

# Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027

*"It is better to prevent crimes than to punish them ... Do you want to prevent crimes? Ensure that education accompanies freedom ... The safest but most difficult means of preventing crimes is improved education."*

*(Cesare Beccaria, On Crimes and Punishments, 1764).*



**PREVENTION  
PAYS!**

**MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**



## **PREFACE FOR THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION:**

*The entire strategy has not been translated into English due to the large number of separate annexes. The core document of the Strategy, an overview of specific objectives and measures, was selected for translation, and within the Implementation Plan, chapter 5 – Specific Objective E (Situational Crime Prevention and New Approaches) was selected as an example of the structure of the plan.*

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## **ANNEXES:**

1. Specific objectives and measures to implement the objectives of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for the 2022 to 2027
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### **SEPARATE ANNEXES available in Czech language only:**

Basis for the development of the objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027.

Implementation Plan of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027.

Evaluation of the implementation of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020.

Evaluation of the Crime Prevention Action Plan 2016-2020 for the year 2020.

Documents available at

<https://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/strategie-prevence-kriminality-v-ceske-republice-na-leta-2022-az-2027.aspx>.



## I. Introduction, scope of competence

**Crime prevention** policy has a **long tradition** in the democratic Czech Republic, as it has been a continuous part of it practically from the very beginning, i.e. since 1993, when crime prevention began to take systematic shape as an integral part of government policy. Crime prevention topics have also regularly become part of the priorities of **governments' program statements**.

The first **Crime Prevention Strategy** was adopted in 1996, and since then the crime prevention system has been formed and developed at the national and local level in the Czech Republic. The approaches and procedures of the state administration and local governments have been developed in a preventive approach to dealing with individual types of crime (crimes and misdemeanours) and criminally risky phenomena, to dealing with the complex security situation in locations at risk, and to dealing with victims and perpetrators of criminal activities. Cooperation and coordination between stakeholders in the area of crime prevention is being strengthened. International cooperation is being developed. Knowledge gained in the area of research is used. The presented Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 (hereinafter referred to as the Strategy) builds on these areas.

The Strategy **builds on the strategic documents of a more general nature of the Government of the Czech Republic**, which concern both government policy in general as well as security issues. These include the Strategic Framework Czech Republic 2030, the Security Strategy of the Czech Republic, the Strategy for Internal Security and Population Protection of the Czech Republic, etc. The Strategy also fits into the broader complex of the state's penal and social policy, **building on existing strategies and concepts** in areas related to the issue of crime prevention and criminal risk behaviour, but also emphasises that prevention approaches should be reflected in these areas in the future and that prevention policy should be prioritised.

The objectives and tasks formulated in this Strategy are further **based on the knowledge and experience** gained from the annual **evaluation** of the implemented prevention activities and tasks, based in particular on the **Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020** (the validity of which was extended by the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 15 June 2020 No. 652 until 2021, or until the adoption of the new Strategy) and on the evaluation of the fulfilment of the objectives of the Strategy, which forms part of the background for this Strategy. It is also inspired by the findings of all members of the National Crime Prevention Committee and other partners, in particular regional and municipal governments and non-governmental non-profit organisations. We cannot forget to draw on the results of research activities in the area of crime prevention and penal policy.

Last but not least, **objectives and recommendations from relevant international documents** (see chapter III for details) as well as extensive experience gained through international cooperation are reflected in the Strategy.

In addition to ensuring the effective functioning of the crime prevention system in the Czech Republic at all levels, the **Strategy focuses in particular** on general crime, i.e. crime that threatens and annoys people the most and often shapes their sense of perception of safety in their surroundings and their opinion on crime as a whole and on the work of individual stakeholders that operate in this area (especially the work of the Police of the Czech Republic and the municipal police, which are the most visible), even though the greatest

damages are not necessarily committed within it. Thus, the Strategy does not focus on specific forms of especially the most serious and organized criminal activities, such as terrorism, organized crime, economic crime, drug crime, etc., which require specific approaches and are very often dealt with by separate documents. The Strategy also deals with the prevention of cybercrime, primarily focusing on safe behaviour in cyberspace, the prevention of the aforementioned general crime committed in cyberspace using information and communication technologies, as well as the issue of sexual abuse and coercion and cyber-violence. It does not address the specific issues of ensuring cyber security or serious breaches of security through cyber attacks, etc., which are again dealt with by separate strategic materials under the responsibility of other responsible stakeholders. Furthermore, the Strategy focuses on general approaches to victims and perpetrators of crime, with a special focus on children. It also pays special attention to a comprehensive approach to ensuring safety in risky locations and the residents who live in them.

**The Strategy does not deal with areas** that are closely related to crime prevention, but are regulated by separate government strategies and concepts, or this Strategy deals with them only from its narrower perspective. The Strategy does not even address specific areas related to foreigners, their integration, illegal migration, etc., which are again addressed by separate documents at the level of the Government of the Czech Republic or the Ministry of the Interior. It focuses on foreigners only from the point of view of security in risky locations (socially excluded locations, industrial zones and their surroundings – with increased employment of foreigners) and from the point of view of the Police of the Czech Republic activities in relation to minorities, to which in this context the Police of the Czech Republic includes foreigners.

**In the context of this Strategy, crime means not only criminal activity, but also misdemeanour activity**, including especially offenses against property, public order, civil coexistence, and against order in state administration and local self-government. The objectives and measures of the Strategy can be focused not only on the prevention of crime itself, but also on a broader scale, regarding the **actions/behaviour/environment that is criminally risky**, i.e. has not yet reached the intensity of criminal or misdemeanour behaviour, but is otherwise illegal or risky from the point of view of criminogenic factors.

Important **indicators of the state of crime** are not only **official police or judicial statistics**, which record registered crime, but also other sources of information on crime, such as the **results of sociological surveys or scientific research** (including studies of files, professional evaluations of prevention activities, guided interviews, victimological studies, etc.) or **surveys of feelings of safety**. These may reveal latent criminality and other problems.

The **Strategy contains** a brief description of the current situation and problems, but in particular it defines the objectives to be addressed in the defined period at the level of the **global objective and the strategic (priority areas) and specific** (to meet the strategic goals) objectives.

**The Strategy also includes, in the form of annexes, a more detailed description of the current situation and the starting points**, and tables of the logical framework, the **so-called implementation cards**, in which each strategic objective has its own card with a list of specific objectives, indicators and baseline and target values for these indicators, a list of **measures** to meet the specific objectives and a description of these measures, including the criteria for the fulfilment of the measures, and a timetable for the implementation of the measures, their promoters and co-promoters, and the source of funding (with an indication

of any claims for budget increases). This table thus constitutes the **implementation (action) plan for the implementation of the Strategy**. The Strategy also contains a **mechanism for monitoring** the implementation of the objectives and measures, including regular **evaluation** of the implementation of the Strategy. This will also allow, in case the security situation and trends in crime or conditions for the implementation of measures change, to react flexibly and update the set objectives and measures regularly.

The implementation of the Strategy must also be accompanied by sufficient **financial resources**, both at the level of individual ministries and cooperating entities (e.g. local governments) to implement the measures imposed/recommended (in the case of local governments) and at the level of support for the crime prevention system. This is also called for in the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic adopting the Strategy.

## II. Global aim

**The Czech Republic ranks among the modern democratic countries that support ethically acceptable and evidence-based preventive approaches to improve the quality of life and ensure the safety of individuals, groups of people and entire communities, for which it creates suitable systemic, organizational and financial prerequisites.**

Crime prevention encompasses all measures to reduce the risk of crime and its harmful consequences for individuals and society, including the fear of crime. Crime prevention seeks to address the multiple causes of crime. Law enforcement and criminal sanctions are left aside in this context, despite their potentially preventive effects.<sup>1</sup>

The European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN)<sup>2</sup> defines crime prevention as "ethically acceptable and evidence-based activities aimed at reducing the risk of crime and its harmful consequences, with the main objective of seeking to improve the quality of life and safety of individuals, groups and entire communities".

It is proven that well-planned crime prevention strategies not only prevent crime and victimization, but also promote the safety of society and contribute to the sustainable development of states. They improve the quality of life and bring long-term benefits in terms of reducing the costs associated with the criminal justice system and other social costs resulting from criminal activity.<sup>3</sup>

The Czech Republic currently has a stable, developed crime prevention system that fully complies with the recommendations of international crime prevention bodies.<sup>4</sup> A number of partners from the state administration, regional and municipal self-governments, non-profit organizations, academia, private entities, etc. participate in the system. Crime prevention is planned in approximately 5-year cycles through the government-approved Crime Prevention Strategy.

In this regard, the global objective declares a commitment that the Czech Republic will continue to maintain and strengthen this system in the following period, to ensure the safety and improve the quality of life of both individuals and population groups and whole communities will support preventive approaches, and all this in accordance with principles of the modern democratic legal state. These approaches will be ethically acceptable (e.g. based on the protection of human rights of all and the support of particularly vulnerable groups of the population, appropriate to their purpose and nature, in accordance with the legal order and ethical codes) and based on evidence (e.g. evidenced by proven practice, evaluations, scientific research; however, innovation based on justified assumptions and starting points is also allowed).

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<sup>1</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Salvador, Brazil, 12 to 19 April 2010.

<sup>2</sup> European Crime Prevention Network Multiannual Strategy (2021-2025), European Crime Prevention Network, Brussels, 2 December 2020.

<sup>3</sup> Guidelines for Crime Prevention, United Nations Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, No. 2002/13.

<sup>4</sup> The United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN).



### III. Basic starting points for setting strategic goals and principles of crime prevention in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027

Below is only **basic information** on the individual starting points and principles of crime prevention for setting strategic goals for the years 2022 to 2027. **Details** about them are available in the **annexes of this Strategy**, whether it is the Evaluation of the Implementation of the Strategy for the Prevention of Crime in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020 and the Evaluation of the Action Plan for the Prevention of Crime for 2016 to 2020 or the Starting Points for the Creation of Objectives and Measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027.

#### 1) Development of crime

The developed system and planning of crime prevention, among other factors, contribute to the fact that **the Czech Republic** is a country that has **long** been considered one of **the safest countries in the world**<sup>5</sup> according to the Global Peace Index (GPI), with a long-term decline in crime and the lowest crime rates in modern history. The Czech Republic has also managed to respond proactively to emerging trends and address them in their relative infancy.

**Over the period of the previous Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020** (compared to the baseline for 2015), **there was a decrease** from 247,628 to 165,525 crimes, which represents a decrease by 82,103 crimes (-33.2 %). An increase (slight) was recorded only in 2019, with +6,816 crimes, i.e. +3.5 %. The clearance rate increased compared to the previous period, fluctuating between 46.6-48.2 %, (average 47 %).

**The decrease also applies to property crime**, which represents the largest share of all criminal activity (more than 50 %). Between 2016 and 2020, there was an overall decrease by 35,966 crimes (-30.5 %).

The number of prosecuted persons in the period under review followed the number of crimes. Over the period, the **number of prosecuted persons fell** by 26,478 (-26 %) to 75,405. An increase was again recorded only in 2019 (+1 219, +1.4 %).

**The number of prosecuted and repeatedly convicted persons fell** by 22,945 (-43.3 %) to 30,070, with the exception of 2019 with a slight increase (+137, +3.3 %). Of all prosecuted persons, 39.9 % were prosecuted in 2020, while in 2016 it was 46.3 %.

However, in addition to the long-term downward trend in overall and property crime, we can also observe some **negative phenomena in the development of crime**.

In terms of the long-term development, the trend continues where **the commission of crime is increasingly shifting to cyberspace**. **Cybercrime is thus increasing** every year, with the exception of 2020. In the period under review, it increased by 3,050 offences (+60.7 %) to 8,073 offences. The most frequent crimes committed this way were fraud between private individuals, damage to and misuse of a recording on an information medium, credit fraud and, to a considerable extent, other vice offences.

Related to the above is the fact that **vice crime increased** during the period under review (except in 2020). Between 2016 and 2019, there was an overall increase by 477 offences

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<sup>5</sup> In 2020, the Czech Republic ranked on the 9th position in the world comparison, see: <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/maps/#/>.

(+21.1 %) from 2,256 to 2,733 offences. The increase in this phenomenon in cyberspace has a large role in the overall increase.

At the same time, the **proportion of latent crime is estimated to be extremely high**, up to 90 %.

**The number of prosecuted persons – children** under 18 years of age in the period under review, after a previous decline, **began to rise**, from 2016 to 2019 by 867 (+25.4 %) to 4,279. The largest increase was in 2016 (+623, +18.3 %). It then dropped to 3,689 in 2020. Youth are very active in cyberspace, showing high levels of trust in the online environment, without awareness of the associated risks.

**These negative phenomena must be intensively addressed, to which this Strategy** also responds (among other things, the issues of cybercrime prevention and crime committed by and against children have become completely independent priorities/strategic goals with a comprehensive set of specific objectives and measures compared to the previous Strategy).

## 2) Experience from previous periods

This **Strategy builds on the existing successes and good practices** established in previous years and at the same time aims to build on the experience gained and new knowledge (from the activities of entities involved in crime prevention, international experience, scientific knowledge, etc.) to further develop crime prevention in the Czech Republic, to strengthen cooperation, competences and capacities of the entities concerned, to expand assistance to victims of crime, to increase the effectiveness of the preventive measures taken and to respond to new threats and trends emerging in the area of security and public order.

For more information on the development of crime in the years 2016 to 2020 and on the above-mentioned achievements, experience and knowledge, activities and the fulfilment of goals and objectives, see the Evaluation of the fulfilment of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020 and the Evaluation of the Crime Prevention Action Plan for 2016 to 2020, which are annexed to this Strategy.

## 3) Theoretical background

There are a number of criminological theories on what causes crime and what should be the focus of crime prevention. One such theory is provided by **environmental criminology**, which focuses on the immediate situational causes of all contexts of crime. According to the so-called **routine activity theory** (Lawrence Cohen, Marcus Felson), a so-called predatory act (*crime*) occurs when a likely *perpetrator* and a suitable *target/victim* are in the same place at the same time in the absence of an effective *protector*. The output of this theory is a **crime analysis triangle**, the three sides of which represent the offender, the location and the target/victim. To the original 'inner' triangle is then added an 'outer' triangle of control elements – victim protector, offender supervisor and place manager.



Source: R. V. Clarke, J. E. Eck (2010): Crime Analysis in 60 Steps.

#### 4) Crime prevention at international level

Strategic and follow-up specific objectives of the Strategy are also in line with the current **priorities for crime prevention at international level.**

The **XIV. United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice** (7 to 12 March 2021, Kyoto, Japan) adopted the "**Kyoto Declaration** on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", identifying **priorities** for Member States **for the next 5 years**. These include, among others: Responding to new technologies, including the internet; Multidisciplinary cooperation and coordination between government bodies, the private sector, civil society, academia and the scientific community and other relevant stakeholders; Crime prevention support at all levels – local, regional, national and international; Addressing the causes of crime and risk factors; Evidence-based crime prevention; Evaluation of the effectiveness of prevention activities; Quality and availability of data on crime trends and their sharing; Prevention of domestic violence; Safe environment for victims; Rights of children and youth, their protection from all forms of crime, violence, abuse and exploitation online and offline; Adequate resources and training for professionals; Prevention of recidivism and reintegration of offenders into society.

New priorities for the coming period in the framework of the European Union have also been set by the **European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN)**, in a document called **EUCPN Multiannual Strategy (2021-2025)**. These include, in particular, promoting and developing crime prevention using evidence-based approaches, increasing the effectiveness of crime prevention activities, improving the transfer of information and good practice to national and especially local levels, linking with European Union policies, target group orientation, and expert assistance to Member States.

An important document for setting priorities for many policies, including crime prevention, is the **2030 Agenda** and its **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, which are reflected in the Czech Republic in the documents **Strategic Framework Czech Republic 2030 and Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Czech Republic**. Relevant priorities include, among others, a focus on persons at risk of income poverty (including the elderly people); persons at risk of discrimination and persons at risk of social exclusion; measures aimed at preventing violence, including domestic violence and human trafficking; employment support for persons most at risk on the labour market (including people who are socially

excluded or at risk of social exclusion, people with low qualifications and people who have served a prison sentence); transfer of knowledge between the public and private sectors and academia; measures to combat discrimination of the most vulnerable groups (ethnic, national and religious minorities, women and children); measures aimed at crime prevention for the creation of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and municipalities; participatory and deliberative methods in decision-making processes and the involvement of citizens and local communities; public access to information; favourable environment for the involvement of other stakeholders (civil society, private sector, local governments, and academics).

## 5) The impact of the covid-19 pandemic on crime and its prevention

**The impact of the covid-19 pandemic**, including the associated epidemiological measures, has had and continues to have a major impact on crime and crime prevention. On the one hand, restrictions on the movement of people, their activities, travel, etc. have had a **positive impact on reducing crime** in almost all areas (property, violent, etc.). **On the other hand, an increased number of complaints** (especially to helplines and crisis lines) of domestic violence are reported; people – and especially vulnerable people (children, the elderly) – are spending more time in cyberspace (and are thus exposed to all the risks associated with it – including moral offences, sexual coercion and abuse); and where new forms of specific crimes are emerging (such as medical fraud, forgery of various IDs and certificates: vaccinations, illnesses, negative tests). The measures and restrictions imposed have an **impact on people's psyche**. Among the most vulnerable people in this regard are children whose school attendance was limited.

Although countries, including the Czech Republic, have offered numerous programs to help the affected people and companies, this has not been able to compensate everyone in full, and this support means a **large debt for the state and other public budgets** for many years to come (which also accumulates with large shortfalls of income in public budgets). Public budgets will have to respond to this in the following years, **which may also have implications for employment, indebtedness, and the risk of poverty** for entire population groups. This could, irrespective of the aforementioned efforts, lead to an **increase in crime**.<sup>6</sup>

The pandemic and related measures have also brought a **number of problems to the implementation of prevention activities**. Interpersonal contacts had been severely restricted, making it impossible, among other things, to implement projects and activities aimed at particularly vulnerable groups, such as the elderly or children. Distance learning in schools had almost stopped the implementation of school-based primary prevention. Various trainings, seminars, conferences to share good practice could not take place. Implementers have gradually learned to make use of the possibilities of digital technologies, but despite the great benefits of these technologies, this cannot always fully replace personal contact and, moreover, there are new risks associated with the use of these technologies.

On the other hand, the pandemic also brought a **number of challenges**: how to learn to work differently (sometimes more effectively), how to expand the portfolio of prevention activities and their forms, and based on this lesson learned, we can come out of it all a little **stronger and better prepared** for the fight against crime and its prevention.

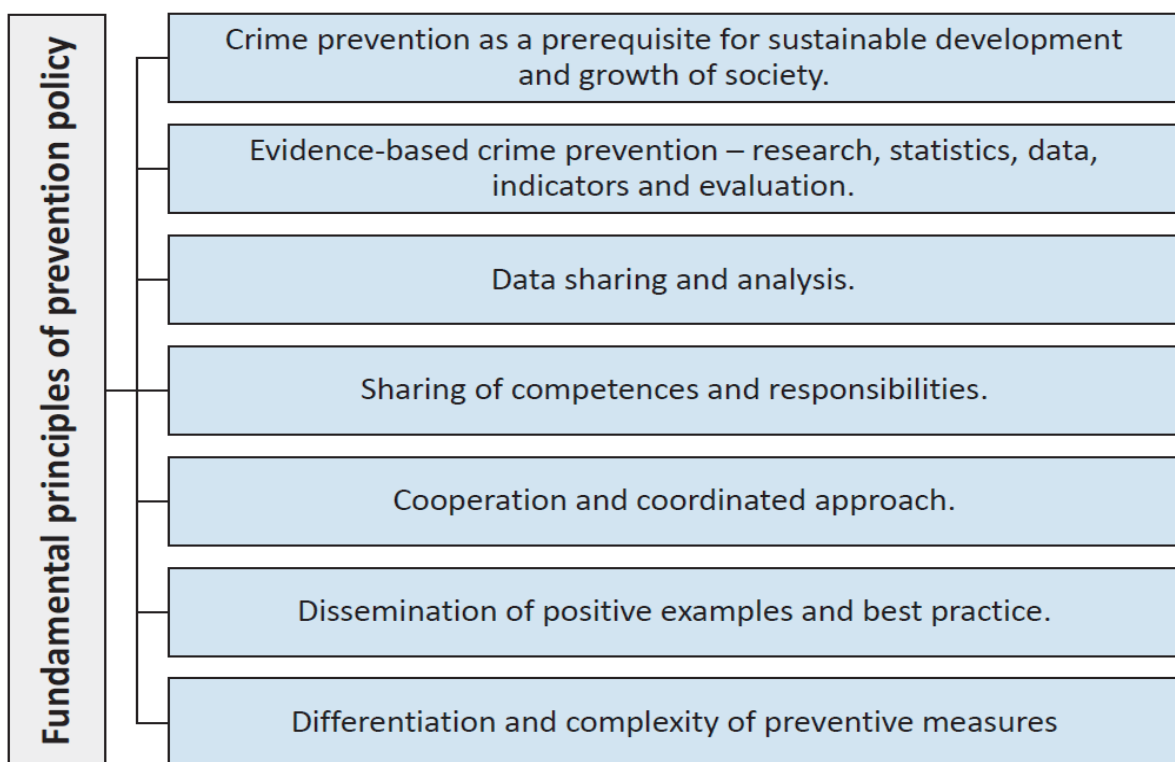
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<sup>6</sup> Concept of the Development of the Police of the Czech Republic until 2027, approved by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 8 March 2021 No. 262.

The Strategy does not contain special objectives and measures aimed at the covid-19 pandemic. Specific types of crime, which proved to be a major threat during the pandemic, even to the most vulnerable groups of the population, are covered by this Strategy, its specific objectives and measures, as well as the need for mutual cooperation and innovation. The same applies to the need to analyse changes in society and development trends and respond to them. These general **objectives of the Strategy, measures and principles, in their coherence and complexity, guarantee that we will be able to respond to new potential emerging situations, such as the covid-19 disease pandemic.**

## 6) Fundamental principles of prevention policy

The basic principles of preventive policy, based on long-term experience of implementing preventive policy and preventive activities, also reflected in a number of international documents (see above) – are also closely related to the determination and method of fulfilling individual strategic goals (and subsequently also specific goals and implementation measures).



### Crime prevention as a prerequisite for sustainable development and growth of society

As stipulated above in the United Nations documents, effective crime prevention strategies not only help reduce crime and the number of its victims, but also contribute to the overall public safety and sustainable development of states. They help improve quality of life and bring long-term benefits in terms of reducing costs associated with the criminal justice system and other social costs resulting from crime and other socially pathological phenomena.

### Evidence-based crime prevention – research, statistics, data, indicators and evaluation

Effective crime prevention policy and implemented measures should be based on facts, research, evaluated practice, i.e. it should be evidence-based. This principle is highlighted in

recent UN and EUCPN documents.<sup>7</sup> Important sources of data include official statistics, victimological surveys, geographical data or surveys of people's attitudes and experiences. Care should be taken to ensure the quality and representativeness of the data. For the display and interpretation of data, it is recommended to use analytical tools, geographic information systems, tools for processing population surveys. Another source of data and information is scientific research. For this purpose, cooperation between crime prevention implementers and the scientific and academic community is essential.

However, prevention policies and measures must not only be based on facts and evidence, but must also be evaluated to verify their success and effectiveness. Even for crime prevention, there are only limited resources available, so these resources need to be invested in proven and effective policies and measures. The basis for future evaluation is a proper initial analysis of the problems and the setting of appropriate objectives, including criteria and indicators to measure the achieved efficiency.

This principle is important not only for the implementers of prevention projects and measures, but it should also be promoted at the level of prevention policy makers, both at the professional level and at the political, decision-making level.

### Data sharing and analysis

Crime prevention can only be effective if it is based on empirically established and verified data and its subsequent expert analysis. In practice, the so-called SARA (Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment) model is applied, i.e. information collection, analysis, response and assessment. The planned action (response) must be based on an analysis of the necessary information and its implementation must be followed by an evaluation in order to verify its effectiveness and thus decide whether to proceed. It is also essential to have a good planning and management process for the measures or projects to be implemented. In addition, data held by one body may very well be used by other bodies to solve their problems. A typical example is, for example, the usability of data on offences in crime analyses carried out by the Police of the Czech Republic (and, conversely, data on crime in the planning of preventive measures within the municipality).

Therefore, it is very important to share such data with each other and to set the necessary rules for data provision (including respecting data protection). Another necessity is to ensure the validity of the offence registration data used for crime analysis (currently the Police of the Czech Republic uses only data from the "Records of Criminal Proceedings" Information system, which are not verified and are only indicative).

### Sharing of competences and responsibilities

In the area of ensuring security and public order, i.e. also in the prevention of crime, it is unequivocally true that it is not possible for a single entity to ensure its own or others' security. Individual entities (ministries and other state bodies, the Police of the Czech Republic, regional and municipal governments, municipal police, non-profit organizations, natural and legal persons) have their own defined responsibilities, powers and related authorizations in the system, which can be most effective precisely when combine and thus multiply their possibilities.

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<sup>7</sup> Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2021); European Crime Prevention Network Multiannual Strategy (2021-2025) (2020).

Furthermore, it is natural that local (e.g. municipal) priorities, even in the area of security and public order, do not always coincide with the assessment of security problems, or with security priorities from the state's point of view. That is why it is necessary, but also systemically correct, that part of the responsibility for one's own safety is always borne by the person at risk, or that the basic responsibility for local matters of public order in the district of the municipality lies with the municipality, which can establish a municipal police for this purpose by law or can implement various preventive activities.

#### Cooperation and coordinated approach

Close cooperation and coordination of each other's procedures is therefore essential to ensure the above principle. Since the causes of specific criminal behaviour are often multi-source, i.e. crime prevention is a multidisciplinary area, it is also necessary to involve multiple actors who are responsible for these source areas.

#### Dissemination of positive examples and best practice

Using examples of best practice and positive experience of how similar problems have already been effectively solved is another appropriate procedure. At the same time, it is possible to draw on extensive domestic experience, whether from regions and municipalities, or even within the Police of the Czech Republic. Inspiration can also be obtained on the basis of international bilateral or multilateral relations or from specialist literature. For this purpose, it is advisable to create databases of examples of good practice. Specific examples should be included in these databases on the basis of set efficiency criteria, possibly evaluations by users and implementers, or at least they should indicate whether the given project was evaluated and with what results.

However, it should be borne in mind that even the best and most successful examples that have worked well in one location may not necessarily work in another location, even if the problems seem similar at first sight. It is always necessary to analyze and compare individual cases and only then assess whether the model adopted can work in another place, under different conditions.

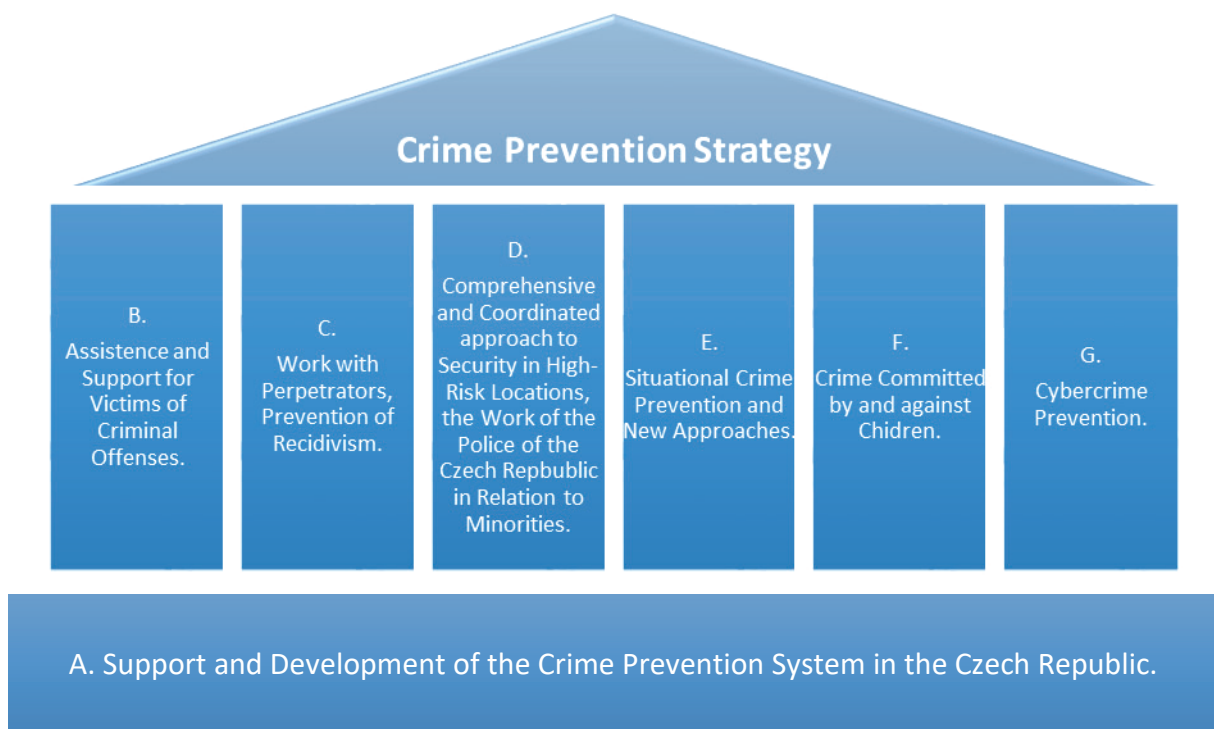
#### Differentiation and complexity of preventive measures

There is no universal preventive measure that can be applied to solve all problems. Dividing crime prevention into primary, secondary, tertiary, or social, situational, victimological, etc., is not just a pointless theory for criminology textbooks. Every crime, misdemeanour or other criminally risky behaviour has its reason, its causes, the environment in which it could have occurred. These causes either manifest themselves in one specific case, or they create a more general threat of crime repeating itself in a given location, by a given offender, against a given victim. Therefore, it is also necessary to choose different tools and approaches to approach their prevention.

## IV. Strategic goals of crime prevention in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027

Strategic goals are also based on **priority areas** approved for this purpose by the **National Crime Prevention Committee**. These areas are:

- A. Support and Development of the Crime Prevention System in the Czech Republic.
- B. Assistance and Support for Victims of Criminal Offenses.
- C. Work with Perpetrators, Prevention of Recidivism.
- D. Comprehensive and Coordinated approach to Security in High-Risk Locations, the Work of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to Minorities.
- E. Situational Crime Prevention and New Approaches.
- F. Crime Committed by and against Children.
- G. Cybercrime Prevention.



Based on the above-mentioned background and priorities, the following strategic goals for crime prevention in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 have been set:

### **Czech Republic:**

- A. *Develops the crime prevention system and financially supports crime prevention activities, builds on an evidence-based approach and empirical knowledge; strengthens cooperation (including international), capacity and competence of relevant stakeholders.***
- B. *Provides assistance and support to victims of criminal (and misdemeanour) activities, with an emphasis on assisting particularly vulnerable victims and combating violence, conducts research on the behaviour and needs of victims and takes measures to reduce latency and secondary victimisation.***



- C. Focuses on combating recidivism, on the early and coordinated resocialization of offenders, and promotes work with violent persons.***
- D. Takes a comprehensive and coordinated approach to addressing crime in at-risk locations based on a partnership between responsible entities and representatives /residents of the locations, addressing not only the manifestations but also the causes of the problems. It takes into account the specific needs and problems of minority groups living in these locations.***
- E. Develops and supports situational crime prevention, strengthens the resilience of sites to crime, increases public awareness of protection options, while promoting and implementing new approaches and technologies.***
- F. Monitors the development of crime committed by and against children and responds in a timely manner with appropriate measures; increases the protection of children from violence and other crime-risk phenomena; identifies children at risk early and implements necessary interventions, and develops a functional system for searching for missing children.***
- G. Actively, systemically and in a coordinated manner, strengthens the prevention of cybercrime and risky behaviour in cyberspace and provides assistance and support to victims in cyberspace.***

These strategic goals are followed by more specific objectives in the individual chapters.

## V. Specific objectives to fulfil defined strategic goals

The following are again only the basic background for each strategic objective, in particular a brief description of the current situation, the measures in place (which should be continued or built upon and further developed in the coming period) and the existing problems, on the basis of which detailed specific objectives have been set. Details of these are available in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022-2027, which are annexed to this Strategy.

### A. SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CRIME PREVENTION SYSTEM IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

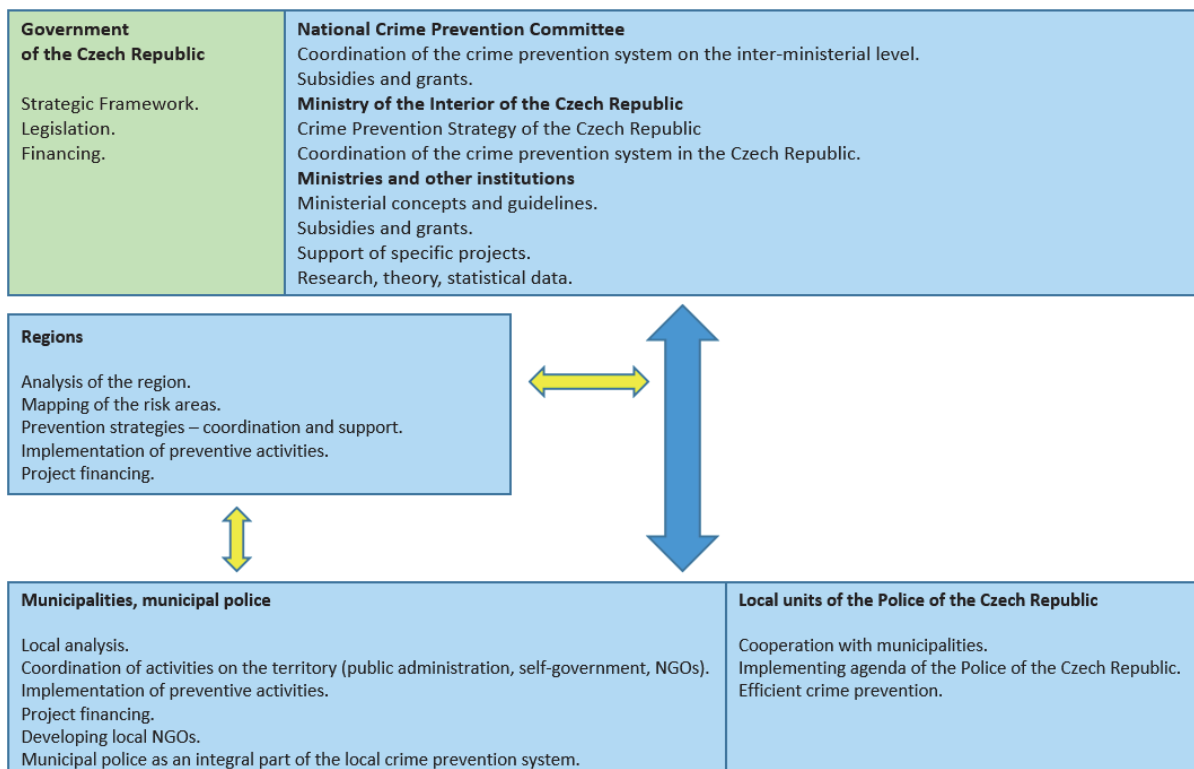
**Strategic Goal A: The Czech Republic develops the crime prevention system and financially supports crime prevention activities, builds on an evidence-based approach and empirical knowledge, strengthens cooperation (including international), capacity and competence of relevant stakeholders.**

An effective crime prevention system is the basis for a successful state prevention policy. This can be considered stable and successful in the Czech Republic, since, based on previous crime prevention strategies, it includes the following three levels:

1. national – the Government of the Czech Republic, the National Crime Prevention Committee, ministries and other state institutions,
2. regional – regional authorities,
3. local – self-governments of cities and municipalities.

The following diagram shows the entire crime prevention system and the role of individual stakeholders in it:

**Crime Prevention System in the Czech Republic**



## 1) Stakeholders involved in the crime prevention system

a) The **National Crime Prevention Committee** (hereinafter referred to as the “National Committee”) plays a coordinating role at the national level in the crime prevention system. Together with this Strategy, a resolution is submitted to the Government of the Czech Republic to further expand the membership of the National Committee to include the General Inspectorate of Security Forces and the National Office for Cyber and Information Security, which have an important role in the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the Strategy (crime prevention in the security forces, cyber security and cybercrime prevention).

b) **Ministries and its subordinate state organisations** develop their **own governmental or ministerial strategies** in their areas of competence. In addition to reactive measures and approaches, strategies and concepts focusing on the security policy of the state in the area of combating criminal and delinquent activities or risk-taking behaviour should always include a section on prevention.

They also develop and implement their own **crime prevention projects** and financially support crime prevention activities and projects through **subsidy programs or financial mechanisms within their ministries** and subordinate institutions. These activities and subsidy programs have a significant impact on ensuring the functioning of the crime prevention system in the Czech Republic and its continuous development and ability to respond to emerging problems and challenges. It is therefore essential to continue these activities, including their financial support.

However, within the **Ministry of the Interior, the financial resources** allocated to individual subsidy programs and to the ministerial program **are unfortunately insufficient to cover the objective needs** to ensure the implementation of necessary crime prevention projects at the local level and within the supported subject areas and to expand proven projects throughout the Czech Republic.

Ministries and their organizations also ensure the **education** of relevant workers in their area of competence for better implementation of activities in the area of crime prevention. It is necessary to further strengthen the competences and capacities of these bodies and their employees. To provide **ongoing methodical support** in the area of crime prevention to cooperating stakeholders.

c) One of the most important stakeholders in the area of prevention, both at national level and especially at regional and local level, in the implementation of specific prevention activities and measures is the **Police of the Czech Republic**. During the period of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020, the Police of the Czech Republic has dealt with a number of long-term problems in the area of crime prevention. Crime prevention has gradually become one of the priorities of the Police of the Czech Republic and its management. It is necessary to **complete** the objective of **separating the area of prevention** from the area of providing information to the public. As a result of strengthening the role of prevention, it is also necessary to adopt a new training module for crime prevention more focused on practical management of police prevention activities, to allocate adequate financial resources or to reflect more **analytical activities** in the area of crime prevention, to improve the **quality and availability of data** for such analyses, to create or acquire the necessary **analytical tools** for data work, to continue **sharing crime data** with the public and municipalities.

d) **Regions and municipalities are an essential part of the crime prevention system in the Czech Republic.** Within the framework of crime prevention, especially through the created positions of crime prevention managers, the **regions** primarily coordinate crime prevention activities on their territory, mediate information between ministries and municipalities, participate in the subsidy procedure for crime prevention of the Ministry of the Interior, or implement their own subsidy activities in this area. **Municipalities** form the basic level at which crime prevention measures are finally implemented in practice. The municipal level is the key level at which specific problems need to be solved and, to this end, the necessary cooperation between municipal authorities (including municipal police) and those exercising delegated state powers, local representations of state authorities, the Police of the Czech Republic, the non-profit sector, citizens and business entities needs to be implemented.

In order to improve the quality of implementation of prevention activities **by regions and municipalities**, it is advisable to **strengthen the competences and capacities** of prevention **workers** and to create an appropriate environment (e.g. in the area of training, sharing examples of good practice, financing of prevention activities, or legislation).

**The Crime Prevention Strategy adopted by the Government of the Czech Republic creates the conditions for them to do so, sets rules and recommendations** for participation in the national crime prevention system, the creation of their own crime prevention system at regional/local level, their own prevention concepts and security analyses, and provides methodological, coordination and financial support for building this system and their own prevention activities and measures. These need to be **updated in the light of current conditions and experience gained.**

The **financial support** provided by the state to support the role of regions and municipalities in the crime prevention system ensures the successful functioning of this system, but unfortunately it is no longer sufficient to continue its necessary development in the light of current needs and challenges – and needs to be strengthened.

e) In addition to the public entities mentioned above, **private entities** have an irreplaceable role in crime prevention – **non-governmental non-profit organizations, scientific and academic sphere, business entities, individuals as volunteers, donors**, etc. It is necessary for the state or local governments to continue to support cooperation and to create the necessary transparent systemic, legislative, administrative, organisational, methodological, financial and other conditions for their involvement in prevention activities and measures.

The use of **volunteers** in the area of security and crime prevention offers very positive experiences. Thus, it is necessary to **continue to support the activities of volunteers**, whether organised by non-profit volunteer organisations or municipalities, and to **create conditions for their further development**, including the development of a methodology for the implementation of a standard program for the **involvement of volunteers in the provision of post-penitentiary care and the prevention of recidivism** of offenders of criminal and misdemeanour activities.

## 2) Selected methods and instruments of prevention policy

### a) Evidence-based crime prevention: statistics, data, research, analysis, monitoring and evaluation

An evidence-based approach to crime prevention is currently one of **the most emphasized needs and priorities** in the area of preventive policy, also within the UN and EUCPN. Such attitude highlights the need for evidence in the form of **data, analyses, monitoring and**

**evaluations.** And not only official data, but also from surveys and research, which provide a more comprehensive overview of crime, including latent crime. Analytical research, which uses quantitative and qualitative evidence on crime and criminogenic factors, is also an important tool for the development of knowledge-based preventive policy. The evaluation offers a view not only of what works, but also why it works and how it is possible to successfully implement preventive measures in various contexts.

During the period of the previous Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020, great progress was made in the area of analyses and data, a number of innovative tools were introduced and piloted within the Police of the Czech Republic. The functional period of this Strategy should focus on the completion of pilot activities and their introduction into the routine practice of the Police of the Czech Republic, municipalities and municipal police throughout the Czech Republic, or their updating and upgrading.

**Research** should be carried out in **the closest possible interaction with practice and** with and for the benefit of preventive **policy makers** to ensure that research outputs are reflected in their work. Increasingly, **knowledge from technical disciplines, information technology, etc., is increasingly being applied.**

In order to evaluate the **effectiveness of the use of funds** in the implementation of prevention activities/projects, appropriate **evaluation mechanisms** need to be an integral part of the implementation process. These must be based on objective evaluation and the correct setting of objectives and relevant criteria to assess the success/effectiveness of both individual projects and entire subsidy programs. This also has a major **impact on the quality of crime prevention by the implementer of the prevention activities** and thus on the reduction of crime and the improvement of security and public order in the area. By **sharing examples of good practice** (in the sense of prevention activities that have been evaluated as truly effective and successful), the quality of prevention is then increased throughout the national territory (or even throughout the European Union when shared between countries), which has significant implications for the security situation. The need to evaluate the success/effectiveness of prevention projects and programs is also supported by the **Supreme Audit Office's audit conclusion No. 18/20.**

## **b) Awareness-raising and information activities**

**Awareness-raising** is one of the **basic methods of working with the public**, both professional and lay, in the area of crime prevention, both within the framework of primary (informing the general public), secondary (information targeted at groups of potential victims or perpetrators at risk) and tertiary (working with specific victims or perpetrators) prevention measures. The information may concern the state and development of crime in general, risk locations, specific types of risks and threats affecting a given target group, possibilities and ways of protection against crime and other socially pathological phenomena. Awareness-raising and information activities must be carried out by all stakeholders involved in crime prevention, taking into account their scope of competence.

However, awareness-raising, information activities and campaigns, and media coverage of crime prevention also cost work and entail expenses, so it **must be approached efficiently, on the basis of proven experience and models** that produce relevant results.

### c) International cooperation

In the area of international cooperation in crime prevention, the Czech Republic focuses primarily on representation under the umbrella of the most important global and European bodies representing this cooperation and setting the direction of prevention policy.

These include representation within the **United Nations (Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, United Nations Human Rights Committee, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, etc.)**, the **European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) and the Council of Europe** (focus on human rights, victims of crime and particularly vulnerable persons). The Czech Republic is also very active in the **development of technical standards for crime prevention at international level**, where it acts as the secretariat of the **Technical Committee CEN/TC 325 Crime Prevention through Building, Facility and Area Design**. Police co-operation agreements are also important for bilateral co-operation, enabling co-operation in crime prevention, for example by participating in training programs for police officers or sharing information on best practice.

It is also necessary to pay special attention to this cooperation and involvement in the activities of international organisations and to continuously work on its development. In addition, international cooperation also proves to be a very good source for drawing on positive experience and best practices and, in many cases, for drawing on missing funding.

### d) Legislation

Between 2012 and 2014, in cooperation with the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, an **analysis of the need for legislation on crime prevention** was prepared, particularly with regard to the need for a separate law on crime prevention. The National Committee concluded by recommending to proceed with **partial amendments to the existing legislation** regulating prevention activities or the status of entities involved in crime prevention, and at the same time to **integrate** crime prevention issues more into the **strategic documents of the Government** concerning criminal policy. There has been no change in the above approach and neither domestic nor foreign experience has led to a change in the previously adopted position.

### e) Restorative justice

The **Restorative Justice Strategy for the Czech Republic** (2021, as an output of the European project Restorative Justice: Strategy for Change)<sup>8</sup> **describes restorative justice** at the most general level as a different angle of looking at crime and a different approach to dealing with its consequences. It introduces new principles, premises and objectives into the area of criminal law, with a fundamental focus on compensation for harm caused, acceptance of responsibility and the repairing of disturbed interpersonal relationships. The principles of restorative justice are promoted in a number of international documents.

The aim of this Strategy is to **develop the restorative justice approach in the Czech Republic** and, in line with the Restorative Justice Strategy for the Czech Republic, to establish systemic cooperation across all relevant professions to develop the restorative justice approach in the Czech Republic, to promote awareness and education, and to support existing and new restorative programs in the Czech Republic.

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<sup>8</sup> See here <https://restorativni-justice.cz/strategie-restorativni-justice-pro-ceskou-republiku/>.

On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are thus set under Strategic Goal A:

Specific objectives A	A.1 Preventive policies and approaches are included in all strategies and approaches in the area of penal policy, security and public order, risk behaviour and working with particularly vulnerable groups of people.
	A.2 The state provides sufficient financial support for crime prevention activities and projects.
	A.3 According to the possibilities of the state budget, seek to increase financial support for crime prevention from the Ministry of the Interior.
	A.4 Strengthen cooperation and competences of crime prevention workers.
	A.5 Strengthen the evidence-based approach to crime prevention.
	A.6 Build a unified system of prevention within the Police of the Czech Republic and strengthen its capacities, including the analytical ones.
	A.7 Regions and municipalities create conditions for the development of crime prevention on their territory.
	A.8 To support the involvement of volunteers in the area of crime prevention.
	A.9 Develop the restorative justice approach in the Czech Republic
	A.10 Raise public awareness of current risks in the area of crime and risk behaviour, implemented crime prevention activities/projects and achieve that people protect themselves more from risks and that they trust public administration bodies more.
	A.11 Maintain international cooperation in the area of crime prevention as a means to improve the effectiveness of own activities, to follow modern trends and experience and to share best practice.

Specific measures for the fulfilment of these specific objectives are set out in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in detail in the Implementation Plan, which is an Annex to this Strategy.

## B. ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES

**Strategic Goal B: The Czech Republic provides assistance and support to victims of crime (including misdemeanours), with an emphasis on assisting particularly vulnerable victims and the fight against violence, conducts research on the behaviour and needs of victims and takes measures to reduce latency and secondary victimisation of victims.**

Pursuant to **Act No. 45/2013 Coll., on Victims of Crimes**, a victim is any natural person who was (or is supposed to have been) physically harmed by a criminal offense; who has suffered property or non-property damage, or at whose expense the perpetrator has been enriched by the criminal act. Any person who feels that he/she is a victim of a criminal offence shall be considered a victim, unless the contrary appears to be the case; or there is a clear abuse of the victim's position. There is an increased risk of secondary victimisation for some victims, which in some cases is even presumed by law. Such victims are classified as particularly vulnerable victims. The Czech Republic has a modern law (Act No. 45/2013 Coll.,

on Victims of Crime, effective from 1 August 2013). The adoption of the Act was also accompanied by a number of practical measures by the state to help victims and strengthen their position.

In the fight against crime, the role of the **victim "protector"** is important in focusing on victims. This role can be fulfilled by a number of stakeholders in the crime prevention system (ministries, other state and local authorities, NGOs, business entities and others). Victims of crime must have **access to support and protection** at all times. During the restrictions on the free movement of people in society during the covid-19 pandemic, there has been a global increase in domestic violence,<sup>9</sup> child sexual abuse, cybercrime<sup>10</sup> and racist and xenophobic hate crimes.<sup>11</sup> It is therefore essential to strengthen the framework for victim support and protection and to ensure that it is resilient in crisis situations.

Victims' difficulties in accessing justice, despite significant progress made in previous years, result mainly from **a lack of information, and not fully sufficient support and protection**. Victims may be subjected to **secondary victimisation** during criminal proceedings and when claiming compensation. The way to improve the position of victims in pre-trial proceedings is through **early identification of particularly vulnerable victims, communication with the victim** and the related training of professionals, as well as greater clarity of the information provided. An equally important factor is to increase **citizens' trust in state institutions** (e.g. the Police of the Czech Republic and other law enforcement agencies) and the related **timely reporting** of violations.

Within the Ministry of Justice, the Probation and Mediation Service (PMS) provides assistance and support, legal information and restorative programs to victims of crime. Services to victims are provided also by other stakeholders.

The Ministry of the Interior also pays **attention to "victims" of offenses**. The protection of persons affected by an offense is focused on preventing contact with the offender, the presence of representatives of the Authority for Social and Legal Protection of Children when questioning the child, etc.

**Special Interrogation Rooms** have long contributed to the **elimination of secondary victimisation**. The Ministry of the Interior continuously supports their construction and modernisation and the increase of their usability for victims of crime. New priorities include the introduction of **measures** for simplified/accelerated **transcription of interrogations** obtained from these rooms. This will eliminate the need for victims and child witnesses to be re-interviewed in court through the use of interview transcripts conducted in special interrogation rooms, further reducing their secondary victimisation.

Special attention will be paid to the **education of the elderly people** with the aim of preparing and setting up an interdisciplinary system of education for the elderly as victims or witnesses of criminal activity, to prevent their repeated victimization and to a specific approach that takes into account their psychological and health status.

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<sup>9</sup> For topics on the increase in domestic violence during the covid-19 pandemic, see: World Health Organization, *Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): Violence against Women*, April 2020. <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-violence-against-women>.

<sup>10</sup> See: Europol, *Pandemic Profiteering: How Criminals Exploit the COVID-19 Crisis*, March 2020. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-documents/pandemic-profiteering-how-criminals-exploit-covid-19-crisis>.

<sup>11</sup> See: <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2020/covid19-rights-impact-april-1>



An important area of work with victims of crime is the prevention of and assistance and support for victims of domestic violence and the implementation of the tasks of the "Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence for 2019-2022" (Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No. 318/2019) aimed at improving the current level of protection of persons at risk of domestic and gender-based violence (including children living in a family with a history of domestic and gender-based violence), to make the prevention of this form of violence more effective, to develop the education of the relevant professions in the area of domestic and gender-based violence and to support systemic work with violent persons.

The Ministry of the Interior implements a **specific subsidy title to help victims of crime, the Subsidy Program for Non-State Non-Profit Organisations Operating the European Crisis or Assistance Lines 116 000, 116 111 and 116 006 in the Czech Republic** to ensure free calls to these lines. In addition to the continued support for the above-mentioned lines, which amounts to EUR 2 million, it will also be necessary to provide financial support for the newly established **116 123 – Psychological First Aid Line** (victims of assault, rape, domestic violence, suicide prevention and murder threats ...) in the amount of CZK 1 million (which will also cover the increased needs of the already supported lines).

**Victims of trafficking in human beings** are also particularly vulnerable victims of crime. The issue is addressed by the Ministry of the Interior through the National Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings in the Czech Republic (currently for the 2020 to 2023). The Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the Police of the Czech Republic, a specialised NGO and the International Organisation for Migration, is also implementing the "**Program for the Support and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings**" with the aim of providing victims of trafficking in human beings with support and appropriate protection in the form of necessary services. Extensive **prevention and information activities** are also carried out on a regular basis.

**Countering extremism and prejudicial violence** or engaging the general public **against violence against disadvantaged groups** is also a priority in the area of work with victims.

**On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are thus set under Strategic Goal B:**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Specific objectives B</b> | B.1 Comprehensively ensure the fight against all forms of trafficking in human beings, including a focus on prevention, victims identification and assistance and support for victims. |
|                              | B.2 Provision of direct assistance and support for victims of trafficking in human beings through the Program for Support and Protection of Trafficking in Human Beings.               |
|                              | B.3 Support for the protection of victims and the reduction of risks associated with extremism and prejudiced hatred and the elimination of social tensions caused by these risks.     |
|                              | B.4 Support the operation of help lines for victims of crime.  |
|                              | B.5 Identify the status and development of the agenda of victims of crime.   |
|                              | B.6 Make effort to reduce the latency of criminal activity through early identification of particularly vulnerable victims and motivation to report illegal acts.                      |
|                              | B.7 Implement measures leading to the reduction of secondary victimization of victims.   |

B.8 Increase public awareness in the area of combating violence.

B.9 Support the development of services for victims of crime

B.10 Comprehensively ensure the fight against all forms of domestic and gender-based violence, including a focus on prevention, identification of victims and assistance and support to victims.

Specific measures for the implementation of these specific objectives are set out in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in detail in the Implementation Plan, which is an Annex to this Strategy.

## C. WORK WITH PERPETRATORS, PREVENTION OF RECIDIVISM

**Strategic Goal C: The Czech Republic focuses on the fight against recidivism, on early and coordinated resocialisation of perpetrators and supports work with violent persons.**

While in 2000 the **proportion of repeat offenders** was still 30 %, in 2011 it was 48.5 % and in 2014 it was 53.3 %. During the effect of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic from 2016 to 2020, these figures were successfully reduced. In 2016, the figure was 46.3 %, and in 2020 it was only 39.9 %. The absolute number of repeat offenders also decreased, by more than 40 % over the period of the Strategy.

The **causes of recidivism** vary among offenders, but **very often lie in the external environment**, where the offenders, after returning from imprisonment, find themselves in a situation where, without adequate assistance, they are indebted, their families have broken up, they have no housing, no job, and are unable to provide for their own livelihood and the basic necessities of life. The basis of work with the offender (convicted, released) is mainly based on the activities of the Penitentiary Service of the Czech Republic and the Probation and Mediation Service (PMS). However, other public administration bodies, such as social workers, especially social probation officers, labour offices, as well as various non-profit organisations, also play an irreplaceable role in this regard. In order to integrate released persons into normal independent life, it is essential to provide the necessary **follow-up services in a comprehensive manner**.

When working with a convict, it is necessary to **base the work on a careful analysis** of the convict, his/her surroundings, and internal and external influences on his/her behaviour and actions, on the basis of which the causes of his/her pathological behaviour will be identified and a **comprehensive complex of interrelated and coordinated activities** will be designed to determine a program of treatment and further care. This complex of measures and activities must be set up not only for the period of stay **in prison** but also **after leaving prison** and must be regularly evaluated and, if necessary, updated.

**The interconnection of policies and measures** in the area of prisons, crime prevention, social work, social housing, combating the fight against social exclusion, etc. must be implemented both **at the national (strategic) level and at the local (implementation) level**. The effectiveness of this approach is demonstrated by the successful pilot projects already

implemented<sup>12</sup>, which should be disseminated as widely as possible to the regions of the Czech Republic through good practice.

These principles are newly reflected in the strategic documents of the Penitentiary Service of the Czech Republic and the Probation and Mediation Service, namely the **Concept of the Penitentiary System until 2025** (approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 3 February 2016 No. 79) and the **Concept of the Development of Probation and Mediation until 2025** (approved by the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 11 October 2017 No. 733). These concepts should continue to be evaluated on an ongoing basis (on an annual basis) and be followed up after 2025 with new conceptual documents continuing the proven approaches and practices.

The Ministry of Justice then supports the **development of probation and re-socialisation programs** for offenders and for work with their families through **subsidy programs**. Probation and re-socialisation programs need to be supported in the years to come.

An important aim of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is **to strengthen the position of the social worker** and social probation officer in the prevention of recidivism and resocialisation of offenders, including anchoring the position and activities of social workers in the public administration.

A very important aspect in working with offenders is **working with violent persons**. The Ministry of the Interior supports this specialisation **within the issue of prevention of domestic violence in relationships through work with violent persons and people close them**, including through the subsidy program Prevention of Socially Pathological Phenomena. In accordance with the Action Plan on Domestic and Gender-Based Violence for 2019 to 2022 and the Strategy for Gender Equality for 2021 to 2030, the Ministry of the Interior has the task to increase the subsidy program by at least CZK 2 million (to a minimum of CZK 4 million) and thus create space for expanding therapeutic services (or expanding the systemic framework of programs, concepts and methodologies for working with violent persons or expanding the availability and quality of education, training, and awareness-raising in this area, which can also be supported from the subsidy program) for working with violent persons and persons who do not tolerate aggression in relationships.

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<sup>12</sup> For example, the pilot project Together to Freedom, which was implemented with the support of European Union funds by RUBIKON Centre, a registered institute, in close cooperation with the Penitentiary Service of the Czech Republic, showed a double employment rate and a positive effect on criminal thinking, with each CZK 100 invested in work with clients who obtained jobs, did not receive social benefits and did not commit crimes, saving the state CZK 414. Also, the RUBIKON Centre's project implemented in cooperation with some regions, 'A New Chance to Overcome the Past', proved that support in finding employment and tackling debt significantly contributes to integration. In a sample of RUBIKON Centre clients examined, only 11.4 % of the persons were found to have recidivated, while the control group had a recidivism rate of more than 90 %.

**On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are thus set under Strategic Goal C:**

Specific objectives C	C.1 Penitentiary system of the Czech Republic is conceptually focused on the correction of convicts in order to prevent recidivism and on the connection with crime prevention and post-penitentiary care with the aim of reintegrating perpetrators.
	C.2 The Probation and Mediation Service's work with perpetrators is conceptually focused on diverting perpetrators from a criminal career and integrating them into society.
	C.3 Consolidate the positions of social worker and social probation officer within penitentiary and post-penitentiary care.
	C.4 Support the prevention of domestic violence in relationships through work with the violent person and persons close to him/her, expand the availability of therapeutic services.
	C.5 Support the development of probation and resocialisation programs for perpetrators and for work with their families.
	C.6 Increase the number of regions in which projects are implemented to prevent the recidivism of criminals within the framework of the Crime Prevention Program at the local level.
	C.7. Support the effectiveness of work with released perpetrators through research activities.

Specific measures for the fulfilment of these specific objectives are set out in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in detail in the Implementation Plan, which is an Annex to this Strategy.

## **D. COMPREHENSIVE AND COORDINATED APPROACH TO SECURITY IN HIGH-RISK LOCATIONS, THE WORK OF THE POLICE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN RELATION TO MINORITIES**

**Strategic Goal D: The Czech Republic implements a comprehensive and coordinated approach to tackling crime in risk locations based on partnership between responsible stakeholders and representatives/inhabitants of the locations, focusing not only on the manifestations but also on the causes of the problems. It takes into account the specific needs and problems of minority groups living in these locations.**

### **a) Socially excluded locations and their security aspects**

In the Czech Republic, according to the findings published in the updated Analysis of Socially Excluded Locations in the Czech Republic (GAC spol. s r.o., May 2015), 95,000 to 115,000 inhabitants live in socially excluded localities. In total, 606 socially excluded locations<sup>13</sup> and

<sup>13</sup> Socially excluded location or location, that is at risk of social exclusion within the framework of the research Analysis of Socially Excluded Locations in the Czech Republic is considered to be a location where there is a concentration of more than 20 people living in unsatisfactory conditions (indicated by the number of recipients

approximately 700 hostels were identified in 297 towns and municipalities in the Czech Republic.

The Social Inclusion Department (the Agency) of the Ministry for Regional Development has developed a single tool that incorporates key indicators from different areas of social exclusion and therefore allows for a nationwide assessment of the extent of the burden of social exclusion – the **Social Exclusion Index**.<sup>14</sup> According to it, in 2020, 208 municipalities were in the most burdened cohort (12 to 30 points), while 271 municipalities were in the middle cohort (8 to 11 points).

**Overall, the value of the social exclusion index for 2020 has increased compared to 2019, i.e. the extent of social exclusion in the Czech Republic has increased year-on-year. Specifically, there were 34 more municipalities in the most burdened cohort (12 to 30 points), and 45 more municipalities in the second most burdened cohort (8 to 11 points).**

People living in such locations overwhelmingly **have to face not individual problems, but a whole complex of problems, and it is very difficult to get out of this environment on their own.** The impossibility or lack of belief in a better life and the absence of alternative legal ways to provide for their own and their family's livelihoods then poses an **increased risk that these people will start to acquire the necessary resources illegally.** However, people living in socially excluded locations often become **victims of crime** themselves, in many cases of an organised nature, such as usury, extortion and human trafficking. However, the perpetrators of such organised crime are often also people living in or coming from socially excluded localities. Such an environment is also characterised by a higher risk of **radical or extremist sentiments**, racism, xenophobia and related verbal or even physical attacks, demonstrations, riots, etc.

Due to the complexity and depth of the problems that afflict the socially excluded locations, crime prevention must also be approached not only with regard to the visible manifestations of crime, but with regard to a comprehensive approach to addressing the causes of these problems and the conditions in which people live there.

## **b) Issues of antigypsyism**

The issue of the status and inclusion of Roma, who make up a large part of the population of socially excluded locations, is addressed in great detail in the new **Strategy for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation 2021 to 2030**, adopted by the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 10 May 2021 No. 447. It deals in great detail with the issue of antigypsyism<sup>15</sup> in society, the fight against prejudices and stereotypes, hate speech,

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of the living allowance), who inhabit a physically or symbolically bounded space (indicated by external identification).

<sup>14</sup> The Social Exclusion Index is constructed from data on recipients of the subsistence allowance, recipients of the housing allowance, persons in foreclosure, long-term unemployed persons and the number of early school leavers. The index is updated annually. The basic territorial level to which the social exclusion index relates is represented by municipalities. The scale of the index ranges from 0 to 30, with 0 indicating the absence or minimum extent of social exclusion and 30 indicating the highest level of social exclusion. See <https://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/dokument/metodika-pro-posouzeni-miry-a-rozsahu-socialniho-vylouceniv-uzemi/> for more information.

<sup>15</sup> Strategy for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation 2021 to 2030 also provides a **definition of antigypsyism**, on which other Government documents, including this Strategy, are to be based. It defines antigypsyism, in line with the Antigypsyism Alliance, as a historically constructed, persistent complex of racism against social groups identified under the unifying stigma of gypsy or other related terms, and includes: 1. The

the competences of law enforcement bodies, as well as specific problems in the area of security and crime, such as domestic and gender-based violence in Roma families. Strategy for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation 2021 to 2030 needs to be taken into account in the prevention policies of the actors in this Strategy.

### **c) Work of the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities**

For many years, the **work of the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities** has been regulated by a separate internal conceptual material within the Ministry of the Interior. According to the decision of the management of the Ministry of the Interior, and after discussion in the National Committee, the ministerial concept now becomes a part of this Government Strategy.

The Police of the Czech Republic perceives **minority agenda as an indispensable and necessary part of police activities** in ensuring internal security and public order in the Czech Republic. The Police of the Czech Republic is a guarantor of safety and security for all persons regardless of race, religion, gender, ethnic origin or social status. This **activity is based on the vision** that the Police of the Czech Republic closely cooperates with minority groups, supports their integration and inclusion in the service. It participates in activities organised by them and ensures good relations with them. It builds on an objective and equal approach to all minorities as victims of crime, helps to prevent conflicts between the majority society and members of minorities, and applies modern procedures and methods. The Police of the Czech Republic has an indispensable role in **raising legal awareness** and information on assistance from the Police of the Czech Republic (or other stakeholders), including information on penalties for illegal actions.

The Police of the Czech Republic has regulated the form of work with minorities by the Instruction of the President of the Police of 20 December 2013 No. 258, on activities in the area of minorities. The basic instrument for the activities of the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities are the so-called liaison officers for minorities. Since 2014, as part of a pilot project, the Police of the Czech Republic has also been introducing police specialists in the area of policing in relation to the minority group of Roma in socially excluded locations.

In the environment of the socially excluded locations, the Police of the Czech Republic routinely encounter **increased distrust in law enforcement** and assistance from state authorities, including **distrust in assistance on the side of the police itself**. This manifests itself, for example, in the difficulty of dealing with such fundamental crimes in socially excluded locations, as drug crime and usury. The Police of the Czech Republic has therefore introduced new tools and measures in recent years to reverse or at least mitigate this situation and to contribute to increased trust and cooperation with the police.

Among the **risk factors that make the work of the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of minorities more difficult** and that need to be overcome in order to achieve significant success in this area are, in particular: low awareness of minority specifics, inappropriate communication, prejudice and mutual distrust, lack of intercultural competence, language barrier and high turnover and low motivation.

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homogenization and essentialization of the perception and description of these groups; 2. The assignment of specific characteristics to these groups; 3. Discriminatory social structures and violent practices that have a degrading and ostracizing effect and reproduce structural disadvantages. By definition, it is a specific racism directed against Roma, Sinti, Travellers and others, which leads to a wide range of discriminatory expressions and practices, including many implicit or hidden manifestations.

**The aim of this Strategy is to support specialization within the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities**, to develop the competence of the particular officers who work with minorities and to strengthen mutual cooperation and participation. For this purpose, it will also be appropriate to evaluate the current system and internal regulations of the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of minorities, and propose possible changes to make the work of the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities more efficient and flexible.

#### **d) Crime prevention activities and projects, role of ministries**

The implementation of projects from the Operational Programme Employment calls for proposals to support a coordinated approach to socially excluded localities and the **cooperation of the Social Inclusion Department (Agency) of the Ministry for Regional Development with municipalities in local partnerships** contribute to alleviating social tensions and increasing the sense of security of residents living in socially excluded localities. The coordinated approach allows for finding and implementing solutions to mitigate social exclusion in the areas of housing, debt, security, employment, access to services and health.

The aim of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is to strengthen the position of social worker and social probation officer in crime prevention in at-risk areas and socially excluded localities, including anchoring the position and activities of social workers in public administration.

**Ministry of the Interior**, in the long term period, successfully implemented a number of activities and programs aimed at improving public order and safety in socially excluded locations, particularly concentrated on non-repressive means and effort to eliminate criminal and socially risky phenomena in the locations. Many of these steps were implemented in cooperation with other partners (local government, municipal police, the Police of the Czech Republic, the non-profit sector and volunteers; great emphasis is also given to the active involvement of the residents of the socially excluded localities themselves). These are **a combination of proven and successful preventive measures**, such as **Crime Prevention Assistant (CPA)**, **Caretaker-Preventionist**, Roma Mentor (a social worker helping to execute alternative community service sentences, imposed by the court, and preventing their conversion into prison sentences), training of municipal police officers and municipal and state administration staff working in the location; social prevention projects, support for meaningful use of leisure time by children and youth, strengthening financial literacy or elements of situational prevention (CCTV systems, photo traps, security doors or bars in co-owned parts of the house, protection of objects using synthetic DNA, etc.).

Despite the massive support from several sources coordinated through the Ministry of the Interior (Ministry of the Interior subsidies, European Union funds, the program of the General Directorate of the Labour Office), **unfortunately the available financial resources are not sufficient to cover the real demand and need** for crime prevention assistants. There is thus an urgent need to increase the funding for this project. At the same time, it is advisable to set predictable criteria in the subsidy program for determining priority locations for subsidy support and to support the highest priority locations also within the framework of multiannual funding.

## e) Security in the industrial zones

The Ministry of the Interior has been intensively dealing with the issue of **security aspects of employment of foreigners in industrial zones** since 2017, especially in connection with the deterioration of the security situation in industrial zones in the Hradec Králové Region and the Pilsen Region, and later also in the Central Bohemia Region. It gradually concluded **Memoranda of Cooperation** with the regions and established an expert **working group** consisting of representatives of the Ministry of the Interior, the region, municipalities, riot police and foreign police from the above-mentioned regions. The working group evaluates the security situation in the industrial zones of these regions and also submits proposals for legislative and non-legislative measures. A **Methodological Guide for Municipalities Adjacent to Industrial Zones**<sup>16</sup> has been developed to help municipalities address the complex problems associated with increased employment of foreigners, not only in the area of security. The methodology is continuously updated.

Taking into account the success of the approach of the Ministry of the Interior to this challenge, and the fact that the particular problems can be transferred to other locations, these activities will continue.

**On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are thus set under Strategic Goal D:**

### Specific objectives D

- D.1 By implementing the measures in the Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation Strategy 2021 to 2030, reduce the level of antigypsyism and promote equality, inclusion and participation of Roma citizens.
- D.2 Promote specialization within the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities, develop competences of members when working in relation to minorities and strengthen mutual cooperation and participation.
- D.3 Strengthen the positions of social workers and social probation officers regarding the prevention of crime in risk areas and socially excluded locations.
- D.4 Continue to support the proven Crime Prevention Assistant (CPA) and Caretaker-Preventionist (D-P) projects in socially excluded locations and, as possible, strengthen this support.
- D.5 Support the implementation of crime prevention projects focused on crime and criminal risk phenomena in socially excluded localities.
- D.6 Prevent an increase in crime and deterioration of the security situation in municipalities in the vicinity of industrial zones.

Specific measures for the implementation of these specific objectives are set out in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in detail in the Implementation Plan, which is an Annex to this Strategy.

<sup>16</sup> Document is accessible at: <https://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/prevence-kriminality-na-regionalni-a-lokalni-urovni.aspx?q=Y2hudW09Ng%3d%3d>.



## E. SITUATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION AND NEW APPROACHES

**Strategic Goal E: The Czech Republic develops and promotes situational crime prevention, strengthens the crime-related resilience of particular locations, increases public awareness of protection options, while supporting and implementing new approaches and technologies.**

**The area of crime and its prevention**, the behaviour and objectives of offenders, and the possibilities of protecting victims are **constantly evolving and changing**, adapting to new conditions – due to changes in society, legal norms, and new technologies. With the development of science and technology and the constant inflow of new technologies, not only are the possibilities for perpetrators to commit crime and to make it more difficult to detect or convict them increasing; but also **new possibilities for protection against crime, especially property crime, are emerging**.

It is necessary to introduce new **innovative procedures and approaches, tools and technologies into the work of stakeholders that deal with crime prevention**, so that their procedures are as effective as possible and can keep up with the development of criminal activity and the capabilities of criminals. The same also pays regarding the **means of communication** towards the public.

The priority in this area is **situational crime prevention**, which builds on the experience that certain types of crime occur at certain times, in certain places and under certain circumstances. It seeks to minimise criminogenic conditions through regime, physical and technical protection measures. In the area of situational crime prevention, cooperation with partners from the business sector or local authorities associated with the **Ministry of the Interior's Advisory Council for Situational Crime Prevention** can successfully help in identifying and implementing these innovations.

In the long term, property crime represents the largest share of all crime, accounting for more than 50 %. Between 2016 and 2020, there was an overall decrease in property crime by 35,966 offences, i.e. -30.5 %. **One of the important factors in reducing property crime is the increased security of property**, both by public authorities (including surveillance of public spaces) and by citizens themselves, property owners, etc.

In order to develop situational crime prevention, the Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with its partners from the Advisory Council for Situational Crime Prevention, has been implementing the **Safe Location, Safe Housing, Safe Country** projects, and, most recently, the **Secure Yourself** projects, with the mobile application of the same name. All the projects are implementing specific activities to protect persons and property, with an emphasis on **strengthening the individual responsibility, regarding the personal safety and protection of property**.

The Ministry of the Interior has long supported (currently as the only program in the Czech Republic with a security focus) the **construction and modernisation of municipal CCTV surveillance systems**, as part of the investment part of the Subsidy Program for Crime Prevention at the Local Level. In this area, **new technologies and innovations** are significantly manifested, both in terms of the quality of recordings; data transmission speed; data storage options, and analytical tools that enable more efficient, faster and more accurate monitoring of the outputs from individual cameras, real-time automated alerting of emerging dangers or subsequent analysis of various recorded situations. However, it is also

necessary to keep in mind the **legal aspects** of these tools and to take the **necessary measures against their misuse**.

With regard to the direction of financial resources in this area and the need to strengthen them in the coming years, it is necessary to **conduct an overview of existing solutions** and ways of using CCTV, and, based on this, prepare a **concept for the further development and support of CCTV** from public sources.

One of the types of property crime where the Police of the Czech Republic has recorded an increase in statistics in recent years is the number of **bicycle thefts**, while the clearance rate for this crime is low (around 20 %). The Ministry of the Interior, with use of the Subsidy Program for Crime Prevention at the Local Level, supports the successful project **Forensic Identification Marking of Objects**, especially bicycles and compensatory aids (but other objects such as municipal furniture, electronics, some valuables, etc. can also be marked using this method), which is carried out by municipal police. The purpose of the technology is to prevent the theft of the tagged items and in case of theft and finding of these assets, then to reliably identify the original owner. Even greater efficiency and greater involvement of municipalities in the project will be achieved through the nationwide involvement of the Police of the Czech Republic in the project, so that the Police of the Czech Republic throughout the country will be able to identify and recover stolen bicycles marked in this way, regardless of where the marking was made.

Another area where crime and damages are not declining in the long term (with the exception of the 2020 covid year) is the **crime of spray painting**. Also for this crime, the clearance rate is very low, oscillating around 20 %. Modern technologies in the form of a **data collection tool for graffiti/tags and a tool for automated analysis of these graffiti/tags** are already being used on a pilot basis in the Czech Republic (Municipal Police of Břeclav), which can identify the perpetrators and thus contribute to their detection and punishment. As a result, this has also had significant preventive effects, as this crime has been eliminated on the territory of the town of Břeclav. It would be advisable to implement such a tool nationwide within the Police of the Czech Republic, for which, however, it is first necessary to create both appropriate legislative and technological conditions.

An important tool for strengthening prevention and safety in situational crime prevention are **technical norms (standards)**, which describe recommended (in the Czech Republic recommended, in some countries directly binding) technical, personnel, regime, organisational measures for selected activities or requirements for products, buildings, spaces, etc. **At the national level** in the Czech Republic, technical standardisation is dealt with by the Czech Agency for Standardisation, which has established the Technical Standardisation Commission **TNK 148 Crime Prevention and Public Protection** for the area of crime prevention. **At the international (or European) level**, the Czech Republic is active in the **Technical Committee CEN/TC 325 Crime Prevention through Building, Facility and Area Design**, where even Czech Agency for Standardisation in cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior provides the secretariat function and representatives of the Czech Republic hold the important position of chairperson of CEN/TC 325 and chairperson of one of the working groups.

**Ensuring the safety/resistance of public spaces and public buildings** is very closely related to the issue of situational crime prevention and technical standards for crime prevention, see the standards for safety in schools or medical facilities mentioned above. The correct setting of rules/recommendations for ensuring security in these areas in the form of

**personnel, regime, organizational measures** (these should always be in the first place) as well as **technical measures** guarantee higher security both from the point of view of preventing illegal acts, as well as better response and damage minimization in the event that an illegal act occurs.

**On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are therefore set under Strategic Goal E:**

Specific objectives E	E.1 Promote new approaches and innovations in crime prevention.
	E.2 Develop situational crime prevention, raise awareness among professionals and the general public and strengthen the resilience of places against crime and other offences.
	E.3 Promote and develop the creation and use of technical standards for crime prevention.
	E.4 Effectively develop the use of municipal CCTV systems to enhance security and crime prevention.
	E.5 Continue to develop and expand the use of forensic identification marking as an effective security measure against theft.
	E.6 Use modern technologies and analytical tools in the fight against graffiti and to prevent this crime.

Specific measures for the implementation of these specific objectives are set out in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in detail in the Implementation Plan, which is an annex to this Strategy.

## **F. CRIME COMMITTED BY AND AGAINST CHILDREN**

**Strategic Goal F: The Czech Republic monitors the development of crime committed by and against children and responds in a timely manner with appropriate measures, enhances the protection of children from violence and other criminally risk phenomena, identifies children at risk in a timely manner and implements the necessary interventions, and develops a functional system for searching for missing children.**

Children are characterized by certain physical, psychological and social differences from adult individuals. Because of these differences, **children are considered a particularly vulnerable group of people at greater risk of crime** than other social groups, both in terms of committing crime and in terms of coping with situations where they become victims or witnesses of crime.

During the period of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020, the **National Crime Prevention Committee regularly monitored the situation of children and juveniles at risk of crime** (see the *Information for the National Crime Prevention Committee on the implementation of recommendations resulting from the material "Analysis of the Situation of Children and Juveniles at Risk of Crime and Criminally Risky Phenomena" prepared every two years*). This information contains not only the state and development of crime against and by children, but also deals with the identification of needs, the establishment of recommendations in this area and their monitoring. The National Committee intends to continue this practice during the period of this Strategy.

**The number of prosecuted persons – children under the age of 18** in the period of the previous strategy (2016 to 2020) started to rise after the previous decline, from 2016 to 2019 by 867 (+25.4 %) to 4,279. A persistent national problem is the **increasing number of criminal offences committed via the Internet and social networks**, which is related to the lifestyle of the relevant age group of children and their excessive openness, trust and disclosure of information to unknown persons without thinking of the consequences. Combating child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation, both online and offline, is a priority in this area.

Most of the offences are committed by **children from youth detention centres**, not only during their stay in the institution, but also after they leave it. **Socially excluded locations and hostels** are a persistent problem. **Drugs** are often at the beginning of their delinquent paths and are quite easy for young people to get hold of.

Children are also easily **influenced** by inappropriate role **models** and are **exposed to large amounts of information** that they cannot yet navigate, filter and respond to correctly. They **do not yet have enough experience** to evaluate information. In addition to **preventing**, investigating and prosecuting crimes against children, there is a need to focus on **providing support to child victims** of crime and measures during criminal proceedings aimed at protecting child victims.

In terms of setting out the **objectives and measures of the Strategy**, a number of key steps have been drawn up to effectively help children **protect themselves from crime committed against children** themselves, as well as from the negative impact of criminogenic factors on their development. At the same time, it is necessary to find a way **to protect children from embarking on their own criminal careers**, or to help them **break out** of the stereotypes of **their criminal careers and reintegrate into society**.

**The key steps are:**

- **early identification** of a child at risk;
- its capture by the system;
- **coordinated assistance** within the framework of inter-ministerial multidisciplinary cooperation (based on the idea – pilot project of early intervention system and coordinated by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – with or without the use of Information System – Social and Legal Protection of Children), ideally in assistance centres;
- **education** on healthy interpersonal and partner **relationships** (elimination of violence between friends, partners, in the family);
- **development of parental competences** in children as future parents.

It is advisable to follow up on the proven pilot project of the Ministry of the Interior "**Early Intervention System**" with the aim of extending the proven principles to as many areas as possible, and if financial support can be found, to carry out a nationwide networking of early intervention systems, youth teams and the purchase of a suitable information system to enable communication to the child at risk throughout the Czech Republic. The fundamental difference from the pilot idea is the agreement to **broaden the target group of the child at risk** so that problems can be caught in their full breadth and in their embryonic stages.

Furthermore, the **issue of violence**, both in terms of the violence to which children are exposed and the violence they themselves perpetrate, appears to be a crucial aspect in relation to crime committed by and against children. In the context of the fight against

violence, one of the objectives of this Strategy is to promote the right of the child to a **childhood free from violence** of any kind, including the phenomenon of partner violence or violence within the family. To this end, efforts should be made to publicise the issue and **spread it to the general public** through various communication channels (leaflets, video-spots, education). It is necessary to focus on **reducing the risk of transmission of violent behaviour to the next generation**. To protect and support children themselves, it is proposed to create a pilot model of **Centres for Children at Risk**, which will, among other things, help to further reduce the risk of secondary victimisation.

In relation to the care of children at risk, child victims of crime or child witnesses, the Ministry of the Interior, in cooperation with the Police of the Czech Republic, is implementing the **National Coordination Mechanism for the Search for Missing Children** project, which has been developed for the purpose of finding missing children quickly and successfully, and envisages the involvement of the general public in the search and the provision of the necessary psychological support to the families of missing children. To this end, the Ministry of the Interior also supports the activities of the operators of **European helplines and crisis lines, in particular the 116 000 line for missing children**. The Ministry of the Interior also cooperates closely with the European platform for missing children, AMBER Alert Europe, and the non-profit organisation “Aplikace ECHO”, a registered association, which has developed a software application to alert when a search for a missing child is announced.

**The National Strategy for the Protection of Children's Rights 2021 to 2029** (under the responsibility of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs) is also an important material in the area of child welfare. A fundamental document in the area of primary prevention in schools is the **National Strategy for the Primary Prevention of Risky Behaviour in Children and Youth for the period 2019 to 2027** (under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport). The Ministry of Health is involved in addressing the issue of **care for children without a family background and children at risk and supports the establishment of children's centres**, the main principle of which is multidisciplinary cooperation and the involvement of the family in the active care of the child. An important element of all these related documents is the emphasis on interdisciplinary cooperation.

**On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are thus set under Strategic Goal F:**

Specific objectives F	F.1 Increase the protection of children from physical or psychological violence and other negative phenomena, including the impact on their development.
	F.2 Full-scale implementation of the Early Intervention System for work with children at risk in the Czech Republic.
	F.3 Respond flexibly to the development of crime committed by and against children.
	F.4 Continue the development of the Special Interrogation Rooms project.
	F.5 Ensure the continuation and further development of the National Coordination Mechanism for the Search for Missing Children (NKMPPD).

Specific measures for the implementation of these specific objectives are presented in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in particular in the Implementation Plan, which is an Annex to this Strategy. However, the objectives aimed at improving the situation in the

area of crime against children are also part of the other specific objectives of this Strategy and thus this chapter cannot be considered in isolation.

## G. CYBERCRIME PREVENTION

**Strategic Goal G: The Czech Republic actively, systematically and in a coordinated manner strengthens the prevention of cybercrime and risk behaviour in cyberspace and provides assistance and support to victims in cyberspace.**

The Czech Republic is one of the countries that is making a significant agile shift towards a fully digital society within the European Union. With regard to the increasing need for digitisation, the need for innovation, and the need for digital trust in society as a whole, it is essential that the prevention of cybercrime, cyber-violence and cyber-aggression in the virtual environment becomes one of the main strategic goals in the coming period.

**Cybercrime**<sup>17</sup> has long been one of the **fastest growing** crimes in the Czech Republic. While the number of cases in 2011, since when it has been independently registered, was about 1,500, it reached a peak in 2019 with more than 8,400 cases. The most common crimes committed in this way were fraud between private individuals, damage to and misuse of a recording on information mediums, credit fraud and, to a not insignificant extent, other vice offences.

There is considerable latency in cybercrime. With the development of information and communication technologies, it can be assumed that cybercrime will continue to permeate all criminal issues, as many such activities are carried out in a virtual environment.

Unfortunately, **cybercrime does not avoid the most vulnerable, i.e. children**. Children do not only act as victims of these crimes, but often (and especially in the latent sphere) as perpetrators of cybercrime. An ongoing nationwide problem is the increasing number of criminal offences committed via **social networks**, which is linked to the lifestyle of the age group concerned and their excessive openness, trust and willingness to disclose information to strangers without thinking through the consequences. The **fight against sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children** should be a major priority today.

Children are increasingly using data services on **mobile phones**. They have unprotected access to the Internet without restrictive parental measures, not only in relation to Internet content. As a result, children are visiting sites that host **videos with inappropriate, defective, immoral and unethical content** and are increasingly underestimating the risks of the virtual environment. The virtualisation of young people's lifestyles can also be linked to the **trend in the theft of communication technology or recording electronics** (laptops, mobile phones, etc.).

The pandemic of covid-19 has also had a significant impact on this area. Ordinary life has been reduced by the **covid-19 pandemic** and many activities that we used to do physically have shifted to the online environment (distance learning in all types of schools, home office, a high increase in online shopping, etc.). An increasing number of children are spending more and more time online due to their inability to engage in regular leisure activities. Children are becoming victims of cyberbullying, invasion of privacy, as well as child pornography and sexual coercion.

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<sup>17</sup> Its definition varies, but it can be assumed that it is a crime misusing information and communication technologies.

No less important **findings** on the state and development of cybercrime also result from the **research carried out**, including the **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) research Crime, Safety and Victims' Rights**<sup>18</sup> published in 2021 or the Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention contribution to the National Crime Prevention Committee on 27 May 2021 entitled "**Cybercrime in the Czech Republic from a Criminological Perspective**".<sup>19</sup>

**The role of prevention and education** in the area of cybercrime is becoming **absolutely crucial** and indispensable. It is necessary to strengthen such preventive measures in cyberspace that aim to continue to effectively address this area and thereby not only reduce the increase in the experience of cybercrime, harassment and other types of cyber-violence and cyber-aggression, but also to **effectively contribute to reducing latency by increasing the confidence** of potential victims in the activities of law enforcement authorities when reporting these acts in cyberspace.

The aim of all the actors involved in activities aimed at reducing cybercrime is to **teach IT users to recognise the signals of risky communication on the Internet** or to **react** correctly to certain suspicious facts, e.g. by informing the police and not deleting the content of such communication from the computer, mobile phone, etc. It is necessary to constantly monitor and respond to emerging trends in cybercrime. **Continuous provision of information** on the risks of online communication and familiarisation of vulnerable **target groups** (children, parents, teachers, the elderly, etc.) with the basic rules of safe movement in cyberspace, including other preventive activities, is essential.

**The area of cybercrime needs to be addressed in a long-term systemic manner.** The area of prevention deals with the overall strengthening of cyber security in the Czech Republic. High-quality centralised and interconnected security of technologies and information systems guarantees reliable protection of the user environment, as well as high-quality preventive action through alerting to risks, vulnerabilities and threats that could undermine the reliability, confidentiality and integrity of the digital space. In the area of security, it is essential to focus on the **implementation of modern, safe and secure system technologies for prevention, detection and impact management**. Similarly, it is crucial to create and **strengthen the expert base** in the long term, which then has these tools and uses them to combat or impact cybercrime, with an emphasis on **training specialists and experts** from the security forces and other experts providing a system of coordination and prevention of cybercrime.

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<sup>18</sup> FRA-Crime, Safety and Victims' Rights (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Rights Survey 2019; data collection in cooperation with *Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek – CBS (the Netherlands)*, *Centre des technologies de l'information de l'État – CTIE (Luxembourg)* and *Statistics Austria (Austria)*).

<sup>19</sup> These findings represent a summary of information from the completed Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention research task, the detailed results of which are published and available online at <http://www.kriminologie.cz> (J. Vlach, K. Kudrlová, V. Paloušová. Cybercrime in Criminological Perspective. Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention, 2020). The findings from the questionnaire survey represent the initial baseline information obtained in the framework of the ongoing project. The resulting findings will be published over time and will include more detailed analyses (e.g. the relationship between the age and gender of users and some of their security habits), in addition to the areas briefly presented above, including online trading and the use of gaming accounts.

Available at <https://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/tiskova-zprava-ze-zasedani-republikoveho-vyboru-pro-preveni-kriminality-713175.aspx>.

In the tertiary area of the impact of cybercrime, it is also necessary to **build a quality nationwide counselling system** focusing on effective assistance and support for victims of cybercrime and cyber violence.

The necessity of setting up and implementing effective measures – **systemic support and assistance to victims of cybercrime, cyber-aggression and cyber-violence**, as well as the need to improve the quality of work with cybercrime perpetrators cannot be overlooked. These measures will be applied as a preventive tool against the repeated commission of cybercrime and cyber-violence (re-factors, re-socialisation).

**The perpetration of cyber-violence is very closely linked to the perpetration of domestic and gender-based violence.** In both partner and post-partner relationships, blackmail between ex-partners using documentation of their life together, monitoring and harassment of the partner, which can lead to the perpetration of so-called stalking. Victims of such conduct should be helped and the criminal conduct should be investigated or criminal proceedings initiated. It is therefore necessary to educate professionals in this area so that they are prepared to advise and assist the victim.

**On the basis of the above, the following specific objectives are therefore set under Strategic Goal G:**

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|-----------------------|--|
| Specific objectives G | G.1 Set up a system of cooperation and education in the area of cybercrime prevention at the national level.   |
|                       | G.2. Set up and promote a system of police work in the area of solving cybercrime (crime committed with the use of information technology) within the framework of the Police of the Czech Republic. |
|                       | G.3 Actively act in the area of cybercrime prevention and education on all target groups with an emphasis on groups particularly vulnerable in cyberspace, especially children and youth.            |
|                       | G.4 Support victims of cybercrime.   |
|                       | G.5 Ensure consistent consideration of the issue of gender-based cyber-violence in conceptual work and data collection.  |

Specific measures for the implementation of these specific objectives are set out in the Guidelines for the development of objectives and measures of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027 and in detail in the Implementation Plan, which is an annex to this Strategy.



## VI. Implementation of the Strategy and its financing

i. The Strategy is designed as a comprehensive document, which includes 1) the strategic part itself, including in particular global, strategic and specific objectives (including their background, international context, basic principles of prevention policy, etc.). These are briefly presented in the Strategy itself, and then in detail in a separate Annex 1 of the Strategy). It also includes 2) its Implementation (Action) Plan, developed in the form of logical framework cards that facilitate the implementation of the Strategy and contain for each strategic objective a clear matrix of specific objectives, their indicators including initial and target values, as well as measures to meet these specific objectives, including a description of the measures, a schedule for the implementation of the measures, criteria for the fulfilment of the measures, and last but not least, the responsible and cooperating stakeholders and funding requirements, including their source. This implementation plan forms Annex No. 2 of the Strategy.

ii. The development of crime prevention strategies is one of the basic tasks of the National Crime Prevention Committee and so it was in this case as well. The Strategy was **developed by the Ministry of the Interior in close cooperation with all members of the National Crime Prevention Committee**. The National Committee established the basic priorities of the Strategy and the procedure for its development, and the members then contributed within their competence and commented on the drafts of the resulting texts. The National Committee subsequently approved a favourable opinion on the distribution of the Strategy for intra-ministerial and inter-ministerial comment procedures. Thus, through the Republic Committee, all important public administration entities in the area of crime prevention and crime-risk phenomena were included in the development of the Strategy. Beyond that, consultations were also held with other important stakeholders that are not members of the Republic Committee, such as sub-departments of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, National Office for Cyber and Information Security, regional crime prevention managers (and through them also municipalities).

iii. The **implementation of the Strategy will be monitored by the National Committee** under the coordination of the Ministry of the Interior, where every 2 years the National Committee will carry out and **submit to the Government of the Czech Republic an evaluation of the implementation of the Strategy and its Action Plan** and submit an update in relation to this evaluation and current developments and needs. The implementation of the Strategy is thus **divided into three 2-year cycles**, namely for the years **2022 to 2023, 2024 to 2025 and 2026 to 2027**, with the evaluation and updates to be submitted to the Government of the Czech Republic by the end of the first half of 2024 for the first cycle and by the end of the first half of 2026 for the second cycle. This will be followed by an evaluation of the Strategy as a whole by the end of the first half of 2028 and the submission of a new Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2028+.

The annual evaluation will also include **information on the amount and manner of spending of funds allocated for crime prevention** in the budget chapters of the Ministries of Justice, Health, Interior, Defence and Education, Youth and Sports, especially the funds distributed by these ministries in the form of various subsidy titles mentioned in the Action Plan.

**The timetable of the Strategy** is based on the timetable of the individual measures contained in the Action Plan (logical framework cards), while the implementation of many objectives and measures is continuous, long-term, throughout the entire effect of the Strategy (2022 to 2027), while for others the implementation is divided into several phases,

e.g. pilot implementation and its evaluation – setting up a sustainable model – implementation of a sustainable model. Some measures are one-off. Some measures build on already existing activities and maintain and develop them further. In a number of cases, measures are then assumed to be sustainable in the long term beyond the timeframe of this Strategy.

iv. **Financial provision of individual measures** is also described separately for each measure in the Action Plan (in the tables of the logical framework). It is always indicated from which sources the measure will be financed – whether this will be done within the existing budgets of the promoters and cooperating stakeholders (i.e. without new demands on the state budget), or whether it is necessary to provide new funds for the implementation of the measure beyond the existing budgets (especially in the case of individual chapters of the state budget).

The **vast majority of the measures do not require additional financial resources from the state budget**. In some cases, however, their implementation depends on extra-budgetary resources, such as various subsidy funds (European Union, Norwegian or Swiss financial mechanisms, etc.), security research programs<sup>20</sup> or other similar sources. Local governments or the Police of the Czech Republic may also draw funds from programs of the Ministry of the Interior or other ministries. **The need for increased funding from the state budget is strongly perceived** in the case of the main subsidy program in the area of crime prevention (the Subsidy Program for Crime Prevention at the Local Level), which is under the responsibility of the National Committee and is administered by the Ministry of the Interior, and 2 other subsidy programs and 1 internal program of the Ministry of the Interior. These programs have been underfunded for a long time and thus cannot meet the current needs in the area of security, public order and crime prevention to the necessary extent. In total, these are requirements in the amount of **CZK 34 million per year**. In addition, it is necessary to ensure the tasks related to the Czech Republic's obligations in the European Crime Prevention Network, which imposes higher requirements on the Member States and their national representatives (for the Czech Republic it is the Crime Prevention Department of the Ministry of the Interior) in connection with the new European Crime Prevention Network Multiannual Strategy for 2021 to 2025 and in connection with the fulfilment of other obligations arising from the Czech Republic's international legal obligations in the area of crime prevention, security, protection of the rights of particularly vulnerable groups, an **increase of 1 systematised job position in the Crime Prevention Department of the Ministry of the Interior from 2023 within the current valid systematisation of the Ministry of the Interior**.

In connection with this Strategy, **the Ministry of the Interior is obliged to allocate funds for crime prevention**, the cross-cutting budget indicator Social Prevention and Crime Prevention Program, in the total amount of at least EUR 360.96 million for the period 2022 to 2027 (i.e. on average at least CZK 60.16 million per year, which is the average annual amount calculated after the budget cuts in 2022). At the same time, however, the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic instructs the Minister of the Interior **to strive, according to the possibilities of the state budget, to increase** funds for crime prevention to cover the needs of crime prevention subsidy programs under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior.

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<sup>20</sup> <https://www.mvcr.cz/vyzkum/>

Funds for the support and implementation of activities and projects in the area of crime prevention will also be **allocated by individual ministries**, especially by members of the National Committee, according to their competence, at least to the current extent. It is also recommended that **municipal and regional governments allocate their own resources** to crime prevention, which is one of their tasks under the relevant laws governing their status.

## VII. Conclusion

The Strategy is based on the available current analyses and findings as well as on experience and examples of good practice building not only on the previous Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016 to 2020, but also on previous periods. It does not neglect any of the important links or vertices of the crime triangle (offender, victim, crime scene) and methods of prevention work (primary, secondary, tertiary, social, situational, victimological prevention). It focuses on the activities of all subjects working in the area of crime prevention, starting with the members of the National Committee, through municipal and regional governments to non-governmental non-profit organizations, scientific research organizations and business entities. It also draws inspiration from foreign strategies and positive experience. It applies a proactive, coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to problem solving, emphasising the importance of evidence-based policy and crime prevention measures.

These are all the starting points and **prerequisites for this Strategy to be successful** in the following period from 2022 to 2027 **in fulfilling its objectives and priorities**, which at the strategic level aim at that the Czech Republic:

- A. Develops the crime prevention system and financially supports crime prevention activities, builds on an evidence-based approach and empirical knowledge, strengthens cooperation (including international), capacity and competence of relevant stakeholders.
- B. Provides assistance and support to victims of crime (including misdemeanours), with an emphasis on assisting particularly vulnerable victims and the fight against violence, conducts research on the behaviour and needs of victims and takes measures to reduce latency and secondary victimisation of victims.
- C. Focuses on the fight against recidivism, on early and coordinated resocialisation of perpetrators and supports work with violent persons..
- D. Implements a comprehensive and coordinated approach to tackling crime in risk locations based on partnership between responsible stakeholders and representatives/inhabitants of the locations, focusing not only on the manifestations but also on the causes of the problems. It takes into account the specific needs and problems of minority groups living in these locations.
- E. Develops and promotes situational crime prevention, strengthens the crime-related resilience of particular locations, increases public awareness of protection options, while supporting and implementing new approaches and technologies.
- F. Monitors the development of crime committed by and against children and responds in a timely manner with appropriate measures, enhances the protection of children from violence and other criminally risk phenomena, identifies children at risk in a timely manner and implements the necessary interventions, and develops a functional system for searching for missing children.
- G. Actively, systematically and in a coordinated manner strengthens the prevention of cybercrime and risk behaviour in cyberspace and provides assistance and support to victims in cyberspace.

The Strategy contains a **set of global, strategic and specific objectives** based on the priorities given by the National Committee. It will be fulfilled by specific measures, which are an integral part of the Strategy as its **implementation (Action Plan)**, elaborated in the form

of logical framework tables. The implementation of the Strategy will be regularly monitored and evaluated by the Government in 2-year cycles and, if necessary, updated.

**Ensuring sufficient and stable financing** of the crime prevention system and individual sub-activities and projects is also an essential prerequisite for the fulfilment of the Strategy's objectives. The **Ministry of the Interior** will release an amount of at least EUR 360.96 million for the implementation of the Strategy **between 2022 and 2027** (CZK 60.16 million per year on average), in particular for the functioning of the crime prevention system, the financing of individual crime prevention programs and support for its own ministerial activities and projects for the period 2022 to 2027. At the same time, however, the Ministry will strive to increase the funds for crime prevention to cover the needs of crime prevention subsidy programs under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior, **according to the possibilities of the state budget.**

**Successful implementation of the objectives and measures** of this Strategy should **contribute** to further reduction of the incidence of crime and criminogenic factors, greater protection of victims, more effective work with offenders, increasing the sense of security of citizens and their trust in state and local government authorities, or to minimise the negative impact of possible unforeseen events and changes that may occur in the area of security and public order that cannot be completely prevented, as was the case with the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2016-2020. However, this will not be easy and automatic, as the initial situation for such improvements is more complex than in the previous period. The Czech Republic is currently in a situation of record low crime rates and other positive indicators in the area of security and public order, working with offenders and victims, and in addition, it will be necessary to deal with the impact and effects of the covid-19 disease pandemic.



## Specific objectives and measures to implement the objectives of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for the 2022 to 2027

A. Support and development of the crime prevention system  
in the Czech Republic

**Strategic Goal A:** The Czech Republic develops the crime prevention system and financially supports crime prevention activities, builds on an evidence-based approach and empirical knowledge, strengthens cooperation (including international), capacity and competence of relevant stakeholders.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
A.1 Preventive policies and approaches are included in all strategies and approaches in the area of penal policy, security and public order, risk behaviour and working with particularly vulnerable groups of people.	A.1.1 Implement preventive policies and approaches in all strategies and approaches in the area of penal policy, security and public order, risk behaviour and working with particularly vulnerable groups of people.
A.2 The state provides sufficient financial support for crime prevention activities and projects.	A.2.1 Support financially crime prevention activities and projects through subsidy programs.
	A.2.2 Support financially own crime prevention activities and projects through ministerial programs.
	A.2.3 Implement own crime prevention activities and projects.
	A.2.4. Crime prevention is the subject of security research support.
A.3 According to the possibilities of the state budget, seek to increase financial support for crime prevention	A.3.1 Seek to increase the Crime Prevention Subsidy Program at the local level by CZK 30 million.
	A.3.2 Seek to increase the Prevention of Socially Pathological Phenomena Subsidy Program by at least CZK 2 million.

from the Ministry of the Interior.	A.3.3 Increase the Subsidy Program for NGOs operating the European crisis and assistance helpline 116 xxx in the Czech Republic by at least CZK 1 million.
	A.3.4 Seek to increase the Ministry of the Interior's Departmental Program in the area of crime prevention by at least CZK 1 million.
	A.3.5 Extend the Ministry of the Interior's Departmental Program in the area of crime prevention to include also the provision of investment support.
A.4 Strengthen cooperation and competences of crime prevention workers.	A.4.1 Educate crime prevention workers, work with perpetrators and victims of crime.
	A.4.2 Methodologically guide stakeholders cooperating within the framework of the crime prevention system of the particular organisation.
	A.4.3 Increase the professional level of crime prevention managers of regions and municipalities.
	A.4.4 Organise and manage the meetings of the National Crime Prevention Committee, coordinate crime prevention policy and strengthen cooperation between members of the National Crime Prevention Committee.
	A.4.5 Actively participate in meetings of the National Crime Prevention Committee, provide cooperation and collaboration to other members of the members, and, where possible and appropriate, involve local government, private sector, NGOs, scientific and academic spheres in cooperation.
A.5 Strengthen the evidence-based approach to crime prevention.	A.5.1 Monitor crime and risk behaviour and build preventive measures on cause and context analysis.
	A.5.2 Adapt preventive activities and projects to the needs of target groups and their specifics based on the analysis of causes and context connections.
	A.5.3 Build professional capacity for monitoring and analysis of crime and risk behaviour.
	A.5.4 Use the existing /develop new tools for monitoring and analyzing crime and risk behaviour.
	A.5.5 Use scientific research and sociological surveys to understand crime and risk behaviour.
	A.5.6 Bring scientific research and its conclusions closer to practice.
	A.5.7 Evaluate subsidy programs and activities in the area of crime prevention based on set objectives and success/effectiveness criteria.
	A.5.8 Collect and make available examples of good practice in the area of crime prevention activities/projects based on effectiveness criteria.



	A.5.9 When planning and implementing crime prevention activities/projects, follow the proven good practice.
	A.5.10 Develop a methodology for setting objectives and evaluating the success/effectiveness of crime prevention projects and programs.
	A.5.11 Set objectives and mandatory criteria for evaluating the success/effectiveness of the Ministry of the Interior crime prevention programs and projects supported by them.
	A.5.12 Develop an e-learning course for training project implementers on setting objectives and evaluating the success/effectiveness of crime prevention projects.
	A.5.13 Create an information system for evaluating the success/effectiveness of crime prevention projects in the subsidy programs of the Ministry of the Interior, including these programs.
	A.5.14 Create a database of good practice examples of crime prevention projects and recommend criteria on the basis of which projects should be evaluated and classified as examples of good practice.
	A.5.15 Undertake a representative public opinion research on citizens' attitudes towards crime prevention and security.
A.6 Build a unified system of prevention within the Police of the Czech Republic and strengthen its capacities, including the analytical ones.	A.6.1 Unify the personnel situation in the area of crime prevention according to the SSM model and in relation to the amendment of Government Regulation No. 104/2005 Coll., establishing the catalogue of activities in the security forces effective from 1 January 2021.
	A.6.2 Establish a prevention coordination group with regional competence at each regional police headquarters as a body for coordination of prevention at that level.
	A.6.3 Define the responsibility for prevention at the level of territorial police departments. A part of this responsibility will also include mandatory cooperation with municipalities in the area of prevention.
	A.6.4 Educate and provide methodological support in the area of prevention also to the basic organisational units of the police (all police officers) and all levels of management.
	A.6.5 Issue an updated catalogue of preventive activities as a tool for creating, maintaining and unifying examples of effective police preventive measures.

	A.6.6 Continue to develop tools for mapping, analyzing and predicting crime in the Police of the Czech Republic and linking them to the direct performance of the service.
	A.6.7 Conduct analyses of crime as a phenomenon, its causes and connections at the national and regional level and increase the competence of analytical staff in this respect, share the conclusions of analyses with other relevant stakeholders.
	A.6.8 Improve the quality and availability of data in the Police of the Czech Republic for crime analysis.
	A.6.9 Share crime data with the public and municipalities.
A.7 Regions and municipalities create conditions for the development of crime prevention on their territory.	A.7.1 Through their representatives (Association of Regions of the Czech Republic, Association of Cities and Municipalities of the Czech Republic), regions and municipalities actively participate in the activities of the National Crime Prevention Committee.
	A.7.2 Municipalities develop their own concepts of crime prevention and security analysis.
	A.7.3 The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic updates methodological recommendations for the creation of crime prevention concepts/plans and for the creation of security analyses for municipalities and regions.
	A.7.4 Municipalities ensure the activity of the crime prevention manager; provide him/her with the necessary background and education.
	A.7.5 Municipalities establish working groups dealing with crime prevention with the participation of the crime prevention manager.
	A.7.6 Municipalities implement appropriate crime prevention measures (activities/projects) based on crime and risk behaviour analyses and adopted crime prevention concepts.
	A.7.7 In accordance with the concepts and analyses developed, municipalities financially support crime prevention activities/projects on their territory.
	A.7.8 Municipalities inform about the crime risks and implemented crime prevention activities on their information platforms.
	A.7.9 Municipalities evaluate the success/effectiveness of adopted concepts and implemented preventive activities and projects based on predetermined goals and indicators/criteria.
	A.7.10 Regions, through crime prevention managers, participate in the evaluation and selection of crime

	<p>prevention projects as part of the Crime Prevention Subsidy Program at the local level.</p> <p>A.7.11 The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic updates the criteria for the evaluation and selection of crime prevention projects within the Local Crime Prevention Subsidy Program.</p> <p>A.7.12 Regions, through crime prevention managers, provide consultations and methodical support for preventive activities/projects of municipalities; ensure information in the area of crime prevention from the regional and national level towards municipalities.</p> <p>A.7.13 Municipalities establish municipal police, which, as an integral part of their work, support preventive policy on the territory of the municipality.</p> <p>A.7.14 Municipalities pay increased attention to cooperation with the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of security and crime prevention in their territory, share with them relevant data and information on crime and examples of good practice, cooperate on preventive activities / projects.</p>
A.8 To support the involvement of volunteers in the area of crime prevention.	<p>A.8.1 Continue to support the Security Volunteer project as part of the Crime Prevention Program at the local level (continues with 100% subsidy) with the aim of increasing the number of municipalities involved.</p> <p>A.8.2 Complete the implementation of a project aimed at creating a pilot/model project involving volunteers in penitentiary and post-penitentiary care in the Czech Republic and subsequently incorporate such a project into the support system of the relevant ministries.</p> <p>A.8.3 Enable relevant subsidy programs for crime prevention support monitored under the National Crime Prevention Committee to include volunteers' activities in the mandatory co-financing of projects.</p> <p>A.8.4 Support and promote volunteering in the area of crime prevention within the structure of volunteering in the Czech Republic.</p>
A.9 Develop the restorative justice approach in the Czech Republic	<p>A.9.1 In accordance with the Restorative Justice Strategy for the Czech Republic, create systemic cooperation across all relevant professions for the development of the restorative justice approach in the Czech Republic, support awareness and education, and support existing and new restorative programs in the Czech Republic.</p>
A.10 Raise public awareness of current risks in the area	<p>A.10.1 Inform experts and the general public about current risks in the area of crime and risk behaviour, about</p>

<p>of crime and risk behaviour, implemented crime prevention activities/projects and achieve that people protect themselves more from risks and that they trust public administration bodies more.</p>	<p>the possibilities of help and support for victims and implemented crime prevention activities/projects.</p> <p>A.10.2 Develop the prevencekriminality.cz website, reach out to partners from among the members of the National Crime Prevention Committee, local governments, NGOs for greater involvement, increase the number of regular news subscribers by at least 100 %.</p> <p>A.10.3 Educational and informational campaigns/activities to raise awareness of risks and how to protect against them in the area of crime prevention to be implemented in accordance with the issued recommendations on the effectiveness of such campaigns.</p> <p>A.10.4 Preventive officers of the Police of the Czech Republic provide information and consultations regularly and actively, even directly to the public, for which they use mobile contact points.</p> <p>A.10.5 Develop the preventive mission of the Museum of the Police of the Czech Republic.</p>
<p>A.11 Maintain international cooperation in the area of crime prevention as a means to improve the effectiveness of own activities, to follow modern trends and experience and to share best practice.</p>	<p>A.11.1 Be an active member of the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN).</p> <p>A.11.2 Be an active member of the United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ).</p> <p>A.11.3 To fulfil the role of the European Secretariat of CEN/TC 325 (Technical Commission of the European Committee for Standardization – Crime Prevention through the Design of Buildings, Structures and Spatial Planning) and actively participate in the activities of its working groups (WG).</p> <p>A.11.4 Participate in international professional platforms or projects for sharing knowledge, experience and best practice.</p> <p>A.11.5 Strengthen bilateral cooperation in the area of crime prevention.</p>

## B. Assistance and Support for Victims of Criminal Offenses

**Strategic Goal B:** The Czech Republic provides assistance and support to victims of crime (including misdemeanours), with an emphasis on assisting particularly vulnerable victims and the fight against violence, conducts research on the behaviour and needs of victims and takes measures to reduce latency and secondary victimisation of victims.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
B.1 Comprehensively ensure the fight against all forms of trafficking in human beings, including a focus on prevention, victims identification and assistance and support for victims.	B.1.1 Implement, evaluate and update the National Strategy to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings in the Czech Republic.
B.2 Provision of direct assistance and support for victims of trafficking in human beings through the Program for Support and Protection of Trafficking in Human Beings.	B.2.1 Continue to implement and provide financial support for the Program for Support and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. B.2.2 Update the methodological guide to the Program for Support and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings. B.2.3 Conduct an analysis of services for child victims of trafficking in human beings and possible expansion of the program for child victims of trafficking in human beings.
B.3 Support for the protection of victims and the reduction of risks associated with extremism and prejudiced hatred and the elimination of social tensions caused by these risks.	B.3.1 Implement the Concept for Countering Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred 2021 to 2026 and its specific two-year Action Plans, including focusing on the protection of victims and the reduction of risks associated with extremism and prejudiced hatred and the elimination of social tensions they cause.
B.4 Support the operation of help lines for victims of crime.	B.4.1 Provide subsidies for the operation of the free call to European assistance and crisis helplines 116 xxx.
B.5 Identify the status and development of the agenda of victims of crime.	B.5.1 Conduct the research on victims of crime. B.5.2 Conduct a criminological research on perpetrators and victims of domestic and gender-motivated violence in the Czech Republic.

B.6 Make effort to reduce the latency of criminal activity through early identification of particularly vulnerable victims and motivation to report illegal acts.	B.6.1 Through improving the communication skills of the police towards the public, increase the pro-client approach, especially to victims of crimes and whistleblowers.
	B.6.2 Support and participate in projects aimed at continuously raising the legal awareness of seniors (“Cautious Senior”, “Senior Academy”).
	B.6.3 Involvement of Police of the Czech Republic specialists in the dissemination of good practice and the manual for helping victims of domestic violence in internal corporate culture and employee care.
B.7 Implement measures leading to the reduction of secondary victimization of victims.	B.7.1 Increase the confidence of the Police of the Czech Republic when working with the victims – use a new methodology for identifying victims, use the special interrogation rooms to the maximum extent possible when working with the particularly vulnerable victims, inform the public about the work of the police with the victims.
	B.7.2 Continue the modernization of the established network of special interrogation rooms.
	B.7.3 Analyze the possibilities of support and protection of persons injured in misdemeanour proceedings.
	B.7.4 Create and make available a victim education video according the Victims of Crime Act.
	B.7.5 Reduce secondary victimization when asking questions of particularly vulnerable victims in preliminary criminal proceedings through the law enforcement authorities.
B.8 Increase public awareness in the area of combating violence.	B.8.1 Implement a nationwide awareness campaign against violence (Say NO to violence).
B.9 Support the development of services for victims of crime	B.9.1 Implement the subsidy program Development of Services for Victims of Crime, provided on the basis of Act No. 45/2013 Coll., On Victims of Crime.
B.10 Comprehensively ensure the fight against all forms of domestic and gender-based violence, including a focus on prevention, identification of victims and assistance and support to victims.	B.10.1 Implement the measures in the Equality Strategy 2021-2030 and the Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence.

## C. Work with Perpetrators, Prevention of Recidivism

**Strategic Goal C:** The Czech Republic focuses on the fight against recidivism, on early and coordinated resocialisation of perpetrators and supports work with violent persons.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
<p>C.1 Penitentiary system of the Czech Republic is conceptually focused on the correction of convicts in order to prevent recidivism and on the connection with crime prevention and post-penitentiary care with the aim of reintegrating perpetrators.</p>	<p>C.1.1 Implement the Strategic goals of the Penitentiary System Concept until 2025 and adopt a new Penitentiary System Concept 2026+ that reflects the needs of recidivism prevention, perpetrator resocialisation and work with violent perpetrators.</p>
<p>C.2 The Probation and Mediation Service's work with perpetrators is conceptually focused on diverting perpetrators from a criminal career and integrating them into society.</p>	<p>C.2.1 Implement the strategic goals and specific objectives of the Concept for the Development of Probation and Mediation until 2025 and adopt the new Concept for the Development of Probation and Mediation 2026+, which will reflect the needs of recidivism prevention, resocialisation of perpetrators and work with persons at risk, especially violent persons.</p>
<p>C.3 Consolidate the positions of social worker and social probation officer within penitentiary and post-penitentiary care.</p>	<p>C.3.1 Ensure annual financing of social work.</p>
	<p>C.3.2 Provide further (accredited) education to social workers focusing on perpetrators, released from prison and in the area of post-penitentiary care.</p>
	<p>C.3.3 Provide methodological support and consultation to social workers and methodologists</p>
	<p>C.3.4 Establish/participate in inter-ministerial /interdisciplinary working groups for coordinated cooperation.</p>
	<p>C.3.5 Anchor the position and activities of social workers in public administration.</p>
<p>C.4 Support the prevention of domestic violence in relationships through work with the violent person and persons close to him/her, expand</p>	<p>C.4.1 Implement a subsidy Program for the Prevention of Socially Pathological Phenomena with a focus on the prevention and elimination of domestic violence through work with violent persons and persons unable to handle aggression in relationships and strive for its increase.</p>

the availability of therapeutic services.	
C.5 Support the development of probation and resocialisation programs for perpetrators and for work with their families.	C.5.1 Implement the subsidy program Development of Probation and Re-Socialisation Programs for Juvenile Delinquents.
	C.5.2 Implement a subsidy program Development of Probation and Resocialization Programs for Adults.
	C.5.3 Implement a subsidy program to support work with families of persons sentenced to imprisonment.
C.6 Increase the number of regions in which projects are implemented to prevent the recidivism of criminals within the framework of the Crime Prevention Program at the local level.	C.6.1 Share examples of good practice on the implementation of projects for the prevention of recidivism of perpetrators and motivate counties or municipalities to implement such projects using financial support from The Crime Prevention Program at the local level.
C.7. Support the effectiveness of work with released perpetrators through research activities.	C.7.1. To implement the research project “The Institute of Parole in Application Practice”.
	C.7.2. Carry out penological research on the preparation of convicts for release.
	C.7.3. Carry out research on the continuity of penitentiary and post-penitentiary care for convicted drug users.



D. Comprehensive and Coordinated Approach to Security in High-Risk Locations, the Work of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to Minorities

**Strategic Goal D:** The Czech Republic implements a comprehensive and coordinated approach to tackling crime in risk locations based on partnership between responsible stakeholders and representatives/inhabitants of the locations, focusing not only on the manifestations but also on the causes of the problems. It takes into account the specific needs and problems of minority groups living in these locations.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
<p>D.1 By implementing the measures in the Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation Strategy 2021 to 2030, reduce the level of antigypsyism and promote equality, inclusion and participation of Roma citizens.</p>	<p>D.1.1 Implement the measures in the Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation Strategy 2021 to 2030 that are relevant to this Strategy, thereby contributing to reducing the level of antigypsyism and promoting equality, inclusion and participation of Roma citizens. Monitor this implementation on a regular basis.</p>
<p>D.2 Promote specialization within the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to minorities, develop competences of members when working in relation to minorities and strengthen mutual cooperation and participation.</p>	<p>D.2.1 Evaluate the current system settings of the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of minorities, make relevant updates/changes as necessary.</p> <p>D.2.2 As part of the system of the Police of the Czech Republic for working in relation to minorities, use and support the so-called Anti-Conflict Teams, especially for the need to prevent an acute escalation of tension between members of the minority and the majority groups.</p> <p>D.2.3 Implement the accredited educational program “Courses I and II for Liaison Officers for Minorities and Members of Working Groups”</p> <p>D.2.4 Implement regular training of in-house trainers of the Police of the Czech Republic in experiential pedagogy on minority issues.</p> <p>D.2.5 Regularly implement the “Course of Intercultural Competences” training program.</p> <p>D.2.6 Implement regular instructional methodical training: a) for liaison officers for minorities and members of their working groups; b) training of existing and new police specialists to work with the Roma minority in socially excluded locations.</p>

	D.2.7 Continue informing members of minorities about employment opportunities in the framework of the Police of the Czech Republic.
	D.2.8 Intensify the participation of officers of the Police of the Czech Republic in socially significant events related to minority issues.
	D.2.9 Implement regular meetings of the liaison officers for minorities with regional coordinators for Roma affairs and other interested public administration bodies, non-profit sector, experts, etc.
	D.2.10 Implementation of foreign internships for representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic on the agenda of police work in the minority sector.
D.3 Strengthen the positions of social workers and social probation officers regarding the prevention of crime in risk areas and socially excluded locations.	D.3.1 Ensure annual funding for social work.
	D.3.2 Provide further (accredited) education to social workers with a focus on work in risk areas and socially excluded locations.
	D.3.3 Provide methodical support and consultations to social workers and methodologists.
	D.3.4 Create/participate in inter-ministerial/interdisciplinary working groups for the purpose of coordinated cooperation.
	D.3.5 Anchoring the position and activities of social workers in public administration.
D.4 Continue to support the proven Crime Prevention Assistant (CPA) and Caretaker-Preventionist (D-P) projects in socially excluded locations and, as possible, strengthen this support.	D.4.1 Continue to financially support and methodically guide proven projects ensuring security, public order and peaceful civil coexistence in municipalities with socially excluded localities – Crime Prevention Assistant and Caretaker-Preventionist.
	D.4.2 Strive for an increase in the allocation for subsidy support of the Crime Prevention Assistant and Caretaker-Preventionist projects as part of the Subsidy Crime Prevention Program at the local level at least by CZK 15 million. Establish a guarantee of the amount of financial support for Crime Prevention Assistant and Caretaker-Preventionist projects, as well as other types of crime prevention projects.
	D.4.3 Set predictable criteria for determining priority locations for the provision of subsidy support for the Crime Prevention Program at the local level for the Crime Prevention Assistant and Caretaker-Preventionist projects. Support the most priority locations also within the framework of multi-year funding.
	D.4.4 Actively promote and offer support for the Crime Prevention Assistant and Caretaker-Preventionist projects

	<p>in municipalities with a defined socially excluded location and inform about all available financial support options for these projects.</p>
<p>D.5 Support the implementation of crime prevention projects focused on crime and criminal risk phenomena in socially excluded localities.</p>	<p>D.5.1 Within the scope of the Crime Prevention Subsidy Program at the local level, enable the support of crime prevention projects focused on crime and criminal risk phenomena in socially excluded locations, spread suitable projects through good practice and methodically support their implementers/applicants. Support the involvement of socially excluded locations residents in the implementation of these projects. Increase the competence of relevant workers.</p>
<p>D.6 Prevent an increase in crime and deterioration of the security situation in municipalities in the vicinity of industrial zones.</p>	<p>D.6.1 Monitor the security situation in municipalities on whose territory or in whose vicinity there are industrial zones, in connection with the increased employment of foreigners and residents from more distant parts of the Czech Republic.</p> <p>D.6.2 Cooperate on a comprehensive and coordinated solution to problems affecting the security situation in these municipalities.</p> <p>D.6.3 Implement effective preventive and operational measures and projects.</p> <p>D.6.4 Update the existing Methodological Guide for cities and municipalities adjacent to industrial zones.</p>

## E. Situational Crime Prevention and New Approaches

**Strategic Goal E:** The Czech Republic develops and promotes situational crime prevention, strengthens the crime-related resilience of particular locations, increases public awareness of protection options, while supporting and implementing new approaches and technologies.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
<p>E.1 Promote new approaches and innovations in crime prevention.</p>	<p>E.1.1 Search for innovative projects and approaches or innovations of already implemented projects and approaches, within the Czech Republic and abroad, and disseminate them into practice.</p> <p>E.1.2 Support the implementation of innovative projects and approaches regarding the crime prevention.</p> <p>E.1.3 Cooperate on the creation of joint educational centres for the general public and especially for children and youth using new interactive elements of education – so-called interactive educational centres, safety centres, etc.</p>
<p>E.2 Develop situational crime prevention, raise awareness among professionals and the general public and strengthen the resilience of places against crime and other offences.</p>	<p>E.2.1 Develop “Safe Country”, “Safe Location”, and “Safe Housing” projects aimed at situational crime prevention.</p> <p>E.2.2 Continue the “Secure Yourself” project focused on burglary prevention.</p> <p>E.2.3 Continue the activity of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention, involve in its work also private entities with knowledge from practice and use innovative tools and approaches from the private sphere as well as for the public sector.</p> <p>E.2.4 Actively participate in international initiatives and campaigns in the area of situational crime prevention, in particular organised property crime and residential burglary.</p> <p>E.2.5 Strengthen the resistance of public/publicly accessible spaces or buildings, public transport means against criminal and other offences.</p> <p>E.2.6 Implement information and awareness raising activities towards the professional and general public focused on situational crime prevention.</p> <p>E.2.7 Financially support the area of situational crime prevention, both in the non-investment and in the investment area.</p>

E.3 Promote and develop the creation and use of technical standards for crime prevention.	E.3.1 Participate in the development of technical standards in the area of crime prevention at national and international level.
	E.3.2 Disseminate awareness of the existence and usefulness of technical standards for crime prevention and examples of their appropriate use in practice.
E.4 Effectively develop the use of municipal CCTV systems to enhance security and crime prevention.	E.4.1 Conduct a review of the existing design and use of CCTV.
	E.4.2 Elaborate the concept of further development and support of CCTV from public sources in order to increase security and prevent crime.
	E.4.3 Financially and methodologically support projects for the CCTV acquisition and modernization.
	E.4.4 Disseminate good practice and innovations in the use of CCTV among municipalities.
E.5 Continue to develop and expand the use of forensic identification marking as an effective security measure against theft.	E.5.1 Ensure nationwide involvement of the Police of the Czech Republic in the forensic identification marking project, access of the Police of the Czech Republic as a whole to the International Database of Forensically Marked Objects (REFIZ) and equipping the Police of the Czech Republic with tools to identify marked objects.
	E.5.2 Financially and methodologically support the forensic identification marking project in the municipalities of the Czech Republic.
	E.5.3 Disseminate good practice and innovation in the forensic identification-marking project.
E.6 Use modern technologies and analytical tools in the fight against graffiti and to prevent this crime.	E.6.1 Create a suitable legislative environment for the operational work of the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of combating and preventing graffiti.
	E.6.2 Build a national graffiti database, which collects graffiti photographed as a result of the operational activities of the Police of the Czech Republic, or sent by other entities.
	E.6.3 Develop and use an analytical tool/software to compare graffiti in the database to determine authorship matches.
	E.6.4 Develop international cooperation in the area of graffiti control and prevention.

## F. Crime Committed by and Against Children

**Strategic Goal F:** The Czech Republic monitors the development of crime committed by and against children and responds in a timely manner with appropriate measures, enhances the protection of children from violence and other criminally risk phenomena, identifies children at risk in a timely manner and implements the necessary interventions, and develops a functional system for searching for missing children.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
F.1 Increase the protection of children from physical or psychological violence and other negative phenomena, including the impact on their development.	F.1.1 Implement the use of the “KID card” (Card to Identify Child Abuse) tool by key professions working with children (teachers, health professionals, etc.).
	F.1.2 Compile and distribute the “Ten Commandments for Children” and “Ten Commandments for the Right Parent” materials.
	F.1.3 Develop materials to improve parenting competences - Healthy Parenting Program to prevent family violence and develop training on this material.
	F.1.4 Inclusion of Sexual Education and Education for Healthy Partner and Parental Relationships in the primary school Framework Curriculum.
	F.1.5 Propose a model of Centres for Children at Risk for the future creation of a coherent network on the territory of the Czech Republic.
F.2 Full-scale implementation of the Early Intervention System for work with children at risk in the Czech Republic.	F.2.1 Set up a system of early interdisciplinary cooperation at local and regional level (according to the principles of the early intervention system pilot project).
	F.2.2 Create a software tool (define requirements for a software tool providing support when working with data and information within the early intervention system).
F.3 Respond flexibly to the development of crime committed by and against children.	F.3.1 Monitor the development and trends in crime committed by children and against children (including criminal risk phenomena) and continuously update and monitor the implementation of the recommendations resulting from the material ‘Analysis of the Situation of Children and Juveniles at Risk of Crime and Criminal Risk Phenomena’.
	F.3.2 Implement the research project “Children under the Age of Fifteen in the Juvenile Justice System”.

<p>F.4 Continue the development of the Special Interrogation Rooms project.</p>	<p>F 4.1 Support effective measures to speed up and make the procedure more efficient when using interrogations undertaken in special interrogation rooms.</p>
<p>F.5 Ensure the continuation and further development of the National Coordination Mechanism for the Search for Missing Children (NKMPPD).</p>	<p>F.5.1 Develop activities related to the National Coordination Mechanism for the Search for Missing Children.</p>
	<p>F.5.2 Support the dissemination and further development of the ECHO Application (informing the public about children whose lives are currently in danger).</p>
	<p>F.5.3 Develop international cooperation with stakeholders involved in the search for missing particularly vulnerable persons (children, seniors, persons with reduced physical or mental self-sufficiency), such as Amber Alert Europe (AA EU) or Police Expert Network on Missing Persons (PEN-MP).</p>

## G. Cybercrime Prevention

**Strategic Goal G:** The Czech Republic actively, systematically and in a coordinated manner strengthens the prevention of cybercrime and risk behaviour in cyberspace and provides assistance and support to victims in cyberspace.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	MEASURES
<p>G.1 Set up a system of cooperation and education in the area of cybercrime prevention at the national level.</p>	<p>G.1.1 Create a working group/commission within the National Crime Prevention Committee to coordinate activities and cooperation in cybercrime prevention.</p> <p>G.1.2 Cooperate on the education and professional development of experts in the areas of increasing digital competences, cyber security habits; to strengthen society's digital awareness in the area of well-being.</p> <p>G.1.3 Create an interconnected ecosystem based on bilateral cooperation in the area of cybercrime prevention.</p>
<p>G.2. Set up and promote a system of police work in the area of solving cybercrime (crime committed with the use of information technology) within the framework of the Police of the Czech Republic.</p>	<p>G.2.1 Set up and coordinate a system in the area of dealing with cybercrime (crime committed with the use of information technology), especially at the level of the Bureau of Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic and Regional Police Directorates.</p> <p>G.2.2 Strengthen the personnel capacities of the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of dealing with cybercrime (crime committed with the use of information technology) within the framework of the Police of the Czech Republic at the level of the Bureau of Criminal Police and Investigation Service and Regional Police Directorates.</p> <p>G.2.3 Implement training within the Police of the Czech Republic focused on gender-based cyber-violence.</p>
<p>G.3 Actively act in the area of cybercrime prevention and education on all target groups with an emphasis on groups particularly vulnerable in cyberspace, especially children and youth.</p>	<p>G.3.1 Strengthen the prevention of risk behaviour in cyberspace among particularly vulnerable groups of population, especially children, youth and the elderly.</p> <p>G.3.2 As part of preventive, educational and awareness-raising activities in the area of cybercrime prevention, focus also on the prevention of potential crime and undesirable behaviour, especially by raising legal awareness.</p> <p>G.3.3 Develop a campaign aimed at preventing and raising awareness of online sexual abuse and coercion of children and adolescents in cyberspace. The campaign will also specifically focus on the issue of raising awareness among the target group of children and adolescents about the risks</p>



	<p>of their own self-presentation on the Internet and in the online space and how to prevent these risks. Also support campaigns with such a focus implemented by other entities.</p>
	<p>G.3.4 Establish a system for the provision of ICT security infrastructures in schools. Strengthen security in schools in the area of cybercrime prevention and cybersecurity. Coordinate a system of cybersecurity audits in schools.</p>
<p>G.4 Support victims of cybercrime.</p>	<p>G.4.1 Support the creation of a network of regional counselling and information centres.</p>
	<p>G.4.2 Based on the analysis of victimization in the area of cybercrime, create a methodology for work and assistance to victims of cybercrime with the aim of reducing the latency of cybercrime.</p>
<p>G.5 Ensure consistent consideration of the issue of gender-based cyber-violence in conceptual work and data collection.</p>	<p>G.5.1 Include the issue of gender-based cyber-violence in documents of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.</p>
	<p>G.5.2 Take into account the issue of gender-based cyber-violence in the framework of research.</p>
	<p>G.5.3 Take into account the issue of gender-based violence within the framework of the collection of statistical data on crime in the Czech Republic.</p>



## Excerpt from the IMPLEMENTATION PLAN of the Crime Prevention Strategy in the Czech Republic for 2022 to 2027:

Annex 2

Strategic goal E: Situational Crime Prevention and New Approaches		The Czech Republic develops and promotes situational crime prevention, strengthens the crime-related resilience of particular locations, increases public awareness of protection options, while supporting and implementing new approaches and technologies.			Indicator for strategic goal		Fulfillment of specific objectives		Baseline value		See SOI values		Target value		See SOI values	
Specific objectives	Specific Objective Indicator (SOI)	Baseline value of SOI	Measures	Description of measures	Schedule of the implementation of measures	Fulfillment criterion	Responsible institution	Target value	See SOI values	Requirements for financing and resources						
<b>E.1 Promote new approaches and innovations in crime prevention.</b>	a) The number of new innovative or innovated projects/approaches is monitored b) The dissemination of existing innovative projects/approaches is monitored with the aim of increasing the number of projects implemented c) Cooperation on the development of Safety Centres projects	a) occurring but not registered b) ongoing but not registered c) 1 Safety Centre in the Karlovy Vary Region	E.1.1 Search for innovative projects and approaches or innovations of already implemented projects and approaches, within the Czech Republic and abroad, and disseminate them into practice. E.1.2 Support the implementation of innovative projects and approaches regarding the crime prevention. E.1.3 Cooperate on the creation of joint educational centres for the general public and especially for children and youth using new interactive elements of education – so-called interactive educational centres, safety centres, etc.	Actively search among implemented projects, activities, approaches in the area of crime prevention in the Czech Republic and abroad (e.g. through the EUCPN, Norwegian Funds, bilateral cooperation, etc.) innovative projects and approaches, especially those that are evaluated and verified, or are being established on proven theories and starting points. Innovative trends include, among others, the area of community crime prevention, or crime prevention at the locality/neighbourhood level (see A.7.6 for details). Spread these innovations among other entities working in the area of crime prevention through informational, educational, methodological, consulting activities, examples of good practice, etc. Include also innovative projects and approaches in methodologically and financially supported activities (both in the framework of support for own crime prevention activities and subsidy support to other entities), and favour innovations in project evaluation (e.g. extra points if the project is innovative). The same should be done in the context of organised crime prevention awards, databases of good practice examples, etc. Safety education (population protection during emergencies, crime prevention, first aid, traffic education, preparation of citizens to defend the state) will be complemented by programs and the resulting experiential learning projects, such as health and safety centres. These centres are focused on comprehensive safety of the individual from various aspects, i.e. in one place, through experiential learning and gaining their own experience, visitors learn in a playful way how to handle dangerous situations in the area of fire protection, population protection, crime prevention, proper first aid, as well as the issue of addictive substances, rescue of a drowning person, safe behaviour on public roads, including road crossings, etc. The cooperation will mainly consist in ensuring the factual correctness of individual safety measures addressed in the framework of building health and safety centres. To build such centres, support from public and private institutions and organisations will also be necessary, especially from regions, municipalities, etc.	2022 to 2027	Innovation is actively sought and disseminated; innovations are applied in projects and approaches	Members of the National Crime Prevention Committee	Regions, municipalities, NGOs	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions						
<b>E.2 Develop situational crime prevention, raise awareness among professionals and the general public and strengthen the resilience of places</b>	a) Number of innovations, new activities and materials in the area of situational crime prevention and strengthening the resilience of places against crime and other offences b) Private entities actively participate in the development of situational crime prevention and new approaches as part of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention c) The Czech Republic participates annually in international initiatives and campaigns	a) current status b) yes, however the Statute of the Advisory Council is already outdated c) yes d) current status e) partially monitored	E.2.1 Develop "Safe Country", "Safe Location", and "Safe Housing" projects aimed at situational crime prevention. E.2.2 Continue the "Secure Yourself" project focused on burglary prevention.	In cooperation with partners (municipalities, regions, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention, etc.), continue to implement, support and further develop the comprehensive projects crime prevention and inform the professional and general public about legal ways and possibilities of protecting persons and property, including the safety of places accessible to the public. In relation to developments and trends in the area of property crime in particular, update the materials, advice and recommendations issued. Continue the implementation of the comprehensive project aimed at preventing burglary of buildings "Secure Yourself", both in the development and updating of innovative crime prevention tools (especially mobile applications) and in the area of information and awareness-raising activities. Following the example of already proven projects from abroad, the possibility of providing facilities that are secured in accordance with the recommendations with a mark/certificate of the relevant authority attesting to this fact.	2022 to 2027	Ongoing projects; new activities implemented; new materials published	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Regions, municipalities, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention, or other private stakeholders	Within own budgets of ministries/institutions (regions, municipalities with the possibility of subsidy support from the Ministry of the Interior)	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions						

against crime and other offences.	d) Amount of funds spent from Ministry of the interior subsidies e) Increased awareness of the possibilities to protect persons and property		E.2.3 Continue the activity of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention, involve in its work also private entities with knowledge from practice and use innovative tools and approaches from the private sphere as well as for the public sector.	Continue to develop the activities of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention and update its status to ensure that its composition, scope and members' tasks correspond to the current needs for the development of situational crime prevention. Actively involve private entities (especially associations of companies operating in the area of safety and security) in the activities of the Advisory Council and to use their knowledge from practice and experience with new technologies, tools and procedures also for the development of situational crime prevention in the public sector.	2022 to 2027 Update of the Statute of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention 2022 to 2027 Functioning of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention	Updated Statute of the Advisory Council; private entities involved in its activities; innovations in situational prevention discussed at the Advisory Council	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention (Police of the Czech Republic, municipalities – municipal police, private sector)	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions
			E.2.4 Actively participate in international initiatives and campaigns in the area of Situational crime prevention, in particular organised residential burglary.	Continue to actively participate and implement activities at national and local level in the framework of the European Anti-Burglary Day under the auspices of the EUCPN. Participate in other activities within the EUCPN, particularly those focused on property crime, including organised crime (within EMPACT). Take an interest in international police cooperation activities against pickpocketing and, where appropriate, participate in them. Monitor other similar activities and, where appropriate and capacity permits, participate in them.	2022 to 2027	Involvement in international campaigns, in particular within the EUCPN	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Police of the Czech Republic, regions, municipalities, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions
			E.2.5 Strengthen the resistance of public/publicly accessible spaces or buildings, public transport means against criminal and other offences.	Through activities in the area of situational crime prevention, technical standards for crime prevention at national and international level, in cooperation with members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention, also focus on strengthening the resilience of public/publicly accessible/spaces or buildings and mass transport means against crime and other offences. As a model, we can mention ČSN 73 4400 Crime Prevention – Security Management in Planning, implementation and Use of Schools and School Facilities and activities related to awareness of this standard, its implementation in the practice of schools and school facilities, transfer of the standard to the European level through CEN/TC 325.	2022 to 2027	Professional materials published or projects implemented; seminars organised; number of projects supported in this area	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Police of the Czech Republic, regions, municipalities, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions
			E.2.6 Implement information and awareness raising activities towards the professional and general public focused on situational crime prevention.	Carry out information and awareness-raising activities aimed at professionals and the general public focused on the situational crime prevention, within the framework of which they inform professionals and the general public about legal methods and possibilities for the protection of persons and property, including the safety of places accessible to the public. Participate in conferences, professional seminars, exhibitions and fairs in the area of construction, urban development, protection of property and people. Cooperate with members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention and other relevant entities. Use appropriate international initiatives and campaigns for this purpose.	2022 to 2027	Information and awareness-raising activities implemented; participation in conferences, seminars, fairs	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Police of the Czech Republic, regions, municipalities, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention	Within own budgets of ministries or institutions
			E.2.7 Financially support the area of situational crime prevention, both in the non-investment and in the investment area.	Continue to provide methodological and financial support for situational crime prevention in regions and municipalities through the Local Crime Prevention Subsidy Program (investment and non-investment), increase the budget of the Program in accordance with measure A.3.1.	2022 to 2027	Existing subsidy program, support provided for this area	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic	Within the Ministry's own budget + increase see measure A.3.1

<p><b>E.3 Promote and develop the creation and use of technical standards for crime prevention.</b></p>	<p>a) Technical standards for crime prevention are adopted and implemented b) Czech Republic chairs and actively leads CEN/TC 325 c) Awareness of the existence and applicability of technical crime prevention standards is raised</p>	<p>a) yes b) yes c) yes</p>	<p>a) yes (number of participants, number of materials published)</p>	<p>E.3.1 Participate in the development of technical standards in the area of crime prevention at national and international level.  E.3.2 Disseminate awareness of the existence and usefulness of technical standards for crime prevention and examples of their appropriate use in practice.</p>	<p>Participate in the activities of the Technical Standardisation Commission No. 148 Crime Prevention and Public Protection of the Czech Agency for Standardisation. Participate in the activities of the European Technical Standardisation Committee CEN/TC 325 Crime Prevention through Building, Facility and Area Design and its working groups. To support the Czech Presidency of CEN/TC 325 and the related secretariat activities.</p>	<p>2022 to 2027</p>	<p>Active participation in TNC No. 148 and CEN/TC 325; support provided for the presidency in CEN/TC 325</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic</p>	<p>Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic (Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing, or Czech Agency for Standardisation)</p>	<p>Within own budgets of ministries or institutions</p>
<p><b>E.4 Effectively develop the use of municipal CCTV systems to enhance security and crime prevention.</b></p>	<p>a) Further development takes place on the basis of an audit of the current status and a concept for further development of the CCTV b) The use of the CCTV is promoted while respecting the rules of personal data protection and human rights</p>	<p>a) no b) yes</p>	<p>a) yes b) yes, continuing support</p>	<p>E.4.1 Conduct a review of the existing design and use of CCTV.  E.4.2 Elaborate the concept of further development and support of CCTV from public sources in order to increase security and prevent crime.  E.4.3 Financially and methodologically support projects for the CCTV acquisition and modernization.  E.4.4 Disseminate good practice and innovations in the use of CCTV among municipalities.</p>	<p>Conduct an overview of the existing CCTV systems in the Czech Republic, especially those built under the subsidy support of the Crime Prevention Program at the local level, both in terms of technical and technological aspects, as well as in terms of functionalities and material use/focus. The focus should also be on the use of modern analytical software and functions of CCTV and on the interconnection of CCTV with the systems of the Police of the Czech Republic.</p> <p>On the basis of the results of the review (see measure E.4.1), elaborate a concept for further development of CCTV within the framework of support from public sources, in particular the Crime Prevention Program at local level, focusing e.g. on the quality of outputs, minimum technical parameters, interconnection of CCTV with the systems of the Police of the Czech Republic, which crimes to use them for, how to focus support in large cities and in small municipalities, priorities for subsidy support, etc.</p> <p>Continue methodological and financial support for the development of CCTV in municipalities in the Czech Republic through the subsidy program for crime prevention at the local level, seek to increase the budget of the program in the area of investments by CZK 10 million. (see measure A.3.1). When supporting CCTV, emphasize the protection of personal data and human rights in the use of CCTV and new analytical software/functions. Once a concept for the development of CCTV has been developed, direct support in line with this concept.</p> <p>Disseminate also examples of good practice and use of innovations in CCTV among municipalities in the Czech Republic, in the framework of annual conferences/seminars on situational crime prevention.</p>	<p>2022 to 2023</p>	<p>Overview implemented</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic</p>	<p>Police of the Czech Republic, municipalities, regions, members of the Advisory Council or the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention</p>	<p>Within the Ministry's own budget</p>
						<p>2024</p>	<p>Concept developed</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic</p>	<p>Police of the Czech Republic, municipalities, regions, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention</p>	<p>Within the Ministry's own budget</p>
						<p>2022 to 2027 (from 2025 according to the new development concept)</p>	<p>Crime prevention activities or projects implemented</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic</p>	<p>Within the Ministry's own budget + related to the requirement, see measure A.3.1</p>
						<p>2022 to 2027</p>	<p>Annual conference/seminar</p>	<p>Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic</p>	<p>Police of the Czech Republic, municipalities, regions, members of the Advisory Council of the Ministry of the Interior for Situational Crime Prevention</p>	<p>Within the Ministry's own budget</p>

E.5 Continue to develop and expand the use of forensic identification marking as an effective security measure against theft.	a) Nationwide involvement of the Police of the Czech Republic in the Forensic Identification Marking of Objects project and access to the International Database of Forensically Marked Objects (REFIZ) b) Increased number of municipalities involved in the Forensic Identification Marking of Objects project c) Continued support of the Forensic Identification Marking of Objects project with the subsidy support of the Ministry of the Interior	a) no b) 71 in 2020 c) yes	a) yes b) at least 100 municipalities c) yes	E.5.1 Ensure nationwide involvement of the Police of the Czech Republic in the forensic identification marking project, access of the Police of the Czech Republic as a whole to the International Database of Forensically Marked Objects (REFIZ) and equipping the Police of the Czech Republic with tools to identify marked objects.  E.5.2 Financially and methodologically support the forensic identification marking project in the municipalities of the Czech Republic.  E.5.3 Disseminate good practice and innovation in the forensic identification-marking project.	Forensic identification marking is an effective tool to prevent theft of various items, currently it is mostly used to mark bicycles and compensatory aids or urban equipment, but its use is much wider. Marking an item with synthetic DNA (which is often accompanied by a sticker warning that the item is marked) deters criminals from stealing these items, makes it more difficult to resell and helps identify stolen items. Municipal police forces across the country (more than 70 in 2000) are actively involved in the project and enter marked items into the national (or international) database, International Database of Forensically Marked Objects (REFIZ). However, for the project to be as effective as possible, it is important that the police are involved across the whole country, are able to identify stolen objects throughout the country and have access to REFIZ, where they can identify stolen objects and trace their owners. To this end, it would be advisable to conclude a memorandum of cooperation between the Police of the Czech Republic and the REFIZ operator and to provide the Police across the Czech Republic with the equipment needed to identify the stolen items (ultraviolet lights, magnifiers or small microscopes).	2022 to 2023	Podpsané memorandum o spolupráci; PCR zapojena do projektu; PCR vybavena zařízením k identifikaci označených předmětů Memorandum of cooperation signed; Police of the Czech Republic nationwide involved in the project; Police of the Czech Republic equipped with tools to identify marked objects	Police of the Czech Republic	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Within the Ministry's own budget
E.6 Use modern technologies and analytical tools in the fight against graffiti and to prevent this crime.	a) Developing a suitable legislative environment b) Existence of a database (with internal and external suggestions) of graffiti c) Use of an analytical tool to compare graffiti in the database	a) no, in particular for police work with external stimuli b) no, only on a pilot basis locally c) no, only on a pilot basis locally	a) yes b) yes, use of internal and external incentives c) yes, throughout the entire Police of the Czech Republic	E.6.1 Create a suitable legislative environment for the operational work of the Police of the Czech Republic in the area of combating and preventing graffiti.  E.6.2 Build a national graffiti database, which collects graffiti photographed as a result of the operational activities of the Police of the Czech Republic, or sent by other entities.  E.6.3 Develop and use an analytical tool/software to compare graffiti in the database to determine authorship matches.  E.6.4 Develop international cooperation in the area of graffiti control and prevention.	Propose an amendment in legal regulations that will enable the Police of the Czech Republic to work with graffiti more effectively and operatively and to use databases and analytical tools in operative search activities.  Following the example of the successful pilot project TagBust implemented by the municipality and the municipal police in Breclav, which succeeded in identifying the perpetrators of several cases of graffiti and virtually eliminating this offence in the city, to create a national graffiti database within the Police of the Czech Republic, which will collect graffiti a) in the first phase photographed during the operational activities of the Police; b) in the next phase also those sent by other stakeholders (e.g. by municipal staff, technical services, or the public), ideally using a mobile application created for this purpose.  Create and subsequently use analytical tool/software (it can be an extension of the already existing tool of the Police of the Czech Republic called "Relief" that is focused on drug crime, use of the proven software TagBust from Breclav, etc.) to compare graffiti in the database to determine the matching of authorship. This tool will help to identify and, in cooperation with a competent expert, to convict the graffiti perpetrators.  At the level of international police cooperation and within the EUCPN, develop international cooperation regarding both the fight against graffiti, including organised cases with an international element, and the sharing of knowledge and experience of effective anti-graffiti prevention projects, procedures and tools.	2022  2022 to 2023 building of database, internal implementation (continues until 2027)  2024 external implementation (continuing until 2027)	Relevant amendments to legislation  Existing database a) filled internally, b) filled externally	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic  Police of the Czech Republic	Police of the Czech Republic  Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic	Within the Ministry's own budget  Within the Ministry's own budget