

EUROPEAN COMMISSION AGAINST RACISM AND INTOLERANCE

REPORT ON CZECHIA

(seventh monitoring cycle)



Adopted on 30 June 2026

Published on 27 October 2026

EUROPEAN COMMISSION AGAINST RACISM AND INTOLERANCE

REPORT ON CZECHIA

(seventh monitoring cycle)

Adopted on 30 June 2026

Published on 27 October 2026

CRI(2026)27

The reproduction of extracts (up to 500 words) is authorised, except for commercial purposes as long as the integrity of the text is preserved, the excerpt is not used out of context, does not provide incomplete information or does not otherwise mislead the reader as to the nature, scope or content of the text. The source text must always be acknowledged as follows “© Council of Europe, year of the publication”. All other requests concerning the reproduction/translation of all or part of the document, should be addressed to the Media Department, Council of Europe (F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex or publishing@coe.int).

All other correspondence concerning this document should be addressed to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI).
Council of Europe, F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex.
E-mail: ecri@coe.int

Photo: © EnvatoElements

This publication has not been copy-edited by the DPDP Editorial Unit to correct typographical and grammatical errors.

© Council of Europe, October 2026

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
Council of Europe
Strasbourg

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	5
FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	8
<i>I. PREVENTING AND COMBATING HATE SPEECH AND HATE CRIME.....</i>	8
<i>II. ENSURING EQUAL TREATMENT AND INCLUSION IN EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE.....</i>	18
A. EQUAL TREATMENT AND INCLUSION IN THE AREA OF EDUCATION.....	18
B. EQUAL TREATMENT AND INCLUSION IN THE AREA OF HEALTHCARE	22
<i>III. TOPICS SPECIFIC TO CZECHIA.....</i>	26
PREVENTING AND COMBATING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ROMA IN THE HOUSING MARKET	26
INTERIM FOLLOW-UP RECOMMENDATIONS.....	27
LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS	28
BIBLIOGRAPHY	30

FOREWORD

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), established by the Council of Europe, is an independent human rights monitoring body specialised in questions relating to preventing and combating racism, intolerance and related discrimination (on grounds of “race”, ethnic or national origin, citizenship, skin colour, religion, language, sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics). It is composed of independent and impartial members appointed on the basis of their moral authority and recognised expertise in dealing with racism and intolerance.

Within the framework of its statutory activities, ECRI conducts country monitoring work, which consists of analysing the situation in each of the member States of the Council of Europe regarding racism and intolerance and action against these phenomena, and of drawing up relevant proposals and recommendations to address any issues that have been raised during the monitoring process.

ECRI's country monitoring deals with all member States on an equal footing. The work takes place in cycles of about five years, on average. The first-cycle reports were completed in 1998. Work on seventh-cycle reports started in 2025.

The working methods for the preparation of the reports involve desk research and documentary analyses, a visit to the country concerned, and then a confidential dialogue with the national authorities.

ECRI's reports are not the result of inquiries or testimonial evidence. They are analyses based on information gathered from a wide variety of sources. Desk research and documentary studies are based on a large number of national and international written sources. The in situ visit provides the opportunity to meet with various stakeholders directly concerned (such as relevant public officials, national or local elected officials, prosecutors and judges, representatives of equality bodies, national human rights institutions and civil society organisations working in areas of relevance to ECRI, relevant professionals and people belonging to groups of concern to ECRI) with a view to gathering detailed information. The process of confidential dialogue with the national authorities allows the latter to provide, if they consider it necessary, comments on the draft report, with a view to correcting any possible factual errors which the text might contain. At the end of the dialogue, the national authorities may request, if they so wish, that their viewpoints be appended to the final ECRI report.

The seventh-cycle country reports focus on two topics common to all member States: (1) preventing and combating hate speech and hate crime, and (2) ensuring equal treatment and inclusion in education and healthcare.

In the framework of the seventh cycle, priority implementation is requested by ECRI for two specific recommendations chosen from those made in the report. These recommendations should be implemented within 18 months after the publication of the report on the country in question. A process of interim follow-up is subsequently conducted by ECRI to review action taken to implement them.

The following report was drawn up by ECRI under its own responsibility. It was prepared following a visit to Czechia from 17 to 21 November 2025. The visit was preceded by an online meeting on 13 November 2025. Unless otherwise indicated, the report covers the situation up to 19 March 2026; as a rule, developments since that date are neither covered in the following analysis nor taken into account in the findings, proposals and recommendations therein.

SUMMARY

Since the adoption of ECRI's sixth report on Czechia on 8 December 2020, progress has been made and good practices have been developed in a number of fields.

Several steps have been taken by the authorities to prevent and combat hate speech and hate crime. In 2022, the government created the Government Commissioner for Roma Minority Affairs, which also deals with combating antigypsyism. The government also adopted a Strategy for combating Antisemitism 2025-2030, which includes ensuring the safety of the Jewish community, for which the government has already provided support. In 2023, Czechia also introduced Action Plans on Combating Extremism and Prejudicial Hatred, which were developed in close co-operation with civil society actors.

The country's President has repeatedly engaged in counter speech in reaction to incidents of hate speech.

The authorities have also cooperated with civil society organisations on research and training for law enforcement officials. The national police introduced and expanded the number of minority liaison officers. In 2023, 49 liaison officers completed the necessary training, which also includes the topic of antigypsyism, and in 2024 a further 55 liaison officers were trained. In November 2025, there were approximately 300 such liaison police officers across all 14 regional police branches. Furthermore, in the years 2023 to 2025, a total of 159 officers received intercultural competencies training. A training-of-trainers course for police officers on hate crime was also delivered in 2024. The prosecution service also has specialised hate crime focal points in its about 80 offices.

Amendments to the Criminal Code have been enacted (Act No. 270/2025) to broaden relevant hate crime provisions by including sexual orientation in the list of bias motivations of the relevant Criminal Code sections.

As concerns the situation of Roma pupils in education, the authorities as well as some individual schools have recruited Roma education mediators as well as teaching assistants for Roma pupils. Both have had positive impacts, including a reduction of school drop-out among Roma children in schools that benefitted from these measures.

The very large number of Ukrainian children who benefit from temporary protection have, on the whole, been well integrated into schools, including with the help of Czech language teaching. Overall, this can be considered as a positive practice, especially given the high number of Ukrainian children enrolled in a relatively short time.

ECRI welcomes these positive developments in Czechia. However, despite the progress achieved, some issues give rise to concern.

Hate speech against groups of concern to ECRI is still said to occur frequently in Czechia, in particular on social media and during electoral campaigns. Groups mostly affected are still Roma and LGBTI persons, and lately – in a noticeable shift – also Ukrainians and Jewish persons. Anti-immigrant hate speech incidents have also been reported in political discourse during an electoral campaign in 2024. Anti-LGBTI hate speech, especially online, was noted repeatedly in the context of public LGBTI-community events, such as the Pride celebrations.

Hate speech and bullying towards LGBTI pupils in school is also reportedly a frequent occurrence, mainly emanating from other pupils but in some cases also from school staff. The same problem also affects Roma children: negative stereotyping and anti-Roma hate speech are still widespread in schools in which Roma pupils are in the minority, both by classmates and on occasion also teachers, as well as in some cases by non-Roma parents. Hate speech and bullying against other groups of concern to ECRI have also been reported, including against children from Ukraine.

As concerns the anti-extremism action plans, it is noticeable that the authorities approach hate crime primarily from a perspective of state security. While ECRI recognises that this is an important issue, it is insufficiently broad to address racist and anti-LGBTI hate crime effectively.

Problems with de facto segregation of Roma children in schools still persist. This occurs both in form of a disproportionately high rate of Roma children being diagnosed with mild intellectual impairments or learning disabilities and subsequently being placed in special education, or by having schools with a disproportionately high ratio of Roma pupils, at times 50% or above.

There is very little information available for intersex children and their parents, or about intersex-related issues in general.

ECRI's delegation heard repeatedly from a range of different civil society interlocutors, including Roma organisations, that advertisements for privately-owned apartments that are available for rent frequently include wording like "Roma, do not call" or similar.

In this report, ECRI requests that the authorities take action in a number of areas and makes a series of recommendations, including the following.

ECRI recommends, as a matter of priority, that the authorities intensify their efforts to prevent and combat racist and anti-LGBTI hate speech and bullying in schools, including through the adoption and implementation of specific strategies against bullying of LGBTI, Roma and Ukrainian pupils in schools.*

ECRI recommends that the authorities include action against racist and other specific forms of hate crime; particular groups targeted by hate crime; as well as victim support as strategic priorities in their conceptual approach on hate crime.

ECRI recommends that the authorities commission an independent evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the hate crime training and awareness-raising activities for police officers and prosecutors, the introduction

of police minority liaison officers and specialised hate crime staff in the prosecution service.

ECRI recommends that the authorities take prompt, resolute and continued action to adjust, update and ensure the application of the methodology for school guidance and related assessments of pupils' mild intellectual disabilities in order to remedy the continuing problem of a disproportionately high number of Roma children being placed in special education, taking into full consideration the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *D.H. and others v. the Czech Republic*.

ECRI recommends, as a matter of priority, that the authorities take steps to ensure an adequate number of Roma teaching assistants in schools.*

ECRI recommends that the authorities provide sufficient additional funding for schools that are taking initiatives to tackle the phenomenon of de facto segregation of Roma pupils and/or provide support to Roma pupils at risk of drop out.

ECRI recommends that the authorities take legislative and other steps to ensure that medical professionals are provided with a clear legal and ethical framework as regards intersex children.

ECRI recommends that the authorities take appropriate measures to prevent any form of discrimination against Roma persons, and members of any other group of concern to ECRI, in the private housing market.

* This recommendation, which will be subject to a process of interim follow-up by ECRI, should be implemented within 18 months after the publication of this report.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. PREVENTING AND COMBATING HATE SPEECH AND HATE CRIME¹

1. The information ECRI's delegation received from the broad range of interlocutors it met during the 2025 visit indicates that hate speech against groups of concern to ECRI still occurs frequently in Czechia, in particular on social media and during electoral campaigns. Groups mostly affected are still Roma and LGBTI persons, and lately – in a noticeable shift – also Ukrainians and, since the Hamas terror attacks against Israel of 7 October 2023 and Israel's subsequent war in Gaza, Jewish persons. Hatred against the latter two groups is, at this level, a recent phenomena that was not observed during ECRI's previous visit to Czechia in 2019.² While the widespread hostile rhetoric against Muslims, which ECRI highlighted in its previous report,³ does not exist at such elevated levels as before, general xenophobia and anti-immigrant rhetoric can at times still be found in public discourse, with the noticeable exception of members of the Vietnamese community, who rarely, if ever, seem to be victims of public expressions of hatred against them.⁴ ECRI notes that, in spite of frequent hate speech, violent hate incidents are rather an exception in the country.
2. An example of anti-immigrant hate speech in political discourse occurred during an electoral campaign in 2024, when a far-right party published a poster with the wording "Imported surgeons will not solve the healthcare problems" and "Stop the Migration Pact!", while depicting a dark-skinned person wearing a blood-stained T-shirt and holding a blood-covered knife with a long blade in his right hand. The police subsequently investigated this case and submitted the file to the public prosecutor's office with the proposal to bring criminal charges against the leader of the party in question for inciting racial hatred. The public prosecutor's office later confirmed to the press that the party leader was officially charged with inciting hatred, indicating that such imagery and messaging crossed the line from political expression into incitement to hatred, particularly targeting migrants and Roma communities.⁵ At the time of the ECRI delegation's visit to Czechia, the case was still pending.
3. In the course of the visit, ECRI's delegation learned that, during the 2025 general election campaign, the aforementioned party also focused increasingly on populist rhetoric against Ukrainians who have been displaced as a result of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and sought refuge in Czechia, rather than, as was the case in previous years, against Roma or Muslims. This shift played on a growing dissatisfaction amongst parts of the population with the ongoing political and financial support for Ukraine and an unwillingness to bear the associated economic burden, whether real or perceived. In this regard, Ukrainians in Czechia have become a proxy target for criticism of political solidarity with Ukraine.
4. At the same time, hate speech against Roma is still widespread in day-to-day life according to many interlocutors met during the visit, including those from the Roma community as a whole. Prejudicial comments and derogatory remarks in public apparently occur frequently and many members of the Roma community have become used to them. This led to what has been described as a trivialisation of antigypsyism, which also manifests itself in the fact – according to many interlocutors – that most Roma victims of such hate speech do not report it. As a

¹ See definitions of hate speech and hate crime in ECRI's [glossary](#).

² See ECRI 2020: § 23.

³ ECRI 2020: § 23.

⁴ See also ECRI 2020: § 23.

⁵ Ministry of the Interior/Security Policy Department, Report on Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred on the Territory of the Czech Republic in 2024 (2025): 14-15; Radio Prague International, [SPD party and leader Tomio Okamura charged with inciting racial hatred](#) (8 August 2025).

result, there is no concrete quantitative data about the real scale of this phenomenon, in particular when cases do not attain the level of severity required for criminal liability.⁶ It is also known that, just like other forms of racial hatred, much of it is spread online and in particular via social media.⁷ Negative stereotypes include the view that all Roma are inherently untrustworthy, criminal, and routinely living on social welfare.⁸ Denial or even praise of the genocide against the Roma, also known as Porrajmos, during the Second World War also occurs online.⁹ According to some observers, there is little societal disapproval of this type of anti-Roma hate speech,¹⁰ which in ECRI's view is problematic, in addition to such incidents of hate speech themselves.

5. In contrast to the absence of data on anti-Roma hate speech, the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic (FJC) established a reporting system for antisemitism that includes known cases of hate speech and hate crime. According to the FJC data, several ideological groups have been active since 2019 in the spread of antisemitism.¹¹ Until then, the biggest threat to the Jewish community was posed by far-right extremism. In the years 2020-2023, in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic and Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the influence of "anti-system movements" and antisemitic conspiracy theories that are spread online significantly strengthened. After the Hamas terrorist attacks on 7 October 2023 against Israel and during Israel's subsequent war in Gaza, the activities of Islamists and left-wing extremists were also said to increase dramatically.¹²
6. The FJC recorded a total of 4 694 antisemitic incidents in 2024 and 4 328 in 2023, which already constituted a peak compared to previous years (the numbers were 2 277 in 2022, 1 128 in 2021 and 874 in 2020).¹³ According to the FJC, in addition to the quantity, the severity of antisemitic incidents also increased following the Hamas terrorist attacks of 7 October 2023.¹⁴ Most of the reported incidents concern hate speech and of those most occur online. These incidents include holding the Jewish community in Czechia collectively responsible for the actions of the government of Israel.¹⁵ The number of cases of Holocaust denial and distortion has also risen notably: in 2024, the FJC recorded a 47% increase compared to 2023.¹⁶
7. During the 2025 visit, the ECRI delegation did not receive information from its civil society interlocutors, about anti-Russian hate speech. However, the Advisory Committee on the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC) noted in its 2025 Opinion on Czechia that, during its visit in 2024, it had received information from representatives of the Russian

⁶ See also: Albert, Gwendolyn / Centre for European Policy Studies & SLOVO 21 (2025), Research Brief - Antigypsyism in the Czech Republic: From Recognition to Transitional Justice?: 3-4.

⁷ Albert 2025: 49.

⁸ Albert 2025: 50.

⁹ Albert 2025: 50. – See also ECRI 2020: § 28.

¹⁰ Albert 2025: 49.

¹¹ Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic (FJC) (2024), Annual Report on Antisemitism in the Czech Republic 2023: 6; and FJC (2025), Annual Report on Antisemitism in the Czech Republic 2024: 48.

¹² FJC 2024: 6; FJC 2025: 48.

¹³ FJC 2025: 6.

¹⁴ FJC 2025: 5.

¹⁵ FJC 2025: 23. See also ECRI's revised General Policy Recommendation No. 9 on preventing and combatting Antisemitism (2021): 8 (§ 11), and ECRI's Opinion on the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism (2020): § 7.

¹⁶ FJC 2025: 38.

minority who had reported an increase in hate speech targeting Russians on the internet due to the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.¹⁷

8. Representatives of civil society organisations also indicated to ECRI's delegation that although generally the acceptance of homosexual persons in Czech society seems to have increased in recent years,¹⁸ LGBTI persons are still subject to hate speech. Transgender persons, whose identities are often more visible, are reportedly targeted in particular. In this context, ECRI is concerned that in June 2021 the country's then President made remarks that could be considered as transphobic in a TV interview: "These transgenders truly disgust me".¹⁹ In May 2024, a transgender woman was harassed by perpetrators who vandalised the front doors of her house with pornographic posters and mocked and insulted her due to her gender transition.²⁰
9. Anti-LGBTI hate speech, especially online, was also noted again repeatedly in the context of public LGBTI-community events, such as the Pride celebrations. Several people who provide education or openly promote LGBTI equality were also targeted with threats online.²¹ It also occurred in the context of political discussions surrounding certain legislative initiatives, such as strengthening equal rights for same-sex couples.
10. ECRI's attention was also brought to the phenomena of anti-LGBTI and racist hate speech and bullying affecting children²² in the school environment. A 2019 research report of the Czech Ombudsman institution also found that, typically, at school, there are various manifestations of ridicule, threats and bullying between classmates towards LGBTI pupils. However, according to the respondents of the research survey, there were even some instances, where the ridiculing and grossly offensive behaviour came from the school staff.²³ In addition, LGBTI organisations indicate that LGBTI pupils are often afraid of disclosing their sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics for fear of hate speech and bullying. This is also confirmed by the European Union Fundamental Rights Agency's LGBTIQ survey conducted in 2023: 45% of LGBTI pupils in Czechia replied that they hid being LGBTI in school.²⁴ Furthermore, 52% of the survey respondents stated that during their time in school they suffered ridicule, teasing, bullying, insults or threats because they were LGBTI.²⁵ An example of transphobic bullying and hatred leading to violence is a case that occurred in February 2023 when a transgender person was assaulted after having been repeatedly subjected to transphobic harassment and hate speech by peers at school.²⁶
11. The same problems also affect Roma children, as was confirmed by many civil society interlocutors met by ECRI's delegation, including persons belonging to the

¹⁷ Council of Europe's Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC) (2025), 6th Opinion on Czechia: 21, § 98.

¹⁸ Radio Prague International (24 January 2020), [Support for same-sex marriage at two thirds in January 2020 opinion poll at 67%](#).

¹⁹ CNN (28 June 2021), [Czech President Milos Zeman says transgender people 'disgust' him in interview](#).

²⁰ [OSCE/ODIHR Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2024](#).

²¹ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

²² The phenomena of hate speech and bullying may overlap. For the purpose of this report, bullying should be understood as unwanted, aggressive behaviour among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying may include physical violence, sexual violence, threats, teasing, social exclusion or other psychological violence (for more details, see Council of Europe, [Bullying - Children's Rights](#)). From ECRI's perspective, anti-LGBTI and racist bullying of schoolchildren may have a serious negative impact on their equal treatment and inclusion in the area of education (see, in this connection, section II.A. of the present report).

²³ Ombudsman/Public Defender of Rights (2019), Being LGBT+ in the Czech Republic - Experiences of LGBT+ people with prejudices, discrimination, harassment and hate violence - Ombudsman's research 2019 Summary in English: 3.

²⁴ European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) (2024), EU LGBTIQ survey III - Country data Czechia: 3.

²⁵ EU FRA 2024: 2.

²⁶ OSCE/ODIHR Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2023, available at: <https://hatecrime.osce.org/czech-republic?year=2023>.

Roma community. Negative stereotyping and anti-Roma hate speech and bullying still occur frequently in schools in which Roma pupils are in the minority, both by classmates and on occasion also teachers, as well as in some cases by non-Roma parents. Hate speech and bullying against other groups of concern to ECRI have also been reported, including against children from Ukraine. In January 2024, for example, a Ukrainian boy was insulted and harassed with anti-Ukrainian slurs by his classmates in a primary school and ultimately assaulted, resulting in a broken finger.²⁷

12. According to the statistics gathered by the government, the number of registered annual hate crime cases from 2020 to 2024 fluctuated between 108 (2021) and 181 (2023). The vast majority of incidents during this time period concerned one of three categories of crimes: incitement to ethnic or racial hatred; defamation of a nation, race, ethnic or other group; or violence against a group or individual.²⁸ According to the authorities, in about 50% of cases, the police investigations identified the alleged offenders. The most frequent victims of hate crimes during the period 2020-2024 were Roma, the largest ethnic minority in Czechia. They made up over half of the victims. However, this changed substantially during 2025 when, out of 87 hate crimes recorded during the first nine months of the year, 38 were of an anti-Ukrainian and 33 of an antisemitic nature, with a further five cases having targeted Roma and LGBTI persons each and one case with an anti-Muslim hate motivation.
13. The trend is also illustrated by some anti-Ukrainian hate crimes of a particularly public character. For instance, in January 2024, a person raising funds for Ukraine, as well as his children, received death threats on social media.²⁹ In the same month, a Ukrainian woman was assaulted by a bus driver who also used anti-Ukrainian insults³⁰ and a Metro station was vandalised with anti-Ukrainian graffiti.³¹ Earlier in January 2023, it was reported that a Ukrainian man was repeatedly punched in the head while being subjected to anti-Ukrainian insults by a male neighbour. The perpetrator was said to have already previously harassed the victim due to the latter's Ukrainian citizenship. The victim sustained injuries.³²
14. A particularly worrying trend regarding anti-Roma hate crimes in 2024 is that almost half of the anti-Roma incidents in Czechia registered by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) involved child victims, while a significant number of all anti-Roma incidents were perpetrated by the victims' neighbours.³³ This indicates not only a growing trivialisation of antigypsyism, but also a specific disregard for the most vulnerable members of this community, namely children.
15. By way of illustration, in an incident that reportedly took place in January 2024, a Roma family was threatened with death and an arson attack against their car was carried out.³⁴ In the same month, a Roma man living in a dormitory allegedly received a death threat from his neighbour and a non-governmental organisation supporting Roma had its premises vandalised with anti-Roma graffiti.³⁵ In February 2023, a Roma man had allegedly been dragged through a shop, punched and

²⁷ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

²⁸ The OSCE/ODIHR Hate Crime Report shows lower figures, which is due to the fact that cases pertaining to hate speech were excluded from the ODIHR figures (see: OSCE/ODIHR 2024).

²⁹ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

³⁰ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

³¹ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

³² OSCE/ODIHR 2023 Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2023.

³³ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

³⁴ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

³⁵ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

pushed to the ground by a security guard who had falsely accused the victim of stealing.³⁶ This incident illustrates the possible consequences of negative prejudices against Roma.

16. The situation of displaced Ukrainians seeking refuge in Czechia who are Roma was also brought to the attention of ECRI. At times, they are particularly vulnerable to intersectional hatred. For instance, in 2022, three displaced Roma women from Ukraine and their children were allegedly assaulted and threatened with violence while being subjected to xenophobic and anti-Roma insults by a man who was known for having already previously targeted Roma. Other reports referred to another victim threatened with being punched while holding a newborn baby. The incident was investigated as a possible hate crime.³⁷
17. In August 2023, an attack against both Roma and Ukrainians was reportedly carried out also targeting small children, with a four-year-old Roma boy having been pelted with two glass bottles containing alcohol from a fourth-floor window by a man. The boy's mother, two other children and a Ukrainian woman with a two-month-old baby were said to have been threatened with death while being subjected to anti-Roma, anti-Ukrainian and misogynist insults by the same perpetrator. The boy suffered an epileptic shock and required hospitalisation. The incident was investigated as a hate crime.³⁸
18. It also emerged from the delegation's findings during the visit to Czechia that there have been growing tensions between Ukrainians and Roma. Many interlocutors saw the origin in competition for low-paid jobs between members of both groups. As many employers have a more positive image of the work ethic of Ukrainian labourers, they apparently often prefer to select displaced Ukrainians for employment that previously would have been available to Roma. Similarly, competition for affordable housing or social services could also contribute – according to different interlocutors met during the visit – to existing tensions.
19. A particularly severe example of such tensions turning violent is the incident that occurred in Brno in June 2023 when a skirmish between three Roma men and a Ukrainian resulted in the latter using a knife against the three men, killing one and injuring the other two.³⁹ This incident led to a flare-up of anti-Ukrainian sentiment, which some groups exploited for political purposes,⁴⁰ inter alia by organising public protest gatherings against support for displaced Ukrainians in the country.⁴¹ Several protest marches were subsequently organised by local Roma groups, reportedly featuring anti-Ukrainian slogans in which protesters complained about housing and other assistance being given to Ukrainians instead of them, at times threatening Ukrainians or vandalising their property, such as cars.⁴² After a mourning march for the deceased Roma man in Brno, a group of six of the marchers allegedly assaulted two Ukrainians who were unknown to them.⁴³ A large group of Roma was also said to have attacked an apartment building in which Ukrainians were believed to be living with stones and bottles, shouting anti-Ukrainian threats and insults. Videos of the attack circulated widely on social

³⁶ OSCE/ODIHR 2023.

³⁷ OSCE/ODIHR 2022, Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2022.

³⁸ OSCE/ODIHR 2023.

³⁹ Brno Daily (25 October 2023), [37-Year Old Man Charged With Murder Over June Killing of Roma Man](#).

⁴⁰ EURACTIV.cz (14 June 2023), [Tensions rise between Czech nationals, Ukrainians following murder](#).

⁴¹ Romea.cz (24 June 2023), [Brno, Czech Republic: Anti-Ukrainian, xenophobic demonstration features controversial Romani community member](#).

⁴² Romea.cz (18 July 2023), [Krupka, Czech Republic: 500 Roma assemble, call for more security. Parents file a crime report over alleged sexual harassment of their children](#).

⁴³ Romea.cz (26 February 2025), [Czech court sentences one man who assaulted Ukrainians after a march mourning the death of a Romani man to 5.5 years, others get suspended sentences](#).

media.⁴⁴ Another video showed a smaller group of Roma marching through Brno at night allegedly “looking for Ukrainians”.⁴⁵ Then, in July 2023, a Roma man was reportedly attacked with a knife and cut on the face by three Ukrainian men. The victim, who sustained injuries, was said to have previously been subjected to death threats and anti-Roma insults by the same group.⁴⁶ As concerns the death of the Roma man in Brno that had initially sparked the tensions, a court later found that the Ukrainian man had acted in self-defence.⁴⁷ This verdict, however, led to controversy among local Roma.⁴⁸

20. It appeared during the 2025 visit that antisemitic violence occurs only rarely in Czechia. Between 2020 and 2023, two attacks were recorded (in 2020 and 2021). However, in 2024, four cases of assault against an individual (Jewish or perceived to be Jewish) were recorded, which all occurred in the context of the Middle East conflict. Similarly, in 2024, there were 12 recorded cases of attacks on and desecration of Jewish property. This is the highest number of such incidents in recent history and double the number compared to 2023, when the FJC recorded six such incidents.⁴⁹ Immediately after the Hamas terrorist attacks on 7 October 2023, there was a sharp increase in the occurrence of targeted antisemitic incidents against specific persons, properties or institutions.⁵⁰ While in 2022 a total of 24 targeted antisemitic incidents was recorded, 32 such incidents were registered in less than three months following the Hamas terrorist attacks until the end of 2023.⁵¹ This trend continued and, in 2024, a total of 118 targeted incidents was recorded.⁵²
21. An example of the above was an attempted arson attack on a synagogue in Brno in January 2024. The explosive device failed to detonate. Subsequently, an international investigation led to the arrest of five individuals aged 13 to 18, some of whom had acquired weapons and were also promoting jihadist terrorism in other European countries. Two of them were charged with inciting hatred and attempting to carry out a terrorist attack. They had reportedly been radicalised online and engaged in support for the so-called Islamic State, Islamist attacks and the spread of hatred against Jews, the LGBTI community and other groups of concern to ECRI. In the Czech context, this case can be considered as representing a new dimension of hate crime, where online antisemitism and radicalisation escalated into an attempted terrorist attack against Jewish people and property.⁵³
22. Interlocutors from the Muslim community met by ECRI’s delegation during the 2025 visit indicated that there had generally been little anti-Muslim hatred recently in Czechia. However, they also mentioned that hateful comments appear from time to time on social media as a follow-up to and support of anti-Muslim comments made by some politicians.⁵⁴ An isolated anti-Muslim hate crime case was registered in 2024 and concerned a Muslim woman who had her headscarf forcibly

⁴⁴ Romea.cz (19 July 2023), [Videos are spreading on Czech social media of Roma attacking residences believed to house Ukrainians in Krupka or Roma "hunting" Ukrainians in Brno. We asked Romani representatives what they think of these developments.](#)

⁴⁵ Romea.cz (19 July 2023).

⁴⁶ OSCE/ODIHR 2023.

⁴⁷ Radio Prague International (22 March 2024), [Ukrainian national acquitted in connection with death of Romany.](#)

⁴⁸ Romea.cz (24 March 2024), [Brno, Czech Republic: Romani protesters say the justice system uses a double standard.](#)

⁴⁹ FJC 2025: 27-28.

⁵⁰ In the statistics of the FJC, targeted incidents are those directed against a specific person, object or institution. This category also includes attacks on Jewish property or on property that is perceived to be connected to Jews, intending to deface the property in real or symbolic terms (see FJC 2025: 32).

⁵¹ FJC 2024: 8.

⁵² FJC 2025: 31-32.

⁵³ FJC 2025: 6-7.

⁵⁴ See also ECRI 2020: § 25.

removed.⁵⁵ For 2022, the OSCE/ODIHR recorded three hate crime cases with an anti-Muslim motivation, including when a Muslim woman – a convert to Islam – was threatened with death after she wrote about the types of attacks she had faced on social media.⁵⁶ In September of that year, a man with an Arab background was reportedly attacked with a broom and spat at while being subjected to xenophobic and anti-Muslim insults by his roommates in the hostel where he lived.⁵⁷

23. In March 2024, two Jehovah's Witnesses were allegedly threatened with violence by a man while engaging in religious activities. It has been reported to ECRI that, the following month, Jehovah's Witnesses were threatened by a man who repeatedly attempted to kick and hit them while they were engaging in religious activities. The man was also said to have threatened to set fire to a kingdom hall (Jehovah's Witnesses' place of worship).⁵⁸ According to information ECRI's delegation received from civil society interlocutors during the visit, increased hate speech, including online, coincided with media coverage of an inquiry by the Ministry of Culture, which is responsible for the state's relations with religious groups, into Jehovah's Witnesses and possibly revoking their status as a religious organisation. While administrative steps towards the dissolution of Jehovah's Witnesses as a religious organisation have not been initiated by the Ministry of Culture, the negative impact on the group's public perception seems to have remained.
24. The information at ECRI's disposal suggests that anti-LGBTI hate crimes still occur as well. According to FRA's LGBTIQ survey conducted in 2023, 27% of respondents in Czechia estimated that violence against LGBTI persons had increased. Furthermore, 12% of the respondents indicated that they themselves had been attacked in the five years prior to the survey, and 4% in the 12 months before the survey.⁵⁹
25. For 2024, several incidents were registered by the OSCE/ODIHR hate crime reporting site. Threats and violence were in particular related to public visibility of LGBTI equality issues and persons. For instance, in February of that year, it was reported that staff members of a centre supporting LGBTI people were targeted in a bomb threat in a comment on social media.⁶⁰ In two separate incidents in March 2024, women were reportedly attacked: in one case a woman holding a bag in support of LGBTI-rights was hit and knocked to the ground, requiring medical treatment, while in the other case a lesbian woman was beaten by her male ex-partner after he had seen her at an event for the lesbian community.⁶¹

Responses to hate speech and hate crimes

26. ECRI notes positively that several steps have been taken by the authorities to prevent and combat hate speech and hate crime. The national Strategy for Equality, Inclusion, and Participation of Roma People 2021-2030 contains a strategic objective on combating antigypsyism.⁶² Furthermore, on 21 December 2022, the government decided to create the Office of the Government Commissioner for Roma Minority Affairs, which inter alia deals with combating antigypsyism.

⁵⁵ Ministry of the Interior/Security Policy Department (2025), Report on Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred on the Territory of the Czech Republic in 2024: 14.

⁵⁶ OSCE/ODIHR 2022.

⁵⁷ OSCE/ODIHR 2022.

⁵⁸ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

⁵⁹ EU FRA 2024: 2.

⁶⁰ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

⁶¹ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

⁶² See also Ministry of the Interior 2025: 17.

27. The government also adopted, on 22 October 2025 by Resolution No. 808, its Strategy for combating Antisemitism 2025-2030, which was developed to meet the recommendations of the European Union (EU) Strategy on Combating Antisemitism and Fostering Jewish Life. It contains, inter alia, the strategic objectives of ensuring the safety of the Jewish community, for which the government has already provided support, combating antisemitic hatred, as well as education about and remembrance of the Holocaust.⁶³ It includes the non-legally binding working definition of Antisemitism (2016) of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), which had already been adopted by the Czech Parliament in January 2019.⁶⁴
28. The Government Committee for Sexual Minorities has developed a national strategy for LGBTI persons, together with relevant civil society groups. However, this strategy has not been adopted by the government. In this context, ECRI recalls the priority recommendation from its previous report on Czechia in which it specifically recommended that the authorities develop and adopt such a national strategy to identify and address areas of intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons.⁶⁵ In its interim follow-up conclusions, ECRI commended the development of the strategy but noted that it had not yet been adopted and encouraged the authorities to do so as soon as possible.⁶⁶ ECRI therefore regrets to note that this has still not happened. While the strategy needs to cover various fields of possible discrimination in public life, ECRI considers that it should also be a tool to tackle the problem of anti-LGBTI hate speech and hate crime.
29. ECRI recommends that the authorities take resolute action to adopt and implement the draft national LGBTI strategy without any further delay and make the best use of it to prevent and combat hate speech and hate crime against LGBTI persons effectively.
30. ECRI recommended in its previous report that the authorities support and cooperate with civil society organisations in order to counter hate speech and hate crime.⁶⁷ The authorities informed ECRI that they have been and are planning to continue cooperating with civil society organisations on research and training for law enforcement officials, including the well-established anti-hate crime organisation *In Iustitia* and organisations from different groups vulnerable to hate crimes.⁶⁸
31. Civil society interlocutors mentioned to ECRI's delegation during the 2025 visit that the country's President was frequently speaking out against hate speech and engages in counter-speech, also with the intention of upholding moral integrity within state institutions and the political discourse. ECRI commends these efforts.
32. In 2023, Czechia introduced Action Plans on Combating Extremism and Prejudicial Hatred, which were developed in close co-operation with civil society actors.⁶⁹ Already since 2018, the Czech authorities have compiled annual reports on "Extremism and Prejudicial Hatred", which in years prior to that had only covered extremism.⁷⁰ ECRI considers the addition of prejudicial hatred as a positive step towards addressing the problem of racist and anti-LGBTI hate crime. Nevertheless,

⁶³ Ministry of the Interior/Security Policy Department and Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, Interfaith Dialogue, and Freedom of Religion (2025), Strategy for combating antisemitism in the Czech Republic for 2025–2030: 18-23.

⁶⁴ Ibid.: 5. – In this context, see also ECRI's revised General Policy Recommendation No. 9 (2021) on preventing and combating Antisemitism and ECRI's Opinion on the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism (2020).

⁶⁵ ECRI 2020: § 18.

⁶⁶ ECRI 2023: 5.

⁶⁷ ECRI 2020: § 22.

⁶⁸ See also, for example, OSCE/ODIHR 2020.

⁶⁹ OSCE/ODIHR 2023.

⁷⁰ Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, [website on "Extremism" / Documents on the Fight against Extremism](#).

it is still noticeable that the authorities approach hate crime primarily from a perspective of state security. This policy approach for combating extremism is also clearly visible in the Ministry of Interior's own description: "*The ambition [...] is to provide guidelines which result in marginalising extremists to such an extent that they cease to represent a security risk.*"⁷¹ In ECRI's view, while fully recognising the importance of tackling security risks resulting from political extremism, the conceptual aims and priorities may need to be broadened to address racist and anti-LGBTI hate crime more effectively.

33. ECRI recommends that the authorities include action against racist and other specific forms of hate crime; particular groups targeted by hate crime; as well as victim support as strategic priorities in their conceptual approach on hate crime. In this context, they should take due account of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)4 of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers on combating hate crime and go beyond the existing state security perspective.
34. As concerns the authorities' response to LGBTI-phobia and racism in the school environment, ECRI's delegation was informed by the authorities that guidance on how to prevent and respond to bullying of and hate speech against LGBTI pupils in schools was developed at expert and administrative level by the Ministry of Education. However, it has not yet been finally adopted by the relevant political decision-makers and is therefore not currently authorised for use in schools. In the light of the above findings (paragraphs 10 and 11 of the present report), ECRI considers that the authorities should adopt this guidance without further delay and take more specific actions of this kind, in particular as regards Roma and Ukrainian pupils, to prevent and respond to the phenomena of anti-LGBTI and racist hate speech and bullying in the school environment.
35. ECRI recommends, as a matter of priority, that the authorities intensify their efforts to prevent and combat racist and anti-LGBTI hate speech and bullying in schools, including through the adoption and implementation of specific guidelines against bullying of LGBTI, Roma and Ukrainian pupils in schools.
36. Following the death of a Roma man in Brno in 2023 and the subsequent clashes between Roma and Ukrainians, the government, in January 2024, set up a working group to look into the problem of hate speech and hate crime. This working group submitted its recommendations to the government in June 2025. These recommendations included strengthening efforts in the areas of effective interdepartmental cooperation; education and prevention; communication and media; reporting, recording, and data collection; support for victims; and changes to the legislation.
37. During the visit in 2025, the authorities informed ECRI's delegation that they have taken various measures in the above-mentioned areas. In the immediate aftermath of the incident in Brno in 2023 and the rising Roma-Ukrainian tensions, the Strategic Communications Department of the Ministry of Interior developed the KRIT communication-as-prevention approach. This applies evidence-based and well-targeted communication interventions to prevent escalation of interethnic tensions and protect vulnerable communities from harm. It uses trusted networks, real-time data analysis and cross-sector coordination to identify emerging threats early and respond with communication strategies that foster trust within and between groups rather than division. ECRI considers this to be a **good practice**.
38. Several legislative changes have taken place since ECRI's previous report to deal with hate crimes more effectively. In 2022, Act No. 220/2021 introduced into the Criminal Code a new crime of dissemination of a work that depicts, captures or otherwise portrays symbols, slogans or representatives of a movement aimed at

⁷¹ Ministry of Interior, website on "Extremism".

the suppression of human rights and freedoms, or advocating, inter alia, ethnic, national or religious hatred (Section 403a).⁷²

39. In its previous report, ECRI pointed out that the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics were still not covered in the list of bias motivations in Sections 352 (violence against a group of persons or an individual), 355 (defamation) and 356 (incitement to hatred) of the Criminal Code.⁷³ Since then, amendments to the Criminal Code have been enacted to broaden hate crime provisions (Act No. 270/2025). Partially in line with ECRI's recommendation, sexual orientation was included in the list of bias motivations of the relevant Criminal Code sections. However, gender identity and sex characteristics are not explicitly included. While the authorities informed ECRI's delegation that these two grounds can be interpreted by the courts as being included in the open-ended list, ECRI considers that explicit mention of these grounds is preferable as it provides better protection for transgender and intersex persons, including legal certainty, as well as sending a clearer message to the general public.
40. The OSCE/ODIHR acknowledged the Czech authorities' efforts to strengthen the legal framework to effectively punish hate crimes. However, it observed that the country's mechanisms for recording hate crime data and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes.⁷⁴ ECRI is pleased to note that combating hatred is recognised by the authorities as vital and, in this context, it is noteworthy that the authorities placed particular emphasis on law enforcement training in preventing and combating hate crime. ECRI also notes with satisfaction that the national police introduced and expanded the number of minority liaison officers.⁷⁵ In 2023, 49 liaison officers completed the necessary training programme, which includes inter alia the topic of antigypsyism, and in 2024 a further 55 liaison officers were trained. At the time of the 2025 visit, there were approximately 300 of such liaison police officers across all 14 regional police branches of the country.
41. In addition, the police schools and the Police Academy increasingly include the topic of hate crime into their curriculum and also involve relevant civil society organisations. Furthermore, the national police offer training programmes on intercultural competencies for its officers. In the years ranging from 2023 to 2025, a total of 12 such four-day courses took place with a total of 159 officers trained. An OSCE/ODIHR training-of-trainers course for police officers on hate crime (*Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement - TAHCLE*) was also delivered in 2024.
42. The prosecution service also has specialised hate crime staff. According to the authorities, there are hate crime focal points in the about 80 prosecution offices. In 2023, prosecutors had the opportunity to participate in educational events on the topic of hate crime organised by the Academy of Justice.⁷⁶ In 2022, in co-operation with the Academy, three multi-day seminars on hate crime were held for specialists at the district and regional levels of the public prosecutor's office.⁷⁷
43. In the light of the above, ECRI commends the Czech authorities for the development of relevant training and awareness-raising activities for police officers and prosecutors to help them to deal with hate crimes, for the introduction of police minority liaison officers and specialised prosecutors acting as hate crime focal points. At the same time, it considers it essential that the implementation and

⁷² See also ACFC 2025: 20, § 94.

⁷³ ECRI 2020: §§ 31-32 and 49-50.

⁷⁴ OSCE/ODIHR 2024.

⁷⁵ See, in this connection, ECRI 2020: §§ 37-38.

⁷⁶ OSCE/ODIHR 2023.

⁷⁷ OSCE/ODIHR 2022.

impact of these measures be the subject of an independent evaluation in order to make any necessary improvements to hate crime training and guidance in future.

44. ECRI recommends that the authorities commission an independent evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the hate crime training and awareness-raising activities for police and prosecutors, the introduction of police minority liaison officers and specialised hate crime staff in the prosecution service with the aim of identifying any possible gaps and needs for further training, resources and upscaling, as well as for the development of appropriate guidelines and protocols on the handling of hate crimes.

II. ENSURING EQUAL TREATMENT AND INCLUSION IN EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE

A. Equal treatment and inclusion in the area of education

Roma

45. In its previous report, ECRI recommended, as a matter of priority, that the authorities ensure that all forms of de facto segregation affecting Roma children in schools are ended, in particular by drawing inspiration from the recommendation on inclusive education of Roma and non-Roma children published by the Public Defender of Rights and from ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 13 on combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma.⁷⁸ In its interim follow-up conclusions, ECRI found that in spite of some actions taken by the authorities, no tangible results of the planned activities had been reported by the authorities. Measures included a "National Recovery Plan", through which at least 400 of the most disadvantaged schools were to be selected for financial and methodological support during the period 2022-2025. In a first wave, 262 primary schools had been selected according to a set of criteria that include, inter alia, a high proportion of Roma pupils in schools, high drop-out rates, and the reported number of socially disadvantaged pupils. However, according to the government's own information at the time, tendencies towards segregation persisted and, in 2022, there were still at least 77 schools in which Roma children made up the majority of pupils, although only in a small number of these cases could such a concentration be explained by the percentage of Roma pupils living in the relevant catchment area. ECRI found that the steps taken had not resulted in any substantial changes on the ground and had been insufficient to adequately address the problem, the gravity of which had also already been underlined by the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in its judgment *D.H. and others v. the Czech Republic*. ECRI therefore considered that the recommendation had not been implemented.⁷⁹
46. The ECtHR judgment in the case of *D.H. and others v. the Czech Republic* concerned a specific type of de facto segregation, namely the long-standing practice of enrolling a disproportionately high number of Roma children in special needs education following psychological assessments in the context of school counselling and guidance. The methodology used is, however, frequently criticised. In the information provided by the authorities to the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers in the context of its enhanced supervision of the execution of this Court judgment, the authorities acknowledge that the assessments' methodology is still often inappropriate and that, as a result, too many Roma children are unnecessarily enrolled in special needs education. The authorities point to two problems concerning the functioning of the school counselling facilities: firstly, the difference in practices as regards diagnosing pupils, including using the diagnosis of mild learning disability for situations of social disadvantage, as well as

⁷⁸ ECRI 2020: § 83.

⁷⁹ ECRI 2023: 5.

the lack of central methodological support; and, secondly, the constant use of outdated diagnostic tools.⁸⁰

47. In its 2025 Opinion, the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC) also points to the fact that, according to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport's own research conducted in 2023,⁸¹ tendencies towards segregation appear already in the diagnostic practice of some school guidance centres, where the widespread belief that special education is beneficial for Roma children is not uncommon among staff.⁸² The proportion of Roma children among those educated under a reduced programme with individual plans (special education) remains disproportionately high, according to the authorities, with 26% in 2022, unchanged from 2021. While in 2021, 87.2% of all enrolled Roma pupils were educated in mainstream classes according to the general education programme (in other words, 12.8% were not), this number even decreased in 2022 to 85%, meaning that 15% of Roma pupils were not in mainstream education. In sharp contrast to this, the corresponding figure among the overall population stood at 97.5% of pupils in mainstream education and only 2.5% in special education.⁸³ The de facto segregation of Roma pupils educated under a reduced programme also becomes visible when considering that 71% of them were educated outside mainstream classes and schools in 2022.⁸⁴
48. In the light of the existing challenges, the authorities' research also confirmed the ongoing de facto segregation of Roma pupils and the fact that the measures taken to promote effective access of Roma children to inclusive quality education have so far been insufficient.⁸⁵ In October 2024, the EU Commission also urged the authorities to address the problem of de facto segregation of Roma children in schools and asked the authorities to address the shortcomings identified, including the fact that Roma children are still overrepresented in separate classes or schools for pupils with intellectual/physical impairments in particular.⁸⁶
49. ECRI recommends that the authorities take prompt, resolute and continued action to adjust, update and ensure the application of the methodology for school guidance and related assessments of pupils' mild intellectual disabilities in order to remedy the continuing problem of a disproportionately high number of Roma children being placed in special education. In this regard, the authorities should take into full consideration the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *D.H. and others v. the Czech Republic* and the relevant decisions of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers in its supervisory role in the execution of the Court's judgments.

⁸⁰ Council of Europe, Department for the Execution of ECtHR Judgments (2025), [D.H. and Others v. the Czech Republic - Status of Execution, Summary](#): 2.

⁸¹ See Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic: Výzkumná zpráva: Analýza příčin vyššího podílu romských žáků vzdělávajících se dle RVP ZV UV ve třídách zřízených podle § 16 odst. 9, školského zákona a návrh souboru opatření pro oblast vzdělávání a další relevantní oblasti (Research report: Analysis of the causes of the higher proportion of Romani pupils educated according to the RVP ZV UV in classes established under Section 16 (9) of the Education Act and proposal of a set of measures for education and other relevant areas).

⁸² ACFC 2025: 30, § 147.

⁸³ Council of Europe, Department for the Execution of ECtHR Judgments 2025: 2.

⁸⁴ Council of Europe, Department for the Execution of ECtHR Judgments 2025: 2.

⁸⁵ ACFC 2025: 5, § 17.

⁸⁶ EU Commission (3 October 2024), [Infringements decisions - October infringements package: key decisions](#): 7. On 3 October 2024, the EU Commission sent an additional letter of formal notice to Czechia (INFR(2014)2174) for failing to comply with the EU Racial Equality Directive (Council Directive 2000/43/EC). This follows the letter of formal notice sent by the Commission to Czechia in September 2014 calling to address the disproportionate and systemic placement of Roma pupils in separate schools for children with disabilities. See also: ACFC 2025: 30, § 147; and Romea.cz (3 October 2024), [European Commission warns Czechia: End the discrimination of Romani children in the schools](#).

50. In line with ECRI's findings in its previous report on Czechia,⁸⁷ the EU Commission, in its 2024 decision, also points to the fact that many Roma children who attend mainstream education are also segregated in separate classes or a separate school.⁸⁸ This type of de facto segregation is partially a result of de facto housing segregation and/or a higher concentration of Roma in so-called *socially excluded locations (SELs)*.⁸⁹ Against this background, ECRI is aware that such a high concentration of Roma pupils who attend mainstream education in separate classes and schools is partly the result of choices made of some Roma families to enrol their children in schools that already have a high percentage of Roma pupils due to fears of their children being confronted with antigypsyism in other schools. In ECRI's view, such situations cannot be considered as purely voluntary act of separating their children from other children. Reference is made in this regard to paragraph 10 above on anti-Roma bullying in schools and the recommendation in paragraph 35.
51. During its 2025 visit to Czechia, ECRI's delegation was informed by the authorities that out of 4 300 Czech primary schools, around 20 schools are de facto segregated to the extent that 75% or more of the enrolled pupils are Roma children. In addition, a number of schools have a lower level of between 50-75% of Roma pupils. According to the authorities, there are some 130 schools where at least 30% of the pupils are Roma – more than 10 times the estimated proportion of Roma in the Czech general population.
52. In this context, ECRI's delegation also received information from a number of interlocutors pointing to the frequent problem of non-Roma parents exerting pressure on school principals not to enrol Roma children. Furthermore, anti-Roma sentiment and prejudice have also been reported coming from teachers in some cases. On a positive note, it was observed that when Roma teaching assistants are employed to work in classroom settings, such antigypsyist behaviours and attitudes tend to subside, promoting a better inclusion of Roma children as well as increased educational outcomes for them. The ECRI delegation visited, inter alia, the J. A. Komenský primary school in Brno, which applies such measures that could be considered as a **promising practice**.
53. In this connection, it clearly emerged from the delegation's findings during the 2025 visit that there was a need for hiring more Roma teaching assistants working in schools across the country. In ECRI's opinion, such steps are of particular importance also given that the continuation of Roma pupils into secondary education is still below national average and faces a number of socio-economic obstacles: in 2022, Roma pupils accounted for 3.5% of all primary school pupils in the country and only made up 1.2% of pupils in secondary schools.⁹⁰
54. ECRI recommends, as a matter of priority, that the authorities take steps to ensure an adequate number of Roma teaching assistants in schools.
55. The national authorities often lack the legal competence to ensure effective application of non-discrimination standards in education due to decentralised decision-making on schools, since schools are usually within the remit of the local authorities. Nevertheless, in ECRI's view, the national government may allocate additional funding to schools to enable them to provide incentives for school attendance for pupils that are at a higher risk of drop-out and/or de facto segregation, such as Roma children. Such incentives can consist, for example, of free meals in schools. It has been shown that such a measure could have a positive

⁸⁷ ECRI 2020: §§ 81-82.

⁸⁸ EU Commission (3 October 2024), [Infringements decisions - October infringements package: key decisions](#): 7.

⁸⁹ This is the term used by the government. In this regard, see also the decision of the Czech Constitutional Court Pl. ÚS 40/17 of 24 August 2021.

⁹⁰ Council of Europe, Department for the Execution of ECtHR Judgments 2025: 2.

impact and complement other initiatives taken by local authorities and specific schools that are tackling drop-out and de facto segregation of Roma children (such as the Brno district in which the J. A. Komensky primary school is located, which has drawn up a local desegregation plan). While local educators met by ECRI's delegation during the visit pointed out that diversity in classes was a good sign of progress, they also highlighted that managing such diversity constructively and in the interest of every child's educational achievement requires additional financial and staff support, as well as expert advice. In this context, ECRI takes positive note of the Indexation Law (2025) that foresees additional funds from the national government for schools with a higher proportion of socially disadvantaged children. At the same time, various interlocutors met by ECRI's delegation indicated that so far, no such funds had been forthcoming and that there were also concerns about overly cumbersome bureaucratic procedures in this regard.

56. Against this background, ECRI also considers that particular attention needs to be paid to the role of Roma education mediators. While there have been some positive experiences in this respect, such mediator positions have so far only existed in limited numbers as part of pilot projects supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. In order to utilise the full potential of Roma education mediators' work, they need to be not only well trained but also employed on a sustainable and predictable basis. By doing so, they can complement the above-described measures by local authorities and relevant schools more effectively.
57. ECRI recommends that the authorities provide sufficient additional funding for schools that are taking initiatives to tackle the phenomenon of de facto segregation of Roma pupils and/or are providing support to Roma pupils at risk of drop out. In this connection, the authorities should also consolidate and extend the Roma education mediators programme.

Refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary or temporary protection

58. Refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary or temporary protection have full access to education. According to the authorities, the number of foreign pupils in Czech schools more than doubled from around 54 000 in 2021 to about 120 000 in 2025 as a result of the high influx of Ukrainians. During the 2025 visit, ECRI's delegation learnt that the large number of Ukrainian children have, on the whole, been well integrated into schools, including with the help of Czech language teaching up to a total of 400 hours. Overall, this can be considered as a **positive practice**, especially given the high number of Ukrainian children enrolled in a relatively short time.
59. However, at the beginning of the 2025 school year, some municipalities in which a high number of Ukrainian temporary protection beneficiaries are concentrated considered it necessary to apply a double school registration scheme with a first deadline for registering Czech children only, before a subsequent second deadline for the registration of Ukrainian children, if places were still available at the nearest school. This scheme was considered a temporary emergency measure to avoid a situation in which Czech children could have been unable to enrol in their nearest school due to a high number of requests for Ukrainian children (in cases of more applications than places, lots are being drawn). Some local authorities apparently also considered this step necessary to prevent possible anti-Ukrainian protests. Representatives of the Ministry of Education informed ECRI's delegation that the Ministry did not approve of this measure but had no means of preventing or stopping it due to local authorities' competence for schooling and enrolment. Since then, a case was brought to the Constitutional Court and was still pending at the time of the visit in November 2025. The authorities informed ECRI's delegation that, in any event, this measure was only applied to some 15 of the 4 300 primary schools in the country. Nevertheless, even though it only affected a small percentage of schools, such an approach, in ECRI's view, could be considered as

amounting to discrimination and alternative measures can and should be sought, for example providing additional teaching capacity to the schools in question.

60. ECRI recommends that the authorities, at all administrative levels, find ways to ensure that school enrolment does not involve any discrimination based on citizenship.

LGBTI persons

61. During the 2025 visit, representatives of civil society organisations indicated that LGBTI pupils were often afraid of disclosing their sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics. This is also suggested by an EU FRA LGBTIQ survey conducted in 2023, which revealed that 45% of LGBTI pupils in Czechia responded that they were hiding being LGBTI at school. Furthermore, 66% of respondents indicated that their school education never addressed LGBTI equality issues.⁹¹ ECRI encourages the authorities to take action with a view to providing LGBTI pupils with appropriate information, protection, and support necessary to enable them to live in accordance with their sexual orientation, gender identity or sex characteristics in schools. In this context, ECRI also refers to paragraph 10 above on anti-LGBTI bullying in schools and the recommendation made in paragraph 35.

B. Equal treatment and inclusion in the area of healthcare

Roma

62. It emerged from the ECRI delegation's findings during the visit that health situation for many persons belonging to the Roma community in Czechia was often still difficult and that health outcomes in this group were considerably worse compared to the overall national indicators. In this connection, the authorities informed ECRI that, for example, the average life expectancy among Roma was 10-15 years lower than among the general population. A survey conducted by the Research Institute on Labour and Social Affairs (RILSA) in 2024 showed that around 10% of Roma reported being unable to get their healthcare needs met by general practitioners and specialists – for dental care this figure went up to 23% (while among the general population the figure in both categories is around 2%).⁹² Furthermore, many Roma reside in so-called *socially excluded locations* (SELs), where healthcare facilities are often less well-staffed or -equipped or are at a greater distance from residential areas, both of which create obstacles to accessing good quality healthcare.
63. According to the EU FRA 2024 Roma survey, nearly a quarter (22%) of Roma respondents in Czechia felt that they had been discriminated against in the preceding year when accessing healthcare services.⁹³ During the visit, ECRI's delegation also received reports from interlocutors that such incidents still occurred, including when Roma tried to register with a general practitioner and were refused, allegedly due to full lists of registered patients which, however, seemed to open up very shortly after when non-Roma apply. In its previous report, ECRI strongly encouraged the authorities to remind all medical practitioners that racial discrimination is a violation of medical ethics and unlawful, and to enforce the relevant rules accordingly.⁹⁴ In the light of its recent findings, ECRI is of the view that medical professionals could be usefully reminded on their legal and ethical duties in this regard, benefit from human rights education in medical schools

⁹¹ European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (2024), EU-FRA LGBTIQ survey III – Country data Czechia, 2024: 3.

⁹² Romea.cz (23 June 2024), [Extensive survey shows shocking differences between non-Roma and Roma in the Czech Republic when it comes to precarity](#).

⁹³ European Union Fundamental Rights Agency (EU FRA), [Roma Survey 2024](#).

⁹⁴ ECRI 2020: § 92.

and be provided with better opportunities to develop their intercultural communication skills.

64. ECRI recommends that the authorities take preventive action, through appropriate channels, so that a clear message of zero tolerance of anti-Roma discrimination and any other form of racial discrimination is sent, at regular intervals, to general practitioners and other healthcare professionals, human rights education is included as a mandatory course in the curricula of medical schools, and in-service training is provided to healthcare staff on intercultural communication and discrimination-related health issues, taking due account of General Recommendation No. 37 (2024) of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on equality and freedom from racial discrimination in the enjoyment of the right to health.
65. In addition, the problem is further complicated by the traumatic experiences Roma women had regarding gynaecological care in the context of forced sterilisations in the past. Several Roma interlocutors mentioned to ECRI's delegation during the visit that this experience was passed on through the generations and was therefore still negatively impacting on Roma women and girls, who today tend to shy away from seeking gynaecological care as a result. Awareness-raising and outreach activities are urgently needed in this regard, in particular through Roma healthcare mediators.
66. In this connection, representatives of the health authorities informed ECRI's delegation during the visit that, in 2024, there were around 100 Roma healthcare mediators. However, the authorities acknowledged that in spite of very positive experiences, the institutional conditions for the sustainable work of Roma healthcare mediators were not yet in place: defining and establishing these positions as permanent ones in the public employment sector, including their assured long-term financing, was still ongoing. ECRI commends the efforts made in this respect but also notes that the authorities could not provide a specific target for the number of such posts over the coming years. Clearly, an appropriate target in this regard is absolutely necessary as a foundation for improving the health outcomes of Czech Roma.
67. ECRI recommends that the authorities take steps to address the problems for Roma in accessing healthcare and better health outcomes. They should in particular: (i) take urgent measures to close the life-expectancy gap between Roma and the general population; (ii) increase accessibility for Roma to good quality healthcare by investing in relevant facilities in and near so-called socially excluded locations; and (iii) set an appropriate target number for the posts of Roma healthcare mediators and fill them with adequately trained staff on a long-term basis with sustainable funding.
68. In its previous report, ECRI criticised the fact that there had still been no effective mechanism established for Roma women who were victims of forced sterilisations in the past to seek redress. At the time, ECRI strongly encouraged the authorities to ensure that compensation was made available to all victims of forced sterilisation.⁹⁵ Since then, the Czech Parliament adopted relevant legislation to address the matter. Act No. 297/2021 allows for the compensation of Roma women sterilised in violation of the law and the payment of lump sums (i.e. CZK 300 000, amounting to € 12 000, per person). ECRI welcomes this. However, it appeared during the ECRI 2025 visit that the Ministry of Health processed applications for the compensation of Roma women very slowly and rejected many applications on grounds of insufficient evidence.⁹⁶ By the end of the deadline for applications, the Ministry had received more than 2 300 applications. As of April 2025, 889 persons

⁹⁵ ECRI 2020: § 93.

⁹⁶ ACFC 2025: 5, § 8.

had been compensated, 574 applications had been rejected, 283 proceedings had been suspended and 591 proceedings awaited decision.⁹⁷

69. The reason for rejection was usually the applicants' inability to provide evidence that the sterilisation had been carried out against the law, for example because hospitals had destroyed the medical reports drawn up at the time. An appeal can be lodged against the decision of the Ministry, and a legal action may be initiated before an administrative court against the decision of the Ministry of Health on the appeal.⁹⁸ During the visit, ECRI's delegation was informed by Roma interlocutors that the difficulties to produce the necessary evidence also led many Roma women not to submit applications. In 2024, the Supreme Administrative Court found that the approach by the Ministry of Health disregarded the meaning and purpose of the legislation.⁹⁹ The Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights also called, in December 2024, for an extension of the deadline for submitting applications.¹⁰⁰ Subsequently, in 2025, the deadline for applications was extended until 2 January 2027.¹⁰¹
70. ECRI recommends that the authorities ensure that applications from Roma women for compensation for unlawful sterilisation are reviewed and processed in a way that ensures effective redress for all victims.

LGBTI persons

71. In its previous report, ECRI criticised that in order for transgender persons to officially change their names and gender, they had to undergo sterilisation, in line with the Civil Code (2014, § 29) and the Act on Specific Health Services (373/2011, § 21.1).¹⁰² The Constitutional Court abolished with its decision of 24 April 2024 the condition of sterilisation, or surgical intervention including sterilisation, as a condition for official gender reassignment.¹⁰³ The ruling became enforceable from 30 June 2025. Although the legislation has not been changed, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Interior have subsequently issued relevant instructions and guidance to apply the Constitutional Court decisions. ECRI welcomes these developments, although it would consider a change of legislation to be desirable.
72. During the 2025 visit, LGBTI civil society actors mentioned to ECRI's delegation that as a positive secondary effect of the abolition of the sterilisation requirement for legal gender recognition, a certain de-pathologising effect could be observed in the medical field, albeit still incomplete. However, the same interlocutors also pointed out that transgender persons were still too often reluctant to access healthcare for fear of discrimination. While transgender persons seem to be particularly affected by such problems, other LGBTI persons are also affected: 16% of LGBTI respondents in Czechia felt discriminated against in healthcare in

⁹⁷ Romea.cz (27 June 2025), [Czech President signs law extending opportunity to apply for compensation for forced sterilizations until 2 January 2027](#); see also ACFC 2025: 14-15, § 59.

⁹⁸ ACFC 2025: 14-15, § 59.

⁹⁹ ACFC 2025: 5, § 8.

¹⁰⁰ Council of Europe's Commissioner of Human Rights, Letters addressed to the presidents of both chambers of parliament and the Prime Minister (3 December 2024); available at:

[Czech Republic: the authorities should extend the law on compensation for victims of forced sterilisations](#)

¹⁰¹ See also Romea.cz (27 June 2025), [Czech President signs law extending opportunity to apply for compensation for forced sterilizations until 2 January 2027](#).

¹⁰² ECRI 2020: §§ 14-15.

¹⁰³ The Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic, ref. no. Pl. ÚS 52/23.

the year before the 2023 EU FRA survey.¹⁰⁴ Reference is made in this regard to § 29 of the present report as regards the adoption of an LGBTI national strategy.¹⁰⁵

73. ECRI recommends that the authorities provide suitable and regular awareness-raising and training on LGBTI equality, including the development of specific competencies on LGBTI-related health issues, for healthcare professionals.
74. ECRI notes positively that the new legislation adopted on same-sex partnerships, effective as of 1 January 2025, clarifies and consolidates the rights of same-sex partners to healthcare-related information and to make decisions for their partners. This ends the previously existing ambiguity in these areas.
75. Regarding intersex children, ECRI's delegation was informed by a number of interlocutors during the 2025 visit that there was very little information for intersex children and their parents, or about intersex-related issues in general. As a positive example, it is noted that, in 2019, the Ombudsman organised a roundtable conference on this topic. According to the authorities, there might be a small single-digit number of surgical interventions carried out on intersex children per year in the country, but no statistics are available. However, they also point out that any such interventions are only permissible under the law if they are medically necessary, in addition to being in the best interest of the child and having the free and informed consent of the parents. Nevertheless, interlocutors highlighted to ECRI's delegation the ongoing uncertainty about what constitutes a medical necessity in such situations.
76. ECRI recommends that the authorities take legislative and other steps to ensure that medical professionals are provided with a clear legal and ethical framework as regards intersex children, in particular by: i) preparing and bringing to parliament a bill that expressly acknowledges the right of intersex persons to bodily integrity and prohibits the performance of medically unnecessary surgeries and other non-therapeutic treatments until such time as the intersex child is able to participate in decisions, based on the principle of free and informed consent; ii) developing guidance for medical professionals on surgery on intersex children and medically necessary interventions. The preparation of these texts should include consultations with relevant experts and healthcare professionals, intersex children and their parents or guardians, and take due account of ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons and Recommendation CM/Rec(2025)7 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on equal rights for intersex persons.

Applicants for temporary protection or statelessness status

77. ECRI notes that, while asylum-seekers are already covered by the public health insurance during their application process, persons applying for statelessness status or for temporary protection are not. For the latter two groups, insurance cover will be granted retroactively if the applicant receives a positive decision. In the meantime, only emergency medical care can be accessed. While temporary protection applications are generally processed relatively quickly, usually within a couple of months, the timeline for statelessness status applications can be considerably longer.
78. ECRI recommends that the authorities grant public health insurance cover to any applicant for temporary protection or statelessness status from the moment the application is officially registered.

¹⁰⁴ EU FRA LGBTIQ survey III - Country data Czechia: 3.

¹⁰⁵ See, for example, Committee for Sexual Minorities of the Government Council for Human Rights, Draft Government strategy for equality and removing barriers to a dignified life for LGBTI+ people in the Czech Republic 2021-26: 45.

III. TOPICS SPECIFIC TO CZECHIA

Preventing and combating discrimination against Roma in the housing market

79. During the 2025 visit, ECRI's delegation heard repeatedly from a range of different civil society interlocutors, inter alia Roma organisations, that advertisements for privately-owned apartments that are available for rent frequently include wording like "Roma, do not call" or similar. This appears to concern apartments outside so-called socially excluded locations (SELs), which are often – although not always – neighbourhoods with a disproportionately high proportion of Roma residents. In ECRI's view, this could be considered as a manifest discriminatory treatment.
80. According to the same interlocutors, a direct result of such treatment is the perpetuation of a widespread de facto housing segregation, in which many persons belonging to Roma communities are facing insurmountable obstacles to moving anywhere outside the SELs. As described earlier in the present report, this in turn has negative implications for equality and inclusion of Roma in the areas of education and healthcare.
81. On a broader level, this type of advertisement reinforces negative stereotypes and prejudices in the Czech society against Roma. At the time of the visit, ECRI's delegation did not receive information about any specific steps taken by the authorities to tackle this problem and to prevent any such incidents from occurring. Although its delegation did not hear about public institutions, such as social housing agencies, engaging in such practices, but solely private owners, ECRI nevertheless considers it to be a positive obligation of the authorities to prevent any such occurrences when they are in violation of the principle of non-discrimination and the relevant legislation.
82. ECRI recommends that the authorities take appropriate measures to prevent any form of discrimination against Roma persons, and members of any other group of concern to ECRI, in the private housing market.

INTERIM FOLLOW-UP RECOMMENDATIONS

The two specific recommendations for which ECRI requests priority implementation from the authorities of Czechia are the following:

- (§ 35) ECRI recommends that the authorities intensify their efforts to prevent and combat racist and anti-LGBTI bullying in schools, including through the adoption and implementation of specific strategies against bullying of LGBTI, Roma and Ukrainian pupils in schools.
- (§ 54) ECRI recommends that the authorities take steps to ensure an adequate number of Roma teaching assistants in schools.

These recommendations should be implemented within 18 months after the publication of the report. A process of interim follow-up will subsequently be conducted by ECRI to review action taken to implement them.

LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The position of the recommendations in the text of the report is shown in parentheses.

1. (§ 29) ECRI recommends that the authorities take resolute action to adopt and implement the draft national LGBTI strategy without any further delay and make the best use of it to prevent and combat hate speech and hate crime against LGBTI persons effectively.
2. (§ 33) ECRI recommends that the authorities include action against racist and other specific forms of hate crime; particular groups targeted by hate crime; as well as victim support as strategic priorities in their conceptual approach on hate crime. In this context, they should take due account of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)4 of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers on combating hate crime and go beyond the existing state security perspective.
3. (§ 35) ECRI recommends, as a matter of priority, that the authorities intensify their efforts to prevent and combat racist and anti-LGBTI hate speech and bullying in schools, including through the adoption and implementation of specific guidelines against bullying of LGBTI, Roma and Ukrainian pupils in schools.
4. (§ 44) ECRI recommends that the authorities commission an independent evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the hate crime training and awareness-raising activities for police officers and prosecutors, the introduction of police minority liaison officers and specialised hate crime staff in the prosecution service with the aim of identifying any possible gaps and needs for further training, resources and upscaling, as well as for the development of appropriate guidelines and protocols on the handling of hate crimes.
5. (§ 49) ECRI recommends that the authorities take prompt, resolute and continued action to adjust, update and ensure the application of the methodology for school guidance and related assessments of pupils' mild intellectual disabilities in order to remedy the continuing problem of a disproportionately high number of Roma children being placed in special education. In this regard, the authorities should take into full consideration the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *D.H. and others v. the Czech Republic* and the relevant decisions of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers in its supervisory role in the execution of the Court's judgments.
6. (§ 54) ECRI recommends, as a matter of priority, that the authorities take steps to ensure an adequate number of Roma teaching assistants in schools.
7. (§ 57) ECRI recommends that the authorities provide sufficient additional funding for schools that are taking initiatives to tackle the phenomenon of de facto segregation of Roma pupils and/or are providing support to Roma pupils at risk of drop out. In this connection, the authorities should also consolidate and extend the Roma education mediators programme.
8. (§ 60) ECRI recommends that the authorities, at all administrative levels, find ways to ensure that school enrolment does not involve any discrimination based on citizenship.
9. (§ 64) ECRI recommends that the authorities take preventive action, through appropriate channels, so that a clear message of zero tolerance of anti-Roma discrimination and any other form of racial discrimination is sent, at regular intervals, to general practitioners and other healthcare professionals, human rights education is included as a mandatory course in the curricula of medical schools, and in-service training is provided to healthcare staff on intercultural communication and discrimination-related health issues, taking due account of General Recommendation No. 37 (2024) of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on equality and freedom from racial discrimination in the enjoyment of the right to health.

10. (§ 67) ECRI recommends that the authorities take steps to address the problems for Roma in accessing healthcare and better health outcomes. They should in particular: (i) take urgent measures to close the life-expectancy gap between Roma and the general population; (ii) increase accessibility for Roma to good quality healthcare by investing in relevant facilities in and near so-called socially excluded locations; and (iii) set an appropriate target number for the posts of Roma healthcare mediators and fill them with adequately trained staff on a long-term basis with sustainable funding.
11. (§ 70) ECRI recommends that the authorities ensure that applications from Roma women for compensation for unlawful sterilisation are reviewed and processed in a way that ensures effective redress for all victims.
12. (§ 73) ECRI recommends that the authorities provide suitable and regular awareness-raising and training on LGBTI equality, including the development of specific competencies on LGBTI-related health issues, for healthcare professionals.
13. (§ 76) ECRI recommends that the authorities take legislative and other steps to ensure that medical professionals are provided with a clear legal and ethical framework as regards intersex children, in particular by: i) preparing and bringing to parliament a bill that expressly acknowledges the right of intersex persons to bodily integrity and prohibits the performance of medically unnecessary surgeries and other non-therapeutic treatments until such time as the intersex child is able to participate in decisions, based on the principle of free and informed consent; ii) developing guidance for medical professionals on surgery on intersex children and medically necessary interventions. The preparation of these texts should include consultations with relevant experts and healthcare professionals, intersex children and their parents or guardians, and take due account of ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No. 17 on preventing and combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons and Recommendation CM/Rec(2025)7 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on equal rights for intersex persons.
14. (§ 78) ECRI recommends that the authorities grant public health insurance cover to any applicant for temporary protection or statelessness status from the moment the application is officially registered.
15. (§ 82) ECRI recommends that the authorities take appropriate measures to prevent any form of discrimination against Roma persons, and members of any other group of concern to ECRI, in the private housing market.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

This bibliography lists the main published sources used during the examination of the situation in Czechia. It should not be considered as an exhaustive list of all sources of information available to ECRI during the preparation of the report.

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

1. ECRI (2023a), Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the Czech Republic subject to interim follow-up, CRI(2023)03.
2. ECRI (2020a), Sixth report on the Czech Republic, CRI(2020)43.
3. ECRI (2018a), Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the Czech Republic subject to interim follow-up, CRI(2018)22.
4. ECRI (2014), Fifth report on the Czech Republic, CRI(2015)35.
5. ECRI (2012a), Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the Czech Republic subject to interim follow-up, CRI(2012)27.
6. ECRI (2009a), Fourth report on the Czech Republic, CRI(2009)30.
7. ECRI (2004a), Third report on the Czech Republic, CRI(2004)22.
8. ECRI (2000), Second report on the Czech Republic, CRI(2000)4.
9. ECRI (1997), Report on the Czech Republic, CRI(97)50.
10. ECRI (1996), [General Policy Recommendation No. 1: Combating racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance](#), CRI(96)43.
11. ECRI (2018b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 2 \(revised\): Equality bodies to combat racism and intolerance at national level](#), CRI(2018)06.
12. ECRI (1998a), [General Policy Recommendation No. 3: Combating racism and intolerance against Roma/Gypsies](#), CRI(98)29.
13. ECRI (1998b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 4: National surveys on the experience and perception of discrimination and racism from the point of view of potential victims](#), CRI(98)30.
14. ECRI (2022), [General Policy Recommendation No. 5 \(revised\): Preventing and combating anti-Muslim racism and discrimination](#), CRI(2022)6.
15. ECRI (2001), [General Policy Recommendation No. 6: Combating the dissemination of racist, xenophobic and antisemitic material via the Internet](#), CRI(2001)1.
16. ECRI (2003), [General Policy Recommendation No. 7 \(revised\): National legislation to combat racism and racial discrimination](#), CRI(2003)8rev.
17. ECRI (2004b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 8: Combating racism while fighting terrorism](#), CRI(2004)26.
18. ECRI (2021), [General Policy Recommendation No. 9 \(revised\): Preventing and combating antisemitism](#), CRI(2021)28.
19. ECRI (2007a), [General Policy Recommendation No. 10: Combating racism and racial discrimination in and through school education](#), CRI(2007)6.
20. ECRI (2007b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 11: Combating racism and racial discrimination in policing](#), CRI(2007)39.
21. ECRI (2009b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 12: Combating racism and racial discrimination in the field of sport](#), CRI(2009)5.
22. ECRI (2011), [General Policy Recommendation No. 13: Combating anti-Gypsyism and discrimination against Roma](#), CRI(2011)37.
23. ECRI (2012b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 14: Combating racism and racial discrimination in employment](#), 2012, CRI(2012)48.
24. ECRI (2016a), [General Policy Recommendation No. 15: Combating Hate Speech](#), CRI(2016)15.
25. ECRI (2016b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 16: Safeguarding irregularly present migrants from discrimination](#), CRI(2016)16.
26. ECRI (2023b), [General Policy Recommendation No. 17: Combating intolerance and discrimination against LGBTI persons](#), CRI(2023)30.
27. ECRI (2020b), [ECRI's Opinion on the Working Definition of Antisemitism of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance \(IHRA\)](#) (adopted at ECRI's 84th plenary meeting on 2 December 2020).
28. ECRI (2025), [ECRI Glossary](#).

Other sources (listed in alphabetical order)

29. Albert, G. (2025), Research Brief - Antigypsyism in the Czech Republic: From Recognition to Transitional Justice, Centre for European Policy Studies & SLOVO 21.
30. Brno Daily (2023, October 25), [37-Year Old Man Charged With Murder Over June Killing of Roma Man](#).
31. CNN (2021, June 28)), [Czech President Milos Zeman says transgender people 'disgust' him in interview](#).
32. Council of Europe, Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (AC-FCNM) (2025), 6th Opinion on Czechia.
33. Council of Europe, Commissioner for Human Rights, (2024, December 3); [Czech Republic: the authorities should extend the law on compensation for victims of forced sterilisations - Commissioner for Human Rights](#), Letters addressed to the presidents of both chambers of parliament and the Prime Minister.
34. Council of Europe, Department for the Execution of Judgments (2025), [D.H. and Others v. the Czech Republic - Status of Execution, Summary](#).
35. Euractiv (2025, August 1), [Czech fatigue with Ukrainian refugees grows amid economic concerns - Euractiv](#)
36. Euractiv (2025, July 25), [Czech police target Tokyo-born far-right leader over hate posters](#).
37. Euractiv.cz (2023, June 14), [Tensions rise between Czech nationals, Ukrainians following murder](#).
38. European Union (EU), European Commission (2024, October 3), [Infringements decisions - October infringements package: key decisions](#).
39. EU, Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) (2024), EU LGBTIQ survey III - Country data Czechia.
40. EU, FRA (2024), [Roma Survey 2024](#).
41. Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic (FJC) (2024), Annual Report on Antisemitism in the Czech Republic 2023.
42. FJC (2025), Annual Report on Antisemitism in the Czech Republic 2024.
43. Government Council for Human Rights, Committee for Sexual Minorities (2021), Draft Government strategy for equality and removing barriers to a dignified life for LGBTI+ people in the Czech Republic 2021-26.
44. Jelínková, M. and others (ed.) (2024), Inspirational practices in the field of migrant integration - examples of good practice from the Czech Republic, Poland, Israel and Europe, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University.
45. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic (2023), Výzkumná zpráva: Analýza příčin vyššího podílu romských žáků vzdělávajících se dle RVP ZV UV ve třídách zřízených podle § 16 odst. 9, školského zákona a návrh souboru opatření pro oblast vzdělávání a další relevantní oblasti/*Research report: Analysis of the causes of the higher proportion of Romani pupils educated according to the RVP ZV UV in classes established under Section 16 (9) of the Education Act and proposal of a set of measures for education and other relevant areas*.
46. Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, website on "Extremism"/ Documents on the Fight against Extremism, <https://mv.gov.cz/mvcren/article/documents-on-the-fight-against-extremism.aspx>.
47. Ministry of the Interior/Security Policy Department (2025), Report on Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred on the Territory of the Czech Republic in 2024.
48. Ministry of the Interior/Security Policy Department and Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues, Interfaith Dialogue, and Freedom of Religion (2025), Strategy for combating antisemitism in the Czech Republic for 2025–2030:
49. Ombudsman/Public Defender of Rights (2019), Being LGBT+ in the Czech Republic - Experiences of LGBT+ people with prejudices, discrimination, harassment and hate violence.
50. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2024, available at: <https://hatecrime.osce.org/czech-republic?year=2024>.
51. OSCE-ODIHR Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2023, available at: <https://hatecrime.osce.org/czech-republic?year=2023>.
52. OSCE-ODIHR Hate Crime Report Czech Republic, 2022, available at: <https://hatecrime.osce.org/czech-republic?year=2022>.
53. OSCE-ODIHR Hate Crime Report Czech Republic 2020, available at: <https://hatecrime.osce.org/czech-republic?year=2020>.
54. Radio Prague International (2024, March 22), [Ukrainian national acquitted in connection with death of Romany](#).

55. Radio Prague International (2020, January 24), [Support for same-sex marriage at two thirds in January 2020 opinion poll at 67%.](#)
56. Romea.cz (2025, June 27), [Czech President signs law extending opportunity to apply for compensation for forced sterilizations until 2 January 2027.](#)
57. Romea.cz (2024, October 3), [European Commission warns Czechia: End the discrimination of Romani children in the schools.](#)
58. Romea.cz (2024, June 23), [Extensive survey shows shocking differences between non-Roma and Roma in the Czech Republic when it comes to precarity.](#)
59. Romea.cz (2025, February 26), [Czech court sentences one man who assaulted Ukrainians after a march mourning the death of a Romani man to 5.5 years, others get suspended sentences.](#)
60. Romea.cz (2024, March 24), [Brno, Czech Republic: Romani protesters say the justice system uses a double standard.](#)
61. Romea.cz (2023, July 19), [Videos are spreading on Czech social media of Roma attacking residences believed to house Ukrainians in Krupka or Roma "hunting" Ukrainians in Brno. We asked Romani representatives what they think of these developments.](#)
62. Romea.cz (2023, July 18), [Krupka, Czech Republic: 500 Roma assemble, call for more security. Parents file a crime report over alleged sexual harassment of their children.](#)
63. Romea.cz (2023, June 24), [Brno, Czech Republic: Anti-Ukrainian, xenophobic demonstration features controversial Romani community member.](#)
64. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2025, June), Protection Brief – Czechia.

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) is a unique human rights body that monitors Council of Europe member states' action against racism, intolerance and discrimination on grounds of "race", colour, language, religion, citizenship, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics.

ECRI was set up by the first Summit of Heads of State and Government of the member states of the Council of Europe in 1993 and became operational in 1994.

ECRI is composed of 46 members appointed on the basis of their independence, impartiality, moral authority and expertise in dealing with issues of racism, intolerance and related discrimination. Each Council of Europe member state appoints one person to serve as a member of ECRI.

Secretariat of ECRI

Anti-discrimination and Inclusion Department
Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity
Council of Europe
F - 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex
Tel.: +33 (0) 3 90 21 46 62
E-mail: ecri@coe.int

Follow us:



ENG

www.coe.int/ecri

www.coe.int

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.