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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

Third periodical report
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter

CZECH REPUBLIC

**THE THIRD PERIODICAL REPORT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNDERTAKINGS ARISING FROM
THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES
IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

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Introduction

The Czech Republic ratified the European Charter for Regional or Minority languages (hereinafter referred to as the “Charter”) on 15 November 2006. Upon ratification a declaration was made committing the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as the “CR”) to apply selected provisions of Part III in accordance with Article 2 paragraph 2 and Article 3 paragraph 1 of the Charter. The Charter came into force in the CR on 1 March 2007, in accordance with Article 19 paragraph 2. On the same day it was also published in the Collection of International Treaties of the CR under No. 15/2007.

Article 15 of the Charter stipulates that the Parties shall periodically present to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe a report on the application of the commitments they have accepted. On 30 April 2008, the Czech Republic submitted the Initial Periodical Report¹ to Strasbourg, after its approval by the Government on 25 February 2008 in Resolution No. 172.² In December 2008, the Committee of Experts for the Charter, together with the Secretariat of the Government Council for National Minorities (hereinafter referred to as the “Council”), subsequently undertook a monitoring visit to the Czech Republic, as part of the monitoring process for the Charter, during which they attended hearings of representatives of national minorities, local authorities and the relevant Government authorities. On the basis of the Initial Periodical Report and information obtained during the monitoring visit, the Committee of Experts for the Charter prepared its own evaluation report for the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and published it on 9 December 2009.³ The report includes an assessment of how the Czech Republic meets its obligations under the Charter.

In accordance with Article 16 of the Charter, the Secretariat of the Council presented to the Government draft Comments of the Czech Republic on the evaluation report from the Committee of Experts.⁴ These Comments were drafted by the Secretariat of the Council and reviewed by its members, i.e. representatives of public authorities and representatives of national minorities. After approval by the Government, which adopted Resolution No. 1060⁵ on 26 August 2009, they were submitted to the Council of Europe by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Committee of Ministers subsequently sent to the Government of the CR five recommendations regarding the fulfilment of obligations arising from the Charter.⁶ These included a requirement to promote awareness and tolerance towards the relevant regional or minority languages and cultures, both in the general curriculum at all levels of education and also in the media, with special attention being paid to the protection and development of Romani and German languages and the creation of favourable conditions to support their use in public life. The Committee also paid special attention to committees for national minorities in municipalities and to their powers in areas of education and bilingual names and signs. The Government should promote access to education in Slovak, Romani and German languages and ensure that the use of Romani at schools is not prohibited or hindered.

In accordance with Article 15 of the Charter, the Czech Republic presented the Second Periodical Report of the Czech Republic on the Implementation of the Undertakings arising from the Charter within a prescribed three-year interval. The report was prepared on the basis of documents provided by the relevant ministries responsible for the execution of national minority policy and by local administrative bodies and also based on comments from the

¹ https://web2006.vlada.cz/assets/ppov/rnm/aktuality/iii_periodicka_zpravacharta_1_def_1.pdf

² [http://racek.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/39909E31305F4009C125756A0061F64C/\\$FILE/172%20uv080225.0172.pdf](http://racek.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/39909E31305F4009C125756A0061F64C/$FILE/172%20uv080225.0172.pdf)

³ http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/minlang/Report/EvaluationReports/CzechECRML1_en.pdf

⁴ https://10.5.0.16/assets/ppov/rnm/aktuality/III_komentar_opravy_msmt_000.pdf

⁵ [http://racek.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/17B5C1876A77ADE5C125761D0033CA07/\\$FILE/1060%20uv090826.1060.pdf](http://racek.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/17B5C1876A77ADE5C125761D0033CA07/$FILE/1060%20uv090826.1060.pdf)

⁶ ECRML (2009)7: http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/minlang/Report/EvaluationReports/CzechECRML1_en.pdf

members of the Council, i.e. representatives of public authorities as well as representatives of national minorities and on the monitoring reports from the Secretariat of the Council. The report was discussed by the Council on 22 March 2011. In 2012, the Comments of the CR on the Second Report of the Committee of Experts were prepared and subsequently approved by the Government.

On the days between 16 and 20 January 2012, the Committee of Experts for the Charter undertook a final monitoring visit to the CR during which it met the representatives of public administration and national minorities. The subject of discussion was primarily the situation concerning the installation of bilingual signs in municipalities, their parts and on public buildings; and further the Polish national education; the position of Romani in the educational process; the 2011 census; and the amendment to Act on Municipalities, respectively the issue of establishing the Committees for National Minorities (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee").

The Third Periodical Report on the Implementation of the Undertakings Arising from the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in the Czech Republic was also prepared on the basis of documents provided by the relevant ministries responsible for the execution of national minority policy and by local administrative bodies and on the basis of comments from the members of the Council, i.e. representatives of public authorities as well as representatives of national minorities and on the monitoring reports from the Secretariat of the Council. The report was discussed by the Council on 20 March 2014. In its resolution (No. 145), the Council recommended to its President to submit the draft to the Government for a discussion after the settlement of an interdepartmental comment procedure.

Part I

I. 1. Promotion of regional or minority languages as part of the Czech cultural heritage

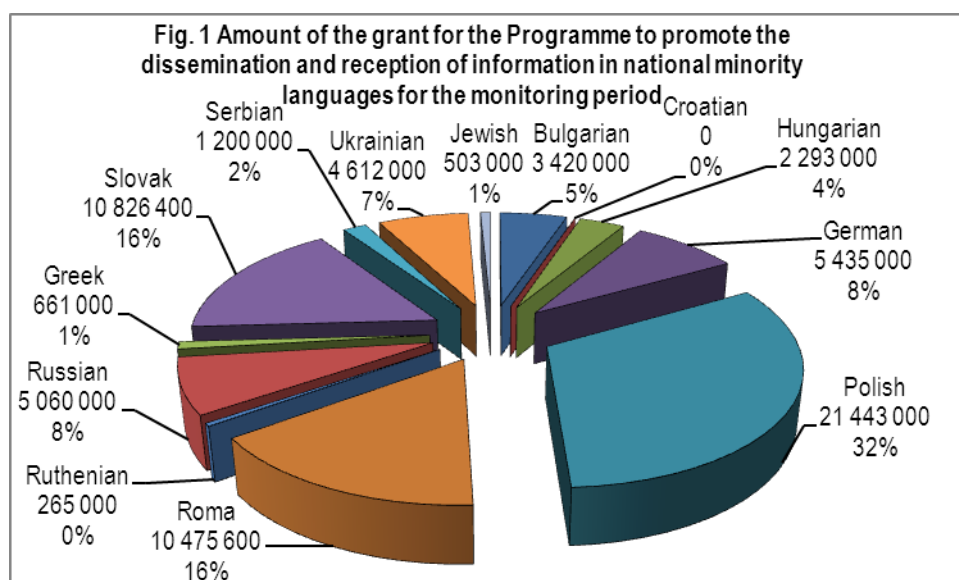
On the basis of Government Regulation No. 98/2002 Coll., laying down the conditions and method of providing grants from the state budget for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of integration of the Romani community, as amended, the Ministry of Culture administers three grant programmes that relate to minority languages to varying extents and which receive annual funding from the state budget. The share of the grant typically covers 70% of the total project budget. In exceptional cases, this share is increased up to 100%.

- Programme to support the dissemination and reception of information in national minority languages

Under this programme, the support is provided for the publication of periodicals in national minority languages or the production of programmes for radio and television broadcasts in national minority languages on the basis of submitted projects. In 2008 and 2009, CZK 30 million were allocated from the state budget to these projects every year; in 2010, due to the financial crisis, the funding was reduced to CZK 23,847 thousand. During the monitoring period, the total amount of grants fluctuated depending on the state budget within the following amounts:

Tab. 1 Programme to support the dissemination and reception of information in national minority languages for the monitoring period

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Number of projects				
		submitted total	in of which granted	new compared to the previous year	non granted	approx. average on a submitted project (CZK)
2011	28,571,000	34	29	4	5	840,000
2012	21,929,000	36	26	7	10	609,000
2013	15,694,000	32	22	0	10	490,000



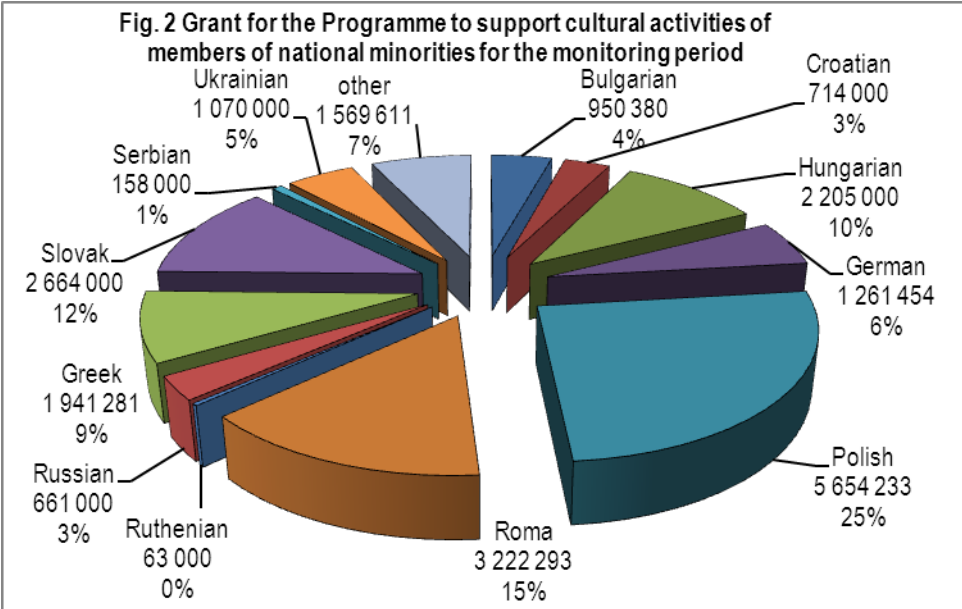
- Programme to support cultural activities of members of national minorities

The programme is thematically focused on artistic activities, cultural and educational activities, the study and analysis of national cultures and folk traditions, multi-ethnic cultural

events (among others aimed at combating any negative manifestations of extremism, racial and national intolerance and xenophobia), editorial activities (non-periodic publications) and the documentation of national culture. In 2008 and 2009, the Ministry of Culture allocated almost CZK 10 million to this programme, in 2010, however, the amount of funding was limited due to the financial crisis and thus CZK 8.5 million was allocated. During the monitoring period, there was an overall decrease in the amount of grant for the Ministry of Culture’s Programme to support cultural activities of members of national minorities especially in the last two years, which is related to the overall austerity measures to reduce Government deficits. The amount of grants is as follows:

Tab. 2 Amount of the grant in the Programme to support cultural activities of members of national minorities for the monitoring period

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Number of projects			approx. average on a submitted project (CZK)
		submitted in total	of which granted	non granted	
2011	8,541,906	87	68	19	125,616
2012	7,296,611	70	59	11	123,671
2013	6,295,735	79	59	20	106,707



- Programme to support the integration of the Roma community⁷

Under this programme, the Ministry of Culture each year supports artistic activities (theatres, museums, galleries, libraries, concerts, shows, festivals), cultural and educational activities (e.g. seminars, lectures, discussions), scientific research on Romani culture, traditions and history, the documentation of Romani culture, the study and analysis of Romani culture and traditions, editorial activities (non-periodic publications), multi-ethnic cultural events (among others aimed at combating any negative manifestations of extremism, racial and national intolerance and xenophobia). A total amount of between CZK 1.5 and 2 million is earmarked for this programme each year.

⁷ The Programme is implicitly related to the implementation of the Charter. We consider useful to mention it here.

Tab. 3 Amount of the grant in the Programme to support the integration of Roma community for the monitoring period (Ministry of Culture)

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Projects	
		granted in total	approx. average on a project (CZK)
2011	1,761,804	26	67,761
2012	1,391,750	26	53,528
2013	1,460,000	23	63,478

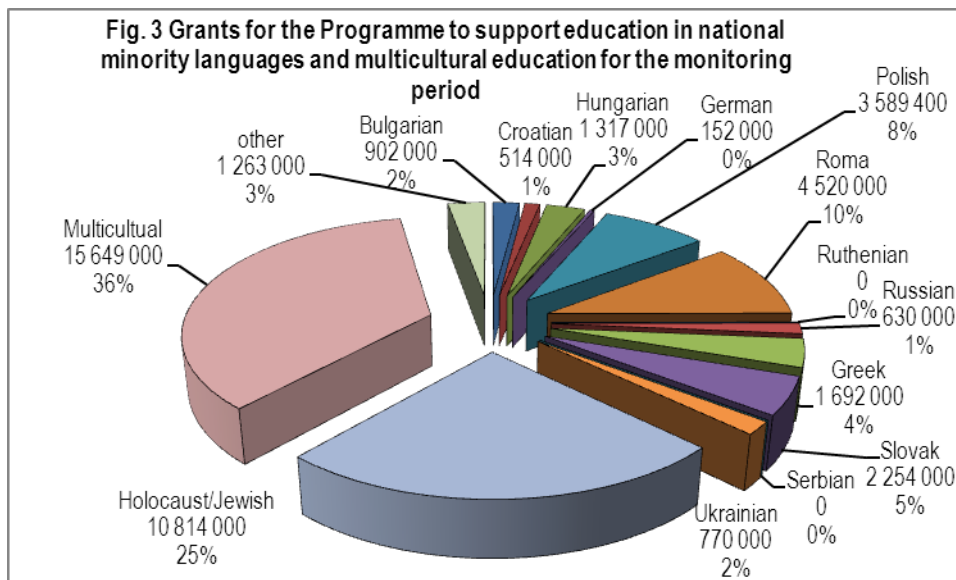
In addition, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports implements grant programmes relating to minority or regional languages:

- Programme to support education in minority languages and multicultural education

In addition to education in the languages of national minorities, this programme supports projects for the creation of educational programmes and teaching materials in the area of national minority education, aimed at exploring the history and culture of other nations, at teaching democratic citizenship, at mutual tolerance and at combating racial and national intolerance, xenophobia and anti-Semitism; as well as research focusing on the area of the education of children and youth from national and ethnic minorities living in the CR. Over the past three years, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has allocated an average of CZK 15 million a year to these activities:

Tab. 4 Amount of the grant in the Programme to support education in national minority languages and multicultural education for the monitoring period

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Projects	
		granted in total	approx. average on a project (CZK)
2011	15,598,000	79	197,443
2012	15,659,400	69	226,948
2013	15,024,000	52	288,923



- Programme to support the integration of the Roma community⁸

⁸ The Programme is implicitly related to the implementation of the Charter. We consider useful to mention it here.

The thematic areas of the grant programme are: preparation and timely care; support of school success of pupils at primary and secondary schools; methodical support of pedagogical as well as school counselling staff; creation of didactic materials and professional studies for the purpose of preparing educational programmes, methods and strategies; leisure and interest activities for Roma children and youth in relation to their educational needs; support of information and awareness-raising activities aimed at preventing any discriminatory conduct due to ethnicity, affiliation to nationality and social or economic status.

Tab. 5 Amount of the grant in the Programme to support the integration of the Roma community for the monitoring period (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Projects	
		granted in total	approx. average on a project (CZK)
2011	12,612,000	72	175,167
2012	15,665,372	98	159,851
2013	11,753,392	48	244,862

- Programme to support the education of socially disadvantaged students of secondary schools and higher vocational schools⁸

A programme to support the Roma secondary school students has been adjusted for socially disadvantaged Roma students of secondary and higher vocational schools. The programme aims to fund the education of those Roma students whose families experience considerable financial difficulties facing the costs associated with secondary school studies. The programme applies to all schools entered in the register of schools that provide secondary education, secondary education with a certificate of apprenticeship, secondary education completed with a school-leaving examination, higher vocational education and higher vocational education at a conservatory. It applies to schools established by regions or municipalities as well as private and church schools. The programme has two cycles (the period of January - June and September - December).

Tab. 6 Amount of the grant in the Programme to support Roma secondary school students for the monitoring period

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Number of participants in the programme
2011	8,790,000	???
2012	7,979,300	1,732
2013	5,607,300	1,280

Based on the ratification of the Charter, the Office of the Government of the CR has funds to support its implementation. This concerns:

- The Support for the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages Grant Programme

The funds were initially provided to cover the costs of interpretation and translation of written applications submitted in Polish to Czech and further to cover costs relating to meeting the obligation to use local names (names of municipalities and streets) and names of public buildings in the Polish language. In 2010 the funds underwent major changes because this specific grant was transformed into the grant programme Support for the Implementation of

the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages⁹ in order to make more effective use of the funds. This made it possible to extend the support for Polish to other languages listed in Part III of the Charter (German, Romani and Slovak).

The funds were always assigned to the 304 –Office of the Government of the CR budget chapter. The selection of awarded projects took place in the form of a grant selection procedure and the actual selection was intermediated by a grant selection commission whose members were the representatives of speakers of four minority languages which the grant programme was put out for as well as the representatives of the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Office of the Government and the Moravian and Silesian Region.

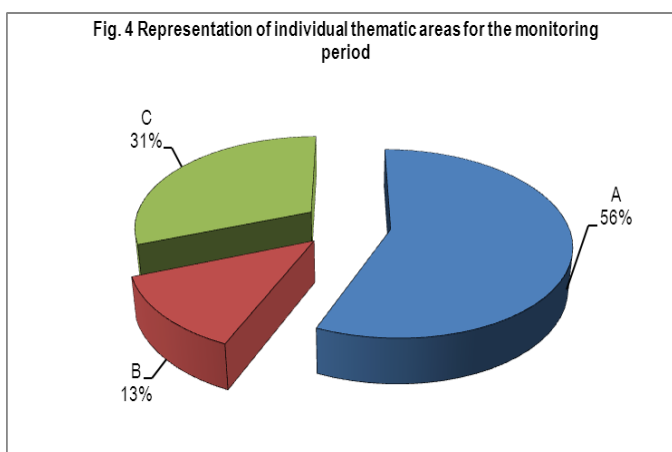
A comparison of costs incurred in the monitoring period:

Tab. 7 The Implementation of the Charter Grant Programme in the monitoring period

Year	Allocated from the budget	Drawn	Number of Projects
2013	1,850.000	1,376,000	10
2012	1,850.000	1,720.000	17
2011	1,850.000	1,849,914	12

The programme is focused on the following thematic areas of activities in relation to Polish and the Těšín dialect as its regional variant, Slovak, German and Romani:

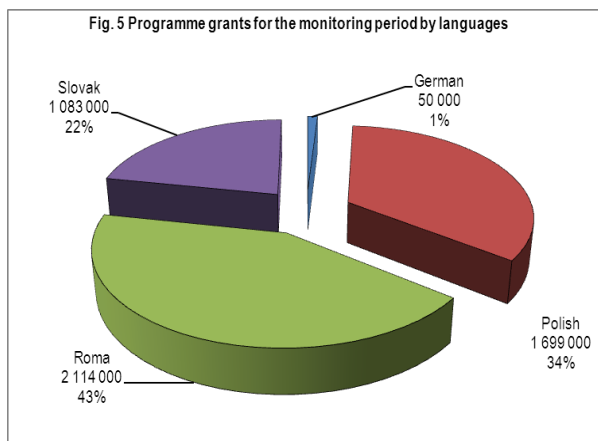
Thematic area A: In this thematic area, the projects were focused on school children and youth; on publishing non-periodical publications; electronic spoken-word media; radio broadcast; lectures for seniors; literary competitions; creation of teaching tools for teachers; similar tools for children (comics); language courses; and various media activities on the Internet. It is the most varied area which annually accounts for over half of the allocated funds.



Thematic area B: Quantitative and qualitative analyses focused on researching the use of minority languages, indicating their areas of support and proposing the forms of this support.

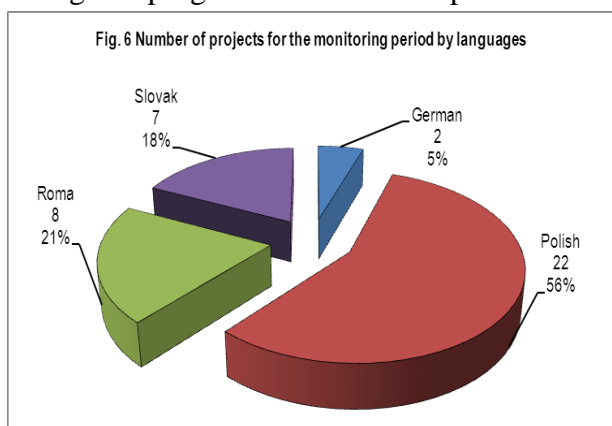
Thematic area C: Support for the use of traditional and correct forms of local names in minority languages (the creation and installation of signs bearing the names of municipalities, their parts, streets and other public spaces and the designation of the buildings of state authorities and local government units). This area gradually meets its original aim; more than two-thirds of municipalities with the population of Polish minority higher than 10% are equipped with various signs of municipalities, streets, public spaces and institutions thanks to the funds from the grant programme. This area will certainly remain as part of the grant programme Support for the Implementation of the Charter, but its significance will gradually decrease.

⁹ On the basis of Government Resolution No. 315 of 27 April 2010, amending Government Resolution No. 1574 of 7 December 2005, on a proposal to ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ETS 148)



As for the individual languages having been supported by this programme, every year the greatest support is aimed at Romani. The financially most demanding projects have always been submitted by Charles University and they related to a linguistic study programme implemented through the Romani Seminar at the Faculty of Arts.¹⁰ Another group of projects concerning the Romani language includes various activities for children and youth, focused on language, history and culture.

The grant programme has its irreplaceable role in case of the Polish language because the



supported activities are aimed at all generations. Educational institutions regularly appear among the awarded projects (from nursery and primary schools with Polish as the language of instruction through secondary schools with Polish as the language of instruction to institutions of higher education and associations carrying out the third age universities, tourism, etc.). A special place is given to the installation of bilingual signs performed by municipal councils.

On the other hand, media projects, publications of fairy tales in both book and electronic forms and activities aimed at children and youth prevail among the Slovak projects. In this case, the question is what is the demand for such projects.

At its last meeting in December 2013, the Council agreed to explore the possibility of assigning the Croatian language to four languages supported by the programme. It is assumed that the projects on the last speakers' oral history, the creation of electronic dictionaries, and the possibility of e-learning courses, etc. will be supported.

I. 2. Legislation in relation to the Charter – the Council, committees for national minorities, education in national minority languages, bilingual names

I. 2. 1. The Government Council for National Minorities

In March 2011, the Council submitted to the Government a proposal to change the status of this advisory body with the aim to reflect the ratification of the Charter as one of the fundamental documents defining the Council's activities, to emphasise the protection of "minority languages" (a term compatible with the Charter) in the Council's activities, to change the conditions of membership in such a way as to give less weight to the approximate (and often misleading) number of people declaring themselves of different nationalities in the last census and, on the contrary, to give more weight to the importance of minority languages under the protection of the Charter and to the cooperation with linguistic professionals and representatives of local governments, where the issue of language protection is constantly

¹⁰ The project results are published at <http://www.romistika.eu/>.

most current.¹¹ The Government approved the proposal on 13 April 2011 (by Resolution No. 264). As a result, minority communities with languages under the protection of Part III of the Charter always have two members in the Council, the others have one representative each. The Association of Regions of the Czech Republic and the professional public are also represented in the Council (each with one member).

In addition, in July 2013 the Council was extended with representatives of Belarusian and Vietnamese minorities (Resolution No. 530). This step was a result of a debate lasting in the Council since 2007; a team of experts from the Faculty of Law of Charles University in Prague also participated in this matter. The Council had been considering this issue on the agenda of almost all meetings since 20 January 2011; then, at its meeting on 6 November 2012, the Council explicitly declared in its resolution that it agrees with the mandate of the Secretariat to prepare a draft document for the Chairman of the Council, called the Draft Amendments to the Statute of the Government Council for National Minorities and to the Appointment of the Members of the Council in the matter of Belarusian community. For this reason, the then Chairman of the Council submitted the above mentioned draft resolution for approval to the Government and the Government did so.

Currently, the Government has approved a proposal to supplement the Council with representatives of the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic. The statute of the Council also firmly establishes that the Chairman of the Council is a member of the Government responsible for human rights and equal opportunities and if not, then it is the Prime Minister.

I. 2. 2. Amendment to Act on Municipalities

The Government Resolution No. 845 of 29 June 2009 on the 2008 Report assigned the Minister of the Interior to propose a draft amendment initiated by the Council within amendments to Act No. 128/2000 Coll., on Municipalities, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the „Act on Municipalities”). The aforementioned amendment concerns the national minorities in two points: a change in the rules for the establishment of a committee for national minorities and for designation of streets and other public places in the national minority languages. The proposed change, based on practical experience with both, the establishment of Committees and designation of public places, was approved by the Council as early as May 2009. The Ministry of the Interior with cooperation with the Secretariat of the Council then prepared a legislative proposal on the relevant legal regulation, which was approved by the Government Resolution No. 1¹² of 9 January 2013 and included in the process of negotiating by the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR as a print No. 904/0 (proposed on the agenda of the 54th meeting since 11 June 2013).¹³ However, after the dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies in August 2013, the whole legislative process returned to the beginning. Therefore, in the Resolution to the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2013, annually submitted by the Secretariat of the Council, the Minister of Interior was again assigned to prepare amendments to the laws on local government units.¹⁴

¹¹ [http://kormoran.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/2F365FF868D12453C125787E003B1469/\\$FILE/264%20uv110413.0264.pdf](http://kormoran.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/2F365FF868D12453C125787E003B1469/$FILE/264%20uv110413.0264.pdf)

¹² [http://kormoran.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/4FC5156C048C61ADC1257AF4004F80E3/\\$FILE/1%20uv130109.0001.pdf](http://kormoran.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/0/4FC5156C048C61ADC1257AF4004F80E3/$FILE/1%20uv130109.0001.pdf)

¹³ <http://www.psp.cz/sqw/text/tiskt.sqw?O=6&CT=904&CT1=0>

¹⁴ The Ministry of Interior is currently preparing an amendment not only to Act No. 128/2000 Coll., on Municipalities (Establishment of Municipalities), as amended, but also to Act No.129/2000 Coll., on Regions (Regional Government), as amended, and to Act No. 131/2000 Coll., on the Capital City of Prague, as amended. Changes to these Acts will apply to the provisions governing the rules for the establishment of committees for national minorities and the provisions governing a designation of streets and other public spaces in a minority language.

The carrying out of this change is required by practical experience in particular of the Polish minority, when committees for national minorities in individual municipalities did not always satisfied the requirements of the relevant national minority representatives to install bilingual signs without having legitimate reasons for their attitude. It is these situations to which the amendment is to respond by introducing the possibility of submitting an application directly by the association that represents the interests of the relevant national minority and which has been present on the territory of the municipality for at least 5 years as of the date of submission. In both cases, the basic requirement applies that at least 10% of the residents of the municipality claimed to have the relevant nationality at the latest census.

Similarly as before, in the event of recommendation made by a committee for national minorities in respect of the application by association it should also apply that, after complying with other conditions arising from Section 29 paragraph 2 of the Act on Municipalities, the municipality is required to install signs in the language of the national minority. The conditions would be set up in such a way that a request by the representatives of the national minority submitted through a committee for national minorities would continue to be the main method of requesting multilingual signs and the submission of a “qualified” application by civic association would only be an exceptional solution in the cases when the committee fails to properly fulfil its role to represent the interests of the national minority.

I. 2. 3. Education and national minorities

In accordance with the introduction of a new model of school-leaving examination¹⁵ from the 2010/2011 academic year, the Education Act¹⁶ guarantees that pupils of schools and classes taught in the language of a national minority shall be entitled to take a common as well as a profile part of the school-leaving examination either in the Czech language or language of the relevant national minority, with the exception of the examination of the Czech language and literature.

In addition to laying down the rules for establishing schools providing instruction in national minority languages and for the purpose of supporting the interests of members of national minorities, the Education Act provides for the option where a head teacher with the consent of a founder may specify in the school educational programme the subjects or their parts which may be taught bilingually, both in the Czech language and in the language of the relevant national minority. It also states that in schools with instruction in the language of the relevant national minority school reports, apprenticeship certificates, and diplomas on completion of education shall be issued bilingually, both in the Czech language and in the language of the relevant national minority.

At present, there are 17 six-year “bilingual” grammar schools in the Czech Republic, piloting education under the Framework Educational Programme and the School Educational Programme for Bilingual Grammar Schools (this experimental verification has been spread over the period from 2007 to 2015): 6 Czech-Spanish, 5 Czech-French, 1 Czech-Italian, 2 Czech-English and 3 Czech-German schools.

Two Czech-German bilingual grammar schools have been established on the basis of cooperation with the Austrian Republic (Prague, Znojmo) and the Czech-German school in Liberec has been established on the basis of an intergovernmental agreement with Germany.

¹⁵ Act No. 49/2009 Coll., amending the Education Act.

¹⁶ Section 79 paragraph 1 of Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-school, Primary, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act), as amended.

Amendments to Decrees No. 72/2005 Coll. and No. 73/2005 Coll. were adopted in 2011 in the matter of education of Roma children and simultaneously the Ministry has taken the following legislative measures:

- Decree No. 116/2011 Coll., amending Decree No. 72/2005 Coll., on the Provision of Counselling Services at Schools and School Counselling Facilities

Children are screened regularly each year since the recommendation of a school counselling facility regarding the education of a child/pupil in class/school established for pupils with disabilities is valid for one year. A demonstrable informed consent of a parent or legal guardian means that a parent must be familiar with what effect the course of the screening, results of the screening and subsequent placement of a child in education will have for its further development.

I. 2. 4. Bilingual names

In matters of bilingual names there has been a change in the monitoring period in the mechanism of specific grants to support their installation. A grant programme Support for the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages has been established within the budgetary chapter, extending the scope to educational and research projects (see above – Part I).

Since 2007 after the ratification of the Charter, a gradual installation of these signs has taken place in the municipalities (and has been completed in two-thirds of the above mentioned municipalities); a level of bilingualism has been determined by each municipality individually on the basis of a recommendation by its Committee for National Minorities. There is a wide range, from bilingual signs on official buildings, through bilingual signs on other publicly accessible spaces, to road signs indicating the entrance and exit from the municipality. In some municipalities, however, the installation of the last-mentioned type is complicated by misunderstandings between the representatives of the national minorities and the relevant authorities.

Tab. 8 Grant from the Implementation of the Charter Grant Programme for the installation of bilingual signs (by municipalities)

Municipality	2007 (CZK)	2008 (CZK)	2009 (CZK)	2010 (CZK)	2011 (CZK)	2012 (CZK)	2013 (CZK)	total (CZK)
Albrechtice	80,845.8	0.0	8,284.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	89,130.30
Bocanovice	14,113.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14,113.00
Bukovec	59,331.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59,331.00
Bystřice	0.0	25,756.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25,756.40
Český Těšín	212,227.5	543,188.0	4,268.5	0.0	0.0	272,000	192,000	1,223,684.00
Dolní Lomná	35,000.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35,000.00
Hnojník	0.0	17,612.0	0.0	0.0	15,914	21,000*	0.0	54,526.00
Horní Suchá	127,098.2	0.0	14,027.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	141,126.00
Hrádek	21,455.7	6,835.4	10,568.0	0.0	0.0	22,000	0.0	60,859.10
Chotěbuz	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	61,000	61,000
Jablunkov	0.0	0.0	24,276.0	0.0	0.0	138,000	0.0	24,276.00
Komorní Lhotka	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	76,000	0.0	76,000
Milíkov	0.0	38,746.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8,000	46,746.30
Mosty u Jablunkova	0.0	0.0	16,200.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16,200.70
Nýdek	16,779.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16,779.00
Smilovice	4,545.8	0.0	0.0	9,727	0.0	0.0	0.0	14,272.80
Stonava	10,805.9	0.0	36,828.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	47,634.10
Střítež	0.0	13,447.0	22,543.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35,990.40
Těrlicko	0.0	18,171.3	32,418.0	0.0	0.0	107,000	0.0	157,589.30
Třanovice	11,662.0	0.0	0.0	157,000	0.0	0.0	0.0	168,662.00
Třinec	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	191,000	0.0	191,000
Vendryně	57,528.1	0.0	24,717.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	82,245.60
Total	651,392.0	663,756.4	194,132.6	166,727.0	15,914.0	806,000.0	261,000.0	2,641,922.00

*of which CZK 10,000 for the designation of the building of Jan Kubisz Primary and Nursery School with instruction in Polish language in Hnojník.

I. 3. Protection and promotion of German and Romani languages and conditions for their use in public life

I. 3.1. German language

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports language activities in those grammar schools that offer instruction in German language leading to the obtaining of the German Language Diploma. This diploma entitles students to study at German universities without having to take an additional language examination.

In the CR, there is one elementary school with instruction in the Czech and German languages and five secondary schools with instruction in German.

Czech-German activities are also extensive in the context of extracurricular activities for young people, such as activities of the *TANDEM Czech-German Youth Exchange Coordination Centre* supported, among others, from the funds of the Ministry. The main areas of its activities are the Czech and German youth exchange; the provision of counselling services; the support for institutions and organisations practising the Czech-German youth exchanges, the initiation of exchange projects; and helping to the interested institutions (schools, associations, youth initiatives or other organisations) to deepen and mediate contacts.

On its website the TANDEM has launched a database of exemplary Czech-German projects and of the meetings on topics such as the environment, history, arts and culture, health, tourism.¹⁷ Czech and Bavarian nursery schools can also apply to TANDEM for a financial support of the Czech-German projects aimed at the meetings of children to the age of 6, at the exchange of experience among the pre-school teachers and at learning the language of a neighbouring country. The project entitled *Sousedé se stávají přáteli / Aus Nachbarn werden Freunde* 2011 (Neighbours Become Friends) continued in the phase of 2012-2013. It is aimed at encouraging Czech-German cooperation between children and youth from the regions of Plzeň and Karlovy Vary and the Bavarian region of Upper Franconia. The aim of the project is to create and strengthen lasting relationships and a network of contacts and to encourage youth workers to meet and work together. Through a large number of German-Czech activities as well as increased number of cooperating organisations it is intended to create close, sustainable and personal cross-border contacts which are so important for regional development in a united Europe.

Detailed information on selected schools:

German School Prague (Deutsche Schule Prag) – a private school run by the *Civic Association for the Establishment and Support of German School* in Prague – about 70% of pupils have German as a mother tongue, the remaining 30% are pupils of various nationalities; however, the Czech or mixed Czech-German family background prevail. The language of instruction is German, the Czech language is taught as an optional subject. This school is followed by the eight-year grammar school, i.e. the *School of Czech-German Meeting* (Die deutsch-tschechischen Begegnungsschule) registered in the Register of School of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

The Primary School for German-Czech Understanding and the First Private Eight-Year Grammar School of Thomas Mann (Grundschule der deutsch-tschechischen Verständigung und Thomas Mann Gymnasium) – a private school, originally run by the *Union of Germans in the Region of Prague and Central Bohemia*, entered in the Register of Schools, Pre-School Facilities and School Facilities. It educates pupils from the families claiming German nationality and pupils from mixed families, Czech families and families that returned after 1990 from the emigration in German-speaking countries. The language of instruction is Czech. Since the first grade there is the extended (compulsory) teaching of the German language and selected subjects are taught in German, as well. At grammar school, the following subjects (or their parts) are taught in German: History, Geography, Mathematics and Biology. The school performs the *Deutsches Sprachdiplom II der KMK* (the German Language Diploma programme protected by the Conference of Ministers of Education, Germany) and maintains intensive partner contacts with schools in Germany.

School Without Borders – Hrádek nad Nisou/Hartau – the experiment has been carried out within a cross-border cooperation between a primary school in Hrádek nad Nisou and private school in Hartau, Saxony. This project basically consists of intensive meetings and exchanges of pupils. Around 24 Czech and 20 German children participate in the project. Instruction in German is provided from the first year in the Hrádek nad Nisou classes involved in this experiment, while Czech is taught at school in Hartau. At present, Music, Art and Physical Education are taught alternately in the neighbouring language in Hrádek nad Nisou and Hartau once a week.

Several similar projects are underway in the Czech-Saxony border area. They are part of the education offer for children from mixed families or children whose parents are of German ancestry.

¹⁷ <http://tandem-info.net/projekt>

In addition to the above, German is also taught at primary schools as a foreign language and this option is available to pupils from the German minority, as well. Some primary schools already offer the German language instruction from the first year (e.g. primary schools Milíčova and Kladská in Prague and the Bernard Bolzan Primary School in Tábor).

I. 3.2. Romani language

A two-year project (2010-2011) entitled *Education of Roma children in Europe* was launched in the European Centre for Modern Languages in Graz, which aims to implement its tools into the education systems of the Member States and to test their pilot versions. The main partner for the European Centre (the Council of Europe) for Modern Languages in Graz is the University of Graz, but there is a number of other partners to the project, including Charles University, the Faculty of Arts, Romani Studies Seminar, the Institute of South and Central Asia. The project was approved by the European Commission within the EU Lifelong Learning Programme.

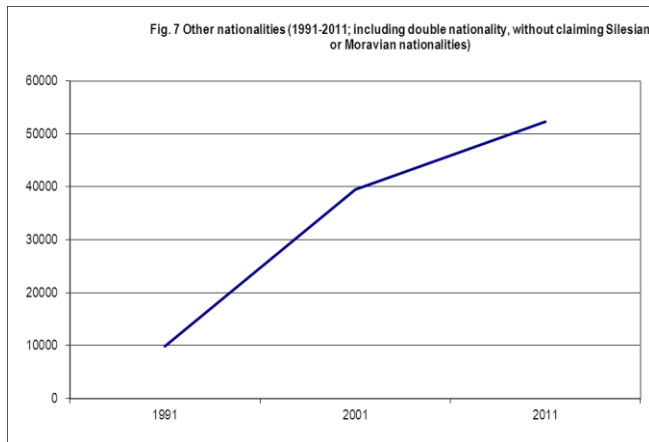
In September 2012, Romani language courses started at the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno. A lecturer was a college student for whom Romani is one of his two mother tongues. For the whole ten months, teaching was guaranteed by the Romani Studies Seminar at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague. In addition to courses for the public provided by the museum (intended rather for adults), several Romani lessons took place at two primary schools in Brno in autumn 2012.

The work group of the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague with cooperation with the Council of Europe have participated for years in creating *QualiRom (Quality Education in Romani for Europe)* teaching materials, a sophisticated tool for teachers of Romani. These are dozens of pages of methodologies for teaching Romani (for teachers), worksheets (for pupils), audio recordings and pictures. These collections of teaching materials are intended for speakers of different proficiency levels – they have been created for four language proficiency levels. Through them, the pilot testing of the use of the Curriculum Framework for Romani prepared by the Council of Europe on the basis of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is carried out. This corresponds with the methods of work during the lessons – natural knowledge of pupils is used in teaching (e.g. of those who have Romani as a mother tongue or those who have only passive knowledge of Romani, i.e. they do not speak, but understand the language). This concerns not only language, but also cultural and social skills which are gradually developed by a teacher to perfection. The Curriculum Framework deals with 11 main topics. They correspond to the topics of modern language textbooks, but at the same time they allow to show individual elements of Roma culture and history throughout the world: 1 Me and My Family; 2 House/Caravan and Life in It; 3 My Community; 4 Roma Crafts and Professions 5 Holidays and Celebrations; 6 At School; 7 Transport and Travel; 8 Food and Clothes; 9 Time, Seasons of the Year and Weather; 10 Nature and Animals; 11 Hobbies and Arts.

QualiRom is a European project with a participation of four EU countries – Austria, the Czech Republic, Finland, Slovakia and also Serbia – within which materials for the most used Romani dialects are created at scientific institutions and schools. In addition to developing Romani, the main aim is the updating of language teaching methods in general, i.e. teaching language through involving pupils in a variety of communication situations in which they have to actively use the language. The Curriculum Framework for Romani and the corresponding European Language Portfolio for Romani work with four language levels: A1 and A2 (i.e. basic user), B1 and B2 (independent user) and are targeted at lower and upper primary schools. The system of education, including a detail self-assessment of a pupil, allows an appropriate development according to pupil's individual abilities.

I. 4. The 2011 Census Results

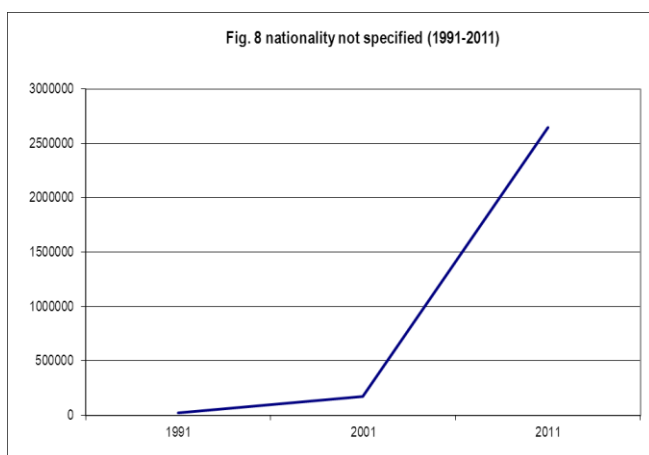
I. 4. 1. Affiliation to a nationality – a comparison of the 1991, 2001 and 2011 censuses results



The evaluation of the comparison of the 1991, 2001 and 2011 censuses results is impeded by the fact that the decisions not to claim any nationality as well as to claim two nationalities played a major role in the 2011 census. This can be clearly documented on those who claimed Roma nationality. If we consider only the number of people who claimed the only one nationality, the Roma nationality decreases (43.7%) compared to the census of 2001; however, if we consider a double nationality, there is an increase to 103.4%.

German nationality shows 47.7% in 2011 in comparison with 2001; with a double nationality it is 65.0%. Poland nationality shows 75.2% in 2011; after adding a double nationality it is 81.7%. The figures for Slovak nationality are 76.2% and 85.6% (double). A decrease of two-fifths occurred in Hungary (60.8% in 2001; 71.7% with double nationality). A “double” nationality was not reported in respect of other minorities. Nevertheless, the Greek nationality decreased to 63.5 %, Ruthenian decreased by one-third, Croatian by almost 30% and Serbian by almost 5%. On the other hand, the number of persons claiming Ukrainian nationality increased by 140.8 %, Russian by 44.5 % and Bulgarian by 14.6 % (only those who claimed themselves to have one nationality are taken into consideration). But the truth is that according to data of the Czech Statistical Office, only 869 persons of the total number of persons claiming Bulgarian nationality have the citizenship of the Czech Republic; in case of Slovak nationality there are only 92,103 persons with a status of a citizen of the Czech Republic and in case of Ukrainian nationality it is only 2,954 persons. Therefore, the increase is caused by a current immigration, while the numbers of “traditional” nationalities are rather permanently decreasing.

For illustration, we present the 1991, 2001 and 2011 censuses results. They show a significant increase in “other” minority communities, which is more than five times higher. It is caused by the increasing share of immigrants and increasing diversity of Czech society.



The most significant is an increase in the number of persons who did not filled in the affiliation to a nationality. Whereas their number was only 22,017 persons in 1991 (0.21 %), in 2001 it was almost 173,000 persons (1,7 %) and in 2011 it is already over 2.6 mil. persons (about one-fourth of the total number of Czech inhabitants).

Some representatives of the national minorities criticised this fact and required that the filling-in the “Nationality” box should be mandatory in the 2011 census.

Tab. 9 The CR population by single nationality (Population and Housing Census, Czech Statistical Office, 1992, 2002, 2012)

		Total in 1992		Total in 2001		Total in 2011	
		Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
<i>Population total</i>		10,302,215	100.0	10,230,060	100.0	10,436,560	100.0
<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Czech</i>	8,363,768	81.18	9,249,777	90.42	6,711,624	64.31
	<i>Moravian</i>	1,362,313	13.22	380,474	3.72	521,801	5.00
	<i>Silesian</i>	44,446	0.43	10,878	0.11	12,214	0.12
	<i>Slovak</i>	314,877	3.06	193,190	1.89	147,152	1.41
	<i>Polish</i>	59,383	0.57	51,968	0.51	39,096	0.37
	<i>German</i>	48,556	0.47	39,106	0.38	18,658	0.18
	<i>Ukrainian</i>	8,220	0.07	22,112	0.22	53,253	0.51
	<i>Hungarian</i>	19,932	0.19	14,672	0.14	8,920	0.08
	<i>Russian</i>	5,062	0.05	12,369	0.12	17,872	0.17
	<i>Roma</i>	32,903	0.32	11,746	0.11	5,135	0.05
	<i>Bulgarian</i>	3,487	0.03	4,363	0.04	4,999	0.05
	<i>Greek</i>	3,379	0.03	3,219	0.03	2,043	0.02
	<i>Serbian</i>	<i>not detected</i>	---	1,801	0.02	1,717	0.02
	<i>Croatian</i>	<i>not detected</i>	---	1,585	0.02	1,125	0.01
	<i>Ruthenian</i>	1,926	0.02	1,106	0.01	739	0.01
<i>others</i>	9,860	0.10	39,477	0.39	52,225	0.5	
Persons with single nationality		10,280,198	99.8	10,044,255	98.2	7,630,246	73.1
Persons with double nationality		---	---	12,978	0.1	163,648	1.6
Nationality not stated		22,017	0.2	172,827	1.7	2,642,666	25.3

In addition to the data on the national minorities that were represented in the Council in 2012, the data on Vietnamese and Belarusian nationalities are also stated here. The representatives of Vietnamese and Belarusian minorities became members of the Government Council for National Minorities in July 2013.

Tab. 10 The number of persons claiming to have Belarusian or Vietnamese nationality (Population and Housing Census, Czech Statistical Office, 1992, 2002, 2012)

<i>Nationality</i>	Total in 1992		Total in 2001		Total in 2011	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
<i>Belarusian</i>	<i>non identified</i>	---	<i>non identified</i>	---	2 013	0.02
<i>Vietnamese</i>	421	0.004	17 462	0.2	29 660	0,28

In case of the members of Vietnamese nationality, there is a noticeable increase by 69.9 %. This confirms again that these are the persons who immigrated, since there are only 824 citizens of the Czech Republic among them.

As for the monitored nationalities, 163,648 persons claimed double nationality in 2011.

Tab. 11 Double nationality (Population and Housing Census 2011, Czech Statistical Office)

	<i>Population total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
<i>Persons claiming two nationalities</i>	163,648	82,903	80,745
<i>of which:</i>			
<i>Czech and Moravian</i>	99,028	48,996	50,032
<i>Czech and German</i>	6,158	3,564	2,594
<i>Czech and Polish</i>	2,804	1,231	1,573
<i>Czech and Roma</i>	7,026	3,505	3,521

Czech and Silesian	4,361	2,477	1,884
Czech and Slovak	17,666	8,200	9,466
Czech and Jewish	278	173	105
Moravian and German	292	197	95
Moravian and Polish	152	79	73
Moravian and Roma	113	80	33
Moravian and Silesian	4,567	2,653	1,914
Moravian and Slovak	1,650	865	785
Moravian and Jewish	10	7	3
Silesian and German	113	94	19
Silesian and Polish	250	148	102
Silesian and Roma	5	3	2
Silesian and Slovak	43	24	19
Silesian and Jewish	3	3	-
Slovak and Hungarian	445	253	192
Slovak and Roma	573	278	295

I. 4. 2. The 2011 census and individual national minorities

Belarusian nationality

The number of persons who claimed Belarusian nationality in 2001 was 2,013; of which almost 40% were reported in the City of Prague. The number of those who claimed double nationality, one of which was Belarusian, was 59 persons. The nationality was not recorded earlier than in the 2011 census.

Bulgarian nationality

The number of persons with Bulgarian nationality in combination with Czech, Moravian or Czechoslovak was 261. The total number of persons claiming to have only this nationality in 2011 showed an increase from 4,363 persons in the 2001 census to 4,999 in 2011. The maximum share in the population in 2001 was 4.27 % (33 persons in Cerekvice nad Bystřicí, Jičín District), whereas in 2011 nobody claimed to have this nationality in the mentioned municipality. The highest percentage of Bulgarian nationality in the 2011 census newly reaches about 7 % in Žernov (Semily District), then 3 % in Klíčany (Prague-East District). The largest number of Bulgarians is markedly concentrated in bigger cities (Prague, Brno, Plzeň, Ostrava).

Croatian nationality

The number of persons with Croatian nationality in combination with Czech and Moravian was 311. In 1991, the Croatian nationality was not reported in the census. In 2001, 1,585 persons claimed this nationality, while there were only 1,125 persons declaring solely this nationality in 2011. In 2001, the biggest share of Croatians, over 1,5 %, was in Huzová (Bruntál District), which means 10 persons (only 1 person in 2011), whereas in 2011 the biggest share was in the municipalities of Brod nad Dyjí and Jevišovka (Břeclav District) with about 0,8 % (4 or 5 persons), or Uničov (10 persons). Even nowadays, the figures show the consequence of violent dispersed expatriation from a traditional territory in the South Moravia Region in 1948. Most Croatians live in Prague and Brno.

Hungarian nationality

The total number of persons who claimed Hungarian nationality was 10,513 persons, of which 8,920 persons claimed to only have Hungarian nationality, whereas it was 14,672 persons in 2001. It is a significant drop in the number. The biggest share of the minority members live in the municipalities of Horký nad Jizerou (Mladá Boleslav District) 1.6 %; Skalsko 1% (Mladá

Boleslav District); Mirkovice (Český Krumlov District) 1.1%; Střítež (Český Krumlov District) 1.1%; Staré Křečany (Děčín District) 1.4%; Nové Dvory (Litoměřice District) 1.3 %; Dobřenice (Hradec Králové District) 1.1 %. Most members of Hungarian minority live in Prague, Brno and Ostrava.

German nationality

25,431 persons in total claimed German nationality in the 2011 national census (18,658 solely German). In comparison with data of 2001, it is a significant drop in the number by over more than one half. Whereas in 2001 the share of the members of this minority exceeded 10% in 18 municipalities and in other 117 municipalities it participated in the total sum of 10% or more, which is required for the establishment of the Committee, in 2011 the number of persons belonging to German nationality does not reach 10 % of all local inhabitants in any municipality. It concerns e.g. the municipalities of Abertamy, 7.42 %; Nejdek 2.04 % (both Karlovy Vary District); Březová 4.08 %, Habartov 2.90% and Kraslice 2.26 % (all Sokolov District) and the cities of Prague, Karlovy Vary, Most, Chomutov and Jablonec nad Nisou.

Polish nationality

42,463 persons claimed Polish nationality in 2011 (39,096 of solely Polish, 3,367 of a double nationality). Comparing the results of last censuses, however, even here there has been a decrease, comparing these figures to almost 60,000 in 1991 and 52,000 in 2001. It still applies that 30 municipalities with over 10 % of members of Polish minority (i.e. one less than after the 2001 census) is concentrated in the districts of Frýdek-Místek and Karviná in the Moravian-Silesian Region where the highest number of members of Polish minority in a municipality exceeds 30 % of the population. It is the only territorially-defined minority community in the CR. The highest figures of the representation of Polish minority in municipalities exceed 30 %. Karviná, Havířov and Prague significantly dominate among statutory cities.

Roma nationality

In 1991, almost 33,000 persons claimed to have this nationality; in 2001 it was 11,746 persons in total. In the 2011 census, 5,135 persons claimed solely Roma nationality, but 7,818 persons claimed Roma within double nationality; this number is higher than in 2001 (12,530 in total). Their number did not exceed the figure of 10 % in any municipality and, with the exception of cities, their number is not significant anywhere (only in Hvožd'any in the Domažlice District, where two persons out of 33 inhabitants in total claimed Roma nationality, which reaches 6.3 %; nevertheless, it is rather random occurrence without a general context). According to the census, the highest number of Roma live in Most and Prague.

Ruthenian nationality

The number of persons claiming Ruthenian nationality declines; from almost 2,000 persons in 1991 to 1,063 in the 2011 census (739 of single nationality, 324 of double nationality). In the censuses of 2001 and 2011, the number of people claiming Ruthenian nationality did not reach 10% in any municipality; the highest share in 2011 was 5.83 % in Dašice (Pardubice District) and this share did not show in any way in previous censuses. Except for Dašice, the most Ruthenians are concentrated in Prague and Brno.

Russian nationality

Unlike in most minority communities, a constant increase in the number of members of this minority is apparent in the censuses. About 5,000 persons claimed Russian nationality in the 1991 census and 12,369 persons in the 2001 census. In 2011 it was already 18,774 persons (17,872 persons claiming a single nationality, 902 persons a double nationality). It is one of two nationalities which, comparing both censuses, shows a growth indicating an increasing share of immigrants. However, the share of this nationality does not reach the figure of 10 %

anywhere. The percentage share in the population is around several percent (the highest share is in the municipality of Trnová with 8.5 %), but the highest number of persons declaring Russian nationality is in cities (Prague, Karlovy Vary, Brno, Teplice).

Greek nationality

In 2011, the total number of persons claiming Greek nationality was 2,596 (2,043 of sole nationality, 553 of double nationality). Over 3,000 people claimed Greek nationality in the 1991 and 2001 censuses, but a rather significant decrease by about one-fifth was reported (to 2,596) in 2011. The share of the persons claiming Greek nationality does not individually reach 10% anywhere; the highest number of the persons declaring this nationality was in Zlaté Hory (Jeseník District), which was 2.32 %. The most members of this nationality live in cities, especially in Prague, Brno and Ostrava.

Slovak nationality

In 2011, there were 167,930 persons in total claiming Slovak nationality (out of which 147,152 of solely nationality and 20,778 of double nationality). In 1991, 314,877 persons declared solely Slovak nationality and it was 193,190 persons in 2001. Despite the remarkable decrease, the Slovak nationality still represents the most populated national community in the CR. Today, there are only two municipalities with over 200 inhabitants of almost 50 municipalities where the share of persons declaring Slovak nationality exceeded 10 %. In other municipalities that have the share of Slovak nationality over 10 % these figures vary from 1 to 8 percent. As in previous cases, the biggest number of Slovaks live in Prague, Brno and Ostrava.

Serbian nationality

In the census of 1991, the Serbian nationality was not reported; it happened for the first time in 2001 and it was 1,801 persons whereas in 2011 1,717 persons claimed to have solely Serbian nationality and 219 persons double nationality. The results imply a non significant decrease in the number of persons claiming to be the members of this minority. The 2011 census shows that the nationality does not reach anywhere the figure of 10 %. The highest share is 0.26 % inhabitants in Neratovice. The members of Serbian nationality live in rather big cities, particularly in Prague (1,121 persons, which is 60 % of this minority).

Ukrainian nationality

The Ukrainian nationality is the third minority with an increasing proportion of members in total population of the CR; in terms of percentage it is the biggest increase (53,253 persons claiming solely Ukrainian nationality; 1,254 persons claiming Ukrainian as part of a double nationality). Nevertheless, the Ukrainian nationality exceeded the limit of 10 % in only two municipalities in 2011; Třebčice (Plzeň-South District) had a share of 20.9 % and Žernov (Semily District) had a share of 15.0 %. The community traditionally lives in bigger cities where its share in population, however, does not reach the relevant figures; recently, it has grown nearby large industrial agglomerations. The examples of such municipalities can be Zápý (Praha-East District, 5.28 %), Trhový Štěpánov (Benešov District, 3.49 %), or Mochov (Praha-East District, 5.36 %). The most numerous Ukrainian community lives in Prague (40 % of total number of persons claiming to be the members of Ukrainian minority) and also in Brno, Plzeň and Liberec.

Vietnamese nationality

There are 29,660 persons claiming solely Vietnamese nationality in 2011 (in addition, 280 persons claimed it within a double nationality), out of which almost the one-fourth resides in Prague. This nationality is mostly claimed by persons in Cheb, Plzeň, Ostrava and Brno and also in all border areas.

Tab. 12 Affiliation to a nationality in statutory cities (source: CZSO, 2011)¹⁸

Statutory City	Number of inhabitants	Agenda of national minorities	Nationalities ¹⁹	% Members of nationalities ²⁰	Year 2001
Brno	385,913	Committee	Slovak, Ukrainian, Russian, Polish, Hungarian, Bulgarian, German, Greek, Roma, Vietnamese, Belarusian	3.02	2.64
České Budějovice	93,715	Coordinator	Slovak, Ukrainian, Russian, Vietnamese	2.05	2.15
Děčín	49,106	---	Slovak, Ukrainian, Polish, German, Vietnamese	2.09	3.50
Frýdek-Místek	56,356	Counsellor	Slovak, Polish, Hungarian	3.96	5.73
Haviřov	76,694	Counsellor	Slovak, Polish, Hungarian	6.42	9.77
Hradec Králové	94,314	Coordinator	Slovak, Ukrainian, Polish, Russian, Vietnamese	2.27	2.42
Chomutov	48,328	Committee	Slovak, German, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Roma, Vietnamese	3.66	6.65
Jablonec nad Nisou	44,567	Social worker	Slovak, Ukrainian, German, Polish, Roma, Vietnamese	3.98	5.12
Jihlava	50,075	---	Slovak, Ukrainian	1.73	1.87
Karlovy Vary	48,639	Counsellor	Slovak, Russian, Ukrainian, German, Hungarian	5.61	6.74
Karviná	56,897	Committee	Polish, Slovak, Hungarian	11.85	18.02
Kladno	68,103	---	Slovak, Ukrainian, Russian, Vietnamese	3.26	3.73
Liberec	102,754	Council for National Minorities	Slovak, Ukrainian, Polish, German, Russian, Hungarian, Vietnamese	3.81	4.32
Mladá Boleslav	44,303	Commission for the Integration of Ethnic and National Minorities	Slovak, Polish, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Vietnamese	6.43	4.69
Most	65,193	Commission of National Minorities	Slovak, Roma, German, Ukrainian, Hungarian, Vietnamese	3.75	5.56
Olomouc	101,003	counsellor	Slovak, Ukrainian, Polish, Russian, Vietnamese	2.16	2.79
Opava	58,351	Roma counsellor	Slovak, German, Vietnamese	1.59	3.00
Ostrava	296,224	Social worker	Slovak, Polish, Hungarian, Ukrainian, Roma, Russian, German, Greek, Bulgarian, Vietnamese	3.09	5.04
Pardubice	90,767	CP ²¹ working group	Slovak, Ukrainian, Polish, Vietnamese	2.64	2.41
Plzeň	170,322	Commission for the Integration of Ethnic Minorities and Foreigners	Slovak, Ukrainian, Polish, Bulgarian, German, Hungarian, Russian, Vietnamese	3.11	2.06
Prostějov	44,857	CP working group	Slovak, Ukrainian	1.67	2.45
Přerov	44,361	Counsellor	Slovak, Vietnamese	1.81	2.74
Teplice	49,640	---	Slovak, Russian, German, Ukrainian, Vietnamese	3.85	5.64
Ústí nad Labem	93,000	Coordinator	Slovak, Ukrainian, Russian, German, Polish, Roma, Vietnamese	2.85	4.39
Zlín	75,318	---	Slovak	1.34	1.87

¹⁸ In case of municipalities, statutory cities and regions, the information on claiming „double nationality“ was not available, therefore we work only with data indicating an exclusive affiliation to the relevant (only one) nationality.

¹⁹ The figures over 100 members are stated.

²⁰ This concerns a single nationality.

²¹ Community plan.

Tab. 13 Affiliation to a nationality by regions (source: CZSO, 2011)

Region	Nationality																				Total population
	Czech	Moravian	Silesian	Bulgarian	Croatian	Hungarian	German	Polish	Roma	Ruthenian	Russian	Greek	Slovak	Serbian	Ukrainian	Belarusian	Vietnamese	double nationality	other	Non identified	
South Bohemia	454,738	1,297	38	223	33	347	700	358	269	16	412	20	6,602	34	2,150	104	1,441	2,800	1,624	155,130	628,336
%	72.37	0.21	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.06	0.11	0.06	0.04	0.00	0.07	0.00	1.05	0.01	0.34	0.02	0.23	0.45	0.26	24.69	100.00
South Moravia	558,041	254,380	235	453	132	695	453	772	309	67	886	243	14,106	150	4,989	177	2,401	44,579	5,089	275,351	1,163,508
%	47.96	21.86	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.06	0.04	0.07	0.03	0.01	0.08	0.02	1.21	0.01	0.43	0.02	0.21	3.83	0.44	23.67	100.00
Karlovy Vary	190,285	341	20	148	56	763	4,431	253	213	37	1,112	23	7,217	50	1,376	85	3,597	2,498	1,313	81,777	295,595
%	64.37	0.12	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.26	1.50	0.09	0.07	0.01	0.38	0.01	2.44	0.02	0.47	0.03	1.22	0.85	0.44	27.67	100.00
Hradec Králové	389,201	700	34	118	27	359	1,269	1,260	337	27	291	131	5,638	25	2,078	86	893	2,695	1,736	141,011	547,916
%	71.03	0.13	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.07	0.23	0.23	0.06	0.00	0.05	0.02	1.03	0.00	0.38	0.02	0.16	0.49	0.32	25.74	100.00
Liberec	300,472	473	23	157	16	430	1,774	1,363	295	30	411	50	6,053	24	2,567	60	1,108	2,415	1,861	112,857	432,439
%	69.48	0.11	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.10	0.41	0.32	0.07	0.01	0.10	0.01	1.40	0.01	0.59	0.01	0.26	0.56	0.43	26.10	100.00
Moravia and Silesia	766,300	46,270	11,050	306	85	1,371	1,155	28,138	691	35	484	759	26,068	55	673	47	1,900	31,182	3,308	285,957	1,205,834
%	63.55	3.84	0.92	0.03	0.01	0.11	0.10	2.33	0.06	0.00	0.04	0.06	2.16	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.16	2.59	0.27	23.71	100.00
Olomouc	365,091	76,280	247	92	79	293	865	587	363	22	257	287	7,306	22	961	43	588	18,510	1,764	154,770	628,427
%	58.10	12.14	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.14	0.09	0.06	0.00	0.04	0.05	1.16	0.00	0.15	0.01	0.09	2.95	0.28	24.63	100.00
Pardubice	362,436	4,514	42	109	32	257	288	621	175	151	212	32	4,789	11	1,621	81	819	2,957	1,334	131,146	511,627
%	70.84	0.88	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.06	0.12	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.01	0.94	0.00	0.32	0.02	0.16	0.58	0.26	25.63	100.00
Plzeň	399,897	507	16	344	46	430	1,096	511	216	38	297	23	7,982	19	3,460	108	2,676	2,194	2,045	148,496	570,401
%	70.11	0.09	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.08	0.19	0.09	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.00	1.40	0.00	0.61	0.02	0.47	0.38	0.36	26.03	100.00
Prague	821,688	3,754	246	1,732	423	1,419	1,264	1,721	368	167	9,413	290	23,089	1,028	21,316	795	6,313	11,005	19,653	343,112	1,268,796
%	64.76	0.30	0.02	0.14	0.03	0.11	0.10	0.14	0.03	0.01	0.74	0.02	1.82	0.08	1.68	0.06	0.50	0.87	1.55	27.04	100.00
Central Bohemia	901,438	1,789	133	830	82	1,251	822	1,898	388	81	2,434	91	17,474	207	7,512	214	2,693	5,875	5,718	338,281	1,289,211
%	69.92	0.14	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.10	0.06	0.15	0.03	0.01	0.19	0.01	1.36	0.02	0.58	0.02	0.21	0.46	0.44	26.24	100.00
Ústí nad Labem	553,008	692	32	334	73	973	4,203	1,100	1,247	42	1,301	35	12,033	64	2,882	80	4,194	5,235	2,844	218,589	808,961
%	68.36	0.09	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.52	0.14	0.15	0.01	0.16	0.00	1.49	0.01	0.36	0.01	0.51	0.65	0.35	27.02	100.00
Vysočina	330,890	35,512	30	81	10	162	204	194	131	14	160	18	2,989	8	1,103	49	547	8,055	1,250	124,158	505,565
%	65.45	7.02	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.59	0.00	0.22	0.01	0.11	1.59	0.25	24.56	100.00
Zlín	318,139	95,292	68	72	31	170	134	320	133	12	202	41	5,806	20	565	84	490	23,648	2,686	132,031	579,944
%	54.86	16.43	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.01	1.00	0.00	0.10	0.01	0.08	4.08	0.46	22.77	100.00

I. 4. 3. Mother tongue in the 2011 census

Tab. 14 Mother tongue affiliation in the population censuses in 1991, 2001 and 2011 (excerptum by languages)

Mother tongue	Year of census					
	1991		2001		2011	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
Population total	10,302,215	100.0	10,230,060	100.0	10,436,560	100.0
Czech	9,871,518	95.8	9,707,397	94.9	9,263,300	88.8
Slovak	239,355	2.3	208,723	2.0	154,465	1.5
Polish	52,362	0.5	50,738	0.5	33,597	0.3
German	40,907	0.4	41,328	0.4	14,148	0.1
Romani	24,294	0.2	23,211	0.2	4,919	0.05
Hungarian	20,260	0.2	non indicated	---	9,286	0.1
Russian	non indicated	---	18,746	0.2	31,622	0.3
Ukrainian	4 882	0.05	non indicated	---	48,250	0.5
Vietnamese	non indicated	---	non indicated	---	30,830	0.3
Sign language	non indicated	---	733	---	1,429	0.01

I. 5. Recommendations as to the second monitoring cycle

- A) Continue the efforts to promote awareness and tolerance in relation to the regional and minority languages and the cultures they represent, as an integral part of the cultural heritage of the Czech Republic, both in the general curriculum at all stages of education and in the media.**

o Education

The issues of multicultural education, education to respect human rights and education against extremism, racism and intolerance are an integral part of the Framework Educational Programmes for primary and secondary schools and as such has been implemented in individual School Educational Programmes under the curricular reform. In particular, the Framework Educational Programmes set specific objectives, forms, length and content of compulsory education and are binding for the creation of School Educational Programmes.

The history and culture of minorities living on the territory of the CR will be incorporated in extended form into the Framework Educational Programmes during their “cyclical” revisions.

An important source of information, methodology and communication in the area of multicultural education is the methodological portal www.rvp.cz. The operation of the www.rvp.cz methodological portal is provided by the *National Institute of Education (NÚV)* in Prague, directly managed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Through the *National Institute of Education*, the Ministry has a representation in the European Commission’s Thematic Working Group on Early School Leaving. Its representative cooperates with the representative of *Romodrom*, a national non-profit organisation focused on the Roma minority education. Of course, the activities of the Thematic Working Group on Early School Leaving are also targeted at the national minorities with a higher proportion of persons with prematurely terminated education.

The *National Institute for Further Education (NIDV)*, an allowance organisation of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, provides educational programmes for pedagogical staff. Emphasis is placed especially on the offer for nursery schools where the children from national minorities or children of foreigners enter the Czech educational system for the first time. From the 2012/2013 school year, the existing offer of educational programmes has been

extended; the programmes are aimed at teachers in special nursery, primary and primary vocational schools as well as ordinary nursery and primary schools and is focused on the support of both, multicultural and inclusive education, including working with children from the socio-culturally disadvantaged environment, the environment of national minorities and migrants.

- Media

See information in Part III, Article 11

- B) Further improve legislation concerning the committees for national minorities so that these do not present barriers to the implementation of the Charter, including the teaching and education in regional or minority languages and installation of bilingual topographical signs.**

See the text in paragraph I. 2.2.

- C) Adopt a structured and systematic policy for the protection and promotion of German and Romani, and create favourable conditions for their use in public life.**

- German language

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports continuously supports language activities in grammar schools offering German language teaching leading to the obtaining of the German Language Diploma. This diploma entitles students to study at German universities without having to take an additional language examination. The Czech-German activities are extensive even within the extracurricular youth activities. More details are given in Part III.

- Romani language

In the Concept for Roma Integration 2010 – 2013, the Government committed to continuously support the research of Romani language, Roma Holocaust and Roma culture; to create conditions for institutional development of the *Roma Studies* university course; and to promote its extension to other universities. Furthermore, the ongoing expansion of Romani language teaching at a regional level; the creation of materials for training pedagogic staff to work with pupils who speak different languages, with regard to Roma pupils; and the creation of methodological and didactic materials for teaching Romani are supported, as well. In cooperation with the *Research Institute of Education (VÚP)* and the *National Institute of Technical and Vocational Education (NUOV)*, the Government also committed to incorporate the topic of Roma culture and history in the Framework Educational Programmes in accordance with the revision schedule for the Framework Educational Programmes, and through the *Czech School Inspectorate (ČŠI)* to continuously evaluate compliance of these programmes with the School Educational Programmes, which regulate the teaching of these topics in practice.

- D) Take measures to make available teaching in or of German and Romani in co-operation with the speakers.**

In 2010, there was a significant change in the Support of the Implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages Grant Programme, which enabled civic associations and schools to submit projects involving not only Polish and the Těšín dialect as its regional variant, but also the Slovak, German and Romani languages. One of the measures was to support educational activities which are focused on teaching minority languages or which proceed in them at all levels of education beyond standard teaching.

The target group for these activities includes both, people with a minority language as their mother tongue and people with Czech as their mother tongue. Detailed information is provided in Part III.

- German language

The German language can be taught as a first foreign language; however, schools and parents prefer English as a first foreign language (98,59 %). According to statistical data as of 30 September 2013, 9,010 pupils had German as a first foreign language (1,36 %) whereas 129,277 pupils chose German as a second foreign language, which is 69 % of the total number of pupils learning a second foreign language. Only 18,31 % of teachers of the total number of German teachers are non qualified.

- German in connection with a second obligatory foreign language at upper primary schools

The Czech Republic does not have a natural multilingual environment like some European countries. For the economic, political and cultural reasons, however, it is extremely important for its citizens to have the ability to communicate at least in two foreign languages, i.e. preferably in one global language and one regionally or culturally close language (Principles 1 and 2). Speaking more languages opens the doors to new possibilities for a better life and interesting job opportunities. Since 2005, teaching English as a key tool of global communication has become a priority at all levels of education. The European Union also recognizes English as the most widely used language in Europe, but at the same time wants to ensure that this situation is not at the expense of linguistic diversity. By introducing another foreign language, the downward trend of teaching languages other than English will stop. The following examples are the arguments for the reinforcement of teaching German:

- German is spoken by the most numerous group of the European population
- In main indicators, German economy occupies the first place in Europe and the third place in the world (behind the USA and Japan).
- It is Germany that is the major business and cultural partner for the Czech Republic.
- In our country, there is a high number of companies with German, Austrian or Swiss capital participation, urgently looking for co-workers with good knowledge of German.
- The German speaking countries offer a wide range of internships and study stays for students of humanities, natural sciences and technical fields of study.

By this resolution, the Ministry at least partially meets the EU recommendation regarding the implementation of two compulsory foreign languages in primary education and thus heads towards the application of the multilingual principle.

In accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, the foreign language teaching should lead especially to communication. If a pupil has learned a first foreign language for several years, learning another foreign language will be easier. The Ministry of Education does not expect a pupil to master the language perfectly, but to be able to communicate at A1 level of the Reference Framework. A pupil can continue in developing a first foreign language for the reasons of specific educational needs.

- Romani language

Institutions accredited to train Romani language teachers include e.g. Charles University in Prague, the Faculty of Arts. The accredited degree programmes and programmes for lifelong learning offered by institutions of higher education are listed in Part III of this report. These include, for example, the preparation of teaching assistants and Roma studies..

Romani is taught in three secondary schools in the CR. A curriculum of the Secondary Vocational School of Management and Law, s. r. o., Kolín, contains information on Romani history, culture and language, and prepares graduates to work in their own communities. This factor also stimulates the interest of Roma children in studying, which was already confirmed in the re-training courses offered by this school. Effective until 2011, the following secondary education courses were offered: Social Work in the Environment of Ethnic Minorities and Pedagogy for Teaching Assistants. These fields of education were available until 2011, offered only as the long-distance forms of education and, by their focus, were principally targeted at pupils from the Roma population. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports uses these programmes to support better education of the Romani minority, particularly Roma adults. The curriculum includes compulsory subjects, such as multicultural coexistence, selected methods of social law, social policy, social communication and the basics of Roma studies.

Part II

1. *Please indicate last development concerning the provisions of Article 7 of the Charter during the monitoring period (2011-2013).*

Article 7 paragraph 1 – Objectives and principles

a) Recognition of the regional and minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth

In its Resolution No. 1572 of December 2009, the Government approved the Concept for Roma Integration for the period of 2010 – 2013, in which it commits to support research and teaching Romani language and recognises it as part of Europe's cultural wealth.

b) Respect for the geographical area of minority languages

No change has occurred in this area during the monitoring period.

c) Action to promote minority languages in order to safeguard them

In 2010, there was a significant change in the Support for the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages Grant Programme, which enabled civic associations and schools to submit projects involving not only Polish and the Těšín dialect as its regional variant, but also the Slovak, German and Romani languages. At present, the Council is intensely concerned with the possibility of incorporating the Croatian language of Moravian Croats in the Support for the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages Grant Programme. (Detailed information is provided in Part I.1.)

In 2010 an amendment to the Deed of Foundation of the Pedagogical Centre for Polish National Schools in Český Těšín was prepared (approved on 20 January 2011 under the title Measures of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in accordance with Section 169b paragraph 1 of Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-school, Primary, Secondary, Higher Vocational and Other Education (the Education Act), as amended, issuing Amendment No. 2 to the Centre's Deed of Foundation).

In addition to technical measures, this amendment has updated the pedagogical terminology used in the Deed of Foundation and also enabled certain activities that contribute to the fulfilment of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages²² and which the Pedagogical Centre had previously performed without explicit reference to the Deed of Foundation to be embodied directly in the Deed.

Specifically, it concerned the possibility to educate a pedagogical staff from schools that do not belong to the system of Polish National Schools and from schools with integrated Polish classes as part of lifelong learning. The proposed amendment was designed to accommodate the requirements of teaching staff in the region. Furthermore, the option of cross-border education was expressly incorporated in the Deed of Foundation (Article 14 (b) of the Charter).

d) Encouragement of the use of minority languages

See Parts I and III of this report.

²² Government Resolution No. 1574 of 7 December 2005 on a Proposal to Ratify the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ETS 148), opened for signatures by the Member States of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 5 November 1992.

e) Development of links between groups using different languages

Links between different language speakers are mainly developed during cultural and social events organised by civic associations representing individual national minorities and funded from the public administration of the CR.

Since June of 2007, the *National Minorities House* in Prague has served to this purpose, housing civic associations of Bulgarian, Hungarian, German, Polish, Romani, Russian, Ruthenian, Greek, Slovak, Serbian and Ukrainian minorities. The civic associations (not only those speaking the minority languages listed above) may use the common areas – exhibition hall, conference room, and a common room with café – to present their particular culture, regardless of the regional affiliation of minority language speakers. (Further information can be found in Article 7 paragraph 3).

f) Support for the teaching and study of minority languages

During the monitoring period, the Czech Republic provided funds from its budget for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages. Further information can be found in Parts I and III of this report. A list of schools teaching some subjects in Russian language with a permission of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports pursuant to Decree No. 9/2013, regulating the authorisation procedure for teaching certain subjects in a foreign language:

Ostrava – Poruba Primary School, Porubská 831, 708 00 Ostrava – Poruba

Hronov Primary School, Komenského náměstí 8, 549 31 Hronov

The teaching of a subject in other minority languages on the basis of the authorisation of the the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports pursuant to Decree No. 9/2013, regulating the authorisation procedure for teaching certain subjects in a foreign language, was not permitted because primary schools had not applied for it.

The language teaching within a minority is supported by the grant programme of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports aimed at supporting education in languages of national minorities and multicultural education.

g) Study and research on minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions

See Parts I and III of the report. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports should submit the fields of studies for all minority languages.

h) Study and research on minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions

Detailed information on learning minority languages can be found in Part III of this report.

i) Transnational exchanges

Detailed information on transnational Exchange, relating to the languages protected under the Charter, can be found in Part III of this report.

Article 7 paragraph 2

Elimination of (protection/intervention against) the discrimination of minority languages

In September 2009, Act No. 198/2009 Coll., on Equal Treatment and on Legal Instruments of Protection against Discrimination and on Amendments to Certain Acts (the Antidiscrimination Act) came into force in the CR, which, although it does not directly ban discrimination on the basis of language, nonetheless does prohibit both direct and indirect discrimination on the basis of racial or ethnic origin or nationality.

The legal regulation to combat discrimination is based on constitutional principles of equality in dignity and rights and prohibition of discrimination for illegitimate reasons.²³ It regulates the rights to equal treatment and protection against discrimination. It prohibits any direct or indirect discrimination on grounds of race, ethnic origin, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, faith or worldview. According to law, direct discrimination means such act or omission where one person is treated less favourably than another one in a comparable situation. Indirect discrimination means an act or omission where a person is put at a disadvantage compared to other persons for any illegitimate reason on the basis of an apparently neutral provision, criterion or practice. The law affects not only direct and indirect discrimination, but also harassment, victimisation and instruction to discriminate and inciting discrimination.

The law prohibits discrimination in the areas of right to employment and access to employment; access to an occupation, business and other self-employment; employment contract, service and other paid employment, including remuneration; membership of and involvement in trade unions, workers' councils or employers' associations, including the benefits that such associations provide to their members; membership of and involvement in professional associations, including the benefits that such legal persons governed by public law provide to their members; social security and social benefits and social advantages; health care; education; provision of goods and services including housing, if they are offered to the public. On the other hand, the law stipulates that discrimination is not considered to be the measures designed to prevent or compensate for disadvantages arising from the person's affiliation to a group of persons defined by any of the above reasons and provides them with equal treatment and equal opportunities.²⁴ Therefore, the law as well as the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms²⁵ (hereinafter referred to as the "Charter") allows special support measures to promote and protect the rights of disadvantaged groups (positive discrimination).

The Antidiscrimination Act does not apply to legal relationships connected with the stipulation of conditions relating to the entry and residence of third-country nationals or stateless persons in the territory of the Czech Republic. Foreigners are endowed with fundamental rights and freedoms enshrined in the Charter²⁶, regardless of the length of the stay in the CR or the immigration status. The exception consists of some of the political rights associated with the formation of the political will of the state, the bearers of which may only be citizens.²⁷

Article 7 paragraph 3

Promotion of mutual understanding between linguistic groups

The KHAMORO World Roma Festival has been held since 1999 and during its existence it has become the most important event of its kind not only in the CR, but also in Europe as a whole. Its long term objectives are to show the richness and diversity of Roma culture and traditions that form an important part of the Czech, European and world culture; to contribute to the integration of Roma in Czech society and the creation of a multicultural society; and to contribute to the improvement and development of relations between the majority population and the Roma community using cultural and professional events to show positive values which music and other art forms certainly are. Every year, the festival is funded from state funds (CZK 1,350,000 in 2011; CZK 930,000 in 2012; CZK 800,000 in 2013).

²³ See HRI/CORE/CZE/2010, page 42, point 145 and further

²⁴ Section 7 paragraph 2 of Antidiscrimination Act

²⁵ The Charter of Rights and Freedoms is part of the constitutional order of the Czech Republic.

²⁶ Article 42 paragraph 2 of the Charter.

²⁷ E.g. the right to vote and the right to associate in political parties and movements.

The Prague Heart of Nations international festival also ranks among tools of understanding between the minority and the majority population (with grants from the state budget of CZK 80,000 for each event for the monitoring period). Regarding other similar events supported by state resources at the regional level, the noteworthy festivals are e.g. Babylonfest (Brno), the Festival of National Minorities in Orlová, the Festival of Nations in Mikulov pod Podyjí and the International Folklore Festival in Jablunkov.

Article 7 paragraph 4

Consultation mechanisms

Speakers of regional or minority languages may use the possibility provided for by law to actively participate in addressing the issues relating to national minorities through the Committees for National Minorities and meetings of the Council. Part I of this report presents specific examples reflecting the needs expressed by those who speak regional or minority languages.

During the monitoring period, the number of Committees in municipalities (or in municipal districts of statutory cities) had gradually grown to the year 2012 when the final results of the census were published. In 2011, there were 62 of them plus the Commissions for National Minorities were established in other four municipalities that did not have the legal obligation to establish the Committee. In 2012, there were only three less, but 5 municipalities established the Commissions. In 2013, the Committee was established in 53 municipalities, despite the fact that 20 municipalities were not obliged by law and the census to establish it.

The situation in statutory cities (Brno, České Budějovice, Děčín, Frýdek-Místek, Havířov, Hradec Králové, Chomutov, Jablonec nad Nisou, Jihlava, Karlovy Vary, Karviná, Kladno, Liberec, Mladá Boleslav, Most, Olomouc, Opava, Ostrava, Pardubice, Plzeň, Prostějov, Přerov, Teplice, Ústí nad Labem, Zlín) is clearer; at that time three of them established the Committees (Brno, Chomutov, Karviná), however, after the census this obligation remained mandatory only for Karviná. Nevertheless, in the remaining cities the Committees continue to function, though their establishment is not implied by law. Other four cities have established the Commissions (due to the failure to meet legal conditions for the establishment of the Committee; Liberec, Mladá Boleslav, Most and Plzeň).

The Committees have been established in three of 14 regions in total (the regions of Karlovy Vary, Moravian and Silesian, Ústí nad Labem), although the only region where this obligations arises from law is the Ústí nad Labem Region. In other two regions (South Moravian, Prague) the Commissions or otherwise named boards have been established. Besides this, eight regions have established a position of a Coordinator for National Minorities. In the Karlovy Vary Region, one of permanent agendas is the situation of the German minority, however, the Committee did not paid attention to German as such in the monitoring period.

The reason for this confusion especially in municipalities is an initial imperfect wording of the relevant part of the Act on Municipalities. Pursuant to this, at least ten percent share of the population belonging to national minorities, which is binding for the establishment of the Committee, was surveyed only on the basis of the number of persons declaring those selected nationalities in the census. (As for the Act see Part I. 2. 2.).

Article 7 paragraph 5

Application of the principles to non-territorial languages

Regarding this point no changes have occurred during the monitoring period, therefore we refer to the information set out in Part II of the Initial Periodical Report submitted to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter.

2. Information on legislative and/or practical measures adopted by the state to implement the challenges and recommendations of the Committee of Experts, which were introduced in the first evaluation report

In December 2009 the Government approved the Concept for Roma Integration for the period of 2010–2013. It is a strategic document, in which the CR undertakes to support research and teaching of the Romani language, to create methodological and didactic materials and tools for teaching Romani; and to support literature written in Romani. Further information on adopted measures can be found in Part I and III of this report.

Part III.

3. State what steps have been taken in the area of regional or minority languages, selected in the period of the ratification of the Charter, based on article no. 2, par. 2 of the Charter (legislative and practical measures)

Languages: POLISH, SLOVAK

The below-mentioned obligations for Polish apply in the Moravian-Silesian region, in the territories of the Frýdek-Místek and Karviná districts. The obligations for Slovak apply throughout the entire territory of the state.

Article 8 – Education

In the area of education, the Czech Republic accepted the following obligations for Polish and Slovak:

For Polish: par. 1 a)i/ii; b)i/ii; c)i/ii; d)ii; e)iii; f)iii; g); h); i); par. 2 (10 points in total).

For Slovak: par. 1 a)iv; b)iv; e)iii; g); i); par. 2 (6 points in total)

Pre-school education

Paragraph 1) Regarding education, the contractual parties undertake that, in the territories where these languages are used, according to the level of each of these languages, and so that the teaching of the official language (official languages) of the state is not affected by it, that they shall

- a)
 - i make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
 - ii make available a substantial part of pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or
 - iv if public organs don't have direct authority in the provision of pre-school education, they shall prioritize and/or support the implementation of the measures set forth in points i – iii;

○ Polish

In 2013, education continued in nursery schools with Polish language schooling, as well as in nursery schools in which Polish language schooling classes had been established. The 33 nursery schools which provide Polish language schooling are being attended by 859 children. In comparison with 2012, the number of children in these schools has increased by 30.

Tab. 15 The number of children in nursery schools with instruction in Polish in the 2013/2014 school year²⁸

Karviná district		Frýdek-Místek district	
<i>kindergarten</i>	<i>number of children</i>	<i>kindergarten</i>	<i>number of children</i>
Albrechtice	19	Bocanovice	3
Český Těšín, Svibice	25	Bukovec	22
Český Těšín, Akátová	25	Bystřice nad Olší	55
Český Těšín, Hrabinská	25	Dolní Lomná	10
Český Těšín, Moskevská	55	Hnojník	28
Karviná Fryštát	65	Košařska	13
Horní Suchá	32	Hrádek	22
Dolní Lutyně	20	Jablunkov	75
Orlová Lutyně	17	Milíkov	21
Stonava, Holkovice	18	Mosty u Jablunkova, Střed	24
Těrlicko	25	Návsí	23
Haviřov, Bludovice	25	Nebory	13
Total for the Karviná district	351	Oldřichovice	20
		Písek	14
		Ropice	23
		Třinec, Dolní Lištná	25
		Třinec, Konská	14
		Třinec, SNP	45
		Třinec, Štefánikova	24
		Vendryně, Zaolší	8
		Vendryně č. 1	26
		Total for the Frýdek – Místek district	508

Basic education

- b) i make available basic education in the relevant regional or minority language; or
- ii make available a substantial part of basic education in the relevant regional or minority language; or
- iv implement one of the measures set forth in points i – iii, at in relation to pupils whose legal representatives request such a measure, and whose number shall be deemed to be sufficient;

Quality education is one of the decisive factors in the quality of life in 21st century society. One of the current risks in the Czech Republic is increasing inequality in access to education, even though equal access to education as a tool for strengthening social cohesion has long been a part of the priority objectives of the education policy of the Czech Republic:

Education of pupils in primary school is implemented according to existing curricular documents and applicable school legislation; Roma pupils are not excluded from mainstream education. The powers of school directors include direct responsibility for the education of pupils in the school.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has drawn up a draft amendment to the Education Act (§ 16), which states that a right to education whose content, form and methods correspond to the pupil's educational needs and abilities shall be the entitlement of each individual according to their needs, without categorization of persons according to health disabilities, health disadvantages or social disadvantages.

²⁸ As to September 20, 2013, source: Ministry of Education Youth and Sports.

o German

Tab. 16 List of primary schools where some subjects are taught in German language with the permission of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports²⁹

German – Czech Understanding Primary School	Střížkovská 27/32, 180 00 Praha 8
K Miličovu Primary School	K Miličovu 674, 149 00 Praha 4
Školní Primary School and nursery school	Školní 1544/5, 405 02 Děčín
Chrjukinova Primary School	Chrjukinova 1801/12, 700 30 Ostrava-Zábřeh
Ostrava – Poruba Primary School	Porubská 831, 708 00 Ostrava - Poruba
Mládežnická Primary School	Mládežnická 11/1564, Havířov Podlesí

The German-Czech Understanding Primary School and Thomas Mann Secondary School is a school which was founded in 1991 by the German minority in the Czech Republic. It offers education and training to both Czech and German children for grades 1-5, with German as a foreign language or a mother tongue. It prepares pupils for study in the Thomas Mann Secondary School, which is an eight-year secondary school founded by the German minority in the Czech Republic, and offers a very high quality German language education. The Ministry co-operates with the management of this school, which guarantees a very high quality German language education.

Tab. 17 Schools with the Czech/German bilingual education programme

Austrian Secondary School in Prague, public benefit corporation
F. X. Šalda Secondary School, Liberec 11, Partyzánská 530, state-funded institution
Dr. Karel Polesný Secondary School, Znojmo, Komenského náměstí 4

Tab. 18 Classification by regions – the share of pupils learning German (of pupils learning a foreign language)

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Compulsory subject</i>	<i>Elective subject</i>
Prague	13.5	9.1	19.2
Central Bohemia	13.0	7.7	12.7
South Bohemia	21.8	15.7	41.1
Plzeň	24.1	18.8	18.5
Karlovy Vary	25.2	19.0	66.2
Ústí	20.2	16.0	0.4
Liberec	20.1	12.0	49.3
Hradec Králové	14.2	7.7	21.3
Pardubice	14.5	7.2	12.2
Vysočina	17.1	10.5	9.8
South Moravia	17.3	13.1	8.8
Olomouc	13.9	8.8	2.3
Zlín	12.7	6.4	19.9
Moravian-Silesian	14.3	10.5	12.8
Total for the Czech Republic	16.4	11.1	17.4

The Department supports the teaching of German as a foreign language, it co-operates with the Goethe Institute, it supports its events; for example, it granted patronage to the Goethe Institute project *German for a successful career*,³⁰ and it supports the overall teaching of the German language. In September 2013, the teaching of a second foreign language was made compulsory in primary school; one of the reasons for this decision was to strengthen the teaching of the

²⁹ in accordance with regulation no. 9/2013, governing procedure for the authorization for teaching certain subjects in a foreign language

³⁰ <http://www.msmt.cz/vzdelavani/nemcina-pro-uspesnou-praxi>

German language. For the International Foreign Language Day, the Ministry is organizing a conference for the support of multilingualism; a large part of the conference is always devoted to German.

Czech-German activities are also extensive within the framework of extra-curricular activities for youths, being for example the activities of the *Tandem* Co-ordination Centre for Czech-German Youth Exchange in Plzeň, supported among others by the resources of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The co-ordination centres offer advisory services and support to state and non-state institutions and organizations in both countries in implementing and intensifying Czech-German youth exchanges and international co-operation in the area of working with youths. *Tandem* operates nationwide. The aim of its activities is bringing young people together. *Tandem* offers financial support for bringing Czech and German children together, especially in the extra-curricular and pre-school area, it implements a Specialist Practice Support Programme, and arranges voluntary service in Germany.

The important tasks of the *Tandem* project include, among others, arranging contacts between Czech and German organizations, and supporting partnerships between them.³¹

○ Polish

In primary schools with Polish language schooling, 1,688 pupils in 112 classes in 25 schools were educated (some are fully organized, others have only the first grade). Compared to 2012, the number of pupils increased by 28 and the number of classes stayed the same.

All schools with Polish language schooling in the Moravian-Silesian region are located in the districts of Frýdek - Místek and Karviná, where there's the greatest concentration of Polish inhabitants. Their task is educating citizens of the Czech Republic of Polish nationality in accordance with the Framework Educational Programme for Basic Education, in their mother tongue.

Tab. 19 Primary schools with instruction in Polish (as on the 20th of September 2013; source: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)

KARVINÁ district

	I	II	III	IV	V					classes	pupils
Albrechtice	2	0	3	7	3					1	15
Český Těšín-Svibice	6	11	9	5	7					3	38
Orlová-Lutyně	2	3	5	0	3					1	13
Stonava Holkovice	2	2	2	1	0					2	7
Těrlicko	2	4	4	4	6					1	20
Total	14	20	23	17	19					8	93

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	classes	pupils
Český Těšín	40	43	20	24	39	31	43	38	32	16	310
Dolní Lutyně	1	5	3	2	5	2	8	5	4	5	35
Havířov-Bludovice	4	9	6	8	4	5	6	6	7	6	55
Horní Suchá	9	12	8	11	6	9	8	10	9	6	82
Karviná Fryštát	22	21	14	21	16	11	22	17	19	9	163
Total	76	90	51	66	70	58	87	76	71	42	645

³¹ www.tandem.adam.cz

Multicultural Education and Grant Programme supporting the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

Secondary education, and technical and vocational education

- c)
 - i **make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
 - ii **make available a substantial part of secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**
- d)
 - ii **make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

Members of national minorities have the right to an education in a national minority language, under the conditions set forth in § 14 of Act no. 561/2004 Coll., on pre-school, primary, secondary, higher vocational and further education (hereinafter “the Education Act”), as amended.

In addition to rules for the establishment of schools which provide schooling in a national minority language, the Education Act introduces an option for the school director to stipulate subjects or parts thereof within the educational programme, with the founder's consent, in which teaching may be organized bilingually - including the national minority language - in order to support the national minorities members' interests. Furthermore it's stipulated that school reports, vocational certificates and graduation diplomas in schools which teach in a national minority language shall be issued bilingually, i.e. in Czech language and in the national minority language.

In accordance with the introduction of a new school-leaving examination model in the 2010/2011 school year, the Education Act guarantees that pupils in schools and classes with national minority language schooling have the right to sit both the collective and profile parts of the school-leaving examination in Czech language or in the national minority language (in Polish), with the exception of Czech language and literature examinations.

At present, 17 six-year so-called bilingual secondary schools exist in the Czech Republic, piloting education according to the Framework Educational Programme and School Educational Programme for Bilingual Secondary Schools (this trial verification is spread over the years 2007 to 2015): six Czech-Spanish, five Czech-French, one Czech-Italian, two Czech-English and three Czech-German. Two Czech-German bilingual secondary schools have been established on the basis of co-operation with Austria (Prague, Znojmo), and one Czech-German secondary school in Liberec has been established on the basis of an intergovernmental agreement with Germany.

German

In the Czech Republic, there were 5 secondary schools with German language schooling, attended by a total of 757 students in 40 classes (in 2009, 781 pupils were educated in 38 classes).

Tab. 20 The number of pupils in secondary schools with instruction in German

<i>Name of establishment</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Classes</i>	<i>Pupils</i>
Thomase Manna Secondary School, public benefit corporation	Střížkovská 27, Praha 8	1	8	128
Dr. Karel Polesný Secondary School	Komenského náměstí 4, Znojmo	1	6	140
F. X. Šalda Secondary School	Partyzánská 530, Liberec 11	1	6	152
Austrian Secondary School in Prague, public benefit corporation	U Uranie 14, Praha 7	1	9	163
German School in Prague Ltd. (secondary school)	Schwarzenberská 700, Praha 5	1	11	174
Total		6	45	883

- Polish

In the Secondary School with Polish language schooling in Český Těšín, 340 pupils in 12 classes were educated (compared to 2012, the number of pupils has increased by 12; there are 3 classes in every grade). In the Business School secondary vocational school in Český Těšín, a total of 45 pupils studied (the number of pupils decreased by 9).

Tab. 21 Secondary schools with instruction in Polish³²

	I	II	III	IV	Classes	Pupils
Český Těšín Secondary School	88	83	91	78	12	340
Český Těšín Business School	12	11	8	14	0 (mixed classes)	45
Total	100	94	99	92	12	385

- Romani

- Support of socially disadvantaged Roma secondary school pupils and higher vocational school students³³

In this programme, grants are provided to legal entities which perform the activities of secondary schools, conservatories and higher vocational schools, which are entered in the school register in accordance with Act no. 561/2004 Coll., on pre-school, primary, secondary, higher vocational and further education (the Education Act), as amended, for the provision for financial and material support for the education of Roma pupils and students in secondary schools, higher vocational schools and conservatories, as long as they are citizens of the Czech Republic and their families are experiencing financial difficulties as a result of expenses associated with secondary or higher vocational education.

The grant was provided to legal entities for the payment or part payment of school meals and school accommodation, payment of the pupil's/student's travel expenses, payment of school essentials (e.g. copybooks, specialized literature, PE kit at a reasonable cost, work clothes, and aids necessary for practical teaching or professional practice).

Every year, a sum of approximately 6 million CZK is released. Within the framework of the *Support of Socially Disadvantaged Roma Secondary School and Higher Vocational School Pupils in 2013* grant programme, in the January-June period, 129 applications were supported; a total of 540 pupils were supported at a total cost of 2,447,000 CZK. In the September-December period, 160 applications were supported, with a total of 740 pupils at a total cost of 3,160,000 CZK. Overall, a sum of 5,607,000 CZK was paid out in 2013.

Third level education

- e) iii **if, due to the role of the state in relationships with universities, points i and ii cannot be implemented, then they shall support and/or authorize the provision of university or other undergraduate education in regional or minority languages, or the option of studying these languages as subjects in university or other undergraduate education;**

In accordance with Act no. 111/1998 Coll., on third level institutions and changes and appendices to other acts, the authority of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in the Czech Republic is in this respect clearly defined in § 87 of the cited act, and the implementation of study programmes is fully within the competence of third level institutions, within the framework of their autonomy granted by this act.

³² The situation as on the 20th of September 2013; source: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

³³ The programme relates to the fulfilment of the Charter in implicit form.

Third level institutions do implement such study programmes. Likewise, international agreements also promote language education. Most international agreements with countries from which national minorities in the Czech Republic originate include provisions about scholarships for summer language courses.

Third level institution study programmes in Czech language, aimed at the languages of national minorities in the Czech Republic (in the academic year 2013 - 2014)

Tab. 22 Higher education study programmes focused on selected minority languages (academic year 2013/2014)

<i>Study programme</i>	<i>University</i>
German	
German language and literature (single-subject)	Masaryk University
	University of Ostrava in Ostrava
	Charles University in Prague
German language and literature (double-subject)	University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
	Masaryk University
	University of Ostrava in Ostrava
	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem
German (double-subject)	Charles University in Prague
	Silesian University in Opava
	Charles University in Prague
German (single-subject)	Silesian University in Opava
	Charles University in Prague
German for translator practice	University of Ostrava in Ostrava
German language for business practice	University of Pardubice
German language for school practice	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem
German language	Palacký University in Olomouc
German language with a focus education (double-subject)	Charles University in Prague
	Technical University of Liberec
German philology (double-subject)	Palacký University in Olomouc
German philology (single-subject)	Palacký University in Olomouc
German with a focus on applied economics	Palacký University in Olomouc
German language for managerial practice	Tomas Bata University in Zlín
Foreign languages for the tourist industry – German language	University of Hradec Králové
Germanic languages	Charles University in Prague
Germanic languages and literature	Charles University in Prague
Germanic literature	Charles University in Prague
Inter-cultural Germanic studies	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem

Polish	
Polish language and literature (single-subject)	Masaryk University University of Ostrava in Ostrava
Polish language and literature (double-subject)	Masaryk University University of Ostrava in Ostrava
Polish literature	Masaryk University
Polish with a focus on the areas of corporate practice, services and the tourism industry	Masaryk University
Polish in the sphere of enterprise (single-subject)	University of Ostrava in Ostrava
Polish for translator practice	University of Ostrava in Ostrava
Polish philology (single-subject)	Palacký University in Olomouc
Polish philology (double-subject)	Palacký University in Olomouc
Polish philology in the context of European culture and literature (single-subject)	Palacký University in Olomouc
Polish with a focus on economic-legal practice and the tourist industry (single-subject)	Palacký University in Olomouc
Polish for translator practice	University of Ostrava in Ostrava
Slavic studies with a specialization in Polish studies	Charles University in Prague
Central European comparative studies	Charles University in Prague
Central European studies (double-subject)	Charles University in Prague
Central European studies (single-subject)	Charles University in Prague

Romani	
Roma studies	Charles University in Prague
Roma studies (double-subject)	Charles University in Prague

Slovak	
Slovak language and literature (single-subject)	Masaryk University
Paleo-Slavic studies and Slavic languages	Masaryk University
Slovak studies (double-subject)	Charles University in Prague

Slavonic studies	
Slavonic studies (double-subject)	Masaryk University
Slavonic studies (single-subject)	Masaryk University
Slavonic studies with a specialization in Bulgarian studies, Croatian studies, Macedonian studies, Polish studies, Serbian studies, general and comparative Slavonic studies, Slovenian studies (double-subject)	Charles University in Prague
Slavonic studies of European Union countries (double-subject)	University of Pardubice
Bohemian studies with a Slavonic focus	Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem
Slavonic philology	Charles University in Prague
Slavonic literature	Charles University in Prague
Theory and history of Slavonic literature	Masaryk University

Study and research of minority language in third level institutions

The Grant Agency of the Czech Republic supported, among others, the project of the Institute of the Czech Language of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, no. P406/11/2304, “A confrontational description of the current Slovak and Czech lexicon (system relationships and communicational co-existence)” for the period 2011-2014, which includes, inter alia, research into the use of Slovak in the Czech Republic, particularly in the area of legal communication.

The project of the Institute of the Czech Language of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, no. P406/11/2304, “A confrontational description of the current Slovak and Czech lexicon (system relationships and communicational co-existence)”, supported by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic, continued in 2013 (the total duration of the project is set as the period 2011 – 2014). A part of the above-mentioned project is also research into the use of Slovak in the Czech Republic, particularly in the area of legal communication.

Adult education, and further education

- f) iii **if public administration organs do not have direct authority in the area of adult education, they shall prioritize and/or support the offer of such languages as subjects in adult education or further education;**

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports imparts, on the basis of § 108 par. 2 of Act no. 435/2004 Coll., on employment, as amended, and regulation no. 176/2009 Coll., which stipulates the requisites of an application for the accreditation of an educational programme, the organization of education in a retraining institute and the manner of its termination, and accreditation for organizing retraining programmes. These are specific work activities arising from the needs of the labour market. The accreditation committee for the accreditation of the educational retraining programme is an advisory organ of the Ministry, and it assesses applications for accreditation. At present there is no valid accreditation for retraining programmes which would contain the teaching of a minority language. A possible application in the area of adult education in a minority language shall be assessed in accordance with the law. The primary language of retraining programmes is the Czech language, but technical conversation for the given work activity may take place in any other language.

- Pedagogical Centre for Polish National Education, Český Těšín

The Pedagogical Centre for Polish National Education in Český Těšín is a directly managed organization financed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Its main activity arises from the founding charter of the Pedagogical Centre for Polish National Education, Český Těšín, from the Ministry's tasks and long-term programmes. In 2013, it operated in accordance with the approved plan of its main tasks.

In 2013, it continued in the following areas:

- *Support of minority education* - this was primarily about meeting the needs of schools and school facilities with Polish language schooling, including supporting pupils with special educational needs, the publication (thanks to financial support by the Department) and distribution of methodological tools – magazines *Jutrzenka* (103rd year) for first grade and *Ogniwo* (69th year) for second grade, in primary schools.
- In 2013, it published the *Workbook for the preparatory period of Czech language teaching aimed at 2nd year pupils in primary schools with Polish language schooling*, co-financed by the Support of Education in National Minority Languages and Multi-cultural Education grant programme of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The workbook is tailored to the so-called preparatory period in which the pupils begin to

actively familiarize themselves with the Czech language, because up to that point teaching took place only in the Polish language.

- An important activity implemented as a departmental task of the Ministry is work on standards for the Polish language, with the aim of acquiring feedback for quality education.

The centre co-operates very closely with the founder, as well as other entities in the Czech Republic and abroad. Poland has long been an important objective of Czech-Polish co-operation in the area of education. That's why many activities are also devoted to these questions – in the context of cross-border co-operation, in 2013 a Czech-Polish project was realized which was co-financed from the Operational Cross-Border Co-operation Programme ČR-PR 2007-2013 (OP PS ČR-PR) *Historie hranicí nekončí* [The history of borders is not over] - *Historia ponad granicami*. Czech and Polish school on both sides of the border in the Těšínské Slezsko-Śląsk Cieszyński Euro-region receive work certificates about the common history of the region. Another project, Akcent@com, co-financed from OP PS ČR-PR, is devoted to the issues of cross-border co-operation and communication in neighbouring languages, and its realization covers the territory of the entire length of the Czech-Polish border. The project will be finished in 2015.

In the area of the further education of teachers, the centre dedicates itself to the implementation of interesting Czech and Polish examples of good practice. In selected schools with Polish language schooling, it assists with the implementation of the professor Hejny's method of teaching of mathematics; it also helps to promote this method in Poland. On the contrary, it takes the formative assessment philosophy from Polish colleagues, and introduces it in Polish minority schools in the Czech Republic.

Teaching of history and culture

- g) shall take measures to arrange the teaching of history and culture which is reflected in a regional or minority language;

In the educational subject of history, emphasis is placed on the history of modern times, in particular the 20th century, which includes teaching about fascism, Nazism, World War II, Nazist, racial and other persecution, the fight against Nazism, the Holocaust, and the genocide of the Roma people. The curriculum which educates for democratic citizenship contains the following slogans: political radicalism and extremism, the current Czech extremist scene and its symbolism, and youth and extremism. Schools are also advised to include an additional obligatory cross-section theme – *Multi-cultural education* – in school educational programmes. Recommendations published in recent years in the Collection of Pedagogical-Organizational Information for nursery schools, primary and secondary schools, conservatories, higher vocational schools, elementary art schools, language schools authorized to hold state language examinations, and school facilities, are still valid. Here, there are for example references to comprehensive information about the Holocaust of the Roma people and the Jews, which can be obtained at professional seminars *Jak učit o Holocaustu* [How to teach about the Holocaust] or within framework of the *Zmizelí sousedé* [Missing neighbours] educational programme for pupils (organized by the *Educational Department of the Terezín Memorial*, and the *Educational and Cultural Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague*).

At the same time, attention is drawn to publications by so-called Holocaust deniers. In the teaching, it's necessary to emphasize the theme of Czech-German relations, including objective information about the expulsion of the Sudeten Germans, and to get to know the culture, language and everyday life of other nationalities and ethnic groups living in the Czech Republic. Pupils should be informed about current youth extremist groups (anti-

Semitism, Islamophobia, neo-Nazism, right-wing and left-wing extremism). At the same time, it's noted that in the environment of schools and school facilities and extra-curricular activities, the teaching of multiculturalism, human rights, non-violence and tolerance cannot be realized simply by highlighting foreign elements with an emphasis on otherness, because merely highlighting differences may be counter-productive.

Teachers' education

- h) **shall make available basic and further preparation for teachers, necessary for the implementation of these paragraphs a) – g), which the contractual party has accepted,**

- Polish

The education of teachers for Polish minority schooling has been provided in the past period, and continues to be provided, by the Pedagogical Centre for Polish National Education, registered office in Český Těšín (see above). Further education for teachers is also provided by the Professional Organization of Polish Schoolteachers in Těšínsko – the Polish Teachers' Association (*Towarzystwo Nauczycieli Polskich*), which co-operates with the Polish and Czech Department of Education.

- Romani

In Prague, on the 25 – 27 January 2012, there was another in a number of training workshops within the framework of the *Romed* international project, in which 16 different countries participate. The European training programme for mediators is managed by the Council of Europe, in co-operation with the European Commission. It's included in programmes aimed at solving the Roma issue across Europe. In the Czech Republic, the *Romea* organization looks after the project.

The aim of the programme is to use mediators with Roma roots who can, if necessary, communicate in the language of the Roma community. Thanks to this, they can make contact with both interested parties in any situation, and make mutual communication and co-operation more efficient.

In the Czech Republic, just like in the 15 other European states where the programme takes place, a working group of 25 mediators has been created who work as regional Roma co-ordinators and advisers to municipalities, field social workers, teaching assistants and association representatives. They meet regularly at seminars organized by the Council of Europe, where they can acquire new knowledge and skills in the area of the methodology of the work of the mediator, they can discuss problems and also compare their procedures and efforts in the field of the social inclusion of the Roma with local self-government representatives, who are also invited to the seminars.

The duty of supervisors, and reporting

- i) **shall establish a supervisory organ or organs which shall monitor how the contractual party fulfils the approved measures, and the progress achieved in the establishment and development of the teaching of regional or minority languages, and which shall make periodic reports about their findings, which shall be published.**

The function of the monitoring organ for the issue of national minorities, which also means the use of minority languages, shall be fulfilled by the Council, which does not however have executive powers. The results of the monitoring are annual Reports on the Situation regarding National Minorities, discussed within the government and published on the internet. The function of the supervisory organ is fulfilled by the Department of Education, Youth and Sports.

Czech school inspectors

Czech school inspectors, within the framework of the *Competence III – realization of international research in the area of life-long learning and the publication of its results* project, set out key priorities on the basis of analysis, which must be dealt with in the field of inclusive education.

Tab. 23 Main priorities in terms of increasing equity in education

1. Improving pupils' results (completion of secondary education)	2. A transformation of teachers' qualification profiles, with a focus on inclusion	3. The systematic utilization of socio-economic data about pupils for more effective funding and assessment
Every child should have the same chance to complete secondary education, and thus also have greater success in life and in the labour market. That's why measures at pre-school and primary education levels have been proposed, the aim of which is the successful completion of secondary education by all pupils.	Education in schools with an increased number of disadvantaged pupils requires appropriately qualified and competent teachers and directors, so that they're able to help pupils overcome various obstacles. Improving the preparation of teachers, and their working conditions, is considered an essential requirement for the practical implementation of inclusive education, which is why the following measures are proposed: To support school management, and stimulate a positive school and society-wide climate. To acquire, support and retain high quality teachers, and improve co-operation with parents. To improve advisory services.	The existing national data collection does not enable the assessment of the socio-economic context of the education of individual pupils, the schools, or the system as a whole.

Education in territories where minority languages are not traditionally used

Paragraph 2) With regard to education in other territories than those where regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the contractual parties undertake to authorize and support or provide teaching in the regional or minority language, or teaching of this language at all the appropriate stages of the education system, as long as this is justifiable with regard to the number of users of the regional or minority language.

In this matter, there have been no changes compared to the previous monitored period.

Article 9 – Judicial organs

In the area of judicial organs, the Czech Republic accepted the following obligations for Polish and Slovak: : par. 1a)ii; a)iii; a)iv; b)ii; b)iii; c)ii; c)iii; d); par. 2a) (9 points in total)

Paragraph 1) With respect to the judicial districts in which, given the number of the inhabitants using the regional or minority language, approval of the below-mentioned measures is justified, and according to the situation regarding each of these languages, as well as under the condition that the judge shall not consider the use of the options set out in this paragraph to be an obstacle to the proper administration of justice, the contractual parties undertake to:

Use of minority languages in criminal proceedings

- a) in criminal proceedings
 - ii guarantee that the accused shall have the right to use their regional or minority language; and/or
 - iii stipulate that written or verbal applications and evidence shall not be regarded as inadmissible solely because they are expressed in a regional or minority language;
 - iv it shall be possible, on request, to submit documents relating to the criminal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language, if necessary using

interpreting or translation, without the persons concerned incurring any additional costs;

From Act no. 141/1961 Coll., on judicial criminal proceedings, as amended (hereinafter “the Criminal Code”), it follows that if it is necessary to interpret the content of a document, statement or other procedural act, or if the accused makes use of the right set forth in § 2 par. 14 of the Criminal Code, and interpreter shall be provided; the same applies to an appointment of an interpreter to a person with whom it is only possible to communicate in sign language.

The biggest benefit for injured parties or victims became the approval of the Victims of Crime Act in 2013.³⁴ The purpose of this Act is to broaden the rights of victims, and the help which is provided to them. The rights which the Victims of Crime Act grants appertain to all victims regardless of race, ethnic origin, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, creed or belief. One of the very important rights which the Victims of Crime Act grants is also the right to information, and a broad information obligation is enshrined in the Act for the Police of the Czech Republic, police organs, state prosecutors, the beneficiaries listed in the register of providers of assistance to victims, some other public authority organs and in some cases also health service providers. For the victim – national minority member it is then important that the act also sets forth rules according to which a victim who does not speak the Czech language is to be provided information, in such a way that the victim receives information in a language which they understand (§ 12).

The use of minority language in civil proceedings

- b) in civil proceedings**
 - ii shall allow the participant in the proceedings to use their own regional or minority language during their appearance in person before the court, without incurring any further expense as a result; and/or**
 - iii shall allow the submission of documents and evidence in regional or minority languages, if necessary using interpreting or translation;**

In accordance with § 18, Act no. 99/1963 Coll., of the Civil Procedure Code, as amended, the participants in the proceedings have the right to address the court in their mother tongue. Expenses connected with the participant addressing the court in their mother tongue shall be borne by the state (§ 141, par. 2).

Use of minority language in judicial proceedings regarding administrative matters

- c) in judicial proceedings regarding administrative matters**
 - ii shall allow the participant in the proceedings to use their own regional or minority language when appearing in person before the court, without incurring any further expense as a result; and/or**
 - iii shall allow the submission of documents and evidence in regional or minority languages, if necessary using interpreting or translation;**
- d) to take steps to ensure that, as a result of the implementation of points i and iii of paragraphs b) and c), and the essential use of interpreters and translators, no further expenses shall be incurred by the persons concerned.**

The Administrative Procedure Code (Act no. 150/2002 Coll.) governs the option of using a language other than Czech, in the sense that the court is obliged to provide the participants in the administrative proceedings with the same opportunities to exercise their rights.

³⁴ Act no. 45/2013 Coll., on the victims of crime and amendments to certain acts (Victims of Crime Act), effective from the 1st of August 2013.

Expenses connected to the appointment of an interpreter shall be borne by the state (§ 36, par. 2). The arrangement also relates to proceedings in administrative matters of a private character, where in accordance with the Civil Procedure Code § 18 of the Administrative Procedure Code shall also be used in these judicial proceedings.

Exercise of the right to use a mother tongue at the judicial organ level – in criminal, civil or administrative proceedings - is implemented in practice, and works without any problems.

Validity of legal documents

Paragraph 2) The contractual parties undertake that

- a) they shall not deny the validity of domestic legal documents solely because they are written in a regional or minority language; or

The validity of domestic legal documents issued in a regional or minority language is not denied by the legal code of the Czech Republic; in accordance with the Administrative Code (Act no. 500/2004 Coll., as amended) written documents may be submitted in English and also in general in the language of the national minority. The costs of providing the translation shall be borne by the administrative organ.

Article 10 – Public administration and public services organs

For Polish and Slovak, the Czech Republic approved the following obligations in the area of public administration and public services:

For Polish: par. 1a)iv; par. 2b); e); f); g); par. 4a); par. 5; (7 points in total)

For Slovak: par. 1a)iv; a)v; par. 2b); e); f); par. 3c); par. 4a); par. 5; (8 points in total)

Use of minority languages in within the framework of administrative and self-government units

Paragraph 1) Within the framework of administrative and self-government units in which the number of inhabitants using the regional or minority language justifies the approval of the below-mentioned measures, and depending on the situation regarding each of these languages, the contractual parties undertake that, within the framework of actual options

- a)
 - iv they shall ensure that users of regional or minority languages can submit verbal and written application in these languages; or
 - v they shall ensure that users of regional or minority languages can rightfully submit documents in these languages;

The issue of submitting documents is governed by § 16 of the Administrative Code (Act no. 500/2004 Coll., as amended). Written documents in administrative proceedings may be generally submitted in Czech and Slovak language. Written documents drawn up in a different language must be submitted by the participant in the proceedings in the form of the original version, and at the same time in the form of an officially certified translation into Czech language, unless the administrative organ informs the participant in the proceedings that it does not require such a translation. Such a declaration may be made by the administrative organ on their official board, even for an indefinite number of proceedings in the future.

The issue of the language used in the dealings is also governed by § 16 of the Administrative Code. A citizen of the Czech Republic belonging to a national minority living in the territory of the Czech Republic traditionally and in the long term, has a right before the administrative organ to make submissions and act in the language of their national minority. If the administrative organ does not have an official who is familiar with the national minority language, then this citizen shall procure an interpreter whose name is entered in the interpreters'

register. In this case, the cost of the interpreting and the cost of organizing the translation shall be borne by the administrative organ.

Informing speakers of regional or minority languages about holding elections or local referenda in the languages of the national minorities, by public administration

Paragraph 2) In the case of local or regional public administration organs, on whose territory the number of inhabitants using the regional or minority language justifies the approval of the below-mentioned measures, the contractual parties undertake that they shall authorize and/or support, so that

- b) the users of regional or minority languages can submit verbal or written applications in these languages;**
- e) during dealings at regional authority meetings, regional or minority languages shall be used, but without precluding the use of the official language (official languages) of the state;**
- f) during dealings at local authority meetings, regional or minority languages shall be used, but without precluding the use of the official language (official languages) of the state;**

The legal arrangements of the rights of national minority members in the area of the execution of their voters' rights in accordance with the constitutional order, corresponds to the international obligations of the Czech Republic as per the *International convention regarding civic and political rights* (art. 27), from the *Convention for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms* (art. 14) and particularly from the *Framework convention for the protection of national minorities*.

In accordance with § 10 of Act no 273/2001 Coll, on the rights of national minority members and amendments to certain acts, members of national minorities living in the territory of the Czech Republic traditionally and in the long term, under conditions set forth by specific legal regulations (i.e. voting laws) not only have a right to the publication of the notification about the date and place where the elections shall be held, but also have a right to other information for voters in the languages of the national minorities. Beyond the framework of obligations set forth by the voting laws, before every election the Ministry of the Interior sends *Information on how to vote* in the languages of the relevant national minorities to all municipalities where citizens claiming a nationality other than Czech comprise at least 10% of the inhabitants of the municipality. *Information on how to vote* in the languages of the national minorities is published in the usual manner in the municipalities concerned, i.e. primarily by hanging on the official board of the municipal office, and is also displayed in every polling station in the territory of the municipality. A principle of informing members of national minorities, similar to that used during elections, applies when local or regional referenda are held. In accordance with § 31 par. 3 of Act no. 22/2014 Coll., on local referenda and amendments to certain acts, as amended, and § 32 par. 3 of Act no. 118/2010 Coll., on regional referenda and amendments to various acts, as amended, in municipalities in which a committee for national minorities is established, notification of the time and location where the local or regional referendum is being held, and the obligation to present ID and proof of state citizenship when voting, shall also be published in the language of the relevant national minority (if, according to the last census, at least 10% of the inhabitants of the municipality claimed this nationality).

In accordance with § 10 of the Minorities Act, members of national minorities living in the territory of the Czech Republic traditionally and in the long term have, under conditions set forth by specific legal regulations (i.e. voting laws), the right to the publication of the notification of the date and time of the elections, and other information for voters, in the language of the national minority. In connection with the cited provisions of the Minorities Act, all voting laws contain conditions under which the mayor of the municipality shall also

publish, in the language of the relevant national minority, notification of the time and location of the elections in the municipality, and notification to voters of their obligation to present ID and proof of state citizenship, as well as other necessary information so that the elections can proceed uninterrupted.

The provisions of § 15 par. 4 of Act no. 247/1995 Coll., on elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic and on changes and appendices to certain other acts, as amended, the provisions of § 29 par. 3 of Act no. 491/2001 Coll., on elections to municipal authorities and amendments to certain acts, as amended, and the provisions of § 32 par. 4 of Act no. 62/2003 Coll., on elections to the European Parliament and amendments to certain acts, as amended, stipulate that in the municipality where the Committee is established, the above-mentioned notification shall also be published in the language of the relevant national minority. In this context, the cited voting laws refer to the provisions of § 117 par. 3 of the Act on Municipalities. In accordance with these provisions, a Committee shall be established in a municipality in whose territorial district at least 10% of citizens claiming a nationality other than Czech live, according to the last census.

Act no. 130/2000 Coll., on elections to regional authorities and amendments to certain acts, as amended, stipulate in the provisions of § 27 par. 3 that in the region in which a Committee is established, notifications to voters shall also be published in the language of the relevant national minority. In the given case, the Act on elections to regional authorities refers to the provisions of § 78 par. 2 of Act no. 129/2000 Coll., on regions (regional governments), as amended, which stipulates that in a region in whose territorial district at least 5% of citizens claiming a nationality other than Czech live, according to the last census, a Committee shall be established.

Use of traditional toponymical names

- g) used or approved the traditional and correct forms of place names in regional or minority languages, if necessary beside the name in the official language (official languages);**

The Czech Republic is gradually approving both legislative and non-legislative measures for the use of traditional and correct forms of place names (see part I. of this report).

Use of minority languages in public services

Paragraph 3) In the case of public services provided by public organs or by other persons acting on their behalf, the contractual parties undertake, in territories where regional or minority languages are used, depending on the situation regarding each of the languages and within the framework of actual options:

- c) they shall authorize the users of the regional or minority languages to submit applications in these languages.**

During the past monitored period the situation did not change, i.e. no legislative or practical obstacles to the use of minority languages in public services were noted in the public services area.

Translations and interpreting

Paragraph 4) For the purpose of implementing these provisions of paragraphs 1,2 and 3, which they have approved, the contractual parties undertake to approve one or more of these measures:

- a) translating and interpreting as needed;**

Within the framework of the grant programme for the implementation of the Charter, which was established by a government resolution dated the 7th of December 2005 no. 1574, from

the budget of the Office of the Government, the thematic areas of support also included translating and interpreting into regional or minority languages.

Use or adoption of surnames in regional or minority languages

Paragraph 5) The contractual parties undertake that, upon request by the persons concerned, they shall authorize the use or adoption of surnames in regional or minority languages.

In accordance with § 7 of the Minorities Act, members of national minorities have a right to use their name and surname in the language of the national minority, under conditions stipulated by a specific legal regulation (namely Act no. 301/2000 Coll., on registries, names and surnames and amendments to certain related acts, hereinafter “the Registries Act”). The amendment, implemented by Act no. 312/2013 Coll., and in relation to the approval of a new Civil Code, brought, among others, the following changes: in the case of § 26 par. 3 of the Act, this provision (specifically with regard to article 11 of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities) was precisely formulated in such a way that the option of making an entry in the registry document according to language now explicitly covers surnames as well as names. This is only a clarification of the text; it does not mean that existing practice is different.

In accordance with the provisions of § 69 of the Registries Act, women's surnames are formed in accordance with the rules of Czech grammar. When a marriage is being recorded, and on the basis of an application by the woman to whom the marriage refers, it is possible to enter a surname in the registry, which shall be used after the marriage is concluded, in masculine form, if they are a citizen of the Czech Republic and a non-Czech nationality holder. In connection with the cancellation of a part of Act no. 115/2006 Coll., on registered partnership and amendments to certain related acts, as amended, governing the registry agenda (the above-mentioned amendment), this provision also relates, in addition to the conclusion of marriage, to entry into a registered partnership. The existing provisions of § 28 par. 2 of the Registered Partnership Act have been overruled here.

Similarly, when entering the birth of a child, it is possible on the basis of an application by the parents to enter the surname of a child of female gender in masculine form, if the child is a citizen of the Czech Republic and a non-Czech nationality holder.

Furthermore, in accordance with the provisions of § 69a of the Registries Act (Act no. 312/2013 Coll. was, effective from 01/01/2014 the content of the provisions of article II point 2 to 7 of Act no. 165/2004 Coll., amending the Registries Act, was transferred to the new provisions of § 69a of the Registries Act), on the basis of an application by the woman whose surname is entered in the registry book in accordance with the rules of Czech grammar, it is possible to enter her surname in masculine form, if she is a citizen of the Czech Republic and a non-Czech nationality holder.

On the basis of an application by the parents of a child of female gender, whose surname is entered in the registry book in accordance with the rules of Czech grammar, it is possible to enter their surname in masculine form if the child is a citizen of the Czech Republic and a non-Czech nationality holder. If the child is older than 15 years, then their consent shall be added to the application; without it the form of the surname cannot be changed. If the identity of one of the parents is not known, then they shall be freed of parental responsibility, or the exercise of their parental responsibility in this area shall be limited or suspended, and the masculine form of the female gender child's surname shall be entered according to the other parent's application. The application can be made at any registry office or embassy of the Czech Republic. Submission of the application is not time-restricted.

Article 11 – Mass media

In the area of mass media, the Czech Republic accepted the following obligations for Polish and Slovak:

For Polish: par. 1a)iii; b)ii; c)ii; d; e)i; par. 2; (a total of 6 points)

For Slovak: par. 1a)iii; b)ii; d; e)i; par. 2; (a total of 5 points)

Broadcasting in minority languages in radio and television

Paragraph 1) The contractual parties undertake that, for users of regional or minority languages in territories where these languages are spoken, depending on the situation regarding each language and on whether it is directly or indirectly within the powers and remit of public authority organs, whether they are authorized to that effect and whether they are usually effective in this area, while at the same time respecting the principles of independence and autonomy of mass media.

- a) shall bear in mind that radio and television are of a public service character:
 - iii shall take appropriate action to ensure that radio and television broadcasters broadcast programmes in regional or minority languages;
- b) ii shall support the regular broadcasting of radio programmes in regional or minority languages, or assist with such broadcasting;
- c) ii shall support the regular broadcasting of television programmes in regional or minority languages, or assist with such broadcasting;

From Act no. 231/2001 Coll., on radio and television broadcasting, a legal obligation arises on the part of the broadcasters to arrange a programme structure in such a way that their broadcasting provides a balanced menu for all inhabitants, with respect to their age, gender, skin colour, creed, religion, political or other opinions, national, ethnic or social origin, or membership of a minority.

The obligation to broadcast radio and television programmes in minority languages is also realized through Act no. 483/1991 Coll., on Czech television, and Act no. 484/1991 Coll., on Czech Radio. Both of the public-law media are governed by these regulations with similar obligations, namely:

- a) to create and broadcast programmes and provide a balanced broadcast menu for all groups of inhabitants with respect to their freedom of religion and belief, culture, ethnic or national origin, national identity, social origin, age or gender in such a way that these programmes and broadcasts reflect the diversity of opinions and political, religious, philosophical and artistic orientations, with the aim of strengthening mutual understanding and tolerance and supporting the cohesiveness of a pluralistic society,
- b) to develop the cultural identity of the inhabitants of the Czech Republic, including members of national or ethnic minorities.

– Czech Radio

Public-law Czech Radio has long been broadcasting a one-hour programme once a week for the Roma national minority, called *O Roma vakeren* [Roma speak] (on Saturdays, from 8.05pm to 9.00pm) which offers news and reporting on current events, introduces Roma history, literature, and culture, and provides information about Roma abroad. It is prepared by six Roma editors in the broadcasting for minorities newsroom. The programme is then repeated on regional Czech Radio stations.

Similarly, nine Slovak editors in the same newsroom prepare *Stretnutie*, a programme for the Slovak minority. It is broadcast every Sunday from 8.05pm to 9.00pm; the content of the programme is similar to the Roma broadcast, and it is also repeated by regional Czech radio studios.

On the *Leonardo Českého rozhlasu* [Leonardo of Czech Radio] station, the *Bona Fide* Slovak minority association broadcasts a one-hour programme called *Džavotanie (Rozprávanie po slovensky o Slovensku a Slovákoch)*, which was supported by the *Support for the dissemination and receipt of information in national minority languages* grant programme. The monthly programme was transferred to the BBC *Zet* station.

The public-law Czech Radio, therefore, broadcasts the following programmes:

○ German:

NEIGHBOURS	A journalistic-cultural social magazine in German
Frequency of broadcasting:	Once per week on Fridays, for 15 minutes, in all regions

○ Polish:

KWADRANS	A correspondence-journalistic-cultural social magazine in Polish
Frequency of broadcasting:	5 times per week for 25 minutes, Monday to Friday, in the Ostrava regional sector

○ Romani:

O ROMA VAKEREN	A journalistic-cultural-social magazine for Roma people, broadcast partly in Romani and partly in Czech
Frequency of broadcasting:	Twice per week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, for 15 minutes in all regions; once a week on Saturdays for 55 minutes on the nationwide Radio-journal

○ Slovak:

STRETNUTIE	A correspondence-journalistic-cultural social magazine
Frequency of broadcasting:	Twice per week, on Mondays and Wednesdays, for 15 minutes in all regional sectors; once per week on Sundays for 55 minutes on the nationwide Radio-journal station

- Czech Television

From the programmes of public-law Czech Television (minority languages protected by a specific Charter regime)

o German

Some foreign documentaries, musical works and films are provided with SUBTITLES and broadcast in their original form (in German, for example, the film “Adam's apples” – 2013, the opera “La traviata”, “The wandering Dutchman” – 2013, the documentaries “In Berlin” and “The day that Theo Van Gogh was murdered” – 2011, or “White crow” – 2013).

German language has been an option for viewers since 2013 within the framework of the DUAL LANGUAGE BROADCASTING – for example in the documentaries “Disco and nuclear war”, “Coffee, milk and Sugar”; “Blue miracle in the Raja Ampat archipelago”, “Bikini –paradise in a forbidden place”, “Edward and George – two brothers, one throne”; “Bear cubs alone in the forest”; also in the American National Parks series of documentaries, in the “House full of animals” children's programme, in the movies “Polda and the Village Girl” and “Flame and lemon”.

o Polish

Until spring 2012 a Czech-Polish mutation of the magazine HRANICE DOKOŘÁN - ROZMÓWKI POLSKO-CZESKIE – about the Czech-Polish border area, was broadcast once a week, running time 25 minutes.

Until September 2013, news was broadcast in Polish every Friday as a five-minute section of the Events in the Region programme. Due to the redesigning and unification of programmes across the studio, this Polish news coverage (in Polish) was included under the ZAJÍMAVOSTI Z REGIONU [Interesting things from the region] programme, broadcast on Sundays at 6.00am and also available on ČT I-broadcasting.³⁵

One section, with a running time of 5 to 7 minutes, is broadcast every week.

o Romani

Series:

ROMAŇI LUMA	Roma world – a magazine about life in the Czech Republic through the eyes of Roma reporters
Broadcast:	Once per week in 2011 and 2012, running time 5 minutes
PTÁČATA (FLEDGLINGS)	A sixteen-part documentary about children on the margins of society, through their own eyes
Broadcast:	Once per week in 2012
ROMOVÉ V EVROPĚ (THE ROMA IN EUROPE)	A nine-part European television series revealing the contrasts between the lives of Roma people in various areas of the old continent
Broadcast:	Repeated twice per week in 2011

³⁵ <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ivysilani/10000000043-wiadomosci-w-jezyku-polskim/>

KHAMORO	Recordings of the closing concerts of the World Roma festival
Broadcast:	On an annual basis – in 2011 the première and three repeats were broadcast; in 2012 there was one première and one repeat.
DĚTI OKAMŽIKU (CHILDREN OF THE MOMENT)	A series of medallions of Roma celebrities
Broadcast:	Twice per week, 5 parts, 20 minutes; 2013
MIRE BALA KALE HIN	Roma fairy-tales
Broadcast:	4 x 10 minutes, 2012

Individual programmes:

ROM_ID	A comparison of the fates of three young people living in three different countries in Europe; a Czech documentary
Broadcast:	Running time 60 minutes, broadcast 5 times in 2011 and 2012
GIPSY SPIRIT	Documentary
Broadcast:	52 minutes, 2013

- o Slovak

SLOVAK PROGRAMMES IN THEIR ORIGINAL FORM, for example films (“Sedím na konári a je mi dobre“), series (Nesmrtelní, Straty a nálezy, Alžbetin dvor, Sváko Ragan) or an entertaining talk show (Ktosi je za dverami).

Also Czech Television programmes, on which SLOVAK CELEBRITIES are invited (Před půlnocí [Before midnight], Hyde Park, Studio 6, Studio).

In relation to issues of ethnic and national minorities, and partly in the language of these minorities (i.e. either with subtitles or with a selective commentary in Czech), Czech Television broadcast or broadcasts other series, related in individual parts or in their coverage to the issues of various minorities, either in parts dedicated to one minority, or a combination thereof:

BABYLON	A long-term ČT series – 2011, 2012 and 2013
Broadcast:	A weekly or multi-day periodicity, running time 15 or 25 minutes
DOMOV VE STŘEDU EVROPY (A HOME IN THE CENTRE OF EUROPE)	
Broadcast:	A 13-part series, 2012, once per week, 8 minutes
SETKÁVÁNÍ (ENCOUNTER)	
Broadcast:	A 14-day periodicity in 2011, once per week in 2012, running time 10 minutes
CITY FOLK	
Broadcast:	Several days per week in 2011 and 2012, running time 25 minutes
CIZINCI U NÁS (FOREIGNERS IN OUR COUNTRY)	
Broadcast:	A six-part documentary, 3 times per week in 2011, running time 30 minutes
CIZINEC JE NAŠINEC (THE FOREIGNER IS ONE OF OUR OWN)	
Broadcast:	A 14-day periodicity, 2013, running time 25 minutes

HRANICE BEZ HRANIC (A BORDER WITHOUT BORDERS)	
Broadcast:	Once per week, 2012 and 2013, running time 25 minutes
NÁRODNOST V PUBERTĚ (NATIONALITY IN PUBERTY)	
Broadcast:	Three-part, broadcast 16 times with a running time of 25 minutes, 2012
KOSMOPOLIS	
Broadcast:	Once per week, 2011 and 2012, running time 25 minutes

Within the authority of the Ministry of Culture, a programme of support for the dissemination and receipt of information in national minority languages is realized (see above), for which resources from the state budget are set aside every year. Within the framework of this programme it is possible, on the basis of submitted projects to support, among others, the production of programmes for radio and television broadcasting in national minority languages. The Czech Television project *Babylon* and the Czech Radio project *Džavotanie* were supported by this programme.

Support of the production and distribution of audio-visual and audio works in regional or minority languages

- d) **shall support the production and distribution of sound recordings and audio-visual works in regional or minority language, or shall assist with them;**

The new Act no. 496/2012, on audiovisuals, effective from the 1st of January 2013, no longer covers a specific grant area as was the case in the previous version, where in the Czech Republic State Fund for the Support and Development of Czech Cinematography it was assumed that resources from the fund could be provided for projects involving the production, distribution and promotion of cinematographic works by national and ethnic minorities living in the territory of the Czech Republic. Applicants who requested financial support for projects related to national and ethnic minority issues used the general category of creation, production and distribution of cinematographic works, and promotion of cinematography.

In accordance with Act no. 239/1992 on the Czech Republic State Fund for Culture, support may be provided for cultural projects which serve to preserve and develop national minority culture in the Czech Republic.

Support for the publishing of printed matter

- e) i **shall support the establishment or preservation of at least one newspaper in a regional or minority language, or shall assist in this regard...**

On the basis of government decree no. 98/2002 Coll., which stipulates the conditions and manner of providing grants from the state budget for the activities of members of national minorities, and for the support of integration of members of the Roma community, within the framework of the authority of the Ministry of Culture a programme of support for the dissemination and receipt of information in languages of national minorities is administered, for which resources are set aside annually from the state budget. Within the framework of this programme and on the basis of submitted projects, the publication of periodical printed matter in national minority languages or the production of programmes for broadcasting on radio and television in national minority languages can be supported; the share of the grant may reach 70% of the project budget. In exceptional cases, this share may be increased to 100%.

During the course of the two-round tender process, the grant selection committee assessed 32 projects, for which 15,154,000 CZK was set aside from the state budget. During the year, the Ministry of Finance released a further 440,000 CZK for the *Zwrot* project, and another of the

projects, *Kereka – Kruh*, received 100,000 CZK from the Ministry's reserves and 100,000 CZK from cultural activities. A total of 15,694,000 CZK was divided among the projects (for more information, see the above section I. 1.).

The value of the grant programme is reduced year-on-year; in 2009 it was still 30,134,000 CZK. The project implementers lower the periodicity of printed matter and the costs and scope of the project accordingly. For newspaper-type periodicals, the situation is very difficult. This was also why the publication of a Polish-language newspaper, *Glos Ludu*, was supported with a sum representing more than one quarter of the entire grant programme.

The grant supported 22 projects by 12 national minorities. It supported 2 projects by the Polish minority, 3 by the Roma, 3 Slovak, 3 German, 2 Bulgarian, 1 Greek, 2 Russian, 1 Ruthenian, 2 Ukrainian, 1 Jewish, 1 Serbian and 1 Hungarian. One of the projects by the Slovak minority was media-based.

Tab. 24 Overview of grants in the dissemination and reception of information in national minority languages programme for the monitoring period

Year	Amount of grant (CZK)	Number of projects				
		Total registered	Of those, assessed	New ones in comparison with the previous year	Not assessed	Approximate average for a registered project (CZK)
2008	28,767,000	29	24	2	5	992,000
2009	30,134,000	32	26	2	6	941,000
2010	23,847,000	37	29	3	8	644,000
2011	28,571,000	34	29	4	5	840,000
2012	21,929,000	36	26	7	10	609,000
2013	15,694,000	32	22	0	10	490,000

Of this, in the monitored period:

German: 5,435,000 CZK in total; the publication of a bi-monthly newspaper, *Landeszeitung*, was supported, as well as the regional monthly *Eghaland Bladl* and the quarterly *Kleiner Brünner Gassenbote* (not in 2013).

Polish: 21,443,000 CZK in total; the printing of the *Glos Ludu* newspaper which is published 3 times per week was supported, as well as the *Zwrot* cultural monthly and in 2011 and 2012 *Nasza gazetka*, a magazine aimed at school children which was published twice per month during the school year.

Romani: 10,475,600 CZK in total; the publication of three monthlies was supported, the *Romano hangos* [Roma voice] newspaper, the *Romano vod'i* [Roma soul] newspaper, and *Kereka* [Circle], a magazine aimed at Roma children and youngsters. Also, in 2011 and 2012, a bi-annual almanac called *Romano džaniben* [Roma knowledge].

Slovak: 10,826,400 CZK in total; in 2011 and 2012 three monthly magazines were supported - *Slovenské dotyky*, *Slovenské korene* (not in 2013), *Listy* and the *Zrkadlenie – Zrcadlení* literary quarterly.

The right to purchase broadcasts from neighbouring countries

Paragraph 2) The contractual parties undertake that they shall ensure the freedom of the direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in the language which is used in the same or similar form to the regional or minority language, and that they shall not prevent the repeated transmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. Furthermore, they undertake to ensure that freedom of expression and the free flow of information in the language, which is used in the same or similar form to the

regional or minority language, shall not be restricted in any way. Since the application of these freedoms also includes obligations and responsibilities, it may be subject to legally stipulated prescribed procedures, conditions, restrictions or penalties which are, in a democratic society, essential for the safety of the state, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of a disruption of public order or crime, for the protection of health and morals, for the protection of a good name or the rights of persons, for preventing the disclosure of confidential information, or for maintaining the earnestness and impartiality of the courts.

In the Czech Republic, the system of radio and television broadcasting is set in accordance with the standards of the Council of Europe, and EU requirements. In addition to constitutionally guaranteed rights arising from the European Convention on Human Rights, the European Convention on Cross-border Television, EU directives on audio-visual media services as well as other documents of a facultative nature, these principles are ensured.

Article 12 – Cultural activity and cultural facilities

In the area of mass media, the Czech Republic accepted the following obligations for Polish and Slovak:

For Polish: par. 1a); f); g); par. 2; par. 3; (5 points in total)

For Slovak: par. 1a); f); g); par. 2; par. 3; (5 point in total)

Paragraph 1) In the area of cultural activity and facilities – in particular libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary creation and film production, folklore forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industry, among others including the use of new technology – the contractual parties undertake that, in the territory where such languages are used, and if the public organs have the required powers and remit, and also if they are authorized in this regard and usually function in this area

Supporting access to works, and support of events in minority language

- a) **shall support forms of expression and initiative typical to regional or minority languages, and assist with various ways of making the works authored in these languages accessible;**

The Ministry of Culture (Department of Regional and National Culture) annually announces, in accordance with the Czech Republic governmental resolution dated the 21st of February 2007, no. 122, as amended, grant tender procedures for projects in the *Programme of support of the cultural activities of members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic*. (More information about the programme can be found in section I. 1.).

Of that, for the monitored period:

German: 1,261,454 CZK in total; supporting cultural events, musical activities, association meetings and the preservation of traditions.

Polish: 5,654,233 CZK in total: supporting cultural events, festivals, association activities, musical group events, documentation of activities and exhibitions.

Romani: 3,222,293 CZK in total; supporting music festivals. In addition, in the monitored period, the Ministry of Culture supported the publication of two non—periodical publications by Roma authors (at a total cost of 222,000 CZK).

Slovak: 2,664,000 CZK in total; supporting folklore groups, festivals, theatrical activities and Slovak culture days.

In 2012, the same department provided an additional grant to the Slovak-Czech Club for the Božena Němcová and Slovakia project; a sum of 40,000 CZK.

The Department of Literature and Libraries of the Ministry of Culture, in accordance with the above-mentioned documents, annually announces the *21st century library* grant procedure,

aimed at libraries registered under the Libraries Act and associations whose main aim is library and information activities, or support thereof. One of its areas is the support of work with national minorities, and foreigner integration. Grants are provided for the purchase of literature in national minority languages, and for events which introduce other cultures. Grants may also be provided for the publication of literature in national minority languages within the grant procedure for the support of the publication of non-periodical literature. Grants for the purchase of books in national minority languages, which relate to languages protected by section III of the Charter (in CZK):

Tab. 25 Grants for the purchase of books in German, Polish and Slovak for the monitoring period

2011	2012	2013
37,000 CZK	64,000 CZK	27,000 CZK

Since the last periodic report for the fulfilment of the European Charter for regional or minority languages, the following legislative and conceptual changes took place in the area of libraries:

- an amendment to the governmental decree, which amends governmental decree no. 288/2002 Coll., which stipulated rules for providing grants to support libraries (passed the notification process before the European Commission)

This was an amendment to § 13 of governmental decree no. 288/2002 Coll. in such a way that this provision explicitly sets forth the option of providing a grant for the community activities of libraries and for the provision of services for groups threatened with social exclusion. The provision of grants which are aimed at national minorities (through library services) should contribute to a better position of these groups of people in society.

- Basic strategic material from the Department of Culture for the area of libraries, *An approach to library development in the Czech Republic during the years 2011 – 2015*.

It was approved by governmental resolution dated the 11th of January 2012, no. 28. The issue of minorities is reflected in the section *Equal access to services* in partial aim no. 13 (To improve access to libraries and their services, and to introduce a criteria of barrier-free access to library services as a criteria for evaluating quality of services).

Participation by minority language speakers in the planning of cultural activities

- f) **shall support direct participation by the representatives of the users of the given regional or minority language when establishing facilities and planning cultural activities;**

In the area of the authority of the Department of Culture (the Department of Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries) develops activities that correspond to the aims of the Charter – *Museum of Roma culture*, *Silesian Land Museum* and now also the *Lidice Memorial*, which under the governmental ruling dated the 4th of May 2009, no. 589, for the maintenance of places of pilgrimage in Lety u Písku and in Hodonín u Kunštátu, and ruling no. 1065 dated the 8th of August 2009 (actualizing the previous ruling) acquired under its administration the Roma Holocaust place of pilgrimage in Lety.

The *Museum of Roma Culture*, from the perspective of its research, documentation and presentation goals, focuses on Romani. With respect to this, every year a range of colourful activities takes place in the museum for the general or professional (researcher) public. These are, in particular:

Courses in Romani for the public: activities are organized taking into consideration the provided grants or co-operation on grants, in the offer there are usually two levels of advancement within the semester; it includes the creation of material for teaching Romani.

Publication of literature: original Roma and Roma studies literature, audio and audio-visual media, in written or e-book form.

Museum library: collects original Roma and also specialized Roma studies literature, the library and study are open to the public free of charge, books are lent only in attendance – in the study. Occasionally organizes author readings of Roma artists for the public.

Research, documentation, collector and presentation activities: research, documentation and presentations in Romani are one of the basic activities of the museum, field research takes place on the theme of Romani (documentation interviews in Romani), the museum always employs at least one professional Roma studies expert full-time and on a permanent work contract, others on time-restricted work performance agreements. The museum exhibitions contain Roma texts, the permanent exhibition of the story of the Roma contains a Romani summary (the north-central dialect). The museum organizes regular presentations, some of them about Romani, both in the university grounds and within the museum.

Socio-educational activities aimed at the children from the adjacent city district, which has a high population of Roma families – the individual tutoring of children and the Children's Museum Leisure Club, approximately 50 children are attended to by volunteers selected from among the students of the Pedagogical Faculty of the Masaryk University in Brno etc., who use Romani as an auxiliary language during teaching.

A specific area is also the pilot project of working with Romani in primary schools, whose professional guarantor and main implementer is the Seminar of Roma Studies of the Philosophical Faculty of Charles University in Prague, to which the museum provides essential co-operation in this matter, in the Brno locality.

Professional consultations, research, assessments and translations are also provided by the museum in the matter of Romani. The museum shop in the museum reception offers a range of book titles containing Romani, whether in fiction form or handled professionally as a linguistic topic.

The *Silesian Land Museum in Opava* plays an important role in the research of the issue of the Polish minority and the Polish language in the Czech Republic. Traditionally, in the Silesian Land Museum, most attention was given to researching the Polish national minority. Two extensive studies on the history of the security forces during the Polish occupation of Czech lands in the years 1938-1939, which were compiled in the course of museum research, went to print. Also published was a study of a prominent Polish minority official in the inter-war period, Józef Gibiec, who was executed in the former Soviet Union; with the help of the press, his family members in the Czech Republic and Poland were found, and a commemorative meeting was organized for them in Český Těšín with a presentation and a screening of documentaries.

The results of many years of successful co-operation in the search for member of the Polish minority in Těšínsko, missing from the time of World War II, were compiled in several studies and articles published in Polish and Czech press. The results of research into the victims of the so-called Katyn Massacre were, on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the discovery of the Katyn graves, shown at a presentation for the *Polish Institute* and *Ústav pamäti národa* in Bratislava, and at a meeting of the Katyn Family in the Czech Republic association in Český Těšín. Co-operation continued with the *PANT* association in Ostrava which deals with modern methods of teaching recent history in secondary schools, and on the *Modern history* portal, several specialized texts on the history of the Polish minority in Czech

lands, compiled during the course of museum research, were published in electronic format. The Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic received an expert opinion regarding the position of the Poles from Těšínsko at the time of their total deployment to forced labour in the German Reich.

The *Lidice Memorial*, which is a contributory organization of the Ministry of Culture, administers, in accordance with the governmental ruling dated the 4th of May 2009, the place of pilgrimage at Lety u Písku. Its mission is care for the preservation of the lasting memory of the suffering of the Roma interned in the former Gypsy camp in Lety u Písku, including care for and maintenance of the place of pilgrimage. 2013 brought several interesting events, but for the first time in the history of the administration of KP Lety the number of visitors decreased compared to previous years, roughly in the same ratio as with other World War III memorials, i.e. by a quarter. On the 25th of March 2013, the fourth tourist season commenced in KP Lety under the administration of the Lidice Memorial. The 13th of May 2013 saw a commemoration of the Roma victims from the Lety camp at the emergency cemetery in Lety u Písku. On the 8th of July 2013, KP Lety unveiled the model of the summer camp. On the evening of the 1st of August 2013, a commemorative event took place in KP Lety titled *Honouring the victims of the Roma Holocaust and a remembrance of the opening and end of operations of the Lety Gypsy camp*.

In 2013, an exhibition also took place in the KP Lety Information Centre. Specifically, they were exhibitions of *František Kánský, A photographic competition for the Youth of the Lidice Memorial*, and the *Echoes* photographic exhibition. Also in 2013, the Lidice Memorial developed educational activities (a teachers' seminar titled *The camps – instruments of persecution*), as well as promotional activities (for example at the International Tourism Exhibition in Brno).

The Lidice Memorial, encouraged by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, continued in the activities of *The commission for the building of a memorial to the Roma Holocaust in Hodonín u Kunštátu*, where it had a chance to present its existing experience with the management of the memorial in Lety, focused on the history of the Roma Holocaust.

The collection and archiving of works in regional or minority languages

- g) shall support and/or facilitate the establishment of an organ or organs for the collection, archiving and publication or issue of works authored in regional or minority languages;

For the purposes of archiving works authored in a minority language, a separate archive has not been established. Within the grant policy of the Ministry of Culture, however, there is financial support for, among others, projects involving the building of documentation centres for the Polish and Slovak minorities, as well as others. Information about the activities of these centres is published annually on the government website in the Report on the situation of national minorities for the relevant years.

Cultural activities in other regions

Paragraph 2) In relation to other territories than those in which regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the contractual parties undertake to authorize, support or arrange suitable cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the previous paragraph, as long as it is justified with respect to the number of users of the regional or minority language.

The National Information and Advisory Centre for Culture, Prague, a contributory organization of the Ministry of Culture (NIPOS), took part in the fulfilment of article 12 of the Charter as follows:

- German

Impulses for arts education in the Czech Republic and Germany – a compilation of contributions from the conference. The compilation was published by the organization in 2013, and it includes contributions from the bilateral conference of the same name organized in co-operation with the Goethe Institute in Prague on the 27th February 2013. The compilation contains the following parts: 1) the situation regarding the arts education in Germany and the Czech Republic – opening lectures, 2) a presentation of eight model projects (from the fields of music, dance, theatre, culture and community) and 3) professional, moderated work groups – conclusions in the form of an attachment. The first two parts are in Czech and German languages, which corresponds to the fact that the conference was bilingual and both countries were equally represented by the experts making the presentations.

Articles in the internet magazine *Local culture – European day of languages in the Austrian cultural forum in Prague: Impulses for German as a foreign language* (2011); the series of lectures which introduces Austrian post-war history continues in April (2012).

National Amateur Photography Competition – in 2012 and 2013, Jan Schmolling of Germany participated in the competition as a juror and a lecturer.

- Polish

National Amateur Photography Competition – in 2011, Boguslav Michnik of Poland was a member of the jury and a lecturer. In 2012 and 2013, he participated in the competition as a lecturer.

A nationwide show of secondary school choirs, *Opava cantat* - Waldemar Gałazka of Poland was a lecturer in the years 2011-2013.

- Slovak

During the last three years, within the framework of the *National Amateur Photography Competition*, a collection of photographs was exchanged with Slovakia every year. In this context, every year approximately 200 representatives of Slovak culture expressed themselves in Slovak during the presentation of our exhibition in Slovakia. In 2011, the Slovak members of the jury were Mr. Miroslav Zafko, lecturer PhDr. Zuzana Školudová, and lecturer Karol Klvaček. In 2012 and 2013, PhDr. Školudová and Mr. Zafko participated in the competition as lecturers and jurors.

The nationwide *Opava cantat* show of secondary school choirs is aimed at secondary school youth choirs. It offers the option of competing in three categories (mixed choirs, ladies' and men's) as well as non-competitive open performances within the framework of the show, for all types of secondary school youth choirs. In the years 2011-2013, Štefan Sedlický and Janka Rychlá of Slovakia were lecturers.

Šrámkův písek [Šrámek's sand] was conceived as a nationwide show of experimental theatre companies. In 2011 and 2012, Ján Šimko of Slovakia was a member of the lecturing staff.

S.M.A.D. - A gathering of young amateur theatre actors, the Šrámkův Písek Workshop – a gathering of young amateur theatre actors has been taking place in Šumperk every year since 1995, and since 2009 it has been an educational part of the nationwide Šrámkův Písek show which involves companies and attenders of young and experimental theatre. In 2011, from a total number of five workshops, two Slovak lecturers led; as part of the additional programme, participants could watch a Slovak documentary about the prematurely deceased Slovak stage designer Aleš Votava (*Múry sú vysoké a hrubé*) and a theatre performance by the Slovak company *DS Zasesmelendve Nitra – Arto Paasilinna* with a staging of *Príbeh*

laponského mlynára. 18 seminarians from Slovakia participated in the workshop. In 2012, Slovak lecturers led three workshops out of a total of six workshops. The additional programme included the Slovak documentary HRANA – TOUR 2011 - *Pocta Markovi Brezovskému* and an inspirational performance by the professional company *Lod' - Divadlo v podpalubí* with a staging of NOVECENTO – legend of the pianist. 11 seminarians from Slovakia participated in the workshop. In 2013, out of a total number of five workshops, two workshops were led by two Slovak lecturers. The additional programme included a première of the Slovak film *Hrana*, and *DS Zasesmelendve Nitra* performed a staging of *Ohľadom konzumu*. 8 seminarians from Slovakia participated in the workshop.

Folklore ensembles regularly perform in the *Folklore Festival Pardubice - Hradec Králové*. In 2011 *FS Kopaničiar Myjava* performed, in 2012 *FS Skaličan* performed and in 2013 *FS Rozsutec Žilina* performed.

In 2011 and 2012 there was a year-long educational series, *Current movement trends in scenic dance*. The seminar lecturers were from Slovakia.

2012 saw the 26th nationwide youth and adult scenic dance show *Dance, dance... 2012*. Two of the seminar lecturers were from Slovakia. 2013 saw the 27th year of this show; from Slovakia, three lecturers and a member of the jury took part.

There was also a single-semester specialized course, *integration of BMC® into dance*. The lecturer was Anka Sedlačková from Slovakia.

Articles in the internet magazine *Local culture - Richard III. In Czech and Slovak* (2012); *A Slovak evening dedicated to contemporary Slovak literature* (2012) and *European literature evenings continue* (2013).

Presentation of culture associated with minority language abroad

Paragraph 3) The contractual parties undertake that, during the implementation of their cultural policy abroad, they shall provide an appropriate space to regional and minority languages, and the cultures which express themselves through these languages.

The Ministry of Culture (Department of Regional and National Culture), through the grant programme for the support of overseas contacts in the area of non-professional arts activities, enables not only the presentation of companies in the mentioned minority languages at prestigious overseas festivals and competitions, but also significantly contributes to a closer connection with these cultures and languages directly in the countries where they act as a natural part of mainstream society. At the same time, it contributes to a more effective raising of awareness about Czech regional and national culture.

Tab. 26 Support for international activities through the Ministry of Culture (for the monitoring period)

German

Year	Project	Organization / grant recipient	Grant (CZK)
2011	IX. International Folklore Festival, Bautzen, Germany	Mr. Kouba Vojtěch, Chrást	8,000
	6. International Choir Festival, Lindenholzhausen Germany	ZUŠ Jižní Město, Praha	38,000
2012	Wind Orchestra Festival, Thum, Germany	Haná Uničov Wind Orchestra	15,000
	17th International Festival, Bad Bramstedt, Germany	Youth Wind Orchestra Association, Zlín	30,000
	8th International Theatre Festival Donzdorf, Germany	Ladislav Valeš, Libochovice	15,000
2013	Europäische Jugendwoche 2013, Burg Ludwigstein, Germany	Chrástecká muzika, Chrást	15,000
	14. Europamaisterschaft der Böhmischo-Mährischen Blasmusik, Ehningen, Germany	Jižani, České Budějovice	25,000
	Dawn at Eurotreff, Wolfenbüttel, Germany	DPS Svítání Association, Praha	30,000
Total			176,000

Polish

2012	Mundus Cantat Sopot, Sopoty, Poland	DPS Svítání Association, Praha	20,000
	XXI. International Folklore Festival, Strzegom, Poland	Association of parents and friends of DFS Jarošáček, Mělník	20,000
	Mundus Cantat Sopot, Sopoty, Poland	ZUŠ Jižní Město, Praha	35,000
2013	XXVI. International Folklore Student Festival, Katowice, Poland	Gaudemus, Praha	25,000
	48. International Choir Song Festival, Miedzyzdroje, Poland	Polish Arts Association ARS Musica, Český Těšín	25,000
	International choir festival, Toruň, Poland	Association of the friends of DPS Ondrášek from Nový Jičín, Nový Jičín	20,000
Total			145,000

Slovak

2011	Liptovské folklorní slavnosti, Slovensko-Liptovský Mikuláš	Children's folklore ensemble Mladinka, Plzeň	30,000
	Scénická žatva, Slovenko-Martin	Mr. Petr Hašek, Náchod	10,000
2012	6. Medzinárodná súťaž Slovakia Cantat, Slovensko-Bratislava	Polish Arts Association ARS Musica, Český Těšín	14,000
	Zlatá priadka, Slovensko-Šala	ZUŠ Ostrov	17,500
2013	XV. Akademická Banská Bystrica, Slovensko-Banská Bystrica	Children's Choir Jizerka, Semily	30,000
	XV. Akademická Banská Bystrica, Slovensko-Banská Bystrica	University Arts Company Pardubice	20,000
Total			121,500

Article 13 – Economic and social life

In the area of economic and social life, the Czech Republic accepted the following obligations for Polish and Slovak:

For Polish: par. 1c); par. 2e); (2 points in total)

For Slovak: par. 1c); par. 2e); (2 points in total)

Behaviour (protection/interference) against discrimination against minority languages

Paragraph 1) In the area of economic and social activity, the contractual parties undertake, nationwide, to

- c) oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;**

In September 2009, Act no. 198/2009 Coll., on equal treatment and legal protection against discrimination and amendments to certain acts (the Anti-discrimination Act), came into force in the Czech Republic; for more information see the text in art. 7 par. 2.

Information on consumer rights in minority languages

Paragraph 2)

In the area of economic and social activities, the contractual parties undertake, as long as it is within the powers of the public authority organs in the territory where the regional or minority languages are used, and within the framework of actual options, that

- e) they shall ensure that information on consumer rights provided by the relevant organs shall be made available in regional or minority languages.**

Every year, the Ministry of Industry and Trade issues an information booklet for consumers in languages other than Czech; in Polish, among others. Also, in 2005 (from 2009 by the Czech Trade Inspection), the Ministry established the *European Consumer Centre*, which deals with

cross-border queries, complaints and disputes in the area of consumer protection. Here, too, information in Polish and Slovak language may be obtained.

Article 14 – Cross-border exchanges

In the area of cross-border exchanges, the Czech Republic accepted the following obligations for Polish and Slovak:

For Polish: a); b). (2 points in total)

For Slovak: a); b). (2 points in total)

Support of cross-border co-operation

The contractual parties undertake that they shall:

- a) **apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which connect them to countries in which the same language is used in an identical or similar form, or, if it is necessary, to seek to conclude such agreements in a way that would foster contacts among users of this language in the relevant states in the areas of culture, education, information, vocational training and life-long learning;**
- b) **to facilitate and/or introduce cross-border co-operation for the benefit of regional or minority languages, particularly among regional or local organs, on whose territory the same language is used in an identical or similar form.**

In the monitored period (2011 – 2013), there were no significant changes in the fulfilment of obligations arising from the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages. Cross-border cultural exchanges with Slovakia, Poland and Germany take place in accordance with the valid Cultural Agreements and Implementation Programmes.

Through its representative, the Ministry of Culture participates in the activities of the Czech-Polish inter-governmental commission for cross-border co-operation. On an annual basis, the commission draws up protocol, which contains a cross-border co-operation plan and schedule. The planned cross-border exchanges are supported at regional or municipal level, according to their importance.

Cultural exchanges between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Slovakia do not have a character of cross-border exchange with respect to the dispersion of the Slovak minority in the Czech Republic. They are implemented on the basis of the Cultural Agreement and the Protocol on Co-operation arranged between the Ministries of Culture of the Czech Republic and the Republic of Slovakia. On their basis, cultural exchanges are supported from the Ministry of Culture's budget. Performances by Slovak artists in the Czech Republic are always visited in large numbers by members of the Slovak minority in the Czech Republic.