the Czech Republic held in October 2009. All custody/detention facilities and prisons received a brochure, published by the Ministry of the Interior, containing extremist symbols.

- In cases of reasonable suspicion that extremist ideas may be entertained by an applicant, it is recommended that HR specialists or other officials responsible for recruiting applicants for jobs within the **municipal police** contact the Czech police.

### **Method of meeting the task:**

Constables of the municipal police are not members of security forces and therefore a different legal regulation applies to them. The Security Policy Department in cooperation with the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium drew up a document describing in full detail possibilities for limiting the risk of infiltration. In the future selected municipal police units will be addressed through the Board of Municipal Police Directors of statutory cities and the capital city of Prague with the offer to check new applicants by means of police databases.

The Prague Municipal Police received, from the Ministry of the Interior, a brochure detailing extremist symbols.

If requested the Czech police are ready to assist the municipal police with regard to the issue of infiltration.

## **1.5 To Proceed Effectively and Fairly against Violence**

### **1.5.1 Consistent Monitoring**

**Specialists involved in investigating extremism must continue to consistently monitor extremists and extremist groups.** Their findings must be utilisable when preparing respective security measures, when investigating particular criminal activities, and when forecasting possible forms of attacks.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior.*

**Deadline:** *on an ongoing basis.*

### Method of meeting the task:

Suitable cameras, video equipment, laptops, mobile phones, and internet connection for working groups of Regional Police Directorates were purchased within the “Extremism” measure. The aim was to ensure uniform technical equipment which has appropriate parameters for the purpose of working groups, i.e. documentation, work with recordings, their utilisation within operative investigations, and criminal prosecution.

An integral part of work of police officers included in Working Groups for Combating Extremism is technical equipment. The Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium in cooperation with the Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service specified particular types of video as well as photo devices, taking into account the purpose and nature of their use. The decision was made on the basis of the need to have uniform technology, as extremist criminal activities are committed throughout the Czech Republic and it is necessary to share materials obtained in this operative way or through investigations of criminal offences. This was very problematic in the past owing to the different needs of individual Regional Police Directorates. Police officers have also been equipped with laptops with internet connection for the purpose of monitoring extremist web pages.

Moreover, there are training courses concerning documentation and utilisation of technical tools for monitoring (see point 4.2. Training of Police Specialists).

The Headquarters of Information and Analytical Processes of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic receives on an ongoing basis data concerning cases of extremism. The data is entered in new police information systems and creates an initial database on extremism. The original information system has been enhanced during the last six months and thus has better parameters. Modernisation of the original information system was pre-negotiated with its provider in order for system to better serve the current needs of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service. Information entered into the system can be used for the development of security measures, solutions of concrete criminal offences, and to forecast the further development of extremist criminal activities.

### 1.5.2 Coping with Extremist Events

- It is necessary to **amend internal management acts** of the Czech police with regard to legislative changes and development in the extremist scene. At the same time it is appropriate to build on proven procedures adopted to cope with extremist events and to take into account the following recommendations:
  - a) Communication with specialists - timely provision of operative information.
  - b) To establish a staff responsible for calculating the number of people and other resources to be deployed, and to earmark resources to be used in emergency situations, specifying the principle of cooperation with other forces and units such as the municipal police, municipal authorities, and units of the Integrated Rescue System. A precise definition of competences is important.
  - c) It is recommended to develop a “Type Plan” with generally earmarked forces and resources of a security nature.
  - d) To ensure a “warning service” and prompt exchange of information. To determine rules for communication.
  - e) To earmark a relevant number of police officers using the aforementioned activities.
  - f) To ensure absolute participation of specialists in the event.
  - g) To consistently document events through the use of audio and video technology.

- h) To carry out checks on persons and vehicles.
- i) To provide information to public prosecutors' offices and courts.
- j) To consistently utilise anti-conflict teams.
- k) To analyse and evaluate each event, including documentation, an analysis of activities of deployed resources of the Czech police, as well as all other units and forces involved. To provide a guidance department with such documentation.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

New Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 110/2009 on activities relating to extremism, religious sects and spectator violence was issued. One of the measures included in this instruction is the obligatory participation of an expert on extremism in the staff of any commander responsible for measures relating to extremist events. The Police President also issued Binding Instruction No. 10/2009 on safeguarding internal order and security.

As regards criminal prosecution of extremism, brand new Guidelines for Criminal Prosecution have been developed. The guidelines put an emphasis both on operative police activities in the field of extremist crime and, which is even more important, on criminal proceedings. For the purpose of the said guidelines, a thorough analysis of criminal offences committed and related court Judgements/sentences concerning individual crimes was used. Thus clear and reasoned procedures to be used within criminal proceedings were developed.

On the basis of the need to have unified procedures for solving public extremist events, the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service, in cooperation with the Directorate of the Public Order Police Service and the Training Department of the Police Presidium, drew up a "Manual for Commanders responsible for Security Measures". The objective of the manual was to provide police officers (commanders responsible for security measures) with guidance encompassing specific activities relating to such events. The manual was both printed and published on the intranet of the Czech police.

- It is necessary to **introduce innovations or to draw up new guidelines for investigating extremist criminal offences** both for the needs of the police and for public prosecutors' offices, including clear and justified procedures.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice*

**Interim deadline:** *31<sup>st</sup> October 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

The new methodology of investigating extremism is being worked on in cooperation with the Police Academy of the Czech Republic, specialists from Regional Police Directorates, and the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior. This material should be used in the future by police officers – experts on extremism and students of the Police Academy who study the subject of "Extremism".

The Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office developed the "Guidelines for the Punishment of Extremist Criminal Offences".

- It is necessary to **complete the equipment of public order police units/riot police** to combat so-called “urban warfare” tactics and for the mass apprehension of persons including documentation and connecting technology, and to specially furnish police cars and mobile cells.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Interim deadline:** *31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

### **Method of meeting the task:**

As a consequence of changes in requirements for meeting tasks of public order, police units and permanent public order police units with regard to more frequent and demanding situations having a nature of “urban warfare,” it is necessary to complete the equipment of all public order police units to achieve the aim of their intervention.

The scope of completion of the equipment can be divided into several categories:

- 1) Personal protective means of police officers included in all public order police units/riot police (anti-riot and ballistic protection). As expiration period for some of these means is coming to an end and it would be appropriate to replace these means with new ones.
- 2) Protective items of clothing for police officers (fire-proof and thermo clothing and means).
- 3) Police service vehicles for transporting police officers.
- 4) Special police service vehicles (water canons, escort vehicles, armoured vehicles, and commanders’ vehicles).
- 5) Coercive means.
- 6) Equipment for connections, localisation and documentation, (MATRA radio-stations of a new generation, GPS modules, and video-technology).
- 7) Means for the detention of a large number of persons (one-off hand cuffs, mobile cells).
- 8) Medical kits for providing first aid.
- 9) Logistical background for forces and resources in case public order police units/riot police are to intervene.

As regards the nearest future and in relation to effective interventions using public order police units/riot police, a priority seems to be the purchase of equipment specified under points 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (see above).

Appropriate cameras, video devices, notebooks, mobile telephones, and internet connection for working groups of Regional Police Directorates have been purchased within the extraordinary measure known as “Extremism”. The objective was to ensure unified technical equipment which would have appropriate parameters for the purposes of working groups, so called documentation, work with recordings, their utilisation within operative investigations and criminal proceedings.

Technical equipment is an integral part of activities carried out by police officers belonging to Working Groups for Combating Extremism. The Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium along with the Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service specified a particular type of video equipment and cameras with regard to the purpose and nature of their utilisation. The Unit took into account the need for unified technology since extremist

criminal offences are committed all over the Czech Republic and it is important to share materials obtained in this operative way as well as by means of investigating criminal activities. It was difficult in the past with respect to the different needs of individual Regional Police Directorates. Police officers received also laptops with internet connection for the purpose of monitoring extremist internet pages.

- It is necessary to ensure strict and timely action against members of extremist groups who violate the law during their events. This means in particular to place an **emphasis on prompt apprehension and punishment of perpetrators within accelerated prosecution**. If considering cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice, state-of-the-art means can be used (for example cars equipped with mobile cells and sufficient room and technical background for an immediate “court trial”).

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice*  
*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009.*

As regards the issue of commanding and judicial mobile offices, it is necessary to point out that the concentration of a police office, a public prosecutor’s office and a court into one mobile office would cast serious doubts on judge impartiality. As the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic and the European Court for Human Rights ruled several times, an attribute of independent justice is not only legal independence but also how such independency is perceived. In this context there are reasonable concerns that these requirements for a proposed mobile office are not met.

As a consequence the Ministry of the Interior strongly rejects the introduction of such “mobile court rooms.”

### **1.5.3 Using the New Act on the Police of the Czech Republic**

Excessive use of court experts for notorious cases and repeatedly asking the same questions relating more to legal issues is unjustifiable in the future. Moreover, such experts are becoming publicly known persons and face targeted attacks by extremists.

- In compliance with new legislative regulations the presence of an expert is not necessary during an extremist assembly. **The police have at their disposal a number of officers specialising in the issue of extremism and must be able themselves to assess the situation on the spot.** Court experts should be used only for more complex questions for which an expert’s opinion appears indispensable. In more difficult cases it is recommended to contact renowned academic institutions such as the Institute of Modern History or departments of political sciences at individual universities.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*  
*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

At this point it is necessary to refer to a series of training courses for police specialists. The Police Presidium will develop in cooperation with academics a manual for correct communication with court experts.

- It is necessary to establish for police needs an accessible **database of expert opinions**.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009.*

#### **Method of meeting the task:**

The database of expert opinions, professional statements, Judgements and decisions was created on the intranet of the Czech police. It is possible to use a full-text search. Documents are accessible from any place via the intranet.

- In the context of new legislative regulations, representatives of towns and villages as well as the police are recommended to use the option of dissolving an assembly where its participants hide their faces in a manner which makes their identification difficult or impossible during the time of the assembly.
- In the context of the adoption of the Act on the Police of the Czech Republic, authorisation for the police to enter a business undertaking has changed. As of 1 January 2009 police officers have been entitled to enter a business undertaking and to enter rooms in which they can reasonably assume there are individuals. They are entitled to do so even after working hours in the business undertaking concerned. They may also enter warehouses, kitchens and other similar rooms. It is appropriate to use such options also in the case of meetings of persons from the extremist environment who are held under different pretexts.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*



## Establishment of the Task Force

**Establishment of the Task Force considerably contributed to meeting the Policy for Combating Extremism. The Task Force both guarantees meeting tasks of the Strategy and has brought about impetus beyond the said Policy.** The purpose of the Task Force is, in particular, to reveal current weaknesses and find conceptual solutions to close any gaps. Within a short period of time a number of data giving new impulses were gathered and were immediately further elaborated by officials of the Ministry of the Interior, police officers and other partner entities. The Task Force does not deal with specific cases but tries to find conceptual solutions.

### TASK FORCE

The Task Force is an umbrella unit at the top management level; it is managed by the First Deputy Minister of the Interior. Its members are: the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Internal Security, the Police President and his Deputies, the Director of the Czech Police Inspectorate, and the Director of the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior. Directors of intelligence services can be invited to participate.

Three working groups of the Task Force meet in parallel:

- **Group A** deals with security topics related to **work of the Ministry of the Interior, the Czech police and cooperation between the Czech police and intelligence services.**
- **Group B** deals with **legal aspects of combating extremism.** The aim of activities of this group is to evaluate whether there is currently a sufficient number of legal instruments to eliminate extremism, which are, however, used inefficiently, or whether there are enough legal penalties which could be used. Group B focuses, in particular, on the following issues:
  - a) failure of evidence;
  - b) documentation and investigations of individuals and groups;
  - c) unification of practice in public administration;
  - d) cooperation of the police, public prosecutor's offices.
- **Group C** deals with setting constructive and mutually beneficial cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior, the Czech police and partner ministries (the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Office of the Government) and the non-governmental sector. Partnership of all entities means the **mutual provision of information** on anti-extremist activities and looking for projects which can supplement **and support each other and provide opportunities for cooperation.**

## 2. An Update of Tasks Policy for Combating Extremism

A number of tasks have been met; therefore these are not encompassed in the update Policy.

### 2.1 Using Communication against Demagogy

Specific tasks:

#### 2.1.1 Open and Responsible News Service and Public Relations

- Current informative and analytical documents published on web pages must be updated and supplemented on a regular basis.
- The Security Intelligence Service will quarterly publish an analytical report on the development of the extremist scene.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic*

*Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

- **It is necessary to consistently distinguish who extremists are and to denominate them precisely.** Generalisation (for example, using the term “radicals”) can be misleading for the general public.
- In the case of large demonstrations requiring police intervention it is important to provide information to the public and mass media on the development of the given situation on an ongoing basis, responsibly, and completely. **It is necessary to put disinformation to rights.**
- A range of actions is taken against extremism. It is necessary to provide information about this and to concentrate on **presenting preventive and informative events, and the results of professional conferences and seminars which may be published.**

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior and other state authorities concerned, in particular the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.*

*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*

- The Czech police will ensure that documents on extremism and the role of the Czech police in the fight against it were available on the internet and were understandable for children and youth. It is a task addressed primarily for the Preventive Information Department of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic.
- The Czech police will continue to send trainers from among officers working from Preventive Information Departments to educational and informational seminars.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

## 2.1.2 Internet without Hate Propaganda

**Placing illegal content on the internet must be consistently and unconditionally punished.** Thus it is important to concentrate on the following areas:

- In combating illegal and undesirable content placed on servers in third countries it is necessary to consistently use available legal regulations or **legal assistance**.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Interim deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.*

- It is necessary to implement a police hotline for reporting illegal and undesirable content on internet pages in compliance with a project developed by the Police Presidium in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

Providers of internet services must be involved in combating hate propaganda.

- It is necessary for the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police to negotiate with internet providers on the possible blocking of extremist web pages whose content violates the law. The Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police must assist internet providers when searching for such web pages and proving their unlawful content.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.*

## 2.2 Using Knowledge to Fight against Totalitarians

Specific tasks:

### 2.2.1 Education of Teachers

- It is necessary to implement further education of teachers in the field of education against extremism, racism and xenophobia through organisations directly managed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The National Institute of Further Education will hold seminars with the aim of meeting the following points: 1) professional insight into the topic (information based on framework education programmes); 2) to establish teachers' competences (development of critical thinking, media training, removing negative stereotypes, solving particular model situations during class instruction, skills for work with groups and group dynamics, self-knowledge and self-acceptance, and development of the ability to resist manipulation and to cooperatively solve conflicts); 3) using results of the Analysis of Education and Support of Teachers of Basic and Secondary Schools - the results should be used when teaching topics such as extremism, racism, xenophobia, tolerance and human rights – project manager: the Centre of Applied Anthropology and Field Research (CAAT)

within the Faculty of Arts of West Bohemian University in Pilsen; and 4) using examples of good practice.

- It is necessary to support professional discussion as well as further education of teachers by means of organising seminars and conferences. Results will be presented to the general public (laypersons) at a minimum via the internet.
- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will complete the amendment to the Guidelines against Violence, Xenophobia and Racism.

In compliance with a prepared update to the Guidelines against Violence, Xenophobia and Racism it is important for head teachers to designate one teacher who will systematically devote his/her work to this area so that he/she may be consulted on the subject by other teachers, and will be able to solve breaches of discipline concerning phenomenon such as extremism, racism, anti-Semitism, and so forth. This teacher should have better possibilities for further education as well as an option to obtain available literature on the issue, DVDs, documentary film and so on. It is also important to organise discussions on the issue concerned with representatives of NGOs who have paid this phenomenon attention for a long time.

- The task of the MEYS is to recommend head teachers to allow teachers involved in this issue to obtain professional qualifications and access to further education. The MEYS in cooperation with the National Pedagogical Library (the Institute for Information in Education) will publish a list of technical publications and articles concerning the issue in question.
- Examples of good practice (available on [ww.rvp.cz](http://ww.rvp.cz) and on the website of the MEYS), press releases and brief descriptions of projects supported by subsidy programmes will be published on an ongoing basis.
- A comparative study of inclusive approaches in certain countries will be developed. The main objective of the study will be to compare inclusive mechanisms in individual countries and their introduction and application. Obtained information will become a basis for priority topics of guidance support and the further development of multicultural education.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports*

**Deadline:** *on an ongoing basis.*

### **2.2.2 Education of Children**

- Projects of basic and secondary schools as well as of higher education institutions, private non-profit making and other organisations aimed at multicultural education, intercultural education, and prevention of racism, xenophobia and extremist attitudes will be supported. These projects can be subsidised by MEYS subsidy programmes - for example the programmes “Support of Education in Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Education”, “Support of Foreigners’ Integration”, and “Support of Socially Excluded Groups”.
- The history and culture of minorities living in the Czech Republic will be more extensively incorporated in framework education programmes.

- Proposals for values and attitudes (not recommendations) will be prepared for schools, namely the values and attitudes pupils should attain, for example when completing basic education. The outcome of this task will be systematic guidance for teaching and evaluating attitudes which will be developed within cross-reference topics in basic schools and secondary general schools. A systematic concept of multicultural education for basic and secondary general education will be drawn up as a part of a long-term systematic ministerial task – “Expected Model Outputs Concerning Cross-Reference Topics” (among them also multicultural education). Examples of good practice from other countries will be available.
- Other ministries are obliged to assist the MEYS in preparing educational/training and cultural activities for example by means of relevant supporting documents, providing trainers for courses and seminars, or by consultation.
- The Czech police will train staff working for Preventive Information Groups (to be done by the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium) so that officers of crime prevention may later work as trainers and lecturers. The Preventive Information Department will draw up a manual which will encompass information to be provided by police officers to children and youth, and describe ways how to provide such information and how to conduct discussions. This manual will be available on the police intranet for all police officers who are expected to work as lecturers at schools.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*

## **2.3 Single Anti-Extremist Platform**

Specific tasks:

### **2.3.1 Coordination Agreements**

- The Czech police are obliged to continue concluding coordination agreements pursuant to Act No. 273/2008 Coll. on the Police of the Czech Republic. The Police Presidium will regularly, once every three months, send to the Ministry of the Interior a document containing information on newly concluded coordination agreements, on difficulties regarding the conclusion of such agreements, and on examples of good practice.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

### **2.3.2 Towns and Villages**

- The Ministry of the Interior will continue to organise a **consultation day for those who process issues of public assemblies at the regional level.**
- The Institute for Local Administration will continue to organise training courses concerning extremism in relation to the right to assemble.

- Information on issues of the right to assemble and coordination agreements will be published and/or supplemented on the Ministry of the Interior's web pages.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

### **2.3.3 Elimination of Radicalisation**

- The Ministry of the Interior will develop a document analysing some foreign programmes focused on the restriction/elimination of radicalisation. This document will be distributed to other ministries, NGOs, academics and any other persons interested in the issue in question.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior in cooperation with the Office of the Government*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

## **2.4 Expertise and Immunity**

Specific tasks:

### **2.4.1 Training of Police Officers**

- It is necessary for training programmes (prepared or launch in 2009) for commanders responsible for security measures and for police specialists to be completed.
- It is necessary to continue instruction training concerning the issue of extremism and directly relating to specific police positions.
- It is necessary to continue training activities for members of anti-conflict teams, including nationwide instruction and guidance.

The Police Presidium will create necessary conditions for the aforementioned training courses both in terms of organisation and relevant trainers.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

Due to the ever increasing occurrence of extremist trends in different forms it is obvious that it is impossible to cover, in the framework of police training systems and within the time allotted, the whole spectrum of open and latent manifestations of this phenomenon.

- Relevant entities working within the Ministry of the Interior, the Czech police and the Police Academy will develop a document encompassing the following: 1) a list of basic knowledge on extremists to be attained by a police officer who have completed Basic Preparation of Police Officers; and 2) an analysis describing the way that such knowledge will be delivered/attained.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

- The Police Academy will inform the Ministry of the Interior on how extremism will be taught in this education institution.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

#### **2.4.2 Training of Judicial Officials**

- The Judicial Academy will organise training courses for judicial officials, developed in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010.*

#### **2.4.3 Meeting the Police Policy for Combating Extremism**

- In order to ensure that the Policy is met, the extraordinary measure “Extremism” of the Director of the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium will be implemented. If one of the tasks of this extraordinary measure cannot be met the Ministry of the Interior will be informed (by the Police Presidium) accordingly without any delay.

The database of expert opinions, professional statements, Judgements and decisions available on the intranet of the Czech police will be regularly updated.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*

- The guidelines for investigation of extremist criminal activities will be completed.
- The Police Presidium (the Command and Control Centre) in cooperation with the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service will ensure that an information system (encompassing findings and their analysis) on extremist crimes will be functional. The data included in the system will be shared by all specialists of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service and will, at the same time, enable systematic checks of applicants for jobs with security corps.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010.*

#### **2.4.4 Systemic and General Prevention of Infiltration by Extremists**

- The police will continue checking new applicants using the system set in 2009.

*Responsible party: the Ministry of the Interior*

*Deadline: on an ongoing basis.*

- The Ministry of Defence will continue checking new applicants using police databases. Further it will continue to implement measures adopted in the area of HR and prevention.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of Defence in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*  
**Deadline:** *on an ongoing basis.*

- The system of checking applicants for jobs with the Customs Administration of the Czech Republic using police databases will begin to function. The system was pre-negotiated in 2009 within the Task Force. It will further continue with implementing measures adopted in the area of HR and prevention.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of Finance in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*  
**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.*

- The system of checking applicants for jobs with the Prison Service of the Czech Republic by using police databases will begin to function. The system was pre-negotiated in 2009 within the Task Force.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior*  
**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.*

- The system of checking applicants for jobs at the Fire and Rescue Service of the Czech Republic using police databases prior to the selection of managers and prior to taking on new applicants who will be involved in the treatment of dangerous substances will be launched. The system was pre-negotiated in 2009 within the Task Force.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*  
**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.*

- The Ministry of the Interior will address selected municipalities through the Board of Municipal Police Directors of statutory cities and the capital city of Prague with an offer to check new applicants for positions of constables by means of police databases.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*  
**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.*

## **2.5 To Proceed Effectively and Fairly against Violence**

### **2.5.1 Public Order and Riot Police**

Police experts recommend for managing extremist events the use of new trends in police work, in particular low-profile policing which means using police during public events only in a number and with such equipment that their presence does not create negative reactions and does not demonstrate a preparedness for clashes (interventions). A



“3D” strategy is derived from three words: Discussion – communication, De-escalation - to calm down the crowd, and Determination – a decisive intervention.

- The Czech police will endeavour to use-low profile policing and the 3D strategy when managing extremist events. This involves mainly the effective and safe utilisation of Anti-Conflict Teams. Members of Anti-Conflict Teams will be appropriately trained and a pan-European meeting concerning new trends in police work will be called.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior.*

**Deadline:** *on an ongoing basis.*

- The Czech police will ensure that the newly established Special Riot Police Corps are successfully promoted.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.*

## **2.5.2 Communication with Court Experts**

- The Czech police will develop a manual describing the correct requirements for cooperation with experts on extremism. The manual will be distributed during training courses for specialists for extremism and will be placed on the police intranet.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior*

**Deadline:** *30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.*

- In the majority of cases the police will use during extremist assemblies the services of specialists to be able to assess the situation. Experts and consultants will be used only in complicated cases.

**Responsible party:** *the Ministry of the Interior.*

**Deadline:** *on an ongoing basis.*

# **Chief Activities Carried Out by the Government of the Czech Republic, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Minister for Human Rights**

## **1. The Government of the Czech Republic**

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

#### **1.1.1 Programme Statement of the Government**

The Government in its Programme Statement, namely in the chapter “Defence, Internal Security, Public Administration and Justice,” included extremism as among its priorities. The Programme Statement reads: “The Government considers as being particularly important an uncompromising stance on all forms of extremism and the consistent pursuit of attempts to break the law by followers of anti-democratic ideologies, and the government will therefore again assess the option of proposing a ban on certain extremist political groups.”<sup>1</sup>

#### **1.1.2 The Act on the General Inspectorate of Security Corps**

By its Resolution No. 325 of 23 March 2009 the Government of the Czech Republic approved the draft Act on the General Inspectorate of the Security Corps which establishes the General Inspectorate as an independent security unit whose members are employed under Act No. 361/2003 Coll., on the service of members of security forces, as amended. The objective of the General Inspectorate is to create a system absolutely independent from other security corps in terms of personnel in order to be able to effectively prosecute criminal offences committed by officers and civil employees of the Czech police, the Customs Administration, the Prison Service, and within the General Inspectorate itself.

#### **1.1.3 The Proposal of the Government of the Czech Republic to Dissolve the Workers’ Party**

On 16 September 2009 the Government of the Czech Republic adopted Resolution No. 1211 on the Government Proposal for the Supreme Administrative Court on Dissolution of the Workers’ Party. The Supreme Administrative Court received the Government Proposal on Dissolution of the Workers’ Party on 23 September 2009. It was the second proposal for dissolution of the aforementioned entity – the first one filed by the previous Government had been rejected by the Supreme Administrative Court.

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/jednani-vlady/programove-prohlaseni/programove-prohlaseni-vlady-cr-58369> The Programme Statement of the Government of the Czech Republic (1 June 2009).

## **1.2 Human Rights**

### **1.2.1 Professional Background**

#### **1.2.1.1 Declaration of Constitutional Officials**

The Minister (of the Government) for Human Rights initiated, as a significant activity in the area of combating racism, an agreement by constitutional officials with regard to joint attitudes toward right-wing extremism. Politicians undertook not to abuse populist topics in their election campaigns and to support activities aimed at suppressing racist and extremist attitudes. The agreement was signed by all chairs of parties represented in the Chamber of Deputies, the chairs of both Chambers of the Parliament, all members of the government, former president Vaclav Havel, Ombudsman Otakar Motejl, and the majority of deputies and senators.

#### **1.2.1.2 SOPPRAN**

The Permanent Professional Panel against Racism and Violence (Stálý odborný panel proti rasismu a násilí = SOPPRAN) chaired by the Minister for Human Rights, met regularly. Their members are, in addition to Vaclav Havel and ombudsman Otakar Motejl, experts on human rights who operate independently. There were also members of the Constitutional Court (Eliska Wagnerova) on the panel, as well as scientists dealing with politics (Jacques Rupnik), intellectuals from among churches (Jakub Trojan), and members of international control bodies involved in human rights (Anna Sabatová, a member of the Committee against Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment of the Council of Europe). The panel functioned as an advisory body to the Minister for Human Rights with the aim of discussing actual topics pertaining to the area of human rights and tolerance and seeking understandable and widely respected formulations when enforcing them.

#### **1.2.1.3 Ad hoc Group**

The Minister for Human Rights, Michael Kocáb, set up a working group for solving major emergency situations, the aim of the group being to appropriately respond, and operatively as well as flexibly solve crisis situations concerning the coexistence of minorities, in particular the coexistence of Roma, with the majority society.

The Ad hoc group consists of experts on extremism in the Czech Republic and abroad, lawyers, journalist dealing with social problems, social workers, employees of the Ministry of the Interior, and others. The Minister summoned this group on a needs basis when it was necessary to react to a certain event while individual members of the group are prepared to act actively (for example with local government), *inter alia*, to negotiate measures dealing with extremist rallies, and consequences arising from extremist conduct, for example arson, etc.

The Ad hoc group met most often when activities of the Workers' Party and neo-Nazi groups intensified.

### **1.2.2 Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities**

The Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities actively worked against the influence of extremism on processes of inclusion in Roma localities. In towns where this Agency operates it offers consultancy services to municipality managements which most frequently concern the right of assembly, the support of measures aimed at alleviating the impact of activities of extremists on inhabitants of excluded localities, and expert assessments of events held by extremists.

### **1.2.2.1 Cooperation of Municipalities with the Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities**

Extremist events organised in the course of 2009 had a substantial influence on the situation in excluded localities in towns where the Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities is present. In particular, the feeling of the inhabitants of excluded localities of being endangered increased, and these were the people on whom extremists focused their acts of hate. The social climate considerably deteriorated in such cities as some members of the majority society identified themselves with manifestations of extremism and consequently this had a negative impact on pro-integration measures because their social and political support declined. Therefore, before each reported extremist event in the city, where the Agency was established, the Agency contacted the City Council with a structured offer of assistance prior to, during and after the end of the event.

Such offers were standardised and had the following structure:

1. training of municipal officials authorised to receive reports on demonstrations, to decide on whether they should be allowed and to monitor their legal course;
2. legal consultancy prior to, during and after certain events, and support to ensure adequate legal representation of the City Council and its members in the case of a trial;
3. coordination or at least support for coordinating an anti-conflict team operating prior to, during and after certain events - not on the spot where the monitored rally was held but in the socially excluded Roma locality (the team was composed of street workers with the support of local recognised representatives with a thorough knowledge of the locality and good contact with its inhabitants) with the anti-conflict team of the Czech police, the municipal police and the City Council.

The above-described offer was accepted by Prerov (April 2009) and Jihlava (June 2009).

### **1.2.2.2 Manual for Municipalities**

The Minister for Human Rights coordinated development of the “**Guidelines for Social Integration**” drawn up by the Agency for Social Inclusion in Roma Localities in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior and the People in Need organisation. The guidelines are also intended to assist local governments when preventing and eliminating social exclusion. They also describe principles and important components of such policy. The Guidelines are brief and concise and linked to the web pages of the Agency which encompass more detailed information on some topics (such as accommodation, employment, social services, education, security and so forth) as well as references to other sources.

## **1.2.3 Government Council for Human Rights**

The Council monitors whether the Constitution of the Czech Republic, the Charter of Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms and other legal standards regulating the protection of and respect for fundamental human rights and freedoms are adhered to. The Council further monitors how international obligations of the Czech Republic in the area of the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms are met at the national level. It draws up, on an annual basis, a Report on Human Rights in the Czech Republic in which extremism is also mentioned.

It cooperates with the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) through a liaison for FRA. The FRA issues every year the Annual Report on Fundamental Rights including the situation in individual EU Member States. The draft report concerning racism and xenophobia is regularly distributed to liaisons for their comments in terms of “factual errors”. Comments on the 2009 draft report were sent by the Czech Republic to the FRA in December 2009. Liaisons may twice a year, at regular meetings, express their opinion on the reports issued by the FRA and are provided information on the plan of activities to be carried out by the FRA.

## **1.2.4 Further Significant Activities of the Minister of the Government for Human Rights**

### **1.2.4.1 Participation of the Minister for Human Rights, Michael Kocab, at extremist events in 2009**

The Minister for Human Rights, Michael Kocab, contributed to a large extent to calming down the course of a range of extremist actions focused against members of ethnic minorities. He was personally involved in organising anti-extremist activities either before the event itself, during its course, or after it was over. He cooperated with councils of those cities where extremist rallies were held and he regularly kept the general public informed.

In order to ensure coordinated and efficient procedure the Minister for Human Rights set up a working group for solving crisis situations the aim of which is to appropriately respond, and operatively as well as flexibly solve crisis situations concerning the coexistence of minorities, in particular the coexistence of Roma, with the majority society. The Ad hoc group chaired by Minister Kocab himself dealt with issues of the coordinated approach of experts, in particular, toward the events described in the following paragraph.

Minister Kocab personally attended different events organised by extremists. The following should be mentioned: a march by the Workers' Party and the Autonomous Nationalists in Prerov (4 April 2009); a meeting of the Workers' Party held in Prerov (16 May 2009); a march organised by a local cell of the Autonomous Nationalists in Usti nad Labem (18 April 2009); a meeting to celebrate the establishment of the local organisation of the Workers' Party in Krupka, in the district of Teplice (24 April 2009), and an assembly officially called "Honouring the Memory of Victims of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War" in Jihlava (6 June 2009).

### **1.2.4.2 Activities of the Minister for Human Rights concerning Design and Arrangement of Memorials in Lety u Písku and in Hodonín u Kunstatu**

On 4 May 2009 the Government adopted Resolution No. 589 with the aim of creating dignified conditions in order to ensure the memory of victims of the Holocaust at the place of former concentration camps in Lety u Písku and Hodonín u Kunstatu, including the design and arrangement of memorials and designation of a manager who will permanently take care of these places. In order to efficiently meet the objectives of the aforementioned Resolution, responsibilities were divided. The Ministry of Culture, through the Lidice Memorial organisation receiving contributions from the state budget, was assigned the task of arranging the memorial in Lety u Písku, while the memorial in Hodonín u Kunstatu was designated to be designed and arranged by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, which is fully responsible for the organisation and legal arrangements so that they best comply with the scope of competence of the MEYS. The Government agreed to allocate funds for arrangement of the memorial in Lety u Písku, to purchase the Zalov recreational centre in Hodonín u Kunstatu, and to reconstruct this recreational facility turning it into an international centre dealing with the Roma holocaust. The Minister for Human Rights committed to play the role of a coordinator responsible for the above-mentioned Resolution.

From June 2009 the Deputy Ministers of Finance, of Education, Youth and Sports, of Culture, and for Human Rights have been called to meet once a month under the auspices of the Minister for Human Rights. The meetings were attended also by the Heads of the South Bohemian and South Moravian Regions, the Director of the Lidice Memorial, and the Director of the Museum of Roma Culture. Such meetings were organised with a view to coordinating the above-mentioned Resolution. In addition, the Minister for Human Rights participated in many meetings with other ministers, namely the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports and the Minister of Culture, at which they tried to cope with the respective problems arising from the Resolution. Due to this approach of coordination and inter-ministerial communication a number of details which were not tackled by the Resolution have been solved.

#### **1.2.4.3 Criminal Complaint for Contracting Authorities for Racist Election Film**

On 28 May 2009 Mr. Kocab along with his Deputy, Mr. Czeslawe Walk, filed a criminal complaint against Ms. Petra Edelmannova, Ph.D and other unknown offenders who requested creating a short film showcasing the National Party as part of its election campaign for the European Parliament elections and for further dissemination. This film, *inter alia*, called for “a final solution of the Gypsy issue”.

According to the complainants, several criminal offences were committed: violence against a group of people and an individual under Sec.196 (1) and (2) of the Criminal Code, defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or conviction under Sec. 198 (1) (b) and (2), inciting hate against a group of persons or restriction of their rights and freedoms under Sec. 198a (1) and (3) (a), and support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Sec. 260 (1) and (2) (a) and (b). According to information obtained from the public prosecutor’s office for Prague 4, one person who created the film was charged on the basis of this criminal complaint.

#### **1.2.4.4 Intervention of Michael Kocab regarding an Arson Attack against a Family in the North Moravian Village of Vitkov**

Minister Michael Kocab was personally involved in the rehabilitation of victims of an arson attack which was committed on 18 April 2009 in the small town of Vitkov, near Opava. He repeatedly contacted the victims, including the injured child Natalka who suffered serious burns, and visited them personally. He helped, as a publicly recognised person, with public presentation of the case, negotiated with the Municipal Council, including the mayor, and assisted with the organisation of a public collection for the injured.

On 22 April 2009 Minister Kocab publicly asked the President of the Czech Republic, Mr. Vaclav Klaus, for a pardon for Pavel Kudrik, the father of heavily burnt Natalka. On 23 April 2009 President Klaus terminated the sentence of imprisonment for Mr. Kudrik. After that Minister Kocab actively contributed to solving the issue of finding accommodation for the family of Sivak and Kudrik, and twice visited the scene of the tragedy. Eventually, Mr. Kudrik received a presidential pardon on the occasion of the Day for the Fight for Freedom and Democracy on 16 November 2009.

#### **1.2.4.5 “Uninvited Guests” – a Brochure**

In 2009 the brochure entitled “Uninvited Guests” was supported, along with other projects, within the Campaign Against Racism implemented by the Office of the Government Minister for Human Rights. The brochure was created in cooperation with NGOs People in Need, Tolerance, and the civic societies In IUSTITIA, o. s., Romea, o. s. and Czech-German Fund for the Future. The brochure aims to describe the extremist and neo-Nazi scenes, lessons learned from their assemblies and other events, and describes options for coping with activities of extremist movements. The objective is to note the risks related to racism, extremism and general propagation of hate against some groups and to show that the best tool against extremism is strength and unity of civil society. The brochure was distributed to regional and municipal authorities and is available on the internet.

## 2. The Ministry of the Interior

Combating extremism has become a priority of the Government of the Czech Republic and of all security forces. The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic is, within its scope of competences, an umbrella organisation for the issue in question and in doing so it cooperates not only with security forces but also with other ministries and state bodies which are involved in individual aspects of the fight against extremism. The Ministry considers cooperation with the non-governmental sector to be beneficial.

The Security Policy Department, namely the Unit of Security Threats and Crisis Management, has all-round responsibility within the Ministry of the Interior for the issue of extremism. In 2008 the Security Policy Department began to formulate the Strategy on Combating Extremism, a document which was submitted by the Minister of the Interior to the Government in 2009. The Government adopted on 4 May 2009 Resolution No. 579 concerning this key document. On 1 June 2009 the Task Force of the Minister of the Interior for Combating Extremism was established as an umbrella organisation at top management level. As a follow up to this Task Force, working groups of Task Force A (a police and intelligence), B (legal) and C (cooperation between the Ministry of the Interior, the Czech police, partner ministries and the non-governmental sector) were formed. These working groups, whose activities fall under the responsibility of the Security Policy Department, represent a platform for consistently combating extremism and implementing the Strategy.

### 2.1 The Issue of Extremism in the Prevention System of the Ministry of the Interior

#### 2.1.1 Crime Prevention Programme

##### Crime Prevention Programme

The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for the activities of an inter-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 culmination of other pathological social phenomena. The essential conceptual document for state prevention policy in the field of crime is the ‘**Crime Prevention Strategy for 2008 - 2001**’ (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Strategy’), approved by Government Resolution No. 1150 of 15 October 2007.

The Strategy priorities 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; or inhabitants residing in socially excluded localities),
- criminal offences and delinquent conduct related to radicalisation of spectator sport violence; crimes motivated by racial, nationalist or religious hatred, and unlawful conduct in socially excluded localities.

**In the framework of the Strategy the system of prevention was newly divided into three levels: republic, regional, and local.** Within regional and local (municipal) levels the Strategy for Crime Prevention in Regions<sup>2</sup> and the Strategy for Crime Prevention in

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<sup>2</sup> All 13 regions and the capital city of Prague developed their Strategies.

Municipalities<sup>3</sup> were created. These strategies cover the years between 2009 and 2011. The following priorities are among many others included in regional and local strategies: the prevention of racism and xenophobia, the inclusion of socially and otherwise excluded people, and combating extremism. Since the priorities of individual strategies are met every year the Crime Prevention Programme consists of individual, specific projects aimed at crime prevention. The objective of these projects is to eliminate or to at least mitigate social exclusion of Roma communities as such exclusion can lead to increased threats of racism and extremist attitudes. Projects focus primarily on children and young people whose system of values and habits is open to positive change. **In 2009 in total 22 preventive projects<sup>4</sup> were supported and these were subsidised by the amount of CZK 3,398,000.** The condition upon which projects were supported was that of co-financing by a municipality and the active participation of a target group in their implementation.

### **The Project “Dawn”**

In 2009 a pilot project of extremism prevention entitled “**Dawn**” was implemented within the Crime Prevention Programme. The project focused on improving the situation in one socially excluded locality. The locality, and in particular some of its problematic inhabitants, has experienced negative attitudes on the part of the general public and there has been doubt as to whether the state, regional and local authorities or the police are able to cope with it. Extremist political parties and movements make use of the situation as a means of enhancing their visibility in mass media. They assume that populist promises of a rapid solution to the situation in these localities will ensure the support of the general public for them and their entrance onto the legal political scene. The Dawn project was implemented in the Most city borough of Chanov and until now it can be evaluated as very successful. It consists of several partial projects such as protection of public order and security, the cleaning of public places, motivating technical reconstruction of one block of flats, and improving the climate in the local school. Teaching methods introduced, which might be compared with the Komensky work “Schola Ludus,” are used for pupils at the elementary level of basic school and children who are preparing for compulsory school attendance. The primary aim is that children look forward to school attendance and have the feeling of beginning successfully, and that those who possess appropriate skills can successfully enrol to secondary schools. A further project which was implemented under the title “A Roma Mentor” concentrates on the execution of alternative sentences of community work and social work with families of convicts. This project functions under the management of the Probation and Medication Service and the Association for Probation and Mediation in Justice, also in other cities, and so far it has been very successful. Two training courses were supported within the Dawn project. The first, designated for police officers and constables of the municipal police, focused on the specificities of police work in socially excluded localities, whilst the second dealt with indebtedness and financial literacy. This course was attended by social workers, representatives of NGOs and constables of the municipal police. The Dawn project has covered, within the past month, almost ten people, the vast majority of whom live in Chanov. However, the project affected also police officers, constables of the municipal police, social workers, teachers, and so forth<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Towns with a population exceeding 25,000 inhabitants drew up Crime Prevention Strategies and were included in the municipal level of crime prevention until 2011. There are in total 45 towns.

<sup>4</sup> The following cities implemented the Strategy: Brno, Česká Třebová, Kladno, Litoměřice, Litvínov, Most, Neratovice, Olomouc, Orlova, Pilsen, Trnava, and Zatec.

<sup>5</sup> More details on the Dawn project are to be found at [www.mvcr.cz/clanek/programy/-prevenue-kriminality-asp](http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/programy/-prevenue-kriminality-asp)



*In 2010 the Dawn project will continue in Most, and it is assumed that it will be extended to other cities of the Czech Republic. At the same time guidelines for implementing projects concerning elements of crime prevention, extremism prevention and integration of socially excluded people will be developed.*

## **Cooperation**

Cooperation of the Ministry of the Interior with coordinators of Roma advisors at regional authorities continued in the framework of the “**Work of the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs in the Area of Home Affairs and the Czech Police**”. Cooperation concentrated on formulating prerequisites for the development of the extremism prevention project, social exclusion and social integration of excluded groups of inhabitants, including Roma. The result of the activities of the group was the selection of several localities where the pilot extremism prevention project should be implemented. The project is to be primarily implemented by the Ministry of the Interior, regional and local authorities and local NGOs, with the active involvement of the local population. As a consequence, the aforementioned Dawn project was implemented in the second half of 2009.

## **Inter-ministerial Crime Prevention Programme**

The Inter-ministerial Crime Prevention Programme is a tool which enables entities and units of the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police to implement activities in the form of projects which, as a rule, will last for a year. The amount of CZK 3,000,000 was earmarked for this programme. One of the priorities of the programme is “prevention of crimes having racist and extremist subtext and prevention of xenophobia”. Unfortunately, of 29 subsidised projects none aimed at preventing extremism. The priority as well as the subsidy amount will remain unchanged in 2010.

## **Crime Prevention Activities in Mass Media**

The Ministry of the Interior communicates with the general public, *inter alia*, by means of ministerial journals **Policista (Policeman)** and **Kriminalistika (Forensic Criminal Sciences)**, and a regular journal of the Crime Prevention Department - **Informační servis prevence kriminality (Crime Prevention Information Service)**, as well as through web pages, press releases and the distribution of informative and educative leaflets and booklets.

In 2009 information on the topics of extremism, terrorism, racism, xenophobia and spectator violence was provided. In total ten articles and other contributions were published.

In order to meet the priorities of the government as well as of the Ministry of the Interior in the area of combating extremism, in the field of improving information provided to the general public and removing prejudice against members of national and ethnic minorities, 500 DVDs with the film documentary “**Colourful Success**” were issued. The film was created as a supplement to the research “Causes of Success of Roma in Czech Society” which was requested in 2007 by the Ministry of the Interior with the consent of the Republic Committee. The research was implemented by the civic society Socioklub. The film<sup>6</sup> depicts the important life moments of several Roma which positively affected their professional careers and integration. The DVDs were distributed among members of the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention and the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs. It will be further used for police officers working in the area of crime prevention,

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<sup>6</sup> The film can be seen on the internet [www.mvcr.cz/clanek/programy/-prevence-kriminality.aspx](http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/programy/-prevence-kriminality.aspx)

representatives of regional and local authorities, and teachers of Secondary Police Schools of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.

## 2.1.2 Education and Training

Police colleges and training facilities of the Ministry of the Interior focus mainly on basic professional preparation of police officers, on education provided by police colleges within the education field ‘Security and Legal Activities,’ and on implementation of specialised programmes and other programmes of life-long learning.

The issues of extremism continue to be part of training programmes provided by police schools of the Ministry of the Interior and by police training centres maintained by individual regional police administrations, and are also reflected in other training courses. Individual training modules pay attention to the content of extremism, its categories, manifestations and the extent of their danger. Class instruction also includes discussions - participants attend exhibitions and take part in other similar events. Extremism is taught and lectured in specialised courses by renowned experts who are directly involved in combating extremism, which means that the content is continuously updated by the latest findings from the area of extremism both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

The Centre for Education towards Human Rights also devotes appreciable attention to extremism. The same applies to the Police Academy which organises on an annual basis thematic training courses.

## 2.1.3 Integration of Foreign Nationals

### 2.1.3.1 Integration Coordination

Implementation of the policy of integration of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic on the basis of a Resolution every year approved by the Czech Government – in 2009 this was Government Resolution No. 183 of 16 February 2009 concerning the Report on the Implementation of the Strategy of Integration of Foreign Nationals in 2008. The Report describes, *inter alia*, the procedure to be used in 2009. The target group for integration comprises of third country nationals legally residing in the Czech Republic. The main priorities of integration of foreign nationals are knowledge of the Czech language by foreigners, economic self-sufficiency of foreign nationals, orientation of foreigners in Czech society, and mutual relations between foreign nationals and the majority society.

The 2009 integration policy responded to changes in the issue of foreigners. The economic crises led to the occurrence of new integration and social problems related to the risks of social exclusion of some groups of foreign nationals, especially in regions with a high concentration of foreign nationals or localities where culturally different groups of foreigners live together. The integration policy reacted to **changes in the migration situation** through systematic monitoring and evaluating of the situation and the position of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic, through intensive integration measures in places with high concentrations of foreign nationals, through cooperation with regional and local authorities, and through extending the spectrum of entities supporting integration, their mutual collaboration and experience-sharing. Measures aiming at increasing the effectiveness of integration as well as the scope of information concerning foreign nationals and information for foreign nationals were strengthened. At the same time the target group of integration measures was extended. Therefore integration measures are addressed not only toward foreigners legally residing in the Czech Republic for a period of longer than one year but also to newly arriving third-country nationals. Integration policy considerably focused on the integration of immigrant children and young people.

### 2.1.3.2 Centres to Support the Integration of Foreign Nationals

The Ministry of the Interior is the body responsible for the European Fund for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals. Currently a multi-annual programme covering the period of 2007 – 2013 is being implemented in the form of individual annual programmes which are subject to the approval of the European Commission. In 2009 the “Establishment and Operation of Centres to Support the Integration of Foreign Nationals” (**Integration Centres**) was of key importance. From September 2009 Integration Centres in the first six regions (the Pilsen, Pardubice, South Moravian, Usti, Moravian-Silesian and Zlin Regions) launched their activities. For 2010, projects for Integration Centres in the South Bohemian, Liberec, Karlovy Vary and Olomouc regions) were approved. Such centres will be gradually set up in all regions of the Czech Republic and will become a tool of one of the principal objectives of integration policy – implementation of integration policy at regional level. The objective of Integration Centres is cooperation with regions so that foreign nationals receive advisory services and can attend training courses. Regions can now develop preventive activities: the situation is permanently monitored and civil society is supported. Further it is important to build a regional consultancy platform for integration. The Ministry of the Interior has developed a training module for staff of the said centres and ensured that they are trained. For this purpose a manual has been drawn up.

### 2.1.3.3 Projects

In order to cope with crisis situations in certain cities with a high concentration of foreign nationals where there has been an unexpected increase in the number of foreign nationals which then led to a growth in the number of unemployed foreigners, insufficient infrastructure capacity and other accompanying phenomena leading to an increase in tension between foreigners and other inhabitants of such cities, so called **emergent projects** were applied. The projects focused on integration of whole families, in particular women, children and young people, with an emphasis placed on the prevention of closed communities forming. The projects also provided comprehensive integration measures to solve the situation in the said cities. In the course of 2009 emergent projects were carried out in Pilsen, Havlickuv Brod, Pardubice, and in Prague 14, Prague 12 and Prague 4 - Libus. The aim of the projects was the prevention of xenophobia as well as the enhancement of co-existence between foreign nationals and the majority society. Under the auspices of the Ministry of the Interior the first conference in the Czech Republic concerning integration at the local level was held in Pilsen in September. Its official title was the **Conference of Statutory Cities Solving the Integration of Foreign Nationals at the Level of Local Authorities**.

### 2.1.3.4 Examinations in the Czech Language

An amendment to Act No. 326/1999 on the Residence of Foreign Nationals stipulates, *inter alia*, that it is necessary to prove knowledge of the Czech language as one of the conditions for granting permanent residence to foreign nationals (this amendment does not apply to EU citizens, their family members, or some other persons under this Act). The amendment came into effect on 1 January 2009. Foreign nationals can take exams at the corresponding level (A 1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) at more than 50 locations across the Czech Republic. Costs for the examination are covered by the state budget through vouchers issued by the Ministry of the Interior. In 2009 the Ministry of the Interior issued to foreigners in total 4,673 vouchers for a free **examination in the Czech language for the purpose of applications for permanent residence** in the Czech Republic. The MEYS established and operates a special web page

relating to this examination at: [www.cestina-pro-cizince.cz](http://www.cestina-pro-cizince.cz) as well as a free information telephone line.

### **2.1.3.5 Information Provided to Foreign Nationals**

In order to enhance the provision of information to foreign nationals the Ministry of the Interior updated and distributed two information publications in six languages (Czech, English, Russian, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, and Mongolian): “Information Publication for Foreign Nationals” and “Information for Foreign Nationals Permanently Residing in the Czech Republic”. “The Information Manual for Foreign Nationals on Long-Term Visas and Long-Term Residence Permits (with a special focus on residence permits for labour purposes)” was published in five languages.

The web page [www.cizinci.cz](http://www.cizinci.cz) encompassing information on the integration of foreigners, designated for civil servants, self-government officials, NGOs and the general public, is updated on an ongoing basis. The same applies to the Czech web pages [www.integration.eu](http://www.integration.eu).

### **2.1.3.6 International Cooperation**

In 2009 cooperation between National Contact Points on Integration and the expert working group of the European Commission, established in 2002 under Council decisions, continued. In addition to other activities, an extraordinary seminar on setting indicators for integration at the EU level was organised. At the end of the conference held in Malmö from 14 to 16 December 2009 a fundamental document containing the first proposed indicators was adopted. The discussion on integration indicators continues in 2010 and will be one of the topics of the ministerial conference in Zaragoza in April 2010.

### **2.1.3.7 Preventive and Educational Events**

In 2009 the Ministry of the Interior (the Department for Asylum and Migration Policy) paid special attention to the issue of communities of foreigners in the Czech Republic as potential targets of extremist activities.

In the reviewed year expectations of more intensive activities by extremists against communities of foreigners residing in the Czech Republic, based on indications of increasing social tension caused by the low productivity of the Czech economy and related unemployed, were not in fact realised, however efforts were nonetheless made and resources allocated for preventive and educational events. Their aim was to launch a discussion between stakeholders about relating issues, acquiring analytical findings for further procedure, and informing the general public on the positive impact of the active sharing of foreign nationals in the life in the Czech Republic and on the risks and possible negative consequences of operations of extremist groups against communities of foreign nationals living in the Czech Republic. In this context several workshops were organised.

#### ***Workshops focused on prevention of extremist campaigns against foreign nationals residing in the Czech Republic held on 22 and 23 June 2009***

The project was implemented by Gabal Analysis & Consulting in cooperation with the Department for Asylum and Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic with the aim of formulating particularly necessary strategies of integration of foreign nationals, both into Czech society in general, and in towns and villages where they will be, as part of the community, a less isolated or even excluded group and the Czech public will be less inclined to perceive foreigners as heterogeneous, and thus society will be more resistant to the populist calls of extremists. Workshops were managed as closed moderated debates between experts having different focuses and backgrounds. The debate aimed to map

out possibilities for optimising proposals for further procedures.

The final report, “Risk Prevention of Extremist Campaigns against Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic”, which includes specific recommendations, was drawn up on the basis of workshop results. The report will not be published and will serve exclusively for the needs of the Ministry of the Interior.

#### ***Workshop “Foreigners in the Czech Republic, a Burden or an Additional Engine for Our Development?” held on 12 December 2009***

The aim of the project, co-organised by Gabal Analysis & Consulting, the Faculty of Humanity Studies of Charles University, and the Department for Asylum and Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, was to involve relevant actors in the discussion on the position and role of foreigners in the Czech Republic with the particular intention of encouraging a debate in the factual situation and evaluating positive information on the sharing and role of foreigners in the nation’s development (development dynamics, main economic and social areas in which foreigners are involved).

#### ***Project “Prevention of Extremism in Basic Schools” (September 2009 – December 2009)***

This project, implemented by the Organisation for Refugee Assistance (Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům, o.s.), focused on educational activities in basic schools with an emphasis put on prevention of extremism. Ten basic schools in Most, Litvinov and in neighbouring villages were involved in the project, within which discussions with pupils were conducted. Terms concerning the issue of extremism were explained in these discussions, pupils were informed about the ideologies of extremist groups, about extremist groups operating in the Czech Republic, and had the aims/requirements of extremists explained to them. The issue of extremism was highlighted in the context of specific areas and there was a special focus on foreign nationals and attitudes of extremist groups towards their residence in the Czech Republic. Localities were selected according to how they are affected by socio-pathological phenomena and extremist activities.

The project was evaluated as successful and the Department for Asylum and Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior is considering its further implementation in other areas of the Czech Republic which feature large communities of foreign nationals.

### **2.1.4 Media Activities**

Documents on the issue in question were regularly published on the web pages of the Ministry of the Interior in the section called “Bezpečnost a prevence” (Security and Prevention) at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnost-a-prevence-bezpecnostni-hrozby.aspx?q-Y2hudW09NA%3d%3d>. Through the banner “Boj proti extremismu” (“Combating Extremism”) on the home page of the Ministry of the Interior the general public as well as the mass media can quickly obtain information concerning the issue of extremism.

In 2009 officials of public relations regularly answered questions of journalists and citizens concerning events pertaining to the area of extremism, migration and asylum policy and other activities relating to the fight against xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism. Particular questions concerned mainly different extremist assemblies, information on the Act on the Right to Assemble, the Act on the Right of Association, and related problems concerning the registration of political parties, movements and civic associations. The most

frequent questions concerned information about the issue of the issue of spectator violence and the proposal of the Minister of the Interior to dissolve the Workers' Party.<sup>7</sup>

In February 2009 an information campaign relating to new security rules in football stadiums was prepared. This campaign was carried out on the internet through the websites iDNES.cz, Aktualne.cz and Sport.cz.

In June 2009 a Manual for Municipalities on the Act on the Right to Assemble was issued and published also on the web pages of the Ministry of the Interior. The manual is updated on an ongoing basis.<sup>8</sup> The objective of this information manual is to provide municipalities with basic information on the legal regulation of the right to assemble in the Czech Republic and on ensuring public order during different, not only extremist, assemblies in the Czech Republic.

Media were monitored on an ongoing basis to register articles published in selected foremost Czech media, both paper and electronic, and writing about the Ministry of the Interior and the issue of extremism. Press releases were published as a response to actual events concerning extremism and press conferences of the Ministry also responded to extremist events.

The Ministry of the Interior communicated with the general public also through the ministerial journals **Policista (Police Officer)** and **Kriminalistika (Forensic Criminal Sciences)**, as well as a periodical of the Crime Prevention Department **Informační servis prevence kriminality (Information Service of Crime Prevention)** and by distributing informative leaflets.<sup>9</sup>

### 2.1.5 The Issue of Spectator Violence

The Ministry of the Interior decided to solve the issue of spectator violence separately as it does not fully correspond with the issue of extremism, although some common points can be found.

As violent manifestations during sports matches were on the rise and public order was considerably disrupted it was decided to draw up a comprehensive strategy for combating spectator violence, thereby this issue is now solved separately from other problems relating to extremism. The Czech Government adopted on 23 July 2008 Resolution No. 912 by which the Government approved a conceptual document of the Ministry of the Interior called "Draft Proposals for Solving the Issue of Spectator Violence". This document defined the basic problems and proposed solutions which effectively help combat this negative phenomenon.

At the same time the foundation for a new approach toward liability for security and order during sports events was laid in order to enhance cooperation of all entities involved in combating spectator violence. The main feature was that the police should not be the only responsible party for solving such but other entities, in particular sports clubs and organisers of sporting events, should realise their part of responsibility.

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<sup>7</sup> Frequently asked questions of the mass media were as follows: When will a proposal for dissolution of the Workers' Party be lodged? Will organisations which have been monitoring extremism for a long time also be invited? Is the Ministry preparing the proposal for the ban of the National Party? Does the Ministry of the Interior consider the Autonomous Nationalists to be neo-Nazis? What are the options for any municipal council to ban an assembly and should the act be changed? Would it be appropriate to establish an anti-extremist unit with a republic-wide scope of competence? Does the Ministry want to support the improvement of training of police officers who deal with this issue? Is the Ministry preparing an education programme for officers of the criminal police?

<sup>8</sup> See <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-manual-pro-obce-k-zakonu-o-pravu-shromazdovacim.aspx>

<sup>9</sup> See sub-chapter I.1.1 Crime Prevention Programme. Activities of the Mass Media in the Area of Crime Prevention.

This new concept for combating spectator violence is built on an equal approach where rules, obligations and responsibilities are clearly defined. The strategy for combating spectator violence is based on the principle that clubs themselves should have a main interest in and responsibility for solving the problems of spectator violence. This approach was included in legislation, namely in the Act on Supporting Sport (which came into effect on 1 January 2009). The Act newly defined obligations which must be observed when organising sports matches.

## **2.2 Working Groups**

### **2.2.1 Task Force of the Ministry of the Interior**

**The Minister of the Interior issued on 1 June 2009 Instruction No. 41** establishing the “**Task Force of the Minister of the Interior for Combating Extremism**”. The Task Force is an umbrella unit at the top management level, managed by the First Deputy Minister of the Interior. Its members are the Deputy Minister of the Interior for Internal Security, the Police President and his Deputies, the Director of the Czech Police Inspectorate, and the Director of the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior. Directors of intelligence services can also be invited to participate. The first meeting of the Task Force was held on 1 June 2009 with the participation of all top members, who agreed to set up three working groups: Task Force A, B and C, with each focusing on a different topic.

#### **2.2.1.1 Task Force A, B and C<sup>10</sup>**

As a follow up to the establishment of the Task Force of the Minister of the Interior for Combating Extremism, three working groups were set up: Task Force A (police intelligence) B (legal) and C (cooperation with partner ministries and NGOs). These working groups represent a platform for consistently combating extremism and implementing the policy for Combating Extremism.

The first meeting of Force A, dealing with security topics relating to the work of the Ministry of the Interior, the Czech police and cooperation between the Czech police and intelligence services, was held on 5 June 2009. The next meeting was held on 17 July 2009. The first meeting of Task Force B, dealing with the legal aspects of the fight against extremism, was held on 10 July 2009, which was followed by the first meeting of Task Force C on 12 July 2009. This Working Group met again on 5 August 2009. These meetings were followed up with further discussions accompanied by a range of partial debates concerning individual issues requiring solutions. For example, one concept of measures aiming at uncovering extremists who might try to infiltrate security corps was prepared in close cooperation between police units. Training courses for police management and specialists for extremism were organised regularly and contacts with regional authorities in the context of the right of assembly were maintained. Further, a detailed proposal for a survey to map out attitudes of the general public in the Czech Republic toward right-wing extremist, racist and xenophobic ideas and their disseminators with regard to the integration of minorities and foreign nationals was prepared. The survey will be carried out in 2010. Its results should contribute to the formulation of precisely targeted preventive measures in the given area.

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<sup>10</sup> A more detailed evaluation of the results of Working Groups of Task Force A, B and C, including the specific agenda of their meetings, is incorporated in Part II of the Strategy - Evaluation of How Policy for Combating Extremism Is Being Implemented, since tasks of individual Task Force Working Groups and their discussions were primarily aimed at meeting objectives encompassed in the above-mentioned Policy.

## **2.3 Covering the Issue of Extremism within the Czech Police**

In 2009 Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 110 of 20 August 2009 on activities relating to extremism, religious sects and spectator violence came into effect. Binding Instruction of the Police President No. 100/2002 regulating activities of members of the Czech police in the field of combating extremism was revoked. The Police President approved on 13 October 2009 the “Strategy of the police of the Czech Republic for Combating Extremism” focusing on organisation, technical equipment, guidance and guidelines, analyses, criminal proceedings, and training.

The department of General Crime of the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium has nationwide responsibility for the issue of extremism. It deals with this issue at the republic-wide level, provides guidance and coordinates the activities of police specialists dealing with extremism at the level of Regional Police Directorates. The Department of Terrorism and Extremism of the Unit for Combating Organised Crime searches for, monitors, elaborates, examines and investigates cases of organised criminal activities relating to extremism, cases which are substantially beyond the scope of competence of Regional Police Directorates, or cases displaying international elements or elements of terrorism. It further meets tasks in the field of international cooperation arising from the membership of the Czech Republic in the European Union and other international organisations or from international agreements which the Czech Republic is bound by.

Eight working groups for combating extremism were set up within individual Regional Police Directorates (from 1 January 2010 - 14 working groups).

The issue of extremism is covered both at the republic-wide and regional and district levels.

Approximately 155 police officers of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service are now involved in working on the issue concerned.

## **2.4 International Cooperation in Combating Extremism**

### **2.4.1 The Working Group of the V4 Countries and Austria for Combating Extremism**

In compliance with the conclusions of the Working Group of the V4 Countries and Austria for Combating Extremism (hereinafter referred to as the “Working Group”) adopted on 27 November 2008, a closed annual meeting of this Working Group was held from 24 to 26 November 2009. This Working Group operates under the responsibility of the Czech Republic, namely the Security Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, at the supranational level, and works as an expert group. Guests from Germany and Sweden were invited to participate.

The first day was devoted to the situation of extremism in the Visegrad Four Countries, i.e. the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. On the second day, there were presentations by guests from Germany and Sweden which paid attention to current problems. The third day of the meeting was devoted to discussion topics. The first discussion block dealt with “Extremism: new trends - the strategy of extremists in individual countries from the point of view of security forces”; the second discussion block focused on case studies relating to certain criminal offences which are deemed by the police to be the gravest; and the third block devoted attention to the area of “Professional Police Training” .

Participants of the meeting committed to continue meeting previously adopted



conclusions which remain significant also for the future, openly named as the most problematic areas of the issue in question which are common to all participating countries, and agreed on the priorities of the Working Group for 2010. They stated that it would be necessary in the case of socially important and serious topics not to succumb to any external pressure in actions against extremists and to permanently stress the important of wide-ranging social prevention in combating extremism. Finally, they emphasised that the meetings of the Working Group were considered to be very important.

#### **2.4.2 Cooperation with the Office for democratic Institutions and Human Rights; OSCE – ODIHR**

The Ministry of the Interior / the Security Policy Department is a national focal point for the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the OSCE (hereinafter referred to as the “ODIHR”). In 2009, as in previous years, the Department drew up an information document for the ODIHR Report on hate crimes – “Annual report for 2008 on Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region – Incidents and responses”. The information encompassed in the document has also been taken into account herein. The Security Policy Department also developed an opinion on this Annual Report for 2008.

From 27 to 31 October 2009 the second annual meeting of National Contact Points on Combating Hate Crimes for the ODIHR and the annual meeting of police experts concerning the issue of crimes motivated by hate (hereinafter referred to as “hate crimes”) were held. The position of the Czech Republic with regard to ODIHR evaluations continues to be good. The Czech Republic ranks among countries which collect data relating to racism and xenophobia and among eight states which retain statistical data concerning anti-Semitic criminal offences.

The annual meeting of National Contact Points for the ODIHR gave recommendations which were also taken into account by the meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council held in Athens in 2009 (Greece). Some of the recommendations given to members states are as follows:

- Collecting and disseminating trustworthy data and statistics concerning hate crimes and violent manifestations of intolerance (the number of cases reported to law enforcement authorities, the number of investigated cases, and the number of cases closed by final and conclusive sentences).
- Countries which, on the basis of valid laws, cannot collect the relevant data on victims of hate crimes, should seek to develop guidance for collecting such data in compliance with valid legislation.
- To adopt measures that contribute to victims of hate crimes reporting such crimes. If they do not do so, the statistical data will not be comprehensive and this will *de facto* make it impossible for states to react adequately to the given situation. In this sphere cooperation with civil society and/or NGOs is inevitable.
- In cooperation with relevant institutions it is necessary to provide victims of hate crimes access to advisory, legal and consultancy services and ensure they have access to justice.
- It is necessary to put an emphasis on professional training and the further training of police officers, public prosecutors and judges who deal with hate crimes.
- To investigate hate crimes without any delay and to ensure public condemnation, at the political level, of crimes motivated by hate.
- To ensure cooperation between police corps both at the national and international levels, focused on combating organised violent crimes motivated by hate.

- To seek possibilities for cooperation in the area of more and more visible abuse of the internet for disseminating hate.

Both annual meetings placed an emphasis on monitoring and collection of data on hate crimes, on ongoing training of police officers, public prosecutors and judges, and increased attention will be paid to victims of hate crimes. The discussion also confirmed that the concept of hate crimes (criminal offences motivated by hate) was more and more emphasised and accentuated.

### **2.4.3 The Issue of Radicalisation**

The meeting of the European Network of Experts on Radicalisation (ENER), working for the European Commission, was held in Brussels on 14 December 2009 at which, *inter alia*, the issue of the effectiveness of counter radicalisation programmes was addressed. The meeting resulted in a number of recommendations from West European countries on implementation of counter-radicalisation measures. For example so-called Exit Programmes were mentioned. The meeting, *inter alia*, resulted in the conclusion that nationwide counter-radicalisation projects are not sufficiently effective. Local projects based on cooperation between public and private sectors seem to make more sense.

## **3. The Ministry of Defence**

### **3.1 Legislative and Organisational Measures**

In order to eliminate the penetration of structures of the Czech army a number of legislative and organisational measures have been adopted in recent years.

#### **3.1.1 Amendment to Act No. 221/1999 Coll. on Professional Soldiers**

On 1 October 2009 Act No. 272/2009 Coll. amending Act No. 221/1999 Coll. on Professional Soldiers, as amended, came into effect. After assessing all legal regulations valid within the relevant scope of competence, the said amendment implemented in Act No. 221/1999 Coll. alteration of the provisions of Sec. 3 (1) (c), which stipulate that a citizen may be enlisted as a soldier only if he/she does not, apart from other conditions, support, propagate or otherwise promote a movement which provably suppresses human rights and freedoms or professes national, religious or racial hatred or hate against another group of persons (hereinafter referred to as “extremist movement”). Support, propagation or other promotion of an extremist movement, are pursuant to the amended provisions of Sec. 19 (1) (i) of Act No. 221/1999 Coll., a reason for dismissal from the army.

#### **3.1.2 Internal Measures**

##### **Professional Soldiers**

All persons applying to serve as a professional soldier are obliged to sign a *Statutory Declaration* in which he/she declares that, “*he/she does not support or as of the first day of service will not publicly support movements suppressing human rights and freedoms or does not and will not proclaim in particular national and racial hatred.*” In case the applicant signs a false *Statutory Declaration* this will be deemed to be sufficient reason for terminating army service.

All soldiers newly taken on are subject to a probation period while it is verified, *inter alia*, whether they are members of or support extremist groups or movements. In the case of a positive finding the soldier concerned is dismissed during the probation period.

Measures consisting of signing a Statutory Declaration by applicants to become professional soldiers were adopted to prevent the possibility of activists or supporters of extremist movements from joining the Czech army. They are also a preventive measure against the abuse of military material and weapons by members or supporters of such civic associations.

## Civil Employees

The legal status of civil employees totally differs from the position of professional soldiers. Civil employees are not restricted in their civil rights. Nevertheless, the group of employees defined in Sec. 303 (1) of Act No. 262/2006 Coll., the Labour Code, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “the Labour Code”), which applies also to employees of armed forces of the Czech Republic, has specific obligations arising from the special status of state authorities and these focus on their impartiality and integrity when executing duties of state administration. An obligation to refrain from the aforementioned criminal behaviour, however, is not, contrary to professional soldiers, explicitly stipulated. The Code of Ethics of Civil Servants is binding both for professional soldiers and for all other civil servants (Czech Government Resolution No. 270 of 21 March 2001). The said Code of Ethics includes the duties of those employees and soldiers who within their jobs execute obligations and responsibilities of public administration or who at least participate in such execution. In relation to political and public activities (Article 4 of the Code of Ethics), point 2 reads as follows: “*An employee shall not perform such political or public activities which could disrupt the trust of citizens in his/her ability to execute service duties impartially.*”

The infiltration of jobs of front line officers as well as of managers working with confidential information by active supporters of extremist movements is substantially eliminated as the performance of such positions is conditional upon screening stipulated by legal regulations. From the security degree “Confidential” such facts are verified by special security screenings. Due to the above-mentioned facts the submission of the statement of honour by employees of the Ministry of Defence is currently redundant and is not legally backed by the Labour Code.

## 3.2 Strategy for Prevention of Pathological Social Phenomena

On 30 September 2009 the Minister of Defence approved the **Strategy for Prevention of Socially Undesirable Phenomena during 2010 and 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the “Strategy”)**. This Strategy solves also the prevention of support and propagation of extremist movements. Preventive activities concentrate also on education and training. The issue of prevention of extremist manifestations was included, by the Ministerial Commission for Prevention of Socially Undesirable Phenomena, among priorities of prevention measures adopted by the Ministry in 2009.

## 3.3 Preventive Measures

In 2009 a number of preventive measures were implemented. A training project “Extremism in the Czech Army” was implemented in 20 military units and about 1,500 persons were trained. Implementation of the said project was supported by the ministerial Programme of Crime Prevention by the amount of CZK 154,000. The issue of prevention of

extremism was included in professional preparation training courses for chairs and officers developing guidelines for the prevention of undesirable social phenomena. Such courses were attended in 2009 by, in total, 459 persons.

Training of soldiers and civil employees of the Ministry of Defence in the area of undesirable social phenomena in response to the occurrences of such phenomena in the Ministry of Defence 2009 (extremism, drugs) was implemented with the time allotment of four hours per year. An analysis of educational activities concerning the support and propagation of extremist movements was conducted within education and degree programmes at military schools (i.e. secondary military schools and military colleges of the Ministry of Defence and the Defence University in Brno).

The Chief of General Staff of the Czech Army ordered the organisation, within the prevention of undesirable social phenomena, of discussions in all military units aimed at suppressing extremist manifestations and informing all professional soldiers and civil employees of his Organisational Order Ref. No. 80626-52/2006/DP-1618 which prohibits tattoos giving an offensive or defamatory impression (extremist symbols and so forth). He also ordered the checking of military equipment in order to reveal signs and symbols which are not permitted, and the checking of facilities, computers and other military aids with the aim of detecting respective manifestations of extremism or supporters of such movements.

The Ministerial Commission for the Prevention of Undesirable Social Phenomena analysed on 15 December 2009 measures adopted by the Chief of General Staff of the Czech Army, by the Military Police and by other entities to prevent extremism. The Commission adopted a resolution to ensure coordination of tasks pertaining to the area of prevention of extremism within the Ministry of Defence and subordinate entities. Funds for implementation of the training project concerning the issue of extremism were allocated from the ministerial Crime Prevention Programme (activity number 38,622).

Successful prevention of undesirable social phenomena depends on a number of factors ranging from the individual characteristics of professional soldiers to the level of conditions for service in military facilities and units. Successful prevention of extremism is supported by the offer of leisure time activities for members of military corps and facilities and the growing number of soldiers and civil employees who gradually become involved in leisure time activities organised by commissions for the prevention of undesirable social phenomena in military units and facilities.

Inter-ministerial agreements between the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Defence enabling the mutual use of training events were used to broaden knowledge of the issue of extremism in the Czech Republic. After an agreement with the Police Presidium the participation of members of the Czech army in the training of police specialists on combating extremism was permitted. The Czech army will develop a professional training course in which police specialists will participate.

### **3.4 Military Intelligence**

Military intelligence is based on valid legal regulations.<sup>11</sup> Military intelligence, within its scope of competence in the area of combating extremism, focuses mainly on searching for and documenting objectives and activities of persons displaying extremist attitudes or links to extremist organisations in the Czech Republic, and on manifestations of extremism, racism

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<sup>11</sup> Act No. 289/2008 Coll. on Military Intelligence; Act No. 153/1994 Coll. on Intelligence Service of the Czech Republic; Act No. 221/1999 Coll. on Professional Soldiers; Act No. 412/2005 Coll. on the Protection of Classified Information and on Security Eligibility.

and xenophobia among professional soldiers and other representatives of the Ministry of Defence and the Czech army.

Military intelligence has been paying long-term attention to the issue of extremism and terrorism.<sup>12</sup> As a consequence, military intelligence has received concrete tasks for 2009 pertaining to this area assigned according to *governmental priorities for intelligence activities*. In order to further elaborate *governmental priorities*, military intelligence concentrated on **concrete manifestations displayed by officials of the Ministry of Defence in the area of extremism, and focused in particular on:**

- contacts and links with extremist movements operating in the Czech Republic and/or abroad;
- participation in their activities;
- contacts with foreign nationals residing and working for a long period of time in the Czech Republic, having links to the Ministry of Defence (study, secondment, and training), and coming from risk countries.

On the basis of the gathered findings it may be said that the bearers of extremist ideas, almost exclusively right-wing extremist ideas, remained interested in serving in the Czech army.<sup>13</sup>

In 2009 military intelligence devoted permanent attention to manifestations of extremism, racism and xenophobia among professional soldiers and other representatives of the Ministry of Defence. As stated above, a special emphasis was placed on examining newly admitted professional soldiers. The main objective of such examinations was to prevent the penetration of persons who are members of extremist movements and groups, or are bearers and disseminators of extremist and racist ideas, or who support such ideas in the Czech army.

The eligibility of described measures is documented by cases detected during the year 2009. Towards the end of the year the cases of three soldiers of the Czech army were discussed in the mass media. They were actively involved in the activities of right-wing extremist groups (White Justice) or publicly supported movements oriented toward the suppression of human rights and freedoms (the case of SS symbols on the helmets of two soldiers of a Czech army contingent in Afghanistan). In both cases the Ministry of Defence adopted strict personnel measures.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> During the last four years military intelligence identified in total **110 soldiers of the Czech army as being members or supporters of extremist movements**. The intensity of their links to the extremist environment ranks from passive participation in one or more concerts by extremist music bands, through participation in different public events organised by extremist groups or movements, to active participation in the preparation and course of such events. **Of the 110 soldiers, 29 professional soldiers were dismissed**. In 2010 this process will continue. The aforementioned amendment to Act No. 221/1999 Coll. on Professional Soldiers will be actively used as it enables the dismissal of professional soldiers due to reasons laid down in Sec. 19 (1) (i) before the stipulated period lapses.

<sup>13</sup> The approach of supporters or members of extremist groups from the left-wing spectrum of the extremist scene toward military service is principally cold. Military intelligence within the Ministry of Defence and the Czech army has not detected any case of manifestations of left-wing extremism or religious extremism.

<sup>14</sup> See Part I. The Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2009, 2.4.1.5 Crimes with an Extremist Context Committed by Members of the Army of the Czech Republic.

## 4. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

### 4.1 Legislation

In 2009 the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (hereinafter referred to as the “MEYS”) continued to carry out activities commenced in previous years. Implementation of legal provisions amended in 2007 was underway.<sup>15</sup>

In 2009 working groups composed of specialists from different branches concerning the issue of extremism were established. They started to prepare updates to the **Guidelines of the MEYS towards education against manifestations of racism, xenophobia and intolerance Ref. No. 14 423/99-22**. The general public were called to participate in the update.

The MEYS prepared a **National Action Plan for Inclusive Education** which ranks among fundamental documents a fundamental defining the framework of activities implemented with the aim of ensuring equal access and equal opportunities for all persons to education. This document encompasses guidance for the implementation of necessary measures to terminate partially persisting segregation practices in the Czech education system and at the same time to prevent discrimination. The basic objective of the plan is to increase inclusion as a concept of education within the Czech education system. The final aim is to prevent the social exclusion of individuals and/or whole social groups. Tasks and measures encompassed in the National Action Plan for Inclusive Education are, due to their impact, beyond the framework of the school system as such and are significant contributions to the development of human resources in the Czech Republic. The inclusive nature of the Czech school system will affect education conditions not only in the case of pupils with special education needs but all other stakeholders. Thus the gradual implementation of tasks defined in the National Action Plan for Inclusive Education will contribute to enhancing social cohesion in Czech society in upcoming years.

**Methodological recommendations relating to socially disadvantaged pupils** drawn up in 2009 contain a recommendation to create an environment for the implementation of balancing measures so that respective social disadvantages are not a barrier to achieving good education results for such children and pupils. The methodological recommendations also encompass procedures for assessing such pupils with the aim of educating them within the mainstream of education. Recommendations lead to respect for human rights and creation of an environment for equal opportunities in education.

### 4.2 Curricula

#### 4.2.1 Framework Educational Programmes

The issue of multicultural education, education on human rights, as well as education against extremism, racism and intolerance, is an integral part of Framework Education Programmes (hereinafter referred to as “FEP”) in pre-schools, basic, technical/vocational and general secondary schools and these are as such implemented, within curricular reform, in individual school education programmes (hereinafter referred to as “SEP”). Curriculum documents have been approved in pre-school and basic education and are being implemented now in schools. Curricula documents for secondary education are described in more detail

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<sup>15</sup> Mainly amendment No. 343/2007 Coll. to Sec. 2 (1) (a) of Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-School, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and other Education, as amended.

below, since those documents were drawn up recently as a follow up to pre-school and basic education.

**Framework education programmes** lay down in particular specific goals, as well as the form, length, and **compulsory content of education**. They are obligatory for the development of school educational programmes (SEP), the evaluation of results of education of children and pupils, the development and assessment of textbooks and teaching texts, and they are also an obligatory basis for the amount and allocation of funds.

All framework educational programmes encompass the issue of extremism, racism, tolerance and human rights and are developed so that they are appropriate to the age of pupils from different backgrounds and in various educational areas as well as the cross-cutting topics of such programmes. Framework educational programmes focus on the development of key competences which represent a set of knowledge, skills, capabilities, attitudes and values important for personal development and the ability of each individual to compete in society. Their selection and concept are based on values generally accepted in society and on generally shared ideas which the competences of an individual can use to contribute to his/her education, a satisfactory and successful life, and to strengthening the functions of civil society. One of the key competences is civil competence. Thus at the end of basic education each pupil should respect the convictions of other people, respect their internal values, be able to understand the situations of other people, refuse suppression and rude treatment, and realise the obligation to stand up to physical as well as psychological violence<sup>16</sup>

The issue of multicultural education was also in 2009 solved as part of a long-term systematic ministerial task for the Research Pedagogical Institute (hereinafter referred to as the “RPI”).

An essential output for 2009 targeting the issue of multiculturalism along with all related aspects is a study titled: **“Strategy for the Development of Multicultural Education”**. The transcultural approach on which the study is based is perceived as a cornerstone for society to create conditions for the inclusion of individuals according to their individual features. Thus the risk of exclusion of individuals on the basis of a group identity is diminished. Due to its nature the study functions to prevent the formation of racist attitudes and it will be used to innovate binding frameworks for education in the Czech Republic as well as a basis for guidance support of schools in the area of multiculturalism and prevention of xenophobia.

#### **4.2.1.1 Children and Youth – Leisure Activities**

**Teaching programmes within social education towards the development of personality** are one of cross-cutting topics included in framework education programmes. These are multi-day programmes attended by whole classes of pupils, and both pupils and teachers rate them positively. Topics such as extremism, bullying, nationalism and racism are incorporated into the programme. The objective is to develop the responsibility of pupils for themselves and their acts.

Free Time Centres regularly organise discussions, exhibitions, or debate clubs pointing out topics such as bullying, violence, racism, and nationalism. Model situations are discussed with relevant experts using a form of experience-based instruction where all participants seek to find the best solution for preventing such conduct, how to behave, and how to address the problem when it occurs.

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<sup>16</sup> For more details concerning framework education programmes and curricula reform see: [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz), [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz), [www.vuppraha.cz](http://www.vuppraha.cz), [www.nuov.cz](http://www.nuov.cz).

**The Institute of Children and Youth** (hereinafter referred to as the “Institute”) is an expert facility of the MEYS, the purpose of which is state support and protection of young people. The Institute concentrates on the issue of leisure time activities (student clubs) and facilities providing such activities. It provides guidance and organisational support for work with children and youth as well as further education of teachers.

The Institute pays attention to the aforementioned topic within the implementation of a national project known as “**Keys for Life – Development of Key Competences in Youth Interests and Non-Formal Education.**” The issues of multicultural education are tackled within the education system “ground-plan.” On the basis of public procurement organised in 2009 a contractor was selected to be responsible for preparing and providing guidance to coordinators in all regions of the Czech Republic. The coordinators will carry out training courses for NGOs and school facilities organising student clubs in the area of multicultural education. The objective of such training is to initiate the preparation of education programmes concerning the topic in question in individual NGOs (in 2011). The best programmes, from both a content and methodology point of view, will be published as examples of good practice (in 2012). In order to prepare the project activities a list of organisations dealing with this area has been compiled.<sup>17</sup>

Further, the results of a survey titled “**Multiculturality in Non-formal Education**” were presented on 23 October 2009 to professionals and its final report published.<sup>18</sup> The survey results will be used to develop the above-mentioned education programme (in the framework of the project Key for Life). The results showed for example that the main barrier for integrating children and youth from minorities in non-formal education and education towards the development of their interests is the low awareness and mistrust of parents of such children, followed by the language barrier.

In the context of this topic the results of the survey “Awareness and Participation” can be mentioned. Survey results were presented on 3 November 2009 to relevant professionals and the final report is available to the general public in the National Register of Surveys on Youth. The principal findings demonstrated that young people in the Czech Republic are not widely interested in public life however their interest grows as a consequence of active membership in different youth organisations.

## **4.2.2 Recommendations to School and School Facilities**

### **4.2.2.1 MEYS Recommendation Concerning History Instruction**

Current curricular reform puts a maximum emphasis on changing the approach to teaching and on the attractiveness of teaching methods. The MEYS deems considerable changes in the content and methods of instruction as necessary to correspond with current needs. As regards support for cultivation of historical awareness of pupils, maintaining historical memory and the transfer of historical experiences are desirable.

The aim of the MEYS recommendation with regard to the history of 20<sup>th</sup> century is to stress the importance of the period of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in the instruction of history and other social sciences (such as education towards citizenship, the Czech language and literature, music, and arts). All information must be provided in the context of the development in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and its impact on current social development should be also taken into account. Possible current abuse of ideas of freedom and human rights must be noted using examples of political and religious extremism and terrorism.

The objective of teaching the issue of totalitarian and non-democratic regimes in the 20<sup>th</sup> century is to name and understand the causes which led to their establishment and

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<sup>17</sup> For more information see <http://www.kliceprozivot.cz>

<sup>18</sup> See the National register on Surveys about Youth, available at [www.vyzkum-mladez.cz](http://www.vyzkum-mladez.cz)



following support by the vast majority of the population. Not only international political causes but also internal political and geopolitical causes must be considered. Pupils should learn about the daily stories of people since these can reveal motivations which determined the behaviour of individual “characters” in different historical contexts. Thus it is recommended to use stories of people from the given region.<sup>19</sup>

#### **4.2.2.2 Recommendation Concerning Multicultural Education and Instruction of Holocaust**

The Set of Pedagogical and Organisational Information for Kindergartens a, Basic Schools, Secondary Schools, Conservatories, tertiary Professional School, Basic Schools of Music and Arts, Language Schools Authorised to Organise State Language Examinations, and School Facilities for the School Year 2009/2010 encompasses a number of recommendations.

Schools are recommended to include within class instruction the cross-cutting topic Multicultural Education to a sufficient extent. There is a reference to comprehensive information on the Holocaust of Roma and Jews which may be acquired at special seminars on “How to Teach the Holocaust” and within a documentary project for pupils “Lost Neighbours,” organised by the Training Department of the Terezin Memorial and the Educational and Cultural Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague.

At the same time the MEYS notifies the general public of publications by deniers of the Holocaust. The opinion of the president of the Association of Historians of the Czech Republic and the president of the Czech section of the Czech-German Commission for History Textbooks regarding the brochure “Auschwitz. Facts versus Fiction: New and Undisclosed Findings on the Holocaust,” by R. Seidl is published on the MEYS’ web pages. It is also recommended to accentuate in class instruction the topic of Czech-German relations, including objective information on the transfer of Sudeten Germans as well as culture, language and everyday life of other nationalities and ethnic groups living in the Czech Republic. Pupils should be informed about current extremist groups involving young people, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic, neo-Nazi, and right-wing and left-wing extremism. If growth in xenophobia, extremism and racism is seen in any locality teachers will be sufficiently and immediately notified by authorised professional trainers both about the problematic groups and about the specificities of the minority or ethnicity culture targeted by xenophobia in the given locality.

However, it is also necessary to note that in the environment of schools and school facilities as well as leisure activities of pupils it is impossible to educate towards multiculturalism and human rights, non-violence and tolerance by **merely placing an emphasis on heterogeneous elements with an accent on obvious differences, since stressing differences can be counterproductive.** This is especially given that when interactively working with pupils having a different ethnic origin what should be emphasised more is what is common in terms of pupils’ interests, views and daily problems, or showing when a member of the majority ethnicity can become a member of a minority (for example if religion, political attitudes and social classes are taken into account).

#### **4.2.2.3 Prevention of Abuse of the Internet to Disseminate Hate and Extremist Ideologies**

The MEYS cooperates with other ministries on the strategy of preventing violence against children, a part of which is the issue of a safe internet. This issue is solved by updates

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<sup>19</sup> The complete text of the MEYS Recommendations for Instruction of the History of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, including annexes, is available at – [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz).

made to the Guidelines on Bullying. The Guidelines were updated during the school year 2008/2009. The project “Safer Internet” was carried out under the auspices of the MEYS and the MEYS is also involved in other such activities.

The Research Pedagogical Institute monitors this area and seeks new findings and monitors new trends within its tasks focusing on the development of ICT in basic and secondary general education. New findings are taken into account, on an ongoing basis, in the systematic and long-term development of education as defined by the state. At the same time the Research Pedagogical Institute offers to teachers at the Guidance Portal space for exchanging information, discussion of the topic, and provides them with guidance relating to the issue concerned. For example on 16 September 2009 the Deputy Director of the Research Pedagogical Institute, PhDr. Ondrej Neumajer, Ph.D., held a lecture on Future of ICT in General Education at the conference Online Safety, organised within the campaign Stop Violence Against Children.

#### **4.2.2.4 Threats of Neo-Nazism – Opportunities for Democracy**

A project titled “Threats of Neo-Nazism – Opportunities for Democracy,” which pays attention to the prevention of extremist attitudes at schools and focuses mainly on the education of teachers, was supported from the MEYS subsidy programme “Support for Education in Languages of Minorities and for Multicultural Education”. **In 2009 in total 73 persons were trained, of whom 61 were teachers and 12 were police officers.** Seminars were held in Brno, Jihlava and Pilsen. This type of education focused and will continue focusing on defining and distinguishing manifestations of neo-Nazism, on prevention skills, and on appropriate responses to manifestations of extremist attitudes. It provides professional information on history, the basis and philosophy of extremists in the Czech Republic. The guidelines “Threats of Neo-Nazism – Opportunities for Democracy” were developed within this project in 2009. The guidelines update and extend a publication issued by the People in Need organisation “Can I understand It? Threats of Neo-Nazism.”<sup>20</sup> Teachers and police officers are, in the framework of this project, oriented on work with the students’ background, on work with individuals and groups. In 2009 the Research Pedagogical Institute participated in developing the focus of the project.

#### **4.2.2.5 Ongoing Guidance for Schools in the Area of Multiculturalism – Guidance Portal [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz)**

The Research Pedagogical Institute (an organisation directly managed by the MEYS) operates the methodological portal [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz). The project is co-financed by the European Social Fund and by the state budget of the Czech Republic. Its main aim is to create systematic support for teachers during school reform.

Texts published on the methodological portal [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz) form an important part of guidance for teachers since they are devoted especially to the issues of extremism, racism, discrimination, xenophobia, a multicultural society, and so on.

#### **4.2.2.6 Publications and Information Sources**

The National Pedagogical Library, a division of the Institute for Information in Education (which is an organisation directly managed by the MEYS) compiled a list of publications, articles and biographies relating to the topic of extremism in terms of the needs of pedagogical practice and education. Publications and articles selected from the Czech

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<sup>20</sup> The Guidelines will be available from March 2010 at [www.asi-milovani.cz](http://www.asi-milovani.cz), [www.varianty.cz](http://www.varianty.cz) and at the Methodological Portal [www.rvp.cz](http://www.rvp.cz)

National Bibliography can be obtained in the nearest public library or through inter-library services for borrowing books. For the list, including brief reviews, see the Annex. For more information on borrowing relevant books and copies of articles see <http://www.npkk.cz/>. : The list is an important information source which was developed on the basis of teachers' requirements.

### 4.3 Prevention of Risk Behaviour

In 2009 terminology concerning primary prevention was made more precise under the responsibility of the MEYS which is a guarantor in this area. The term "pathological social phenomena" was, in compliance with EU trends and consistently with all ministries of the Czech Republic, replaced by the term "**risk behaviour.**" The term "risk behaviour" means a type of behaviour which results in a provable growth in health, special, educational and other risks both for an individual and the whole of society.

The MEYS set a system of primary prevention at a horizontal as well as vertical level. The MEYS has at its disposal a functional network of coordinators and those providing guidance at regional, district and school levels. In order to secure effective coordination of activities among ministries the MEYS established in 2009 an advisory body – the **Committee for Coordination of Primary Prevention**. As regards horizontal coordination the **Committee of Regional School Coordinators of Prevention** was set up.

In 2009 MEYS also prepared transformation of the system for providing subsidies in the area of prevention of risk behaviour.

In 2009 the "Strategy of Prevention of Risk Behaviour among Children and Youth within the Scope of Competence of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports between 2009 and 2012" was drawn up. One of the priorities of this Strategy is the issue of the implementation of effective primary prevention of extremism, violence and aggressive manifestations of behaviour.

### 4.4 Further Education of Teachers

The Research Pedagogical Institute participates in the long-term project "Teacher Education for Inclusion," aiming at preparation and further education of teachers in the area of inclusive education and a comparison of inclusive approaches in individual European countries. Twenty-seven European states, members of the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education, participate in the project. The objective of the project is to develop basic knowledge on the introduction of inclusive procedures, on their establishment and on following implementation in practice. A part of the project is the verification of innovative examples and recommendation within the given issue. In its first phase the project seeks to examine "inclusive settings" and their further application.

The training of teachers, mainly their further education, was organised within seminars accredited by the MEYS. The National Institute for Further Education (NIFE), an organisation directly managed by the MEYS, organised a number of seminars.<sup>21</sup> Work on the two accredited courses, which focus on Judaism and the Holocaust ("Jewish customs and traditions against a background of the Middle Ages anti-Semitism and the Holocaust"; "The Jewish Town and Terezín - the issue of anti-Semitism"), continued.

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<sup>21</sup> The guidelines for teachers: "Successful ways towards education of children from a different socio-cultural environment with regard to the issue of extremist ideologies, mainly racism" are planned to be published in 2010. This document, which is about 50 pages long, will be designated for teachers at basic schools as a supporting material for corresponding seminars.

Further education of teachers teaching in secondary schools is organised by the National Institute of Technical and Vocational Education. When this Institute holds events in the area of further education of teachers, the programme is, at least, partly aimed at multiculturalism (intercultural education), extremism in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and at the present time, foreigners in the Czech Republic, and so on. As it is impossible to name all events a tradition of more than 20 years – the Summer Schools of History (alongside the Pedagogical Faculty of Charles University) should be mentioned here. These summer camps are designated for the further education of history teachers as well as teachers of other social sciences working at basic and secondary schools.

## **4.5 Integration of Foreign Nationals and Support of Recognised Refugees**

The MEYS meets tasks resulting from the Strategy of Integration of Foreign Nationals adopted on an annual basis by Government resolutions and prepared under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior. The Programme supporting activities in the area of integration of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic supported in 2009 in total 31 projects by the amount of CZK 4,250,000. The whole amount was used and there were about 50 percent more applicants than in previous years. Project topics focused on:

- the promotion of multicultural education of children and youth;
- support for teaching Czech as a foreign language; and
- studies aimed at the education of migrating foreign nationals, and the organisation of a seminar concerning the education of foreigners.

The MEYS creates conditions for the basic education of minor recognised refugees, persons enjoying subsidiary protection, international protection seekers in the Czech Republic, and the children of foreigners placed in foreigners' detention centres.

The objective of the programme is to take into account the specific problems of schools educating these groups of foreign nationals, which are usually in the close neighbourhood of asylum facilities and have capacities for admitting children any time during the school year and adapting instruction to their needs. The programme contributes to the good functioning of “classes for language preparation,” in view of the more demanding work of teachers in such schools, and the lower numbers of pupils in classes as a result of their arrival and departure during the school year which must be taken into consideration. Foreign nationals are also enabled to attend school clubs and participate in other after-school activities.

## **4.6 Certain Subsidy and Development Programmes**

In 2009 the MEYS supported, as in previous years, within its policy of subsidies, multicultural education taking account of the fight against extremism, racism and xenophobia.

The programmes were as follows:

- Development programme “Funding Assistants of Teachers for Socially Disadvantaged Children, Pupils and Students”;
- Subsidy programme “Support for Roma Students in Secondary Schools”;
- Development programme supporting schools which implement inclusive education and education of children and pupils socially and culturally disadvantaged;
- Subsidy programme supporting socially disadvantaged children, pupils and students;
- Subsidy programme supporting education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural education. Supported projects are, at the same time, examples of good practice. Press releases for individual projects, including links and references to the

web pages of supported organisations, are published on the web pages of the MEYS.

The projects carried out within the subsidy programme supporting education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural education thematically focused on the following two modules:

- Module A - supporting education in the languages of national minorities
- Module B – supporting multicultural education – mainly education activities for children and youth as well as members of national minorities where such activities concentrate to combating racist and national intolerance, racism, and anti-Semitism, including integration and multicultural projects (including surveys)

In 2009 the number of applications for new projects increased: within two calls for proposals in total 146 projects were submitted, which accounts for an increase of 48 applications when compared with the previous year. In 2009 there were two calls for proposals within which the whole amount available for this programme was allocated to relevant projects (CZK 18,131,000). After moderate adjustments the programme conforms to both policies of the MEYS and those of the EU. Submitted projects demonstrated a higher quality than previous ones. Sixty-four delivered projects focused on multicultural education and education about the Holocaust, while 30 were supported by the total amount of CZK 9,637,000.

## **5. The Ministry of Culture**

The role of the Ministry of Culture is especially significant with regard to preventive actions. In a wider meaning all cultural activities implemented with the support of the Ministry of Culture 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 coming from other countries, including countries outside Europe. An integral part of such cultivation is education towards ethnic and religious tolerance. Specifically focused museums, galleries and memorials (such as the Jewish Museum in Prague, the Museum of Roma Culture, the Terezin Memorial, and the Lidice Memorial) broaden such education using other supportive activities such as various seminars, lectures and discussions with those who remember the events, which not only documents manifestations of racism and ethnic intolerance in recent times but also reminds us about and warns against their danger.

### **5.1 Regional Culture and Culture of Different Nationalities**

The Ministry of Culture supports, by means of subsidised programmes, some cultural events and activities with the aim of cultivating society in particular through the recognition of cultures of different nationalities and ethnic groups.

Members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic may obtain finance through public procurement for subsidies. Thus they can finance the development of their culture and cultural activities. A special grant programme is determined to support the integration of foreign nationals living in the Czech Republic and another one is designed to support the integration of Roma community members.

Projects regarding Czech citizens of Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, German, Polish, Roma, Russian, Greek, Slovakian, Serbian, and Ukrainian nationalities as well as projects

concerning Jewish culture are supported in the framework of the programme on the support of cultural activities of national minorities living in the Czech Republic. Subsidies are also provided for cultural multi-ethnic events contributing to the mutual recognition of different national cultures and preventing xenophobic phenomena. In 2009 this programme supported in total 80 projects, and subsidies for their implementation totalled CZK 10,040,000.

The promotion of integration of the Roma community is very important for the development of ethnic culture but also for the education of a multicultural society toward removing prejudice, racism and xenophobic attitudes. The Ministry of Culture every year invites applicants to participate in a programme aimed at members of the Roma community. Projects subsidised within this programme can focus on artistic, cultural, education and similar activities, studies of Roma culture and traditions, documentary and editorial activities, the development and distribution of valuable films contributing to the integration of the Roma community, and multi-ethnic cultural events. In 2009 this programme supported 22 projects with subsidies amounting to CZK 1,309,000.

## **5.2 Churches and Religious Societies**

In 2009 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 2009 the church Slovo zivota (“The Word of Life”) filed an application for registration, but at the end 2009 administrative proceedings concerning this matter had not been closed. The Ministry of Culture, within its registration administrative proceedings, collects information on respective extremist, xenophobic, racist and other dangerous manifestations of groups applying for registration.

In 2009 the church Nova nadeje (“New Hope”) was registered. During the course of registration it was ascertained that the submitted proposals had met all requirements prescribed by the relevant law on extremist, xenophobic, racist or other similarly dangerous manifestations of societies applying for registration. Therefore the Minister of Culture issued a decision registering the Church New Hope.

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 created to prevent the influence of dangerous religious groups striving to manipulate people or 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. Although it is not authorised to monitor the activities of registered churches and religious societies, it is obliged to respond 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 terminate its registration.

## **5.3 Media and Audiovisual Area**

With regard to the scope of competence of the Ministry of Culture the year 2009 saw no legislative changes in the Czech Republic pertaining to the media and audiovisual area,

while relating to the issue of extremism the government approved by its Resolution No. 1012 of 17 August 2009 a draft Act on Audiovisual Media Services upon Request (the Act on Audiovisual Media Services upon Request). The draft Act transposes the Audiovisual Media Service Directive and requires that the state “shall ensure by appropriate means that audiovisual media services and audiovisual commercial communications provided by service providers do not contain any incitement to hatred based on sex, skin colour, racial, national or ethnic origin, language, religion or belief, political conviction, property, kin, disability, age or sexual orientation.”

Within a grant programme for supporting the dissemination and reception of information in the languages of national minorities, or predominantly in languages of national minorities, the Ministry of Culture financially supports the publication of periodicals and radio and television broadcasting in the languages of national minorities or providing information about such minorities. This form of state subsidy can be considered as prevention against the occurrence of respective extremist attitudes resulting from opinions and feelings that national minorities have only a limited option to develop their own languages and that they are under pressure to assimilate into society.

In 2009 in total 24 projects were supported within the above-mentioned programme. The total amount of allocated subsidies totalled CZK 28,043,000.

As regards media and cinematography, grants - mainly grants to support film festivals in 2009 - are not explicitly aimed at projects dealing with extremism. However a number of festivals organised in 2009 showed films or radio programmes dealing with the topic in question. These included, for example, the festival FAMUfest, a radio-programme entitled Report, broadcasting documentary and publicist programmes, the international One World festival of documentary films, and the international documentary festival in Jihlava.

## **5.4 Arts and Libraries**

Activities involving art and libraries supported by the Ministry of Culture, namely by its Department of Arts and Libraries, did not explicitly relate to the issue of extremism. Activities contributing to human integrity, to cultural dialogue, and to the mutual recognition of distinguished cultures, are supported. The Ministry provides funds to organise cultural events which could help to 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 the integration of foreigners, and support for Roma communities), but also through the awarding of grants specifically focusing on support for professional art.

In 2008/9 the Ministry supported 14 projects in the framework of the above-mentioned programme by an amount totalling CZK 2,545,000. The following events were for example supported: Colours of Ostrava, the international multicultural festival Colour Meeting held in Policka, Hlasohled Prague, Eurotrialog Mikulov 2009, Respect World Music Festival 2009 (organised in Prague), the Folkworld Music Festival, Folk Holidays 2009 in Namest nad Oslavou, Litomerice Roots 2009, Alternative Music 2009 in Prague, the World Roma Festival Khamoro 2009, and some others.

As with every year, also in 2009 a grant programme “Library of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” was determined for libraries registered under Act No. 257/2001 Coll. One of the subjects of support through this grant is to promote work with national minorities and the integration of foreign nationals. Funds are provided to applicants to enable them to organise discussions and exhibitions with the aim of recognising different cultures and purchasing books for national

minorities.<sup>22</sup> An effort to extend the services of libraries in this area is also expressed in Point 13 of the Strategy for Development of Libraries in the Czech Republic between 2004 and 2010, adopted by Government Resolution No. 679 of 7 July 2004. Point 13 specifies the task “to improve the availability of libraries and their services, to remove barriers to access, and to extend library services for disabled people as well as for members of national minorities, unemployed people and other less favoured social groups.”

In 2009 altogether eight thematic projects were supported through the “Library of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” programme – discussions with the aim of becoming familiar with other cultures and the activation of library funds for national minorities. The total amount of subsidies was CZK 45,000.

## **5.5 Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries**

A range of museums and galleries of the Czech Republic included in their programmes education and training towards ethnic and religious tolerance with the aim of eliminating a number of negative social phenomena relating to extremism. This issue was regularly dealt with mainly by the organisations established by the Ministry of Culture: the Museum of Roma Culture, the Terezin Memorial, and the Lidice Memorial, followed by the Jewish Museum in Prague which is an association of legal entities and was established by the Ministry of Culture and the Federation of Jewish Communities in Prague.

However, projects of other museums also aim, in particular, to provide information about the culture, history and present times of different nations, to provide education towards tolerance, against racism and xenophobia and other forms of extremism (for example the National Museum in Prague, the Moravian Provincial Museum in Brno, the Regional Museum in Olomouc, the North Bohemian Museum in Liberec, and some others).

## **5.6 The Most Important Events 2009**

### **5.6.1 Terezin Memorial**

- The Terezin Memorial continued a cycle of regular seminars for teachers (from the Czech Republic as well as from abroad): “How to Teach about the Holocaust.” These seminars are financially supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and have been organised regularly since 2000, however the number of participants is still very high and demand cannot be satisfied due to capacity reasons.
- In June 2009 the Terezin Memorial held a “Conference about Property Confiscated from Victims of the Holocaust.” The conference was attended by a number of foreign guests.
- As regards significant exhibitions, an exhibition about the destinies of Jewish families before and during the Second World War - “Library of Saved Artefacts” - and a travelling exhibition “Girls from Room 28, L 410, Terezin,” may be mentioned.

In 2009 a two-year project aimed at building the “Training Centre of Interactive Studies” was completed. The centre contributes to better understanding of the Holocaust as well as political and racial persecution.

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<sup>22</sup> Funds are provided as subsidies under Sec. 10 (d) of Government Regulation. 288/2002 establishing rules for providing subsidies to support libraries.



## 5.6.2 Museum of Roma Culture

- In addition to traditional exhibitions and training courses the Museum of Roma Culture newly prepared in 2009 the accredited courses “Roma – History and Culture,” and a successful children’s exhibition “Each of Us Has a Different Skin Colour.” The Museum organised in March 2009 a commemorative event to remember the 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a mass transport of Roma from the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia to the Auschwitz extermination camp.

## 5.6.3 Jewish Museum in Prague

The Jewish Museum in Prague organised short-term as well as travelling exhibitions at a number of museums in the Czech Republic.

- “Jewish Customs and Traditions” and “The History of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia”;
- “Found Faces” – a memory of the victims of the Holocaust in documents and photographs;
- “Story of Children” – drawings of children from the Terezin ghetto;
- “Anna Frank” – bequest for the presence”;
- “Lost Neighbours”;
- “Honour to the Child Victims of the Holocaust”;
- “Not to Lose Faith in a Man – the Protectorate through Children’s Eyes”;
- “A Man Who Knew No Peace – a Story of Josef Polak” (1886 – 1945).

The most important exhibition displaying a range of objects and artefacts from abroad and gaining international recognition was an exhibition held in the Imperial Stables of Prague Castle titled “Path of Life – Rabi Löw” – to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of an important personality in Jewish history. The exhibition was accompanied by a publication of the same name (520 pages, 400 colour photographs). Both projects document not only the life and work of this personality but also the political and cultural significance of Jewish settlement in Central Europe during that period as well as a reference to the contemporary era.

The Education Centre of the Museum presented to attendants Israeli writers and “Nazi Criminals in German Discourse lectures,” also received wide public acceptance.

## 5.6.4 Lidice Memorial

- The Lidice Memorial prepared in 2009 a seminar titled “There Was Not Only Lidice” which was supplemented by a tour of the memorial at the Petschka Palace in Prague. The Memorial also organised discussions about the Lidice tragedy.
- The “International Exhibition of Children’s Art – Lidice” was successful. It was established as early as 1967 to honour the memory of not only child victims from Lidice village murdered by German Nazis, but also of all other children who died in war conflicts.<sup>23</sup> In this context the Lidice Memorial issued in October 2009, with the financial support of the Ministry of Culture, the publication “International Exhibition of Children Art – Lidice 1967 – 2009” which represents an art competition for

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<sup>23</sup> This originally national exhibition became in 1973 an international exhibition and in the course of its history it has become a well-known event not only among children and teachers from the Czech Republic, but literally all over the world. In recent years approximately 10,000 very good paintings/drawings are received every year not only from the Czech and/or Slovak Republic, but also from other 50 to 60 countries, including China, the Philippines, India, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

children as one of the largest and oldest child international exhibitions in the world and pays tribute to all organisers and participating organisations.

## **6. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs**

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (the MLSA) funds, within subsidies from the state budget, operations of social prevention services, and ensures that resources from the European Social Fund (the ESF) are drawn from in the framework of the Operational Programme Human Resources and Employment (the OP HRaE) and from the Integrated Operational Programme (the IOP) during the programming period 2007-2013. These services focus on socially excluded persons and persons endangered by social exclusion, and on their integration, including socially excluded localities which often become a target for extremist activities.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs does not have, with regard to the scope of its competence, direct tools for combating extremism. Activities supported either by the state budget or covered by the ESF help integrate socially excluded people or people endangered by social exclusion, and thus they can contribute to alleviating conflict and decreasing tension, mainly in socially excluded localities, both intra-localities, inter-localities, and extra-localities.

As regards social prevention services registered pursuant to Act No. 108/2006 Coll. on social services, as amended, the total amount of CZK **546,075,453** was allocated from the state budget in 2009, of which:

- persons endangered by addiction or fully dependent on addictive substances were allocated the total amount of CZK **58,316,100** (the following social services were covered: therapeutic communities, contact centres, and services of subsequent care);
- in order to support homeless people, people endangered by social exclusion and socially excluded people, an amount totalling **434,663,401** was earmarked (the following social services were covered: asylum/sheltered houses, half-way houses, lodging houses, field/street programmes - CZK 86,447,466 - low threshold centres, and low threshold facilities for children and youth);
- in order to support socially activating services for families with children an amount of CZK **53,095,952** was allocated from the state budget.

### **Using resources from the ESF, OP HRaE and IOP during 2007-2013 to support activities aiming at increasing the availability of social services**

- OP HRaE – support area 3.2 – Support for social integration of the population in Roma localities
- IOP – support area 3.1. – Services in the area of social integration aimed at socially excluded Roma localities/communities

## **Current Calls**

### **Support of Social Activities from EU funds:**

**Call No. 1 - Integrated Operational Programme (IOP):** investment support  
From 10 April 2009 to 30 November 2012 (an ongoing call)

**Specific objective 3.1c)** – Safeguarding the sustainable employment of disadvantaged groups in a common business environment, including their individual development and support for the provision of social services.

**Total allocation:** CZK 383,936,850

(Published at: <http://www.mpsv.cz/cs/6748> a [www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/iop](http://www.strukturalni-fondy.cz/iop))

**Call No. 30 - Operational Programme Human Resources and Employment (OP HRaE):** non-investment support (published at: [www.esfcr.cz](http://www.esfcr.cz))

From 16 February 2009 to 30 November 2012 (an ongoing call)

**Objective of the support:** Social inclusion of excluded people and people endangered by social exclusion, including the removal of barriers in accessing employment.

**Total allocation:** CZK 248,801,970.89 (total amount of support: in the *de minimis* regime – for one beneficiary a maximum of EUR 200,000).

### **CALL No. 3 IOP**

**Area of intervention: 3.1 Social Integration Services**

From 30 September 2009 to 30 June 2013 (an ongoing call)

**Activity b)** Investment support for securing the availability of services which will enable the return of members of the most endangered socially excluded Roma localities to the labour market and to society.

**Specific objective 3.1b)** – To ensure the availability of social services in certain socially excluded Roma localities which will enable the integration of target groups into society and the labour market.

**Total allocation:** CZK 557,709,000 (minimum amount for one project = CZK 500,000, maximum amount for one project = CZK 20,000,000).

**Eligible applicants:** municipalities, associations of municipalities, NGOs.

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### **CALL No. 19 OP HRaE**

**Support area 3.2** - Support for social integration of the population in Roma localities

From 21 August 2008 to 31 January 2013 (an ongoing call)

**Support objective:** Social inclusion of the population in excluded Roma localities, safeguarding the availability, quality and control of services, including the removal of barriers to accessing education and employment and in accessing investment support.

**Total allocation:** CZK 477,474,000

**Eligible applicants:** Providers of social services pursuant to Act No. 108/2006, on Social Service, NGOs, regions, municipalities and organisations established by municipalities and regions providing social services, education/training institutions (accredited pursuant to Act No. 108/2006 Coll. and Act No. 312/2002 Coll.; only for Support Programme A).

### **Limits of financial support per project:**

#### **Programme A:**

- **A1)** – professional (vocational) education of workers employed by social service providers;
- **A2)** - professional (vocational) education of officials of regional and municipal authorities – **CZK 0.5 million – CZK 10 million.**

**Programme B:** Support for social services and other tools to be used to benefit the social inclusion of the population in excluded Roma localities - **CZK 1 million – CZK 10 million.**

**Programme C:** Support for processes for the provision of social services, including the development of partnerships at local and regional levels. The core of this programme is support of the process of service provision itself (i.e. to ensure the quality and control of provided services), namely services promoting social integration based on the need to develop cooperation between entities participating in activities carried out in individual areas - **CZK 0.5 million – CZK 5 million.**

## **7. Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations with regard to Observing Human Rights**

### **7.1.1 EU Fundamental Rights Agency – FRA**

On 9 December 2009 the FRA published the results of their survey on minorities and discrimination in the EU (EU-MIDIS). The survey focused on seven EU Member States, including the Czech Republic. The published results summarise and supplement data obtained within partial surveys known as EU-MIDIS. As regards the Czech Republic, the FRA Report “EU-MIDIS data No. 1 in Focus Report on Roma” was published on 22 April 2009.<sup>24</sup>

### **7.1.2 European Commission against Racism and Intolerance – ECRI**

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, working for the Council of Europe, published on 15 September 2009 the 4<sup>th</sup> Report on the Czech Republic (the monitoring cycle was from January 2008 to April 2009). Recommendations relate, *inter alia*, to racism in public discussion, violence motivated by racism, and manifestations of anti-Semitism. The ECRI for example repeatedly calls on the Czech Republic (Recommendation No. 8) to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, positively evaluates the “Strategy for Combating Extremism” and in its Recommendation No. 63 the ECRI calls on state authorities to participate in its coherent and consistent fulfilment, in compliance with recommendations of ECRI.

### **7.1.3 Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)**

The OSCE Human Dimension organised again in 2009 a Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM), three supplementary meetings (SHDIM), and a seminar. The supplementary meeting, held in May 2009, dealt with the effective implementation of legislation aimed at combating criminal offences motivated by hate. The seminar, on strengthening the rule of law, focused on the efficiency of justice. Another supplementary meeting held in July dealt with the freedom of religious conviction and religion itself and measures adopted by member states from the last separate Human Dimension meeting dealing with the same topic in 2003. This meeting paid special attention to evaluating problems which were discussed at the High Level Conference concerning the issues in question in past years, namely issues of tolerance and eliminating discrimination based on faith or religion. The third supplementary meeting, held in November 2009, dealt with equality between men and women, with a special focus on combating violence against women.

An evaluation meeting of the Human Dimension of the OSCE was held in Warsaw between 28 September and 9 October 2009 with the participation of the delegation of the Czech Republic, composed of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, and the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs. The Chair of the

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<sup>24</sup> See <http://fra.europa.eu>

office of the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs moderated the block on education of Roma children. The Czech Republic presented both already adopted and planned measures to ensure an effective approach regarding Roma children in education. As regards the topic of freedom of speech, the Czech delegation distributed a document providing information on the approach applied in the Czech Republic which should ensure a balance between the protection of privacy rights and the freedom of speech.

The meetings demonstrated traditionally active participation of the wide spectrum of NGOs coming from OSCE Member States and there was a range of accompanying events. Again there was concrete criticism raised by NGOs against Member States for insufficiently meeting their commitments adopted within the OSCE Human Dimension. Mainly Kazakhstan, as a future presidency country of the OSCE, was largely criticised for violating the freedom of speech and persecuting guardians of human rights and many others. The topics considered for next year's meeting entailed long discussions. The EU raised as their priorities the protection of guardians of human rights, strengthening independent national institutions dealing with human rights, and the right of assembly and association. Further topics which the EU could focus on are strengthening implementation mechanisms of the OSCE human dimension, the freedom of speech and media, tolerance and non-discrimination, respect for human rights in combating terrorism, gender, conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction, the rule of law, national minorities, the prevention of torture, and abolition of the death penalty.

The OSCE representative on freedom of media continued, in the course of the year, in activities aimed at protecting persecuted journalists and strengthening mechanisms ensuring the protection of freedom of speech in the OSCE region.

The OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities visited the Czech Republic in February 2009. He discussed with Vice Prime Minister Alexandr Vondra, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Karel Schwarzenberg, and the Minister for Human Rights, Michael Kocab, on the status of the Roma minority in the Czech Republic and activities leading to strengthening the protection of rights of minorities and therefore also the prevention of tension and conflicts inside OSCE Member States and between them.

#### **7.1.4 Working Group for Social Affairs in the Council of Europe**

On 19 November 2009 the Annual Report of the European Roma and Travellers Forum (ERTF) was published. The Report concentrates on the period of 2009 and points out, in particular, the deteriorating situation of Roma in Europe and in the Member States of the Council of Europe respectively.

## **7.2 Activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

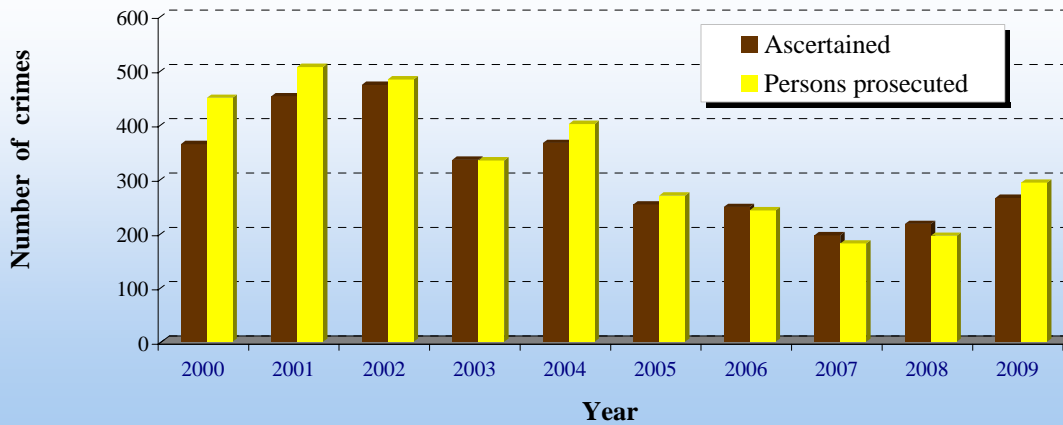
In 2009, as in previous years, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, along with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and embassies of the Czech Republic, provided information on measures adopted by the Czech Republic in order to punish extremist crime and its propagators. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also actively monitored, within its scope of competence, the development of the international extremist scene and trends which emerged.

## **Annex 2**

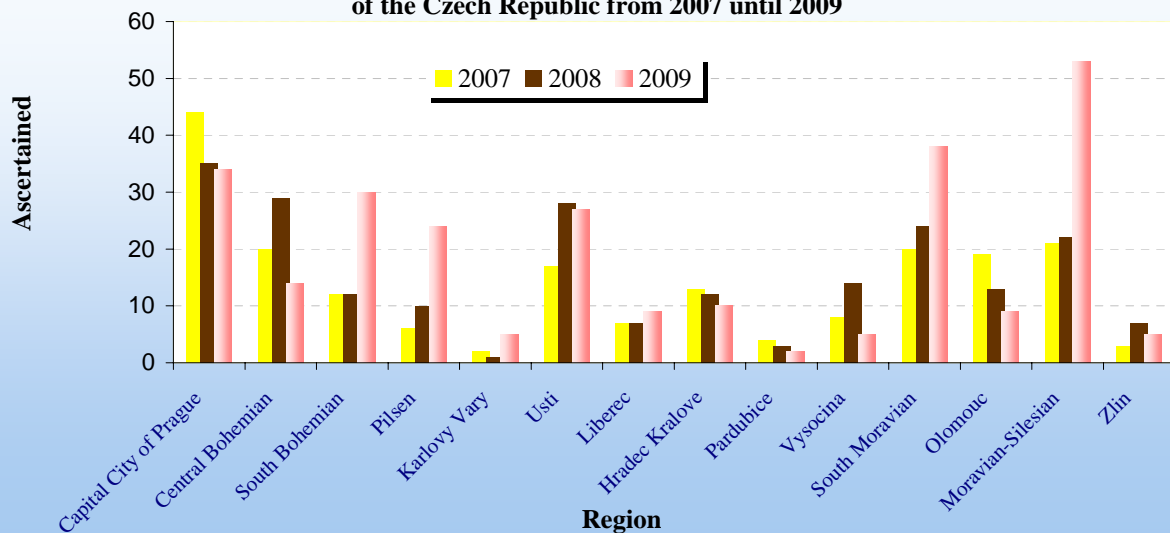
### **Graphs, Tables and Map**

Diagram 1

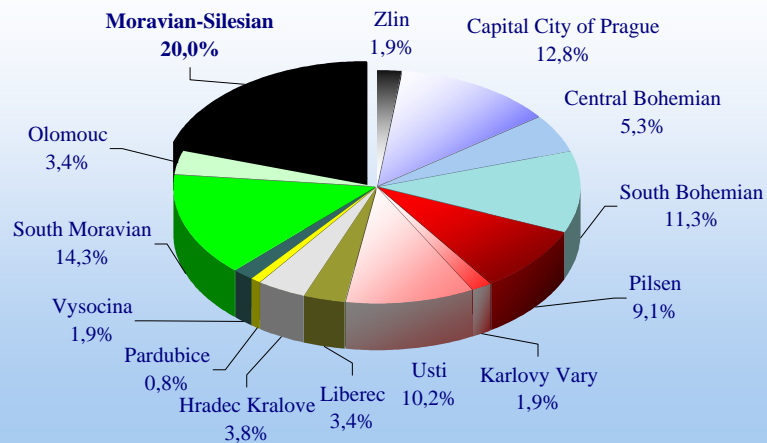
The Development of Crimes with an Extremist Context and Their Offenders Ascertained in the Czech Republic from 2000 until 2009



Crimes with an Extremist Context in Regions (according to a new regional division) of the Czech Republic from 2007 until 2009



Proportion of Individual Regions (according to a new regional division) in Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2009

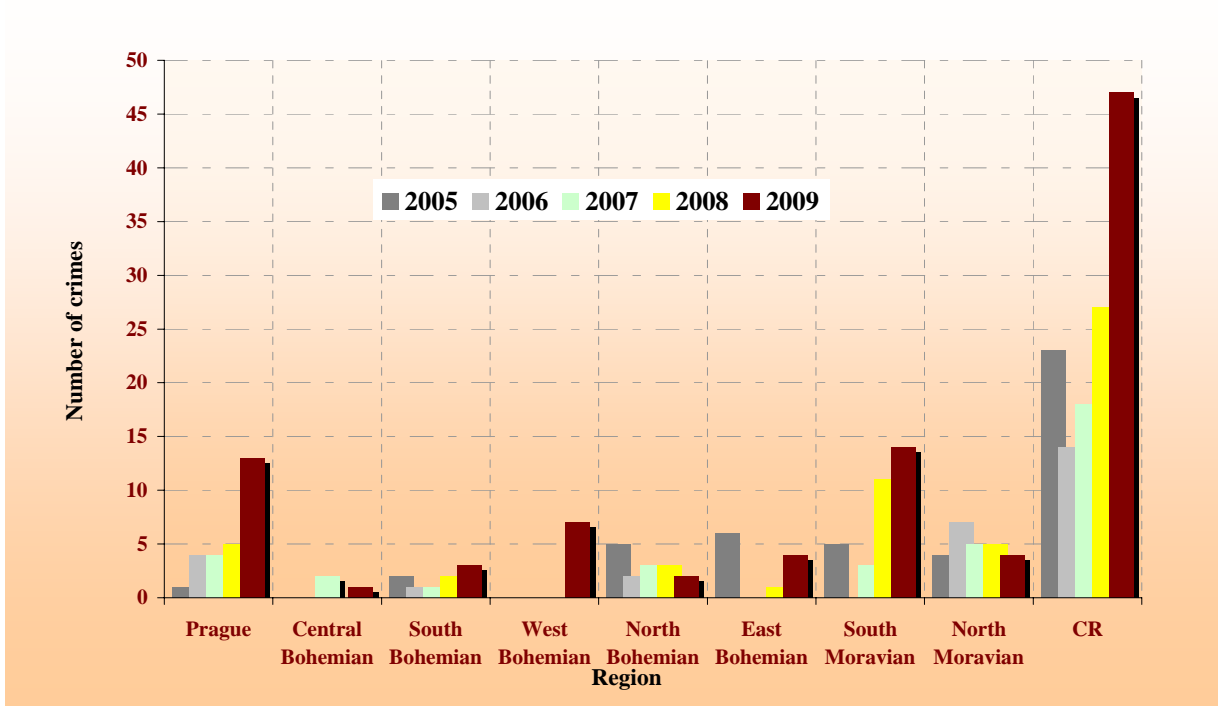


**Table 2, Graph 3**

**Crimes with antisemitic context in the Czech Republic in 2008 and 2009**

Section of Criminal Code	Name	2008 Region								2009 Region									
		Prague	Central Bohemian	South Bohemian	West Bohemian	North Bohemian	East Bohemian	South Moravian	North Moravian	Total	Prague	Central Bohemian	South Bohemian	West Bohemian	North Bohemian	East Bohemian	South Moravian	North Moravian	Total
196	Violence against a group of people or an individual	1					1			2	1								1
198	Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief							2	2	4				1				1	2
198a	Inciting hate against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms	1								1	5								5
260	Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms	2		2		2		3		9	3	1	3	3	1	4	6	1	22
261	Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms	1				1		6	3	11	1		4			8	1	14	
261a	Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms									0	3						1	4	
<b>Total</b>		5	0	2	0	3	1	11	5	27	13	1	3	7	2	4	14	4	48

**Crimes with antisemitic context in the Czech Republic in 2005 until 2008**











## **Strategy for Combating Extremism in 2009**

Editor:

Ladislava Tejchmanová

(Part I: The Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2009 and Part III: Annex No I: Chief Activities Carried out by the Government of the Czech Republic, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
and the Minister for Human Rights: *Ladislava Tejchmanová*;

Part II: Evaluation of how Policy for Combating Extremism is being Implemented: *Jiří Pětioký*;

Part III: Annex No 2: Graphs, Tables and Map: *Jiří Beneš*).

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