

C Z E C H R E P U B L I C

SECTION A

Capital

Prague 1,209,855 (1996 est.)

Area

78, 703 sq km (30,450 sq mi)

Form of government

Republic

GDP—per capita

Purchasing power parity—\$11,700 (1999 est.)

Population

10,280,513 (July 1999 est.)

Ethnic composition

Czech	94.4%
Slovak	3.0%
Polish	0.6%
German	0.5%
Roma	0.3%
Hungarian	0.2%
Other	1.0%

Official language

Czech

Minority languages

Slovak, German, Polish, Romany

Legislation dealing with the use of languages

No article in the Constitution of the Czech Republic applies to the use of an official language in the country. The term “state” or “official” language is not directly defined by any provision of national legislation. The status of the Czech language as the official language is, however, implicit in some legal regulations. *Law No. 40/1993, on the Acquisition and Loss of Citizenship of the Czech Republic*, stipulates the knowledge of the Czech language as a condition for granting citizenship.

Law No. 335/1991, on Courts and Judges, provides that every person may use his/her mother language before the court. The expenditures connected with the services of an interpreter are covered by the state.

The Penal Code – Law No.141/1961, regulates the right of everyone to use his own language before the bodies involved in criminal proceedings.

Background notes

Once a part of the Holy Roman Empire and later the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, Czechoslovakia became an independent nation at the end of World War I. After World War II Czechoslovakia fell within the Soviet sphere of influence. On January 1993, the country peacefully split into its two ethnic components, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

The Czech Republic, largely by aspiring to become EU member, has moved toward integration in world markets, a development that poses both opportunities and risks.

SECTION B

The use of language in everyday life e.g. education, broadcasting and other

SCHOOLS

The state education system in the Czech Republic guarantees teaching in the Polish language in preschools, and at primary and secondary schools in the North Moravian region. In the district of Karvina, there is also a primary school with Slovak as the language of instruction. Minority languages are taught also at state and private language schools. Special courses exist at philosophical and pedagogical faculties, including studies of the Slovak, Polish, German, Romany, Hungarian and Ukrainian languages.

The Roma minority holds an exceptional position within the educational system. It has not yet formulated its demand for its own education and it continues to reject segregated education in the Romany language. The state administration is endeavoring to facilitate the use of the Romany language

at schools as a supportive language in communication. At some schools Roma assistants help in this respect.

MEDIA

Minority broadcasting of the Czech Radio is structured into independent sections preparing programs for the Slovak, Roma, German, Polish, Hungarian and Ukrainian minority. The programs are transmitted several times a week by nation-wide studios. There is a special program for Roma called "Romale", transmitted twice a month on a nation-wide basis.

Did the country ratify any international treaty dealing with the protection of minorities?

Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities signed on April 28, 1995, ratified on December 18, 1997, enacted on April 1, 1998.

SECTION C

Legislation dealing with the use of languages

Updated (January 2001)

At the beginning of the year 2001 the Czech Republic Parliament has been discussing a draft law on the national minority rights. This debate is only likely to end by April 2002.

The signature of the European Charter of Regional and Minority Languages (November 2000) might also lead the government to examine the adequacy of the current state regulations.

Updated (May 2001)

On May 24, 2001, the Lower House of the Czech Parliament passed a new Law on Ethnic Minorities. This law allows the use of minority languages in some official documents, as well as in bilingual signposts and street names in those places where minority communities live. German, Polish, Hungarian, Ukrainian, Romany, Slovak and Croatian are spoken in the Czech Republic, though only the first four have a legal status of minority languages.

Updated (May 2002)

ROMA

Spokespersons for Czech Roma are divided over the Ethnic Minorities Law approved by the Chamber of Deputies on May 23, 2001. The law stipulates that the officially recognized 12 minorities may display bilingual signs in localities where they constitute 10 percent or more of the population, if 40 percent of them demand it. In those localities minorities are granted the

right to use their mother tongue in official contacts with state and local administration and the right to be educated in their mother tongue from nursery school level. But Hradec Kralove Romany adviser Marian Erimias said it is more important for Roma to learn Czech in order to integrate in society. Romany historian Bartolomej Daniel welcomed the law, while an expert from the Brno Museum of Romany history said the law “complicates problems because there are many dialects in the Romany language and no language rules.”

Source: RFE/RL NEWSLINE Vol. 5, No. 100, Part II, 25 May 2001, <http://racocon.riga.lv/minelres/archive//06042001-11:56:20-11592.html>

Updated (June 2002)

The Law on Ethnic and National Minorities, which entered into force on July 1, 2001, offered considerably less protection to minorities than early drafts envisioned. It recognizes twelve minorities, including the Roma minority, and contains a general definition of national and ethnic minorities (“a group of citizens residing on the territory of the current Czech Republic, that differ from other citizens usually by common ethnic origin, language, culture and traditions, creates a substantial minority of the population, and at the same time the members of this group reveal their will to be considered as a national minority in order to retain and develop their own diversity, language and culture and in order to declare interests of the group”).

The law also stipulates that officially recognized minorities may display bilingual signs in localities where they constitute 10 percent of the population or more, and if 40 percent demand so. In these localities, minorities are granted the right to use minority languages in official contacts with state and local administration.

The Civil Code of 1993 provides for the right to use minority languages in court and obliges courts to provide appropriate facilities. Similarly, the Criminal Code of 1961 states that everybody is entitled to use his/her “mother tongue” in contact with law enforcement authorities and in court. However, the government notes in respect to the Romany national minority, that an unresolved problem is an entirely insufficient number of Romany interpreters.

Article 25 of the Charter provides for education in minority languages. The 1990 Law on Education gives the school authorities the opportunity (but not obligation) to ensure instructions in languages other than Czech according to the local conditions and requirements.¹ The Minorities Law guarantees the right to be educated in the minority languages from nursery

¹ Law on Education, Article 6

to secondary school level (Article 11). However, in practice only the Czech Poles study in their native language to date.

Use of the Romani languages in schools has increased since 1997 when Romani pedagogical assistants were introduced to primary schools, to facilitate the integration of Roma children to mainstream schooling. As of April 2000, 180 of these assistants were employed in 114 preparatory classes for 1,425 pupils at kindergartens, primary and special schools. They provided tutoring, language assistance and mediation between the school and children's families.

Another effort to introduce Romani history and culture in schools is a distribution of Roma children's magazine, "Kereka" (Circle). The government has also introduced optional Romani history and culture programs.² Two private schools for Roma exist in Ostrava and Kolin,³ although opinions on the quality of education in these institutions vary.

Under the Law on Radio and Television Broadcasting, operators are obliged to ensure that programs do not violate the Constitution or the Charter, and that they contribute to the preservation and development of Czech, as well as minority identity. Violations can lead to the revocation of broadcasting licenses. There are no special provisions providing state support for minority media or allocating airspace in public or private media to minorities.

A number of Roma media initiatives exist in the Czech Republic. Czech Radio, with a support of a Romani editorial department, produces a weekly one-hour program, "O Roma vakheren" (The Roma speak). Czech TV also produces and broadcasts Romani language programs. Four Roma periodicals receive funding from the Ministry of Culture (the newspapers "Romano Kurko" and "Romano Hangos," and the magazines "Amaro Gendalos" and "Kereka"), one of which, the bimonthly "Romano Hangos" (Romani Voice), has 3,500 subscribers.

Source:

http://www.eumap.org/reports/content/10/203/minority_czech.pdf, The EU Accession Monitoring Program Report on Minority Protection, Open Society Institute 2001 on <http://www.eumap.org/reports/content/10>

² The "Alternative Special School Education Program for Pupils of Roma Origin," offered by the Ministry for Education, Youth and Sport, is available for all schools.

³ The school of Premysla Pittra in Ostrava was founded in 1993. By 1999 it had 218 students, 89 percent of whom were of Roma origin. The private Roma Social Secondary School in Kolin is now incorporated into the Czech schooling system and 60 percent of expenses are covered by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

APPENDIX A

MAP OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



APPENDIX B

273 ACT ON RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AND AMENDMENTS OF SOME ACTS

July 10, 2001

PREAMBLE

The Parliament of the Czech Republic as the parliament of a democratic and legal state

- considering the right of national and ethnic identity as a part of human rights;
- respecting the identity of members of national minorities as individuals and a group representing itself especially by its own culture, traditions and language;
- considering the creation of a multicultural society and attempting to facilitate the harmonious coexistence of national minorities with the majority population;
- guaranteeing members of national minorities the right of their active participation in cultural, social and economic life and public affairs, especially those which concern national minorities;
- protecting rights of members of national minorities in accordance with international conventions on human rights and fundamental freedoms by which the Czech Republic is bound, with the Constitution and Charter of Rights and Freedoms

decided by resolution on this Act of the Czech Republic:

1 PART I

2 RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

§ 1

Subject of amendment

(1) This act regulates rights of members of national minorities and responsibilities of ministries, other administrative authorities and bodies of regional self-government units (thereafter „public administration bodies“) in relation to them.

(2) The provisions of special legal regulations which regulate rights of members of national minorities are not prejudiced by this act.

§ 2

Definition of basic concepts

(1) A national minority is a community of citizens of the Czech Republic who live on the territory of the present Czech Republic and as a rule differ from other citizens by their common ethnic origin, language, culture and traditions; they represent a minority of citizens and at the same time they show their will to be considered a national minority for the purpose of common efforts to preserve and develop their own identity, language and culture and at the same time express and preserve interests of their community which has been formed during history.

(2) The member of a national minority is a citizen of the Czech Republic who professes other than Czech ethnic origin and wishes to be considered a member of a national minority in common with the others who profess the same ethnic origin.

CHAPTER II

RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

§ 3

Exercise of rights of members of national minorities

(1) Members of national minorities individually or in common with other members of a national minority are guaranteed to be able to exercise their rights determined by this act, special legal regulations or international conventions on human rights and fundamental freedoms by which the Czech Republic is bound.

(2) Exercise of rights of national minorities must not be restricted or ruled out.

§ 4

Free choice of membership of a national minority

- (1) The membership of a national minority must not cause loss to anyone.
- (2) The public administration bodies do not keep records of members of national minorities. Procuring, processing and using personal data concerning the membership of a national minority comply with provisions of special legal regulations.¹⁾ The data on professing ethnic origin procured by these bodies during the census or according to another special act that enables the determination of the membership of a national minority must not be used for any other purpose than that for which they have been collected and stored and after statistical processing they must be destroyed.

§ 5

Right of association of members of a national minority

Members of a national minority can associate in national associations and political parties and movements under conditions and in a way determined by special legal regulations.²⁾

§ 6

Right of participation in dealing with matters concerning a national minority

- (1) Members of a national minority have the right to their active participation in cultural, social and economic life and public affairs, especially those concerning national minorities whose members they are, and this at the level of community, region and state as a whole.
- (2) Members of a national minority exercise their right according to paragraph 1 especially by means of committees for national minorities established according to special legal regulations³⁾ and the government's Council for National Minorities (thereafter „the Council“).
- (3) The government establishes the Council as its consultative and initiative body for matters concerning national minorities and their members. At the head of it is a member of the government.
- (4) Members of the Council are representatives of national minorities and public authorities; at least half of them must be representatives of national minorities nominated by associations of members of national minorities.
- (5) The Council is competent to:
 - a) arrange for the preparation of governmental measures concerning the rights of members of national minorities in the Czech Republic;

- b) express opinions on motions for bills, governmental regulations and measures concerning the rights of members of national minorities before their submission to the government;
- c) prepare for the government overall reports on the situation of national minorities on the territory of the Czech Republic;
- d) prepare for the government, ministries or other administrative authorities recommendations for satisfying the needs of members of national minorities especially in the field of the education system, culture and media, using their mother tongue, and social and cultural life;
- e) cooperate with local self-government bodies in the practical application of state policy relating to national minorities;
- f) propose the distribution of finances expended from the Budget for the support of activities of members of national minorities.

(6) Details concerning the composition of the Council and the way of nomination of its members and its activities are determined in rules of the Council sanctioned by the government.

§ 7

Right of using name and surname in the language of a national minority

Members of national minorities have the right to use their name and surname in the language of their national minority under conditions determined by a special legal regulation.⁴⁾

§ 8

Right of multilingual names and denominations

(1) Members of national minorities living traditionally and for a long time on the territory of the Czech Republic have the right to have the name of a community in which they live, the names of its parts, streets and public places as well as the functions of buildings of public authorities and electoral rooms posted in the language of the national minority as well as in the Czech language.

(2) Conditions for exercise of this right according to paragraph 1 and the way of denomination of multilingual names are determined in a special legal regulation.⁵⁾

§ 9

Right of using the language of a national minority in official documentation and discourse and hearing before a court

Members of national minorities living traditionally and for a long time on the territory of the Czech Republic have right to use the language of a national minority in official documentation and discourse and hearing before a court. Conditions for exercise of this right are determined in special legal regulations.⁶⁾

§ 10

Right of using the language of a national minority during elections

Under conditions determined by special legal regulations⁷⁾ members of national minorities living traditionally and for a long time on the territory of the Czech Republic have the right to publicize the notice of the term and place of elections and other information for voters in the language of national minorities.

§ 11

Right of education in the language of a national minority

(1) Members of national minorities living traditionally and for a long time on the territory of the Czech Republic have the right of upbringing and education in their mother tongue at schools, pre-school and school institutions under conditions determined by special legal regulations.⁸⁾

(2) Members of national minorities according to paragraph 1 are allowed under conditions determined by special legal regulations⁸⁾ to establish

- a) private schools using the language of a national minority as the teaching language or teaching the language of a national minority as a school subject;
- b) private pre-school and school institutions.

§ 12

Right of the development of culture of members of national minorities

(1) Members of national minorities have the right to maintain and develop their language, culture and traditions and the right to respect for them.

(2) The state creates preconditions for maintaining and developing culture, traditions and languages of members of national minorities living traditionally and for a long time on the territory of the Czech Republic; it supports especially such programs which are specialized in theatres,

museums, galleries, libraries, documentation and other activities of members of national minorities. For this purpose it provides grants from the Budget; conditions and the way of providing grants are determined in a government decree.

§ 13

Right to spread and receive information in the language of a national minority

(1) Members of national minorities have the right to spread and receive information in their language.

(2) For the purpose of maintaining and developing culture, traditions and languages the state supports publishing periodical and non-periodical printed matter and radio and television broadcasting in the languages of national minorities living traditionally and for a long time on the territory of the Czech Republic. For this purpose it provides grants from the Budget; conditions and the way of providing grants are determined by a government decree.

(3) Creating and disseminating radio and television broadcasting related to members of national minorities and implemented by legitimate operators are determined by special legal re-gulations.⁹⁾

3 PART II

4 THE AMENDMENT OF THE ACT ON MISDEMEANORS

§ 14

The Act N. 200/1990 Coll. on misdemeanors as amended by the Act N. 337/1992 Coll., the Act N. 344/1992 Coll., the Act 359/1992 Coll, the Act N. 67/1993 Coll., the Act N. 290/1993 Coll., the Act N.134/1994 Coll., the Act N. 82/1995 Coll., the Act N. 237/1995 Coll., the Act N. 279/1995 Coll., the Act N. 289/1995 Coll., the Act N. 112/1998 Coll., the Act N. 168/1999 Coll., the Act N. 360/1999 Coll., the Act 29/2000 Coll., the Act N. 121/2000 Coll., the Act N. 132/2000 Coll., the Act N. 151/2000 Coll., the Act 258/2000 Coll., the Act N. 361/2000 Coll., the Act 370/2000 Coll., the Judgment of the Constitutional Court N. 52/2001 Coll., the Act N. 164/2001 Coll., the Act N. 254/2001 Coll., the Act N. 265/2001 Coll. and the Act N. 274/2001 Coll. is amended as follows:

1. In § 49 at the end of paragraph 1 the full stop is replaced by a comma and the subparagraphs d) and e) are amended; their wording is as follows:

"d) restricts or precludes a member of a national minority from the exercise of rights of members of national minorities;

e) causes loss to another person for his membership of a national minority or ethnic origin, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, language, religion,

political or other views, membership or activity in political parties or movements, trade unions or other associations, social origin, property, birth, health condition, marriage or family status."

2. In § 49 paragraph 2 after words „1 000 crowns“ the conjunction „and“ is replaced by a comma and at the end of the text the words „and for a misdemeanors according to the paragraph 1 d) and e) the penalty to the level of 5 000 crowns“ are added.

5 PART III

6 THE AMENDMENT OF THE ACT ON COMMUNITIES

§ 15

The Act N. 128/2000 Coll. on communities (local government) is amended as follows:

1. In § 29 paragraph 2 the figure „20“ is replaced by the figure „10“ and the figure „50“ is replaced by the figure „40“.

2. In § 117 paragraph 3 in the first sentence the figure „15“ is replaced by the figure „10“; at the end of the second sentence the full stop is replaced by a semicolon and the text „but members of national minorities must always represent at least the half of all members of the committee“ is added.

7 PART IV

8 THE AMENDMENT OF THE ACT ON REGIONS

§ 16

In § 72 paragraph 2 of the Act N. 129/2000 Coll. on regions (regional government) the figure „10“ is replaced by the figure „5“ and the words „the same ethnic origin other than Czech“ are replaced by the words „the ethnic origin other than Czech“; at the end of the second sentence the full stop is replaced by a semicolon and the text „but members of national minorities must always represent at least the half of all members of the committee“ is added.

9 PART V

10 THE AMENDMENT OF THE ACT ON CAPITAL PRAGUE

§ 17

In § 78 paragraph 2 of the Act N. 131/2000 Coll. on capital Prague in the first sentence the figure „15“ is replaced by the figure „5“; at the end of the second sentence the full stop is replaced by a semicolon and the text „but members of national minorities must always represent at least the half of all members of the committee“ is added.

11 PART VI

12 THE AMENDMENT OF THE ACT ON ELECTIONS TO COMMUNITY COUNCILS

§ 18

In § 31 of the Act N. 152/1994 Coll. on elections to community councils and amendment of some other acts paragraph 3 is amended; its wording including footnote N. 10a) is as follows:

"(3) In a community where the committee for national minorities is being established according to a special act 10a), the by-law according to paragraphs 1 and 2 will be issued also in the language of respective national minority.

^{10a)} § 117 paragraph 3 of the Act N. 128/2000 Coll. on communities (local government), as amended by the Act N. 273/2001 Coll. "

13 PART VII

14 THE AMENDMENT OF THE ACT ON ELECTIONS TO REGIONAL COUNCILS

§ 19

In § 27 of the Act N. 130/200 Coll. on elections to regional councils and amendment of some acts paragraph 3 is amended; its wording including footnote N.18a is as follows:

" (3) In a region where the committee for national minorities is being established according to a special act 18a), the notice according to paragraphs 1 and 2 will be issued also in the language of respective national minority.

^{18a)} § 78 paragraph 2 of the Act N. 129/2000 Coll. on regions (regional government), as amended by the Act N. 273/2001 Coll. "

15 PART VIII

16 COMING INTO EFFECT

§ 20

This act comes into effect on the date of its promulgation.

Klaus, in his own hand

Havel, in his own hand

PP **Špidla**, in his own hand

¹⁾ Act N. 101/2000 Coll. on protection of personal data and amendment of some acts, as amended.

²⁾ Act N. 83/1990 Coll. on association of citizens, as amended.

Act N. 424/1991 Coll. on association in political parties and movements, as amended.

Act N. 220/1999 Coll. on the course of national or compensatory military service, military trainings and legal position of reservists.

Act N. 221/1999 Coll. on regular soldiers, as amended by the Act N. 155/2000 Coll.

³⁾ Act N. 128/2000 Coll. on communities (local government), as amended by the Act N. 273/2001 Coll.

Act N. 129/2000 Coll. on regions (regional government), as amended by the Act N. 273/2001 Coll.

Act N. 131/2000 Coll. on capital Prague, as amended.

⁴⁾ Act N. 301/2000 Coll. on registers, name and surname and amendment of some related acts.

⁵⁾ Act N. 128/2000 Coll. as amended by the Act N. 273/2001 Coll.

⁶⁾ § 18 of the Act N. 99/1963 Coll. on the Rules of Civil Procedure, as amended by the Act N. 30/2000 Coll.

§ 7 of the Act N. 335/1991 Coll. on courts and judges

§ 2 of the Act N. 141/1961 Coll. on judicial criminal proceedings (Rules of Criminal Procedure), as amended

§ 33 of the Act N. 182/1993 Coll. on the Constitutional Court

§ 12 of the Act N. 563/1991 Coll. on accounting

§ 46a of the Act N. 202/1990 Coll. on lotteries and similar games, as amended by the Act N. 149/1998 Coll

§ 3 of the Act N. 337/1992 Coll. on administration of taxes and charges, as amended by the Act N. 35/1993 Coll. and the Act N. 255/1994 Coll.

⁷⁾ Act N. 152/1994 Coll. on elections to community councils and amendment of some other acts, as amended.

Act N. 130/2000 Coll. on elections to regional councils and amendment of some acts, as amended by the Act 273/2001 Coll.

Act N. 247/1995 Coll. on elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic, as amended.

⁸⁾ Act N. 76/1978 Coll. on school institutions, as amended.

Act N. 29/1984 Coll. on the system of primary schools, secondary schools and secondary modern schools (Education Act), as amended.

Act N. 564/1990 Coll. on state administration and self-administration in educational system, as amended.

⁹⁾ Act N. 483/1991 Coll. on Czech Television, as amended.

Act N. 484/1991 Coll. on Czech Radio, as amended.

<http://www.vlada.cz/1250/eng/vrk/vybory/vybory.htm>

GOVERNMENT DECREE FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2002 WHICH DETERMINES THE CONDITIONS AND WAY OF PROVIDING GRANTS FROM THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AND THE SUPPORT OF INTEGRATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY

Collection of Laws N. 98/2002

The Government orders according to § 12/2 and § 13/2 of Act N. 273/2001 Coll. on the rights of members of national minorities and the amendment of some acts and for the completion of Act N. 218/2000 on budgetary rules and the amendment of some relating acts (budgetary rules), as amended by Act N. 493/2000 Coll. Act N. 187/2001 Coll., Act N. 320/2001 Coll. and Act N. 450/2001 Coll.

PART 1

GENERAL PART

§ 1

The subject of legislation

(1) This Decree amends the conditions and way of providing grants from the State Budget for the activities of members of national minorities,

preservation and development of culture, traditions and languages of members of national minorities, dissemination and acceptance of information in languages of members of national minorities that have been living on the territory of the Czech Republic as well as their education and the support of integration of members of the Roma community (hereinafter “grants”).

(2) Grants for activities mentioned in Clause 1 are provided to natural or legal persons in accordance with a special legislation regulation. ⁽¹⁾

§ 2

The definition of concepts

For the purposes of this Decree

a) a provider is a state administration authority that announces and implements a competitive grant procedure and decides grants provided to members of national minorities for a certain purpose or activity for the benefit of members of national minorities,

b) an applicant is a person who applies for a grant by the submission of a project;

c) an acceptor is an applicant for whose benefit a provider decides to provide a grant and who implements a project;

d) a project is the description of activity aimed at the activities of members of national minorities or activities for the benefit of members of national minorities in the field of

1. the preservation, development and presentation of cultures of national minorities,

2. the dissemination and acceptance of information in languages of national minorities or largely in languages of national minorities or information on national minorities in society,

3. education in languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing, or

4. the support of integration of members of the Roma population,

e) competitive granting procedures including the announcement of a competitive granting procedure, acceptance of applications for grants and offers of projects, evaluation of projects, proposals of amounts for their implementation and issuance of decisions on grants. ⁽²⁾

[...]

PART 2

SPECIAL PART

The support of preservation, development and presentation of cultures of national minorities

§ 14

(1) The aim of the support is to preserve and develop the cultures of members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic as well as to study, analyze and demonstrate national cultures and folk traditions of minorities by documentation, understanding and tolerance in society, knowledge of history, traditions and culture of various ethnic groups and improvement of communication between the majority and minorities. A provider of grants for these activities is the Ministry of Culture.

(2) The Ministry of Culture proposes financial means for the support of activities mentioned in Clause 1 as a specific binding index 'The Support of Cultural Activities of National Minorities' within its chapter of the State Budget for every budget year.

§ 15

It is possible to provide grants for projects concerning

- a) theatres,
- b) museums,
- c) galleries,
- d) libraries,
- e) documentation,
- f) issuance of non-periodical publications,
- g) issuance of periodical publications out of the grants according to § 17.
- h) other activities of members of national minorities, especially artistic, cultural and educational ones, study, analyses and documentation of national cultures and folk traditions of national minorities, publications and multi-ethnic activities.

The support of dissemination and acceptance of information in languages of national minorities.

§ 16

(1) The support from the State Budget is aimed at creating conditions for the dissemination and acceptance of information in languages of national minorities or largely in languages of national minorities and information on national minorities in the society. The provider of grants for this purpose is the Ministry of Culture.

(2) The Ministry of Culture proposes financial means for the support of activities mentioned in Clause 1 as a specific binding index 'The Support of Dissemination and Acceptance of Information in Languages of National Minorities' in its chapter of the State Budget for every budget year.

§ 17

The support of projects aimed at the dissemination and acceptance of information relates to

a) periodical publications issued in languages of national minorities or largely in languages of national minorities or information on national minorities in society,

b) radio or television broadcasting in languages of national minorities or largely in languages of national minorities or information on national minorities in society.

[...]

The support of education in languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing

§ 19

(1) The aim of the support is to create conditions for the realization of state policy in the field of education in languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing. The support of projects focused on the multicultural upbringing of children and young people is aimed at strengthening the awareness of human solidarity, upbringing to democratic citizenship, knowledge of history and culture of other nations, mutual tolerance and the fight against racism and xenophobia. The provider of grants for these activities from the State Budget is the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

(2) The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports proposes financial means for the support of activities mentioned in Clause 1 as a special binding index 'The Support of Education in Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Upbringing' in its chapter of the State Budget for every budget year.

§ 20

The support of projects aimed at education in languages of national minorities, out-of-school and leisure activities of children and young people from members of national minorities and projects aimed at multicultural upbringing relates to

- a) Language courses for children and young people from members of national minorities,
- b) Sociocultural, sportive and other educational activities of children and young people from members of national minorities,
- c) Documentation, analyses, research and elaboration of educational programs in the field of education of national minorities.

The support of projects aimed at the integration of members of the Roma community

§ 21

(1) The aim of the support is to create equal conditions for members of the Roma community, especially in the field of education and welfare laying stress on prevention of the social discrimination of members of the Roma community, situation of Roma women, assurance of the participation of members of the Roma community in the application of integration programs, atmosphere of trust, understanding and tolerance in society, knowledge of history and traditions of the Roma population, improvement of communication between the Roma community and the majority. Providers of grants for projects aimed at the integration of members of the Roma population are the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

(2) Respective ministries propose financial means for the support of activities mentioned in Clause 1 as a specific binding index 'The Support of Projects for the Integration of Members of the Roma Community' in their chapters of the State Budget for every budget year.

§ 22

Grants for the support of projects aimed at the integration of members of the Roma community are provided to legal persons.

§ 23

The support of projects in the field of the integration of members of the Roma community relates to the support of

- a) integration of members of the Roma community, especially in the field of social and cultural activities and education,

- b) education of Roma pupils and students,
- c) development of providing special social services.

PART 3

FINAL PROVISION

§ 24

The effect of the Decree

This Decree comes into effect on April 15, 2002.

Prime Minister: Ing. Zeman

Deputy Prime Minister: JUDr. Rychetský

Source: <http://www.troc.es/ciemen/mercator/index-gb.htm>

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