

Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2006

Office of the Government of the Czech Republic
Secretariat of the Council for National Minorities of the Government of the
Czech Republic

Prague 2007

Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2006

Published by:

Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Secretariat of the Council for National Minorities of the Government of the Czech Republic

ISBN 978-80-86734-70-5

1. Introduction	3
2. International Obligations	4
2.1. Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities	4
2.2. European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages	5
3. Public administration at central level and national minorities	7
3.1. Council for National Minorities of the Government of the Czech Republic	7
3.2. Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs	10
3.3. Ministries	10
3.3.1. Ministry of Culture	10
3.3.2. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	12
3.3.3. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	12
3.3.4. Ministry of the Interior	15
3.3.5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs	24
3.3.6. Office of the President of the Republic	26
3.3.7. Ombudsman	27
3.4. Tasks under Government resolutions	28
3.4.1. House of National Minorities in Prague	28
3.4.2. Khamoro World Roma Festival 2006	30
3.4.3. Ministry of the Interior – audit of municipalities	31
3.4.4. Reconstruction of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Vendryně	31
3.5. Grant schemes and other grants	32
3.5.1. Ministry of Finance	32
3.5.2. Ministry of Culture	32
3.5.3. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	50
3.5.4. Ministry of the Interior	51
3.5.5. Programmes to support the integration of the Roma community	53
3.5.6. Summary	59
4. Public administration at local or regional level and national minorities	63
4.1. Municipalities	63
4.2. Chartered cities	87
4.3. Provinces	107
5. Reflections of national minorities	124

Annexes

1. Examples of the Czech Police Force's work with minorities in the regions
2. Museum of Roma Culture in Brno, selection of activities in 2006
3. Ministry of Culture – Grant Scheme to Support the Cultural Activities of Members of National Minorities in 2006 (Summary of projects)
4. Ministry of Culture, Art and Libraries Department – Summary of grants
5. Ministry of Culture, Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries – Summary of grants
6. Ministry of Culture – Grants in the audiovisual field and mass media, where grants are awarded to projects incorporating the promotion of national minorities' cultural activities.
7. Ministry of Culture, Autonomous Unit of State Fund Administration – Summary of grants
8. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports – Programme to Promote Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Upbringing in 2006
9. Ministry of Culture – Programme to Promote the Integration of Members of the Roma Community
10. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – Summary of projects geared towards the integration of the Roma minority supported in 2006
11. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports – Grant Scheme to Promote the Integration of the Roma Community in 2006: summary of projects
12. Summary of municipalities where more than 10% of the population comprises members of national minorities and where no Committee for National Minorities has been set up
13. Municipalities, chartered cities and provinces – Summary of grants provided to promote the organizations of members of national minorities and to promote the integration of the Roma community in 2006 – summary of projects

1. Introduction

This Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2006 (hereinafter referred to as 'Report') offers, for the sixth year running, a general summary of public administration measures adopted in relation to the members of national minorities, and an overview of the activities of members of national minorities in the last calendar year. This Report is a document published by the Council for National Minorities of the Government of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as 'Council') and was prepared by the Council's Secretariat based on background documents from the competent ministries, local and regional authorities, and other public administration authorities, as well as from the representatives of national minorities, Council members, and their associates.

As in previous years, the report is structured into four thematic blocks:

- a summary of international obligations and an evaluation of developments in the Government's national minority policy and measures implemented by state administration authorities,
- an assessment of the conditions for the development of the activities of members of national minorities, and an assessment of the grant policy applied in the relevant programmes,
- a summary of activities carried out by the authorities of municipalities, chartered cities and provinces in relation to members of national minorities,
- self-reflection by the representatives of national minorities, assessing the position and activities of their own particular minority, with special consideration for the Council.

Information on the Czech Republic's national minority policy is detailed in documents regularly published on the Council's web pages (<http://www.vlada.cz/cs/rvk/rnm/default2.html>), which are part of the website run by the Office of the Government.

2. International Obligations

2.1. Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

Further to the second opinion of the Council of Europe's Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (hereinafter referred to as 'Framework Convention') on the Czech Republic and the Comments of the Czech Government on this opinion at the end of 2005, the secretariat of the Framework Convention Advisory Committee drew up a draft resolution of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe concerning the implementation of the Framework Convention by the Czech Republic. The draft resolution contained a positive evaluation of the Czech Republic, praising the progress made since the first monitoring cycle in 2000, but also drew attention to a list of persistent shortcomings and made recommendations on how to improve the unsatisfactory state of affairs, especially in relation to the Roma minority.

The Czech Republic was given the opportunity to comment on the prepared text of the draft resolution prior to its submission for discussion by a working party of the Committee of Ministers. In keeping with current practices, the Czech Republic made use of this opportunity by the set deadline (4 January 2006). Its comments and suggestions focused on wording related to the education of Roma children, anti-discrimination measures and police operations relating to marginalized and vulnerable groups of people.

The Committee of Ministers adopted a resolution on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in the Czech Republic on 15 March 2006.¹⁾ It arrived at the following conclusions about the Czech Republic:

The reinforcement and distribution of activities for the protection of members of national minorities – notably the inspections by the Council in collaboration with representatives of national minorities – were rated as a positive development. In this respect, the cooperation between representatives of national minorities and state administration is assessed in a positive light. Other encouraging areas are the headway made in legislation, with the adoption of a minorities law, measures to bolster the participation of national minorities in the decision-making process at the level of state administration and local and regional government, and the handling of the Roma situation, which is a Government priority.

On the other hand, the problem of disadvantaged groups such as the Roma remains an open issue. The situation of the Roma minority is viewed as problematic; a stress is placed on the fact that conditions need to be cultivated that will improve the life of the Roma and forestall their social exclusion.

The recommendations aimed at improving the implementation of the Framework Convention in the Czech Republic include ensuring the effective introduction of legislative provisions that will provide practical protection to national minorities in all areas, especially via local and regional government. In this respect, promote the protection and development of persons belonging to national minorities. Speed up the adoption of anti-discrimination laws and accelerate their implementation in practice; ensure greater efficiency in inspections and in the

¹⁾ [Resolution ResCMN\(2006\)2](#)

([http://www.coe.int/t/e/human_rights/minorities/2._framework_convention_\(monitoring\)/2._monitoring_mechanism/6._resolutions_of_the_committee_of_ministers/1._country-specific_resolutions/2._second_cycle/2nd_CM_Resolution_CzechRep_eng.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.coe.int/t/e/human_rights/minorities/2._framework_convention_(monitoring)/2._monitoring_mechanism/6._resolutions_of_the_committee_of_ministers/1._country-specific_resolutions/2._second_cycle/2nd_CM_Resolution_CzechRep_eng.asp#TopOfPage))

monitoring of the situation in this area by applying more varied methods for the collection of the relevant statistics. Implement and consult with the Roma effective solutions to the problems they are faced with in numerous areas. It is recommended that further action be taken to suppress the practice of isolating Roma children in the education system and ensure that a proper discussion is held on the alleged sterilization of Roma women without their prior consent. Promote effective procedures designed to eliminate all cases of intolerance or violence against Roma and other members of vulnerable groups, raise awareness and educate society better in this respect, improve police activities, and introduce objective monitoring of police operations. Take further action to improve the work of the media, the courts and municipal bodies. Be more alert to the use of the languages of national minorities in the media, in relation to local and regional government authorities and in connection with topographical labels. Promote the cultural dimension of education and, in the context of teaching in minority languages, support the needs of national minorities, and incorporate their educational and cultural needs and requirements into new educational legislation. Encourage members of national minorities to take part in decision-making on public matters, especially at local level; set up committees for national minorities here that will oversee the observance of legislative rules relating to national minorities. As part of monitoring mechanisms, these recommendations will be the subject of checks by experts of the Framework Convention Advisory Committee in 2007. The European Centre for Minority Issues developed a major initiative in 2005. It was at the Centre's instigation that the Committee of Experts on Issues relating to the Protection of National Minorities (DH-MIN) of the Council of Europe sent Member States a questionnaire on their consultation arrangements concerning national minorities. The replies gave rise, in 2006, to a far-reaching study entitled 'Consultation Arrangements Concerning National Minorities'.²⁾ The aim of the study is to shed light on the heterogeneity of procedures applied in individual countries and to offer a guide to good practice.

2.2. European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

The 2005 Report on the Situation of National Minorities states that the Government discussed the proposal for the ratification of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages (hereinafter referred to as 'Charter') and, under Resolution No 1574 of 7 December 2005 on the proposal for the ratification of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ETS 148), opened for signature by the Member States of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on 5 November 1992, approved the ratification; at the same time, the Government tasked the Prime Minister with the presentation of the Charter to the Parliament of the Czech Republic for approval and recommended that the President of the Republic ratify the Charter once consent had been granted by Parliament.³⁾ The Prime Minister presented the Charter to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic on 15 December 2005 and to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic on 16 December 2005.

The Committee for Education, Science, Culture, Human Rights and Petitions, the Committee for European Union Affairs and the Committee for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security discussed the proposal for the ratification of the Charter as Senate Press No 194. No major objections were raised during these committees' discussions, and the resultant resolutions

²⁾ For the Czech translation, see http://www.vlada.cz/assets/cs/rvk/rnm/dokumenty/mezinarodni/200611_preklad_cz_1.pdf.

³⁾ Within the meaning of Article 49(e) of the Constitution of the Czech Republic, the Charter is a presidential treaty. Therefore, prior to ratification by the President, both chambers of the Czech Parliament are required to grant their consent under Article 39(1) and (2) of the Constitution of the Czech Republic.

recommend that the Senate of the Czech Parliament approve the ratification of the Charter. At its session held on 16 March 2006, the Senate discussed the proposal and adopted Resolution No 374, in which it approved the ratification and a statement laying down obligations in relation to individual minority languages.

In the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament, the following Petition, Foreign Affairs and Public Administration, Regional Development and Environment Committees discussed the proposal as Parliamentary Press No 1220. The Chamber of Deputies discussed the proposal for the ratification of the Charter at its session held on 19 April 2006 and adopted Resolution No 2385, expressing consent to ratification, including a statement that, in accordance with Article 2(2) and Article 3(1) of the Charter, it would apply selected provisions of Part III of the Charter to Polish in the province of Moravskoslezský kraj (in the districts of Frýdek-Místek and Karviná) and to Slovak throughout the Czech Republic.

The ratification was signed by the President of the Republic, and on 15 November 2006 the Czech Republic deposited its instrument of ratification of the Charter with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and made the relevant declarations concerning the Czech Republic's fulfilment of obligations under the Charter. In accordance with Article 19(2) of the Charter, the Charter entered into force for the Czech Republic on 1 March 2007. The complete text of the Charter, including an explanatory report, is available from the website of the Council of Europe and from the Council's website.⁴⁾ It is published in the Collection of International Treaties under number 15/2007.⁵⁾

With a view to providing more extensive publicity for the Charter, the Council Secretariat prepared an informative text on the Charter for public administration bodies, explaining how to apply it in practice. The Office of the Government published the information brochure *Charta – co bychom měli vědět?* ['The Charter – What Do We Need to Know?'] in 2006. This brochure was distributed to the competent state administration authorities and local and regional authorities, especially municipalities and towns in Moravskoslezský kraj (municipal and regional governmental bodies, organizations of members of national minorities, schools, media, and cultural facilities).

In addition, the Council Secretariat held a number of meetings with the representatives of local and regional authorities in Moravskoslezský kraj in 2006 to discuss the approach to be adopted in safeguarding the conditions required to implement the Charter. However, it was not until the adoption of Resolution No 110/3988 on 7 February 2007 that the Moravskoslezský kraj Provincial Council endorsed the appropriation of CZK 5 million from the central government budget to the Moravskoslezský kraj budget to cover municipalities' expenditure on the implementation of the Charter.⁶⁾ The Moravskoslezský kraj Provincial Authority also undertook to oversee the distribution of funds to municipalities applying for the reimbursement of expenses.

⁴⁾ <http://conventions.coe.int>; <http://www.vlada.cz/scripts/detail.php?id=21031>

⁵⁾ <http://www.mvcr.cz/sbirka/2007/sb011-07m.pdf>. In accordance with the Charter's control mechanism, the Czech Republic is required to submit the First Periodical Report on the Fulfilment of Obligations under the Convention by 1 March 2008, followed by further periodical reports at three-year intervals.

⁶⁾ This was a transfer of funds from budget heading 304 (Office of the Government) for 2007, Item 5323 – non-investment transfers to provinces.

3. Public administration at central level and national minorities

3.1. Council for National Minorities of the Government of the Czech Republic

The activities of the Council and its bodies (committees and working parties) are organized by the Council Secretariat in accordance with the Council's statutes. Following the 2006 parliamentary elections, the organizational position of the Council Secretariat was modified as a result of organizational changes at the Office of the Government. The Equal Opportunities Department, in whose organizational structure the Council Secretariat was classified, was closed, and the Council Secretariat was placed in the new Department of the Government Commissioner for Human Rights. The Council Secretariat did not escape the streamlining of state administration and as of 1 January 2006 lost a member of staff when one of its systemized staff positions was discontinued. The new situation subsequently had to be handled by means of *ad hoc* employment agreements, agreements on the performance of work, and agreements on work activities.

The political scene after the elections to the Chamber of Deputies in 2006 was such that there was no possibility of appointing a new Council, and in the second half of 2006 no Council meetings were held. The Council secretariat prepared an alternative way of nominating candidates to the Council. The prime objective was to ensure the more transparent and more democratic election of new candidates, which could also have a positive impact on the Council's reputation among minority communities and generally increase confidence in this advisory body among minorities and the state executive. This was a response to the above-mentioned study, which inter alia stated that: 'minority associations should ensure that their nominees for national minority consultative councils have been selected democratically and according to a transparent process' (Consultation Arrangements Concerning National Minorities 2006: 11, reference—see footnote 2).

The alternative method of nomination also functioned as a probe into the organization of minority self-government at various levels, in respect of which, in accordance with the cited observations of the Committee of Experts, 'principles of internal democracy, transparency and accountability' are anticipated (Consultation Arrangements 2006: 10). Ideally, the alternative method of nomination can be considered an effort to encourage minority communities without a central organization 'to seek consensus on representation, or to form an umbrella organization for the purpose of representation' (Consultation Arrangements 2006: 11-12).

At the end of May and the beginning of June 2006, the Council Secretariat approached 484 civic associations (i.e. all known associations) of members of national minorities with a request for them to nominate their representatives for the Council. The alternative method of nomination required the provision of detailed information, in the questionnaire, about nominees and their relationship to the given minority. In particular, information had to be disclosed about the nominating organization, with a focus on how representative it is of the given community (number of members, the duplicity of membership of a nominee put forward by multiple organizations, the body making the decision on the nomination, the level of support enjoyed by the nominee within the organization, etc.). At the same time, the definition of an entity eligible to nominate a candidate to the Council was expanded to take into account the needs of traditional minorities with an unfavourable population structure and lack of means to carry out their activities.

Of the 104 nominations received by the Council Secretariat, those which did not contain all the requirements were disqualified and a proposal for the appointment of Council representing

national minorities was drawn up. Besides the strength and reliability of the mandate (the real number of association members, the number of nominating members of the association's governing body), the expertise and experience of the nominee were taken into consideration.

A problem arose as regards Council members representing ministries as, although the respective ministers had been appointed, the Government did not receive a mandate from the Chamber of Deputies in 2006. This meant it was impossible to appoint Council members representing the relevant ministries or the Council as a whole.

In 2006, the Council's standing bodies – the grant policy committee and the committee for cooperation with local government authorities – were engaged in limited activity. Only the Council's working party for national-minority broadcasting was active in the first half of the year. It prepared background materials for a Czech Television Council seminar on minority broadcasting, which was held on 15 February 2006. At this seminar, a significant contribution was made on behalf of the working party by Tomáš Kraus (from the Jewish community). Other working party members came up with ideas for discussion. The seminar was attended by representatives of almost all the national minorities in the Council. The event was well received both by the Czech Television management and representatives of national minorities.

o Council meetings

Given the circumstances above, only two Council meetings were held in 2006:

- At the meeting held on 29 March 2006, the Council assessed how beneficial the Czech Television Council seminar on minority broadcasting issues had been and discussed suggestions for further cooperation with the Czech Television management. The main items on the agenda were the discussion and approval of the working version of the procedure for the disbursement of grants to local and regional authorities to cover expenditure connected with the implementation of the Charter, information about progress made in the discussion thereof within the committees of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Czech parliament, and the state of preparations for the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in 2005. Other items on the agenda included information about preparations for the census in 2011, preparations for an amendment to Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order), as amended (inter alia the removal of the condition, in Section 29, requiring the submission of a petition relating to the possibility of introducing bilingual use of names in municipalities), financial aid from the national budget to set up a House of National Minorities in Prague, the Visegrad project *Terra Interculturalis* and the project *European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation*.
- At the meeting held on 17 May 2006, the Council discussed the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2005 and the Council's 2005 Annual Report. In connection with the Report, it recommended tasking the Minister of the Interior with an audit of the committees for national minorities in municipalities. It also discussed grant schemes to support the activities carried out by members of national minorities and run by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in 2007. It also revisited the continuing ratification of the Charter.⁷⁾

o Summary of documents submitted to the Government

- Support for the establishment of a House of National Minorities in Prague – Government Resolution No 92 of 25 January 2006; the Government approved the release of

⁷⁾ The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages is covered in more detail by section 2.2 of the Report.

CZK 20,000,000 in funding in 2006 from Budget Heading 398 (Public Treasury Administration, Item: Government contingency) for the reconstruction of premises in preparation for the establishment of a House of National Minorities in Prague, which was used as a capital grant earmarked for the City of Prague [*hlavní město Praha*].⁸⁾

- The removal and appointment of a member of the Government Council for National Minorities – Government Resolution No 329 of 29 March 2006; based on staff changes at the Ministry of Culture, a proposal was submitted to the Government for the appointment of a new representative of the Ministry of Culture in the Council.

- Annual report on the activities of the Government Council for National Minorities for 2005 – the Government took due note of this document at a meeting held on 7 June 2006.

- Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2005 – Government Resolution No 689 of 7 June 2006; the resolution was also published in *Věstník vlády pro orgány krajů a orgány obcí* [‘Government Journal for Provincial Authorities and Municipal Authorities’], Part 4; the Prime Minister submitted the Report to the Chairperson of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and to the Chairperson of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic for the information of the respective committees of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.

- Amendment to a Governmental Order amending Governmental Order No 98/2002 laying down the conditions and method for the provision of grants from the national budget for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of the integration of the Roma community, as amended by Governmental Order No 262/2005. This document was placed in the Government agenda on 18 December 2006.⁹⁾

o Publishing activity of the Council Secretariat

- *Charta. Co bychom měli vědět? Informační text orgánům veřejné správy k Evropské chartě regionálních či menšinových jazyků s ohledem na její uplatnění v praxi* [‘The Charter – What Do We Need to Know? Information for public administration authorities on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and how to apply it in practice’]. Published by the Secretariat of the Government Council for National Minorities. Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (ISBN 80-86734-98-6). Prague, 2006, 23 p.

- *Zpráva o situaci národnostních menšin v České republice za rok 2005* [Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2005]. Published by the Secretariat of the Government Council for National Minorities. Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (ISBN 80-86734-97-8). Prague, 2006, 194 p.

- Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2005. Published by the Secretariat of the Government Council for National Minorities. Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (ISBN 80-87041-04-6). Prague, 2006, 214 p.

o Activities of the Council Secretariat’s members of staff in international bodies

The manager of the Council Secretariat, Andrej Sulitka, is active in the Working Party on Cultural Development of the Czech-Polish Intergovernmental Commission for Cross-Border Cooperation,

⁸⁾ This is discussed in more detail in section 3.4.1 of the Report.

⁹⁾ The Government discussed this material on 21 February 2007 and approved the proposed amendment to the governmental order under Resolution No 122. It was promulgated as Governmental Order No 38/2007 amending Governmental Order No 98/2002 laying down the conditions and method for the provision of grants from the national budget for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of the integration of the Roma community, as amended by Governmental Order No 262/2005. It entered into effect on 1 March 2007.

and is also a member of the Examining Board of the State Research and Development Programme of the Slovak Republic, 'Participation of Social Sciences in the Development of Society', task: *The Nation, Nationalities and Ethnic Groups in a Transforming Society*. He attended two meetings of the examining board at the Slovak Ministry of Education in Bratislava.

In 2006, the Council Secretary, Milan Pospíšil, attended meetings of the Committee of Experts on Issues relating to the Protection of National Minorities (DH-MIN). The Committee held two meetings in 2006 – in Brasov (Romania) in the spring and in Strasbourg in the autumn. A significant document resulting from the Committee's activities is the study *Consultation Arrangements Concerning National Minorities*¹⁰⁾ focusing on the legal status, mandate and function of advisory bodies for national minority issues in the Member States of the Council of Europe.

3.2. Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs

There were no significant changes in the institutional framework of the programme for the integration of Roma communities in 2006. Although the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs does not hold any direct executive powers, it is the main guarantor for the organization of the programme for the integration of members of Roma communities. At the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, and the Ministry of the Interior, there are special expert departments which pay attention to this theme in the scope of their competence. Part of the institutional organization at local level comprises Roma advisers, or workers entrusted with the agenda for the integration of members of Roma communities and assistants in municipalities, as well as coordinators for Roma affairs at provincial authorities. In the broader sense of the word, institutional organization is also provided by other professionals employed by the central or local government, i.e. teaching assistants in schools and Roma field social workers in municipalities. Separate documents of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs provide a detailed overview of the situation of the Roma communities in the Czech Republic in 2006.¹¹⁾

3.3. Ministries

3.3.1. Ministry of Culture

Legislation relating to members of national minorities

The Ministry of Culture contributed to preparations for a draft amendment to a Governmental Order amending Governmental Order No 98/2002 laying down the conditions and method for the provision of grants from the national budget for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of the integration of members of the Roma community, as amended by Governmental Order No 262/2005.¹²⁾

The aim of the presented draft is to set more lucid conditions facilitating a more effective and faster method for the disbursement of resources from the national budget based on current

¹⁰⁾ Weller M. (2006): Consultation arrangements concerning national minorities. - DH-MIN(2005)011 final. Strasbourg. (http://www.vlada.cz/assets/cs/rvk/rnm/dokumenty/mezinarodni/200611_preklad_dh-min_2005_011_final_e_.pdf).

¹¹⁾ Report on the situation of Roma communities in 2006, Information about the fulfilment of Government resolutions concerning the integration of Roma communities and the active approach of state administration in the implementation of measures adopted under related Government resolutions as at 31 December 2006.

¹²⁾ See Note 10 (<http://www.mvcr.cz/sbirka/2007/sb017-07.pdf>)

requirements, both within the competence of the Ministry of Culture (the promotion of the cultural activities of members of national minorities and support for the dissemination and acceptance of information in the languages of national minorities) and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (the support of education in the languages of national minorities).

There were no legislative changes relating to national minorities in the Czech Republic in the competence of the Media and Audiovisual Department in 2006. In this period, the only new legislation adopted was an amendment to Act No 273/1993 on certain conditions concerning the production, dissemination, and archiving of audiovisual works and amending certain laws and certain other legislation, as amended, and an amendment to Act No 231/2001 on the operation of radio and television broadcasting and amending other laws, as amended.

Of the legislation adopted in 2006 or entering into effect as of 1 January 2007, regulations concerning national minority issues include Act No 235/2006 amending Act No 231/2001 on the operation of radio and television broadcasting and amending other laws, as amended, and certain other laws, which contains provisions relating to national and ethnic minorities. Specifically, Section 17(2) provides that the Council, on granting a licence for digital broadcasting inter alia ‘assesses the applicant’s contribution to the development of the culture of national, ethnic and other minorities in the Czech Republic’, and Section 32(1) stipulates that a broadcaster is obliged to avoid programmes which could reinforce stereotype-based prejudices concerning ethnic, religious or racial minorities.

In the field of museums and galleries, there is still legislation in force (Act No 483/2004 amending Act No 122/2000 on the protection of collections of a museum nature and amending certain other laws, as amended by Act No 186/2004) ensuring equal access to knowledge and use of movable cultural heritage.

Museum of Roma Culture in Brno

The Reports since 2001 have offered a detailed overview of the procedure used to safeguard conditions conducive to the operations of the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno (hereinafter referred to as ‘Museum’). Since 1 January 2005, the Museum has operated as an organization partly funded from the public purse, promoted by the Ministry of Culture.

This type of Museum is seldom seen in Europe. It specializes in the collection of documents that shed light on the material and spiritual culture of the Roma and their co-existence with majority society. The Museum publishes an annual *Bulletin of the Museum of Roma Culture* [*Bulletin Muzea romské kultury*], which offers an overview of the Museum’s activities for the year and publishes expert articles, findings, reviews and notes on literature in the field of the Roma community and Roma studies – especially work by Roma authors.¹³⁾

A summary balance of the Museum’s activities in 2006 is provided in Annex 2. Its programme focuses on:

- temporary exhibitions, permanent exhibitions, and exhibitions outside the Museum building,
- one-off events, cooperation with partner institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad,
- educational activities in schools, universities and the Museum,
- research trips, publishing and media activities by Museum specialists,
- additions to the Museum’s collection,
- the organization of activities by the Museum’s Children’s Club and courses in Romani for the public.

¹³⁾ A relatively detailed rundown of the Museum’s activities is also presented on the website at <http://www.rommuz.cz>.

3.3.2. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

○ Methodological management of provincial Coordinators for Roma Affairs

Based on the *Roma Integration Concept Implementation Plan*, approved under Government Resolution No 1573/2005, the Ministry provides methodological assistance to provincial Coordinators for Roma Affairs. As part of this assistance, the Ministry hosts consultation days for provincial Coordinators for Roma Affairs (at least four meetings a year). This offers a platform for the mutual exchange of experience and transfer of information. At these meetings, the Ministry also mediates the forwarding of essential information from other ministries. The meeting agenda responds to the current situation in this field and reflects the requirements of the coordinators themselves.

However, the role of Coordinator for Roma Affairs is often combined with other agendas, and the scope of this position is not entirely clear. The situation is much the same at municipal level, where no tasks to further the integration of the Roma community have been set yet. The Ministry decided to improve the general situation regarding the methodological management of devolved competence in terms of the exercise of the rights of the Roma community and the integration of the Roma community into society, and at the same time is preparing methodology for field social workers in socially excluded localities and for provincial coordinators.

3.3.3. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

○ Framework Educational Programme for Primary Education

The Framework Education Programme for Primary Education (hereinafter referred to as ‘RVP ZV’) explicitly covers issues related to human rights, multicultural education and the fostering of tolerance in the education section *Humankind and Society*, focusing on the formation of positive civic attitudes and the reinforcement of desirable value orientation, and integrating knowledge and skills from various (especially humanity) fields. Important elements of education in this field are the prevention of racist, xenophobic, and extremist attitudes, educating pupils towards tolerance and respect for human rights, and educating pupils to respect their natural and cultural environment. This educational field includes history and civil studies, and is reflected in other fields of study and the whole life of a school. In its content, it follows up directly on ‘Humans and Their World’, which tells pupils from the first level of primary school more about the ‘world of society’.

Cross-sectional themes in the RVP ZV cover up-to-date areas of problems related to the contemporary and future world, and are becoming an important and integral part of primary education. They are an important formative element of primary education and help to develop the personality of the pupil, especially as regards attitudes and values.

The following cross-sectional themes stand out in primary education:

- personality and social studies,
- democratic citizen studies,
- ideas in European and global contexts,
- multicultural education,
- environmental studies,
- media studies.

○ Teacher training

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports accredited the Terežín Monument and the Resource and Cultural Centre of the Jewish Museum in Prague, which are unique educational

establishments with authorization to organize seminars for the teachers of primary and secondary schools on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism. The seminars have been held since 2001; a special seminar for primary and secondary school teachers, *How to Teach about the Holocaust*, is funded by the Ministry of Education, which also makes financial contributions to the organization of international conferences. As at 31 December 2006, approximately 2,000 teachers had attended seminars with a focus on teaching about the Holocaust at primary and secondary schools in the Czech Republic.

On 24 – 25 April 2006, the Ministry, in cooperation with the educational commission of the Council of Europe, organized the third seminar of education ministers of the Council of Europe and countries of the European Cultural Convention called *Teaching Remembrance: Cultural Heritage - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, which was held in Prague. This event was attended by 50 delegations headed by the education ministers of Member States of the Council of Europe and the European Cultural Convention or their appointed representatives. Representatives of countries which have the status of observer at the Council of Europe were also in attendance (i.e. representatives of Israel, Canada, Mexico, Japan and the USA). The draft agenda of the seminar was drawn up by an international working party appointed by the Council of Europe, members of which included Ministry representatives and experts from the Czech Republic. The Terezín Monument made a significant contribution to the preparation of the content of the event; it put together a professional programme about the Holocaust (*Shoa*) for participants on the premises of the Terezín Monument. The second day of the seminar took place in the Patriotic Hall, Carolinum, and was devoted to a discussion of the education ministers on educating the younger generation about the Holocaust and preventing crimes against humanity from the aspect of current risks of racism and xenophobia. The participants appreciated the system and quality vocational training of Czech teachers, and the activities supported by the Ministry within the framework of teaching about the Holocaust.

In 2006, the Educational and Psychological Counselling Institute offered teachers a seminar called ‘Extremism as an education risk – prevention and help’. The Teaching Faculty of Palacký University, Olomouc, prepared its eleventh Summer School on *Educating students in citizenship within school curricula, focusing on the combating of racial and national intolerance*. The summer school was attended by approximately 120 primary and secondary school teachers.

- Training activities of teacher training faculties

The Faculty of Education at Masaryk University, Brno, organizes supplementary teaching courses called *Teaching Assistant I* and *Teaching Assistant II*, focusing on multicultural education, as part of its range of lifelong learning.

The Teaching Faculty at Palacký University, Olomouc, organizes extension courses for teachers as part of its lifelong learning programme: Multicultural Education and Its Mission in Preventing Xenophobia and Racism, Czech for Foreigners (Recognized Refugees), Czech for Foreigners (Entrepreneurs).

- Polish minority education

The Ministry supports and is interested in preserving Polish minority education – at all current levels of education at nursery, primary and secondary schools – in localities where the Polish national minority is settled. In 2006, approximately 2,500 pupils attended schools with Polish as the language of instruction.

At present, all educational facilities where Polish is the language of instruction in the province are located in the districts of Frýdek Místek and Karviná, where there is the highest concentration of

inhabitants of Polish nationality. All the Polish educational facilities are listed in the schools register maintained by the Ministry. Their task is to provide education to Czech citizens of Polish nationality in accordance with the curricula, but in their mother tongue, with certain additional specific subjects. The dwindling numbers of pupils in primary and nursery schools has prompted the merger of schools, and schools with Polish as the language of instruction are no exception. The table below provides a summary of schools and the numbers of primary and secondary school students as at 12 September 2006.

KARVINÁ district

<i>Primary school</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>In</i>					<i>classes</i>	<i>total</i>
Albrechtice 11	2	1	7	10	3					2	23
Český Těšín-Svibice 20	9	3	4	6	8					3	30
Orlová-Lutyně, Lutýňská 400	2	3	4	2	4					1	15
Stonava Holkovice 326	4	2	2	3	5					2	16
Těrlicko, Pionýrů 1/243	3	5	3	7	3					2	21
Total:	20	14	20	28	23					10	105

<i>Primary school</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>VI</i>	<i>VII</i>	<i>VIII</i>	<i>IX</i>	<i>classes</i>	<i>total</i>
Český Těšín, Havlíčkova 13	27	25	41	14	23	40	30	37	33	14	270
Dolní Lutyně, Kopernikova	1	1	3	2	1	12	10	9	10	5	49
Havířov-Bludovice, Selská 14	6	4	5	7	8	10	12	16	10	6	78
Horní Suchá 407	5	9	8	6	4	10	5	12	12	6	71
Karviná Fryštát, Dr. Olszaka 156	17	17	14	16	21	15	19	26	22	9	167
TOTAL:	56	57	70	45	57	87	76	100	86	40	634

Frýdek-Místek district

<i>Primary school</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>V</i>					<i>classes</i>	<i>total</i>
Bukovec 66	7	3	4	10	7					2	31
Dolní Lomná 70	5	1	6	5	0					2	17
Hrádek 77	4	1	8	8	3					2	24
Košařiska	2	2	2	1	2					1	9
Návsí, Pod výtopnou 190	2	2	8	7	0					2	19
Oldřichovice 210	3	3	4	4	7					2	21
Ropice 146	7	3	5	1	4					2	20
Milíkov	5	4	5	7	4					2	25
Total:	35	19	42	43	27					15	166

<i>Primary school</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>VI</i>	<i>VII</i>	<i>VIII</i>	<i>IX</i>	<i>classes</i>	<i>total</i>
Třinec I, Nádražní 10	12	12	5	10	9	19	33	17	23	9	140
Třinec VI, Kopernikova 696	7	5	13	10	10	0	23	13	16	7	97
Bystřice 366	17	11	8	15	18	25	24	38	31	11	187
Hnojník 6	7	7	4	7	9	11	13	9	12	7	79
Jablunkov, Bezručova 190	16	11	12	19	20	30	32	41	47	13	228
Mosty u Jablunkova 750	7	4	3	6	3	9	11	9	5	6	57
Vendryně 234	7	13	5	14	9	14	10	14	16	8	102
Total:	73	63	50	81	78	108	146	141	150	61	890

	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>VI</i>	<i>VII</i>	<i>VIII</i>	<i>IX</i>	<i>classes</i>	<i>total</i>
Total primary schools in Karviná	76	71	90	73	80	87	76	100	86	50	739
Total primary schools in Frýdek-Místek	108	82	92	70	105	108	146	141	150	76	1056
Total primary schools	184	153	182	143	185	195	222	241	236	126	1795

<i>Secondary school</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>II</i>	<i>III</i>	<i>IV</i>	<i>classes</i>	<i>total</i>
Český Těšín Grammar School	89	89	98	83	12	359
Karviná Grammar School	19	19	24	18	4	80
Karviná Secondary Technical School	10	9	6	5	*	30
Český Těšín Business Academy	26	27	31	29	4	113
Karviná Secondary Nursing School	14	16	12	11	*	53
Český Těšín Secondary Agricultural School	0	0	0	0	*	0
Total:	158	160	171	146		635

In 2006, the following secondary schools provided teaching with Polish as the language of instruction:

- Business Academy, Český Těšín, Sokola Tůmy 12, registered under code 63-41-M/004 Business academy with Polish as the language of instruction.
- Secondary Nursing School, K.H. Borovského 2315, 733 01 Karviná - Mizerov, registered under code 53-41-M/007 Nursing assistant with Polish as the language of instruction.
- Secondary Technical School, Žižkova 1818, Karviná – Hranice, registered under code 23-41-M/001 Mechanical engineering with Polish as the language of instruction.
- Grammar School with Polish as the Language of Instruction, Český Těšín, Havlíčkova 13, registered under codes 79-41-K/401 Grammar school – general, 79-41-K/601 Grammar school – general, 79-41-K/404 Grammar school – natural sciences with Polish as the language of instruction.

A significant role in the education of the Polish national minority is played by the Teaching Centre for Polish Minority Education, which is based in Český Těšín; its promoter is the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The Centre is responsible for ensuring the continual development of further teacher training and for producing and distributing methodological and teaching materials and aids.

The Ministry is the national body responsible for implementing the European youth campaign *All Different – All Equal*. An extensive network of cooperating contributors to the campaign has been created and a cooperation agreement has been signed with Czech Radio. Tonya Graves, the lead singer of Monkey Business, has become the well-known face behind the campaign. The Ministry published a Czech translation of the Council of Europe manual *Compass*, intended for use by schools as a means of informal human rights education. The Ministry of Finance provided financial assistance to 57 projects under the *Programme of State Aid for Work with Children and Young People*, designed for the activities of nongovernmental organizations, and the *Youth* programme. The projects benefiting from this aid included activities aimed at supporting education against racism, extremism, xenophobia and Islamophobia.¹⁴⁾

3.3.4. Ministry of the Interior

This Ministry coordinates the legislative instrument for the support of national minorities, the integration of foreign nationals and the integration of the Roma. This instrument is Act No 198/2002 on voluntary service and amending certain laws (the Voluntary Service Act). This law regulates the procedure for the accreditation of nongovernmental organizations. These accredited organizations prepare and deploy a volunteer (an individual) to help other people (a legal entity or individual in the position of recipient organization) for free in his or her free time. Accredited organizations may also apply to the Ministry of the Interior for a grant to cover the

¹⁴⁾ Complete information about the implementation of the campaign in the Czech Republic is available from <http://crdm.adam.cz/kampan> (as of January 2007 from www.kam-pan.cz).

cost of their activities. In 2006, six nongovernmental organizations held accreditation to assist ‘immigrants and members of national minorities’. Some other organizations had accredited activities which included assistance ‘to the unemployed, the socially disadvantaged, or assistance in the care of children, young people and families in their free time’ (Section 2 of the Act). The Roma are one of the target groups within the scope of these activities.

- Enhancing the qualifications of officials from local and regional authorities

Local and regional authorities carry out activities in their competence relating to national minorities in accordance with the relevant laws (Section 6(7) and (8) and Section 13a of Act No 273/2001 on the rights of members of national minorities and amending certain laws, as amended by Act No 320/2002; Section 29(2) and Section 117(3) of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order); Section 78(2) of Act No 129/2000 on provinces (the Provincial Order); Section 78(2) of Act No 131/2000 on the City of Prague; Section 49(1)(d) and (e) of Act No 200/1990 on offences; Decree No 326/2000 on the labelling of streets and other public spaces).

Under Section 17(3) of the Act on local and regional government officials and amending certain laws (hereinafter referred to as ‘Officials Act’), local and regional authorities are obliged to ensure that the qualifications of their officials are enhanced, and these officials are required by law to improve their qualifications to the extent laid down in this Act. This also applies to improvements in the qualifications of officials responsible for administration activities involving national minorities, and the Officials Act cultivates conditions conducive to this. Under the Officials Act, qualifications are improved by means of courses offered by accredited training institutions and training programmes accredited by the Ministry of the Interior; specific officials are placed in these programmes by their local or regional authority in line with their personal training plan. Under the Officials Act, the Ministry of the Interior, in addition to the accreditation of training institutions, also grants accreditation for training programmes, runs checks on the activities of accredited training institutions and on the implementation of accredited programmes, and cooperates with the provinces

The Ministry, in the implementation of Government Resolution No 1573/2005 on the Roma Integration Concept Implementation Plan for 2006 – 2009, incorporated information on the processes of spatial and ethnic segregation and *ghettoization* – including the consequences of these processes – in selected training programmes for the officials of local and regional authorities.

Since 2003, it has been responsible for the training of selected officials from local and regional authorities, i.e. from provinces and municipalities with extended competence (Roma coordinators and advisers) based on a uniform model training programme, which incorporates the issues concerned.

In the first half of 2006, two one-day model seminars were held on the issue in question (in Prague and Brno) for a selected target group of senior officials and other officials responsible for Roma integration at the level of provinces and municipalities with extended competence (this operation involved around 220 officials).

Besides training programmes on the integration of the Roma minority, between 2003 and 2006 the Ministry of the Interior – as part of the accreditation process of the continuous education of officials from local and regional authorities in accordance with Act No 312/2002 – also granted accreditation to the training programmes *Training of Officials from Social Departments of Local and Regional Authorities in Preparation for Work in a Multi-Cultural Environment* (training institution – University of Ostrava), *Antidiscrimination Training of Officials in Public Administration* (Multicultural Centre - Prague) and *Rudiments of Inter-Cultural Psychology for Public Administration Officials in EU Conditions* (Regiopartner, Brno).

o Legislative measures

In 2006, the Ministry of the Interior prepared a bill amending certain laws related to registered partnership and certain other laws, modifying the use of the names of members of national minorities in the part concerning the amendment to the Registries Act. This bill will be submitted to the Government in 2007 and it is expected to enter into effect on 1 January 2008. In the field of elections, under Section 10 of the Minorities Act, and in accordance with the conditions laid down in separate legal regulations (election legislation), members of national minorities which have lived in the Czech Republic traditionally and long term have the right to the publication of notifications regarding the time and place of selections and other information for voters in the language of their national minorities. Further to this provision of the Minorities Act, all the election laws contain conditions under which the municipal chairman is required to publish notifications about the time and place of elections in the municipality, reminders to voters of their obligation to prove their identity and citizenship, and other information necessary for the smooth course of elections in the language of the relevant national minority.

Section 15(4) of Act No 247/1995 on elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic and amending certain other laws, as amended, Section 29(3) of Act No 491/2001 on elections to municipal assemblies and amending certain laws, as amended, and Section 32(4) of Act No 62/2003 on elections to the European Parliament and amending certain laws, provide that, in a municipality where a committee for national minorities has been set up in accordance with separate legislation, the above-mentioned notification is also published in the language of the relevant national minority. In this respect, the said election laws refer to Section 117(3) of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (Municipal Rules), as amended. Under this provision, a committee for national minorities is set up in a municipality where, according to the last census, at least 10% of the inhabitants claim membership of a nationality other than Czech.

Section 27(3) of Act No 130/2000 on elections to provincial assemblies and amending certain laws, as amended, provides that, in a province where a committee for national minorities has been set up in accordance with a separate law, notifications to voters are also published in the language of the relevant national minority. In this case, the Act on Elections to Provincial Assemblies refer to Section 78(2) of Act No 129/2000 on provinces (the Provincial Order), as amended, which provides that, in a province where, according to the last census, at least 5% of the inhabitants claim membership of a nationality other than Czech, a committee for national minorities is set up.

Elections were held to the Chamber of Deputies in June 2006 and elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic in October (together with elections to municipal assemblies). The above-mentioned provisions of the election laws were applied during all these elections, and members of national minorities which have lived in the Czech Republic traditionally and long term were informed about the time and place of elections in the relevant municipalities in the cited manner (this applied to approximately 260 municipalities).

Bearing in mind that, according to Section 10 of the Minorities Act members of minorities which live in the Czech Republic traditionally and long term have the right, under the conditions laid down by separate legislation, not only to the publication of notifications on the time and place of elections, but also the right to other information for voters in the language of their national minority, the Ministry of the Interior – beyond the scope of its obligations under the election laws – sent *Information on How to Vote* in the languages of the relevant national minorities to all municipalities where citizens claiming nationality other than Czech account for at least 10% of the municipality's population (in these municipalities a committee for national minorities is set up) ahead of the elections to the Chamber of Deputies, the Senate and municipal assemblies. *Information on How to Vote* in the languages of national minorities was published in these municipalities in the place normally used for such notifications, i.e. in most

cases it was displayed on the official notice board of the municipal authority, as well as in each room of the polling station in the municipality. In addition, all voters received *Information on How to Vote* in Czech, along with the voting slips, at their place of residence.

The database of civic associations maintained by the Ministry of the Interior includes the following minority associations: 8 associations of Bulgarians, 3 associations of Croats, 3 associations of Hungarians, 27 associations of Germans, 17 associations of Poles, approximately 450 associations of Roma, 3 associations of Ruthenians, 9 associations of Russians, 4 associations of Greeks, 9 associations of Slovaks and 6 associations of Ukrainians.

According to current legislation on the use of given names and surnames (Section 69 of Act No 301/2000 on registries, given names and surnames and amending certain related laws, as amended – hereinafter referred to as ‘Registries Act’, Article II(2) to (7) of Act No 165/2004 amending the Registries Act, the Minorities Act and the Framework Convention, promulgated under number 96/1998), a female citizen of the Czech Republic or the legal guardians of a minor female citizen of the Czech Republic whose nationality is not Czech may apply for registration of her surname in the masculine form.

Under Article 11(1) of the Framework Convention, all members of national minorities have the right to use not only their surname (name after their father) but also their Christian name in their minority language and are entitled to the official recognition thereof in the manner laid down in their national law. Further, in accordance with Section 7 of the Act on the Rights of Members of National Minorities, members of national minorities have the right to the recognition of their given name and surname in the language of their national minority under the conditions laid down in separate legislation. Here, the law refers to the Registries Act. In this respect, the registries permit natural persons, Czech citizens or the legal guardians of a minor who are not of Czech nationality and whose given name or names have been entered in the register in Czech to use their name or names in the language of their national minority based on a declaration to that effect. At the same time, the registries must enable natural persons and Czech citizens who are not of Czech nationality and whose given name or names have been entered in the register in Czech and a language other than Czech to use their name or names in the language of the national minority of which they claim to be a member, based on a declaration to that effect.

However, unlike the use of a surname, this procedure was not regulated by national legislation. Therefore, the bill amending certain laws connected with registered partnership and certain other laws, in the part concerning an amendment to the Registries Act, proposed an addition to Section 26(3) to the effect that, at the request of a Czech citizen who is a member of a national minority, whose given name or names are entered in the register in Czech or in a language other than Czech, his given name or names may be stated in the registry certificate in the language of the national minority, with characters in the form in which they are displayed in the public administration information systems. A note is made in the register that a registry certificate has been issued where the given name or names have been stated in the language of a national minority. Further registry certificates are issued with the name or names in that form. Here, the Registries Act refers to Article 11(1) of the Framework Convention and Section 7 of the Minorities Act.

o Rules of Administrative Procedure

On 1 January 2006, Act No 500/2004, the Rules of Administrative Procedure, entered into effect. In certain provisions, compared to the former state of affairs this new legislation improves, or in some cases regulates for the first time, the status of persons in the light of guaranteeing their fundamental rights and freedoms. The principal provision in this respect is

Section 16 of the Rules of Administrative Procedure, which regulates the language of the case and the right to an interpreter. All members of national minorities, irrespective of whether they are Czech citizens, have the right to an interpreter if they comply with the conditions laid down by law. Section 16(4) of the Rules of Administrative Procedure regulates the right to an interpreter applicable to Czech citizens who are members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic traditionally or long term. This right stems from Article 25 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and is implemented by Section 9 of the Minorities Act. The costs of interpreting in this case are covered by the administrative authority. The Minister of the Interior's advisory body on the Rules of Administrative Procedure adopted Conclusion No 5, concerning the interpretation of Section 16(4) of the Rules of Administrative Procedure with a view to harmonizing the interpretation and application of Section 16 of the Rules of Administrative Procedure, and is preparing a conclusion regarding the guarantee of the right to an interpreter, in accordance with Article 6(3) of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, in penalty procedures.¹⁵⁾

The Rules of Administrative Procedure also lay down a special method for the protection of the rights of members of national minorities in cases of delivery by public notice where such a public notice concerns the rights of members of national minorities (see Section 25(4)). The above-mentioned right to an interpreter is also expressed in Section 164(4) of the Rules of Administrative Procedure, governing the form of a contract governed by public law.

The Czech Republic ratified the Charter in 2006. The aim is to provide positive protection and support to regional and minority languages and guarantee their use in private and in public life (in schools, the media, and economic and social life). In relation to the competence of the Ministry of the Interior, the relevant provisions of the Charter include Article 10(2)(e), (f), (g) and Article 10(5). The issues under Article 10(2)(g) of the Charter, i.e. the right to use or adopt traditional and correct forms of local names in Polish in addition to the name in the official language, are covered by Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order), while the matters under Article 10(5) of the Charter, i.e. the right of the Polish and Slovak minority to use or adopt surnames in their own languages, are regulated under Act No 301/2000 on registries, given names and surnames and amending certain related laws.

The right of the Polish and Slovak minorities to use their own languages at assemblies of regional and local authorities is not regulated by any legislation. The relevant laws, i.e. Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order), Act No 129/2000 on provinces (the Provincial Order) and Act No 131/2000 on the City of Prague, do not regulate the languages used by the assemblies of municipalities, provinces or the City of Prague. This area is addressed in the rules of procedure of the assemblies.

o Police Force of the Czech Republic

The Czech Police Force carries out the task imposed on the Ministry of the Interior under Government Resolution No 689/1997, i.e. 'in the procedure of admitting candidates seeking to work for the Police Force of the Czech Republic, rigorously identify tendencies towards prejudices, in particular of a racial nature, and reject candidates with a tendency towards racist manifestations'.

In the admissions procedure for candidates applying to join the Czech Police Force, human resources officers are especially alert to racist attitudes and prejudices from the outset. Particular attention is also focused on negative signs during the psychological examination of candidates. Where negative signs are detected, this is a reason to refuse to employ the candidate.

¹⁵⁾ The conclusions can be viewed at www.mvcr.cz/ministerstvo/poradnisbor.

Under the Government resolution, above, there are also provisions for the task ‘to conduct checks on whether civic associations carry out activities promoting racial intolerance, fascism and national intolerance, where this is the case to call on them to refrain from such activity, and if an association continues this activity, to dissolve it’.

At all levels of the criminal investigation police, specialists operate in the field of extremism, monitoring activities which could show signs of the promotion of racial or minority intolerance. Liaison officers for minorities play a key role here. Specialists from the criminal investigation police’s department for the detection of organized crime concentrate on terror-based crime and organized extremist crime, notably with a focus on extremist domestic and foreign groupings, their representatives, and event organizers, on the international networking of these structures and on the use of cutting-edge technology when such crimes are committed.

A key document for the police force’s work with minorities is the ‘Strategy for the Work of Police Force of the Czech Republic in Relation to Minorities for 2006 – 2007’. It was adopted under Government Resolution No 49 of 11 January 2006 and follows up on the National Strategy for the Work of the Czech Police Force in Relation to National and Ethnic Minorities from 2003. Liaison officers for minorities are the internal instrument used for the Czech Police Force’s work with minorities. Since 2005, this position has been set up at all provincial authorities within the scope of action aimed at easing the Czech Police Force’s communication with minorities and reclusive communities. The liaison officer is a member of staff specializing in policing in relation to minorities. Liaison officers act as an intermediary between the Czech Police Force and minority communities and offer members of minorities assistance in coping with specific problems in the legal competence of the Czech Police Force. They are also used as consultants in the handling of all affairs related to minority issues from the point of view of the Czech Police Force. In addition, liaison officers continually monitor the structures of minorities in a locality and contribute to the prevention and suppression of crime affecting minority communities. The kernel of a liaison officer’s work is to have maximum information and a general knowledge regarding the situation in minority and reclusive communities. Liaison officers maintain contact with Roma coordinators, civic associations, Ethnic Commissions, Roma advisers, assistants for the Roma minority, field workers, and community centres, hold roundtable discussions on the possibilities of intensifying cooperation, are members of Coordination Groups for Ethnic Minorities, prevention commissions, various working groups, etc. In Prague, for example, they cooperate with the civic associations *Dženo*, *Romea*, *Slovo 21*, the *Child Protection Training Institute (Vzdělávací institut ochrany dětí)*, and the association of Russian speaking students in the Czech Republic *Artek*, contribute to the *Equal* project and have presented the Strategy to representatives of the *Union of Vietnamese in the Czech Republic (Svaz Vietnamců v ČR)* and *Vietmedia*. In Brno, there is close cooperation with the nongovernmental organization *Drom*, and in Ostrava with the civic association *Co-existence (Vzájemné soužití)*.

The project of *Czech Police Force assistants* to cover work in socially excluded localities is expanding; the purpose is to support victims of crime in a setting of social exclusion and to make detecting latent crime in these localities more effective. At present, this project is up and running in Ostrava, Cheb, Brno, Karviná and, since 2007, Plzeň.

The first part of a publicity campaign focusing on the admission of members of minorities to the Czech Police Force was implemented, the aim of which is to inform members of minorities of the possibilities and conditions of working for the Czech Police Force.

A Supervision Pilot Project was launched at the Municipal Directorate of the Czech Police Force in Brno; the idea is to study the opportunities of applying supervision as a tool in HR work within the Czech Police Force. The project is based on cooperation between two specialists – a

psychologist and a supervisor. The psychologist, working directly at the Municipal Directorate, works with all police officers on preventing negative phenomena in general and negative phenomena in communication with the members of minorities (coping with stress, stressful situations, improving self-control; manifestations of racism, xenophobia or intolerance in general, the handling of prejudices, etc.). The supervisor works as an external associate for selected departments of the Municipal Directorate. The supervisor's task is to manage regular group sessions (once a month) exclusively for police officers who focus on work with minorities – coping with prejudices, communication in stressful situations, being on duty in the specific setting of 'ghettoes', etc. The supervisor also provides individual supervision for police officers who request it. The project will be evaluated as at 31 December 2007.

The Ministry of the Interior is continuing its research aimed at mapping out crime in socially excluded localities.

A tried-and-tested move which helps the Czech Police Force establish contact and communicate with minorities and closed communities more easily is the assignment of individual police officers or working parties of several police officers to handle this area of work at district directorates. These police officers primarily concentrate on handling the specific problems of minorities in a given area (usury, child prostitution, trafficking in human beings, drug distribution, crime among young people, etc.).

Specifically, there is a six-member working party called EGER at the district directorate in Cheb which operates in socially excluded Roma localities in Cheb, where this theme is closely interconnected with moral crime and crime related to children and young people. Working parties are dedicated to prevention in fields such as child abuse, intimidation, and child prostitution. They work closely with police assistants employed at the Cheb Municipal Department, who play an active role in tackling crime within the Roma community (drug addiction, moral crime) and subsequently work with victims and their families. Assistants regularly participate in joint patrols with police officers from the district unit in identified localities. EGER police officers made active contributions to the preparation of the project *Timely Intervention* and coordinate a working party composed of representatives of all institutions affected by this issue. As a result, they have managed to gain a detailed insight into the problems suffered by people in socially excluded localities and find a joint approach – agreed with partners from other institutions – on how to handle them. At the same time, they obtain valuable contacts and earn the trust of people from a risky environment, which can be put to good use in other areas of policing.

At the Ostrava Municipal Directorate, a liaison officer has been appointed who is well prepared theoretically and also acts as a training instructor for police officers. He has managed to establish contact with nongovernmental organizations, state administration authorities and local and regional authorities. He has renewed the operations of police cells in various parts of Ostrava, where selected police officers meet staff from non-profit organizations and local authorities to deal with problems specific to socially excluded localities.

The working parties at Brno Municipal Directorate and the district directorates of Most and Ústí nad Labem are run along similar lines.

These police officers provide information about specific security risks connected with minority-related crime and about the possibilities of ensuring the safety of minorities. Various preventive projects and programmes are good at addressing the majority part of the population, while the specific/risky groups which really need to be addressed remain resistant to normal communication channels. Therefore a different tact needs to be taken with these groups. The police working parties usually decide to disseminate information by means of simple leaflets, which are distributed to associations, low-threshold centres and directly to

households by police patrols and field workers. In this way, police officers provided information in-situ about the risks connected with credit fraud ('white horses' – people exploited for dishonest business practices), usury, trafficking in human beings, etc.

At local level, the Czech Police Force is involved in community policing in its work with minorities. The role of police forces from district police departments who are assigned to work with minorities (they are usually placed in working parties within the district directorates) is to operate in those parts/districts of the town where there is a significant minority population, in socially excluded localities, etc.

A highly effective external instrument used by the Czech Police Force to establish contact and gain trust within minority communities is the Czech Police Force assistant for work in socially excluded localities. Police assistance is a field service which facilitates contact and communication with the police for inhabitants in socially excluded localities, where minorities tend to live. The clients of police assistants are mainly victims and witnesses of latent crime (usury, procurement, drug distribution, trafficking in human beings, youth crime, etc.). Police assistants are currently used by the district directorates in Ostrava, Cheb, Most and Brno, with further projects due for launch in Plzeň and Karviná. Negotiations on the establishment of the position of police assistant have also started in Sokolov. Police assistants are employed by the local authority or a nongovernmental organization, and the project is based on partnership and close cooperation between the Czech Police Force and other entities. In Ostrava, the civic association Co-existence (*Vzájemné soužití*) employs four police assistants; these assistants are financed through the project *Key to Change (Klíč ke změně)*. In Karviná, an AD and Field Social Work Centre has been set up by Social Services (*Sociální služby*), a municipal organization partly funded from the public purse, where three field social workers work (two of whom are being trained as police assistants). In Cheb, two police assistants are employed at the Municipal Authority, while in Brno two police assistants work for the nongovernmental organization *Drom*. A project in Plzeň is preparing, in cooperation with the Czech Police Force, the organization *People in Need (Člověk v tísni)*, which will employ one police assistant. In the projects that have been launched, frequent coordination meetings between the Czech Police Force, police assistants and the service provider have been very constructive. In Ostrava, coordination meetings are replaced by cell meetings. In Karviná, future police assistants were contacted directly by individually assigned police officers from the district police departments. In Cheb, police assistants, the police working party and the service provider (representatives of the Municipal Authority in Cheb) meet at the start of each month and draw up a precise action plan for the upcoming period in response to the current situation. In Ústí nad Labem, the operations of two police assistants in the localities of Neštěmice and Trmice were terminated at the end of 2006 because no further funding became available. However, the police assistants were beneficial at the schools where they operated, and therefore the possibility of remaining in employment at these schools was offered. As a result, they are still in contact with the police.

The Czech Police Force was involved in the community planning of social services. This is a method used to plan social services at municipal or provincial level so that they correspond to the needs of the local population. One of the prime objectives is the integration of socially needy groups of the population (including the socially excluded, members of minorities, reclusive and high-risk communities, etc.) into majority society and an improvement in their social situation. The community plan of social services arose with contributions from inhabitants, their representatives (e.g. associations) and all local institutions. Through its involvement in community planning, the Czech Police Force will have a major opportunity to influence municipal policy on risky groups and promote its ideas on crime prevention among such groups. In this respect, it can effectively prevent problems that could crop up among

these groups of the population and that – if they are prevented – will not then have to be tackled by the police. Those participating in community planning include authorities within the province Severomoravský kraj (a member of the City of Ostrava's *Community Planning – Roma Section*), police officers from the Plzeň – město district directorate, authorities within the City of Prague (Praha 6 Municipal Borough Authority) and authorities in the province Severočeský kraj (the Ústecký kraj Provincial Authority). During the year, police officers from Brno municipal directorate participated, as part of a Brno City Hall working party, in a project for the community planning of social services; they worked in the *Ethnic Minorities* and *Socially Maladjusted* groups, where one of the main priorities of the programme is socio-pathological phenomena and their prevention.

An integral part of the Czech police Force's work with minorities entails police officer training and lecturing. Police officers from preventive information groups deliver lectures in special schools, in the lower levels of primary schools, where they use *Ajax's Diary* to shed more light on policing, and in selected apprentice and secondary schools, where they give presentations on racism, anti-Semitism and extremism. Further specific examples are given in Annex 1 to this Report.

- Research into crime in socially excluded localities in Ústecký kraj and Karlovarský kraj

In 2006, the Ministry and the Czech Police Force assessed the results of research into crime in socially excluded localities in the provinces of Ústecký kraj and Karlovarský kraj in 2005. The aim of the research was to form a detailed overview of the structure and dynamism of crime connected with the lives of inhabitants in socially excluded localities, especially with regard to social determinants of crime specific to these communities. The structure and dynamism of crime was mapped out by means of stationary investigations involving the field collection of data.

The information gathered indicates that the specific behaviour of socially excluded persons (including criminal and socio-pathological behaviour) is the result of adapting to living conditions in ghettos, and can be attributed to the models of behaviour created in this environment and passed on among the generations during socialization. Official institutions can catch and effectively handle only part of the criminal behaviour which is the product of the general situation in these localities. Most illegal activity is highly latent and is extremely difficult to detect.

The research confirmed that serious latent crime (e.g. trafficking in human beings, usury and the associated crime) is a consequence of the social situation and, often, the reclusiveness of minority groups, and is also the cause of petty crime (property-related) which subsequently affects the whole of society. Similar research was carried out in Brno in 2006, and will be evaluated during 2007.

- Working Party of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs for National Affairs and the Police Force of the Czech Republic.

Within the Ministry of the Interior, there is a *Working Group of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs for National Affairs and the Police Force of the Czech Republic*. The chairman of this working party is the First Deputy Minister, and members are experts from the Ministry and the Czech Police Force, representatives of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, the office of this Council and, in particular, the Roma coordinators of provincial authorities. This is the only official working party that draws together the Roma coordinators of provincial authorities.

In 2006, this working group held two meetings. The first focused on describing the problems of socially excluded Roma communities, as determined in a survey commissioned by the

Ministry of the Interior (in the provinces of Ústecký kraj and Karlovarský kraj), and the ways in which they could be tackled, especially by local government and the Czech Police Force. The main problems include usury, credit fraud, excessive indebtedness and the seizure of social benefits.

3.3.5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

As in previous years, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the missions of the Czech Republic abroad again provided information, in the scope of the task set under Government Resolution No 720 of 14 July 1999, concerning measures adopted in the Czech Republic to clamp down on racially, nationally or otherwise extremist motivated crimes and concerning attempts to eliminate all manifestations of racial discrimination in society.

Every year, the Ministry contributes to the production of the following reports: Report on the State of Human Rights in the Czech Republic, Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic, and Report on the Situation of Roma Communities. It also actively monitors developments on the international extremist scene and prepares documentation on Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic. The Czech missions produce informative material on this theme every year which is also used as a source of information for the Czech Police Force.

o United Nations

Under Article 9 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and in accordance with the final recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination concerning the fifth periodic report on the fulfilment of obligations under the Convention, on 4 January 2006 the Czech Republic submitted the sixth and seventh periodic reports on the fulfilment of obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (for the period from 1 June 2002 to 31 March 2005).¹⁶⁾

On 17 August 2006, a discussion of the third periodic report on measures adopted to implement obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was held at the UN's headquarters in New York. This report was drawn in accordance with the requirements of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and covered the period from 1999 to 2003. The Committee recommended dealing systematically with the status of Roma women in society and eliminating the numerous discriminations they face. It also expressed the requirement for statistics to be kept on the access that Roma women have to education, employment and health care, on their participation in political life and decision-making processes. The Committee also calls for the adoption of temporary special measures to speed up the process of ensuring their equal opportunities.¹⁷⁾

o Council of Europe

Further to the second periodic report on the implementation of the Framework Convention submitted by the Czech Republic in 2004, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted a resolution on the implementation of the Convention on 15 March 2006. For more details, see point 2.1 of this Report.

¹⁶⁾ The report was discussed in Geneva on 1 – 2 March 2007. *It is available from www.vlada.cz.*

¹⁷⁾ The final recommendations and related documents can be found at www.un.org.

On 15 November 2006 the Czech Republic deposited its instrument of ratification of the Charter with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and made the relevant declarations concerning the Czech Republic's fulfilment of obligations under the Charter. For more details, see point 2.2 of this Report.

On 10 – 12 January 2006, representatives from the office of the Commissioner of the Council of Europe for Human Rights visited the Czech Republic to examine the implementation of the Commissioner's recommendations made in the report on his visit to the Czech Republic in 2003. In the report from 2006, which was drawn up further to this visit, two parts are devoted to national minorities. In the first part, discussing racism, xenophobia and non-discrimination, the Commissioner welcomes the Government's awareness of the need to reinforce the prevention of racism and make a change in the stance towards minorities and foreign nationals. However, he notes with regret that so far no antidiscrimination law has been enacted and that the Czech Republic has not taken the necessary steps towards ratification of Protocol 12 to the European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. In the second part, discussing the situation of Roma communities, the Commissioner assesses the situation regarding the access that Roma communities have to education, employment and housing. The Commissioner calls on the Czech Republic to try to create resources for the introduction of preschool preparations, language teaching, and the training of assistants to ensure the integration of Roma pupils into the educational mainstream. Despite the Czech Republic's efforts to open up access to employment, unemployment among members of Roma communities remains high. In terms of access to housing, the Commissioner calls on the competent state administration authorities to intervene more actively against the disruption of the implementation of national projects by local authorities. The Commissioner also discusses racially motivated violence, which still persists in the Czech Republic, although the number of crimes in this field is low. As regards the sterilization of Roma women, the Commissioner welcomes the ombudsman's report, the adoption of new regulations on informed consent, and the judgment delivered by the Municipal Court in Ostrava declaring coerced sterilization to be unlawful.¹⁸⁾

On 15 February 2006, the Report of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe on the Human Rights Situation of the Roma, Sinti and Travellers in Europe was published. The report was drawn up for the period from 1999 to 2005 and refers to the problems which occur most commonly in countries where Roma, Sinti and other traveller minorities are represented (discrimination in the field of housing, education, employment health care and the granting of asylum). As for extremism, the report contains recommendations for the procedure to be followed by government authorities in investigating crimes with a racial subtext. The perpetration of racially motivated crimes should be condemned at a high political level; penalties should be proportionate to the seriousness of the crime, and where necessary special investigation teams should be set up to detect racially motivated crime. An emphasis should also be placed on training police officers in human rights and antidiscrimination legislation, and on the introduction of programmes for the recruitment of Roma citizens to the police force.

o OCSE

Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also provided information about diverse measures adopted in the Czech Republic to support the integration of members of the Roma community at the OCSE Eleventh Human Dimension Implementation Meeting held in Warsaw on 2 – 13 October 2006.

¹⁸⁾ For the text of the report, see www.coe.int.

The Czech Republic provided background documentation for the OSCE/ODIHR report *Combating Hate Crimes in the OSCE Region*. The report was drawn up on the basis of a decision by the OSCE Council of Ministers, which in 2004 tasked the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) to deal with incidents connected with hate-related manifestations of anti-Semitism, racism and xenophobia.¹⁹⁾

o EU

The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia published its National Annual Report for 2006, which is the basis for the production of the consolidated EUMC Annual Report documenting the occurrence of and reactions to manifestations of racism and xenophobia in all Member States of the European Union. The National Annual Report describes inter alia the situation of members of national minorities (notably Roma communities) in the Czech Republic in the field of education, employment and housing. The report states that expert studies confirm the ongoing trend towards the segregation of Roma pupils in education. Experience of the new Schools Act, which discontinued special needs schools (*zvláštní školy*) and replaced them with special schools (*speciální školy*), indicates that the change was only formal. In employment, the report confirms that members of Roma communities are among the largest groups of long-term unemployed. In housing, the trend of creating socially excluded, predominantly Roma localities (ghettoes) on the outskirts of towns persists. The report also discusses racially motivated violence and crime. It lists those crimes which apply to racially motivated violence and provides a summary of statistics and published reports or existing programmes to help combat this situation. However, in the Czech Republic it is still not possible to monitor the nationality of victims and perpetrators of racially motivated crime. Only the racial motive of offences can be monitored by reference to official statistics. In 2006, the racially motivated crime rate remained more or less constant.²⁰⁾

In 2006, the Ministry cooperated with the civic association *Slovo 21* [*Word 21*] in the organization of the international Roma festival *KHAMORO*. It also sponsored the ninth annual football tournament for the Tomáš Holomek Trophy, held by the Union of Olash Roma.

The Ministry has no grant policy for the support of national minorities. However, every year it makes financial contributions to support the activities of certain international organizations. In 2006, it donated EUR 10,000 to the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues, which is part of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).

3.3.6. Office of the President of the Republic

Václav Klaus, the President of the Republic, treats all citizens in the same manner and does not distinguish between national minorities and members of majority society. In 2006, the President of the Republic and his Office followed up on meetings with representatives of national minorities from previous years.

On 26 January 2006, he received representatives of the Roma associations *Dženo*, *Romodrom*, representatives of the Roma Internet radio station *Rota*, the *Body of Regional Representatives* and the coordinator of Roma affairs for Středočeský kraj. This was a continuation of the President's meetings with other Roma associations and initiatives.

In 2006, employees of the Office of the President of the Republic again took part in a ceremony at the Roma monument in Lety, near Písek.

¹⁹⁾ Document – www.osce.org.

²⁰⁾ For the text of the general report, see www.eumc.europa.eu.

The Secretary of the President of the Republic is in frequent contact with representatives of the individual Roma associations; he is kept informed about their activities, mainly by the representatives of the Roma radio station *Rota*, to whom he gave an interview at the station's studio.

During his domestic trips, the President of the Republic often touches on this theme in negotiations with the representatives of individual municipalities. During his visit to Most in October 2006, the President and his wife visited the Jewish community centre, where they learned about the building of the centre and the Jewish minority in Most.

At the summit of V4 presidents, one of the themes was the national minority issues in the individual countries, with an awareness of the need to eliminate any new feelings of wrongdoings or even conflicts.

3.3.7. Ombudsman

The ombudsman notes that the situation regarding the rights of national minorities, from the aspect of handling complaints in his competent, has not changed. The ombudsman continues to deal with instigations within the scope of individual complaints and, since 1 January 2006, with the implementation of 'detention checks', i.e. systematic preventive checks of all places and facilities holding people who have been deprived of their liberty.

In the summary report of his activities for 2005, the ombudsman informed the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic of the results of an investigation into the individual cases of those persons who had contacted the ombudsman with a complaint that they had been sterilized without their consent or based on coerced consent or manipulation. The legislative measures proposed by the ombudsman should have been implemented by an adjustment to the Health Care Bill, which was presented to the Chamber of Deputies as a replacement for the existing Human Health Care Act. However, in June 2006 the bill was withdrawn from the discussion procedure by the person who had originally submitted it. Therefore, the ombudsman recommends that the Chamber of Deputies adopt legislation to regulate the provision of consent prior to sterilization on health grounds or grounds other than health within the scope of the legislative regulation of informed consent. The ombudsman's summary report for 2005, which was discussed by both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Czech Parliament, also contained the recommendation to consider the adoption of legislation enabling women affected by unlawful sterilization to receive compensation. Swedish legislation was singled out as a suitable model for the structure. Although both chambers of Parliament took due note of the content of the report, neither has come forward with a legislative initiative in this case.

The ombudsman considers the complaints related to rental housing in municipal flats to be alarming. Since becoming ombudsman, he has noted an increase in a phenomenon which might be termed 'substandard housing, social isolation and the creation of ghettos'. Inadequate legislation and the municipal policies of some municipalities have contributed to this situation. The ombudsman believes that the state has an obligation to safeguard a minimum standard of housing for persons at risk of social exclusion as this is clearly an element of the basic living conditions understood by Article 30(2) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms: '*All persons in tangible need shall be entitled to the assistance necessary to ensure basic living conditions.*' However, current legislation does not offer a systemic solution to low cost housing that makes it possible to forestall social exclusion. In this respect, the ombudsman recommends the adoption of a Low Cost Housing Act.

3.4. Tasks under Government resolutions

3.4.1. House of National Minorities in Prague

In accordance with point III/1 of Government Resolution No 663 of 30 June 2004 on the Report on the Situation of National Minorities, an item of CZK 20,000,000 for the reconstruction of premises with a view to establishing a House of National Minorities in Prague ('DNM') was incorporated into the 2005 National Budget Bill (budget heading: Public Treasury Administration) as a capital grant earmarked for the City of Prague (Programme 398090). However, building work on the reconstruction of the building did not go ahead as planned in 2005 because in December the plaintiff who lost a case before the District Court for Praha 2 appealed against the court's ruling. Judicial proceedings continued in 2005 at the Municipal Court in Prague; on 24 October 2005, this instance delivered a judgment (39 Co 46/2005-87) dismissing the action and confirming the City of Prague's ownership of the building at Vocelova str. No 602/3, Prague 2.

However, in this situation it was not feasible to draw on the above-mentioned budgetary item of CZK 20,000,000 or to arrange for construction work to be carried out as the year was coming to a close. Therefore, on 15 November 2005, representatives of the City of Prague (Municipal Investor Department) and the Council Secretariat held talks with representatives of the Territorial Budget Financing Department of the Ministry of Finance. The proposed solution was to prepare an updated draft of the documentation on the establishment of the DNM for a Government meeting, whereby the Government would express consent to the release of CZK 20,000,000 in funding for this purpose from the Government budget reserve in 2006. In this respect, a draft document on support for the establishment of the DNM was submitted to the Government in 2006. The Government took due note of detailed information on the DNM project and under Resolution No 92 of 25 January 2006 approved the release of CZK 20,000,000 in funding in 2006 from Budget Heading 398 (Public Treasury Administration, Item: Government budget reserve) for the reconstruction of premises in preparation for the establishment of the DNM, to be used as a capital grant earmarked for the City of Prague.

Following the end of the judicial action on ownership of the building between the City of Prague and the Union of Electricians, in which the City of Prague was affirmed as the owner, the DNM premises (Vocelova street No 602, Prague 2) were handed over to the contractor on 23 March 2006. The original plan had been for the building to open on 12 October 2006 to mark the sixth meeting of national minorities during an international conference, but this date had to be put back because of the extra time required to reconstruct the building. The contractor handed the completed building back to the Municipal Investor Department of Prague City Hall on 28 February 2007. The approbation decision is expected to enter into force in the first half of June 2007 and the DNM will then start operating (the DNM is due to open on 21 June 2007).

Progress in the reconstruction of the building

Launch of the project, which had valid planning permission and a contractor selected in a commercial public tender; on 23 March 2006 the site was handed over to the contractor. Construction work began on 27 March 2006.

The following work was carried out in accordance with the project documentation:

- reconstruction of ceilings,
- reconstruction of flooring,
- total replacement of the roof structure and installation of new roofing,

- heat insulation of façade,
- installation of new windows,
- installation of lifts,
- construction of new sewage and gas connection pipes,
- new interior for new purpose of use.

The project was completed and collected from the contractor on 28 February 2007, and at the same time an application was submitted to the Praha 2 Municipal Borough Authority for an approbation decision. The approbation procedure, including the issue of a valid approbation decision, is expected to be completed in June 2007.

The City of Prague invested 63% of the total capital expenditure required for the reconstruction of the premises, while 37% was covered by a grant from the national budget, specifically:

grant from the national budget in 2006:	TCZK 20,000
own resources of the City of Prague:	TCZK 33,687
Total capital expenditure:	TCZK 53,687

Prague City Hall sent the Ministry of Finance the final settlement of the disbursement of the capital grant from the national budget in 2006 on 9 January 2007.

The reconstructed building has 410 m² of office space and a further 460 m² of communal areas. The premises of the DNM have 24 offices available, where individual national minorities (Bulgarian, Croatian, Hungarian, German, Polish, Roma, Russian, Ruthenian, Greek, Slovak, Serbian, and Ukrainian) can operate under the management of a delegated representative of their own national minority; these representatives are delegated based on a consensus reached by the civic associations of the national minorities. Here, the civic associations of individual national minorities can carry out specific activities in the offices and in the communal areas.

The communal parts of the DNM comprise:

- a large meeting room for seminars, conferences and cultural programmes, with facilities in the basement of the DNM,
- a large exhibition hall with a library on the ground floor of the DNM,
- the communal areas of corridors and stairways also designed to house exhibitions (away from the areas around the offices of the national minorities, which will be set aside for the presentation of individual national minorities in the corridors),
- various club rooms on the ground floor.

The communal areas will be used by all national minorities for their cultural and social activities, and for events organized by the City of Prague for schools in Prague, the public and experts. Use of the communal areas will be by agreement of the individual users, based on a timetable and, in particular, a plan of social activities.

The representatives of the national minorities in the City of Prague Council Commission for National Minorities were kept informed of the current progress in the reconstruction of the building and at the same time discussions were held on the way the running of the DNM would be organized. The representatives were asked inter alia to present, by 8 June 2006, a written nomination for the appointment of a contact person to represent their minority in talks and in the subsequent signing of the agreement on the use of the offices and communal areas in the DNM. The nominations were to contain the names of other persons who would act on behalf of the

respective national minority at the DNM and who would be responsible for that national minority's activities in the offices, a proposal of the framework programme of activities at the DNM in relation to their minority and a proposal of joint operations by the whole team of national minorities at the DNM, and a written report on negotiations with civic associations of the national minority regarding the above-mentioned matters, with the signatures of the chairpersons of the civic associations expressing their approval of the points above.

On 8 February 2007, at a meeting with the City of Prague councillor Jiří Janeček, the councillor responsible for social care and housing policy, the representatives of the individual national minorities were asked to submit – by 20 February 2007 – updated and more specific plans for the activities of their respective national minority at the DNM together with a timetable of events prepared for 2007. Specifically, this entailed a description of the content of activities carried out in the offices of the individual national minorities and the use of the communal areas. A maximum of two offices are available for each of the national minorities at the DNM. A condition is that the national minority's activities focus on culture, and on communication with the public, schools, children and young people in the City of Prague so that the purpose behind the establishment of the DNM is respected.

3.4.2. Khamoro World Roma Festival 2006

On 22 – 27 May 2006, the eighth annual *Khamoro* World Roma Festival 2006 was held in Prague. The main organizer of the event, as in past years, was the civic association *Slovo 21*; the City of Prague was a co-organizer. The festival features among the main events on the capital city's cultural calendar.

Under Czech Government Resolution No 347 of 7 April 2003, the Ministry of Culture provided a grant of CZK 1,600,000 from the national budget (heading 398 – Public Treasury Administration) for the implementation of the festival. The grant scheme in support of the cultural activities of national minorities also provided a non-investment grant of CZK 150,000 for side events at the festival. As in previous years, the eighth *Khamoro* World Roma Festival became one of the most important Roma cultural events not only in the Czech Republic, but throughout Europe.

It is highly significant that more than half of the festival's implementation team (31 people working under work agreements) are Roma. During the festival, they gain valuable working experience which they can then use in other projects (e.g. team members drew up cultural projects in Plzeň and Ostrava).

Festival themes:

- music programmes (concerts of traditional Roma music and gypsy jazz), featuring bands from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, the Netherlands, Austria, France, Hungary, Romania, Russia, the USA, Macedonia and Spain),
- the screening of films with a Roma theme (Slovak film productions, the documentaries *Rosy Dreams* [*Ružové sny*] and *Children of the Wind* [*Deti vetra*]),
- exhibitions (an exhibition of handmade products by Roma craftsmen, portraits of Roma artists, in the programme *Day of Slovak Roma* [*Den slovenských Romů*] – an exhibition of photographs by Jozef Kolarčík-Fintický and the solo exhibition *Magic of Fortune* [*Kouzlo štěstí*]),
- readings by Roma authors of their works,
- the international seminar *Milena Hübschmannová – Figurehead of the Roma Nation* [*Milena Hübschmannová – velká osobnost romského národa*] to honour the memory of a major personality who, through her lifelong work, enriched the Romani language, Roma literature, and Roma studies in an international forum.

Individual programmes were held at the Old Town Hall, the Slovak Institute of Culture, the National Museum – Kinský Belvedere, the Faculty of Humanities at Charles University, Gallery Oliva, the Reduta Jazz Club, the Roxy, and the Great Hall at Lucerna.

Financial settlement of the festival grant:

<i>purpose</i>	<i>total expenditure (TCZK)</i>	<i>covered from the grant (TCZK)</i>	<i>purpose</i>
material costs	161	38	stationery
non-material costs	3,624	952	
		of which: 253.3	special equipment, lighting, the screening of visual materials, etc.
		139.6	travel expenses
		322.4	accommodation
		200.9	the publication of documents, proceedings of the seminar
production - manpower costs (including statutory contributions)	1,658	35.8	a parade by the participants
		610	
		of which: 259.2	wages, project manager, project coordinator, seminar coordinator, etc.
		350.8	production, other personnel costs, work agreements, lecturers (seminar), moderators, interpreting, auxiliary work, graphic design
total	5,443	1,600	

3.4.3. Ministry of the Interior – audit of municipalities

The Ministry of the Interior is the coordinator of a task under point II/1 of Government Resolution No 689 of 7 June 2006 concerning the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2005. This Government Resolution inter alia enjoins the Minister of the Interior, by 30 June 2007, to conduct an audit of municipalities which comply with the conditions laid down in Section 117 of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order), as amended, i.e. to evaluate the operation of the committee for national minorities, and to inform the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Justice of the results of this evaluation.

The Czech Statistical Office provided the Ministry with a summary of municipalities which meet the conditions for the establishment of a committee for national minorities based on the most recent census. Provincial authorities were also asked for their cooperation and reacted by sending their observations in this matter. The Ministry of the Interior ascertained the situation regarding the establishment of committees for national minorities in municipalities where at least 10% of inhabitants are of a nationality other than Czech.²¹⁾

3.4.4. Reconstruction of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Vendryně

In point III.1 of Government Resolution No 742 of 15 June 2006, the task was set of incorporating the reconstruction of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Vendryně into the bill on the national budget for 2006 as an item of CZK 5,000,000 under the budget heading of the Public Treasury Administration. This item did in fact appear in the relevant heading of the national budget for 2006.

²¹⁾ On 23 May 2007 the author received a copy of this document. Because of its scope, the evaluation is not incorporated into this report, but will feature in the next report.

The approbation decision, which entered into force on 11 September 2006, permits the use of the playground of the primary school at Vendryně 236. The project entails a sports complex in the area behind the primary school building. There is a multipurpose tennis court, a small football pitch (20 x 40 m), a running track (4 x 60 m), a long jump (79.6 m²), and shot put (40.50 m²). The paved area measures 152.5 m² and the green area (tended grass) 1,155 m². A drainage system will be installed under every sports surface. The individual drainage systems are connected to a manifold which will flow into the existing sewage system at the school building.

In the approbation procedure, the building control department examined the approbation application, discussed it with the parties to the proceedings and the bodies concerned, and ensured that the project complies with Section 18(1) of the Building Act; it made sure that interests protected by the Building Act, regulations issued to implement the Building Act and other separate regulations are not threatened by the use of the facilities.

During the construction work, changes were made to the project documentation verified in the building permit proceedings. These changes were delineated in the project documentation put forward during the approbation procedure. The minor shortcomings detected during the procedure do not prevent the due, uninterrupted use of the structures, and therefore use was permitted prior to the removal of such deficiencies.

During the procedure, the building control department found no reason not to permit use of the structures.

The total project cost was CZK 7,341,884.11, of which CZK 5,000,000 was covered by a government grant.

3.5. Grant schemes and other grants

3.5.1. Ministry of Finance

The Ministry of Finance is the administrator of the budget heading 'Public Treasury Administration' ('VPS'), which comprises national budget revenues and expenditure of a general nature which therefore does not fall within the competence of any particular budget heading administrator. In the VPS heading, the following items relating to the support of activities by members of national minorities and the integration of the Roma community were earmarked for 2006:

- Coordinators of Roma advisers at provincial authorities: CZK 5,250,000
- Programme preventing social exclusion in Roma communities: CZK 30,000,000
- *Khamoro* World Roma Festival in Prague: CZK 1,600,000
- Handling of emergencies in socially excluded Roma localities and communities: CZK 10,000,000

In accordance with Government Resolution No 92 of 25 January 2006, CZK 20,000,000 was released from budget heading 398 (VPS), Item: Government budget reserve, for the reconstruction of premises in readiness for the establishment of the *House of National Minorities* in Prague. Resources were used as a capital grant provided to the City of Prague (see 3.4.1.).

3.5.2. Ministry of Culture

The Ministry's grant policy in the field of national minorities explicitly concerns the Regional and National Culture Department and the Media and Audiovisual Department; it is also part

of the grant scheme of the Art and Libraries Department (a summary of these grants can be found in Annex 4), the Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries (see Annex 5) and the grant scheme for cinematography (Annex 6) and the State Fund Administration Unit (Annex 7).

The projects entered in grant proceedings in the competence of the Regional and National Culture Department focus on

- the artistic activities of national minorities,
- the cultural and educational activities of national minorities,
- the study and analysis of national-minority culture and folk traditions,
- national-minority documentation,
- publishing (non-periodical publications) by organizations of members of national minorities,
- multi-ethnic cultural events (aimed inter alia at combating negative manifestations of extremism, racial and national-minority intolerance and xenophobia).

In the grant award procedure for projects in the programme to promote the cultural activities of members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic in 2006, 54 entities with 91 projects applied for government grants; 79 projects received government grants. The total amount of funding distributed in this grant award procedure was CZK 7,712,000. Under Czech Government Resolution No 347 of 7 April 2003, the Ministry of Culture provided a grant of CZK 1,600,000 for the implementation of a project for the World Roma Festival *Khamoro* 2006. The summary in Annex 3 lists all the projects and the grants awarded (45 entities with 76 projects). The total amount of grants made available in the programme was CZK 9,473,531.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN 2006 BY INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL MINORITY

BULGARIAN

The following civic associations contributed to the implementation of cultural projects that received support in the grant award procedure: *Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization [Bulharská kulturně osvětová organizace]*, *Pirin and Vazrazhdane*. Their principal goal of the projects is to contribute to the preservation of the traditions of Bulgarian culture.

CROATIAN

The civic *Pálava, Mikulov Ethnographic Association [Národopisný spolek Pálava, Mikulov]* received a grant for the 15th Cultural Day of Moravian Croats in Jevišovka. Croatian groups from the Czech Republic and abroad regularly feature at this day of culture. It develops cultural traditions and revives the almost forgotten folklore of the Croatian minority living in the Czech Republic.

HUNGARIAN

The *Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic [Svaz Maďarů žijících v českých zemích]* is responsible for extensive cultural activities. The most significant project of this organization is its annual *Days of Hungarian Culture*. The idea of the event, which takes place in several cities (Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Teplice) is to deepen the identity of the Hungarian minority, maintain cultural traditions, and present and spread Hungarian culture in a Czech environment.

GERMAN

Civic associations run projects focusing on traditional folk culture of the Germany minority in the Czech Republic, e.g. the *Association of Germans – Hřebečsko Regional Group* [Sdružení Němců, regionální skupina Hřebečsko], the *Silesian German Association* [Slezský německý svaz], the *Union of Germans – Chebsko Region* [Svaz Němců - region Chebsko], the *Union of Germans – Liberec* [Svaz Němců – Liberec], and *Lužice – North Bohemia* [Lužice – severní Čechy].

The *Large Gathering of Folk Art and Culture of the German Minority and Friends of Germans from All Regions* was again one of the largest cultural events organized by and for citizens of German nationality. This is an annual meeting of regional associations organized in Prague by the *Assembly of Germans in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia* [Shromáždění Němců v Čechách, na Moravě a ve Slezsku]. Other civic associations awarded grants were the *Cultural Association of Citizens of German Nationality* [Kulturní sdružení občanů německé národnosti] and the *Union of Germans – North Moravia, Orlické hory* [Svaz Němců – severní Morava, Orlické hory]. During the year, both these entities announced that they were pulling out of their projects. As a result, the Ministry of Culture did not disburse the corresponding funds. Another project awarded a grant was one by the civic association *German Language and Cultural Association, Brno* [Německý jazykový a kulturní spolek, Brno]. However, because the association failed to draw up its settlement statement in time for the grant in 2005, the grant for 2006 was withheld.

POLISH

The *Polish Cultural and Educational Union in the Czech Republic* [Polský kulturně osvětový svaz v ČR] (PZKO) runs the annual project *Cultural and Educational Activities*. The main aim is to ensure the development of cultural heritage, make active presentations, conduct academic research and publish with the aim of providing information to the general public. Traditional events are the *Gorolski Świąto* festival in Jablunkov and the *Bajka Puppet Theatre* project.

A significant activity of the *Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic* [Kongres Poláků v ČR] is its documentary operations – it gathers artefacts of an archiving, book and museum nature that document the past of the Polish national minority on the territory of the Czech Republic and makes them accessible to others, thus popularizing them.

The choirs of the *Ars Musica Polish Art Association* [Polské umělecké sdružení Ars Musica] and the *Collegium Canticorum Polish Choir Association* [Polské pěvecké sdružení Collegium Canticorum] from Český Těšín and the *Hutnik Polish Choir* [Polský pěvecký soubor Hutnik], performing at the House of Culture – Association of Art and Special-Interest Activities in Třinec, have regular activities. Regular exhibitions of Polish books combined with accompanying literary events are held by the *Association of Polish Book Friends* [Sdružení přátel polské knihy] in Český Těšín. The civic association *Górole*, a folk ensemble from Mosty u Jablunkova, organized an international festival of folk groups and folk ensembles.

ROMA

Roma civic associations focus on the organization of folk festivals. Besides the traditional Roma cultural events, popular recent additions to the calendar are the *Festival of Roma Culture* in Liberec and *Sára – Patron Saint of the Roma* in Hejnice, organized by the civic association *Cultural Traditions* [Kulturní tradice].

The civic association *Slovo 21* organized the *KHAMORO World Roma Festival 2006*. This festival figures among the Roma minority's most significant projects. Every year, it draws top-class domestic and foreign Roma ensembles and bands.

RUTHENIAN

The *Skejušan Folklore Ensemble* from Chomutov mainly performs at folk festivals in the Czech Republic. It participated in the *Jánošík's Ducat 2006*, an international festival of Slovak folk traditions in the Czech Republic.

RUSSIAN

The *Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition in the Czech Republic* [Sdružení krajanů a přátel Ruské tradice v ČR] focused, in the project *Cultural – Social Activities of Russian Tradition*, on lecture series and talks.

In a competition to support amateur art activities in 2006, the Regional and National Culture Department awarded a grant of CZK 70,000 to the *Czech Association of Russianists* [Česká asociace rusistů] for the project *ARS Poetica – Pushkin's Monument*.

In the scheme to promote international contacts in amateur art, a grant of CZK 14,000 (drama) was awarded for the project *ARS Poetica Programme at the Session of the Presidium of the World Association of Russianists – International Conference, Beijing, China*, submitted by the *Czech Association of Russianists*.

GREEK

The *Association of Greek Communities* [Asociace řeckých obcí], in the project *Culture Activities of the Greek Minority in the Czech Republic*, acquainted the general public with traditional Greek oral, music and dance culture. The aim of the project *Preservation and Development of the Culture of the Greek Minority in the Czech Republic*, presented by the civic association *Lyceum of Greek Women* [Lyceum Řekyň], is to take care of cultural heritage, preserve folk traditions and provide year-round activities. The Lyceum preserves Greek national costumes and presents them at festivals and performances by the dance company.

SLOVAK

The *Club of Slovak Culture* [Klub slovenské kultury] pays special attention to the documentation of the Slovak minority and Czech-Slovak relations in the Czech Republic. The *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic* [Obec Slováků v ČR] organizes an international festival of Slovak folk art called *Jánošík's Ducat*, which took place once again at the Wallachain Outdoor Museum in Rožnov pod Radhostěm. This event was held under the aegis of the Minister for Culture. The festival programme includes a presentation of folk crafts.

The *Slovak-Czech Club* [Slovensko - český klub] again organized *Days of Slovak Culture in the Czech Republic*, which was held in ten towns. In addition, this civic association continued its club evenings called *Slovak Touches*.

The *Limborá Slovak Folk Association* [Limborá - slovenské folklorní sdružení] and the *PŮČIK Folk Association* have focused long term on the traditions and customs of the Slovak people as preserved in folk songs and dance. The *Šarvanci Folk Ensemble* is of a similar bent.

SERBIAN

The *Serbian Association of St Sava* [Srbské sdružení sv. Sáva] presented Serbian artists and academics through exhibitions, music performances, literary evenings, lectures and talks as

part of the *Club Meetings of the Serbian Minority in Prague*.

UKRAINIAN

The civic association *Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic* [*Ukrajinská iniciativa v České republice*] again implemented a project called *Ukrainian Club*, the aim of which was to provide year-round cultural life for members of the Ukrainian minority. The project *Days of Ukrainian Culture in the Czech Republic* focused primarily on shedding more light on traditions, contemporary cultural life, and the music, literary and artistic output of Ukrainians living in the Czech Republic.

The main activity of another organization – the *Association of Ukrainians and Friends of Ukraine* [*Sdružení Ukrajinců a přátel Ukrajiny*] – is music. The *Choir of St Vladimír* [*Sbor sv. Vladimíra*] holds performances within the framework of this association.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

In the grant scheme for the promotion of the cultural activities of members of national minorities, the project *Publication of 'Mazl Tov – Hodně štěstí. Svatební obřady aškenazských Židů – historie i současnost'* [*'Mazl Tov – Lots of Luck. Wedding Ceremonies of the Ashkenazi Jews – Past and Present'*], submitted by the Jewish Museum in Prague, received support. The Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries arranged for assistance to be granted to a Holocaust-related study and educational activities.

In all materials, studies and other activities on this theme, the Holocaust of the Jews is juxtaposed with the Holocaust of the Roma. This theme is systematically covered by Terezín Monument [*Památník Terezín*] (an organization partly financed from the public purse, set up by the Ministry of Culture in cooperation with the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno). The Holocaust of the Roma is revisited in an exhibition by the Terezín Monument and in the foreign museum exhibitions managed by this organization in the former concentration camps in Auschwitz and Ravensbrück. The organization holds seminars and workshops for experts on this theme and, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, for teachers, pupils and students.

The activities of *Terezín Monument*, the organization partly funded from the public purse and set up by the Ministry of Culture, were safeguarded when a contribution of CZK 23,106,000 to the operation of the museum in 2006 was approved.

Cultural activities in the field of Holocaust education were supported in 2006 by the following grants:

- *A Year with Jewish Culture*, a national project in which grants supported an international exhibition of the Moravian Museum in Brno called *Bless You, Mr Grünbaum* (CZK 820,000), and the performance of Verdi's *Requiem* at Terezín Monument (CZK 460,000);
- the preparation of the Terezín Monument publication *Vzpomínky Jana Burky na věznění a uměleckou tvorbu v terezínském ghettu* [*'Jan Burka's Memories of Imprisonment and Artistic Output in the Terezín Ghetto'*] (CZK 500,000).

MULTIETHNIC CULTURAL EVENTS

The most significant multiethnic events implemented in the scope of the Ministry of Culture grant scheme for the support of the cultural activities of members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic in 2006 included the 37th *Silesian Days*, held in Dolní Lomná and organized by the *League for the Advancement of Silesia* [*Matice slezská*], and the 8th *International Festival 'Jacks for the Children'* in Jablunkov. The civic association *Nations Along the Dyje River* [*Národy Podyjí*] organized the Sixth Festival of Nations Along the Dyje.

MEDIA AND AUDIOVISUAL RESOURCES

None of the festivals subsidized in 2006 in the audiovisual and media programme is devoted exclusively to national minority issues. However, films and radio programmes on this theme appear at many of them. These include FAMUfest, Report – the festival of radio documentaries and current affairs programmes, the One World International Festival of Documentaries, and the Jihlava International Festival of Documentaries.

Programme to support the dissemination and acceptance of information in the languages of national minorities in 2006

In 2006, the grant committee of the Ministry of Culture assessed 47 projects over two rounds (33 in the first round, 14 in the second) which were seeking assistance from the national budget totalling CZK 30,000,000. The plan was to award grants to 26 projects. In reality, 25 projects were implemented.

Grants were awarded to the publishers of 23 periodicals, one television programme of Czech Television, and one Internet radio station programme. Support was channelled into three projects of the Polish minority, four Roma projects, four Slovak projects, two Bulgarian, German and Ukrainian projects, and one Greek, Russian, Ruthenian, Jewish, Serbian and Hungarian project. Other grantees were a programme produced by Czech Television (*Babylon*, at the Ostrava Studio of Czech Television) and the radio programme *Xeny*, broadcast by Radio Student.

In connection with shortcomings in the presentation of grant accounting in 2005, five projects were handed over to the competent revenue offices for investigation due to breach of budgetary discipline. These projects were *Zwrot*, *Porohy*, *Rádio Rota*, *Korene* and *Romano Vodí*. At the end of the procedure, all the implementers of these projects contacted the Minister for Culture seeking an exemption in accordance with Government Resolution No 114/2001 of 7 February 2001.²²⁾ The Minister accepted four of the requests and granted exemptions for them. The request for an exemption for one of the projects was rejected.

Of the total budget of CZK 30,000,000, CZK 28,135,000 was disbursed; in addition, funds of CZK 269,750 from the *2005 Reserve Fund* were used. Retained funding totalling CZK 1,865,000 was transferred to the reserve fund and, if released by the Czech Government, will be used for projects in 2007.

In the financial accounting of grants, CZK 16,636.90 was remitted to the deposit account of the Ministry of Culture by three grantees on 15 February 2006 and 28 February 2006 respectively. These funds were channelled into the national budget.

²²⁾ Principles for the provision of grants from the national budget of the Czech Republic to nongovernmental organizations by central state administration authorities

BULGARIAN MINORITY

○ *Roden glas*

The publisher of this periodical is the civic association *Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization*.

For the first time, six issues of the magazine were published over the year. The periodical provided information on the social and cultural activities of the Bulgarian minority. Receipts from sales are relatively low; the association subsidizes the project from its cultural fund. This periodical has 24 + 4 pages.

Roden glas	2006
Grant	CZK 400,000
Publication	bimonthly, 6 issues
Price per issue	CZK 10 subscriptions, CZK 15 over the counter
Print run	1,200 first issue, 5 issues at 1,000 copies, total: 6,200
Total expenses	CZK 597,876
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.57%, actual: 66.9%
Receipts from sales	CZK 34,286
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 30,000
Unsold copies	0, approximately 200 copies of each issue distributed free of charge
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 10,575
Copies sold, measured by receipts	43.4 %

○ *Balgari*

The project implementer is the civic association *Vazrazhdane*. The periodical received funding in 2005 after a break caused by the need to tackle problems within the association. Five issues were published, of which one was a double issue; the periodical has 28 + 4 pages; it is sold for CZK 20 and is printed in Bulgarian. The rising receipts from sales mean that the periodical is gradually finding a readership. The Bulgarian minority has acquired another project that expands the availability for the Bulgarian minority to raise its profile and deepens awareness within the community in the Czech Republic.

Balgari	2006
Grant	CZK 359,000
Publication	5 issues per year
Price per issue	CZK 20, double issue CZK 40
Print run	1,000 per issue, 1 double issue, total: 5,000
Total expenses	CZK 514,260
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.84 % = actual
Receipts from sales	CZK 65,560
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 89,700
Unsold copies	1,474 copies, CZK 35,100
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 6,500 /CZK 7,500
Copies sold, measured by receipts	54.63 %

HUNGARIAN MINORITY

○ *Prágai Tükör*

The publisher of this periodical was the *Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic*. It is a cultural and social affairs periodical that contributes to the preservation of the cultural identity of the Hungarian minority in the Czech Republic. On average, there are 112 pages per issue. The periodical only uses Hungarian. Each issue contains a summary in Czech; it is well received by the Hungarian-speaking minority and has a loyal readership.

Prágai Tükör	2006
Grant	CZK 977,000
Publication	5 times a year
Price per issue	CZK 30, subscribers CZK 20
Print run	1,000 per issue, total of 5,000
Total expenses	CZK 1,396,054
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.99 %, actual: 69.98 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 68,035
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 351,036
Unsold copies	424 copies, CZK 12,750
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 25,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	37.22 %

GERMAN MINORITY

o *Landes-Zeitung*

The publisher of this title was the *Assembly of Germans in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia* [Shromáždění Němců v Čechách, na Moravě a ve Slezsku]. The periodical has 8+4 pages. The publisher of this title was the *Assembly of Germans in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia*. The periodical has 8+4 pages; the first section deals with political, cultural and educational issues, while the supplement concentrates on interesting matters in the field of the German national minority's cultural heritage. This fortnightly periodical carries information about the life of the German minority and other current affairs. Twenty-six issues were published in 2006. There was a moderate rise in receipts from sales and advertising; the newspaper sells well. Almost a quarter of the print run is used for language teaching at the German cultural centre and at schools of all levels.

Landes-Zeitung	2006
Grant	CZK 1,890,000
Publication	2 x a month, at least 24 issues
Price per issue	CZK 7.50
Print run	2,000 per issue, total of 52,000, 26 issues
Total expenses	CZK 2,097,392
Share of grant in project	planned: 64.97 % = actual
Receipts from sales	CZK 204,931
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 536,500
Unsold copies	7,495 copies, CZK 56,213
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 20,000, editor-in-chief
Copies sold, measured by receipts	53.92 %

o *Eghalånd Bladl*

This project was supported for the first time. It is a regional periodical, published in the Cheb dialect for the German-speaking community, but is also freely available to anyone interested. The total project value was not reached; the unused part of the grant was refunded to the Ministry's account. The funding enabled the grantee to improve the quality of printing and prepare for a higher print run in the future.

Eghalånd Bladl	2006
Grant	CZK 51,000, actual: CZK 42,748
Publication	monthly
Price per issue	CZK 8.50
Print run	300 per issue, total of 3,600
Total expenses	CZK 62,026
Share of grant in project	planned: 68.92 % = actual
Refund of grant to the deposit account of the Ministry of Culture	CZK 8,252
Receipts from sales	CZK 18,001
Receipts from advertising, other	
Unsold copies	100 copies, CZK 850
Average monthly wage of editing staff	free, association deposit
Copies sold, measured by receipts	58.83 %

POLISH MINORITY

o *Głos ludu*

The publisher of this newspaper was the *Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic*. The newspaper helped maintain a knowledge of Polish among the Polish minority. There was a moderate decline in sales, but steps are being taken to attract the younger generation of readers. During the year 152 issues were published. The share of the grant in total costs is very favourable compared to other publishers printing for national minorities. The only income except the grant from the Ministry is receipts from subscriptions and advertising.

Głos ludu	2006
Grant	CZK 5,283,750
Publication	three times a week
Price per issue	CZK 6
Print run	Tue, Thu: 5,100, Sat: 5,500 152 issues, total of 795,200
Total expenses	CZK 9,774,388
Share of grant in project	planned: 54.06 % = actual
Receipts from sales	CZK 3,353,792
Receipts from advertising, services, other	CZK 1,136,126
Unsold copies	85,815 copies, CZK 514,890
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 15,000 /CZK 19,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	70,29 %

o *Nasza Gazetka*

This is a periodical for children and young people and is published by *Harcerstwo Polskie in the Czech Republic*. Twenty issues were published in 2006. The periodical is published during the school year, i.e. from September to June, at a rate of two issues a month. The project also benefited from other donors; the municipal authority contributed CZK 7,000 and a private individual donated CZK 20,000. This periodical is warmly received by readers and is also used as a teaching aid. The price is set at a token amount so that everyone can afford it but so that young people realize that they have to pay for certain things.

Nasza Gazetka	2006
Grant	CZK 944,000
Publication	20 issues
Price per issue	CZK 5
Print run	1,000 per issue, 20,000 total
Total expenses	CZK 1,360,045
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.41 % = actual
Receipts from sales	CZK 82,700
Receipts from advertising, services, other	CZK 306,251
Unsold copies	2760 copies, CZK 13,800
Average monthly wage of editing staff	
Copies sold, measured by receipts	82,7 %

o *Zwrot*

The cultural monthly *Zwrot* (Change) is published by the *Polish Cultural and Educational Union* in the Czech Republic; it has 80 pages + 4 cover pages. Throughout its existence, it has kept to a consistent content focusing on culture, awareness, history, and the contemporary existence of the Polish minority in the Czech Republic. Receipts from sales are distorted by postage of CZK 7 for subscribers (there are 1,190 subscribers). The proportion of copies sold is high (see the number of returns). As the civic association breached budgetary discipline on submitting the grant accounting for 2005, it subsequently

Zwrot	2006
Grant	CZK 1,028,000
Publication	once a month
Price per issue	CZK 20 (+ CZK 7 postage), sale: CZK 20
Print run	1,450 per issue, total of 17,400
Total expenses	CZK 1,727,711
Share of grant in project	planned: 59.51 %, actual: 59.5 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 387,582
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 78,402
Unsold copies	1,491 copies, CZK 29,820
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 20,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	82% (after deducting postage)

applied to the Minister for Culture for an exemption; this was granted and the association was thus eligible to receive a grant in 2006.

ROMA MINORITY

o *Kereka-Kruh*

In 2006, this monthly was published by the *Democratic Alliance of Roma [Demokratická aliance Romů]* in the Czech Republic; it has 36 pages plus an eight-page supplement called *Kerechka*. The print run settled at 3,000 copies and the number of returns fell. Unsold copies are presented at talks and other events held by the Roma community. Contributions in the periodical were published in Czech and Romani. The periodical was used as an aid in nursery schools and the lower grades of primary schools with Roma pupils; in 2007, the association, with the support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, wants to set up a functioning system for the incorporation of the periodical into teaching at primary schools. It helps further the integration of Roma children and young people. In 2006, there were problems with the website; in the first half of 2007 everything should be made accessible to users.

Kereka-Kruh	2006
Grant	CZK 1,850,000
Publication	10 issues per year
Price per issue	CZK 12
Print run	10 issues / 3,000 copies per issue, total: 30,000
Total expenses	CZK 3,244,197
Share of grant in project	planned: 57.32 %, actual: 57.02 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 312,456
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 1,081,741
Unsold copies	6,978 copies, CZK 83,736; gradually distributed at events staged by the association
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 16,000 / CZK 18,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	71.01 %

o *Romano hangos*

The charity *Association of Roma in Moravia [o. p. s. Společenství Romů na Moravě]* continued publishing the newspaper in 2006. Once again, in the accounting of the grant for 2006 the organization breached budgetary discipline and the case was again forwarded to the revenue office in Brno for a solution; this case will be handled within the scope of the revenue office's working rules. In addition to these problems, which the Association of Roma in Moravia brought upon itself, the whole project has been accompanied by a constant lack of funding; insufficient resources have been obtained to cover the difference between the grant and the project value. The fact that the grant for 2006 was provided only after the Minister for Culture had awarded an exemption in June affected the implementation of the whole project. It is regrettable that

Romano hangos	2006
Grant	CZK 1,111,000 used: CZK 1,096,299
Publication	fortnightly, 22 issues, of which 4 are double issues (8/12 pages)
Price per issue	CZK 8 (double issue CZK 12)
Print run	3,100 per issue, total of 68,200
Total expenses	CZK 1,592,000
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.79 %, actual: 68.86 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 25,462
Refund of grant (via revenue office)	at least CZK 14,701
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 53,536
Unsold copies	9% of distribution, approximately 1,760 – 1,830 copies
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 12,000 – CZK 15,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	4.6 %

greater attention is not paid to the accounts side of the project because, as a result, the Roma community is being deprived of a project which, by means of a newspaper, has the potential to address many of the community's members and inform majority society about the opinions and moods within this minority.

The project cannot be implemented if it has no backing; the share of copies actually paid for is a fraction of the total print run.

○ *Romano vodi*

The publisher of this magazine was the civic association *Romea*. The project again suffered problems in 2006. The accounts for 2005 revealed errors and breaches of budgetary discipline, and the project was once again investigated by the competent revenue office. The investigation ran its course, the debt to the national budget was paid and the association applied to the Minister for Culture for an exemption. The exemption was granted and the grant for 2007 was provided in June 2007. The periodical was also published before the funds were released; the project did not find itself in the same situation as the *Romano hangos* project. The periodical is traditionally well received; the share of periodicals sold, however, is very low. It is distributed free of charge inside and outside the community, in schools, and to other civic associations.

Romano vodi	2006
Grant	CZK 1,325,000; disbursed: CZK 1,321,268.10
Publication	10 issues of which 2 double issues
Price per issue	CZK 20
Print run	1,500 per issue, total of 15,000
Total expenses	CZK 1,998,209
Share of grant in project	planned: 67.26 %, actual: 66.12 %
Refunded to the national budget	CZK 3,731.90
Receipts from sales	CZK 31,680
Other receipts	CZK 28,500
Unsold copies	1034 copies, CZK 20,760
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 20,000, CZK 25,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	10.5 %

○ *Romano dzhaniben*

This project, which takes the form of an almanac with approximately 350 pages, is implemented by the civic association *Romano dzhaniben* [*Romano džaniben*], is unique in form and content. Students of Romani are involved in the project. The periodical has a loyal readership and is also presented as a possible study aid for the study programmes on offer at Charles University, Prague.

Romano dzhaniben	2006
Grant	CZK 450,000
Publication	twice a year, 600 copies
Price per issue	CZK 140
Print run	600, total of 1,200
Total expenses	CZK 685,112
Share of grant in project	planned: 66.37 %, actual: 65.7 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 19,494
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 212,735
Unsold copies	215 copies, CZK 30,100
Average monthly wage of editing staff	part-time, 5 persons (approximately CZK 17,000 per month)
Copies sold, measured by receipts	11.6 %

RUTHENIAN MINORITY

○ *Podkarpatská Rus*

The publisher of *Podkarpatská Rus* [*Carpathian Ruthenia*] is the civic association *Society of Friends of Ruthenia* [*Společnost přátel Podkarpatské Rusi*]. Four issues were published, totalling 48 pages. This periodical is distributed free of charge among the Ruthenian minority and includes a supplement in Ruthenian. It is a small-scale project enriching the spectrum of nationalities living in the Czech Republic. It draws attention to the traditions and customs of this national minority.

Podkarpatská Rus	2006
Grant	CZK 90,000
Publication	four times a year
Price per issue	free
Print run	1,200 per issue, total of 44,000
Total expenses	CZK 132,808
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.61 %, actual: 67.77 %
Receipts from sales	0
Receipts from advertising	0
Unsold copies	full print run distributed free of charge
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 5,000 per issue; 7 participants
Copies sold, measured by receipts	

RUSSIAN MINORITY

○ *Russkoye slovo*

The *Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition* is an organization operating nationally in the Czech Republic and focuses on the development of cultural and social traditions of Russian groups in the fields of the arts, science, and education; it also helps compatriots from Russia to adapt to their new surroundings in the Czech Republic. The magazine was published as a full-colour version with 32+4 pages. There are no permanent editing staff; payment was in the form of royalties. Direct sales are minimal; the project is financed from advertising income and donations from business entities and therefore the share of the grant in total costs returns a favourable ratio. The periodical includes a supplement for children, called *Slovo for Children* [*Slovo dětem*], which is published with assistance from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

Russkoye slovo	2006
Grant	CZK 1,200,000
Publication	six times a year
Price per issue	CZK 30
Print run	2,000 per issue, total of 12,000
Total expenses	CZK 2,043,818
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.77 %, actual: 58.72 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 29,455
Receipts from advertising, services, other	CZK 498,994
Unsold copies	0
Average monthly wage of editing staff (agreements per issue)	CZK 5,000 / CZK 6,000 (2-3 people)
Copies sold, measured by receipts	8.1 %

GREEK MINORITY

o *Kalimera*

The publisher of this periodical was the *Greek Community of Prague [Řecká obec Praha]*.

This periodical is supplied free of charge to *Community* members and is also distributed to other Greek communities in the Czech Republic and abroad. This is why there is no information on receipts from sales or unsold copies. Six issues with an average of 32 pages were published in 2006. According to the response, the periodical is rated positively and found to be very useful by the Greek community.

Kalimera	2006
Grant	CZK 420,000
Publication	six times a year
Price per issue	free
Print run	1,000 per issue, total of 6,000
Total expenses	CZK 609,680
Share of grant in project	planned: 70%, actual: 68.89 %
Receipts from sales	free distribution
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 189,680
Unsold copies	0
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 15,000 per issue
Copies sold, measured by receipts	

SLOVAK MINORITY

o *Korene*

This monthly periodical was published by the *Community of Slovaks* in the Czech Republic and concentrated on the life of the Slovak minority in the Czech Republic. This was another project inspected by the revenue office for breach of budgetary discipline. At the end of the investigation and after financial settlement had been made, the association applied to the Minister for Culture for an exemption. The Minister accepted this application and the grant for 2006 was released.

Despite the relatively low receipts from sales, advertising income is such that a balanced project budget can be maintained.

Korene	2006
Grant	CZK 2,575,000
Publication	monthly, 11 issues, 1 double issue
Price per issue	CZK 18, subscribers CZK 15
Print run	4,800 per issue, total of 52,800
Total expenses	CZK 3,678,908
Share of grant in project	planned: 70 %, actual: 69.99 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 478,439 (approximately 29,000 copies)
Receipts from advertising	CZK 25,463
Unsold copies	7,835 copies, CZK 141,030
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 18,000 (editor-in-chief), CZK 10,000 (reporter)
Copies sold, measured by receipts	55.68 %

o *Listy 2006*

The publisher of this monthly periodical was the *Club of Slovak Culture in the Czech Republic*.

The periodical is an integral part of the broad range of periodicals published by the Slovak national minority; it is well received and has a stable number of subscribers (approximately 2,100); distribution is between 2,050 and 2,150 copies. The supplements *Studentské listy* [Student Pages], *Oříšek* [Nut] and *Klubové listy* [Club Pages] are an integral part. An additional 500 copies were produced to mark the Slovak Ball.

The accounts were submitted on time; some documents are still being added and the overall value of the project will be adjusted.

Listy 2006	2006
Grant	CZK 2,000,000
Publication	9 times a year, of which 3 double issues
Price per issue	CZK 20, double issue: CZK 38
Print run	2,500 per issue, total of 22,500
Total expenses	CZK 2,850,000
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.98 % = actual
Receipts from sales	
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 355,000
Unsold copies	450 copies, CZK 17,100
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 12,000 – CZK 15,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	

o *Slovenské dotyky*

This monthly periodical was published by the *Slovak-Czech Club* in the Czech Republic. The nature of the periodical remains constant; it focused not only on the community of the Slovak minority in the Czech Republic, but also on the Czech public. Eleven issues were published; the publisher followed tradition by labelling the final issue of the year a double issue (12/2006 and 1/2007) in order to bridge the gap in the implementation of the project in the next year.

The periodical is well received and thanks to its consistently high number of subscribers and solid sales has managed to keep to a balanced project budget. The association covered CZK 87,000 out of its own resources. The society *CzechoSlovak Stage* [ČeskoSlovenská scéna] contributed to the production of *Divadelní příloha* [Theatre Supplement]. It works closely with the civic association *Slovak Literature Club* [Slovenský literární klub] in the Czech Republic on the implementation of the *Zrcadlení* [Mirroring] project.

Slovenské dotyky	2006
Grant	CZK 2,600,000
Publication	11 issues, of which 1 double issue
Price per issue	CZK 18, subscribers CZK 10
Print run	7,000 per issue, total: 77,000
Total expenses	CZK 4,012,723
Share of grant in project	planned: 66.67 %, actual: 64.79 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 1,055,724
Receipts from advertising, publicity	CZK 270,200
Unsold copies	7,560 copies (9.82%), CZK 136,080
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 18,900
Copies sold, measured by receipts	92.53 %

○ *Zrkadlenie / Zrcadlení*

Four issues were published within the scope of this project in 2006; the implementer is the *Slovak Literature Club in the Czech Republic*. It was a literary revue. The association describes itself as a writers' club; support within the scope of this grant scheme is borderline. In the future, the project should also generate funding from other sources.

The publisher works in close cooperation with the *Slovak-Czech Club*, which also supported the project financially with a contribution of CZK 90,000 and purchased 150 copies of each issue. This was in return for participation in overheads (rent, travel expenses).

Zrkadlenie / Zrcadlení	2006
Grant	CZK 565,000
Publication	four times a year
Price per issue	CZK 40, subscribers CZK 30
Print run	1,000 per issue total: 4,000
Total expenses	CZK 813,817
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.75 %, actual: 69.42 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 155,720 (3,803 copies)
Receipts from advertising, other	
Unsold copies	41 copies (1.18 %), CZK 1,640
Average monthly wage of editing staff	not stated in accounts
Copies sold, measured by receipts	97.32 %

SERBIAN MINORITY

○ *Srpska reč*

The publisher of this periodical was the civic association *Serbian Association of St Sava*. The project was assisted by the Ministry as a year-round project for the first time. In 2005, only three issues – in the second half of the year – were published.

The response to the periodical has been good; it is the only project subsidized within the Serbian national minority. During the year, it managed to attract paying readers; the share of copies sold is just above 60%.

Srpska reč	2006
Grant	CZK 610,000
Publication	six times a year
Price per issue	CZK 30
Print run	800 per issue, total of 4,800
Total expenses	CZK 874,000
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.80 % = actual
Receipts from sales	CZK 88,440
Receipts from advertising, other (gifts)	CZK 174,000
Unsold copies	1906 copies, CZK 57,180
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 5,000 per month
Copies sold, measured by receipts	61.41 %

UKRAINIAN MINORITY

○ *Porohy*

The publisher of this periodical was the *Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic*. The periodical focused on Ukrainian citizens with permanent residence or permission to stay long term in the Czech Republic. The editing staff is remunerated in the form of royalties.

As there was a breach of budgetary discipline in the grant accounts for 2005, the revenue office conducted an inspection. On conclusion of the investigation, the civic association contacted the Minister for Culture with a request for an exemption and for the provision of a grant for 2006. The

Porohy	2006
Grant	CZK 570,000; disbursed: CZK 65,347
Publication	4 issues, 30 pages
Price per issue	CZK 20
Print run	1,000 per issue, total of 6,000
Total expenses	CZK 845,699
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.99 %, actual: 66.85 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 87,393
Receipts from advertising, other	CZK 192,959
Unsold copies	400 copies, CZK 8,000
Refunded to the national budget	CZK 4,653
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 14,000 + CZK 5,000/6,000
Copies sold, measured by receipts	72.82 %

grant was awarded, but at a reduced amount. The grant was used for the publication of four issues with 32 pages each and supplements. The accounts were submitted on time.

○ *Ukrajinský žurnál*

This project was supported in the grant scheme for the first time in 2005. It is a monthly periodical published by the civic association *Ruta*; it has 44 pages and 11 issues were published, one of which was a summer double issue. The periodical has quickly found subscribers, correspondents and fans.

Ukrajinský žurnál	2006
Grant	CZK 891,000
Publication	monthly
Price per issue	CZK 30
Print run	1,000 per issue, total of 11,000
Total expenses	CZK 1,832,218
Share of grant in project	planned: 49.53 %, actual: 48.63 %
Receipts from sales	CZK 28,695
Receipts from advertising	CZK 905,699
Unsold copies	approx. 20%, distributed free after three months
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 8,200
Copies sold, measured by receipts	

JEWISH MINORITY

○ *Maskil*

The publisher of this magazine was the civic association *Bejt Simcha*. It is a cultural monthly; four issues had 16 pages, others had 20, and the summer double issue had 28. The periodical was distributed free of charge to all Jewish communities and other organizations in the Czech Republic; a few copies were distributed in Slovakia. For the reasons mentioned above, it is not possible to assess receipts from sales and the copies sold as a percentage of income.

Maskil	2006
Grant	CZK 465,000
Publication	once a month, 11 issues
Price per issue	free
Print run	800 per issue, total of 8800
Total expenses	CZK 669,427
Share of grant in project	planned: 69.92 %, actual: 69.46 %
Receipts from sales	free distribution
Receipts from advertising	CZK 6,000
Unsold copies	0
Average monthly wage of editing staff	CZK 5,000 (agreements)
Copies sold, measured by receipts	unquantifiable

Apart from the grant, the project is financed as follows: CZK 49,100 from the *Holocaust Victim Endowment Fund* [*Nadační fond obětím holocaustu*], CZK 9,650 from minor donors and CZK 139,677 as the applicant's own contribution.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

○ *Babylon*

This project was implemented by the *Czech Television Ostrava Studio*. *Babylon*, a programme of current affairs and documentaries, is a unique format in television transmission in the Czech Republic devoted systematically and conceptually to the life and issues of national minorities, migrants and compatriots. It provides viewers not only with a view of the heterogeneity of our

BABYLON	2006
Grant	CZK 500,000
Publication	television magazine, current affairs and documentaries
Price per issue	38 programmes produced
Total expenses	CZK 2,370,723
Share of grant in project	planned: 23.88 %, actual: 21.09%
Average monthly wage of editing staff	royalties

society, but also offers the opportunity of hearing the languages of individual national minorities. It therefore promotes the idea that each nation or ethnic group is entitled to its own identity. It helps minimize xenophobic tendencies and reinforces the significance of mutual tolerance. The grant was used to cover royalties. The project budget was slightly higher and the share of the grant in the project was therefore lower.

RADIO BROADCAST

o *Xeny, a Radio Student programme*

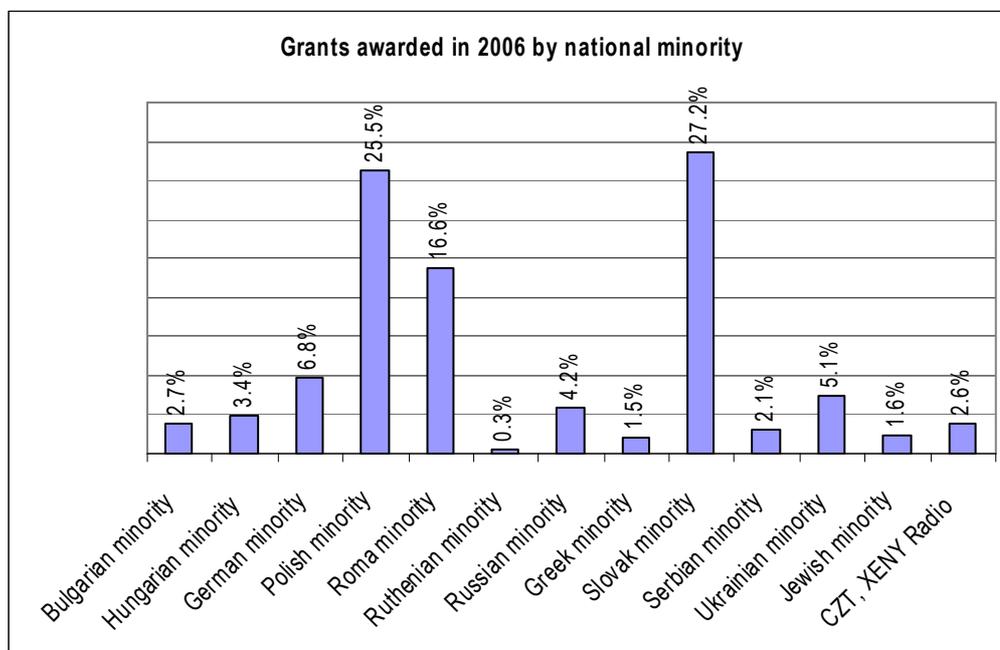
This project was supported for the first time in 2006. The programme was broadcast four times a month with four repeats. Every month, the programme focused on the Roma minority and three others, so over the year the spotlight fell on almost all of them. One of the programme's features was the presence of a guest from the relevant national minority. The broadcasts cover the Brno area and are also available online. Judging by the response from listeners, the programmes successfully broached topical themes.

XENY, a Radio STUDENT programme	2006
Grant	CZK 250,000
Publication	topical programmes promoting and presenting national minorities
Total expenses	CZK 373,134
Share of grant in project	planned: 67% = actual
Average monthly wage (agreements)	dramaturgist CZK 12,000

Overview of grants from the national budget in 2006 concerning the acceptance and dissemination of information about national minorities

<i>applicant</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarian minority		
Bulgarian Cultural and Education Organization, civic association	Roden glas	400,000
Vazrazhdane, civic association	Balgari	359,000
TOTAL		759,000
Hungarian minority		
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, civic association	Prágai Tükör	977,000
German minority		
Assembly of Germans in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, civic association	Landes-Zeitung	1,890,000
Union of Germans – Chebsko Region, civic association	Eghaländ Bladl	51,000
TOTAL		1,941,000
Polish minority		
Congress of Poles, civic association	Głos ludu	5,283,750
Harcerstwo Polskie, civic association	Nasza Gazetka	944,000
Polish Cultural and Educational Union, civic association	Zwrot	1,028,000
TOTAL		7,255,750
Roma minority		
Democratic Alliance of Roma, civic association	Kereka	1,850,000
Romea, civic association	Romano vod'i	1,325,000
Association of Roma in Moravia, non-profit company	Romano hangos 14	1,111,000
Romano Dzhaniiben, civic association	Romano dzhaniiben	450,000
TOTAL		4,736,000

Ruthenian minority		
Society of Ruthenians and Friends of Ruthenia, civic association	Podkarpatská Rus	90,000
Russian minority		
Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition, civic association	Russkoye slovo	1,200,000
Greek minority		
Greek Community of Prague, civic association	Kalimera	420,000
Slovak minority		
Community of Slovaks, civic association	Korene	2,575,000
Slovak-Czech Club, civic association	Slovenské dotyky	2,600,000
Club of Slovak Culture in the Czech Republic, civic association	Listy Slovákov a Čechov	2,000,000
Slovak Literature Club, civic association	Zrkadlenie / Zrcadlení	565,000
TOTAL		7,740,000
Serbian minority		
Serbian Association of St Sava, civic association	Srpska reč	610,000
Ukrainian minority		
Ukrainian Initiative, civic association	Porohy	570,000
RUTA, civic association	Ukrajinský žurnál	891,000
TOTAL		1,461,000
Jewish minority		
Bejt Simcha, civic association	Maskil	465,000
Multinational		
Czech Television Ostrava Studio	Babylon	500,000
Rádio Student, s.r.o.	Xeny	250,000
TOTAL		750,000
Total in the programme		28,404,750



3.5.3. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

- Polish minority education

In 2006, the contribution to the *Teaching Centre for Polish Minority Education* in Český Těšín was CZK 5,389,000 (salaries CZK 1,420,000; other wages CZK 950,000, insurance contributions CZK 830,000, welfare fund CZK 28,000, other routine expenditure CZK 2,161,000).

In 2006, the Ministry promoted educational activities related to Polish minority education via the *Programme to Promote Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Upbringing*: CZK 70,000 was allocated to the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Český Těšín for its project *Free Time Activities*, and CZK 49,000 was granted to the primary school and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction in Karviná – Fryšták for the project *Implementation of Curricula with the Assistance of Regional Elements*. The Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic received CZK 200,000 for the project *Ondrášek – Lord of Lysá hora*, entailing the publication of a Czech-Polish educational interactive CD and DVD, while CZK 72,000 was allocated to the Association of Polish Book Friends for the project *Promoting Reading in the Mother Tongue*.

- Programme for the Support of Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Education

In accordance with Governmental Order No 98/2002, the Ministry announces a programme focusing on the production of educational programmes and teaching materials in the field of national minority education, geared towards providing a knowledge of the history and culture of other nations, education on democratic citizenship, mutual tolerance, the combating of racial and minority intolerance, xenophobia and anti-Semitism. The Ministry's approved budget for the above-mentioned programme in 2006 was CZK 19,000,000. In 2006, 53 projects received assistance totalling CZK 13,587,124. Thematically, in 2006 the Programme for the Support of Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Education focused on language, social, cultural and other educational activities for children and young people who are members of national minorities. Assistance was also geared towards schools with a large share of pupils from ethnic minorities and towards the formation and implementation of educational programmes. Annex 8 details the focus of the projects by individual minority and project type for 2006.

- European Social Funds (ESF)

Under Measure 3.1 (Improvements in the quality of education at schools and educational establishments and development of subsidiary systems in education) of the Human Resources Development Operational Programme, the Ministry, in cooperation with the Educational and Psychological Counselling Institute of the Czech Republic, prepared two systemic projects in 2006.

- SIM – Minority Integration Centres

The aim of the project is to create and pilot test minority integration centres, which will form a support system of care for socio-culturally disadvantaged pupils and improve the process of integrating these groups into society. At the same time, an improvement in the conditions for timely care and quality education is envisaged further to a specification of educational needs geared towards the individuality of pupils and their cultural distinctiveness and current social

situation. The project has four basic components: the establishment of minority integration centres in selected provinces; work with high-risk youth, primarily entailing the identification of risk groups, timely intervention and the creation of support programmes to prevent and minimize the impacts of high-risk behaviour; the further training of teaching staff, entailing the training of SIM staff, the training of teaching assistants, the training of teachers in regions and the training of the teaching staff of schools and educational establishments where there is interest throughout the Czech Republic; the mapping of cultural, social, psychological and other specific features affecting the education of minorities.

- PROPOS – Prevention of Dropping Out and the Support of Secondary Studies for Socially Disadvantaged Pupils and Students

The aim of the project is to help prevent socio-culturally disadvantaged pupils from dropping out of school and to support their secondary-school studies. The project focuses on modifying and innovating selected educational standards of secondary-school curricula with consideration for pupils from a socio-culturally disadvantaged environment. The project targets pupils who move on to secondary school straight after primary school, and on those who have completed their primary [lower secondary] education and wish to resume their education at a later date in order to improve their career prospects. The project addresses the need to adjust the learning strategy for full-time and distance-learning pupils, with consideration for the acquisition of skills leading to lifelong learning and the ability to prepare for studies independently. Methodological support is provided to pupils by their teachers in the form of individual consultations and further educational courses. The range of courses builds on individual clients' needs and level of education. Modifications to educational programmes will preserve the quality and scope of that level of education. The project also concentrates on the further training of teaching staff and the methodological management of teachers.

In 2006, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, in cooperation with partners, drew up the *Education for Competition Operational Programme (EC OP)*, which will become the key document used for the disbursement of funds from the European Social Fund (ESF) in the education sector in 2007 – 2013. In November 2006, this programme was approved by the Czech Government under Resolution No 1302/2006, and a translation is now being prepared ready to be officially submitted to the European Commission for approval. The EC OP 2007 – 2013 includes the promotion of activities geared towards equal opportunities, i.e. including the support of national minorities. Support for equal opportunities is a 'horizontal priority' with cross-section monitoring throughout the programme. Assistance under *Priority Axis No 1 – Initial education*, concretely *Equal opportunities for pupils, including pupils with special educational needs*, specifically focuses on this area too.

3.5.4. Ministry of the Interior

Through its grant policy, the Ministry supports projects which may include Roma or national minorities, e.g. as part of a voluntary service or programmes centring on activities of special interest for children. The state grant policy of the Ministry of the Interior for 2006 was governed by Government Resolution No 745 of 15 June 2006. The core areas for which grants were awarded to nongovernmental organizations were:

- development of the voluntary service,
- support and protection of victims of trafficking in human beings,
- prevention of corrupt conduct,
- development of sport and physical education – for the civic association UNITOP,

- integration of foreign nationals and the fight against racism and discrimination,
- international development cooperation,
- the preparation and support of solutions to extraordinary events and crisis situations, fire protection, integrated emergency service system, protection of the population against threats to life.

The Ministry is responsible for coordinating the activities of the interdepartmental advisory body *National Committee on Crime Prevention*, one of whose core operations is the implementation of a programme to assist towns affected by high crime rates and other socio-pathological phenomena. The fundamental conceptual document of the State's crime prevention policy is the *Crime prevention strategy 2004 - 2007* (the 'Strategy'), which was passed by the Czech Government under Resolution No 393 of 28 April 2004.

The specific aid system is secured under the *Programme of crime prevention in the local community – Partnership* (the 'Partnership Programme'). The *Partnership Programme* is a non-repressive method that has made it possible, since 1996, to foster a systematic approach to improved inter-ethnic relations, to overcome prejudices, to limit xenophobia, to increase tolerance and patience on the part of the majority, and to ensure emancipation, training, and inclusion in society for the Roma minority. The aim is to eliminate or diminish the social exclusion of Roma communities, as such exclusion results in the increased risk of racist or extremist views and moods. The projects focus primarily on children and young people, whose system of values and habits is the most open to positive change.

The priority of the Partnership Programme is the Roma national minority, which in terms of security has proven to be at the highest risk in the long term. The programme attempts to reduce the social handicaps of Roma and to support their full integration. The general goals of the Partnership Programme are to minimize the risks and consequences associated with crime, to increase the feeling of safety among the public and to reinforce confidence in the police and public administration institutions. Towns with the highest crime rate and with a concentration of other socially pathological phenomena (unemployment, poverty, extremist manifestations, socially excluded Roma communities) are placed in the Partnership Programme.

In 2006, funding of CZK 1,581,000 was provided for eleven projects related to the Roma community in six towns (Česká Třebová, Olomouc, Ostrava, Prague, Rokycany and Vsetín). In 2006, the provinces (as higher territorial administrative authorities) were given the opportunity to submit projects for the first time. Two projects with government grants totalling CZK 457,000 were run at provincial level (Olomoucký kraj and Jihomoravský kraj) with a view to diminishing the handicaps suffered by the Roma community. These funds are released from the Public Treasury Administration budget heading (i.e. not from the budget of the Ministry of the Interior) in accordance with Government resolutions. Conditions for the support of a project are co-financing from the municipality and the active participation of Roma in the implementation of projects.

In 2005, the *Ministry of the Interior Programme of Crime Prevention up to 2007* was drawn up and approved by the Ministry. This Ministry programme is a strategic document laying down rules for preventive methods at the Ministry which makes a significant contribution to the joint approach adopted by all Ministry units in the crime prevention system.

The Ministry of the Interior earmarks CZK 3.9 million every year in support of specific preventive activities. One of the explicitly mentioned areas of possible financial aid is the *prevention of crime with a racist and extremist undertone and the prevention of xenophobia*. In 2006, two projects following up on the *National Strategy for the Work of the Czech Police Force in Relation to National and Ethnic Minorities* received aid of CZK 248,000. This

entailed research in Brno and a series of seminars on the *Police in a Multicultural Environment*.

The Ministry of the Interior may award grants to accredited nongovernmental organizations in accordance with the Voluntary Service Act. In 2006, six organizations held accreditation to for activities in support of members of national minorities and immigrants: the *Prague Archidiaconal Charity* [Arcidiecézní charita Praha], the *Refugee Aid Organization* [Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům], the *Centre for the Integration of Foreign Nationals* [Centrum pro integraci cizinců], *Adra – Volunteer Centre in Frýdek-Místek* [Adra – Dobrovolnické centrum ve Frýdku-Místku], *People in Need* [Člověk v tísni] – a Czech Television organization, and the *Czech AIDS Aid Society* [Česká společnost AIDS pomoc]. These organizations received grants totalling CZK 996,000.

3.5.5. Programmes to support the integration of the Roma community

Ministry of Culture

A competition for the support of the integration of members of the Roma community attracted 33 applicants with 38 projects. Most applicants were civic associations; other entrants were Church organizations, charities, limited liability companies, and organizations partly financed from the public purse that had been set up by the Ministry of Culture. In all, 23 projects from 20 applicants received support; CZK 1,999,018 was distributed. Projects benefiting from assistance in the programme for the Integration of the Roma Community include the festival *Romská píseň 2006* [Roma Song 2006], the twelfth year of which was held at the Outdoor Museum of Moravian Wallachia in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm and was organized by the *Democratic Alliance of Roma of the Czech Republic*, the international Roma festival *Gypsy Celebration 2006*, implemented by the civic association *Miret* with cooperation from Ida Kellarová, and the *7. Karvinský romský festival 2006* [7th Karviná Roma Festival 2006], organized by the *Association of Roma of North Moravia* from Karviná. Roma Song 2006 was held under the aegis of the Minister for Culture. An overview of grants in the Programme to Support the Integration of Members of the Roma Community can be found in Annex 9.

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

- Support for the provision of special social services in socially excluded Roma communities

As part of its grant award procedure in the field of support for the provision of social services, the Ministry ran a sub-programme focusing on support for the provision of special social services in socially excluded Roma communities in 2006. This sub-programme is intended for projects aimed at supporting the integration of members of the Roma community and supporting social work in Roma communities (see Annex 10).

From the aspect of the types of social services, within the meaning of Act No 108/2006 on social services, field programmes are promoted for persons living in socially excluded communities, low-threshold facilities for children and young people, and social guidance.

In 2006, CZK 57,436,600 was paid out in non-capital grants under this programme to organizations whose target groups of users are ethnic minorities. In the monitored indicator of the *Integration of Members of the Roma Community* there was a 12% decline compared to 2005 because projects focusing on the provision of social services for the homeless did not receive assistance in the grant award procedure in 2006. These were shelters for ‘individuals’, field programmes for the homeless, low-threshold day centres for the homeless and social

guidance. Since 2006, these projects were supported in the grant award procedure from ESF funds.

In all, 71 projects were supported; of these, 25 projects were drawn up by churches, 3 projects by charities and 43 projects by civic associations. Of the total amount, CZK 14,945,200 was paid to charity organizations, CZK 11,188,200 to charities and CZK 31,711,200 to civic associations.

As in the previous year, the largest grant, totalling CZK 10,761,000, was disbursed to the Czech Television non-profit company *People in Need*.

Of the total volume, the largest share in 2006 was disbursed for the services provided by low-threshold facilities for children and young people (CZK 29,819,700, which is 52% of the indicator volume) and for field programmes (CZK 15,502,500, which is 14% of the indicator volume).

In 2006, the Ministry also contributed to the payment of non-capital grants under the programme *Preventing social exclusion in Roma communities and eliminating the consequences thereof 2006*, which was announced by the Office of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

- Funding from the European Social Fund (ESF)

A serious problem in dealing with the social exclusion of Roma communities is the dearth of relevant, verified information. To improve the national, regional and local policy of Roma community integration, last year the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs advertised a public tender for an *Analysis of socially excluded Roma localities (communities) and the absorption capacity of entities operating in this field. Gabal Analysis and Consulting (GAC)* was named as the supplier of the public contract; the results were published in September 2006. The monitoring of the overview of projects to date shows that the impact of the ESF on aid to Roma communities is inadequate. It is necessary to apply all means possible to ensure *efficient disbursement of ESF resources* for Roma communities in the next programming period. The principal objective of the analysis was therefore to obtain basic information about the situation of socially excluded Roma localities and communities through the blanket mapping of the situation in individual localities, and to gain an insight into the processes which affect the living conditions in various types of localities, so that the funding system in the 2007-2013 programming period can be set correctly. At the same time, it was necessary to determine the possibilities and absorption capacity of entities operating and providing services in this area (i.e. primarily nongovernmental organizations, organizations set up and funded by municipalities and regions, municipalities, provinces, employment offices, business entities, and natural persons).

Another tender was aimed at improving *field social work* in socially excluded Roma localities. The contracting authority received only one bid in its public tender *Support of the creation of a system of field social work* and on 27 February 2006 it granted the contract to *Forum for Integration [Fórum pro integraci]* (Prokopova 9/197, Praha 3).

In negotiations on the conclusion of the contract, this organization failed to provide the necessary cooperation, and the deadline for the conclusion of the contract was not respected (Section 66(5) of Act No 40/2004 on public procurement). This was the main reason why the contracting authority did not proceed with further negotiations. The project is currently being implemented in the form of below-the-threshold tenders for individual activities. This approach was approved by the Managing Authority.

The Ministry also plays the role of Managing Authority in the programmes of the European Social Fund (HRD OP, SPD 3 and Equal CIP). One of the supported target groups on which a particular emphasis is placed by the European Commission under these programmes is persons from a different socio-cultural background – members of national minorities, members of Roma communities, immigrants and recognized refugees, i.e. the projects can be used as tools to promote the integration of these target groups into society and the labour market. Another target group under the above programmes is ethnic minorities (Roma, Vietnamese, etc.), i.e. these projects can be used to promote national minorities, especially in relation to social inclusion culminating in a return to the labour market. In 2006, members of Roma communities appeared as a target group in the presented projects.

In 2006, projects with this target group were selected for assistance. Tables of these projects, with a description and the amount of aid from the ESF, are included in Annex 10.

Besides the Ministry, others contributing to the support of these target groups within the scope of the ESF include the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Prague City Hall. Since February 2005, the monitoring of projects aimed at the support of Roma communities has been conducted primarily by the Working Party for Roma Community Affairs within the scope of the ESF, which operates as an interdepartmental body attached to Monitoring Committees. This summary of supported projects in 2004 – 2006 will be finalized and evaluated in mid-2007, and this information may be forwarded to the Office of the Government if it expresses an interest. The members of this Working Party include representatives of NGOs and the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs. The situation is similar at the Monitoring Committees of the individual ESF programmes.

In the future, the European Social Fund will be one of the key financial instruments facilitating the integration of national minorities into society and the labour market, notably by improving access to education and services. Work is currently under way on the preparations for the new 2007 – 2013 programming period, in which – probably as of the third quarter of 2007 – it will be possible to submit further projects for minority activities and for the promotion of the integration of the Roma community.

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

- Programme to support the integration of the Roma community

The aim of the programme is to ensure a level playing field for members of the Roma community, with an emphasis on preventing the social exclusion of members of the Roma community, safeguarding the participation of Roma in the implementation of integration programmes, cultivating trust, understanding and tolerance in society, and improving communication between the Roma community and majority society. The implementation of projects furthering the inclusion of Roma children and pupils into the education mainstream is supported. The projects are mainly implemented in localities and areas with a higher proportion of socially disadvantaged persons throughout the Czech Republic. Project themes: Preschool preparation of Roma children, Education of pupils from Roma communities at primary school, Methodological support of teachers, Promotion of the further training of teaching staff in forming an inclusive environment in school and in the classroom, Implementation of free time and special-interest activities for Roma children and young people in relation to their educational needs. In 2006, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports awarded grants totalling CZK 12,611,374 to 55 projects. A list of the supported projects can be found at the website www.msmt.cz (Annex 11).

○ Support of Roma Students at Secondary Schools

Since 2003, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has run the programme *Support of Roma Students at Secondary Schools* twice a year, and informs schools of the possibilities and conditions of the programme via provincial authorities and city halls. The aim of this programme is to support the studies of those Roma pupils whose parents suffer considerable hardship due to the cost of a secondary education. The funds are intended for the partial or full coverage of pupils' costs in the following areas: tuition, food, accommodation, travel, school equipment and textbooks, and protective equipment.

Overview of funding granted in 2000 – 2006

<i>round – year</i>	<i>number of applications</i>	<i>amount (CZK)</i>
I/2000	333	2,344,000
II/2000	561	510,000
I/2001	511	3,437,000
II/2001	1,021	3,400,000
I/2002	941	3,488,000
II/2002	1,409	4,992,948
I/2003	1,136	5,230,599
II/2003	1,441	4,742,833
I/2004	1,069	5,015,063
II/2004 original deadline	894	4,054,700
II/2004 extended deadline	350	922,200
I/2005	1292	5,986,000
II/2005	1391	5,503,600
I/2006	1,315	6,713,500
II/2006	1,922	7,157,000
TOTAL	15,586	63,497,443

○ Measures to improve the education of the Roma

Assistance in the education of Roma pupils is systemically covered by Act No 561/2004 on preschool, primary, secondary, post-secondary and other education (the Schools Act), as amended, which no longer differentiates between primary and special needs schools, but lays down conditions within the scope of primary education for all pupils to receive education and assistance corresponding to their specific educational needs.

In accordance with the Schools Act, the head teacher of a nursery school, primary school, special primary school, secondary school or post-secondary college may, with the provincial authority's consent, set up the position of teaching assistant in a class or study group where a child, pupil or student with special educational needs is taught. A statement from the school advisory facility is required in cases involving children, pupils and students with disabilities and other health problems.

In 2005, the Ministry issued Decree No 48/2005 on primary education and certain requirements regarding the fulfilment of compulsory full-time schooling, as amended. This regulation lays down the approach to the fulfilment of the compulsory full-time schooling of pupils from a socio-culturally disadvantaged background.

Decree No 73/2005 on the education of children, pupils, and students with special educational needs, and of extraordinarily gifted children, pupils, and students, sets the following core activities of teaching assistances in Section 7: assistance to pupils as they adapt to the school environment, assistant to teaching staff at the school in the educative activities, assistance in communicating with pupils, and assistance in working with pupils' legal guardians and with the community the pupil comes from.

An overview of funding in 2006 earmarked, under the Programme for the Support of the Integration of Roma, for the preschool preparation of Roma children in individual regions as part of the programme of the Ministry's programme in support of Roma integration is provided in the following table.

<i>province</i>	<i>total amount approved (CZK)</i>
Jihočeský	100,000
Jihomoravský	469,000
Liberecký	696,240
Olomoucký	312,000
Plzeňský	313,625
Praha	200,000
Středočeský	86,540
Ústecký	129,640
Vysočina	219,000
Zlínský	124,574
Total	2,650,619

The requirements for the activities and professional qualifications of teaching assistants are regulated by Act No 563/2004 on teaching staff and amending certain laws, which entered into effect on 1 January 2005, and subsequently by Decree No 317/2005 on the further training of teaching staff, the accreditation commission and the career system of teaching staff. Section 2 of the above-mentioned Act granted teaching assistants the status of teaching staff.

In 2006, 330 assistant teacher positions (including at faith schools) were supported at a cost of CZK 70,734,090.

As at 30 September 2006, there were 146 preparatory classes. Of these, 91 classes were set up at normal primary schools and 37 at special schools. In all, 1,713 children receive schooling in these preparatory classes. Compared to the previous school year, there was a moderate rise in both the number of preparatory classes and the number of children. There were 123 preparatory classes with 1,441 children in the 2005/2006 school year.

Teaching documents in the following fields of study were prepared and approved for the purposes of secondary education:

○ *75-31-J/001; 75-31-M/010 Teaching skills for assistants in the education system*

These fields were created and implemented in 2002 – 2003 as part of the POSUN project (Helping Schools Learn Again) under the Phare NUTS II programme at the Post-Secondary Social-Law College, Secondary Teaching School and Business Academy in Most, which also prepared teaching documents in the form of a school curriculum. The concept of these fields was drawn up with a view to promoting the training of teaching assistants, especially assistants working with Roma children. The primary school in Most-Rudolice, the employment office in most and some assistants also contributed to the preparations.

Teaching was launched in a pilot scheme as of the 2004/2005 school year.

Thirty-seven adult students, employed as teaching assistants, began the course (this field of study is only available as distance learning); 19 students completed the second year.

In 2006, this field of education was also authorized at the Secondary School of Professor Zdeněk Matějček in Ostrava.

○ *75-41-M/005 Social welfare – social activities for ethnic groups*

This field of study is taught at the Roma Secondary School of Social Affairs in Kolín, at the Secondary School of Professor Zdeněk Matějček in Ostrava and at the Nursing Secondary School and the Secondary Vocational College in Český Krumlov.

In the 2005/2006 school year, 193 pupils pursued this field of education (of which 150 were fulltime students and 43 were in another form of education).

○ *75-41-J/002;75-41-M/010 Social activities in an environment of ethnic minorities*

These fields are available only as distance-learning courses at the Evangelical Academy and Post-Secondary Vocational School of Social Law and Secondary School in Praha 4.

In the 2005/2006 school year, 53 adult students received education in these fields.

Under the grant scheme *in support of the integration of the Roma community*, in 2006 the Ministry supported the INROM project, implemented by the Post-Secondary Vocational School, Secondary Teaching School and Business Academy in Most. The financial grant amounted to CZK 949,680.

Under the Ministry's programme to promote the integration of the Roma community, projects are supported which are geared towards the inclusion of Roma children and pupils in the educational mainstream as follows:

○ *Preschool preparation of Roma children*

- educational activities for parents aimed at the preschool preparation of children, promoting greater participation by Roma children in pre-primary education,
- the promotion of methods and forms of work enhancing the efficiency of preschool education for Roma children,
- the support of activities increasing the chances that Roma children have of making a successful start to their schooling,
- the support of activities aimed at involving the family in the preschool education of children.

○ *Education of pupils from Roma communities at primary school*

- the support of supplementary activities at schools encouraging Roma children to overcome difficulties they encounter during compulsory full-time schooling,
- the promotion of activities to enhance the efficiency of cooperation between Roma families and schools in the education of Roma pupils,
- the promotion of activities providing information and counselling to Roma families in choosing a career for the Roma pupils of primary schools,
- the promotion of activities assisting Roma pupils' preparation and successful transition from primary schools to secondary schools,
- the promotion of activities for the integration (inclusion) of Roma pupils into the education mainstream,
- the support of schools with a high proportion of pupils from Roma communities and schools which run pilot tests of the programme *School with a Full-Day Programme*.

○ *Methodological support of teachers*

- the support of further training for teaching staff in how to cultivate an inclusive environment at school and in the classroom.

In 2006, CZK 12,611,374 was channelled into assistance for 55 projects targeting free-time and special-interest activities for Roma children and young people in line with their educational needs (see Annex 10).

3.5.6. Summary

Support for the activities of members of national minorities is one of the main areas of the government grant policy in relation to nongovernmental organizations. It is implemented by means of grant schemes with resources from the national budget and is thematically incorporated into the following programmes:

- a) assistance to maintain, develop and present the cultures of national minorities,
- b) assistance to disseminate and accept information in the languages of national minorities,
- c) support of education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing,
- d) assistance for projects aimed at the integration of members of the Roma community.

As a rule, the grants from central government, municipalities, chartered cities and provinces include crime prevention projects and social service programmes, which need not be considered support of a national-minority nature. Therefore, the amounts cited should be taken with a degree of caution. Nevertheless, it is appropriate to include them in the summaries.

If we compare the share of provincial budgets in the funding of the projects of members of national minorities (including the Roma community) in the past few years,²³⁾ a steady rise can be observed among municipalities which have gradually incorporated this issue into the grant headings of their budgets, even though they do not usually declare this issue separately. In chartered cities and provinces, the high share of projects focusing on the integration of the Roma community is significant; the number of projects receiving assistance is steadily rising, even though the overall amount of aid available in provinces and chartered cities is, if anything, falling.

The assistance of projects for the activities of national minorities depends primarily on grants from the national budget. The following table provides an overview of them, which documents government expenditure on the activities of national minorities in 2006:

<i>area</i>	<i>specification</i>	<i>grantor (type of grant)</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
a)	Cultural activities of members of national minorities	Ministry of Culture (grant scheme)	9,473,531
	Khamoro world Roma festival, Prague	Public Treasury Administration heading (Government Resolution No 347/2003)	1,600,000
	State Cultural Fund of the Czech Republic	Ministry of Culture (Autonomous Unit of State Fund Administration)	430,000
	Projects under the programme Cultural Media and Audiovisual Activities	Ministry of Culture – audiovisual and mass-media grants	7,950,000
	Exhibition project Roma Literary Output in the Czech Republic	Ministry of Culture (Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries)	1,200,000
	Support of the cultural activities of members of national minorities		1,780,000
	Grants for the cultural activities of members of national minorities	Ministry of Culture, Art and Libraries Department (grant scheme)	6,235,000
	21 st Century Library grant	Ministry of Culture (grant scheme)	39,000
b)	Publication of the periodicals of national minorities		28,394,750
c)	Education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (grant scheme)	13,587,124
d)	Integration of members of the Roma community	Ministry of Culture (grant scheme)	1,999,018
	Integration of members of the Roma community	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (grant scheme)	12,611,374
	Integration of members of the Roma community – assistance for Roma students at secondary schools		13,870,500
	Campaign against Racism (tolerance project)	Office of the Government of the CR	2,875,000
	Programme preventing social exclusion in Roma	Ministry of Finance	30,000,000

²³⁾ See the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic for 2003, 2004 and 2005.

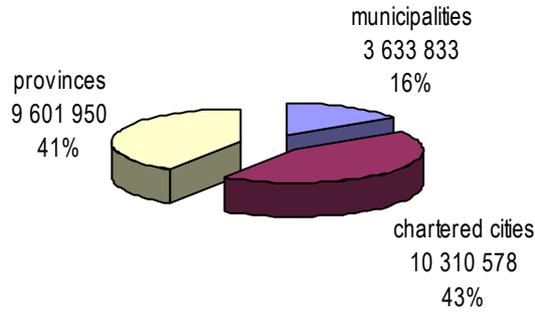
	communities	Office of the Government of the CR (Public Treasury Administration heading)	
	Coordinators of Roma advisers at provincial authorities	Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (Public Treasury Administration heading)	5,250,000
	Handling of emergencies in socially excluded Roma localities and communities		10,000,000
	Integration of members of the Roma community	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	57,436,600
Ad hoc projects	Reconstruction of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Vendryně	Ministry of Finance (Government Resolution No 742 of 15 June 2005, Public Treasury Administration heading)	5,000,000
	Reconstruction of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Dolní Lomná	Ministry of Finance (Public Treasury Administration heading)	10,546,000
	House of National Minorities	Ministry of Finance (Government Resolution No 92 of 25 January 2006, Public Treasury Administration heading – government budget reserve)	20,000,000
total			240,277,897

Besides the national budget items above, explicitly aimed at grants for national minorities, funds are also available for standard expenditure, which can be deciphered as resources earmarked implicitly for a given purpose (see the table below) and other amounts which are difficult to discern from the budget.

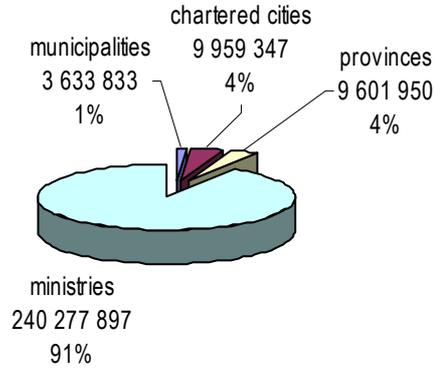
<i>specification</i>	<i>grantor (type of grant)</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Activities of the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno, organization partly funded from the public purse	Ministry of Culture (Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries)	7,798,000
Operation of the Terezín Monument	Ministry of Culture (Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries)	23,206,000
Teaching Centre for Polish Minority Education	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	5,389,000
Programme for the financing of assistant teachers	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	70,734,090

A comparison of the figures detailing expenditure on the projects of members of national minorities from the national budget and the budgets of municipalities and provinces indicates at first glance that, compared to previous years, the trend from central to local resources has halted. In reality, local assistance is continuing to grow; while it is falling in chartered cities, it remains at the same level in provinces and is increasing in municipalities. Conversely, assistance for projects focusing on national minorities and the integration of the Roma community is rising at central level.

Comparison of grants from provincial and local authority budgets for the projects of members of national minorities and projects for the integration of Roma communities in 2006

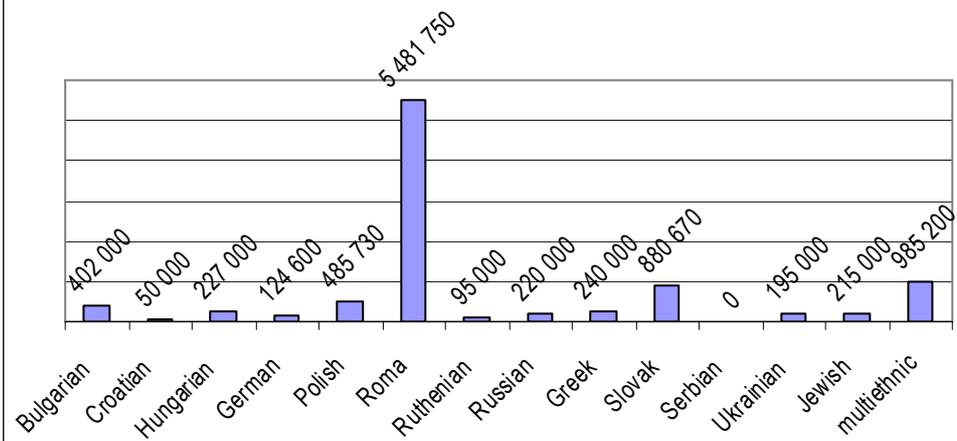


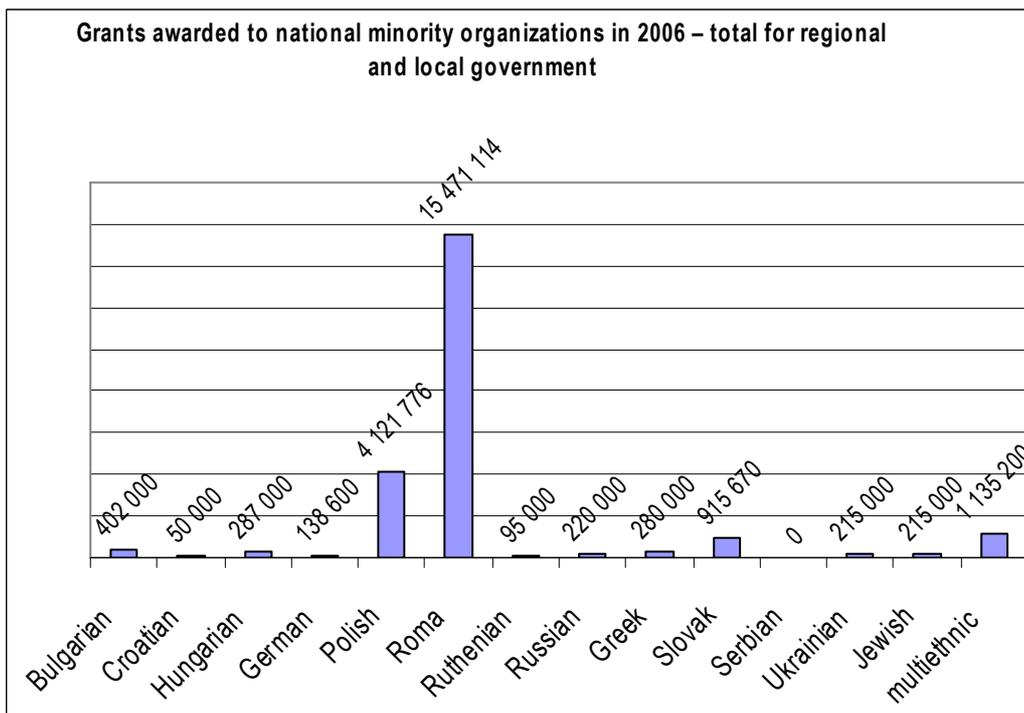
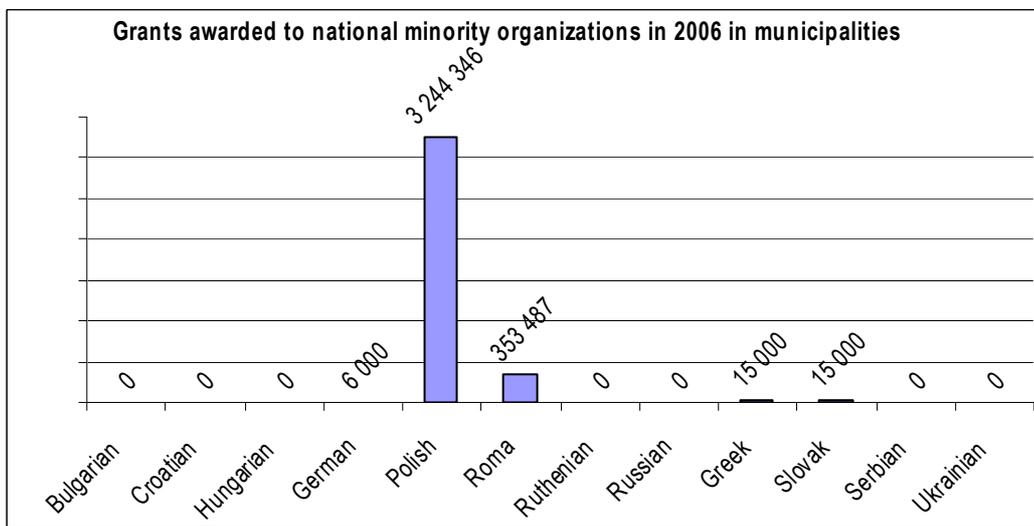
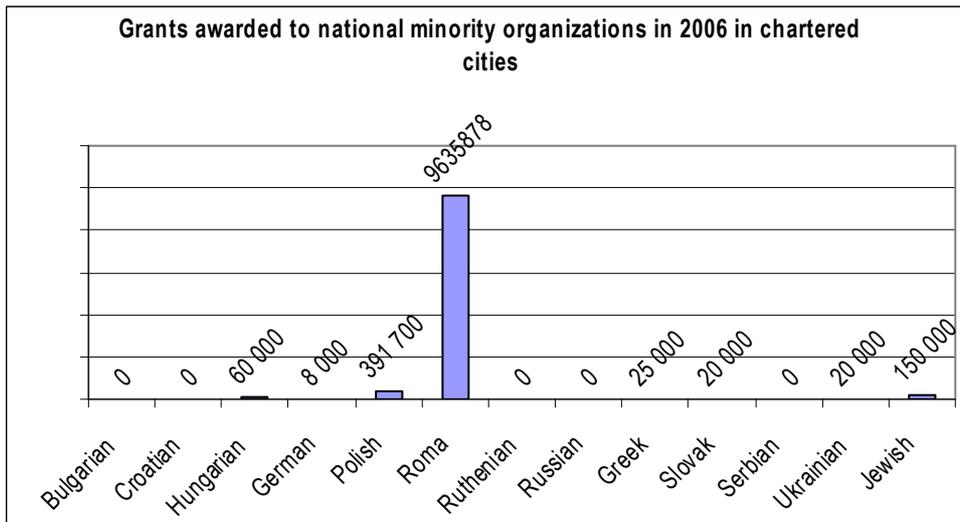
Comparison of grants awarded to national minority organizations in 2006 from public resources



Summary of grants in provinces, towns and municipalities by individual national minority:

Grants awarded to national minority organizations in 2006 in provinces





4. Public administration at local or regional level and national minorities

4.1. Municipalities

As was the case last year, 249 assemblies of those municipalities where, according to Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended, there is a requirement to set up a committee for national minorities, were approached. In the summary below, we state their replies; 66 municipal assemblies did not reply,²⁴⁾ 61 did not set up a committee (see Annex 12), and the reactions of the others are provided in the following text. Remarks are provided in the summary at the end of this section.

1. Was a committee for national minorities (council / other body / coordinator) set up in 2006 (before or after the municipal elections)? What agenda was it specifically in charge of?

ALBRECHTICE

In 2006 and after the municipal elections there was a three-member committee. All committee members are of Polish nationality. The committee primarily dealt with the issue of bilingualism; it also discussed the situation at the municipality's primary school with Polish as the language of instruction (grades 1 – 5), where was a risk that the organization, partly funded from the public purse, would fold. Regarding item 03/18 on the agenda of the municipal assembly's meeting held on 28 February 2006, information about the options if the primary and nursery schools with Polish as the language of instruction (Albrechtice, Školní 11, okres Karviná) are closed was duly noted. Negotiations on the closure of the school were halted under Council Resolution No 3 of 14 December 2006. The primary school currently has 24 pupils and the nursery school 11.

BRNO – ŘEČKOVICE AND MOKRÁ HORA

The committee in the borough of Brno - Řečkovice a Mokrá Hora was active in 2006.

BYSTRICE

The committee was appointed by the municipal assembly and fulfilled the tasks set by the assembly in 2006.

BOCANOVICE

The committee was set up after the 2002 elections with the following composition: chair – Klus František (member of the municipal assembly), members – Karel Klus and Stanislav Zogata. In October 2006, a new committee of the following composition was appointed: chair – Antonín Hamrozi, members – Karel Klus and Marek Słowiacek. The committee had no agenda in 2006 except for its minutes.

²⁴⁾ The following municipalities or towns: Aš, Bernartice (Trutnov district), Bílá Voda, Bílence, Blatno, Blažim, Božičany, Brno-Kohoutovice, Desná v Jizerských horách, Dolní Rychnov, Hazlov, Heřmanovice, Hora svaté Kateřiny, Hrabětice, Hradec-Nová Ves, Hradiště military district, Hranice (Cheb district), Chlum sv. Maří, Jindřichovice pod Smrkem, Jiřetín pod Jedlovou, Jívka, Kaceřov, Komorní Lhotka, Košariska, Kovářská, Krásno, Kružberk, Lampertice, Libavské údolí, Lomnice, Luby, Milhostov, Milíkov, Nový Kostel, Oborná, Okrouhlá, Pernink, Petrovice u Karviné, Pětipsy, Plesná, Přehýšov, Přepychy, Rovná, Rozvadov, Rudná pod Pradědem, Řeka, Sedloňov, Slezské Pavlovice, Stanovice, Stará Červená Voda, Stará Voda, Staré Město, Stránka, Stružná, Střítež u Českého Těšína, Svatava, Třebom, Veliká Ves, Velká Kraš, Vysoká, Zbytiny, Žacléř and Žernov.

BUKOVEC

Prior to the municipal elections in 2006, the municipality had had a committee in place since 2002. It dealt with the problems of co-existence between citizens of Czech and Polish nationality in the municipality. The committee states that co-existence is good and there is no nationality-based friction.

ČESKÝ TĚŠÍN

The committee was established in 2000 under a resolution of the municipal assembly. It discussed and handled topical issues related to national minorities, in particular issues of nationality-based schooling, the transcription and registration of names in registers in a form corresponding to the form of the language of the respective national minority, the promotion of multiethnic cultural and sports events, and bilingual signs.

After the municipal elections in 2006, a 13-member committee was set up in the municipality with representatives of the following nationalities: Polish, Slovak, Bulgarian, and Roma. It is chaired by Jan Branný, a member of the municipal assembly.

DOLNÍ LOMNÁ

The committee was established and approved by the municipal assembly in 2002. After the municipal elections in autumn 2006, a committee was set up for the 2006 – 2010 period at the constituent meeting of the assembly on 3 November 2006; the committee is chaired by Stanislav Czudek. The committee has three members. It provides the initiative for municipal activities geared towards the promotion of the activities of minority associations; in particular, it mediates communication between the municipality, the school and the Polish Cultural and Educational Union (PZKO). The municipality helped organize an exhibition to mark the 130th anniversary of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction in Dolní Lomná, and provided a grant from the Ministry of Finance for the project *Renovation of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction*. Pupils of Polish nationality in the catchment areas of Dolní Lomná and Horní Lomná now have dignified schooling conditions on the newly renovated premises. Dolní Lomná co-financed this investment with the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic. Ministry of Finance: CZK 10,546,000 and the municipality of Dolní Lomná: CZK 1,395,146.

DOLNÍ POUSTEVNA

The committee was appointed in 2005.²⁵⁾ The public did not express any interest in its activities. The assembly will continue to deal with the issue of national minorities after the elections in autumn 2006.

HNOJNÍK

A committee was appointed before and after the elections and dealt with the issue of introducing bilingual signs in the municipality.

HODOV

There is a committee in the municipality; it remains active in an unchanged composition.

HORNÍ LOMNÁ

The committee was set up due to the presence of the Polish minority.

²⁵⁾ Even though the percentage of national minorities in the municipality is less than 10% (it reaches this threshold only if members of the Vietnamese community are included).

HORNÍ SUCHÁ

In 2006, the committee discussed the implementation of the Charter – the introduction of bilingual signs (Czech and Polish) on institutions set up by the municipal authority and traffic signs at the entrance to and exit from the municipality. A five-member committee was re-appointed after the elections in 2006.

HRÁDEK

The committee has been in operation at the municipal assembly continuously since 2000. Its agenda is the Polish national minority.

CHEB

Until the municipal elections in 2006, there was only a *Commission for Roma Affairs* in the town. Following the municipal elections, this commission was replaced by a *Commission for National Minorities* as an advisory body of the Municipal Council. Its members were confirmed by the Council at the end of December 2006. Besides the representatives of political parties present in the municipal assembly, the commission will also have three Roma representatives – nominated by the Cheb Council of Roma Organizations, two representatives of the Vietnamese community and one representative of the *Balthazar Neumann Society* (Association of Citizens of German Nationality). The first meeting was held on 24 January 2007.

CHOTĚBUZ

Until the elections in 2006 there was a five-member committee in the municipality which was composed of three members of the Polish nationality and two members of the Czech nationality. The committee formed after the elections in 2006 has seven members; it is composed of four members of Polish nationality, one member of Slovak nationality and two members of Czech nationality. Three members of Polish nationality were co-opted to the committee.

JABLUNKOV

The committee was established in 2000. As the only organized national minority in the town is the Polish national minority, in 2006 the committee had the following agenda:

- information on the ratification of the Charter in the Czech Republic,
- information about the new Rules of Administrative Procedure which entered into force on 1 January 2006,
- the amendment to Act No 128/2000 on municipalities and how it affects the condition of a petition for the introduction of bilingual signs,
- a discussion of the requirements relating to the preparation of methodological measures to simplify the procedure for introducing bilingualism in municipalities, and relating to media publicity, with a view to providing the general public with the relevant information materials,
- the discussion and preparation of a draft list for the bilingual labelling of the municipality's name, districts, streets, public spaces, and the buildings of state and local authorities, including the need for official translation activities,
- an evaluation of the co-existence of the Polish minority with the majority population in the municipality.

JIŘÍKOV

A committee existed in 2006, but had no agenda in this period.

JOSEFOV

The committee was up and running in the last electoral period, but did not deal with any problems relating to national minorities. A new committee was appointed after the municipal elections in autumn 2006. It has three members and considers its core task to be the provision of assistance to members of national minorities in their contact with the authorities.

KOBYLÁ NAD VIDNAVKOU

A committee has been set up in the municipality in the light of the fact that more than 20% of the inhabitants claim nationality other than Czech. The committee was active throughout the last electoral period and was again appointed for the new electoral period. The municipal chairman states that there is a field worker and teaching assistant in the municipality; these members of staff are Roma.

KOMORNÍ LHOTKA

The committee was appointed prior to the 2006 elections; it handled a general agenda and did not deal with any minority conflicts. It currently has three members.

KRAJKOVÁ

The municipality approved the appointment of a committee on 6 December 2006, after last year's municipal elections.²⁶⁾

KRASLICE

A committee was set up in the municipality in 2006.

KRAVAŘE

The committee was set up at the municipal assembly's 17th meeting on 23 February 2005; at the assembly's first meeting (1 November 2006) after the municipal elections in autumn 2006 the committee was re-appointed.

KRÁLOVEC

Before the municipal elections in 2006 there was no committee in the municipality; it was set up after the municipal elections in 2006. The committee primarily helped with the language problems faced by the national minorities and passed on general information about municipal administration.

MALÁ ŠTÁHLE

Following the elections in autumn 2006, the committee was set up on 7 January 2007.

MĚROVICE NAD HANOU

The committee was set up in the municipality by the municipal assembly on 26 May 2005. It has three members; all members are citizens of a national minority and the committee's chairperson is a member of the municipal assembly.

The committee's work entails dealing with minor misbehaviour between the municipality's citizens and citizens of another national minority and between citizens of the same national minority. Considering the constructive co-existence of all the municipality's inhabitants, offences are rare and are settled by agreement.

²⁶⁾ For this reason no reply has been given to questions 3 to 5.

MIKULÁŠOVICE

The committee for national minorities was set up at the first meeting of the municipal assembly on 17 February 2005 under Resolution No 534/05.

MOSTY U JABLUNKOVA

Following the municipal elections in October, a new committee was appointed at an assembly meeting.

NÁVSI

According to the last census in 2001, the municipality had 3,765 inhabitants, of whom 902 (23.96%) claimed Polish nationality.

In 2006 (before and after the municipal elections) a committee existed in the municipality; its agenda focused on minorities living in the municipality, with special consideration for the needs of the Polish minority.

NEJDEK

The committee existed before the elections in October 2006, and a new committee and new chairperson were appointed at the constituent meeting.

NOVÁ VES

A committee was not set up in the municipality until after the municipal elections in October 2006. The chairman of the committee is a municipal representative. There are no national minority organizations in the municipality. In 2006, the municipality supported one family and made a financial contribution to help a child start the Secondary Vocational School of Social Law in Sokolov. At issue here is the Roma minority, in which there is predominantly a lower level of education and, as a result, fewer job prospects. The high number of members in households and their temperament complicate mutual relations with fellow inhabitants in the municipality and in the buildings where they live. The municipality hopes that the establishment of the committee will improve cooperation.

NOVÉ MĚSTO POD SMRKEM

The town does not meet the conditions required for the establishment of a committee, but even so a Committee for the Roma Minority was set up by the municipal elections in October 2006. Three Roma claimed membership of the Roma nationality. However, according to a count by the civic association *Community Centre without Discrimination [Komunitní centrum bez rozdílu]*, which is active in the town, 450 of the inhabitants (approximately 10%) are Roma. Their reticence in claiming membership of their nationality is allegedly born out of the fear of mass persecution (as in the Second World War).

NOVÉ SEDLO

The municipal assembly established a three-member committee in December 2006.

NÝDEK

In 2006, the committee was active before and after the municipal elections. The committee's activities focus on monitoring the needs and rights of members of national minorities.

OLOVÍ (HORY)

A committee was not set up until after the municipal elections in October 2006; beforehand there had been no committee.

ORLOVÁ

The committee was set up in the town by the municipal assembly on 14 September 2005. It had no concept or agenda; the members have started developing activities since the recent elections.

PÍSEČNÁ

A three-member committee was set up in the municipality in 2002.

PÍSEK (Frýdek-Místek district)

The municipality has a committee.

PRAHA 5

In 2006, the *Praha 5 Borough Council Commission on Ethic Groups* was active within the competence of the borough of Praha 5. This commission helps to integrate minorities and foreign nationals with cultural and social activities and through conflict-free communication in social matters.

ROPICE

A committee was set up in the municipality in 2002. It has three members and mainly deals with issues related to the running of the Polish primary school in the municipality and the installation of bilingual signs on state administration buildings.

ROUDNO

A committee was appointed in 2006.

SMILOVICE

In 2006, a committee comprising members of the assembly and citizens representing the PZKO in the municipality existed before and after the municipal elections. The committee handled an agenda connected with bilingual names and the organization of cultural events in the municipality.

STARÁ VES

According to the last census, 10.15 % of inhabitants in the municipality claim Slovak nationality. These are people who came to the municipality in the 1950s to settle the Sudeten lands following the forcible transfer of the Germans. Until then, they had lived as a Slovak national minority in Romania. These people speak Czech even in their family environment; they do not maintain any national customs or traditions, they have no need to distinguish themselves from the majority population. The municipality, in accordance with the law, set up a committee in the previous and current electoral period. Therefore, a committee existed throughout 2006.

STONAVA

In the past year, the five-member committee dealt with checks of bilingualism, the standard of social and cultural events of national minorities in the municipality, and publishing.

TĚRLICKO²⁷⁾

The chairwoman of the committee is a member of the municipal assembly, the head teacher of the local primary school and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction. The members are the chairpersons and members of local national minority social organizations.

²⁷⁾ The municipal chairwoman originally replied to the questions from the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic for 2003, updating them only slightly.

The committee was set up in the municipality in 2000; it currently has six members. It meets regularly, six times a year, and more frequently if required. Specific activities of the committee:

- the coordination of the work of special-interest organizations in Těrlicko (three PZKO clubs, the School Foundation, the Youth Club, the Women's Club and Harcerstwo polskie w RC)
- the preparation of projects for the acquisition of grants to cover the activities of special-interest organizations
- issues related to national minority education
- assistance in the municipality's cooperation with a municipality in Poland – Chybie

TŘANOVICE

A committee existed before and after the municipal elections in 2006.

TŘINEC

In accordance with Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended, the committee was set up at the first meeting of the municipal assembly held on 17 December 2002; the members of the committee for the 2002 – 2006 electoral period were approved at the second meeting of the municipal assembly. The Polish, Roma, Greek and Slovak minorities were represented here. The committee held joint meetings once a month, where it discussed topical problems. The chairpersons of the Roma associations *Lácho Láv* and the *Association of Roma of East Silesia [Sdružení Romů východního Slezska]* were invited to meetings. Towards the end of the electoral period (2002 – 2006), the committee took an interest in and discussed the Charter.

In accordance with Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended, a new committee was set up at the first meeting of the municipal assembly held on 1 November 2006; the members of the committee (for the 2006 – 2010 electoral period) were approved at the second meeting of the municipal assembly. The Vietnamese community became an additional minority represented in the committee.

VALEČ

The committee was set up on 30 November 2006, even though the municipality does not meet the conditions to establish a committee as laid down in Act No 128/2000.

VENDRYNĚ

A five-member committee was set up in the municipality on 18 December 2002. The number of members has remained the same following the municipal elections in autumn 2006. The committee coordinated cooperation between minority-oriented associations within the municipality (PZKO, Beskid Śląski, Macierz Szkolna) and the municipal assembly.

VEJPRTY

The committee was established in 2002. It has drawn up a concept and managed a planned agenda, including cooperation with the nongovernmental organization Partners Czech.

VĚLOPOLÍ

The committee was set up in 2002; there was a change in its composition after the municipal elections. It did not pursue any agenda.

VILÉMOV

Neither a committee nor any similar body was established in the municipality prior to the municipal elections in 2006. Although the municipal assembly had passed a resolution to establish a committee, this has not yet come to pass.

VINTÍŘOV

A committee was appointed before and after the elections; it has five members and currently comprises two Roma, one Pole, a German and a Slovak. It is managed by a member of the municipal assembly and focuses primarily on cultural affairs within the municipality. It meets as necessary.

VLČICE

A committee was set up after the municipal elections in 2006, but does not yet pursue any agenda.

ZLATÉ HORY

A committee had not been set up by the end of the 2002 – 2006 electoral period. A three-member committee was appointed after the municipal elections in October 2006.

2. *Did the municipality have a community plan formulated in 2006? If yes, since when? Are national minority affairs incorporated into this plan? If yes, how?* ²⁸⁾

ČESKÝ TĚŠÍN

The process of community planning was launched in 2004 based on a long-term discussion between the social department and social service providers active in the town. At the instigation of the *Český Těšín Charity* the plan to draw up a Community Plan for the development of social services in Český Těšín was approved by the Municipal Council on 11 February 2004.

In the community planning process, a directory of social service providers in the town was drawn up, a brief socio-demographic analysis of the town was conducted, a questionnaire survey was held among social service providers, and the Guide to Municipal Social Services was produced. The community planning process resulted in meetings between three working parties responsible for different areas – seniors, the disabled, and children – young people – family.

The community plan of social services is split into three thematic areas and chapters:

- social services for seniors
- social services for the disabled
- social services for children – young people – families (due to the lesser proportion of social services here, this area also includes people suffering hardship and Roma community issues)

National minority issues are incorporated into part 4 of the community plan (*Children – Young People – Family*). There is a small group of mainly native, integrated inhabitants from the Roma ethnic group living in the town.

CHEB

The first version of the community plan was approved by the municipal authorities in 2006. This community plan places a stress on Roma community issues (the prevention of social exclusion and ghettoization), but does not deal with other minorities.

²⁸⁾ Municipalities with no community plan in 2006: Albrechtice, Bocanovice, Bukovec, Bystřice, Hnojník, Hodov, Horní Lomná, Horní Suchá, Hrádek, Chotěbuz, Jiříkov, Komorní Lhotka, Krajková, Kraslice, Kravaře, Královec, Mosty u Jablunkova, Nová Ves, Nýdek, Písek, Roudno, Smilovice, Stará Ves, Stonava, Vělopolí, Vintířov, Vlčice.

CHODOV

Although no committee (or any other such body or coordinator) existed in the town in 2006 and the town does not meet the legal requirement to set up a committee, the town provides observations which could be an inspiration for others.

It has prepared a *Community Plan for the Development of Social Services 2006 – 2008*, in which basic priorities are set and goals classified by target group of user (seniors; the disabled; persons without their own housing, all groups of the population).

National minority issues (there is a Roma minority in the town) are not singled out from any target group. They mainly affect the target group of the homeless. Here, the community plan has set the goal of 'Constructing a system of sheltered housing' (a hostel, a resthouse, a day centre for citizens without their own housing; a shelter for women with children in need).

In the previous community plan, for 2005, national minorities were incorporated into the task *Removing barriers*, which entailed improving the traffic situation on the road to the locality *Pod železným dvorem, Železný dvůr*, which is predominantly a place where the Roma minority lives. This task was fulfilled completely.

JABLUNKOV

The local authority has not yet formulated a community plan; preparatory work is under way (no members of the Roma community are registered).

JOSEFOV

The municipal plan for 2006 – 2010 includes a plan of committee activities.

KOBYLÁ NAD VIDNAVKOU

The municipality was involved in the preparation of community planning together with the town of Jeseník. In the field of care for the disabled, it discussed the possibility of helping these people within the setting of their own co-habitants and relatives. Together with the owner of a building, it arranged for extensive repairs to the building and for drinking water to be installed. After the repairs, the building was transferred to one of the citizens, and now the issue of collecting rent is being discussed, which will have to be safeguarded against abuse; a maintenance fund will be set up with the rent.

With a view to the requirement of working for a set number of years, the municipality is working with the employment office to place persons at risk in the community work programme so that they reach the necessary number of years of employment.

The health commission, together with the committee for minorities, visits families with large numbers of children and delivers lectures and training on health care and childcare. Checks are run on adult citizens with disabilities to ensure they respect the necessary restrictions. They are sent on medical checkups etc. At the end of the year, the municipality prepared for the entry into force of the new Social Services Act, and identified which persons would be affected by the new provisions. This was launched with advice on how to submit applications. Persons in the municipality who have the qualifications required to provide services and whose contribution is envisaged are being trained.

MALÁ ŠTÁHLE

The municipality has a community plan within the scope of the municipality III Rýmařov.

MĚROVICE NAD HANOU

The municipality has not yet drawn up a community plan for citizens claiming membership of a national minority because co-existence with these citizens is not problematic.

MIKULÁŠOVICE

The town does not have its own community plan, but contributed to the Community Plan of Social Services in Šluknovský výběžek for 2004 – 2008, of which it is part. This plan includes national minority issues, including the vision up to 2008:

- the integration of national minorities into majority society,
- a tolerant society,
- the elimination of xenophobia,
- the involvement of adults in the education process,
- the elimination of the language barrier in Šluknovský výběžek, which prevents communication with German neighbours,
- the joint development of the Czech and German border area,
- more job opportunities,
- social security,
- a fall in the number of Roma and foreign nationals prosecuted and indicted.

NÁVSÍ

In 2006, the municipality had no community plan reflecting the requirements of national minorities.

NEJDEK

The community plan is currently being prepared. There are plans to encompass national minorities in it.

NOVÉ MĚSTO POD SMRKEM

The town has not drawn up a community plan. However, the town's leadership is considering the merits of such a plan. It also envisages cooperation with the civic association *Community Centre Without Discrimination*.

NOVÉ SEDLO

In 2006, the municipality had no community plan, but there are plans for one in 2007.

ORLOVÁ

In 2006, the municipality had no community plan, but will work on one in 2007.

PÍSEČNÁ

In 2006, the municipality had no community plan.

PRAHA 5

In 2006, the Praha 5 Borough Council Commission for Ethnic Groups carried out activities in accordance with its policy statement and the rules of procedure of commissions of Praha 5 Borough Council, which formulate the conditions of work with national minorities and their integration.

ROPICE

No community plan was drawn up in the municipality; cooperation between the municipality and national minorities is good.

TŘANOVICE

The municipality has drawn up a strategy of municipal development which includes the activities of associations and non-profit organizations. The PZKO, representing the Polish national minority, is one of them.

TŘINEC

The town has had a community plan of social services since 2006. This plan does not deal with national minority issues.

VALEČ

In 2006, the municipality had no community plan for national minorities because there were no problems and no differences were made between citizens.

VEJPRTY

The project of a community plan germinated in November 2006, and national minority issues are incorporated into it in the elimination of groups of inhabitants at risk of social exclusion and in the system of service availability for citizens from all groups of inhabitants.

VENDRYNĚ

The committee had no need to draw up a community plan; it was not necessary for the co-existence of the national minority in the municipality. Virtually the only minority is citizens of Polish nationality (35%), whose activities are based on long-standing traditions.

ZLATÉ HORY

The municipality is currently contributing to the preparation of a community plan for the Jeseník area. The issue of national minorities is incorporated; this issue is the responsibility of the working party on the socially excluded and those at risk of social exclusion (families with children, young people exposed to addictive substances, national minorities).

3. *What was the cooperation like between the municipality, or committee for national minorities (council / other body) and organizations of members of national minorities in 2006?*

BOCANOVICE

Cooperation with the Polish national minority is continuous as two members of the municipal assembly belong to this national minority. A joint cultural event was held for children.

BRNO – ŘEČKOVICE AND MOKRÁ HORA

The cooperation between the committee²⁹⁾ and members of national minorities was very good. An example of the good cooperation with the Moravian national minority is the discussion with the warden of the Moravian castle Pernštejn. A problem has been, and remains, the revival of the long-standing tradition of a folk afternoon of performances by music and dance groups of national minorities from the Czech Republic and abroad.

BUKOVEC

The cooperation of the municipality and the committee with local organizations (PZKO, *Macierz Szkolna*) was very good. The local chapters did not apply for any assistance from the municipality in 2006.

BYSTRICE

Cooperation between the committee and organizations of members of national minorities was good because the organizations had representatives in the committee.

²⁹⁾ Author's note – this borough reflects the presence of the Moravian 'national' minority (2001 census) even though the reply on the Charter ('in the borough the majority national minority is Czech-speaking Moravians') is in direct contradiction with the term 'national minority' provided for in the Minorities Act.

ČESKÝ TĚŠÍN

As in previous years, in 2006 the cooperation between the committee and organizations of members of national minorities was good, as there is a direct link between committee members and the main committee of the PZKO and Congress of Poles.

The committee also cooperated with committees from surrounding towns and municipalities, and in 2006 organized a joint meeting of the representatives of these committees at the town hall in Český Těšín. It was attended by members of staff of the Council Secretariat; representatives of national minority organizations (PZKO, Congress of Poles) also accepted the invitation.

HNOJNÍK

A local PZKO chapter of members of the Polish national minority is active in the municipality. Cooperation was rated highly. The committee meets as required. The president of the local PZKO chapter is a committee member.

HORNÍ LOMNÁ

The citizens here have no problems related to nationality; the committee dealt with no such problems.

HRÁDEK

The committee cooperates with the local PZKO chapter; committee members are also chapter members. They organize cultural and sports events together.

CHEB

In the town there are *de jure* (own statutes, registration with the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic) five Roma organizations (*Council of Roma Organizations [Rada romských organizací]*, *Laco jilo*, *Roma Work Society [Romská pracující společnost]*, *Roma Civic Association [Romské občanské sdružení]* and *Ungro Association of Hungarian Roma [Sdružení maďarských Romů Ungro]*). There is also *Community Vietnam [Komunita Vietnam]*, drawing together citizens of Vietnamese nationality, and *Společnost Baltazara Neumanna*, dealing with issues of Czech-German co-existence.

CHOTĚBUZ

Up to 2006, the chairperson of the Chotěboř was chairperson of one of the local PZKO chapters, and therefore the cooperation between the municipality and organizations of members of national minorities was hitch-free. Following the elections in 2006, the chairperson is a member of the committee of one of two Polish organizations; the chairpersons of the Polish organizations are also committee members. It can be assumed, then, that the cooperation will continue to be good.

JABLUNKOV

The committee's cooperation with the PZKO was very good in 2006. This solid standard of cooperation was made possible by flexible solutions to the issues of the Polish minority in the committee, the Council and the assembly, thanks in part to the composition thereof – some PZKO members were also members of the Council and assembly, and the PZKO chairman is authorized to cooperate with local authorities. No problems were recorded in the committee's relations with the PZKO and other organizations over the reporting period.

JIŘÍKOV

There are no organizations of members of national minorities in the municipality.

JOSEFOV

In the reporting period, there was no cooperation with the organizations of members of national minorities.

JOSEFŮV DŮL

Although the municipality did not set up a committee, it cooperated with the *Union of Germans – Jablonec n. N. Region*, Josefův Důl branch.

KOBYLÁ NAD VIDNAVKOU

Last year, the municipality worked very well with the Olomoucký kraj Provincial Authority and with the provincial Roma coordinator in its work with minorities. It struck up cooperation with representatives of the *Association of Roma in Brno* [Sdružení Romů v Brně]³⁰⁾ and a programme of sheltered workshops has been prepared; it is envisaged that they will start operating in the spring. The municipality is in contact with organizations and associations in neighbouring municipalities, although its style of work differs from other municipalities and the cooperation is rather more formal.

KOMORNÍ LHOTKA

The cooperation of the committee, or the whole municipality, was very good; it mainly involved organizational assistance with cultural and sports events.

KRASLICE

In 2006, there was no significant cooperation between the town and the organizations of members of national minorities. In practice, the committee focused on seeking out members of national minorities and gradually including them in activities.

KRAVAŘE

The committee cooperated with the *Society of Friends of Germany* [Kruh přátel Německa], Kravaře, Alejní 24 (tel. 553 672 119 - Josef Melecký) and the municipal assembly.

KRÁLOVEC

Cooperation with national minorities is good; the problems that have to be tackled are predominantly of an individual nature, national minorities here have no organizations and no activities of their own.

MALÁ ŠTÁHLE

There are no national minority problems in the municipality.

MOSTY U JABLUNKOVA

Cooperation with the organization of members of the Polish national minority was good and mutually beneficial.

NÁVŠÍ

Organizations of members of national minorities active in the municipality comprise two local PZKO chapters, one in the centre of the municipality (over 300 members) and another in the village Návsí-Jasení (approximately 80 members). Cooperation with these organizations is very intensive and maintained in the spirit of mutual understanding. The suggestions and requirements of these organizations' representatives are always taken into consideration in the exercise of the municipality's powers; the fifteen-member municipal assembly includes members of the Polish minority. The management of the municipality – the municipal

³⁰⁾ This is evidently the *Community of Roma in Moravia* [Společenství Romů na Moravě] (author's note)

chairwoman, the deputy chairwoman, members of the municipal council – regularly take part in most events held by the above-mentioned organizations (concerts, exhibitions, folk performances or amateur dramatics, etc.).

In 2006, no problems occurred in cooperation with minority organizations.

NOVÉ MĚSTO POD SMRKEM

The Committee for the Roma Minority did not issue any written opinions, but made suggestions and proposals at meetings of the assembly concerning Roma minority issues. It reported no activities, mainly because of the lack of initiative on the part of the Roma minority.

NÝDEK

The committee mediated cooperation between the municipality and the local PZKO chapter.

ORLOVÁ

The municipality's cooperation with national minorities is functional.

PÍSEČNÁ

The municipality makes municipal buildings available for the meetings and other activities of the local PZKO chapter. The local PZKO chapter organizes its traditional *PZKO Ball* in the local House of Culture. In 2006, it was also attended by several members of the municipal assembly and the municipal chairman. PZKO members help to organize and hold municipal cultural and sports events hosted by the municipality, e.g. *End of Holidays in Písečná*, the *St Nicholas* festival in the municipality. The municipality is a member of the *Jablunkovsko Association of Local Authorities [Sdružení obcí Jablunkovska]*, in the framework of which it has established a link with the Polish district of *Krapkovice*.

PÍSEK

The municipality's cooperation with the committee is smooth.

ROPICE

The committee cooperates closely with the local PZKO and *Macierz Szkolna* chapters.

ROUDNO

No issues requiring a solution or cooperation occurred.

SMILOVICE

The municipal chairman and the municipal assembly are constructive in relation to the requests of the Polish national minority, e.g. free use of the hall for a dance group, periodic social events.

STONAVA

The committee's cooperation with the municipality has been very good for several years.

TŘANOVICE

Prior to the municipal elections in autumn 2006, the committee was not particularly active. The situation changes after the elections, when new committee members were appointed.

TŘINEC

Within the scope of the *Třinec Music Spring*, in 2006 the Třinec held its third *Festival of National Minorities*, where individual national minorities are keen to raise their profile and

demonstrate the culture of their individual national minorities to citizens. The event attracts music groups and dance companies, and the individual national minorities also present their typical dishes, drinks and products. These groups are from Třinec and the surrounding area. The Festival of National Minorities is warmly received among the citizens, and has become a regular event in Třinec. The national minorities also hold their own cultural events. Every year, the Polish minority holds a myriad of events, including the *Festival of the Polish National Minority*, while the *Community of Slovaks* holds its *Fašiangas Fun Day and Burying the Bass*, the Roma community held a carnival for children, and the Greek community prepares an annual meeting to mark the Greek state holiday. The Roma minority organizes children's carnivals and football tournaments.

VENDRYNĚ

The committee's main task is to cooperate with organizations of members of national minorities. Virtually all committee members take an active or direct part in these associations. Committee members are also members of the municipality's assembly and commissions. The municipality believes that the committee's regular meetings with citizens and its grant policy are prime examples of cooperation between the municipality and committee and the organizations of members of national minorities.

The good level of co-existence also benefited from a project for, and construction of, a sports complex for both primary schools in the municipalities (with Czech and Polish as the language of instruction). The municipality was awarded a grant of approximately CZK 4.5 million for this project (see section 3.4.5 of the Report). The council played a crucial role in this project, for which it deserves the thanks of the committee and the municipality as a whole.

The municipality provides financial and organizational support to many other activities connected with the activities of the national minority. These are traditional events organized every year and have been mentioned in previous reports on the activities of national minorities.

VINTÍŘOV

Cooperation is good, especially the organization of Roma entertainment in the local cultural facility, for minimum hire expense.

VLČICE

There was no cooperation between the municipality and organizations of members of national minorities in 2006.

3a) examples of good practice in 2006:

ALBRECHTICE

In the municipality, there is a Polish minority group which is drawn together in the local PZKO and *Macierz Szkolna* chapters and in the political movement *Coexistentia-Wspólnota*. Cooperation with these organizations is of a very good standard. Seven of the fifteen assembly members are of Polish nationality.

ČESKÝ TĚŠÍN

Last year, as every year, numerous events were held together with the Polish town of Cieszyn, e.g. the celebration of the Feasts of the Three Brothers and joint cross-border drama and music festivals. Joint sessions of the assemblies of both towns are held twice a year.

HORNÍ SUCHÁ

The municipal authority and the committee traditionally cooperate very well with organizations of the Polish national minority. Neither the Hungarian nor the Slovak national minority has organizations or associations in the municipality. For 2006, we cite the following examples of good cooperation:

- The Roma community has a local chapter of the *Democratic Alliance of Roma* (DAR), the chairman of which, Ladislav Toráč (mobile: 731 230 834), is also a committee member. The local DAR chapter has 20 – 25 members and supporters and focuses primarily on sports and, in part, cultural activities for young people.
- The local PZKO chapter, which has 558 members and runs the *Suszanie* Song and Dance Troop, the *Sucha* choir, a five-a-side football club, a Women's Club and a Youth Club, has enjoyed long-standing cooperation with the municipality in the preparation and implementation of municipal cultural and social events, such as:
 - Municipal Ball, International Women's Day, Traditional Horní Suchá Fair, Summer Welcome. A new event in 2006 was a folk music festival called *Getting Down with Folk [Fárání s Folklorem]*, with performances by *Šmykňa, Valašský Vojvoda, Bielsko Biała* (Poland), *Gorole + Nowina, Suszanie* and Mrs Šuláková.
 - The local PZKO chapter has been holding an off-road cycling race in Horní Suchá for eight years, in cooperation with teachers from the local primary schools (Polish and Czech), the Czech Red Cross and the local police. The main sponsor is the municipality. In 2006, there was a record number of 71 entrants, ranging from nursery school children to pupils from the ninth grade of primary school.
 - In 2006, the local PZKO chapter held the PZKO Ball, a *Pig Roast [Zabijačka]* and *Wykopki*, as well as cultural events to which all the municipality's inhabitants were invited.
- *Macierz Szkolna* (the School Foundation Group of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction) organized a School Ball and Garden Party. In 2006, it also contributed to the children's autumn lamp procession, which was organized by the *Association of Parents of the Primary School and Nursery School* (with Czech as the language of instruction).
- *Macierz Przedszkola* (the School Foundation Group at the nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction) holds the garden party *Dzień Taty – Ognisko pożegnane*, a Carnival, *Dzień Dziadka i Babci, Dzień Matki* and St Nicholas Festival.
- *Harcerstwo Polskie v Republice Czeskiej* is an organization for children and young people. It organizes excursions, competitions and games. It is similar to the scout (*Junák*) organization.

CHODOV

Within the scope of its community planning of social services, the town cooperates with the civic association *Khamoro Chodov*, which provides social services primarily to citizens of Roma nationality). It was also actively involved in an event held by the community planning working party called *Presentation of Social Services*, which was intended mainly for the general public. Specifically, it entails the tidying-up and cleaning of municipal land (woodlands, grassland, etc.). The civic association is paid for this work (in 2006 the town paid CZK 20,214).

KOBYLÁ NAD VIDNAVKOU

The municipal assembly set the condition that all committees and commissions must report at least four successful events per year. The committee not only held regular meetings, but also participated in activities involving citizens from minorities. They helped address problems at the school, cooperated with social workers in the handling of benefits, and arranged for the

leadership of clubs, e.g. they set up a cooperative of young fire-fighters who did the municipality proud in competitions in their uniforms. The municipality has a music group, which performs at events held in the municipality. The sound results in the use of preschool and school activities appear to be a reason why the municipality does not have problems regarding insufficient knowledge of the language. Cooperation between citizens and Roma is of such a level that the municipality considers the frequently recurring problems relating to the need for integration to be a stumbling block which needs to be observed closely so that it does not occur again. Cooperation with the school, through its teaching staff, was very good. There would have been no results without such cooperation.

MIKULÁŠOVICE

A publicity campaign was held to provide information about the opportunity for national minorities contact the committee or the municipal authority's internal affairs and social care unit with their problems, needs and suggestions.

MOSTY U JABLUNKOVA

Meeting between the citizens of Mosty u Jablunkova and Svrčinovec – the traditional *Gorolski Ball*.

NEJDEK

The German minority's association works very well in the town.³¹⁾ It holds various social events for its members. It is also involved in other events in the town.

NÝDEK

Further to a request from the local PZKO chapter, the committee recommended that the municipal assembly approve a programme for the introduction of bilingual signs in the municipality.

ORLOVÁ

The existence of a Roma adviser in the municipality gives the Roma community a certain amount of assistance in the organization of events for children, and assistance in the organization of free-time activities for school-age children and young people in cooperation with the civic association *Step by Step [Krok za krokem]*. Further examples: a singing competition for children from local primary schools called *Roma Song*; tobogganing on plastic bags; excursions to the mountains; a trip to a multiplex cinema in Ostrava for children from problem families, who are kept under constant surveillance; a visit to Ostrava Zoo, etc.

PRAHA 5

In 2006, cooperation with civic associations such as *Romano Dives*, *Athinganoi*, *Advice Centre for Refugees [Poradna pro uprchlíky]*, *the Czech Helsinki Committee* and *People in Need [Člověk v tísni]* progressed well. Cooperation with a larger number of children from national minorities, e.g. Grafická Primary School, First Slavonic Nursery School, is very good. In its work with ethnic groups, the borough organized various cultural and educational activities, e.g. a ball and various events for children (visits, excursions, a camp). Assistance was provided to children in their career choices and further education. Within the scope of cooperation, counselling was provided in social matters, housing and employment, e.g. the employment of Roma assistants.

³¹⁾ The Slovak minority, the largest minority in the town, does not have its own organization.

SKALNÁ

Although the municipality has not set up a committee, cooperation with the *Cultural Association of Citizens of German Nationality* (the local chapter in Skalná), which makes a very active contribution to social events in the town, is traditionally very good. Every year, the association holds traditional events, such as *Mothers Day*, *Sklaná Fair*, a Christmas party, and an advent concert in the Church of St John the Baptist. The town also cooperates with the civic association *Czechs from the Banat Carpathians* [*Sdružení Čechů z banátských Karpat*], which in 2006 organized a national meeting here; one of the most interesting events was a demonstration of traditional crafts, such as threshing with a flail, the pummelling of barley, the hand engraving of wooden chips, and wickerwork. An integral part of the meeting was a folk performance and traditional mass. The meeting drew 600 people from all over the Czech Republic.

STARÁ VES

The committee is mainly geared towards the organization of social events. One example is the *Day of Slovak Cuisine* during the summer holidays, during which members of the Slovak minority prepare typical Slovak dishes and invite the whole village to join them. The municipality makes a financial contribution to the event and makes premises available free of charge. The committee also makes sure that the law is respected, for example in the sense that election information must be published in two languages.

STONAVA

In particular, cultural activities are propagated. The choir, which also sings Polish songs, meets regularly at the PZKO building in Stonava. Various cultural events are held in Polish.

TŘANOVICE

The representatives of all sub-groups of the population in the municipality, i.e. including national minorities (PZKO), were invited to address common problems.

VEJPRTY

As example in 2006 would be the municipal authority's cooperation with the civic association *Amaro Suno*, as well as the handling of specific problems with the field social worker.

3b) problems in 2006:

DOLNÍ LOMNÁ

Limited funding for the promotion of cultural life in the municipality is a problem.

KOBYLÁ NAD VIDNAVKOU

Within the region, families were moved from Vsetín (e.g. the municipality of Vidnava), the municipal chairman is not sure whether everything necessary was done for the elimination of such 'cheating' carried out by towns in respect of smaller municipalities which, with a much lower budget per citizen compared to the budgets of towns, will have to address this problem. A major problem is the use of motor vehicles without a licence. There are cases of fines, community work, suspended sentences and subsequently imprisonment. There are various support programmes. It is no longer a luxury to use the car to visit the doctor, the authorities, do the shopping, etc. Why, for example, is there not a programme entailing an increased number of

driving lessons, not an increase in expense, but a contribution to the cost; many breaches of the law would then diminish.

A problem in municipalities is referring to the assistance available to these people (Roma). There is no need to conceal it or withdraw from support. If anyone asks for assistance, an explanation must be provided, it must be stressed that this is aid for others too. If this information is not publicized, someone else will replace it in their own way.

NOVÉ MĚSTO POD SMRKEM

A Community Centre Without Discrimination has been set up in the town. In particular, this facility should provide activities for children, but it is held back by lack of funding. The problems of the Roma minority in 2006 were the same as in previous years (unemployment, minor offences, crime, debts owed to the town).

ORLOVÁ

Problems relating to minority groups and racism. At the end of 2005 and the beginning of 2006, a group of advocates of *National Resistance* [*Národní odpor*] tried to raise their profile through the media by claiming that law and order needed to be established.

PRAHA 5

In 2006, the principal problems connected with national minorities were housing, unemployment and drugs.

STARÁ VES

Younger family members cannot speak the language of their forefathers. Not even the original immigrants who are still alive speak fluent Slovak.

VEJPRTY

Problems in 2006 are linked to social contact, improvements in access to education, in financial matters – concerning loans, and the constructive use of free time by children.

VINTÍŘOV

There were problems only with certain individuals; those which could not be resolved by agreement were passed on to the municipal and state police.

4. In 2006, how did the municipality provide financial assistance to organizations / the activities of national minorities (through a special grant title in the budget, within the scope of other grant schemes, ad hoc support for individual events, or other means)?

Municipalities actively contribute to the lives of national minorities by means of funding from their budgets. Funds are most commonly made available in the form of lump-sum non-capital grants for the activities of national minority organizations, e.g. cultural (folk) and sports activities, or individual events (festivals, celebrations, etc.). Grants usually amount to several dozen thousand crowns, and in exceptional cases may exceed CZK 100,000. In several instances, a relatively large capital grant was awarded, e.g. for the repair of buildings (the highest grant, in Dolní Lomná, was more than CZK 1,300,000). Once again, municipalities with a Polish minority in the Těšín area led the way in terms of the volume of contributions and the number of projects approved; nevertheless a number of projects for the Roma minority were supported (e.g. for leisure activities). Details are given in Annex 13.

5. Did the committee or municipal assembly discuss the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages? Please specify.³²⁾

ALBRECHTICE

At its meetings, the committee discussed the implementation of the Charter in terms of the introduction of bilingual signs on public buildings and signposts in the municipality (now installed). The committee also dealt with the placement of signs with the name of the *municipality in the language of a national minority* in accordance with Decree No 507/2006, point 13, references IS12c and IS12d.

BOCANOVICE

The committee did not deal with the implementation of the Charter in 2006. The committee is discussing the requirements relating to the implementation of the Charter in 2007, and an estimate of the financial expense will probably be available in mid-April 2007.

BRNO – ŘEČKOVICE AND MOKRÁ HORA

The committee did not discuss the implementation of the Charter; this was not necessary because the majority national minority in the borough are Czech-speaking Moravians.

BYSTRICE

Neither the committee nor the municipal assembly discussed the implementation of the Charter as the public buildings have long been labelled in Polish; the municipality has staff to translate applications in Polish, we arrange for translations of notifications of sessions of the municipal assembly, the municipal television broadcasting service prepares year-round reports on events organized by national minorities, promotional materials about the municipality are also published in Polish, a film has been shot about the municipality, which is also in Polish, and the municipality's welcome sign is bilingual.

ČESKÝ TĚŠÍN

The committee repeatedly discussed the implementation of the Charter, especially in relation to Section 29(2) of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended (the conditions for the introduction of bilingual signs are now met in the full scope of the said provision).

DOLNÍ LOMNÁ

The Committee has previously discussed its comments and suggestions regarding the Charter with a view to its acceptance and the requirements of the national minority. It wants the Charter to be ratified as soon as possible.³³⁾ The Committee proposes academically incorporating the development of the nationality structure of Těšín Silesia into open issues in the field of national minority policy.

At a meeting of the committee for national minorities held on 17 January 2007, a request from the local PZKO chapter to introduce names and signs in Polish in Dolní Lomná, e.g. the entry sign, boards, the library, and signposts in the municipality, was discussed. The committee also recommended addressing the police, the post office and other public service providers in this respect. Bilingual signs exist on the building of the municipal authority and offices.

³²⁾ Municipalities and towns where the committee did not deal with the Charter: Bukovec, Cheb, Jiříkov, Josefov, Kraslice, Kravaře, Královec, Malá Štáhle, Mikulášovice, Nejdek, Orlová, Písek, Roudno, Skalná, Smilovice, Stará Ves, Vejprty, Vělopolí, Vlčice, Zlaté Hory.

³³⁾ On 15 November 2006 the Czech Republic deposited its instrument of ratification of the Charter with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe; the Charter entered into force on 1 March 2007.

DOLNÍ POUSTEVNA

The implementation of the Charter was discussed by the municipal assembly; the outcome is the project *German – Professional Course for Citizens*, which will take place in 2007 and will be partially subsidized from the funds of the European Union.

HNOJNÍK

The committee discussed the implementation of the Charter.

HORNÍ SUCHÁ

At the assembly meeting held on 18 October 2006, the plan to introduce bilingual signs within the meaning of the Charter was made more specific in line with a requirement of the local PZKO chapter recommended by the committee.

HRÁDEK

The committee discussed the Charter; so far there has been no need for interpreting from Polish into Czech.

CHOTĚBUZ

The committee discussed the implementation of the Charter. It split the introduction of bilingual topographical names into two stages based on the funding available to it. The committee has not yet been able to estimate the financial expense of implementation in 2007. However, the committee stated that no information and awareness for citizens was forthcoming from the Government concerning the financing and implementation of the Charter in practice. This would forestall unnecessary human passions and emotions.³⁴⁾

KOMORNÍ LHOTKA

The committee discussed the implementation of the Charter; interpreting and translations of written applications were not necessary. The use of topographical names and the names of public buildings in Polish, within the meaning of Article 10(2)(g) of the Charter was discussed at a committee meeting (public buildings are labelled in Polish, along with the building of the municipal authority, the nursery school (*przedszkola*); at the municipal authority, information is also provided in Polish), the streets in the municipality and the sign the municipality's name on entering the municipality are not required in Polish (as stated by the representative of the local PZKO chapter in Komorní Lhotka).

MĚROVICE NAD HANOU

Neither the municipal assembly nor the committee discussed the Charter on the grounds that all citizens have the opportunity to choose whether to live in this or that municipality, or in this or that country, and to adapt to the laws of the country in which they opt to live. The generosity of social benefits for citizens claiming membership of a national minority from the national budget means that, if anything, it is those of Czech nationality who face discrimination.³⁵⁾

MOSTY U JABLUNKOVA

Committee members were acquainted with the Charter. Its implementation in the municipality will be discussed on receipt of a specific proposal from representatives of local Polish organizations.

³⁴⁾ Note by the submitter of the report: In June 2006, the Council Secretariat published – to prevent any misunderstandings - *Charta. Co bychom měli vědět? Informační text orgánům veřejné správy k Evropské chartě regionálních či menšinových jazyků s ohledem na její uplatnění v praxi* [‘The Charter – What Do We Need to Know? Information for public administration authorities on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and how to apply it in practice’]. This is discussed inter alia in part 2.2 of the Report. The publication was distributed to all municipalities in the Těšínské Slezsko area which had set up a committee.

³⁵⁾ Note by the submitter of the report – this text indicates a simplified (almost dangerous) view of national minority policy.

NÁVSÍ

The committee and the assembly discussed the implementation of the Charter only as was strictly necessary in relation to the use of topographical names and the names of public buildings in Polish within the meaning of Article 10(2g) of the Charter. Bilingual signs have been installed on the building of the municipal authority (Urząd Gminny) and local building control department (Urząd Budowlany); the official notice-board is also labelled bilingually (Tablica Urzędowa). The informative occasional periodical *Návšíčko*, published for the municipality's citizens by Návší Municipal Authority, also provides some information and articles in Polish. The streets in Návší have not yet been labelled in Polish.

Interpreting and translations of written requests in Polish into Czech are very rare in practice, but the municipality is capable of responding to such requirements of its Polish-speaking citizens in time and competently. A passive knowledge of Polish is broadly acknowledged among employees of the municipal authority, and therefore ordinary contact with citizens in this respect poses hardly any problems.

NOVÉ MĚSTO POD SMRKEM

Neither the committee nor the assembly discussed the implementation of the Charter. The *Community Centre Without Discrimination* attempted to gain funding for the support of education in the languages of national minorities, but was unsuccessful.

NÝDEK

At its meeting held on 13 October 2006, the municipal assembly approved a programme for the use of bilingual topographical names and names of public buildings; it laid down the following priority order for the introduction of bilingual signs:

Sign on entering the municipality	Nýdek - Nydek
Municipal authority in Nýdek	Urząd Gminy Nydek
Building control department	Urząd Budowlany
Registry	Urząd Stanu Cywilnego
Library	Biblioteka

PÍSEČNÁ

The committee discussed a proposal from the local PZKO chapter to set up bilingual signs in public spaces and on buildings. This proposal was approved and submitted to the assembly for discussion. The municipal authority has also been labelled in Polish.

PRAHA 5

In 2006, Praha 5 supported the teaching of minority languages at Grafická Primary School within the scope of the Charter.³⁶⁾

ROPICE

The committee discussed the Charter. Over the next two years, the municipality, with the help of grants from the EU, plans to complete the labelling of the local parts of the municipality in Polish.

STONAVA

Neither the committee nor the municipal assembly discussed the implementation of the Charter in this period. The issue of bilingual signs was resolved in the past when the buildings

³⁶⁾ Note by the submitter of the report: this is evidently a misunderstanding; furthermore, there is no explanation of how the financial assistance applied to the Charter.

and institutions were labelled with signs and when the information system was installed in the municipality.

The implementation of Article 10(1a) is also specifically resolved because virtually all employees at the municipal authority speak the minority language and citizens have no problems being understood in that language when they visit the authority.

Likewise, Article 10(2g) is implemented, i.e. the use of topographical names in the minority language (e.g. the historical monument Švédský kopec and the cultural monument the Church of Mary Magdalene).

TĚRLICKO

The labelling of public places with Polish signs is being prepared. This matter is being dealt with by the assembly via the committee. It is a long-term matter and must be carefully prepared so that it is acceptable for all the municipality's inhabitants.

TŘANOVICE

The committee discussed the implementation of the Charter as regards the labelling of public buildings and spaces.

TŘINEC

In the 2002 – 2006 electoral period, committee members did not deliver any opinions on the Charter ratification preparations. The committee appointed in autumn 2006 has not yet discussed the use of topographical names and the names of public buildings in Polish.

VENDRYNĚ

The ratification of the Charter only serves to underline those activities which already take place naturally in the municipality. The committee prepared and the assembly approved, at its meeting held on 14 February 2007, the addition of bilingual signs in the municipality. The cost will be between CZK 50,000 and CZK 60,000.

VINTÍŘOV

Besides the election matters, where the letter of the law was fully respected.

Summary

1) There are municipalities where no committee has been set up even though the number of members of national minorities is more than 10%. In support of this decision, these municipalities commonly state that there was no interest in establishing a committee. On the official notice-board, the assembly published an intention to set up the committee and an invitation to citizens interested in the activities of such a committee to come forward. In these municipalities, members of national minorities are not organized into civic associations or other forms of nongovernmental organizations. The assemblies in these municipalities consider the establishment of a committee to be the implementation of provisions of the law which are of no actual significance. A similar situation is illustrated by municipalities setting up a committee which subsequently carries out practically no activities (e.g. Hodov). Small municipalities with up to 200 inhabitants did not establish committees because members of national minorities (most commonly Slovak and German minorities) are few and are not interested in such a committee. Among those municipalities which did not set up a committee for national minorities are municipalities where the 10% threshold of members of national minorities was reached only by including the Vietnamese community among such members, and this is misleading. In most cases they are foreign nationals, i.e. persons not holding the

status of Czech citizenship (this fact is derived from a comparison of information about foreign nationals and members of national minorities from the 2001 census). The situation is similar as regards municipalities where a certain number of persons claim to be members of the Moravian or Silesian national minority, which – for the reasons discussed above – are not classified among these minorities. A rather extraordinary situation can be found in the case of several municipalities which state that they have not set up a committee because there are no national minorities in their municipality, even though this is not true. In most cases, these are municipalities with members of the Slovak or German minority (accounting for more than 10% of the inhabitants) who feel no need to declare, or who are worried about opening declaring, their membership of a minority community.³⁷⁾ The final example is municipalities which, for various reasons, have set up a committee even though the formal requirements for the establishment of a committee have not been met (e.g. Roudno, Bruntál district). It is also worth mentioning the fact that, especially in certain municipalities in the provinces of Karlovarský kraj, Plzeňský kraj and Ústecký kraj, the Vietnamese community accounts for a significant proportion of the population (e.g. 25% in Pernink, 22% in Horní Blatná, 17% in Hřensko, 12% in Železná Ruda and Rozvadov, 11% in Moldava, and 10% in Abertamy and Hošťka). Committees have not been set up in any of these municipalities.

2) The overwhelming majority of municipalities do not have a community plan and do not use this term at all. On the other hand, municipalities which have prepared a plan often incorporate national minority issues into it. They mainly focus on the social dimension (Roma in socially excluded localities etc.) which extends far beyond a national minority issue. The cultural dimension of minority life (e.g. language, folk traditions) appears only marginally in community plans.

3) The cooperation between committees and minorities is essentially good, especially in municipalities with a Polish minority in the Těšín area, where committee members are often also members of Polish minority organizations (especially PZKO). In some municipalities in the north-western border area, there is cooperation with organizations of the German minority; however, organizations not defined as national minority organizations, but organizations addressing the issues of the German minority in the Czech Republic, were included here. In certain municipalities, there is cooperation with Roma organizations, although a problem here is the irregular and often only formal activity of such organizations. Cooperation with other minorities is rare. Multifaceted cooperation can also be found in municipalities with more active committees and minority members (e.g. with the Polish, Roma and Greek minority in Třinec). In some municipalities, cooperation with minorities is only just being re-established following the changes to the municipal assemblies and the scope of this cooperation cannot be estimated yet. Some municipalities also justified the lack of cooperation by the absence of ‘minority problems’.

3a) Good practice is primarily manifested in the organization of drama, music and dance folk activities. Polish associations, with a long-standing tradition in this field (historically exceeding activity in the role of ‘minority’ clubs), are again the predominant organizers of these events. However, the Roma are also relatively active in this field. Several Roma organizations also cooperate in social, educational and free-time areas, although this sector is mainly dependent on the operations of powerful, established NGOs. There were also successful publicity campaigns targeted not only at Roma issues, but also at the implementation of the Charter in areas with a Polish minority.

³⁷⁾ Typical cases are the municipalities of Bohdalovice (in the Český Krumlov district) and Dolní Nivy (Sokolov district).

3b) In this area, minority issues tend to be combined with social issues and are hard to distinguish from each other. In the clearly minority area – expressions of national identity in the form of association and cultural activities – we can single out complaints of inadequate funding for such activities. Other problems concerned dismal socio-economic status and crime, associated to a larger or lesser extent with the Roma community. However, it cannot be claimed with any clarity that members of a national minority are involved. They may not consider themselves members of a national minority bearing in mind the frequently very broad definition of ‘Roma’ by the representatives of municipalities. Furthermore, problems caused by members of the majority population could easily be incorporated into the ‘minority’ issue. Given our working definition of the Roma (see the Introduction), however, we feel justified in bringing attention to these difficulties here. Isolated manifestations of racism directed against inhabitants of Roma origin were also documented; this is the most pressing problem faced by national minorities in the Czech Republic. Again, from a *sensu stricto* legal point of view these incidents can be assessed as national minority issues only to a limited extent as the initiators of the conflict proceed in accordance with their own – usually primitive – racist (according to external physical signs) definition not reflecting the subjective identity of the victims.

5) The committees often discussed the Charter. However, this clearly uncertainty about expectations because the Charter is a new document that in 2006 was not yet binding upon the Czech Republic and of which the municipal authorities had no experience. However, at the same time provisions of the Charter already contained in legislation in force, many of which are in common usage, have been adopted. A more specific evaluation of the Charter can be expected in 2007, when the Charter will be implemented. Likewise, a more realistic assessment of needs and requirements, and the related costs, will be possible in the year of implementation.

4.2. Chartered cities

1. Was a committee for national minorities (council / other body / coordinator) set up in 2006 (before or after the municipal elections) within the competence of the chartered city? What agenda was it specifically in charge of?

BRNO

The Committee was set up within the structure of the assembly in autumn 2001. The committee has continued its activities since the municipal elections at the end of 2006 in the following composition: two representatives of the City of Brno and three representatives of national minorities. Kateřina Dubská was appointed the chairperson and Zdeňka Tůmová the deputy chairperson. The representatives of the minorities are Roman Madecki, (*POLONUS – Polish Club [POLONUS-Polský klub]*), Gerda Skalníková (*Brno Association of Citizens of German Nationality of the Czech Republic [Brněnské sdružení občanů německé národnosti ČR]*), and Miroslav Zima (*Drom – Roma Centre [Drom-romské středisko]*). The committee secretary is Miloš Vraspír – advisor for national minority from the City Hall’s Social Care Department.

The committee met regularly according to an activity plan. It discussed the grant award procedure (applications from national minority organizations and organizations cooperating with ethnic groups), and drew up proposals for the distribution of grants from the City of Brno budget for meetings of Brno City Council. Committee representatives attended various seminars, with a particular focus on the Roma community, e.g. in February there was an event called *Issues of Excluded Roma Communities in Brno*. The policy of exchanging information

continued between the committee and the Jihomoravský kraj Council on National Minorities (committee members attended meetings of the Council and vice versa).

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

A committee has not been set up by the assembly of the Chartered City of České Budějovice. However, since 2005 it has had a Roma coordinator. This position is held by a social worker with a university degree in humanities; the basic work agenda includes social and socio-health guidance, the exercise of the legitimate rights and interests of members of the Roma ethnic group, and escorting and assistance in the handling of the affairs of Roma at authorities, schools and other institutions. The areas dealt with most are housing issues, employment issues, family finances, consumer loans and distraint.

DĚČÍN

The city set up the role of coordinator of care for socially maladjusted citizens; this coordinator's job description includes work with national minorities. The central part of the agenda was work with Roma citizens.

FRÝDEK-MÍSTEK

No.

HAVÍŘOV

To date, no committee for national minorities has been set up within the meaning of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended.

Since 1 January 2004 the position of adviser for national minorities has existed at the City Hall; the task of this adviser is to handle the agenda of the rights of the members of national minorities, monitor national minorities, cooperate with schools attended by the children of national minorities, provide information on the handling of official affairs at administrative authorities, etc. This adviser cooperates closely with the Moravskoslezský kraj Provincial Authority, i.e. with the adviser for national minorities (Roma adviser).

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

On 15 March 2003, the *Commission for the Integration of National Minorities* was set up at the City Hall; this body handled topical problems in the city and the surrounding area and focused on quality cooperation and up-to-date information for all institutions it worked with throughout the year. Cooperation was also established with Roma and pro-Roma associations and organizations.

The Social Affairs and Health Department has had a *coordinator of ethnic and national minority issues* and two field workers since 2003; since 2006 methodological support has been provided for two socio-health assistants from the organization *DROM – Roma Centre*.

Field work is carried out within the scope of the programme Field Work Support with funding from the Czech national budget provided by the Office of the Government since 2003, with the participation of the city.

CHOMUTOV

Following the municipal elections in autumn 2006, the committee was set up under Assembly Resolution No 062/06-N of 11 December 2006. Composition: four representatives, a representative of each of the German, Roma, Ukrainian and Vietnamese minority, a member of staff of the City Hall (a field worker) and a representative of the public.

JIHLAVA

Neither a committee nor any other advisory body for National Minorities was established in 2006. This measure, considering the relatively small proportion of members of national minorities living in the city and their overall problem-free co-existence, was not necessary.

KARLOVY VARY

No committee for national minorities existed in the competence of the City of Karlovy Vary in 2006.

KARVINÁ

The committee was set up in accordance with a Resolution of the 21st meeting of the Municipal Assembly, held on 2 December 2000.

In 2006, the committee had six members, five of whom were representatives of national minorities (Polish, Roma, Greek, Slovak). It meets once a month and carries out activities in accordance with a work plan approved by the municipal assembly. It helps to tackle the problems of individual national minorities. It supports the development of awareness and activities aimed at reducing conflicts between the majority and the minority.

KLADNO

As the percentage of citizens claiming non-Czech nationality is below the figure provided for under Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended, no committee for national minorities was set up here. Under the constitutional architecture of CT, it is not possible to treat citizens as members of a national minority (e.g. the Roma nationality) unless they claim membership of that minority themselves. In the city's opinion, monitoring who belongs to another national minority, e.g. Roma, results in a racist way of thinking. According to the statistics, 475 citizens in the city and municipalities in its catchment area claim Roma nationality.

At the Social Affairs and Health Department, one member of staff workers as an adviser for national minorities, covering direct social work with the Roma community, primarily as a field worker.

LIBEREC

In the period before the municipal elections, the Liberec City Council set up a Commission for National Minorities and appointed new members under Resolution No 346/03. The Commission had operated in its old structure since 1999. The Commission had nine members; the coordinator for the Roma Community Centre and Roma adviser was appointed its secretary. The Commission's meetings are attended by many guests of other nationalities. The Commission has representatives of the Jewish community, representatives of the German, Ukrainian, and Roma nationality, and others.

The Commission met about once a month; it carries out activities in accordance with the framework plan approved for the calendar year. In cooperation with the unit for prevention and social affairs, the Commission holds a cultural event of national minorities every year, called *We Live Here*. The sixth year of this event was held in 2006. The activities of national minorities are presented in the Liberec City Hall Newsletter [*Zpravodaj liberecké radnice*] in a section with the same title.

The appointment of new commissions and committees will take place in the second half of February 2007.

MLADÁ BOLESLAV

In 2006, the Advisory Body of the Mayor of Mladá Boleslav for National Minorities met only once (in August 2006), because as of April 2006 working parties started preparing the draft

Community Plan of Social Services of the Chartered City of Mladá Boleslav (Working Party IV – Persons and Families in Crisis, at Risk of Addiction, National Minorities). This meeting of the Advisory Body discussed issues connected with the possible sale of the building at Havlíčkova 887 and the occupants' worries about having their leases terminated, and the need for new non-residential premises for the civic association *Jekhetani Luma – Shared World*.

MOST

In the preceding electoral period, a commission for national minority issues (approved on 20 February 2003) operated at the City Hall as an advisory body of the City Council. In the light of the complex post-election situation, on 1 February 2007 a City Council resolution appointed a twelve-member commission for national minorities, with the participation of representatives of the Hungarian and Jewish community.

In the previous electoral period, the commission for national minority issues had eleven members, with four Roma representatives (one from the civic association *Dživas*, two from the *Most Association of Roma [Sdružení Romů města Mostu]*, one from *Chánov Community Centre*) and representatives of political parties. Other national minorities were not represented. A permanent guest at the commission's meetings was the City Hall's coordinator of national minorities.

The commission was kept informed of the activities of the National Minorities Club [Klub národnostních menšin], set up by the City of Most, and the activities of Roma associations. An emphasis was placed on the support of projects and programmes aimed at Roma integration and the prevention of social exclusion. The commission was kept up-to-date on the handling of matters relating to recognized refugees, the integration of foreign nationals and the Roma community, including the coordination of the work of four field workers and crime prevention observations in cooperation with Most Municipal Police and the Czech Police Force in Most. Consideration attention was paid to the possibilities of selecting municipal police officers from the Roma community. This remains a topical issue.

The commission monitored the field of education – a project of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport called *Support of Roma Students at Secondary Schools*. It was interested in information relating to the activities of field workers in the Roma minority connected primarily with civic co-existence, citizenship, and the summer programme for children who did not go away for the holidays.

OLMOUC

With reference to the outcome of the 2001 census, a committee for national minorities was not set up in the competence of the Chartered City of Olomouc. Since 1 February 2003, a national minorities adviser has been employed at Olomouc City Hall; her job includes assisting the integration of members of the Roma community into majority society in the relevant administrative district. This position is combined with the position of the head of the unit of social officers, part of the social services and healthcare department.

OPAVA

There is no committee in the city; the agenda relating to Roma issues is handled by the Roma adviser.

OSTRAVA

In accordance with the results of the last Population and Housing Census in 2001, when most inhabitants claiming a nationality other than Czech said there were of Slovak (3.5%) and Moravian (2.3%) nationality, the Ostrava City Assembly has not set up a committee or any other body.

PARDUBICE
No reply.

PLZEŇ

Following the municipal elections in autumn 2006, the Commission for the Integration of Ethnic Minorities of Plzeň City Council (KIEM RMP) was re-appointed. It is composed of the representatives of institutions, the representatives of ethnic minorities and relevant experts. Commission members may be experts from the relevant institutions, who participate in an advisory capacity. Plzeň City Council appoints and removes Commission members. The Commission is set up based on a cooperation agreement and demands that Commission members fulfil tasks in their competence and conduct checks of the fulfilment of tasks.

The Commission carries out the following tasks in particular:

- a) it prepares documentation for the implementation of a uniform Plzeň city concept in the handling of issues focusing on other ethnic minorities,
- b) it gathers and assesses information available on the development of the mutual co-existence of the majority and all minorities in the city; it gathers and assesses information on developments in the situation, coordinates the submission of this information to the units involved, and presents Plzeň City Council with proposals aimed at eliminating any deficiencies that are discovered,
- c) it cooperates with the Council, the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, and the Government Council for Human Rights, and works with decisions of ministers and valid Government Resolutions.

PŘEROV

Since 2001, a member of staff responsible for the agenda of national minorities has existed in the organizational structure. In the previous electoral period, a *National Minorities Advisory Body* existed, the aim of which was to pass on the specific requirements of members of minorities to city representatives and help find realistic solutions. As the members did not attend meetings, it was discontinued after a year. The city was one of only a handful in the Czech Republic to give members of Roma communities the chance to become actively involved in the Přerov City Council's commissions. During the electoral period they were removed from the commissions because of their failure to attend meetings.

TEPLICE
No reply.

ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM

No committee for national minorities has been set up in the city as set forth in Section 117(3) of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order) because according to the latest census fewer than 10 % of citizens living in the city's territory claim nationality other than Czech; therefore, with regard to the legislative conditions and possibilities, as well as the number of inhabitants officially claiming membership of a given nationality, the establishment of a committee for national minorities cannot be legally demanded.

The position of mayor's assistant for minority issues has existed since 3 March 2003. The assistant was classified as a member of staff in the Mayor's Office and was directly accountable to the Manager of the Mayor's Office. The assistant carried out tasks set by the office manager or mayor of Ústí nad Labem. In the performance of tasks in 2006, the assistant cooperated with deputy mayors, the managers of the competent departments and units of Ústí nad Labem City Hall, the borough authorities, other members of staff from the city and state executive and non-profit institutions. The assistant's priorities were to reduce social

impediments, inequality and injustice. The assistant responded to crises and acute situations and to day-to-day personal and social problems. In his work, the assistant tries to draw on a wide range of skills, approaches and activities geared towards people and their environment.

Within the scope of sustainable structures of community planning in Ústí nad Labem, coordination groups have been operating within defined target groups since 1997. With regard to the fact that one of the target groups of community planning is ethnic minorities and groups, one of the coordination groups works in this area. Its members are representatives of the service users (i.e. members of ethnic minorities and groups), service providers, participating institutions and organizations, and other entities involved. Cooperation with the city is very close because the city is the coordinator of the community planning process via the unit for the support of nongovernmental social services at City Hall.

ZLÍN

In 2006, Zlín had no committee because the number of citizens claiming membership of a nationality other than Czech was less than 10% according to the most recent census (Section 117(3) of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended).

2. Did the chartered city have a community plan formulated in 2006? If yes, since when? Are national minority affairs incorporated into this plan? If yes, how?

BRNO

The process of the community planning of social services began in 2004 with the training of the triad (contracting authority, user, provider). In 2005, a project was submitted under the JROP, a Jihomoravský kraj grant scheme, to ensure the funding of the process. Also, in spring 2005, a process coordinator was employed followed, several months later, by her assistant. The community planning centre was officially opened in the Old Town Hall in Mečová Street, from where the process is coordinated and administrated.

In March 2006, the *Opening Conference on the Process of the Community Planning of Social Services in Brno* ('plan') took place and was attended by 220 representatives of social service providers, users, and contracting authorities. Working groups were formed from these delegates; one of them was a working party called *Ethnic Minorities*. Work is under way on the plan, a draft of which will be produced in June. The problems of national minorities (including the Roma) are represented in this working party, the output of which will be an integral part of the whole plan for the development of social services in Brno. The *Ethnic Minorities Working Party* work plan is prepared for individual months in the first half of 2007 with a specification of the priorities discussed (e.g. employment and employability, education, subsidized housing, the prevention of socio-pathological phenomena); the focus is on the inclusion of Roma in Brno.

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

In 2006, the city's community plan of social services for 2004 – 2008 entered into its third year. The community plan includes the appointment of a Roma coordinator, financial assistance for nongovernmental organizations providing social services to citizens in the city, including the support of Roma, socially maladjusted citizens, foreign nationals and migrants.

DĚČÍN

Děčín became involved in the process of community planning in 2004. Děčín's first community plan of social services was issued in 2006 and covers the 2006 – 2008 period; four coordination groups contributed to the preparations. The *drug addicts and ethnic minorities* group has a representative of the Roma association *Indigo*, which offers its activities in a

locality with a large proportion of the Roma ethnic group. It operates the *Friend [Kamarád]* centre for children and young people here, which organizes numerous free-time activities for Roma children and young people.

FRÝDEK-MÍSTEK

The city has had an approved community plan since December 2006. This plan has a chapter entitled *Ethnic Minorities*, which focuses primarily on the problems faced by the Roma ethnic group in the city.

HAVÍŘOV

The city's community plan was formulated in 2005. Care for national minorities is not a separate field here; it is incorporated into all areas. The population in Havířov is homogeneous in terms of national minorities, even though certain nationalities are represented here (e.g. Slovak, Polish, and Silesian). These groups do not have a separate model of socio-demographic behaviour and this is reflected in the use of social care and services.

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

Since 2005, the commission for the integration of national minorities has become an integral part of the community planning process (up-to-date information is available at the website www.hradeckralove.org, the document *Second Plan of Social and Related Services of the City of Hradec Králové [Druhý plán sociálních a související služeb města Hradce Králové]* for 2007 – 2009) with the creation of an autonomous expert working party within the scope of community planning called *Foreign Nationals, National and Ethnic Minorities*. This group's work is the same as the work carried out by the Commission for the Integration of National Minorities.

CHOMUTOV

The city has had an approved community plan since December 2006; it does not deal with national minority issues. However, it does incorporate several civic associations which specialize in this area (e.g. *Novum*).

JIHLAVA

The community plan of social services (KPSS) is currently being prepared. In 2005, the City of Jihlava entered into a KPSS project partnership agreement with the civic association *Agora Central Europe*. Community planning involves all social service system participants (users, providers, contracting authorities) in preparation and implementation, and increases the share of citizens in the decision-making process regarding the method for the safeguarding of services; it legitimizes the decision-making of managing authorities and representative bodies and increases the level of public involvement in events in the municipality.

KARLOVY VARY

The city's community plan for 2006 – 2008 national minorities are incorporated into three principal target groups in the field of social services: persons with increased social risks, persons in a crisis situation and ethnic minorities.

KARVINÁ

Karviná has had a community plan of social services since 2005. During the community planning process, five working parties were created: Seniors; the Disabled; Children, Young People, Family; People in Hardship; the Roma minority. National minority issues were not incorporated into the community plan.

KLADNO

In January 2006, the Chartered City of Kladno launched the *community planning of social services*. Four working parties were set up, of which one specializes in citizens and groups of citizens at risk of social exclusion. The following priorities have been defined by this group:

I. Solution to the housing issues of socially excluded citizens

II. Support of employment

III. Support of education

Appropriate measures are currently being sought to tackle these priorities; the socio-cultural specifics of individual national minorities will be taken into consideration in the implementation thereof.

LIBEREC

At its meeting held on 30 November 2004, the city assembly approved the implementation of the *Community Plan of Social Services in Liberec 2005 – 2007*. During the community planning process, an updated timetable for the implementation of the plan (moved by three months) and a proposed modification to the period for which the plan has been drawn up were submitted at an assembly meeting. The assembly approved the updated timetable and implementation of the Community Plan of Social Services in Liberec for 2006 – 2009 on 27 April 2006 under Resolution No 73/06.

The first draft of the Community Plan of Social Services in Liberec was submitted to the City Council for approval on 22 August 2006; the Council requested that the plan be presented to individual political clubs represented in the assembly for their comments and suggestions. The plan will be submitted to the assembly for approval in the first half of 2007. Within the scope of community planning, a working party for foreign nationals and national and ethnic minorities was also set up. The following objectives were incorporated in the community plan for this area: create a network of low-cost housing, including field work, ensure the availability of information about social services and the provision of multicultural education.

MLADÁ BOLESLAV

In January 2006, preparatory work began on the production of the Mladá Boleslav Community Plan of Social Services. In April, four working parties were up and running (seniors, the disabled, families with children and peoples and families in crisis, drug addiction risks, national minorities). The proposal for the approval of the document will be submitted to the city assembly at the beginning of 2008.

MOST

The chartered city tackled national minority issues and supported the activities of national minorities via the Most development plan. With the production of the Most Community Plan, national minority issues became part of the community plan in 2006. Seven social service providers are represented in the group of national and ethnic minorities.

OLOMOUC

Since August 2006, the chartered city of Olomouc has had an approved *First Framework Community Plan of Social Services in Olomouc 2007 – 2008*. The *Ethnic Minorities* working party mainly dealt with the issues of persons at risk of social exclusion from ethnic and national minorities. Representatives of the Bulgarian, Greek and Roma national minorities contributed to the formation of goals and measures in this field. They were formulated as follows:

1. Development of employment in the field of ethnic minorities

1.1. Establishment of a non-profit company for the employment of members of ethnic minorities

- 1.2. Maintenance and development of the project *Field Work Support*
- 1.3. Intensification of cooperation with the Khamoro Supported Employment Agency [*Agentura podporovaného zaměstnávání*] attached to the Olomouc Charity
2. Support for the integration of members of national minorities into majority society
 - 2.1. Improvement in cooperation and exchanges of information on social services and activities between individual entities operating in the monitored area
 - 2.2. Improvement in the quality of activities contributing to the integration of foreign nationals with permanent residence and recognized refugees
 - 2.3. Prepare and run a coherent media campaign to improve majority society's awareness of the history, life and problems of minorities
3. Support for the handling of housing problems faced by members of national minorities at risk of social exclusion
 - 3.1. Preparation of documentation for the establishment of a new service – Halfway House
 - 3.2. Production of a housing concept for persons at risk of social exclusion in Olomouc

OPAVA

In 2006, the city started processing the plan. Work is now under way in working parties, including a working party on national minorities, where national minorities are represented by their members.

OSTRAVA

The city has been implementing a community plan since 2004. Roma minority issues are addressed via the *Roma Ethnic Group*. Also, on a cross-sectional basis, in the *Socially Maladjusted Citizens* group and *Family and Children* group. An evaluation of the goals and measures of the first community plan is now in progress, and the city assembly is due to approve the second community plan for 2007 – 2010.³⁸⁾

PLZEŇ

Under the current community planning (the project for a Community Plan of Social Services in the City for 2008 – 2010 was launched on 12 October 2005 – this is the city's first ever project of this kind) a working party called *Persons at Risk of Social Exclusion and the Homeless* was set up, which mainly comprises users and providers of existing social services, including representatives of ethnic minorities. The output of its activities will be gradually processed into a community care plan, including recommended projects supporting social integration – there is the prospect of numerous activities and more efficient services in line with the national social inclusion plan and the city's conceptual plans, and complying with the formulation of EU measures.

PŘEROV

In 2003, the city assembly approved the programme *Přerov Community Planning of Social Services*, which is part of the Strategy for the Transformation of Social Services in Olomoucký kraj. The guarantor of the Community Planning of Social Services is the *Czech Red Cross*. The programme partner is the city. A socio-demographic analysis of the city is now being processed. The following target groups of users were determined in the programme of the Přerov Community Planning of Social Services: the disabled, seniors, families with children, young people, person with hardships and socially maladjusted persons, national and ethnic minorities, inhabitants at risk of addiction. Working parties are set up which will define

³⁸⁾ Reference - www.kpostrava.cz.

short-term and long-term goals and priorities for the development of social services in a specific area. The processed goals and measures will be background documentation for the creation of the Přerov Community Plan of Social Services. In mid-2007 the implementation phase of the production of the Community Plan is due for completion.

ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM

The chartered city of Ústí nad Labem is a partner to the relevant entities offering a range of activities and services designed to help the process of the integration of members of the Roma community into society. These partner organizations include the *Prague Multicultural Centre*, *Slovo 21 [Word 21]*, *People in Need*, *Integration Advice Centre*, the civic association *Athinganoi*, the *Community Work Centre*, and other Roma and pro-Roma nongovernmental organizations based in Ústí nad Labem and elsewhere. The city's strategic document in relation to its social policy for the reporting period (2006) was the second Community Care Plan (drawn up for the 2004 – 2006 period), which sums up the policy requirements stemming from the Ústí nad Labem coalition agreement, expert views and requirements of the service providers, opinions and feedback of the service users, and data from the information system of the city's social services.

The plan arose between 1 October 2003 and 31 May 2004. From 1 to 30 April 2004, the plan was discussed in the consultation process. In all 128 comments and suggestions were put forward, of which 100 were processed into the final version of the plan. The preparation of the plan received financial support from Ústí nad Labem. The implementation of the plan in the subsequent three years was financed from multiple sources: from the government ministries of the Czech Republic, from the province of Ústecký kraj, from the city of Ústí nad Labem, from the Structural Funds of the European Union, from endowment funds and from the economic activities of the organizations involved. The methodology used in the preparation of the plan was based on observations made by experts from the United Kingdom and on the experience of the implementation team in Ústí nad Labem gained in the creation and implementation of the first Community Plan from 2001 to 2003. The plan is linked to a number of conceptual documents of the city of Ústí nad Labem, especially the programme called *Ústí nad Labem – a Healthy City*. The organization responsible for processing the programme was the Ústí nad Labem *Community Work Centre* (an advisory organization based at Koněvova 18, 400 01 Ústí nad Labem).

ZLÍN

The city is currently working on a community plan of social services. It should be completed no later than in February 2009. One of the groups (the unemployed and citizens at risk of social exclusion) deals with national minority and ethnic issues. However, in Zlín there are few such citizens. Their involvement in work on the prepared plan of social services is (despite the city's efforts) minimal.

3. What was the cooperation like between the chartered city, or committee for national minorities (council / other body), and organizations of members of national minorities in 2006?

BRNO

The city traditionally enjoys good cooperation with national minority organizations. The city's representatives take part in various social events, e.g. they are invited to cultural events. In May 2006, a meeting called *Returning to Roots* was held at the House of the Lords of Kunštát. A new development was the introduction of a procession through the centre of

the Moravian metropolis in the costumes of individual minorities, which was positively received by visitors and inhabitants of the city. In December, the cultural programme *Living in the Same City* was held at Reduta Theatre. This was a traditional 2.5 hour performance by national minorities (music, dance, song and recitations).

Projects enabling certain organizations to represent Brno – especially in the field of culture – at festivals were also supported (e.g. at Rožnov pod Radhostěm). Roma gave performances at *Djangofest* – the fifth annual festival of minority cultures in Brno, while the *POLONUS* Club performed at the Polish Cultural Mini-Festival in the Jiří Mahen Library.

In October 2006, the *Society of Friends of Ruthenia* organized a meeting of minorities and the committee, where individual representatives exchanged experience from their work (celebrations of official holidays, a photography competition, and participation in various music and dance festivals, e.g. Strážnice and Rožnov pod Radhoštěm). The representatives of minorities also provided information about regular club meetings, awareness, social and sports activities, the publication of bulletins about their activities, and the operation of websites.

DĚČÍN

The Roma minority in the city is not organized, although there are some who occasionally come forward in the name of the minority; however these usually entail initiatives by individuals (despite their references to a particular organization or association) in which virtually no one is interested. The only organization active in the Roma community is the above-mentioned Roma association *Indigo*, which focuses on work with Roma children and young people; communication and cooperation with this association is very good.

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

In the field of national minorities, the city focuses on the Roma national minority. It helps improve social services in this target community, thus increasing clients' ability to become fully involved in contemporary society and preventing recurring social exclusion. The city of Hradec Králové has been involved in a sub-programme in the project *Field Work Support*, the guarantor of which is the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, for four years. Based on this grant, the city can respond creatively and effectively to the current requirements of Roma citizens. The field workers cooperate with other non-profit organizations and with the *Special Teaching Centre* in Hradecká, where they focus on accompanying children to school, improving the trust of parents in the field of early care, prevention, and motivating parents and children to attend foundation years on a regular basis.

The cooperation between the city and the Council is good. Methodological guidelines and other documents are sent to the City Hall in line with the Council's programme.

The city cooperates with the following Roma and pro-Roma organizations; the aim is to motivate Roma citizens, via the ethnic and national minority coordinator, to set up a non-profit organization, the viability of which will be monitored and supported:

Feder Roma civic association	Drtinova 221; 503 11 Hradec Králové	Pavel Rafael
Barato civic association of the Olasi of Hradecký kraj	Dvorská 500; 503 11 Hradec Králové	Petr Rafael
Romano llo, civic association	Pitrova 242; 503 46 Třebechovice p.Orebem	Jan Joška
Dzhivipen civic association of Roma	Haškova 1234; 500 02 Hradec Králové	Rudolf Svoboda
Salinger civic association	Selicherova 1420; 500 12 Hradec Králové	Martin Večeřa
Úsvit [Dawn] civic association	Haškova 1238; 500 02 Hradec Králové	Petra Horváthová

CHOMUTOV

The committee cooperates with the following organizations: the civic association *Bells of Hope* [*Zvony Naděje*] (Ukrainian minority), the *Cultural Association of Czech Citizens of German Nationality*, and the Roma civic associations *Nara, Novum, Rada Romů* [*Council of Roma*], *Partners Czech*.

JIHLAVA

In 2006, the city did not shirk from cooperation with any organization active in its territory, irrespective of whether it was an organization of members of national minorities or another type of organization.

KARLOVY VARY

Cooperation with national minorities takes place within the scope of the agenda of the health and social affairs department, primarily via the *Karlovy Vary Roma Civic Association* [*Romské občanské sdružení Karlovy Vary*] (ROS) and the *Roma Cultural and Information Centre*, in the competence of the province; in 2003 the *Citizens' Advice Bureau* [*Občanská poradna*] was set up. In most cases, cooperation runs smoothly. The department employs a Roma assistant and the coordinator of the community plan of social services.

KARVINÁ

Cooperation between the city, the committee and organizations of members of national minorities is very good. Committee members take part in various cultural events organized by national minorities. The activities of minorities are presented in *Karvinský zpravodaj* (*Karviná Newsletter*).

In 2006, the city and the *Municipal House of Culture* in Karviná, in cooperation with the committee for national minorities, held a festival of national minorities called *Blending of Cultures – We Know Each Other*.

KLADNO

There are organizations which work very intensively with the city; some of them receive financial assistance from the city. These are not directly national minority organizations, but organizations which partially deal with the issues of, for example, the Roma community.

The social affairs and health department at Kladno City Hall cooperates with the following nongovernmental organizations:

ROSA Centre for the Assistance of Children at Risk [*Středisko pomoci ohroženým dětem ROSA*], whose activities include the preschool education of children from socially weak families, including visits of Roma children directly in their families. In 2006, as in previous years, the Chartered City of Kladno provided financial assistance to the *ROSA Centre for the Assistance of Children at Risk*.

Shelter for Mothers with Children [*Azylový dům pro matky s dětmi o.p.s.*] – this is a facility which provides assistance to mothers with children in need (accommodation, social programmes). Major attention here is paid to the support of Roma mothers and children.

People in Need – Society attached to Czech Television [*Člověk v tísni – společnost při České televizi o.p.s.*] – the city entered into cooperation with this organization in 2004; its field workers specialize in field work in localities where the Roma community lives, and they also provide guidance to socially disadvantaged families and individuals. This society's volunteers take part in the implementation of the project *Extra-curricular Lessons for Children from Socially Excluded Localities with Learning Problems – Helping Children from the Ghetto with School*.

Czech Centre for Family Rehabilitation [České centrum pro sanaci rodiny] – this organization is geared towards the rehabilitation of the family by working intensively with the family. It mainly entails field work focusing on families which require supervision and assistance in childcare. This civic association also received financial assistance from the Chartered City of Kladno.

LIBEREC

Within the scope of community planning, the city published a *Catalogue of Social Service Provision in Liberec [Katalog poskytovatelů sociálních služeb v Liberci]*; the organizations listed in the catalogue are organizations taking an active part in community planning via their representatives or applicants for grants from the Health and Social Fund run by the Chartered City of Liberec. At the end of 2006, several new projects were implemented, including an advice centre for refugees. Generally speaking, there are few organizations in Liberec specializing in national minorities.

MOST

The *National Minorities Club [Klub národnostních menšin]*, a facility of the Chartered City of Most, is a means for Most to support the fulfilment of programmes tied to projects backed by the European Union, the Government and relevant ministries, Ústecký kraj and the Chartered City of Most, for the development of other operations concerning the promotion of the activities of minorities. In this respect, the city acknowledges that the integration of national minorities and their successful inclusion in society is not a matter of indifference.

The offer of active cooperation has generated interest among the Hungarian minority registered in Teplice, whose members from Most and the surrounding area are keen to participate in the *National Minorities Club* in Most. Other minorities which have expressed an interest in cooperation and which are active within the Ústecký kraj provincial committee are the German, Vietnamese, Bulgarian and Armenian minorities and the Jewish community.

In Most's administrative district, the *Dživas Roma* association is active, and there is good collaboration with associations that work with the *National Minorities Club – Association of Roma of the City of Most* and the *Chanov Community Centre*. Other organizations working with the Roma are *House of Roma Culture [Dům romské kultury, o. p. s.] in Chanov* and *Most District Charity [Oblastní Charita v Mostě]*.

OLOMOUC

Through its adviser on national minorities, the city mediates an information service on training activities and grants organized for the non-profit sector. Cooperation is at a partnership and organizational level in terms of arranging individual events or activities in favour of the members of national minorities or their civic associations.

Since 2003, the city has been involved in the programme of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs called *Field Work Support*, and since 2006 it has participated in the *Brno DROM* project *Sastipen Czech Republic*.

In 2006, the city was involved in the *national integration project of the Ministry of the Interior for the resettlement of compatriots from Kazakhstan to the Czech Republic*, and released a flat for a five-member family of compatriots with demonstrably Czech origin in a city housing estate.

OPAVA

The chairpersons of Roma associations meet as necessary, in the presence of the Roma adviser, with the city's representatives.

OSTRAVA

Competences within the scope of minority agendas are not accumulated at the city hall. National minority issues, specifically cooperation with bodies representing national minorities (apart from the Roma minority), are in the competence of the department of culture, education, young people and sport. The integration of Roma communities is the responsibility of the social affairs and health department.

Five national minorities (apart from the Roma minority – see below) – Hungarian, Greek, Ukrainian, Russian and Bulgarian – actively declare an interest in social and civil life in the city. In 2006, no requests for cooperation were registered from these national minorities.

PLZEŇ

Cooperation between the Commission for the Integration of Ethnic Minorities of Plzeň City Council and organizations of members of national minorities in Plzeň is very good, which is proven by the fact that the representatives of these organizations are members of that (original or newly appointed) commission or of the Commission for the Integration of Foreign Nationals, or are in contact with these commissions.

<i>name</i>	<i>organization</i>	<i>contact</i>
Štefan Tišer	SRNM PK	Koterovská 162, Plzeň; tel. 377 445 241; srmmpk@volny.cz
Džamall Grban	Plzeň Municipal Charity	grban@mchp.cz
Josef Tišer	[Městská charita Plzeň]	tiser@mchp.cz
Jaroslav Bugoš	SRNM PK	Koterovská 124, 326 00 Plzeň; tel. 603 171 364

PŘEROV

Cooperation with non-profit organizations in the administrative district is very passive in some cases. Functioning cooperation: *District Charity, Salvation Army, KAPPA-HELP, Czech Red Cross.*

3a) examples of good practice in 2006:

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

The implementation of a project under the Joint Regional Operational Programme (JROP), Measure 3.2, called *Intervention Programmes for Persons at Risk of Social Exclusion*, which deals with the issue of field work with the Roma, builds a network of field social workers in cooperation with nongovernmental organizations, the facilities required for this work, in the form of the establishment and fitting-out of low-threshold centres for children and young people; the main focus of the programme is on reinforcing the responsibility of members of the Roma ethnic group in terms of the family, education, employment obligations, etc. The project includes extensive support of members of the Roma ethnic group in the form of free social-law consulting and assistance.

FRÝDEK-MÍSTEK

In the city, the only active Roma organization is the *Association of Roma in Moravia*. There is close collaboration with this organization. In 2006, a range of free-time activities was arranged for children and young people. Employees of the Association and the City Hall contributed to this activity. This organization also receives financial assistance from the Chartered City of Frýdek-Místek (see below).

The city also cooperates with the *Frýdek-Místek Charity*, which set up the free-time centre *Nezbeda* in the borough of Místek; this centre reaches out to children at risk of social exclusion. Most of the clients are Roma children. This activity also receives financial assistance from the city.

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

The city has started cooperating intensively with the Employment Office in Hradec Králové. Field work here is managed in the form of 'jobs'. The first level of jobs helps eliminate discrimination in the admission procedure; occasionally clients fail to start their new employment (because the wage is the same as their benefits).

Benefits of escorts: we mediate contacts, teach clients to fill in forms, and prepare them for interviews – the rudiments of communication.

The second level of jobs is to motivate clients to retrain in a field in which the client can be employable. We are trying to motivate young people to get a driving licence as this improves their career prospects.

Hradec Králové invites Roma organizations to cooperate (see above), but most of them are inactive. This is caused, for example, by the poor accounting of grants in previous years, computer illiteracy and other factors. There are efforts to motivate Roma citizens to set up non-profit organizations which are viable for longer than one 'grant period'. This idea is monitored and supported in the social work of the social affairs and health department, but interest in this time-consuming and responsible work is minimal on the part of the Roma.

The city cites the following cultural events as examples of good, long-term cooperation: *Roma Superstar I*, *Roma Superstar II*, a concert by the Roma band *Terne Chave*, and the regular monthly cycles of Roma entertainment organized by the city.

MLADÁ BOLESLAV

The activities of the civic association *Oasis* [*Oáza*] (a centre devoted to free-time activities for children and young people), which cooperates well with the civic association *Chalavel Kham* (a dance ensemble headed by Ms Červeňáková, a free-time group of Roma children).

OLOMOUC

The city was once again involved in the activities of the *Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Club in Olomouc*, i.e.:

- a contribution to the organization of the *Days of Bulgarian Culture*
- an organizational and financial contribution to the fourth annual *We Can Communicate*, a sports and multicultural festival of national minorities and the disabled, realized under the aegis of the deputy governor of Olomoucký kraj and the mayor of Olomouc, featuring a broad range of members of national minorities living in Olomouc and throughout the province: Bulgarians, Roma, Slovaks, Greeks, Vietnamese, Armenians, Ukrainians, Belarusians, etc., and other social activities to promote Bulgarian culture.

OSTRAVA

Since 2004, three Roma field workers have been actively involved in the process of community planning at Ostrava City Hall. The community planning process involves the gradual formation of a system which is as constructive as possible in relation to service users, as their needs are regularly ascertained and assessed. The plan aims to satisfy these needs. The observations by the field social workers in this process were helpful.

There have been *policing cells* since 2004. In seven boroughs of Ostrava work teams, or *cells*, have been set up in which, once a month, field social workers, Roma teaching assistants, representatives of non-profit organizations and representatives of the Police Force of the Czech Republic meet. The work teams meet at the district departments of the Czech Police Force, on the premises of non-profit organizations or at community centres.

The cells address topical problems in the locality as regards crime, truancy, drug issues, migration problems, etc. The teams' other objectives include the positive portrayal of police officers in the community, the acquisition of associates from the ranks of the Roma, preventive activities, etc. Field social workers play an indispensable role in the cells.

Since 2003, a health and social assistant has worked in the city. Her activities cover health awareness, supervision of the observance of treatment procedures, and assistance in ensuring that children participate in compulsory vaccinations and regular medical checks. Since the launch of this type of field social work in this area, the situation has improved dramatically. The health and social assistant works closely with teaching assistants at schools in the locality and with the Roma assistant at the authority.

In 2006, there were three health and social assistants working in the city. The activities of two of them were funded under an ESF supra-regional project. The activities of one were funded from a grant scheme of the Chartered City of Ostrava.

Through the grant scheme and within the scope of the implementation of the community plan, the city provided financial assistance to non-profit organizations working with the Roma community; we cite the largest nongovernmental organizations:

CENTROM o.s. – which implements a low cost housing project accompanied by a social programme in Ostrava – Vítkovice.

Co-existence [Vzájemné soužití o.s.] – an effort to stimulate local communities so that, through working together, their problems can be tackled (a community here means a group of persons living in the same area or a group of persons connected by a common interest).

Together – Jekhetane [Společně – Jekhetane o.s.] – basic educative and stimulating activities for children and young people. For adults – the intermediation of contact with the social environment and assistance in exercising rights, warranted interests and in sorting out personal affairs.

White Rhinoceros [Bílý nosorožec o.s.] – social services provided by the non-profit organization focus on assistance for people in a difficult social situation or at risk of poverty and social exclusion, and are currently aimed at finding a long-term solution to the social situation in the locality encompassing Železná, Ostrava Mariánské Hory and Hulváky, which is where predominantly Roma families live.

PŘEROV

- Of the more significant projects realized in 2006, it cites the *Another Take* project drawn up by the *Jakub Škoda Grammar School* in cooperation with the social services and health department. The aim of the project is to reinforce tolerance and understanding between ethnic minorities and the majority. Individual activities under the projects are aimed at helping to eliminate stereotypes in the perception of the Roma and differences in general, and at raising awareness of Roma history and culture. Throughout the year, there were discussion forums, exhibitions, an excursion to the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno, and a concert by Roma musicians.
- Educational programmes for children from a socio-culturally disadvantaged background have been organized by the social prevention unit since 2001. This involves systematic work with children and, subsequently, their families by social workers from the social prevention unit in accordance with the Act on the Social Law Protection of Children.
- Since October 2006, the social services and health department has made a significant contribution to the handling of problems at the *B. Němcová Primary School*. This is a school with a high number of Roma pupils which is also registering an outflow of majority pupils, steadily resulting in the ethnic homogenization of the school. The City Hall's department of education, youth and sport and department of social services and health, independent experts, the provincial coordinator of the Olomoucký kraj Provincial Authority, and representatives of the Minority Integration Centre are working together on a solution.
- Since 2001, the city has been involved in the Field Work Support programme which is run every year by the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Government

Council for Roma Community Affairs). Two field social workers work for the department.

- The field social workers play a key role in helping teachers; in particular, they pass on information to parents about the catchment area of a school, the enrolment dates of specific schools, the possibility of preparatory grades for children with specific learning disorders, speech defects or weak mental faculties. In their activities, they concentrate on persuading parents to send preschool children to pre-primary facilities, thus cultivating solid initial conditions for their start to primary school. Cooperation with schools has been good in the long term and is developing with the rising number of teaching assistants. There are currently four teaching assistants at *B. Němcová Primary School* and one assistant at *Komenský Nursery School*.

3b) problems in 2006:

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

A fundamental problem – which also happens to be a general problem in the Czech Republic – is the handling of the housing problem, the absence of low-cost housing, the insolvency of families or individuals, and the risk that families will disintegrate due to excess debt (especially non-purpose consumer loans), distraint and the subsequent hardship of the family or individual.

FRÝDEK-MÍSTEK

During 2006, a problem arose with the location of the community centre and centre for preschool children run by the *Association of Roma in Moravia*, which had to leave the existing premises at the end of the year. A solution to this problem was found in December 2006 when other suitable premises were found in the locality.

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

The generous and de-motivating system of social benefits, prejudices and the negative experience of the majority, the low level of education among clients, the low range of jobs available, frequent health limitations, inadequate knowledge of languages and computer illiteracy, previous long-term registration at an employment office, lack of interest among clients in social happenings, criminal records.

KLADNO

In 2006, the city was not approached by any organizations of members of national minorities with requests for cooperation.

The city registers a lack of interest in any form of cooperation with existing Roma organizations in the city; it has no overview of their activities. Despite repeated public invitations, no such organizations have become involved in community planning.

At present, the following organizations are active in Kladno:

Association of Roma of the Czech Republic [Sdružení Romů ČR] – in previous years, the association received financial assistance from the city when it applied for help. However, after repeated abuse of city grants intended for the activities of the Roma Cultural and Education Centre (it was burgled and destroyed by Roma on several occasions), the association no longer sought a grant from the city.

Association of Roma and National Minorities [Sdružení Romů a národnostních menšin] – it does not apply for grants from the Chartered City of Kladno and does not cooperate with the city.

MLADÁ BOLESLAV

The mayor strives to create employment opportunities for unemployed Roma: at the end of 2005, he invited companies willing to employ Roma with primary education to a meeting of the Advisory Body. The only area that had to be organized was working parties performing quality work. This offer was taken up by a member of the Advisory Body, but without effect – the offer was not used in 2006.

OLOMOUC

Communication with the Vietnamese national minority is not progressing as planned. Contact is on an individual basis. They are not officially organized and therefore there is no association representative for more intensive cooperation, even though a larger number of citizens originating from Vietnam live and successfully do business in the city.

OSTRAVA

The largest problem is the lack of low-cost flats with an accompanying social programme, unemployment, and low levels of education. These problems are reflected in community planning, which seeks a solution to problems through the proposed measures.

PŘEROV

- Swimming pool – in July 2006, an alarming article was published in the daily newspaper *Nové Přerovsko* about the problematic behaviour of Roma at the Přerov swimming pool. This was a source of stimulation for the website of the tabloid-style *Přerovské noviny*. The editing staff believes that it provides information ‘*just in time*’, that it conducts itself in a decent manner and urges the public to respond to its articles. We cite the following headlines for the sake of example: *Roma at the swimming pool, white trash to the River Bečva, Going to Přerov swimming pool? Don’t forget your bodyguard, Přerov City Hall licks Roma ...* The comments made by the public were shocking. The texts included signs leading to the instigation of racial intolerance. The City Hall responded to such articles, notifying the editing team that a repeat of the expressions would lead to an investigation into the articles and comments by the Czech Police Force to determine whether there had been an instigation of racial intolerance, racial and national defamation within the meaning of the Criminal Code. The reaction was an article with headlined *Přerov – They’re Coming for us with a Noose*. The provincial coordinator submitted an instigation for an investigation into whether the texts have the substance of a crime. The circumstances were also consulted with members of staff of the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs. In the light of these facts, the Social Services and Health Department immediately initiated a meeting with representatives of the Czech Police Force, the Municipal Police, the local authority, representatives of the Roma and the director of Přerov City Services. The measures emerging from the meeting minimized the problematic behaviour of certain citizens and the situation became stable.
- Election campaign – populist articles appeared in the daily newspaper *Přerovské noviny* during the election campaign. Based on our instigation, the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, at its meeting on 11 September 2006, assumed an opinion which was published as a press declaration. ‘The Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs calls on all democratic political parties, in their election campaign not to use racial, nationalist or ethnically motivated prejudices and intolerance to gain cheap victory in the polls. The Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs calls on all those of good faith not to allow parties and politicians who attempt to address the ambivalent majority in society and obtain their votes to sit on the assemblies of our towns and municipalities and thus deepen the social plight of the Roma and Czech society as a whole’.

ZLÍN

The number of members of national minorities and ethnic groups in Zlín is low; this question cannot be answered.

4. In 2006, how did the chartered city provide financial assistance to organizations / the activities of national minorities (through a special grant title in the budget, within the scope of other grant schemes, ad hoc support for individual events, or other means)?

The chartered cities actively contribute to the organizations of members of national minorities by means of funding from their budgets. Again, funds are most commonly made available in the form of lump-sum non-capital grants for the activities of national minority organizations, e.g. cultural (folk) and sports activities, or individual events (festivals, celebrations, etc.). It is also worth mentioning the support of community centres. Grants usually amount to several dozen thousand crowns, and in certain cases may surpass CZK 100,000. In terms of the number of approved projects, the activities of Roma and pro-Roma associations predominate, followed by projects of the Polish minority and others. Detailed information can be found in Annex 13.

5. Did the committee or assembly discuss the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages? Please specify.

BRNO

Grants from the Brno city budget are used by two national minority organizations for the purchase of textbooks and teaching CDs (in Polish and German). In their negotiations at city hall, Roma do not currently require interpreting into their native language – in most cases they speak Czech with officials. Nor do Slovaks require interpreting into Slovak. The Union of Hungarians in Brno [Svaz Maďarů v Brně] publishes a newsletter with ‘mirror texts’, i.e. in Hungarian juxtaposed with Czech.

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

In 2006, the assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter.

DĚČÍN

No, there was no need to realize the ideas of this document in the city.

FRÝDEK-MÍSTEK

No. The competent employees of City Hall are duly acquainted with the Charter.

HAVÍŘOV

In 2006, the Assembly did not directly discuss the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages at its meetings.

Nevertheless, Article 8(education) of the Charter is fulfilled in our administrative district. Four primary schools operate here (with 199 children) along with four nursery schools (with 70 children) with Polish as the language of instruction.

Two preparatory classes have also been set up for children who are socially disadvantaged.

At present, the guiding principles laid down in Part II of the Charter are respected in the city’s administrative district. Examples include grants awarded in this field to organizations and schools, cooperation between border towns and city halls, the publication of the regional press, radio and television broadcasting, support for the projects of the Polish national minority, etc.

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

The city contributes to the 'support of the cultural activities of members of national minorities and to the support of education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural upbringing'. In the city's opinion, the Charter's impact on public events is minimal.

CHOMUTOV

No.

JIHLAVA

No such proposal was submitted to the assembly.

KARLOVY VARY

The implementation of the Charter has not yet been discussed.

KARVINÁ

Internal Affairs Department

In 2006, it arranged for the translation of just one text from Polish to Czech in accordance with Section 16 of Act No 500/04, the Rules of Administrative Procedure, as amended, at a cost of CZK 47,000. The costs that will be incurred by the city in connection with the Charter and the costs of using topographical names and names on public buildings cannot be estimated.

Education and Culture Department

The reply to this question is not in our competence. However, with regard to the education issue, we state that the provision of education in the language of national minorities is regulated by Act No 561/2004 on preschool, primary, secondary, post-secondary and other education (the Schools Act). We also state that existing legal regulations concerning the individual regional minority languages (in our case Polish and Slovak) in *Parts II and III of the Charter* govern the possibility of using a minority language in official communications. Primarily at issue is the procedures laid down in Act No 500/2004, the Rules of Administrative Procedure, Act No 337/1992 on the administration of taxes and charges, Act No 455/1991, the Trade Licensing Act, as amended, and especially Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order).

KLADNO

The implementation of the Charter has not yet been discussed by the city assembly because of the low number of citizens claiming non-Czech nationality.

LIBEREC, MLADÁ BOLESLAV, MOST, OLOMOUC, PŘEROV, ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM

The city assembly did not deal with the implementation of the Charter in 2006.

OSTRAVA

The Charter's requirements in relation to public services provided by city organs will be secured under the approved legislation. At present, the procedure applied in this field is mainly that laid down in Act No 500/2004, the Rules of Administrative Procedure, Act No 337/1992 on the administration of taxes and charges, as amended, Act No 455/1991, the Trade Licensing Act, as amended, and Act No 301/2000 on registers and names, as amended.

Bilingual names and signs are not used in the city within the meaning of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (the Municipal Order), as amended.

The city assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter.

PLZEŇ

The implementation of the Charter was not discussed by either the Commission for the Integration of Ethnic Minorities of Plzeň City Council or by the assembly as it is not expected to have a significant impact on public events in our city/district in the context of the social affairs and health department.

ZLÍN

The reply to this question can be garnered from the previous replies. No committee has been set up in Zlín for the reasons outlined above and the assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter. The minority issue is a marginal matter in Zlín.

Summary

1) Some cities³⁹⁾ did not reply to the questions. However, in Pardubice there is a Commission for Minority Affairs. Where the law requires, committees are generally set up. Some cities have not set up a committee with reference to the fact that they have not met the statutory threshold, and this is an entirely legitimate approach. However, it should be noted that the Council, as is the case for other state institutions, applies a broader definition of 'Roma' (see the introductory note to Chapter 5). This approach does not try to impose a different identity on anyone, which would be contrary to the state's integration policy, but attempts to accept the actual state of affairs and address it with a knowledge of the situation by adequate means. In cities where co-existence with Roma in particular is far from ideal, this stance should be considered. An example could be the several cities in which alternative bodies have been set up (e.g. Hradec Králové, Liberec, Most, Pardubice, Plzeň, Přerov; commissions, working parties) in cases where the number of members of national minorities falls short of the statutory threshold but communication and consultation with national minority members is considered beneficial.

2) The community plans primarily incorporate the integration of the Roma; in this respect, the position of Roma adviser has been set up in some cases. The community plans were introduced relatively recently, often as late as 2006, and national minority issues are an even newer matter within these plans. In other cities, the preparation of community plans has started, while some cities have no plans for such a document at all.

3) Cooperation is generally good. As was the case for municipalities, an obstacle in the cities is often the weak or only formal activity of certain Roma minority organizations. On the other hand, several effective projects have been implemented with Roma and pro-Roma organizations. These activities took place in the cultural and – especially – social spheres. In some cases, municipalities cooperated with the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs. In certain cases, the cities cooperated with other minorities (e.g. the Polish minority).

4.3. Provinces

1. Was a committee for national minorities (council / other body / coordinator) set up in 2006 (before or after the municipal elections) in the competence of the province? What agenda was it specifically in charge of?

Jihočeský kraj

No committee or any other body (within the meaning of Act No 129/2000 on provinces) was set up at provincial level because the condition for setting up such a body, as laid down in Section 78(2) of the Provinces Act, has not been met.

³⁹⁾ Pardubice and Teplice.

A committee has not been set up at the level of lower self-governing units in the province either. As part of an audit of the sub-committee for national minorities of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic concerning the establishment of committees for national minorities within the meaning of Section 117(3) of Act No 128/2000, as in 2005 the chairpersons of 19 municipalities in the Český Krumlov and Prachatice areas were asked to consider this; their assemblies reviewed this matter. The report on the investigation of 25 February 2006 was submitted to the Public Administration Supervision and Control Department of the Ministry of the Interior.

Activities related to national minorities are the responsibility of a delegated worker together with the agenda for the integration of foreign nationals and recognized refugees.

The situation in this area is being monitored. Given the quantitative proportion and the absence of special-interest associations, there is currently no need to be particularly alert to the formation of conditions to satisfy their cultural, social and special-interest requirements.

Matters related to the Roma national minority, including the integration of Roma communities, are part of the agenda managed by the provincial Roma coordinator. In 2006, within the scope of the devolved competence of the Jihočeský kraj Provincial Authority, the coordinator contributed to the following tasks:

- the drafting of a concept of the prevention and humanitarian unit in the field of Roma community integration, the methodological and coordinating activities of delegated staff of municipalities whose agenda involves tasks stemming from the Concept of Roma Community Integration,
- cooperation with the *Probation and Mediation Service* and participation in the project *Roma Mentor* in Jihočeský kraj,
- cooperation with Roma and pro-Roma nongovernmental organizations active in Jihočeský kraj and participation in their events,
- the provision of methodological assistance to Roma associations in the production of projects; checks of the accounting of grants for their activities, evaluations of the quality of their activities,
- cooperation on the creation of a provincial grant scheme focusing in part on Roma civic associations with a view to cultivating the conditions required to gain practical skills and knowledge for the management and activities of the civil association.

JIHOMORAVSKÝ KRAJ

Under a resolution of the Jihomoravský kraj Provincial Assembly of 17 February 2005, the *Jihomoravský kraj Provincial Council for National Minorities* was set up for advisory and initiative activities in the field of national minorities and their members living in South Moravia. The Council for National Minorities handled the following agenda:

- under the Grant Scheme for the activities of national minorities in 2006, it helped evaluate the projects of civic associations and entities working in the field of national minorities and proposed the distribution of funds from the budget of Jihomoravský kraj,
- it cooperated on the creation of a Grant Scheme for the activities of national minorities in Jihomoravský kraj for 2007,
- it contributed to the preparation and implementation of various activities of civic associations of members of national minorities.

KARLOVARSKÝ KRAJ

The province set up a committee (a committee of the Karlovarský kraj Provincial Assembly) in mid-2005. This committee meets ahead of every session of the Provincial Assembly, or outside these times as necessary. The social affairs department of the Karlovarský kraj Provincial Authority employs a Coordinator for Roma Affairs, National Minorities and the

Integration of Foreign Nationals (who is also the committee minutes-taker). The coordinator's job description is published on the province's website (under 'social department).

KRÁLOVÉHRADECKÝ KRAJ

By reference to the results of the census, there is no committee at the provincial authority.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

The province has

- a Committee for Social Affairs, Safety, and Minority Issues, acting as an advisory body at the Provincial Assembly – without national minorities; a party-based principle is applied;
- a Commission for Nationality Issues at Liberec City Hall, where all minorities are represented
- a Committee for the Roma Minority was set up in Nové Město pod Smrkem as a working party for the city assembly.

MORAVSKOSLEZSKÝ KRAJ

This committee of the provincial assembly was set up in the new electoral term in accordance with Section 76 et seq. of Act No 129/2000 on provinces (the Provincial Order), as amended, by means of Provincial Assembly Resolution No 2/28/1 of 6 December 2004, and its members were elected based on nominations from individual political clubs in accordance with Provincial Assembly Resolution No 2/37/1 of the same day. The committee has eleven members. Five members of the committee are also members of the provincial assembly and six members are either representatives of organizations for members of historical national minorities living in the province or are directly linked to such organizations.

During 2006, the committee dealt with the following themes:

- a) it discussed and recommended that the province's competent bodies approve a proposal for the provision of grants from the provincial budget for 2006 to applicants in the Programme for the support of the activities of members of national minorities living in the province for 2006,
- b) it discussed the content of a document drawn up by the culture and monument care department, *Information on the Activities of Bodies of Moravskoslezský kraj in the Field of Minority Policy in 2005*, and recommended the submission of this document to the competent provincial bodies for their information,
- c) it studied the situation and needs of Vietnamese citizens living in the province,
- d) it discussed, successively, three working versions of the draft medium-term conceptual document called *Moravskoslezský kraj Strategy for the Integration of the Roma Community 2006 – 2009* and recommended that the competent provincial bodies approve it,
- e) it was kept informed of the implementation of the provincial project *Terne Čhave – a project for the training of specialist staff from centres for the development of the functional literacy of Roma young people* and recommended that the competent provincial bodies submit an application for financial assistance for this project from the Human Resources Development Operational Programme, in the scope of the second call, Priority 2 – Social integration and equality of opportunity, Measure 2.1 Integration of specific groups of the population at risk of social exclusion,
- f) it studied the evaluation of activities supported under the grant programme for the support of the activities of members of national minorities living in the province in 2005 from the provincial budget.

OLOMOUCKÝ KRAJ

A committee was not set up in Olomoucký kraj, given the result of the 2001 census and the de facto absence of strong entities participating in the activities of national minorities. There is a *Coordinator for Roma Affairs*. As for the individual national minorities, the Bulgarian minority in Olomouc and the Greek minority in the Šumperk area are active. With regard to the Roma national minority, in Olomoucký kraj the *Association of Roma in Moravia* is active in Olomouc, Šternberk and the Jeseník area, the civic association *Savore* is active in Šumperk, the civic association *Roma Vidnava* operates in Vidnava and the surrounding area, the civic association *Amary Fajta* is active in Lipník nad Bečvou and the civic association *Romano Čhonoro* operates in the Litovel area. A further 16 Roma civic associations registered by the Ministry of the Interior do not carry out any activities to the benefit of the Roma community; it is impossible to establish any contact with a significant majority of them. Bearing in mind the issue of the social exclusion of members of the Roma communities, it is axiomatic that active Roma associations have a higher profile in field social work and counselling than in the presentation of culture and preservation of traditions.

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

In 2002, the Pardubický kraj Provincial Council Commission for the Integration of the Roma Minority and Other Ethnic Minorities was set up. The commission is chaired by the member of the Pardubický kraj Provincial Council responsible for social affairs. Other members are the councillor responsible for lifelong learning and employment, the head of the social affairs department, representatives of nongovernmental organizations and Roma from all parts of Pardubický kraj. The provincial coordinator plays the role of secretary here. The commission deals with topical problems which occur in Roma localities, notably problems related to social exclusion, housing, education and the unemployment of Roma.

With regard to other national minorities, Pardubický kraj cooperates in particular with nongovernmental organizations. Besides experts from the social affairs department, contact with nongovernmental organizations is secured directly by the head of the social affairs department and the competent councillor.

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

According to the last census, 2.7% of the province's inhabitants claim nationality other than Czech, and therefore no committee for national minorities has been set up. Minority issues are handled, where necessary, by the Plzeňský kraj Provincial Council's *Social Affairs Commission*. The provincial authority has established the position of coordinator of Roma advisers within the social affairs and health department; this coordinator contributes to the coordination of the Roma advisers of municipalities and defines the worker responsible for the integration of foreigners and national minorities.

CITY OF PRAGUE [HLAVNÍ MĚSTO PRAHA]

In the previous electoral term there was a *Prague City Council Commission for National Minorities in the City of Prague*, which was set up under Prague City Council Resolution No 0058 of 21 January 2003. The commission was composed of 11 national minorities (two representatives per national minority), staff of the Prague City Hall, a member of Prague City Council, who was the commission chairman (until the elections in autumn 2006 the chairwoman had been Hana Halová, as the councillor responsible for health, social care and national minorities), and experts representing academic institutions specializing in national minorities.

In 2006, the commission's principal work activities, as in previous years, were as follows:

- communication with national minorities, civic associations of national minorities,
- discussions of significant and large projects concerning national minorities in Prague (e.g. the large-scale festivals *Prague Heart of Nations*, *Khamoro Roma World Festival*, *Culture Clash*),
- the preparation and implementation of the sixth meeting of national minorities, held on 12 and 13 October 2006,
- the preparation and implementation of the international conference *Rubik's Cube – Multiculturalism in Relation to National Minorities*, which was part of the sixth meeting of national minorities,
- the preparation and implementation of a cultural and social evening to mark the sixth meeting of national minorities,
- the preparation and implementation of a plenary session of civic associations of national minorities,
- a discussion of the conditions and implementation of city-wide programmes for the support of the activities of national minorities and integrating foreign nationals in the City of Prague for 2006,
- a discussion of matters connected with the preparation of the agenda and organizational aspect of the City of Prague House of National Minorities,
- the transfer of information from representatives of individual national minorities on activities prepared and implemented by the civic associations of individual national minorities.

The Prague City Council Commission for National Minorities in the City of Prague was discontinued by Prague City Council Resolution No 1803 of 12 December 2006.⁴⁰⁾

Roma community affairs in the City of Prague are also covered by the Advisory Body of Roma Advisers of City Boroughs, which represents not only Roma advisers and social workers involved in the Roma community of the individual boroughs, but also the staff of Prague-based Roma NGOs and experts from state institutions working with the Roma community. The advisory body focuses on work with the Roma community, especially in the social sphere (the issues of housing, education, employment, cultural development, relations, etc.).

STŘEDOČESKÝ KRAJ

As the number of inhabitants claiming non-Czech nationality is insignificant in the province, the provincial assembly, within the meaning of the Minorities Act, opted not to set up a committee for national minorities. There are no plans for the appointment of such a committee.

ÚSTECKÝ KRAJ

The provincial authority did not receive any information about the appointment of a committee for national minorities in the province in 2006.⁴¹⁾

VYSOČINA

No committee was set up in the competence of the province in 2006. According to the last census, the number of citizens claiming nationality other than Czech does not reach the threshold required under the Provinces Act.

⁴⁰⁾ Following the results of the election, it was renewed on 16 January 2007 with a new composition, and was named the Prague City Council Commission for National Minorities and Integrating Foreign Nationals in the City of Prague and for Grants in this Field.

⁴¹⁾ According to the province's website, a committee has been set up here (http://www.kr-ustecky.cz/vismo5/o_utvar.asp?d=1&u=450018&id_org=450018&id_u=15845).

ZLÍNSKÝ KRAJ

A committee has not been set up because the province does not have the necessary proportion of citizens belonging to a nationality other than Czech. At the provincial authority, a coordinator for national minorities, Roma issues and the integration of foreign nationals has been employed at the Department of the Officer of the Governor since 2000. There is also a Zlínský kraj Provincial Council Commission for National Minorities, Ethnic Groups and Roma Integration, which meets at least twice a year. Almost half the members of this commission represent the Roma. Through the provincial coordinator, the province cooperates with Roma non-profit organizations involved in the integration of the Roma community.

2. Did the province have a community plan formulated in 2006? If yes, since when? Are national minority affairs incorporated into this plan? If yes, how?

JIHOČESKÝ KRAJ

In 2006, methodology for the process of creating the Jihočeský kraj provincial medium-term plan for the development of social services in 2008 – 2010 was drawn up and approved. One of the working parties focuses on the target group of national and other minorities, foreign nationals and recognized refugees. All working parties will be active in 2007.

JIHOMORAVSKÝ KRAJ

The province had no community plan formulated in 2006.

KARLOVARSKÝ KRAJ

The province had no community plan drawn up in 2006. In 2007, preparations are under way for a project, the output of which will be the medium-term plan for the development of social services in Karlovarský kraj, in accordance with the Social Services Act. The basis for the preparation of this plan will be an analysis of the needs of the province's inhabitants, ascertained by means of a sociological survey conducted in a representative sample of the population. If the results of the survey indicate specific needs of national minorities, they will definitely be taken into consideration in the plan.

KRÁLOVÉHRADECKÝ KRAJ

The provincial authority has formulated a community plan of social services. National minority issues are not incorporated into this plan.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

The province has a medium-term document entitled *Programme for the Development of Liberecký kraj*. This document formulates general national minority issues. Municipalities draw up community plans, assisted methodologically by the provincial authority, which delegates an employee for this task. A medium-term plan for the development of social services, based on methodology being drawn up by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, is being prepared in the province in accordance with Act No 108/2006.

MORAVSKOSLEZSKÝ KRAJ

There is currently no medium-term plan for the development of social services in the province. To some degree, this is replaced by strategic documents defining the province's social policy (the Concept and Moravskoslezský kraj Provincial Plan for the Reconciliation of Opportunities for Disabled Citizens, Programme for the Development of the Province, etc.). At its meeting held on 6 September 2006, under Resolution No 84/3122 the provincial council expressed consent to the launch of preparations for the creation of a medium-term plan for the

development of social services in the province. At the same time, a working party was established for the production and implementation of a medium-term plan for the development of social services in the province (*'steering group'*). The steering group is responsible for the organization, coordination and management of activities geared towards the creation of the plan.

Given the scope of activities required to create a medium-term plan for the development of social services in the province, the proposal is for the procedure to take place over several phases:

The first phase will focus on stabilizing the current situation – the existing network of social service providers in the province. The priority will be to map out the existing situation – a description of the situation and an analysis of the financing of social services in the province. The output is the medium-term plan for 2008 – 2009,

The second phase will centre on the creation of a system for the development of social services in the province – in particular, this will entail negotiations and an agreement among the entities involved regarding the acceptance of a public contract for certain types of services, and a proposal of the system for the financing of social services in the province,

the third phase will focus on the development of social services and the creation of a strategy to provide these services – a plan to create a network of local and model available social services, the creation of a network of providers who will have the guarantee of stable financing in forthcoming years.

The process for the creation of the medium-term plan of social services in the province reveals certain differences compared to the municipalities. As a matter of priority, the province will work with the output of municipal planning processes, in which national minority issues also tend to be included and covered. In this respect, it needs to be stressed that medium-term planning in accordance with legislation in force should focus on the planning of social services and the handling of the problems of target groups that use social services. For purposes of equal access, it must be specified in a straightforward manner that citizens of other nationalities may use the whole range of social services. They have this right by dint of the fact that they find themselves in an unfavourable social situation, not because of the fact that they are members of another nationality.

OLOMOUCKÝ KRAJ

The province had no community plan formulated in 2006. Community planning must be implemented in municipalities; the outputs can be used to draw up a provincial plan for the development of social services. In 2006, the project *Support for the Community Planning of Social Services in Olomoucký kraj* was implemented; this project is co-financed by the European Social Fund, the Ministry of Regional Development and Olomoucký kraj. The project is run by the *Olomoucký kraj Family Advice Centre [Poradna pro rodinu Olomouckého kraje]*, an organization partly funded from the public purse. After the launch of the project, contact was established with the project manager and methodology officers in the catchment areas, who were acquainted with the Strategy for the Integration of Members of Roma Communities in the Province for 2006 – 2010, and suitable partners (social service providers), and localities where it would be advisable to create an autonomous working party were pinpointed. Further cooperation was agreed with methodology officers. In some regions, working parties were set up for national minorities in general or for the Roma community specifically. From the aspect of the integration of members of Roma communities, it would appear ideal if the community plan were to be implemented for the administrative district of municipalities with extended competence because in this way smaller municipalities with a

higher concentration of persons at risk of social exclusion could be covered more efficiently with social services.

Description of the state of community planning in Olomoucký kraj:

a) Chartered City of Olomouc

The First Framework Community Plan of Social Services in Olomouc for the 2007 – 2008 period was drawn up. The process of community planning involved a working party – ethnic minorities, members of which included (besides representatives of the Roma national minority) representatives of the Bulgarian and Greek minority and the provincial coordinator of Roma advisers at the Olomoucký kraj Provincial Authority. The results of the plan are presented on the website at <http://www.kpssolomouc.wz.cz>.

b) Jeseník

Community planning is implemented in the district of this municipality with extended competence. A group of socially excluded persons and persons at risk of social exclusion has been created (a significant sub-group comprises members of Roma communities); the contracting authority is represented by the coordinator for national minorities at Jeseník Municipal Authority. On 28 June 2006, a conference was held for social service contracting authorities and providers; it was also attended by the provincial coordinator of Roma advisers.

c) Šternberk

Community planning is implemented in the district of this municipality with extended competence. A working party for the Roma community was set up.

d) Hranice

The project of the community planning of social services in Hranice encompasses all municipalities in the administrative district of the town. The contracting authority and partner of the project is the Town of Hranice, and the implementer is the *Střední Morava Centre for Community Work*. A working party for the Roma community was set up.

e) Lipník nad Bečvou

The project of the community planning of social services in Lipník nad Bečvou encompasses all municipalities in the administrative district of the town; the implementer is the *Střední Morava Centre for Community Work*. A working party for the Roma community has been set up, which also benefits from the involvement of a school with a high number of Roma children. The provincial coordinator is a member of the working party. This is a locality where most Roma users participate in activities.

f) Přerov

Within the scope of community planning, an investigation into the social service needs of the Roma minority in Přerov was conducted; a working party for ethnic minorities was set up. A problem here is the involvement of social service users (as is the case in the overwhelming majority of municipalities who took part in community planning). The *Centre for the Integration of Minorities*, which has been active in Olomoucký kraj since September 2006 as part of an Educational and Psychological Counselling Institute (IPPP) project, was involved in the working party's activities. The provincial coordinator also attends working meetings.

In 2006, the provincial coordinator attended two meetings of provincial working groups on the community planning of social services in Olomoucký kraj, with information about current events in the integration of members of Roma communities and practical experience from individual localities.

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

It has formulated a community plan in 2006 and national minority issues are incorporated into it.

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

In 2006, the province had not formulated a provincial community plan, but community planning took place at municipal level with methodological support from the province.

CITY OF PRAGUE

The city had no community plan last year. This year it will prepare a medium-term plan for the development of social services.

STŘEDOČESKÝ KRAJ

No reply.

ÚSTECKÝ KRAJ

In 2006, Ústecký kraj launched preparations for a medium-term plan for the development of social services. Eight working parties were set up, composed of representatives of public administration, providers of social services, representatives of the users of social services and representatives of other institutions (e.g. the police and the employment office). One of the working parties deals with care for members of ethnic minorities.

VYSOČINA

The province had no community plan formulated in 2006. It is working on a plan and envisages that national minority issues will be incorporated into it.

ZLÍNSKÝ KRAJ

In 2006, the province had no community plan.

3. What was the cooperation like between the province, or committee for national minorities (council / other body) and organizations of members of national minorities in 2006?

JIHOČESKÝ KRAJ

As there are no organizations of members of national minorities in our province (nor any regional branches of national organizations), we cannot comment on this point.

Roma civic associations receive ongoing support from the province and from the municipalities in whose territory they carry out their activities. This support concentrates on the possibility of obtaining grants from the province's grant scheme and on the promotion of one-off cultural activities in the region. From the aspect of exercising national minority rights, it is not possible to provide any examples of good practice in the province. At the same time, no problems arose which required special measures to resolve.

JIHOMORAVSKÝ KRAJ

Civic associations and entities which work for the benefit of national minorities cooperate very well with the *Council for National Minorities* in Jihomoravský kraj. Together, they contribute to the organization of joint meetings to mark diverse occasions (e.g. state and church holidays, exhibitions, etc.).

The most successful events include the traditional multiethnic meeting *Returning to Roots*, with the active participation of members of national minorities living in Jihomoravský kraj, and the Christmas concert of members of national minorities called *Living in the Same City*, with a demonstration of Christmas and New Year customs.

KRÁLOVÉHRADECKÝ KRAJ

The provincial authority does not differentiate in its cooperation with non-profit organizations and other entities. It is prepared to cooperate with anyone who expresses an interest. This was also the case in 2006.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

The committee for social affairs, security and minority issues has been set up as an initiative and advisory body of the provincial assembly to cover the areas of social policy and national minority issues. It carries out the tasks delegated to it by the provincial assembly, to whom it is accountable. The committee considers cooperation with other national minorities to be an important activity and is interested in this area.

MORAVSKOSLEZSKÝ KRAJ

Committee members were actively involved in cultural events held by organizations of members of national minorities in the province.

OLOMOUCKÝ KRAJ

As in the previous year, the provincial coordinator cooperated with active entities (representatives of the Bulgarian minority, the Greek minority, and active Roma non-profit organizations). Organizations with an e-mail address are sent information about grant titles and other documents by electronic mail. If they do not have access to the Internet, information is sent via members of staff responsible for the integration of members of Roma communities active at municipal authorities of municipalities with extended competence.

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

The Pardubický kraj Provincial Council Commission for the Integration of the Roma Community and Other Ethnic Minorities cooperates with non-profit Roma organizations in Pardubický kraj. The provincial authority's social affairs department organizes separate training on the Social Services Act for them. Roma non-profit organizations receive financial assistance every year via grant schemes under the provincial budget (an allocation is earmarked in social grants, participation in other grant schemes – culture, sport, free time, etc.).

The principal beneficiary of grants relating to other national minorities was the non-profit organization *Bridge for Human Rights* [*Most pro lidská práva*].

CITY OF PRAGUE

The city's cooperation with national minority organizations was supported, in particular, by communication with the representatives of national minorities in the Prague City Council Commission for National Minorities in the City of Prague, which arranged not only for the regular transfer of information between the City of Prague and national minorities, but also, within national minorities and mutually between individual national minorities.

STŘEDOČESKÝ KRAJ

No reply.

ÚSTECKÝ KRAJ

The committee was established by the province in 2005. As the representatives of national minorities (the German, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, Roma, Hungarian and Slovak minorities and representatives of the Jewish Community) are members, cooperation with national minority organizations is good. Representatives of the Bulgarian and Russian minority were also invited to committee meetings. Members of staff of the provincial authority are invited, where interested, to committee meetings to provide requested information, e.g. about the possibility

of disbursing funds for the activities of members of national minorities and about the possibility of profiling national minorities in the mass media. Committee members also provide information about their activities and social events, to which members of other national minorities and provincial representatives are invited.

VYSOČINA

National minorities in the province are represented only by a low number of members. In 2006, no problems occurred; there was no cooperation with their organizations.

ZLÍNSKÝ KRAJ⁴²⁾

In the field of the integration of the Roma community, the province made CZK 650,000 available as grants, and earmarked CZK 200,000 from the provincial budget for the integration of foreign nationals as non-grant funding because there were only two active civic associations in the province in 2006. One is the civic association of Kazakhs, *Nadezhda* [*Naděžda*], which was formed in October last year, and the other is the Society of Citizens Assisting Migrants [Sdružení občanů zabývajících se emigranty] *SOZE*, which opened a branch in Zlín in September 2006. This association's mission is to provide assistance to refugees and foreign nationals arriving in the Czech Republic. It provides legal guidance, social guidance, educational activities and leisure programmes. It also has branches in Olomouc and Brno; Zlínský kraj provided financial assistance to this association.

In addition, there was also cooperation with the civic association *Slovo 21*, which ran the project *The Family Next Door* under the aegis of the Zlínský kraj governor. The province has worked with this association for three years. A lunch organized in 2006 was attended by families of Kazakhs, Bulgarians and Russians.

As Zlínský kraj is not among the provinces in the Czech Republic most densely populated with foreign nationals, hitch-free cooperation is envisaged that will steadily be developed and intensified in future years. For the sake of completeness, it is stated that, in the state grant award procedure in 2006, funding was allocated to the municipality of Počenicet-Tetětice, where a family from Russia found housing set aside for integration purposes. In this respect, the municipality received a grant from the Ministry of the Interior under the Programme to Provide Housing to Recognized Refugees.

3a) examples of good practice in 2006:

KARLOVARSKÝ KRAJ

In our opinion, an example of the committee's good practice in 2006 is the intermediation of – until then non-existent – communication between Chodov Municipal Authority and the large group of Roma inhabitants concentrated in the suburbs and the subsequent constructive solution to their problems in the town.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

- a) Applications submitted by municipalities to tackle the housing of the Roma minority - Jablonec nad Nisou: repair of the roof on the shelter at Za plynárnou 13; Frýdlant: adjustment of social facilities in the building at ulice Míru 176.
- b) The training of 19 teaching assistants to the minimum teaching level, organized by the department of social affairs, security and minority issues.

⁴²⁾ Note by the submitter of the report: in these comments, the province evidently confuses the terms *national minority*, *foreign national*, and *recognized refugee*, even though in practice (and see below) they are clearly different.

OLOMOUCKÝ KRAJ

For four years, Olomoucký kraj has organized and funded the multicultural event *We Can Communicate*, which provides an opportunity to learn more about other cultures (national minorities, foreign nationals, the disabled). Last year, the event was held on 16 September 2006. One of the event organizers from the outset has been the *Bulgarian Educational Club* [*Bulharský osvětový klub*].

As of February 2006, the National History and Geography Museum in Olomouc hosted an exhibition called *Customs and Traditions of the Greek Minority in the Czech Republic*. The preview was enriched by demonstrations of Greek dancing. The exhibition presented national costumes, periodicals, numerous photographs and information about how the Greek community in the Czech Republic has evolved. The exhibition then transferred to the National History and Geography Museum in Šumperk from May to June 2006.

An exhibition of work by Roma artists, called *World through the Eyes of the Roma*, was installed at the Jeseník National History and Geography Museum from 7 March to 8 April 2006. The works were loaned by the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno.

An interesting project from the aspect of national minorities was *Another Take*, implemented in 2006 by the *Jakub Škoda Grammar School in Přerov* in cooperation with the Chartered City of Přerov and Olomoucký kraj. The aim of the project was to impact the attitudes and stereotypes of students and the public in an area with a high number of members of Roma communities by presenting Roma culture, history, discussions and other activities.

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

1. Preparation for a new Social Services Act (Act No 108/2006)

The social affairs department prepared separate training about the new Social Services Act for Roma civic associations. The representatives of organizations were acquainted, in an intelligible form, with the conditions for the provision of social services and, in particular, with the need to prepare for the registration of non-profit organizations. The training participants obtained information about all the registration conditions; a ‘consultation day’ is being prepared where all questions, especially with a focus on registration, will be answered. The Roma welcome this activity as it helps them come to grips with the new conditions they need to comply with in order to preserve the operation of non-profit organizations.

2. Training of Roma organizations – preparation for the EU 2007 – 2013 programming period

The civic association *Altus*, in cooperation with Pardubický kraj, launched a set of training sessions for representatives of Roma non-profit organizations with a view to preparing them for the submission of projects in the EU’s 2007 – 2013 programming period. This project will continue in 2007.

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

The civic *Association of Roma and National Minorities of Plzeňský kraj* (one of the nongovernmental organizations supported under the *Programme of the Support of Social Work in Socially Excluded Roma Communities*). The association provides field social work services and guidance. An example of good practice involving cooperation between a national minority organization and Plzeňský kraj is the this organization’s active approach to preparations for the application of Act No 108/2006 on social services and the implementing decrees thereof (especially as regards the introduction of quality standards and employee training).

CITY OF PRAGUE

An example of good practice was the organization of the sixth meeting of national minorities, which the City of Prague held in cooperation with the Prague City Council’s Commission for National Minorities in the City of Prague; this included an international conference called

Rubik's Cube – Multiculturalism, an exhibition of photographs on the reconstruction of the House of National Minorities and a socio-cultural evening of national minorities. The representatives of national minorities actively contributed to the preparation and implementation of the agenda of the sixth meeting of national minorities, as in previous years. Every year, the city organizes meetings of national minorities in the form of conferences and a socio-cultural meeting of national minorities and experts specializing in work with national minorities in the Czech Republic and abroad – especially representatives of cities and universities in the Slovak Republic.

Assistant in the form of grant award procedures is also significant (see below), in particular the financial aid channelled by the City of Prague into large festivals – the *Khamoro* World Roma Festival and the international folk festival *Prague Heart of Nations*.

For the greater awareness of civic associations of national minorities, representatives of boroughs and the public, the City of Prague holds an annual extended commission meeting, a plenary session of the civic associations of national minorities and representatives of boroughs, where representatives of national minorities in the commission provide information about projects implemented and the activities prepared by the individual national minorities; broader issues related to the activities of the civic associations of national minorities are discussed.

ÚSTECKÝ KRAJ

In November 2006, the *Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic* held a public discussion in Teplice on the theme of the *History of National Minorities and their Culture*, which was attended by representatives of national minorities – Hungarians, Germans, Roma, Jews, Ukrainians and Slovaks. Everyone rated the discussion positively. This year a similar event will be held, with contributions from the representatives of various national minorities.

3b) problems in 2006:

KARLOVARSKÝ KRAJ

A major problem in securing such cooperation is the poor organizational skills of national minorities, which applies to the numerous communities of the members of individual nations represented in the province (Vietnamese, Russians, Ukrainians). Cooperation with national minorities is therefore arranged primarily by the coordinator for national minorities, but only by means of individuals; individual rather than minority issues are handled.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

- a) The removal of the Roma from Semily, Tanvald, Rychnov u Jablonce nad Nisou. In Semily and Tanvald, they were rehoused due to the poor technical condition of the buildings. The local authorities tackled this crisis situation with these citizens and tried to find replacement housing. In Rychnov u Jablonce nad Nisou, there was a case where the owner of the building is a private individual and bought the building with the tenants. Replacement housing was sought in respect of which a flat of the same quality had to be found for the family.
- b) Lack of funds to finance the non-profit sector specializing in the issues of minorities, especially the Roma, who belong to socially excluded persons.

OLMOUCKÝ KRAJ

There were no major problems in 2006. National minority associations (not just Roma organizations) still express little interest in forming partnerships.

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

Education:

- although teaching assistants have worked at selected special schools for several years, there has been little success in transferring pupils from here to the primary school.
- on completing primary school (or special school), some pupils do not study further because their families do not have the money to see to the basic needs connected with starting a course at a vocational college, even though the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports offers a grant to cover the costs and the parents are informed of this possibility. The problem lies in the fact that the grant is not disbursed to schools until three or four months have passed since the start of the school year, and over this period parents are expected to cover all the costs themselves.

There are chronic problems with employment (Roma's access to the labour market is hindered) and housing (the formation of socially excluded communities).

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

Most municipalities in the region affected by the obligation to set up a committee for national minorities in accordance with Section 117(3) of Act No 128/2000 on municipalities, as amended, are municipalities with low populations. Of the 11 municipalities, 72% have a population of less than 500; 28% have a population of less than 2,100. This legal obligation does not generally apply to large municipalities because, owing to the much higher proportion of the majority population, they do not meet the percentage-based quota under the law, even though they often have bolder communities of national minorities.

Last year, before and after the municipal elections, these municipalities tried to set up committees for national minorities. Regrettably, they failed because of the lack of interest among members of the national minorities. Generally, then, it does not seem particularly effective to us that committees for national minorities should be set up in small municipalities where, usually, there are only a few individuals claiming nationality other than Czech.

CITY OF PRAGUE

As regards work in relation to the City of Prague and the Prague City Council's Commission for National Minorities in the City of Prague, a problem tends to be that some representatives of national minorities act not as representatives of a whole national minority, but as representatives of the civic association to which the given commission member belongs. This fact also has an impact on the transfer of information about the commission's work and on communication with other civic associations of national minorities.

Another problem tends to be the annual reports on the activities of national minorities, which the City of Prague regularly seeks from representatives of national minorities in the commission; the form of these reports does not provide comprehensive information about the activities of the national minority as a whole.

ZLÍNSKÝ KRAJ

A problem suffered primarily by the Roma community is poor housing, high unemployment, low education, and discrimination. The province is trying to handle all these problems as means allow.

4. In 2006, how did the province provide financial assistance to organizations / the activities of national minorities (through a special grant title in the budget, within the scope of other grant schemes, ad hoc support for individual events, or other means)?

The number of provinces (including the City of Prague) which had a special grant scheme for national minorities compared to those which did not was balanced. These schemes also include assistance devoted solely and expressly to Roma. The focus on the Roma community was also dominant among provinces which did not set up a specific scheme for the support of national minorities and in which minority associations are in open competition. In some provinces (e.g. the City of Prague and Moravskoslezský kraj) the support of national minorities is traditionally highly diversified. An overview of projects can be found in Annex 13.

5. Did the provincial assembly or committee discuss the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages? Please specify.

JIHOČESKÝ KRAJ

Representatives of the province view the Charter as a means of achieving linguistic diversity, which is part of the European cultural heritage. In this respect, no special need arose in the province to justify the adoption of protective or support measures.

JIHOMORAVSKÝ KRAJ

Some of the projects from members of national minorities under the *2006 Grant Scheme for the Activities of National Minorities in Jihomoravský kraj* were drawn up in accordance with the Framework Convention and the Charter and received financial assistance from the province's bodies.

KARLOVARSKÝ KRAJ

In 2006, the Council secretary was invited to a committee meeting; he acquainted committee members with the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. The committee has not yet discussed the implementation of the Charter.

KRÁLOVÉHRADECKÝ KRAJ

The provincial assembly did not discuss the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. There could be problems with the application of the Charter, e.g. due to the lack of Romani interpreters, that the authorities are not prepared for.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

This document has not been discussed by the provincial assembly.

MORAVSKOSLEZSKÝ KRAJ

The committee discussed issues connected with the implementation of the Charter in the province in 2005. A proposal for the financing of the increased costs of municipalities resulting from the practical implementation of the Charter is prepared for discussion in the province's self-governing bodies.

OLOMOUCKÝ KRAJ

The provincial assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter.

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

The provincial assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter.

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

In the Plzeňský kraj, the Charter only applies to Slovak. As at 31 December 2005, there were 2,016 foreign nationals of Slovak citizenship in Plzeňský kraj, i.e. 0.3% of the province's population. Bearing in mind that this mainly entails economic migration and that Slovak citizens do not feature in the province as a minority, there was no reason for the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages to be discussed by either the provincial assembly or the Social Affairs Commission of the Provincial Council in 2006.

CITY OF PRAGUE

Based on the City of Prague Policy Concept,⁴³⁾ enshrining the requirement to encourage the dissemination and acceptance of information in the languages of national minorities, national minorities in Prague, with financial assistance from the City of Prague, can issue publications and books (for adults, children and young people) in their own language.

STŘEDOČESKÝ KRAJ

As regards the application of the Charter, the province states that none of the minority languages can be defined within the meaning of Article 1 of the Charter, i.e. as a language within the meaning of a narrower demarcated territory where it is the means of expression for such a number of persons warranting the adoption of various protective and support measures. With consideration for the current national-minority situation in the province, the provincial assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter.

ÚSTECKÝ KRAJ

The committee discussed the implementation of the Charter at its meeting on 10 May 2006 and arrived at the conclusion that the fulfilment of the assumed obligations should not be a problem.

VYSOČINA

In 2006, the provincial assembly did not discuss the implementation of the Charter.

ZLÍNSKÝ KRAJ

The provincial assembly did not discuss this area because the proportion of national minorities in the province is very low.

Summary

1) The situation regarding the establishment of advisory bodies with a national minority agenda (committee / council / commission / coordinator / adviser) did not change compared to 2005. In the overwhelming majority of cases, committees and other institutions set up to deal with national minority issues (including the committee of the Moravskoslezský kraj provincial assembly) primarily discussed the problems of Roma integration.

2) More than two thirds of the provinces do not have a community plan. However, this situation should soon change according to the information supplied because further provinces

⁴³⁾ The Concept of the Policy of the City of Prague in Relation to National Minorities, issued by the City of Prague Council Commission for National Minorities. Prague 2003.

are planning to introduce these plans (with national minority issues incorporated in them). A community plan dealing with such issues already exists in three provinces.

3) Cooperation with national minorities is almost hitch-free at provincial level. As regards provincial assemblies, the information they provide and their cooperation with the participation of minority organizations in their grant schemes should be appreciated. It is worth mentioning the particularly carefully chosen method of providing information considering that not all organizations have electronic media at their disposal (Olomoucký kraj). In some provinces, the established cooperation takes place via an institution incorporating representatives of a wide range of minorities (Ústecký kraj), and in some places communication with foreign nationals is included in this cooperation (Zlínský kraj).

3a) The provinces managed to establish or continue communication and intensive cooperation with many minorities. In particular, the provinces rate positively their material, financial and logistical support of folk, training or social projects.

3b) As in the case of lower administrative units, a frequent problem for the provinces is breakdowns in communication due to the inactivity or absence of relevant partners among national minorities. Other problems concern social affairs relating to the Roma population (especially housing, education).⁴⁴⁾

5) Apart from three provinces which do not consider the implementation of the Charter to be a serious step or have already discussed it (Moravskoslezský kraj), no province has explicitly devoted time to the Charter. Considering the numbers of language minorities and the specific impacts of implementing the Charter, this cannot be considered an incorrect step. However, in some provinces there are still unsubstantiated opinions about the Charter (worries about the cost of translating Slovak and Romani).

⁴⁴⁾ However, it should be noted that state administration at the level of provinces, towns and municipalities often fails to distinguish when the socio-economic situation of the Roma can be included in minority issues. With regard to the civic approach, this should be avoided as much as possible and should be taken into account only where factors intensifying the social problem connected with Roma issues (e.g. language problems, the custom of living as large families, racism from the majority population) demonstrably play a role here. This is because there is no proof that persons labelled as 'Roma' by the local authority are actually members of the Roma national minority (i.e. they claim Roma nationality).

5. Reflections of national minorities

As in previous years, the Council Secretariat asked Council members – representatives of national minorities – to prepare documentation in accordance with a set structure. As there are some areas of uncertainty regarding the use of terminology, we open this chapter by providing some specific definitions:

National minority

A national minority is a community of citizens of the Czech Republic living in the Czech Republic who are distinguished from other citizens, usually by their common ethnic origin, language, culture and traditions, who comprise a minority of the population in terms of their numbers, and who express the will to be considered a national minority with a view to making joint efforts to preserve and develop their individuality, language and culture, and with a view to protecting the interests of their community which has formed over many years.

Members of a national minority

A member of a national minority is a citizen of the Czech Republic who claims non-Czech nationality and expresses the wish to be considered a member of a national minority along with others who claim membership of the same nationality.

Roma

The Roma are a national minority that is not actually that large (approximately 11,000 members of this minority according to the 2001 census). However, state administration uses more or less educated guesses that place the number of Roma much higher (approximately 200,000). The reason for the use of the non-standard figure from the census is the sociologically verifiable fact that the Roma feel a strong subjective Roma identity and preserve numerous characteristic cultural features without claiming to be of Roma nationality. Besides other factors, this can be attributed to the poorly developed identity of ‘nationality’ as perceived in our cultural and historical context, i.e. notably as the fruit of nationalism in the modern European period.

It is often also necessary to take into account the ‘**Roma**’ attribute assigned by majority society. Especially when dealing with the socio-economic problems of the life of the Roma, a crucial fact is that a particular citizen is ‘considered to be Roma by a significant part of his surroundings based on actual or assumed (anthropological, cultural or social) indicators’.⁴⁵⁾ The term ‘Roma’ appears in this sense in many documents issued by local and provincial authorities.

Jewish community

Czech citizens of Jewish origin do not usually express their ‘Jewish’ identity (if they feel any) in terms of a national minority. This situation has deep roots in the long-term process of assimilation and discriminatory pressures, and was intensified as a result of the Holocaust. The figure from the census regarding a declared religion – membership of the Federation of Jewish Communities [Federace židovských obcí] (1,515 persons) – and cultural and historical reasons mean that the Jewish minority community (not ‘national minority’) is accepted, whose representatives take part in meetings of the Government Council for National Minorities via their ‘permanent guest’. Therefore, the Report also contains basic information about the activities of members of the Jewish community, i.e. the part of this community which expresses a willingness to participate in programmes under the state’s national minority policy.

⁴⁵⁾ Gabal Analysis and Consulting (2006): Analysis of Socially Excluded Roma Localities (Communities) and the Absorption Capacity of Subjects Operating in the Field [*Analýza sociálně vyloučených romských lokalit (komunit) a absorpční kapacity subjektů působících v této oblasti*]. Prague.

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).*

All organizations have their own programme of activities for the calendar year. The key dates in the calendar are meetings and joint celebrations of important state and church holidays. There are also events connected with the preservation of cultural traditions and the Bulgarian language. The promotion of Bulgarian literature is a key element in the activities of all organizations.

In an attempt to improve communication between the individual entities, the minority's representative in the Council initiated a meeting of the representatives of all organizations on 25 November 2006. The objective was to coordinate certain events in 2007, especially the preparation of a nationwide meeting of the Bulgarian minority on 26 May 2007 in Mikulčice. The activities of all the organizations are financed from their own resources (subscriptions, financial donations, rental revenue, etc.) and, in particular, from funds obtained as grants.

2. *Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

- Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization, Prague [*Bulharská kulturně osvětová organizace Praha*] (BKOO):
 - It has published the periodical *Roden glas* for 34 years, since 2002 with the assistance of the Ministry of Culture. It also publishes the informative newsletter *Inform* at the expense of the organization,
 - proper celebrations of important state and orthodox holidays,
 - aided by Prague City Hall, it published an *Anthology of Bulgarian-Czech Cultural Relations* [*Antologie bulharsko-českých kulturních vztahů*] (the authors were Dana Hronková and Marie Motejlová),
 - organization of and participation in the folk festival *Prague – Heart of Nations*,
 - presentation of the book *Soul and Body* [*Duše a tělo*] (author: Dr Vitkov)
 - the football team came third in a tournament for minorities held under the aegis the Czech Senate (the club in Olomouc falls under the organization of BKOO Prague)
 - publication of Ela Mandažiweva's *When Windows Open* [*Když se okénka otevírají*],
 - with the assistance of Prague City Hall, a publication is produced documenting the Bulgarian minority and its life in the Czech Republic since the end of the 19th century, called *The Bulgarian Sedyanka and its Successors in the Czech Lands* [*Bulharská sedjanka a její následovníci v Českých zemích*].
- Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization of Cyril and Methodius, Prague [*Bulharská kulturně osvětová organizace Svv. Cyrila a Metoděje Praha*]
 - organization of an exhibition of pictures by Inka Delevová at the club (Praha 2, Americká 28).
- *Vazrazhdane* civic association, Prague [*Občanské sdružení Vazrazhdane Praha*] (no documentation supplied):
 - publication of the periodical *Balgari* with the full support of the Ministry of Culture,

⁴⁶⁾ This text was drawn up by the Council member Atanas Ivan Belkov.

- organization of numerous concerts and artistic performances
- *Pirin* civic association, Brno [*Občanské sdružení Pirin Brno*] (documentation not supplied)
- Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Association in Brno [*Bulharské kulturně osvětové sdružení v Brně*]:
 - social evening to mark the state holiday celebrating the liberation of Bulgaria from Osman Rule (3 March 2006),
 - a week of Bulgarian culture from 21 to 25 May 2006 (with an exhibition of pictures containing a Bulgarian theme),
 - performance by the folk ensemble *Gergiovdén*, from Radnevo,
 - performance by the top Bulgarian singer Janka Rupkinova and others,
 - nationwide meeting of compatriots in Mikulčice; this traditional ceremonial meeting was attended by approximately 200 people,
 - participation by the folk ensemble *Kytka* in a minorities festival in Bratislava,
 - celebration of International Children's Day,
 - organization of a performance by a folk group headed by Ilia Lukov (September, Moravské nám.),
 - close cooperation with the clubs in Ostrava and Bratislava (repeat performances by the folk group *Kytka*),
 - organization of a meeting of the representatives of all Bulgarian organizations in Prague on 25 November 2006 (the meeting was attended by the new ambassador to the Czech Republic, Zdravko Popov).
- Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Club, Ostrava [*Bulharský kulturně osvětový klub Ostrava*]:
 - joint celebrations of all Bulgarian state and orthodox holidays,
 - events for children and young people,
 - performance by the Bulgarian ensemble *Gergiovdén*, from Radnevo, and the group *Kytka*,
 - very good cooperation with local authorities,
 - very good cooperation with Czech Television, Babylon broadcast,
 - very good cooperation with other minorities,
 - excursions (Hradec nad Moravicí, Mikulčice, Moravian Karst),
 - care for seniors,
 - cooperation with the embassy,
 - financial assistance for clubs in Ústí nad Labem and Most.
- Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Club, Plzeň [*Bulharský kulturně osvětový klub Plzeň*]:
 - joint celebrations and get-togethers to mark state and orthodox holidays,
 - organization of several concerts and performances by opera soloists in Plzeň,
 - presentation of the book by Marie Motejlová-Manolová – *Anthology of Bulgarian-Czech Relations*,
 - performance by the puppet theatre from Stara Zagora at the festival *Skupa's Plzeň*.
- Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Club, Ústí nad Labem [*Bulharský kulturně osvětový klub Ústí nad Labem*]:
 - social get-togethers and celebrations of Bulgarian state and orthodox holidays

3. What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?

According to the information available, cooperation is very good at all levels of public administration, especially with Prague City Hall, and the city halls in Brno, Olomouc and Plzeň. Similar cooperation is enjoyed with provincial authorities.

4. What was cooperation like with other national minorities?

According to the minority's representative in the Council, there was only demonstrable cooperation in Brno, which was very good. Performances by folk ensembles are held here twice a year.

5. What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?

None.

6. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarian Cultural and Education Organization, Prague	Roden glas, publication of periodical	Ministry of Culture	400,000
	We Can Communicate		40,000
	Days of Bulgarian Culture - Olomouc		60,000
Vazrazhdane – Prague	Balgari – publication of periodical		359,000
	Club activities		70,000
	Days of Bulgarian Culture		60,000
	Reading, writing, speaking Bulgarian	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	68,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarian Cultural and Education Organization, Prague	Prague – Heart of Nations, festival	Prague City Hall	30,000
	Bulgarian Sedyanka		60,000
	When Windows Open, book		40,000
Vazrazhdane – Prague	Days of Bulgarian Culture		50,000
	Club activities		20,000
BKOS - Brno	Bulgarian culture	Brno City Hall	75,000
	Days of Bulgarian Culture	Jihomoravský kraj	75,000

Projects supported by other donors

No assistance is cited here by the representative.

7. What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?

Recognition of the community per se. This means the availability of all means to preserve cultural traditions, the mother tongue, etc.

8. *How do you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

The minority's representative in the Council takes the view that it is standard.

9. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

It would be a good idea to create conditions for the establishment of the clubs of national minorities with special-rate rent etc.

10. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

Bearing in mind the size of the community, the current number of periodicals published in Bulgarian is considered to be an adequate way of cultivating knowledge of the Bulgarian language.

CROATIAN MINORITY⁴⁷⁾

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).*

The 15th Day of Moravian Croats took place in Jevišovka in June 2006 – more than 300 members meet here every year.

2. *Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

To preserve the folk culture of the Moravian Croat minority we are trying to set up a civic association directly in Jevišovka (for more flexible relations with state administration) – the new association would be responsible for planning the 16th Day of Moravian Croats and would continue traditions with the support of the municipal authority.

3. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

Co-existence in the municipality was and is free of problems among the inhabitants; the municipality supports cultural events.

4. *What was cooperation like with other national minorities?*

The representative did not provide a reply.

5. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

None were documented.

⁴⁷⁾ The questions were answered by Ladislav Furiš, a member of the new Council.

6. ***Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)***

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
NS Pálava	15 th Cultural Day of Croats	Ministry of Culture	65,000

Projects supported by other donors

No assistance is cited here by the representative.

7. ***What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?***

Support for the preservation of the remnants of the folk culture, broader awareness of possibilities for the support of the new association and its activities.

8. ***How to you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?***

Not evaluated, the minority did not have a representative in the Council. ⁴⁸⁾

9. ***In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)***

Publishing activities, the influence of historical sources – summary notes outlasting folk literature.

10. ***What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?***

Support the activities of the same minorities throughout Europe (preservation of folk literature).

HUNGARIAN MINORITY⁴⁹⁾

1. ***Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).***

The principal and largest organization of the Hungarian national minority is the *Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic*. The Union currently has six base organizations: Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Teplice, Litoměřice and Plzeň.

In addition to the Union, another active Hungarian minority organization is the *Hungarian Section of the Political and Civic Movement Co-Existence* [*Maďarská sekce politicko-*

⁴⁸⁾ The representative of the Croatian minority was invited to Council meetings as a guest.

⁴⁹⁾ The text was prepared by Štefan Végh, a Council member between 2004 and 2006, Magdalena Šmejkalová, head of the Secretariat of the Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, and Ladislav Kocsis, chairman of the political movement Coexistencia.

občanského hnutí Soužití].⁵⁰⁾ Other active organizations are the *Hungarian Economic Association in the Czech Republic* [*Maďarské hospodářské sdružení v ČR*], *Iglice* (in Prague), the *Artur Görgey Society* [*Společnost Artura Görgeyho*] and the *Rákóczi Foundation*. For the sake of completeness, it should be noted that two Hungarian student associations exist in the Czech Republic: the *Endre Ady Association* [*Spolek Endre Adyho*] (Prague) and the *Ferenc Kazinczy Association* [*Spolek Ferencze Kazinczyho*] (Brno). However, the members of these two associations are Slovak citizens of Hungarian nationality who study at universities and colleges in the Czech Republic. Nonetheless, on completing their studies many remain in the Czech Republic and become members of the local Hungarian community.

The most widespread regular activities are carried out by the Union; because of the more or less shared membership base, other Hungarian organizations or their members contribute to most events. Cooperation between the organizations is good; joint events are also held.

Government grants were awarded for the Union's projects last year relating to cultural events and the publication of the periodical *Prágai Tükör*; the *Iglice* association also received government assistance. Co-existence, the Economic Association and the Görgey Association did not receive grants.

Communication within the minority is problem-free; Hungarian is used. Contact is of a personal nature. We are thinking about setting up some sort of regular forum to improve the coordination of activities.

2. *Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

- Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic [*Svaz Maďarů žijících v českých zemích*]
- *Days of Hungarian Culture* (Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Teplice). These are held in the spring and in the autumn;
- a nationwide social and cultural weekend, held every year at the beginning of September in Medlov, in South Moravia;
- Harmony – cultural afternoon (Prague);
- Seminar to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian revolution (Brno);
- commemorative events to mark Hungarian national holidays; the end of the Second World War (the participation of Hungarian soldiers in the liberation of Zlatá Koruna); at the monument in Mírov to the Hungarian politician of interwar Czechoslovakia János Esterházy, who suffered a tragic death;
- Hungarian balls (Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Teplice);
- erection of a monument to Hungarian soldiers who fell in the battle at Austerlitz, on the battlefield (Brno);
- performances by the folk groups *Nyitnikék* (Prague), *Kőrís* and *Tiszavirág* (Brno);
- club meetings, usually once a month in all base organizations;
- various other cultural and social events, a joint excursion to Bratislava, etc.;

⁵⁰⁾ The prime political objective of the Coexistentia Political Movement, drawing together Czech citizens from the ranks of national minorities, is the programmatic promotion of the protection and further development of human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially the rights of national minorities. Further to the Czech Republic's accession to the European Union, the movement concretized the following political goals in the promotion of rights to 1) the use of one's own language in official communications, 2) education in one's mother tongue, guaranteed by the state, 3) participation in solutions to matters concerning national and ethnic minorities, 4) the dissemination of information in one's own language, 5) the development of cultural traditions specific to a given minority, 6) the preservation of one's own cultural monuments and heritage. Other basic pillars of the movement's policy, alongside the protection of minority rights, are mutual recognition, understanding, tolerance and the solidarity of members of national minorities with each other, and their peaceful and harmonious co-existence with the Czech majority nationality.

- the base organization in Brno operates a *Hungarian Cultural and Information Centre*, which provides interpreting, translation and information services, e.g. concerning tourism, thus making a specific contribution to the development of Czech-Hungarian relations.
- o Hungarian Economic Association [*Maďarské hospodářské sdružení*]
 - it focuses on promoting Hungarian-Czech economic and commercial cooperation; it provides information to interested entities.
- o Iglice Association
 - it operates and organizes the activities of an informal Hungarian nursery school in Prague all year round.
- o A. Görgey Society
 - keen to promote the Hungarian-Czech cooperation of scientists; its first specific goal was to install a commemorative plaque to the prominent Hungarian chemist Görgey, who studied at Charles University in the 1840s.

3. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

The cooperation between Hungarians and Hungarian organizations and public administration authorities has been good at all levels and in all regions in the long term. This cooperation is rated particularly highly by our local organizations in Brno and Teplice. The cooperation in Prague was just as good until recently when, it seems, it was disrupted by the City Hall's decision to cancel the membership of representatives of national minorities in the Prague City Council Commission for National Minorities; there are also problems with the House for National Minorities. For the sake of accuracy, it should be noted that this matter has caused anxiety among all the minorities in Prague, which are not keen on the City Hall's new approach to national minorities.

The *Hungarian Section of the Political and Civic Movement Co-Existence* accepted, as major satisfaction, the political gesture of an apology expressed in a letter by the erstwhile Czech Prime Minister sent to the chairperson of the movement on 3 January 2006. In it, he expressed the Czech Government's regret that certain persons from the ranks of the then Czechoslovak citizens who suffered under Nazi terror were subjected, after the end of the Second World War and in contravention of legislation in force at the time, to measures applied in post-war Czechoslovakia against the 'enemy' population. This apology, according to the letter, is intended not only for members of the German nationality, but also members of the Hungarian and Polish nationality. Another part of the letter, expressing regret at the fates of thousands of former Czechoslovak citizens – members of the Hungarian nationality – who were forcibly transferred from south Slovakia to the border areas of the Czech Lands in 1946 and 1947 treated unlawfully, is of far-reaching significance. This political gesture of an apology is of historic importance for our national communities in the Czech Republic.

The movement was also satisfied to see, and fully supports, the introduction of bilingualism within the scope laid down in the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, which the Czech Republic has ratified.

4. *What was cooperation like with other national minorities?*

The cooperation between Hungarians and other national minorities is mainly local, and the intensity depends on the local conditions.

At central level, the Union was involved in the implementation of a project by the Slovak-Czech Club called *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis*, which was also backed by the

International Visegrad Fund. Our representative took part in a seminar on national minorities living in the Visegrad countries, hosted by Budmerice, and we are interested in becoming involved in other events within the scope of this project.

In Prague, we joined other minorities in participating in the folk festival *Prague Heart of Nations*.

In Brno, we were again actively involved in the programme of the Day of National Minorities organized by the city management.

In Teplice, the Union and other local minority organizations took part in the celebrations of the start of the spa season.

5. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

There were no major nationality-based problems in the life of the Hungarian minority last year. There is no conflict with the state on this level, although we would welcome a more constructive approach and more stable and bolder support of minorities by the state. This applies to the activities of minority organizations, their cultural activities and publications.

The uncertainty surrounding the government subsidization of the periodical *Prágai Tükör* was viewed as a problem. In this respect, we would welcome a change to the government grant policy because the current system does not permit longer-term planning of the publication of newspapers and every year their existence is at imminent risk.

Another specific problem is that the Union does not have the funds to secure the operation of a secretariat with a paid member of staff; this seriously complicates its activities and causes problems not only in the coordination of the activities of individual units, but also in maintaining relations with state authorities. In our opinion, national minority organizations are specific civil organizations, and this problem should be addressed somehow. There are good examples in other countries.

We continue to yearn for the resumption of Hungarian (and minority in general) broadcasting on state radio.

In Ostrava, no city advisory body for national minorities has been set up.

The *Hungarian Section of the Political and Civic Movement Co-Existence* expressed its determination to seek an amendment to the elections law by removing the positions which place small political parties at a disadvantage. We would like to see the five-percent voting threshold in provincial and – in particular – municipal elections discontinued. In terms of election calculations, the Movement would like to see a return to the voting legislation for municipal elections that was applied in 1990, 1994 and 1998.

It is also seeking an amendment to the Act on the Activities of Political Parties and Political Movements, in particular the removal of the provisions on the mandatory auditing of parties and movements not funded from the national budget and with an annual turnover of less than CZK 1 million.

We would also like legislation to define the competences of committees for national minorities which are set up in accordance with the Municipalities Act and Provinces Act.

The movement wants the state to safeguard, in accordance with the Schools Act, the all-round development of minority nationality-based education, and (financially and otherwise) to secure educational facilities and prevent their closure. It is also seeking greater subsidization of national minorities' periodicals from the national budget and more consideration for the cost of publishing. The movement would like to make changes to the grant policy applied to civic associations of national minorities so that subsidies from the national budget are reliant solely on grants.

6. *Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)*

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic	Prágai Tükör	Ministry of Culture	977,000
	Cultural information and documentation		420,000
	Days of Hungarian Culture		160,000
	National meetings		70,000
Iglice	Cultural activities	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	250,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Prague Unit	Prague – Heart of Nations	Prague City Hall	30,000
	Club meetings		20,000
	Days of Hungarian Culture		37,000
	Nyitnikék dance group		15,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Brno Unit	Cultural activities	Brno City Hall	85,000
		Jihomoravský kraj	40,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Litoměřice Unit	Cultural information and documentation	City of Litoměřice	18,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Teplice Unit	Cultural information and documentation	City of Teplice	38,000
	Days of Hungarian Culture		12 700
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Ostrava Unit	Cultural information and documentation	City of Ostrava	60,000
	Days of Hungarian Culture	Moravskoslezský kraj	65,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Plzeň Unit	Cultural information and documentation	City of Plzeň	10,000
Iglice	Cultural activities	Prague City Hall	20,000

Projects supported by other donors

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Prague Unit	Days of Hungarian Culture	Rákóczi Foundation	30,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic	Prágai Tükör		150,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Teplice Unit	Days of Hungarian Culture		30,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Brno Unit	Brünni Futár		70,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic	Cultural information and documentation	Republic of Hungary	478,000
Iglice	Cultural activities	Rákóczi Foundation	40,000

7. *What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?*

From the aspect of minorities, we consider the Council to be a very important state body, but we would welcome a reinforcement in its position or expansion in its competence. It follows that we consider our representation in this body to be very important and we appreciate it.

8. *How do you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

Bearing in mind that there is only one representative of the minority in the Council, it is very difficult to comment on his activities. We have only minimal information, which is based on minutes and unofficial word-of-mouth sources.

9. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

On a general level, we feel it is necessary for the Council to comment on the recent rising tendencies in government policy and in the practices of the authorities where national minority issues are intentionally mixed with the issues of immigrants and refugees. In our view – and as far as we can discern this view is held by other minorities as well – these are two entirely different problems. The members of minorities are Czech citizens and are integrated into society, into the state where they have lived for many years and which is their homeland. Immigrants and refugees are foreign nationals seeking to establish themselves in the Czech Republic. Placing members of minorities on the same level as refugees (with all due respect) is actually discrimination of minorities, as though they were not 100%, fully-fledged citizens of the Czech Republic. Brno offers a good example; the competent city authorities discuss the issues of minorities and foreign nationals separately.

Further, we would specifically like to see a change in the government grant policy applied to minorities; we feel it is unacceptable that, for example, the existence of all minority newspapers, some of which have been published for more than ten years and properly account for the government funding they receive, hinges every year on the result of a project assessment (there are too many random or subjective elements at play in this respect). We believe it is necessary to change the criteria so that newspapers – to which minorities are entitled (the right to information in their own language) – are ensured stability. In this respect, it is unacceptable that government grants for minority periodicals have stood at CZK 30 million for years; over this time, the fair value of money has declined sharply, and in effect the state has therefore considerably reduced its subsidization of the minority press.

The resumption of minority radio broadcasting would also be welcome.

10. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

As Hungarians do not comprise a significant part of the local population in any region or municipality, we realize that expectations of setting up a school with Hungarian as the language of instruction, or the use of our mother tongue in communication with the authorities are not realistic. However, we fully support the similar expectations harboured by the Polish minority.

As for the Hungarian language, we expect the state to enable members of the Hungarian minority to maintain and cultivate the language within the community. Specifically, we expect the state to continue supporting the publication of the periodical *Prágai Tükör* and the cultural activities of minority organizations, and we would welcome the resumption of

Hungarian broadcasting on public-service radio (Radio Regina), which was discontinued without a replacement after the floods in 2002, amidst claims that savings had to be made.

The *Hungarian Section of the Political and Civic Movement Co-Existence* brings attention to several problems concerning the implementation of the following provisions of the Charter:

Article 6 – the obligation to ensure that the competent authorities, organizations and persons are kept informed about the rights and obligations laid down therein. Our observations indicate that this obligation is not adequately satisfied.

Article 7(1)(h) – the obligation concerning the promotion of the study of and research into regional or minority languages at universities or similar institutions. This obligation is not sufficiently met and therefore we bring attention to the existence of the Institute for Polish Ethnic Research, established as a centre of Ostrava University in 1990. Since 2000 it has cooperated with the Silesian University in Katowice, and since 2006 with the Technical and Humanities Academy in Bielsko – Biala. At the same time, it is involved in research into Czech-Polish cultural traditions in the Těšínské Slezsko euroregion. This institution could assist in the establishment of bodies that will advise public administration authorities in matters connected with regional or minority languages, as the Charter’s contracting parties are urged in Article 7(4).

Article 7(2) – the obligation to adopt special measures to the benefit of regional and minority languages, aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population. This is a fundamental problem. There are numerous cases of the public defamation of Polish signs, accusations levelled at Poles, their portrayal as Anti-Czechs who cannot stand the Czech language (see, for example, the blogs at the domain www.3nec.cz); these cases are neither isolated nor classified as vandalism.

Article 7(3) – the obligation to place respect, understanding and tolerance in respect of regional and minority languages among the education goals in the country, and to encourage the mass media to pursue these goals. Our observations show that this area has been completely neglected. We are still waiting for the resumption of the popular, genuinely commendable Hungarian programmes on Radio Regina.

The prompt response by the Ministry of Transport to the Charter, amending a decree concerning the bilingual names of municipalities on entry and exit signs, and the installation of bilingual signs at railway stations in the relevant municipalities, was received with great satisfaction. However, we note that according to Act No 128/2000 the implementation of bilingual signs is entirely in the competence of municipal assemblies or municipal committees for national minorities, and therefore the implementation of Article 7(1)(d) and Article 10(2)(g) is not guaranteed.

Regrettably, we bring attention to the tardy approach of other ministries, which have not yet amended the provisions of the relevant laws that are incompatible with the ratified Charter. These are provisions of the Rules of Administrative Procedure, the Schools Act, the Accounting Act and the Tax Administration Act.⁵¹⁾

GERMAN MINORITY⁵²⁾

1. ***Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).***

At the beginning of 2006, the Cultural Association of Citizens of German Nationality [*Kulturní*

⁵¹⁾ Note of the submitter of the Report - it is not clear what the representative of the Coexistencia political movement means.

⁵²⁾ The text was prepared by Richard Šulko and Erich Lederer, Council members in the 2004 – 2006 period.

sdržení občanů německé národnosti] was facing closure. Thanks to new management, activities were kept running. No grant was forthcoming from the Ministry of Culture in 2006. The twelfth meeting of the Council on 15 June 2006 in Prague was a crucial event for the continuation of the Association. At the meeting, the decision was taken that the Association would continue. A new board was elected and the principal tasks for the upcoming period were set, including the closure of the premises used by the PVZ editing staff. It was also agreed that the board would negotiate with the representatives of the *Association of Germans (Landes-versammlung)* on the possibility of cooperation.

The activities of the base organizations were limited to annual meetings, meetings to mark holidays (Mothers Day, Christmas, etc.), cultural trips, and lectures. However, even these few activities were rated very positively by members as practically the only opportunity they have to communicate in their mother tongue.

The termination of the publication of the newspaper *Prager Volkszeitung* (see below) was a blow to communication between individual organizations because the newspaper was also used to announce the events of these organizations. The new management is trying to address this situation by publishing occasional newsletters. The activities of the organizations were funded from subscriptions and from grants made available by local authorities.

Association of Germans [Shromáždění Němců] (SN): as in previous years, individual Unions took care of their members in their respective regions; the SN dealt with German minority issues, culture and educational activities. It maintained cooperation with other unions and other nongovernmental organizations.

Communication within the SN was in German and Czech because many descendants of German grandparents and parents have a poor knowledge of German due to the effects of assimilation.

The individual Unions are financed with subscriptions, municipal financial grants, project grants from other institutions (the Ministry of Culture, the Fund of the Future [*Fond budoucnosti*], compatriot associations), and, on the basis of projects, with funding from the German Embassy. To a lesser extent, donors and private individuals come forward with donations and gifts.

2. Provide a brief summary of their activities.

The SN organizes exhibitions cultural programmes, exchange camps for young people, Days of Czech-German Culture, the activities of folk dance groups, international cooperation with other groups and associations. A website, author readings, Czech-German fairs and devotions, German lessons, the publication of newspapers and various information bulletins, cross-border cooperation, handicrafts, the making of costumes, care for Czech-German meeting centres, educational seminars, encouragement for young entrepreneurs, rehabilitation stays, care for German cemeteries, the sending of documentation for Czech Radio's broadcasts for the German minority, cooperation with museums, etc.

KV: a women's group in Kraslice, which has been well received in the vicinity on both sides of the border and elsewhere – 16 performances on various occasions. Meetings to mark various holidays are regularly attended by members of neighbouring organizations and delegates of affiliate organizations from Germany (Kovářská – Lauter, Šluknov - Gross – Schönau, Varnsdorf – Seiffenhensdorf - Zittau, Ústí nad Labem – Teplice – Dippoldiswalde – Dresden). We also keep and update a list of members and organizations.

3. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

SN: many Unions cooperate with public administration authorities to a very good standard. They cooperate on various joint projects, and thanks to their bilingualism and contacts in other countries they help organize meetings with compatriots, they cooperate on the restoration of joint cultural monuments, etc.

The KV's cooperation with administrative authorities takes place on several levels. We have representatives in the Ústecký kraj provincial commission for nationalities. It is regularly invited to these meetings, and passes on information about the commission's activities to base organizations.

At a local level, organizations cooperate with local authorities and are invited to events in Chomutov, Kovářská, Kraslice, Skalná, Varnsdorf, Ústí nad Labem and Vratislavice. These are primarily social and cultural events within the scope of cooperation programmes with German towns and districts, and events held by museums and schools. In Ústí nad Labem there is good cooperation with Jan Evangelista Purkyně University and affiliated organizations (Collegium Bohemicum). In some places, financial grants (of several thousand crowns) are awarded or premises are made available for events free of charge.

4. *What was cooperation like with other national minorities?*

Only mutual awareness within the scope of joint commissions and committees, i.e. minimal. In Moravská Třebová, cooperation has been cultivated with the *Carpathian German Union in Slovakia* [*Karpatoněmeckým spolkem na Slovensku*].

With KV, cooperation is occasional, depending on the local conditions.

5. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

KS: Members are usually pensioners and it is becoming increasingly hard for them to attend meetings. In 2006, the grant from the Ministry of Culture was returned for the reasons outlined above.

One of the problems is the ageing membership base. Many of the older members cannot participate in the events that are held because of their limited mobility. The poor transport service in border areas plays a negative role in this respect.

However, the greatest problem was last year's discontinuance of the newspaper *Prager Volkszeitung* due to a further reduction in the financial grant. This periodical was virtually the sole means of providing information for members in German and formed a link between organizations. Furthermore, the editing team offered a base for the organization's activities – the committee was able to meet on the premises of the editing team and had a proper address. We had brought attention to the difficult situation in the past and asked for assistance. Unfortunately, no one listened to us. We believe that preventing the further existence of PVZ is in direct contravention of the repeatedly declared resolutions of the EU, or the competent commission, concerning the support of national minorities in Member States.

SN: Despite the positive sign in the form of the documentation of active opponents of fascism and an apology from the Czech Government, the matter of a *humanitarian gesture* remains unresolved, and therefore Germans in the Czech Republic continue to feel like second-class citizens.

The more stringent conditions for the award of grants from the Ministry of Culture, e.g. the use of only buses for transport to events,⁵³⁾ the cancellation of royalties and the reimbursement of rental costs, etc., are negative and dangerous.

6. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Youth Contact Organization in the Czech Republic – JUKON, Prague [Mládežnická kontaktní organizace v ČR - JUKON, Praha]	On the trail of the cultural traditions of the German minority in the Czech Republic	Ministry of Culture	25,000
Cultural Association of Citizens of German Nationality, Prague	Care for the cultural heritage and the preservation of the folk traditions of the German minority on the territory of the Czech Republic		50,000
	Heimatchor Choir, Kraslice		14,000
German Language and Cultural Association, Brno	Amateur dramatics		20,000
Association of Germans – Hřebečsko regional group, Moravská Třebová	Folk dances of the German minority		65,000
	German-Czech Days of Culture		60,000
Assembly of Germans in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, Prague	Large Gathering of Folk Art and Culture of the German Minority and Friends of Germans from All Regions		200,000
Silesian German Association, Opava	Presentation of German culture in selected towns in Silesia		20,000
	Festival of cultural work by the German minority in Silesia and Moravia		25,000
Union of Germans – Chebsko regional group	'Music Without Frontiers' concert		15,000
	Workshop, rehearsals and year-round presentation of Chebsko folk dances by a folk dance group		15,000
	Production and decoration of Cheb folk costumes		10,000
	Book: <i>Moala Richard Narrates</i> [Moala Richard vypráví]		50,000
	Eghalând Bladl monthly periodical		42,748
Union of Germans - Krušné hory region and foothills, Chomutov	Cultural festival: German Week in Chomutov		12,000
Union of Germans – North Moravia, Orlické hory, Šumperk	Day of folk culture of the German minority		20,000
Union of Germans - Liberec, Lužice – North Bohemia, Liberec	Czech-German Cultural Afternoon 2006		12,000
	Christmas Celebration 2006	10,000	

⁵³⁾ Note of the submitter of the Report: this evidently refers to transport in the Czech Republic, not transport abroad.

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Cultural Association of Citizens of German Nationality	Meetings of members, excursions, concerts, lectures	Prague City Hall	40,000
		City of Chomutov	10,000
Club of Friends of Germany, Štěpánkovice	Cultural events	Štěpánkovice Municipal Authority	4,000
Association of German Friends, Ludgeřovice	Cultural events	Ludgeřovice Municipal Authority	2,000

Projects supported by other donors

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Union of Germans – Chebsko regional group	'Music Without Frontiers' concert	ENSINGER, s.r.o.	8,000
	Book: <i>Mála Richard Narrates</i>	Czech-German Fund for the Future	50,000
Union of Germans - Liberec, Lužice – North Bohemia	Purchase of computer	Hermann Niermann Foundation	60,000

7. *What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?*

The recognition of the minority as such and the opportunity of influencing the state's means of support for minorities (although this is limited – sometimes there is little political will). Direct information about the Government's plans, the opportunity of comparison with the activities of other national minorities, their state aid, etc. The possibility of meeting needs and requirements.

8. *How to you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

The role of *watchdog* and the constant honourable work of amateurs trying to save and develop the resources of minorities. With the German minority in particular, disillusionment regarding the submission of a report on the minority over several years and *de facto* no result (again, political will). It is a shame that the Council is only an advisory body.

9. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

1. More PR work to impact on majority society with a view to improving the image of minorities.
2. Greater application of resolutions among politicians.
3. The promotion of the representation of minorities in Parliament (e.g. as in Poland).
4. Greater flexibility in the interpretation of laws and directives – with regard to the closure of PVZ.

10. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

It offers a chance.

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.). Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

The Polish minority is organized very well. At present, more than 30 Polish associations are active in the Czech Republic, of which 27 are grouped together within the *Congress of Poles*. They were:

Harcerstwo Polskie w RC
Klub Polski w Pradze
Koło Polskich Kombatantów
Macierz Szkolna
MK PZKO Karwina-Nowe Miasto
Polski Związek Byłych Więźniów Politycznych
Polski Związek Kulturalno – Oświatowy
Polskie Towarzystwo Medyczne
PTA „Ars Musica“
PTŚ Collegium Cantorum
PTTS „Beskid Śląski“
Stowarzyszenie Młodzieży Polskiej
Stow. Osób Pracujących i Uczących się za Granicą
Stowarzyszenie Szkoła Polonijna w Pradze
Stowarzyszenie Dziennikarzy Polskich
Stowarzyszenie Emerytów Polskich
Stowarzyszenie Przyjaciół Polskiej Książki
Stowarzyszenie Rodzina Katyńska
Towarzystwo Nauczycieli Polskich
Zaolziańskie Towarzystwo Fotograficzne
Zrzeszenie Literatów Polskich
ZŚM Przyjaźń
Klub „Polonus“ w Brnie
Towarzystwo Avion
Stowarzyszenie Kurier Praski
Macierz Szkolna w Wędryni
Zrzeszenie Śpiewaczo – Muzyczne

This year, two informal youth groups, *Klub Młodych Niezależni* and *Klub Stypendystów Fundacji Semper Polonia*, started operating in association with the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic.

All these organizations carried out a wide range of activities which are reflected in dozens of small (disparate cultural meetings, concerts, performances, etc.) and large-scale cultural events.

One of the most important events is traditionally the *Horal Festival* in Jablunkov (the local PZKO chapter in Jablunkov). This three-day event is perhaps the largest recurring event of the Polish minority. It is an international folk festival where, besides presentations by all folk ensembles of the Polish minority, foreign guests are invited from Slovakia, Poland, and other

⁵⁴⁾ The text was prepared by Józef Szymeczek, Chairman of the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic, and Roman Kaszper (head of the Office of the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic).

countries throughout the world (Mexico in 2006). This year was the sixtieth anniversary and the event attracted approximately 10,000 visitors.

Třinec Film Summer (*Třinec Culture Club [Klub kultury o.p.s. Třinec]*) – a four-day festival of Polish, Czech, Slovak and Hungarian films following up on the *Těrlicko Film Summer* previously organized by the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic. Over the four days of the festival, 5,000 viewers make their way into the screening halls.

The *Association of Polish Youth [Sdružení polské mládeže]* organizes *Days of Student Culture in Bystřice n. Olzou*, where around 500 young Poles gather to listen to local Polish, Czech and other rock bands.

For children, there is the annual *Festival of Children's Songs (Ars musica, Macierz Szkolna)*, where about 200 young singers, duets and vocal groups perform.

An overview of the year-round activities of the Polish minority, called *Tacy jesteśmy* (The Way We Are), organized by the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic was successful. This is an attempt to assess the past year, events, performances, and achievements of individuals and groups from the Polish minority. It is a gala concert held in Těšín Theatre and is always sold out (460 seats). The event receives widespread media coverage.

Of the cultural and educational events, it is worth mentioning the various cultural and social workshops organized by the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic. These are the *Theatre and Film Workshops in Košařiska* and the newly organized *Photography Workshops in Dolní Lomná*. In addition, the above-mentioned informal groups are already trying to organize their own activities with the assistance of the Congress of Poles. These activities are mainly of a European nature – youth exchanges, participation at conferences (the recent conference on the rights of national minorities organized by the European University in Bolzano/Bozen).

A special project is the operation of the *Documentation Centre* of the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic. Founded in the 1990s, over the years the centre has become an integral part of an academic workshop of historians specializing in the Polish national minority and the general history of Těšínské Slezsko. The Documentation Centre deals with archiving and organizes exhibitions, seminars, lectures and conferences in cooperation with other organizations affiliated in the Congress of Poles. At the Documentation Centre (Komenského 4, Český Těšín) it is possible to find relevant regional literature, so it also plays the role of a small academic library and research centre visited by around 400 scholars every year.

Unfortunately, we are unable to specifically list all other prominent events because there are dozens of them every year – concerts, balls, and folk performances. Here is some basic interesting information to give some idea: in the Těšín area there are more than 30 choirs and about 15 folk ensembles and folk groups. In Český Těšín there is also the only Polish professional theatre in operation outside Poland, along with a few amateur dramatic groups. The most significant amateur dramatics group in Vendryně has existed for more than a hundred years. The activities of organizations can be deduced from their names because many of them have a narrow profile.

We could also name the following prominent events held by the PZKO:

1. *May on the Olza* – traditional performances of song and dance ensembles and choirs in the spa park Karvina – Darkov, which takes place every Sunday in May and is organized by the Karviná PZKO chapter.

2. *Day of Traditions and Těšín Costumes* – an event held every year on the first Sunday in June, organized by the PZKO together with the *League for the Advancement of the Těšín Region* (Poland)

3. *Festival Concert of Folk Ensembles* – an annual festival of folk groups not only within the PZKO, but also groups from Poland and the Czech Republic.

4. *Competition in the Silesian Dialect on Both Banks of the Olza* – a competition for the pupils of Polish and Czech schools, which alternates between Poland and the Czech Republic.

5. *Miyszani łowiec* – in 2006, this very popular event was held once more, the aim of which is to revive the ancient tradition of rearing sheep in Beskydy.

2. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

Poles in Těšínské Slezsko are very actively involved in public life in the scope of municipal self-government. Many Poles are members of municipal assemblies. According to the minority's own estimate, the number of Poles in municipal assemblies is not more than seventy. The majority of assembly members of Polish nationality are appointed to assemblies in Těšínsko municipalities as candidates from the political movement *Coexistence – Wspólnota*. Others are candidates of the Association of Independent Candidates [*Sdružení nezávislých kandidátů*] or other independent initiatives. In larger towns, they are candidates of the traditional 'large parties'. Most Poles are in the assemblies of the following municipalities following the last municipal elections: Hrádek, Košařiska and Vendryně, as well as Český Těšín.

The platforms where Poles can exercise their rights are the committees for national minorities. Unfortunately, these committees are formed on the basis of political agreements, and therefore Poles are unable to apply themselves fully in these bodies – the Moravskoslezský kraj committee for national minorities, for example, has only one Polish representative. In municipalities the situation is similar, but is improving. Here, Poles in Polish municipalities are represented more, but in most cases the chairs of these committees are Czechs who very 'successfully' negate the demands and requirements of the Polish minority. These problems are discussed elsewhere in this Report.

In Těšínské Slezsko (Záolží) committees have been set up in the following municipalities: Albrechtice, Bocanovice, Bukovec, Bystřice, Český Těšín, Dolní Lomná, Doubrava, Hnojník, Horní Lomná, Horní Suchá, Hrádek, Chotěbuz, Jablunkov, Karviná, Komorní Lhotka, Košařiska, Milíkov, Mosty u. Jablunkova, Návsí, Nýdek, Petrovice u. Karviné, Písečná, Písek, Ropice, Řeka, Smilovice, Stonava, Střítež, Těrlicko, Třanovice, Třinec, Vělopolí and Vendryně. The quality of work carried out by committees varies. Some hold regular meetings with the representatives of various institutions and authorities, others are completely inactive.

3. *What was cooperation like with other national minorities?*

Cooperation with other national minorities took place on several levels. Large towns such as Třinec and Karviná have established a new tradition, days of national minorities. The idea of these events is to profile the members of different national minorities living in the town. All minorities living in the towns (Poles, Roma, Slovaks and Greeks) cooperate in the implementation of these events.

Another platform of potential cooperation is committee for national minorities, where the representatives of various minorities get to meet each other. These are mainly committees in large cities (Jablunkov, Český Těšín and Třinec), where representatives of the Polish minority cooperate with representatives of the Slovak and Roma minorities. The cooperation between Poles and Slovaks at local level in the Těšínsko area is poor. The Slovaks do not support the initiatives of the Polish minority, and sometimes vehemently oppose the proposals put forward by the Polish minority (the introduction of bilingual signs). These outbursts have found their way into the media. Local government representatives exploit the Slovaks to thwart Polish initiatives in committees for national minorities.

The cooperation within the Government Council for National Minorities is adequate. The Polish minority supported actively takes part in a project implemented by representatives of the Slovak minority, called *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis*. This project is very useful and highly commendable.

4. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

Several problems were registered in 2006:

- Very poor support of the minority's cultural activities from the funds of Moravskoslezský kraj.

Although the number of members of national minorities in Moravskoslezský kraj is the largest of any of the provinces in the Czech Republic, the support of national minorities' cultural activities is very weak and is at the same level of provinces where much fewer minority citizens live. Furthermore, the provincial authority does not distinguish between the Polish minority, which has lived in this area for centuries and has greater needs and is incomparably more deserving than the 'new' minorities (Slovaks, Roma, Greeks and Bulgarians). Pursuing a 'pseudo-fair' policy, the province tries to support the projects of all minorities, even those whose validity is seriously in question, simply so that it maintains the appearance of impartiality. As a result, many resources are disbursed on pointless events offering no prospects, while many traditional and good-quality events are denied aid.

We are alarmed by the indications that there are plans to cut back on the financial assistance the Ministry of Culture provides to *Teatr Lalek Bajka*, which is very popular among school children.⁵⁵⁾ Nor are we happy with the annual delay in remitting the grants awarded for the cultural activities of members of national minorities. As a result, this annually repeating situation can cause demonstrable damage to Polish organizations.

- The negligible representation of Poles in the Moravskoslezský kraj Committee for National Minorities.

Poles have only one representative in this body. Besides the negligible number of Germans, Poles are the largest traditional minority in Moravskoslezský kraj. We consider this situation to be scandalous and unacceptable.

- Problems in the activities of local committees for national minorities

In 2006, there were several incidents relating to the nomination of members for local committees for national minorities. In the past, individual municipalities nominated people to the committees for national minorities without consulting representatives of Polish organizations in the municipalities. Following the elections in autumn 2006, the Congress of Poles, together with the PZKO, attempted to change this situation. In this regard, they exercised their right under Act No 128/2000 on municipalities (Section 117) and nominated one, or a maximum of two, representatives to the committees in the individual municipalities and towns. In some towns, these nominations were accepted unequivocally and the minority's representatives (delegated by Polish associations) were incorporated into the committees. However, in other municipalities they were rejected and the Congress of Poles had to intervene in favour of its candidates. In some places, the

⁵⁵⁾ According to the Ministry of Culture, it is true that the grant for this project is being reduced. The promoter of the project has been warned of this repeatedly, and this is a case stretching back over many years. The reason for this is that the project promoter notably seeks funding to cover actors' wages. Funding made available for cultural activities cannot be used to support a professional or semi-professional theatre. In 2006, the year monitored in this Report, the civic association *Polish Cultural and Educational Union in the Czech Republic, Český Těšín*, submitted the project *Bajka Puppet Theatre* with a request for a ministerial grant of CZK 1,130,000, of which CZK 810,000 was intended for wages. The budget for the whole scheme to support the cultural activities of members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic is CZK 8,000,000. The project promoter has never been advised that the Ministry of Culture will not support the project. At a meeting with representatives of the Polish national minority, and attended by the MP from the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament, Rudolf Kufa, on 7 March 2007, the recommendation was made for the Bajka theatre to be incorporated into the organization of Těšín Theatre; in the next year, the project can be submitted in the award procedure of the Art and Libraries Department of the Ministry of Culture and, given the theatre's specialization, also to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in 2007. In this respect, it is not clear why it is claimed that the Ministry of Culture no longer intends to support the project.

intervention helped (Třinec, Těrlicko), elsewhere it had no effect and the representatives of the Polish minority were rejected (Hnojník). The struggle to have them accepted as committee members continues. The most regrettable cases were those where representatives of the Congress of Poles or PZKO were intimidated and threatened by the local authority in attempts to make them withdraw their nominations themselves. In several cases this intimidation had the intended effect and the candidates 'voluntarily' withdrew their nomination.

- Groundless closure of the Polish school in Třinec Lyžbice.

The fiercest conflict between the Polish minority and Czech society occurred in Třinec at the end of 2006. Straight after the elections, the town's new management embarked on a sharply anti-Polish course. This policy was reflected in the closure of one of the two Polish schools (Koperníková Street, Třinec Lyžbice), which had not had any problems in the past with filling its classes. Nor did it (or Polish education) have a poor outlook. The parents of the school's pupils protested against the closure with a petition. The Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic was sharply opposed to the town's plan. The Mayor of Třinec deflected all the objections with the argument that the 'optimization' of education in Třinec is a long-term process and that local Poles were informed of this in advance and supported the 'plan of optimization'. The school's former head teacher was meant to represent the opinion of local Poles. However, representatives of the Polish minority argued that this was just a private opinion of a single individual and not the opinion of the whole of the minority society. In this situation, the Poles in Třinec called on the Třinec Committee for National Minorities to make its views known on the whole matter. However, from the end of the elections to the current day (20 February 2007) the committee chairperson has not convened a committee meeting, which we also consider to be a manifestation of bad will and unwillingness to listen to the minority's opinion.

It is also worth mentioning the regrettable fact that during enrolment to the first grade, the school promoter 'forgot' to provide information in the local media about enrolment to the above-mentioned school.

- The opposition of the Czech public and local government to the introduction of European standards

Since mid-2006, Poles have had the opportunity to apply to committees for national minorities for the introduction of bilingual signs in municipalities where more than 10% of the population is of Polish nationality. The Government earmarked CZK 5 million for this purpose in December 2005. However, it failed to inform the individual municipalities sufficiently, or at all, of the possibility of refunding the costs connected with the introduction of Polish signs. We cannot assess this situation impartially. Whatever the case, after requests were made to introduce bilingual signs in individual municipalities, the local press and regional Internet servers launched a stormy discussion on the theme: 'Who's going to pay for it?' In this respect, the Congress of Poles urged the Moravskoslezský kraj Committee for National Minorities to promptly call a press conference and inform the public, through the media, about the procedure for the introduction of bilingual signs. It was only after the Congress of Poles wrote to the provincial governor that the provincial authority's press department published this information.

5. **Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)**

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Ars musica	Propagation of choir singing	Ministry of Culture	90,000
Collegium Canticorum	Development of the art of choir singing		60,000
Třinec House of Culture	Support of the Hutník Choir Association		40,000
Górole, Mosty u Jablunkova	International festival of folk groups and folk ensembles 2006		40,000
Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic	Documentation Centre of the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	250,000
	The way we are 2006		190,000
	Perspektiva 21		200,000
	Ondraszek – Pan Łysej Góry		200,000
Polish Association of Artists in the Czech Republic [<i>Polské sdružení výtvarných umělců v ČR</i>]	Catalogue of the Polish Association of Artists in the Czech Republic	Ministry of Culture	20,000
Polish Cultural and Educational Union in the Czech Republic	Gorolski Świato - Żywobyci Goroliczka		80,000
	Cultural and educational activities		450,000
	Bajka puppet theatre		850,000
Association of Polish Book Friends [<i>Sdružení přátel polské knihy</i>]	Publication of a collection of poetry by Henryk Jasiczak		25,000
	Exhibitions of Polish books and side literature events		30,000
Primary school and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction	Implementation of primary school curricula with the assistance of regional elements or getting to know the Těšín area of Silesia	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	49,000
Primary school with Polish as the language of instruction and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction, Český Těšín	Athletics championship for pupils from schools with Polish as the language of instruction		70,000
Association of Polish Book Friends	A Reading Child is a Thinking Child – support for reading in the mother tongue among the pupils of primary schools with Polish as the language of instruction in the Těšínské Slezsko region		72,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces ⁵⁶⁾

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Ars musica	Propagation of choir singing, folk music and forms of drama at a high artistic level as alternative means of cultural self-realization for young people and adults in their free time	Moravskoslezský kraj	75,000
		City of Český Těšín	15,000

⁵⁶⁾ This list is far from exhaustive. Many organizations and their local chapters draw on grants from municipalities and towns. The information below is from the available websites of municipalities in the Těšínské Slezsko area. It should be borne in mind that Polish organizations also exist outside the Těšín area which are sure to draw on funds for cultural activities from municipal budgets (Prague, Brno, Lysá n. Labem, etc.).

Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic	The way we are 2006	Moravskoslezský kraj	85,000
		City of Český Těšín	15,000
	W. Przeczek and H. Jasiczek – documentary work of two Polish poets	Moravskoslezský kraj	55,000
PZKO, Jablunkov local chapter	Festival of children's folk music at the first day of the Gorolski Świato festival		100,000
PZKO	Second annual Miyszani lowiec		57,000
Association of Záołzi Photographers [Sdružení zaołžánských fotografů]	Exhibition to mark the fifth anniversary of the formation of the society ZTF	City of Český Těšín	10,000
	Photography symposium, workshop and expert seminar		6,000
PZKO, Český Těšín local chapter	Activities of the amateur mixed choir Harfa		12,000
	Participation of the Harfa choir in the meeting of ensembles Slezský trojok		5,000
	Spring concert by the Harfa mixed choir		5,000
	Activities of the Propozycji Club		5,000
	Christmas concert by the Harfa choir – Spotkanie s koledą		4,000
	Activities of the amateur mixed choir Harfa		10 500
Polish Youth Association	International festival of youth creativity		10,000
	Days of Student Culture		5,000
PZKO, Bystřice local chapter	Park Euro Zlot	Municipality of Bystřice	35,000
	Bystrzyca folk ensemble		28,000

Projects supported by other donors

The representative did not state any grants from this source, although the periodical press receives assistance from Poland.

6. What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?

Access to strategic information, the possibility of assessing laws in advance, the defence of our own projects for the support of cultural and publishing activities of minorities, and the opportunity to view other organizations' projects. The opportunity to bring attention to problems in the introduction of European standards.

7. How do you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?

Positively. It is good that they are chosen by consensus and that they have the backing of all Polish minority groups. In the future, they will try to promote a situation where the representatives of other minorities can also prove that they have the full support of their minority.

8. In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)

In all areas (especially grant policy) reinforce the status of traditional minorities living in a particular part of the Czech Republic for centuries (Poles and Germans) and appreciate their contribution to the development of civil society in the Czech Republic, and clearly distinguish them from modern migratory minorities. Preferably by means of a law on the protection of traditional minorities in the Czech Republic.

Reinforce the status of the Council so that it is not just an advisory body, but also so that Council resolutions are binding on the Czech Government (not just declarative).

9. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

- a wide publicity campaign in the media and schools on the history of Poles in the Czech Republic, the benefits and pluses of a multicultural society;
- a wide publicity campaign in the media, municipal authorities and schools on European standards;
- the organization of a trip for Czech journalists to the south Tyrol, to Bukovina in Romania, or other places where two or more nations live next to each other and European standards are applied;
- a publicity campaign to persuade the Czech public that the introduction of European standards is not an invention of national minorities, but an initiative complying with government policy.

ROMA MINORITY⁵⁷⁾

The representative did not reply to some of the questions.

1. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

In the field of Roma issues, a survey needs to be conducted to map out the occurrence of Romani and ethnolects of Czech with specific Roma features. This survey would logically follow up on an investigation in previous years by the agency GAC s.r.o. (see Note 44), which plotted and analysed socially excluded Roma localities. State administration, like the mentioned survey of excluded localities, often works with ‘assigned Roma-ness’, i.e. as viewed by majority society. This concept should be taken into account when addressing social problems, because it is one of the factors in the background. However, the Czech Republic supports numerous cultural manifestations of the Roma community (including the language), which cannot be substantiated by already ‘assigned Roma-ness’. Strictly speaking, the Roma comprise a relatively small national minority (approximately 11,000 people claimed membership of the Roma nationality in the 2001 census). Claiming membership of the nationality, or not, may have been influenced inter alia by the different concept of ‘nationality’ itself among the Roma, along with fears that the information might be misused. Therefore, if the Czech government wants to facilitate the existence of other cultures in its territory and respect their actual state, other data, obtained via a rudimentary survey, need to form the basis when considering the aid intensity to be granted to the Roma culture.

The urgency of this project is currently based not only on the general requirements of state administration, but also on the acceptance of protection explicitly for the Romani language at international level by the ratification of the Charter.

Not least, the research should make a fundamental contribution to Roma studies as an academic field of study, which enjoyed a high standard of international renown in the academic community even under the previous regime.

Its goals include safeguarding the vitality of Romani and ethnolects of Czech in various areas of communication as an expression of cultural heritage worthy of preservation, the mapping of linguistic competence in Romani, social stratification in the use of Romani (geographical

⁵⁷⁾ This text was prepared by Cyril Koky, Council member in 2004 – 2006, and the Council secretariat.

distribution, heterogeneity, density, age structure, sub-ethnic membership, size of settlement, education).

The areas outlined above are the reason for the formulation of point II.1 of the draft resolution, which should ensure funding for the survey.⁵⁸⁾

At this juncture, it is necessary, at least briefly, to mention the problem regarding the eviction of Roma – defaulters on rent and other housing charges – from Vsetín. This event happened at the beginning of October 2006; some were moved to newly built ‘containers’ on the outskirts of the town and others were moved to municipalities outside the province. This could be interpreted as a situation where the state strives to integrate the Roma into society while municipalities and towns try to wash their hands of them (see, for example, section 4.1 – the text by the chairman of the municipality of Kobylá nad Vidnavkou). The whole case attracted public attention and has continued in 2007; it is being investigated by the ombudsman, numerous nongovernmental organizations and the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs. Therefore, we will leave an evaluation of the case for the Report on the Situation of Roma Communities in 2006.

2. *Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)*

The representative did not provide a reply.

3. *What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?*

The opportunity to remark on current problems that burden the community and the opportunity to address individual representatives of ministries directly.

4. *How do you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

Not rated.

5. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

More attention should be paid to the removal of the pig farm in Lety.

6. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

In the Council representative’s opinion, not much will change for the Roma minority. Romani is adequately protected.

⁵⁸⁾ This text was conceived by the submitter of the Report with the assistance of the Roma Studies Department of the Faculty of Philosophy&Arts, Charles University, Prague.

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).*

Ruthenians, via the activities of the *Society of Friends of Ruthenia* and by other means, have profiled themselves much more boldly recently than in the past. This can be attributed to 'newcomers', generally younger and young members of the Ruthenian national minority who have lived in the Czech Republic for a relatively short period and intend to stay here; they have obtained permanent residence in the Czech Republic and often Czech citizenship. Their activities are reflected inter alia by the interest many of them have expressed in joining the Society (SPPR), becoming involved in its activities, working for the executive committee, grant commissions, etc. In some regions (Liberec, Teplice) Ruthenians have expressed provisional interest in setting up a branch of the Society. In Liberec, in cooperation with local activists, an exhibition of photography was prepared that focused on Carpathian Ruthenia, in Teplice there was a public discussion with local Ruthenians, etc. Members of the minority meet at the Society's events (see point 2) and on other occasions – at individual social events, liturgies in church, etc.

A significant long-standing means of communication and vehicle of information (for more than 16 years) has been the periodical *Podkarpatská Rus* (Carpathian Ruthenia). In the SPPR's activities, there is a certain specific feature in its composition: since its inception, in addition to members of the Ruthenian national minority the organization has also accepted Czechs (and certain members living abroad) who are interested in Carpathian Ruthenia, either because of family roots (their families lived and worked there, they were born there, etc.) or because of their interest in the history, culture and art, the cultural monuments and tourism. This 'dual slant' occasionally causes problems in discussions on the focus of activities or on the content of the periodical *Podkarpatská Rus*, which in recent years has primarily been devoted to Ruthenians as a national minority. This is not generally visible in the specific (cultural and other) activities of the SPPR.

2. *Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

In 2006, a number of events, primarily cultural and educational in nature, took place within the framework of the Society of Friends of Ruthenia. Ruthenian members and their invited guests also took part.

For example: the SPPR General Meeting with a cultural programme (the Ruthenia folk group Skejušan, the publication of the two-volume memoirs of General Michal Kričfaluši called *Taking Stock of Time* [Účtování s časem], a meeting to mark the 95th birthday of the legendary Ruthenian footballer Alexa Bokšay (a member of the Carpathian-Russian team SK RUS and subsequently a member of Slavie), a discussion with the historian Karel Richter about the battles of the Ruthenians on the eastern front during the Second World War – on the publication of the book *Účtování s časem*, an exhibition of art and photography on the theme of Carpathian Chapels, a discussion with Jaromír Hořec on his 85th birthday, etc.

The Ruthenian group Skejušan performed, with great success, at the Biennial of Ruthenian and Lemkov Culture in Krynica, Poland, where our artists and photographers also exhibited their work.

⁵⁹⁾ This text was prepared by Agáta Pilátová, a current member of the Council.

3. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

SPPR activists contribute to the activities of the Government Council for National Minorities, although it should be noted that cooperation stagnated somewhat in the past period: the Council member delegated by our organization on behalf of Ruthenians was unable to carry out systematic activities in 2005 – 2006 due to long-term illness; therefore contact between the Government Council and the organization was rather less intensive. However, thanks to the understanding of the Office of the Government matters were handled on an ongoing basis. In cooperation with individual ministries (especially the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and other central and regional institutions and organizations, SPPR members actively and consistently cooperated with public administration authorities (e.g. at Prague City Hall, Brno City Hall; there was also cooperation in Jindřichův Hradec, Chomutov, etc.). In the above-mentioned regions and towns, Society branches also receive support and assistance from public administration authorities. (Cooperation at seminars and cultural events held by Prague City Hall, the lending of rooms for events, financial assistance, etc.)

4. *What was cooperation like with other national minorities?*

The SPPR has the opportunity to cooperate with national minorities primarily in its contribution to the activities of the Government Council for National Minorities and in the competent national-minority bodies in the regions. In addition, several specific opportunities for cooperation with minorities arose, e.g. with the Ukrainian minority (which, at the request of the SPPR, provided a certain number of copies of a manual for immigrants).

The SPPR also cultivates long-term cooperation with Ruthenian minorities in Europe, contributes to the activities of the World Council of Ruthenians, actively participates in World Congresses of Ruthenians (hosted by Krynica, Poland, in 2005; the next congress is planned for Sighet, Romania, in June 2007), and in particular cooperates with the Ruthenian Awakening in Slovakia [Rusínská obroda na Slovensku].

5. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

The problems of the Ruthenian national minority stem from its social status, still lacking roots, in majority society. Ruthenians are still overlooked socially and underestimated to a certain degree; however, it should be noted that recently this has been to a much lesser extent. This can be attributed to the fact that numerous Ruthenians are doing well in the Czech Republic; they have earned a reputation for skill and reliability in business, services and, for example, banking. Nevertheless, it is evident that in the future the dual focus of the Society will have to be addressed, with a reinforcement of the nationality-related mission, achieving a situation where Ruthenians feel the Society is theirs, that it is there for them and represents their interests, and that it is ready to support and help them in mutual communications and in their national self-identification. And, where possible, it will help them tackle problems.

Under a resolution of 7 March 2007, the District Assembly of the Transcarpathian Region of Ukraine recognized the Ruthenian nationality as equal to all other nationalities whose members live in the area. This event – Ukraine had been the only country not to recognize Ruthenian nationality – is likely to improve the self-confidence of Ruthenians living in the Czech Republic, who generally come from the Transcarpathian Region (Carpathian Ruthenia), and contribute to their national identification.

A certain breakthrough for the SPPR and its prestige was an act by the SPPR's executive committee at the end of 2006, when it provided a social guarantee for a court in a specific

case where a Ruthenian woman residing permanently in the Czech Republic found herself in a situation of unpleasant hardship and was treated inappropriately harshly.

6. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

In 2006, financial assistance was granted for the publication of the periodical *Podkarpatská Rus* and other publishing activities (a book by Michal Kričfaluši and Karel Richter called *Taking Stock of Time* [Účtování s časem]), the Carpathian Chapels exhibition and catalogue, and the activities of the Ruthenian section. Grants were awarded by the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Prague City Hall; contributions were also made by Brno City Hall, and the leadership of the towns of Chomutov and Jindřichův Hradec support the activities of the local SPPR branches.

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
SPPR	Material security – exhibitions, lectures, publishing, publicity, stationery.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	121,000
	Podkarpatská Rus - periodical	Ministry of Culture (OKKV)	90,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
SPPR	MFF – Prague Heart of Nations, arrangements for a performance by a folk ensemble, Carpathian Wooden Chapels – catalogue, support of activities by the Ruthenian section – publicity, lectures, etc.	Prague City Hall	75,000

Projects supported by other donors

No assistance is cited here by the representative.

7. What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?

In particular, an increase in the prestige of the Ruthenian national minority per se in majority society; it should not be forgotten that this nationality (i.e. its members) has a specific history and hence specific problems: for more than 40 years it was liquidated, officially discontinued, and did not officially exist. Its members were silently ‘transferred’ to another nationality. That is why the invitation extended to the Ruthenian national minority to join the Council was very important for Ruthenians.

The possibility of contributing to the preparation of analytical and conceptual materials concerning minority issues for the Government, i.e. the managing authorities of the state, the possibility of injecting the experience, observations and the opinions of ‘their’ national minority in these issues, and to a certain extent the chance to influence government policy on minorities.

The Ruthenian representatives can, in the Council (and by extension, of course, on a broader scale), communicate with the representatives of other minorities, exchange information, knowledge, experience, discuss common problems and inspire each other to find a solution.

In this respect, in specific cases it is possible to establish cooperation with the organizations of other national minorities, and take part in their events (in our case this has happened with the Russian and Ukrainian minorities).

8. *How to you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

See above (Question No 3).

9. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

- Legislative issues topical for the status and everyday life of the national minority and its members.
- New immigrants – future Czech citizens and members of minority communities: how to define, or redefine, a member of a minority (only a citizen of the Czech Republic), whether and how to work in these communities (are they interested?), how to help them integrate.
- Czech authorities and members of minorities (foreign nationals).
- Problems stemming from the budgetary rules in force for national minority organizations.
- The media and national minorities (i.e. the Czech media and their interest in the lives and problems of minorities in the Czech Republic).
- The contribution that national minorities make to majority society.
- The European Union and national minorities. Identical features and differences (e.g. in legislation).

10. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

Considering how small the Ruthenian minority is, this is not a topical issue for us.

RUSSIAN MINORITY⁶⁰⁾

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.). Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

In 2007, the most active organizations included the civic association *Russian Tradition* [*Ruská tradice*], the civic association *Russian Cultural Union, Prague* [*Ruský kulturní svaz Praha*], the *Artek Association of Russian-Speaking Students in Prague* [*Spolek Rusky mluvících studentů v Praze Artek*] and the *Union of Russian-Language Writers in the Czech Republic* [*Svaz ruskojazyčných spisovatelů v ČR*]. According to the minority's representative, it was not possible to verify any information about the Russian civic association *Tamina Educational Institute* [*Vzdělávací centrum Tamina*] (formerly the *Russian Institute*).

o *Russian Tradition*

In 2006, the association mainly geared its activities towards the implementation of grant projects supported by Prague City Hall, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Projects implemented with assistance from the City Hall include:

The gala concert *Bravo opera IV* at Municipal House on 25 November 2006 (Grant Project No 1029). The event took place under the aegis of Miroslava Němcová, the Deputy Chairperson of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Parliament, the Embassy of the Russian

⁶⁰⁾ The text was prepared by A. N. Kelin, Council member in the 2004 – 2006 period.

Federation in the Czech Republic, and with the large-scale participation of representatives of the Russian national minority, guests from other national minorities, and prominent representatives of cultural, political and social life in Prague and the Czech Republic (in all there were about 1,000 guests).⁶¹⁾

Participation in and co-organization of the international folk festival *Prague Heart of Nations* on 22 – 26 May 2006 (Grant Project No 1028).⁶²⁾

Exhibition and forum of Russian artists at the Písecká brána gallery on 14 – 28 December 2006, and publication of the art supplement Post Red (Grant Project No 1031).⁶³⁾

Regular meetings of the literary club *Vltava* and an evening of music and literature with the poet Mark Blumental on RSVK premises at Na Zátorce on 24 October 2006 (Grant Project No 1030).⁶⁴⁾

Publication of the book *Exhibition of Orthodox Churches in Bohemia and Moravia and Andrei Kolomackiy* [Výstavba pravoslavných chrámů v Čechách a na Moravě a Andrej Kolomackij] (Grant Project No 2012).

Of the grant projects implemented with the support of the Ministry of Culture, the most significant is the project for the publication of the periodical *Russkoye slovo* [Russian Word], which has been taking place for four years. The periodical is recognized among other periodicals of national minorities for its literary and publicist quality and for the high standard of its graphic design. Members not only of the Russian minority, but also other Russian-speaking foreigners and Russian teachers at various levels of education are interested in the periodical, and it is also popular among those interested in the Russian language and culture.

For the second consecutive year, the children's *Slovo dyetem* was published as a supplement to *Russkoye slovo*; this supplement is supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The supplement is distributed together with the periodical *Russkoye slovo* and part of the print run is targeted at Russian schools in the Czech Republic and schools where Russian is taught as a foreign language.

With the assistance of the Ministry of Culture, and in some instances entirely on its own, in 2006 *Russian Tradition* held numerous concerts, social gatherings, and children's and sports events. The most important events held included:

- New Year's Evening of Russian Tradition with the announcement of prizes awarded by Russian Tradition and *Russkoye slovo* for 2005 (13 January 2006).
- Exhibition of the artists T. Tyumentseva and S. Ivanyuk and the theatre performance Sojuz-Apollon (Medvěd' [Bear] Theatre) at NORA gallery, Praha 4 (4 February 2006).
- Concert by talented child musicians *Ave Dvořák* at the Museum of Music (8 March 2006).
- Exhibition of the painter M. Mikora under the name Jazz Art, and publication of a catalogue of his work (5 April 2006).
- Exhibition of the painters O. Katorgin and I. Cunikova and theatre performance of N. Kosenkovova at NORA Gallery, Prague (20 May 2006).
- Evening of literature devoted to the humorous work of the poet E. Verbin at the coffeehouse U Platona (7 June 2006).
- Slavonic beauty contest *Slavyanskaya krasavica* (October 2006).
- Concert of spiritual music, *Tebe poem*, at the Church of Cyril and Methodius, Prague (7 May 2006).
- Evening for veterans to mark Liberation Day and the anniversary of the end of the Second World War (8 May 2006).

⁶¹⁾ See the report on the concert in the periodical *Russkoye slovo* No 6/2006, pp. 6-9.

⁶²⁾ See the report on the festival in the periodical *Russkoye slovo* No 3/2006, p. 10.

⁶³⁾ See the art supplement in the periodical *Russkoye slovo* Post Red No 1/2006.

⁶⁴⁾ See the report on this event in the periodical *Russkoye slovo* No 6/2006, p. 10.

- Russian Day at the racetrack in Pardubice (17 June 2006).
- Russian Tradition chess tournaments with the prize of the Winter and Autumn Queen (16 February and 7 October 2006).
- Participation in the International Music Festival in Kaunas (29 June – 3 July 2006).
- Literary evening *V shutku i v seryoz...* with the Russian actor V. Lanovy (23 November 2006).
- Children's carnivals in Amarena (September and December 2006).
- 90th anniversary of the monument to Russian prisoners of war in Jaroměř: gathering at the cemetery, concert and book by K. Kracík, *From the Life of Captured Russians in the Czech Lands [Ze života zajatých Rusů u nás]* (7 December 2006).
- Summary notes of a conference on the Second World War, held by Russian Tradition in 2005.

○ ARTEK association

In 2006, the association did not receive any grants from the national budget, and therefore focused on member meetings, which were held regularly throughout the year.

In 2006, *Artek* actively contributed to the preparation and implementation of numerous events organized by other Russian minority associations (especially *Russian Tradition*), and took part in activities at Prague City Hall organized for national minorities. Through its activities, it prepared the basis for work in the House of National Minorities in Prague, where it will carry out its activities with other Russian minority associations. The association chairman figures on the list of persons responsible for the use of premises at the House assigned to the Russian national minority. He is also a member of the Ministry of Culture commission for the subsidization of national-minority periodicals.

○ Russian Cultural Union, Prague

The *Russian Student Theatre* was set up in Prague in June 2006. The prime objective of this project is to practise and present plays in Russian. Another aim is to motivate Russian young people and students studying in the Czech Republic who have an active bent and draw them together into a collective with others in a similar position. The presentation of all drama and other projects is also intended for the general Czech public, with a view to acquainting it in more detail with Russian culture. Two plays were performed in front of a Russian-speaking audience and representatives of the Russian minority who want not only to listen to Russian in the Czech Republic, but also to see Russian output.

Two plays were chosen:

The Tale of Fedot the Shooter. The author of this play is the well-known actor, writer and poet Filatov. The play was written fifteen years ago and became widely known in theatres in Moscow and other cities. It is based on the motifs of Pushkin's epic of the same name; it is the story of a hero whom the tsar sends to various places with impossible tasks to hunt various animals so that he will die. However, he is aided by a girl who was originally a bird and pleaded with the hunter not to kill her. In return, she provided him with assistance as he sought to carry out the tsar's irrational tasks. The play is a modernized version of the tale, applying the original motifs to the present day and indicating the problems of current relations among people.

On Love – as the name states, this production is about love and the relations of the opposite sex, which are close to each of us. This play is a comedy. You cannot find the sense of the production in deep psychological thoughts, nor can you read between the lines; you have to feel it, because everything is as simple, ironic and comic as the feeling of love. Four stories, four couples at various stages of their relationship: dating, consolidation, the thawing of emotions, parting. The stories are different, but each approaches the main theme from four sides. Each couple has its own understanding of love.

Who has not experienced a first date, argument, reconciliation with a loved one, and who has not suffered from the pain and the burden of parting? Everyone who has loved at least once will easily recognize themselves. The production is inspired by real stories.

The association went on its traditional boating trip on the Vltava to mark the 62nd anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising (organizer – Club of Slovak Culture, Czech Union of Freedom Fighters, Czechoslovak Community of Legionnaires, Historical Group of Direct Participants in the Slovak National Uprising and other organizations).

On 25 November 2006, the association represented the Russian minority in Prague in the Soup Contest held among representatives of the unions of foreign nationals, ethnic and national minorities in the Czech Republic, with a side programme. Our entry was the traditional Russian soup *solyanka*. The competition for the best soup was held as part of a third annual festival devoted to the meeting and blending of various cultures, languages and religions in Central Europe. The organizer was the *Prague Multicultural Centre*.

Intensive work is currently under way on the preparation of the first night of a play by the Russian Student Theatre, the fourth annual International Children's Art Festival *Prague Winter's Tale* and many other cultural events.

2. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

Cooperation with public administration authorities can be considered good. There was disquiet when the Prague City Council decided to remove the representatives of national minorities from the Prague City Council's Commission for National Minorities in Prague and thus deprive them of voting rights and all other rights. The representatives of all the national minorities view this decision as a step in the wrong direction, annulling the results achieved by the commission so far. There was also anger at the unofficial explanation that ODS, as the easy winner in the elections, prefers a civil society rather than a society based on nationality principles.

Now that minor disagreements have been cleared up, cooperation among the individual organizations within the minority is very good. Events and activities are mutually coordinated, the members of the diaspora take part in the events of all organizations and associations, irrespective of where they are registered as members.

3. *What was cooperation like with other national minorities?*

Very good, the representatives of minorities are in relatively close contact; they exchange experience and inspire each other in other activities. The Russian diaspora traditionally enjoys its best cooperation with the Ukrainian and Ruthenian minorities.

4. *What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?*

The representative did not provide a reply.

5. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Russian Tradition	Russkoye slovo – periodical	Ministry of Culture	1,200,000
	Slovo detyam – supplement	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	260,000
	Cultural and social activities of Russian Tradition in 2006	Ministry of Culture	170,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Russian Tradition	participation in the festival Prague – Heart of Nations	Prague City Hall	30,000
	Bravo opera IV (concert)		70,000
	VLTAVA – music and literature gatherings of poets and artists		30,000
	Exhibition and forum of artists		40,000
	Publication of <i>Exhibition of Orthodox Churches in Bohemia and Moravia and Andrei Kolomackiy</i>		50,000

Projects supported by other donors

No assistance is cited here by the representative.

6. What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?

The possibility of providing information about the situation in the community and its needs, and the possibility of being kept informed about the plans of government policy in relation to minorities.

7. How to you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?

Positively. He helped numerous matters.

8. In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)

An increase in care for national minorities as regards the opportunities for education, the spread of their mother tongue and culture. This should be manifested in an increase in funding; however, the opposite is true as funding does not factor in inflation and the expansion of communities. According to the president of the *Union of Russian-Speaking Writers in the Czech Republic*, the Council should organize democratic elections of the Council representatives of national minorities.

The question is who has a claim, what sort of organization can call itself a national minority organization and therefore conduct itself as a national minority. Under Czech law, a national minority comprises Czech citizens not of Czech nationality. And can an organization which only has a few Czech citizens call itself a national minority organization when its other

members are foreign citizens. Logically, it cannot. And the question on the ratio of foreign citizens to Czech citizens of the same nationality required in an organization for it to be able to call itself a national minority organization, or otherwise, whether an organization which only has a few Czech citizens can name itself a national minority at all. This is a very serious problem, a question which has not been clearly answered yet, and enables any organization of foreign citizens in the Czech Republic which only has a few – perhaps only one – Czech citizens to call itself a national minority. This issue must be legally clarified with finality.

9. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

The Russian-speaking community does not see the implementation of the Charter as a key problem. In the Czech Republic there is not currently such a concentration of members of this minority for the matters within the competence of the Charter to be topical for it. For the sake of illustration: in Karlovy Vary bilingual signs have appeared spontaneously in line with market requirements.

GREEK MINORITY⁶⁵⁾

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).*

The *Association of Greek Communities [Asociace řeckých obcí] (ARO) in the Czech Republic* is the umbrella group for 12 Greek communities throughout the Czech Republic. Its mission is to ensure mutual cooperation in the arrangement of the social activities of the Greek minority during the year. It mainly entails the coordination of celebrations of important days, such as the official holidays of the Hellenic Republic or *Kopsimo pitas*, and the provision of Greek language lessons.

These activities are financed through the implementation of projects approved by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece.

The *Greek Community of Brno [Řecká obec Brno]* draws together members of the community, persons of Greek origin, their family members and friends. It arranges excursions for members and friends to events organized by other Greek communities, such as meetings of seniors in Šumperk, and participation in the Greek Days in Krnov and Prague, including sports tournaments. It also participates in events organized by ARO in the Czech Republic. Pupils of the Greek school take part in seminars on the Greek language held by other communities or organize such seminars on a reciprocal basis for pupils from the Greek schools of other communities.

The *Greek Community of Karviná [Řecká obec Karviná]* makes arrangements for its members to attend events held by the ARO in the Czech Republic and events organized by other Greek communities.

The *Greek Community of Šumperk [Řecká obec Šumperk]* cooperates well with other Greek communities in the opinion of the president of the community. He also states that ‘We try to be a little active; we visit the events of other Greek communities, such as celebrations of

⁶⁵⁾ The text was prepared by Trifon Moras, Council member in the 2004 – 2006 period.

official holidays in Brno, Jeseník and Krnov. Our dance group took part in *We Can Communicate* in Karviná. I think the members of the individual communities should visit each other more often.'

The *Greek Community of Ostrava* [Řecká obec Ostrava]. Each organization operates autonomously within the Association. The kernel of its activities is those events it plans and organizes itself. Of course, the activities of the individual communities need to be coordinated so that, for example, there is no unnecessary duplicity of events, or so that a joint event of the whole Association can pass off successfully. Information and communication take place on an 'official' level – regular conferences of the representatives of individual communities – and on an 'unofficial' level – family, personal and friendly relations between the members of the individual communities. Funding is secured via the Association and on an individual basis, with communities organizing funding for their own initiatives (grants, subscriptions, sponsorship, etc.).

The *Greek Community of Krnov* [Řecká obec Krnov – město] has held numerous annual events since its inception (see point 2). The community has a dance group, Antigoni, which performs on various occasions within the province. Cooperation with other organizations is standard; communication takes place mainly via the ARO (the setting of common goals, the distribution of grants from the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, or from Greece).

The *Lyceum of Greek Women* [Lyceum Řekyň] – The Lyceum's National Traditions Unit and Holidays and Receptions Unit prepared diverse, interesting events relating to Greek oral traditions for Lyceum members, their family members, friends and others. In January, the New Year Cake, Vasilopita, was cut in Bohumín, where Nikos Kuluris, a member of the Lyceum of Greek Women, performed two compositions for clarinet as part of the programme. In February, carnival costumes were prepared and a carnival afternoon and entertainment was held in Krnov. In May, there was a celebration of May Day, based on the Greek tradition, in Dlouhá Voda, Hynčice u Krnova. Throughout the year, women presented their handmade folk items.

In 2006, the Lyceum of Greek Women cooperated, within the Greek national minority, with the Association of Geek Communities in the Czech Republic, specifically with the Greek Community of Krnov and the Greek Community of Bohumín, where the dance group of the Lyceum of Greek Women performed at a social evening on the occasion of an official holiday. It also cooperated with the endowment fund *Hellenika* on the organization of a thematic trip dubbed 'On the trail of Greek emigration and antique inspiration' in September 2006; the Lyceum's dance group performed as part of a programme in the series *Regions of Greece – Peloponnese*.

The endowment fund *Hellenika* has enjoyed long-standing cooperation with the Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic, presenting the traditional dancing of the Greek diaspora in the Czech Republic. The *Hellenika* endowment fund and the Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic jointly held and co-financed the programme *On the trail of antique inspiration*. In October 2006, the chairperson of the endowment fund was invited by the chairperson of the ARO to a roundtable discussion in Krnov with a view to coordinating the dates of events prepared by Greek minority organizations for 2007.

2. Provide a brief summary of their activities.

In all the ARO communities, celebrations of official holidays of the Hellenic Republic were held in 2006 in March – April and October – November, with the New Year holiday *Kopsimo*

pitás in December. Other activities are in the competence of the individual Greek communities.

Greek language lessons are taught actively and intensively in seven Greek communities. These are the communities in Prague, Brno, Ostrava, Karviná, Krnov, Šumperk and Vrbno pod Pradědem.

Greek Community of Prague – Activities supported with grants from the City of Prague:

○ Cultural, social and educational activities (Project No 1032)

In 2006, two traditional social evenings were organized to mark official Greek holidays. One was held on 25 March in the Vltavská House of Culture, the other took place on 28 October, again at the Vltavská House of Culture. The Community's Akropolis dance ensemble performed at both parties, with dance music from the Akropolis music band. A report for Czech Radio was recorded at the celebration in October.

In April, the Greek Community of Šumperk held a meeting of seniors from the Greek national minority from the whole of the Czech Republic; this was also attended by Community members. The event was a great success; the seniors had the chance, after many years, to meet old friends from children's homes or school preparation centres where they stayed after arriving in the Czech Republic.

In May, there was a trip to Jablonec to meet local compatriots. During the trip, there was a visit to the former young people's home in Chrastav (now a care facility), where many Greek children were accommodated after arriving in the then Czechoslovakia.

○ Akropolis choir and dance group (Project No 1033)

The Community's dance group gave its traditional performances at celebrations of official holidays in Prague and in several other towns, at the festival Prague – Heart of Nations and at many other social events.

○ Lectures, seminars, lessons of Greek (Project No 3009)

Last year, the Community again held several expert seminars and lectures on current issues in its clubroom in cooperation with the Club of Friends of Greece [*Klub přátel Řecka*]. The traditionally free Greek language lessons were also available. Interest in these lessons is steadily rising; in this school year students were split into five courses depending on their proficiency. It is pleasing to note that Czech citizens are becoming more interested and that, thanks to assistance from the City Hall, the lessons can be provided free of charge.

The above-mentioned activities are partially covered by grants from the City of Prague and are partially covered by sponsorship and subscriptions. No other government subsidies were used.

○ Activities supported from other sources

In 2006, the Community published six issues of the periodical *Kalimera*. The articles in this periodical provide information to Community members and other readers about happenings in Greece, the activities of other Greek communities in the Czech Republic, the everyday co-existence of the two nations and activities in the fields of culture, art and history. The Community also publishes this periodical online, enabling it to establish contact with Greeks living in America, Australia and many other places. The Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic awarded a grant for the publication of this periodical.

Every Monday, the Community operates a public library in the clubroom in Krakovská Street.

In 2006, the *Greek Community of Brno* organized celebrations of official Greek holidays, a seminar on Greek language teaching, a seniors' get-together, events for children to mark

International Children's Day, St Nicholas' Day and Christmas. The Community took part in an event held by Jihomoravský kraj Provincial Authority called *Living in the Same City* and events organized by the Chartered City of Brno called *Returning to Roots* and *Brno in the Middle of Europe*. One of the Community's traditional priorities is the organization of quality Greek language lessons, which – due to the high amount of interest – take place four times a work on the Community's premises. The Community's management board informs members and friends about the events it is organizing in writing, over the Internet, and on the Community notice-board. The funding of the Community is mainly secured from the Jihomoravský kraj Provincial Authority, the Chartered City of Brno, the Association of Greek Communities, subscriptions and occasional sponsorship.

The *Greek Community of Jeseník* arranged for its members to attend the Festival of Greek Songs in Zgorzelec, Poland. The Community also organized a cultural and social get-together of members of the Community's Greek minority with members of the Greek minority from Wrocław and Zgorzelec, Poland, along with Czech citizens in the Jeseník micro-region. This get-together was attended by representatives of the Hellenic Republic. The Community inter alia held a Greek dance in Javorník, a Christmas *Kopsimo pitas*, and welcomed in the New Year.

The *Greek Community of Karviná* provides Greek language lessons, and organized an annual assembly to celebrate the 185th anniversary of the Hellenic Republic, a trip for Community seniors to Šumperk, Children's Day at the zoo, Greek Day, OXI, the celebration of a Greek holiday, and the participation of the dance group at a dance workshop in Krnov.

The *Greek Community of Havířov* organized celebrations of official Greek holidays for Community members and friends, a celebration of Greek Easter, a St Nicholas party for children, and a visit to theatre performances of *Greek Passion* and *Zorba the Greek*.

The *Greek Community of Ostrava* provides Greek language lessons for children and seniors, organizes a children's day for its youngest members, traditional celebrations (Easter, Christmas), celebrations of official Greek holidays, and participation in events held by the Association or other communities.

The *Greek Community of Třinec* participated in the *Třinec Day of National Minorities*, and organized celebrations of official holidays of the Hellenic Republic.

The *Greek Community of Krnov* provides Greek language lessons, and organized a carnival, Greek Days of Krnov, Celebrations of official holidays of the Hellenic Republic, and St Nicholas Day for children.

In 2006, the *Lyceum of Greek Women* (National Costumes Unit, National Dances Unit and Art, Music and Rhythm Unit) prepared special, unique performances by its young dancers. In January, the dance group of the Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic launched its activities for the year with a performance at a celebration of Orthodox Christmas in Brno. In March, the dancers performed at the celebrations to mark the official holiday of the Hellenic Republic in Brno. In May and June, there were numerous performances at festivals, especially at the meeting of minorities in Jihomoravský kraj called *Returning to Roots*, which took place in Brno, as well as at the 8th International Folk Festival *Gates Open to Summer (Otvára sa letu brána)* in Považská Bystrica, Slovakia, at F THEATRE in Brno as part of the 9th annual cycle of summer folk evenings, and in Mistelbach, Austria. In September and October, the dancers took part in a get-together of folk ensembles at the National Cultural Monument Vodní mlýn (Water Mill) in Slup on the occasion of the *Bread Festival*, and also performed in Bohumín and Krnov at the celebrations of an official Greek holiday. In December, they demonstrated Greek dances from Peloponnese in the programme *Regions of Greece - Peloponnese*, which was organized by the endowment fund

Hellenika, and then took part in the sixth Christmas concert of national and ethnic minorities *Living in the Same City*, hosted by Reduta, Brno. The smallest dancers from the rhythmic unit performed for the first time in the theatre programme *Heart to Heart*, then at the *Garden Party of DDM Méd'a* and at *Bambiriáda* in Krnov.

In April, the management board of the Lyceum of Greek Women saw the exhibition *Customs and Traditions of the Greek Minority in the Czech Republic*, held in Olomouc, and in September organizes a thematic round trip *On the Trail of Greek Emigration and Antique Inspiration* to Znojmo and Budkov in cooperation with the Hellenika endowment fund. It also published Karolína Hencová's diploma work *Xenitia in Greek Folklore and Literature* in its sample notes.

In 2006, the *Lyceum of Greek Women* in the Czech Republic continued its regular Greek dance lessons, which are held in Brno, Prague, Krnov, Bohumín, Třinec and Karviná.

In addition to these regular courses, the Lyceum organized training for dancers and teachers of Greek dancing with a view to preparations for performances by the Lyceum of Greek Women at prominent cultural events and international festivals. Spring training took place from 29 April to 1 May 2006 in Dlouhá Voda. From 28 September to 1 October 2006, the Lyceum organized a methodological seminar of teachers of Greek dance with a lector of the Lyceum of Greek Women from Kalamata, Nikos Petroulias.

The *Hellenika* endowment fund's HELLENIKA project (preserving Greek cultural awareness) contained five specific programmes of activity in 2006:

- Regions of Greece – Peloponnese
- On the Trail of Greek Emigration and Antique Inspiration
- Development of Greek-Czech Cultural and Social Relations
- Raising Awareness of the Richness of the Greek Language
- Greek Cultural and Training Centre in the Moravian Metropolis

3. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

Representatives of state authorities – the Office of the Government, the Council, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, as well as local authorities in places where the Greek communities are active, are regularly invited to social and cultural events held and organized by the ARO. Therefore, cooperation with these bodies is very good.

The *Greek Community of Prague* assesses cooperation with the ministries and the City of Prague very positively.

In 2006, the *Greek Community of Brno* cooperated with the Brno City Hall Commission for National Minorities on the implementation of the project *Greeks in Brno in 2006* and on the events they held – a get-together of national minorities – and on the implementation of an event organized by Jihomoravský kraj Provincial Authority called *Returning to Roots*.

The *Greek Community of Šumperk* evaluates the cooperation with Šumperk Municipal Authority as excellent. The chairman of the Community mentions the helpfulness of the local officials. I quote: 'They are constructive in all manner of ways. Today we (members of the Greek Community Council) were at an amicable meeting with the municipal chairman, who promised us assistance not only this year, but also – on a broader basis – next year, as the ARO is preparing a dignified occasion to mark the 60th anniversary of the arrival of Greek emigrants to the then Czechoslovakia.'

As far as we are able, we take part in certain events under the aegis of the town (the dance group) and the municipal representatives attend our events (Seniors Get-Together, October Celebration, etc.). We have introduced dance courses for the general public, which in 2007

will be held regularly throughout the year (twice a month). Many of our Czech friends are willing to help us organize entertainment etc.

The *Greek Community of Havířov* – all the regular events of the Greek Community of Havířov are held at the PZKO house of culture. Employees of state administration do all they can to be helpful to representatives of the Community.

The *Greek Community of Ostrava* evaluates the cooperation as good. Last year the Community did not receive a grant from either the provincial authority or the city hall, but assistance was received from the municipal authorities of the boroughs of Ostrava – Jih and Poruba, which is where most Community members live.

The *Greek Community of Krnov* believes that cooperation at local level is very good. The chairman praises the grant policy pursued by Krnov, especially in relation to the annual organization of the Greek Days in Krnov. At regional level, the Community has cooperated with the provincial authority for several years, and rates the cooperation very highly within the scope of the province's grant policy for national minorities.

Lyceum of Greek Women: In the organization of individual events, it invites representatives of state administration at all levels and from region in which the event is to take place. For example, in January 2006, representatives of the town of Bohumín, headed by the mayor, attended the cutting of the New Year cake (Vasilopity).

Hellenika – the Hellenika representative rates the cooperation with the representatives of the City Hall and Jihomoravský kraj as very good. In 2006, the endowment fund cooperated with the management of the municipality of Budkov on the implementation of the project *On the Trail of Greek Emigration*.

4. What was cooperation like with other national minorities?

ARO in the Czech Republic – The representatives of other national minorities (e.g. Bulgarian, Polish, Slovak, German) are regularly invited to take part in the regional activities of individual Greek communities, e.g. Krnov, Jeseník, Karviná, Brno, and Prague.

Greek Community of Brno – the representatives of individual national minorities see each other at regular meetings held by the Jihomoravský kraj Council for National Minorities and the Brno City Hall Commission. Here, they inform each other of events organized by individual associations and their dates. Community members are invited to these events and attend them as far as they are able. The Community rates the cooperation between individual national minorities active in Brno as very good. Cooperation mainly takes place at mutual encounters when joint events are held that have been organized by the Chartered City of Brno or Jihomoravský kraj Provincial Authority. Events are attended in particular by the Community's dance group *Prométheus*, or children from the Greek school perform with a tape of songs and poems.

The *Greek Community of Karviná* mentions cooperation with the Community of Slovaks in the form of mutual visits to celebrate significant days in the calendars of both countries. Otherwise cooperation with the representatives of other national minorities is limited. The Greek minority is still not represented in the competent bodies of Moravskoslezský kraj.

The *Greek Community of Havířov* mentions cooperation with the Polish minority organization PZKO.

The *Greek Community of Jeseník* cooperates with the national minority of Greeks living in Poland, and is keen to intensify cooperation with the Greek minority living in Germany.

The Lyceum of Greek Women enjoys sound cooperation with the Slovak and Bulgarian national minorities in particular. In 2006, the dance group of the Lyceum of Greek Women participated in festivals and programmes for national minorities, e.g. Returning to Roots in Brno and the Christmas programme Living in the Same City in Brno, which is co-organized by an organization of the Slovak national minority.

The *Hellenika* endowment fund enjoys long-standing, good cooperation with the representatives of organizations and associations of national minorities living in Brno, especially members of the Slovak, Bulgarian and Hungarian minority and fellow citizens in the orthodox community.

5. What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?

From the point of view of the ARO, the main problem lies in administration, which is an important part of the ARO's running, especially as regards its funding. To safeguard specific cultural events and Greek language lessons, every year we receive government grants covering a high proportion of the costs, but we do not have financial resources for those drawing up the documentation, or for the administration of the ARO (treasurer, secretary, chairperson). Support from sponsors, where forthcoming, is also in the form of specifically tied funding.

Other associations also express similar regret that the amount of financial grants is inadequate.

6. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
ARO in the Czech Republic	Cultural activities of the Greek minority in the Czech Republic	Ministry of Culture	370,000
	Greek language lessons in the Czech Republic	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	750,000
Greek Community of Bohumín	Significant Days of the Hellenic Republic	Ministry of Culture	10,000
Greek Community of Prague	Kalimera - periodical		420,000
Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	Preservation and development of the culture of the Greek minority in the Czech Republic		130,000
	Lessons of Greek dance	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	200,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Greek Community of Brno	Greeks in Brno in 2006	Brno City Hall	95,000
Greek Community of Jeseník	Special-purpose grant	Jeseník	10,000
Greek Community of Karviná	Minority policy of the Greek Community of Karviná	Karviná Municipal Authority	20,000
Greek Community of Šumperk	National seminar of Greek schools	Šumperk Municipal Authority	3,000
	National seminar of Greek dance groups		2,000
	National meeting of seniors of Greek communities in the Czech Republic		10,000
	Celebration of the Greek national holiday OCHI		25,000
	Greek community activities		15,000

Greek Community of Bohumín	Support and activities of Greek community	Bohumín Municipal Authority	20,000
Greek Community of Havířov	Celebrations of state holidays of the Hellenic Republic (25 March; 28 October)	Chartered City of Havířov	5,000
Greek Community of Ostrava	Celebration of official holiday	Ostrava–Poruba Municipal Authority	13,000
	Celebration of official holiday	Ostrava-Jih Municipal Authority	28,000
Greek Community of Třinec	Cultural and social activities	Třinec Municipal Authority	10,000
	Sports activities		5,000
Greek Community of Prague	Parties, dance group, clubroom	Prague City Hall	100,000
Greek Community of Krnov	Krnov Greek Days 2006	City of Krnov	70,000
Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	Activities of the Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	Jihomoravský kraj	90,000
	Greek traditional dance	Chartered City of Brno	25,000
HELLENIKA endowment fund	Hellenika, preservation of Greek cultural awareness	Jihomoravský kraj	50,000
		Chartered City of Brno	22,000

Projects supported by other donors

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Greek Community of Karviná	Minority policy of the Greek Community of Karviná	Private sponsors	20,000
HELLENIKA endowment fund	Regions of Greece – Peloponnese	Greek Tourism Organization	80,000
Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	Activities of the Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	Kofola, a.s.	70,000

7. *What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?*

The active opportunity to help form jurisdiction on minority issues, direct solutions to problems at roundtable discussions with state administration representatives, and the opportunity to confront directly issues of individual minorities in the Czech Republic, the exchange of experience and the establishment of new contacts and cooperation.

8. *How to you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

There is always room for improvement. Generally, the evaluation is positive.

9. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

As a matter of priority, the Council should concentrate on themes which members of certain minorities currently find most worrisome, in particular signs of racism, nationalism and other maladies connected with this issue.

A solution to the issue of public-service mass media and the programmes they produce regarding minority issues in the Czech Republic.

More efforts in relation to representatives of state administration authorities with a view to increasing the financial assistance available for minorities' cultural and educational projects, focusing especially on language teaching and the publication of minority periodicals.

10. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

As the teaching system in place within our minority is problem-free in relation to the total number of people interested in Greek language lessons, there are no major expectations.

SLOVAK MINORITY⁶⁶⁾

1. *Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).*

HN: Evaluation of the activities of Slovak national minority organizations in *FOSA*: in 2006, Slovak civic associations in *FOSA* cooperated with each other, they met regularly at the discussion Forum of Slovak Activities; together, they drew up and organized several cultural programmes, and wrote joint projects, in the implementation of which *Limbora*, *KSK*, *DOMUS*, *DETVAN*, *Bona fide*, and the *Regional Community of Slovaks* [*Regionální obec Slováků*] Teplice and Ústí nad Labem were the associations that met most often. These programmes, drawn up in a minority setting, were implemented with financial assistance from the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, and Prague City Hall, and with financial assistance from Slovakia, aid from the EU, sponsors and subscriptions.

VS: The Slovak national minority in the Czech Republic is organized into numerous civic associations and other non-profit entities, and it is through such associations that they carry out an unusually large number of cultural, publishing and educational activities. This quantity and quality is in line with the special nature of Czech-Slovak relations and the size of the minority, which is easily the largest in the Czech Republic, and is also the second largest Slovak community in the world. Slovak civic associations cooperate with each other directly and via two rather poorly operating umbrella bodies – *Slovak Forum* [*Slovenské fórum*] and *Forum of Slovak Activities* [*Fórum slovenských aktivit*]. This division is something of an illusion; a more precise division would be into three streams, represented by the *Slovak-Czech Club* [*Slovensko-český klub*], the *Slovak Culture Club* [*Klub slovenské kultury*] and the *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic* [*Obec Slováků v ČR*] as the leading organizations. The Slovak minority associations also communicate with each other in bodies such as the Council, and various advisory bodies at the level of ministries, provinces, towns and municipalities. They also communicate within the *World Association of Slovaks Abroad* [*Světové sdružení Slováků v zahraničí*] (since November 2006, its president has been the representative of Slovaks in the Czech Republic; the representatives of all three above-mentioned streams can be found in its individual bodies) or within the Standing Conference *The Slovak Republic and Slovaks Abroad* [*Slovenská republika a Slováci v zahraničí*]. They also cooperate with each other and with other minorities under the Slovak-Czech Club project *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis*. The national minority's activities were carried out thanks inter alia to assistance from Slovakia, the EU, the International Visegrad Fund, sponsors

⁶⁶⁾ The text was prepared by Helena Nosková (HN) and Vladimír Skalský (VS), Council members in the 2004 – 2006 period (independently of each other).

(including those who donate contributions in kind, e.g. the lending of premises), subscriptions and revenues generated internally (see also 3).

2. *Provide a brief summary of their activities.*

HN: Summary of the most important activities: the International festival *Prague Heart of Nations, Folk Without Frontiers, Dancing Through Life, Steamboat to mark the 62nd anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising* with a cultural programme, the *Slovak Ball* with a cultural programme, programmes at the Slovak Institute (e.g. a film evening with Ján Sebechlebský, *From the Ballad to the Modern*, children's puppet performance of *Let's Tell a Story, Jak Kašpárek Enters the Tale, Come with Us with Poems and Songs into the Story*, the premier of a Vlado Štancel film with KSK aid – *Among Us Friends*, St Nicholas Afternoon with a programme for children, the launch of new KSK (Slovak Culture Club) books, e.g. *Bratislava. City on the Danube [Bratislava, město na Dunaji]*, with a programme for children, expert lectures and discussions for secondary-school students with guests (e.g. Slavomír Michálek: *The Oatis Case*), the Third Prague Conference of Secondary-School Students *Czech and Slovak: Close Languages?* with a cultural programme, calendar-based oral tradition series for children and young people in Prague and in Czech towns, reciting and art competitions for children, exhibitions of Slovak artists in Prague, exhibitions to mark significant anniversaries with lectures and discussions – e.g. *L. Štúr, Between Rationalism and Passion [Medzi racionalitou a vášňou]*, exhibitions on the past and present of Slovaks in the Czech Republic – *100 Years of Slovaks in the Karlovy Vary Area, Aš - a Slovak Town, Landmarks of Prague 3*, etc. The programmes took place in Prague, Karlovy Vary, Aš, Teplice, Žlutice, Plzeň, etc. Limbora took part in foreign folklore festivals, the KSK prepared an exhibition on Slovaks in the Czech Republic for the Days of Foreign Slovaks in Bratislava, which entailed a puppet theatre performance, Limbora prepared an evening of folk performances and a Gala Programme in Bratislava. It also prepared Christmas with Limbora and a Gala Programme to mark the 17th anniversary of the foundation of the Limbora civic association. It took its programme into schools, hospitals with child oncology patients, participated in Prague grape harvest programmes, etc. All the programmes are documented in the periodical *Listy Slovákov a Čechov, ktorí chcú o sebe vedieť* [*Newspaper for Slovaks and Czechs Who Want to Know about Each Other*] and, as of October, on the website at www.klubsk.net.

VS: The Slovak minority publishes four periodicals, of which three are monthlies: the *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic* publishes *Korene [Roots]* (the first Slovak periodical in the Czech Republic), the *Slovak Culture Club* is the publisher of the monthly *Listy* (for Slovaks and Czechs Who Want to Know about Each Other), and the *Slovak-Czech Club* publishes the periodical with the largest scope and print run, the monthly *Slovenské dotyky [Slovak Touches]* (Magazine for Slovaks in the Czech Republic). The first two periodicals have a children's supplement, the third a literature supplement. The *Slovak Literature Club in the Czech Republic* publishes a literary revue, the quarterly *Zrkadlenie-Zrcadlení*.

Slovak organizations also produce non-periodical publications. For example, in 2006 it is worth mentioning the memoirs of the top Slovak writer in the Czech Republic, 'Lubomír Feldek V (OTCOVEJ) PRAHE' [*Lubomír Feldek in (his Father's) Prague*] (published by the *Slovak Literature Club in the Czech Republic* and the *Association of Friends of Slovak Theatre [Spolok priateľov slovenského divadla]*), the completion of the Štúr tetralogy of Zdenka Sojková and the publication *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis* (both published by the *Slovak-Czech Club*).

As regards Slovak social and cultural events in the Czech Republic, there is a strong regional imbalance here: the more than twenty events usually organized in Prague contrasts sharply with the Slovak cultural events in many other towns, including provincial cities. The series of festivals called *Days of Slovak Culture in the Czech Republic* is an attempt to address this problem. It is organized by the *Slovak-Czech Club* in cooperation with local co-organizers, including its own regional branches and collective members. In 2006, there were ten such events; the oldest is the festival in Moravská Třebová (the eleventh year) and the largest is in České Budějovice. In drama, the Café teatru permanent production *Black Swan – Czecho-Slovak Scenes* [Černá labuť – Česko Slovenské Scény] is significant (organized by the civic association *CzechoSlovak Scene* [ČeskoSlovenská scéna], *ArtCity* and the *Slovak-Czech Club*). Regular programmes of traditional culture are organized by the Slovak folk groups *Limbora*, *Púčík* and *Šarvanci*, a further dozen or so groups focus on Slovak folklore as a part of their repertoire. Drama festivals are held regularly – *Slovak Theatre in Prague*, *The Best of Slovak Humour*, *Setkání-Stretnutie* [Meeting] in Zlín, and in 2006 the first festival in Prague’s Kalich Theatre (in all four cases Slovak associations – specifically the *Slovak-Czech Club* and the *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic* – are festival partners in some way). Those folk festivals enjoying a warm reception are *Jánošík’s Ducat* (the co-organizers of which are the folk ensemble *Púčík* and the *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic*) and *Prague – Heart of Nations and Nationalities* (organized by the folk ensemble *Limbora* in cooperation with the *Slovak Culture Club*). The *Slovak Culture Club* and the *Slovak-Czech Club* also have their own comprehensive programmes of cultural activities for the Slovak minority, within the scope of which they run a wide range of operations – club evenings, exhibitions, concerts, programmes for children, etc. The *Slovak Literature Club* in the Czech Republic organizes the successful Ján Kollár Literary Competition in three age categories to find the best prose work in Slovak or with a Slovak theme. The *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic* awards the Matěj Hrebenda Prize for contributions to Czech-Slovak relations. Significant cultural and educational events were also organized by the Slovak choir of the *Evangelical Church* [Evangelické církve a. v.] in the Czech Republic, and the Greek Catholic Church also has a Slovak choir. In Prague there is also the *Slovak Ball* (*PosAm* together with the *KSK*) and the *Czechoslovak Ball* (*Zuza Art Production* together with *OS v ČR* and the *SČK*), in České Budějovice there is also a *Czechoslovak Ball* (Chartered City of Č. Budějovice and the *SČK*), and in various other towns there are smaller balls, rag days, etc. (often with cooperation from the *OS v ČR*); after a break, the traditional steamboat trip has been resumed to mark the anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising (*Historical Group of Direct Participants in the Slovak National Uprising* and the *KSK*). Cultural activities in the *Slovak-Czech Club* (*SČK*) project *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis* have an international aspect. The Office for Slovaks Living Abroad, in cooperation with the largest associations (*KSK*, *OS v ČR*, *SČK*, *Limbora*, *Slovak Literature Club* in the Czech Republic), organized Days of Culture of Slovaks from the Czech Republic in Bratislava, which involved joint programmes such as an exhibition and gala programme, and each of the associations had its own agenda. We consider this presentation a significant step in the right direction.

3. What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?

HN: The cooperation of national minorities and public administration authorities was very good, especially in Prague, Karlovy Vary, Liberec and Aš.

VS: The Slovak national minority actively cooperated with public administration at governmental level (three representatives in the Council, members in its committees and commissions), at ministerial level (two advisory bodies of the Ministry of Culture, an

advisory body of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport), and also at provincial and municipal level. In 2006, the Prague City Hall prepared intensively for the opening of the House of National Minorities (there are two Slovak minority representatives in the commission). Cooperation was excellent with regional authorities within the scope of the project Days of Slovak Culture in the Czech Republic; it is worth highlighting the standard of cooperation with Jihočeský kraj, Královehradecký kraj, Pardubický kraj, Vysočina kraj, Praha 1 Borough, Praha 7 Borough, České Budějovice, Moravská Třebová, Plzeň, Kroměříž, Jihlava, Olomouc and others.

4. What was cooperation like with other national minorities?

HN: Cooperation with other national minorities was very good. *KSK*, *Limborá*, and *DOMUS* cooperated with the associations of other national minorities, e.g. the *Union of Russian Culture*, *Russian Tradition*, *Ukrainian Initiative*, the *Union of Lužice Serbs*, the *Cultural Union of Germans in the Czech Republic*, and *Romea*. *Romea* and the *KSK* helped each other with the lending of premises and the organization of educational events and events for children, and there was also cooperation in this respect with the *Union of Lužice Serbs*. The *KSK* and the *Union of Russian Culture* contributed to the organization of the 3rd International Art Festival *Russian Winter's Tale*, and the *Union of Russian Culture* contributed with the *KSK* and *Limborá* to the preparation of the steamboat trip to mark the Slovak National Uprising.

VS: Cooperation with other national minorities is steadily consolidating. In 2006, thanks in particular to the international project *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis*, focusing on mutual national minorities in the countries of the Visegrad Four, organized by the Slovak-Czech Club with assistance from the International Visegrad Fund. This cooperation concerned the Polish and Hungarian minorities. There was also intensive cooperation in individual projects with the Roma, Ruthenian and Ukrainian minorities, partly in connection with the fact that many members of these minorities and the Hungarian minority have their roots in Slovakia. Joint drama and art projects were realized with the Russian minority and folk events involved cooperation with all the minorities.

5. What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?

HN: The only problem is the division of the Slovak civic associations into two parts – *FOSA* and *Slovak Forum*, which do not communicate with each other, due to the incorrectly interpreted representation in the Council (see below).

VS: The main problem is the gradual loss of Czech-Slovak passive bilingualism – we believe the causes lie in the lesser occurrence of the Slovak language in the electronic media, especially on public-service Czech Television, and in the Czech education system, although in this sphere certain progress has been made thanks to an initiative of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and expert centres.

Another significant problem is the gradual but steep fall in the level of financial assistance for the activities of the Slovak national minority made available by the Czech Republic. This fall is pronounced compared to other minorities. We believe the only solution is to increase the binding indicators of the national budget concerning the grant schemes for national minorities under the budget heading of the Ministry of Culture. The Council and the competent departments of the Ministry of Culture have made this proposal repeatedly for six years, without result.

A certain problem, albeit not so important, is the inadequate standard of communication between some entities of the Slovak national minority. The reasons are not fundamental, but personal. A sudden change in the opinion of the representatives of the *Slovak Culture Club* meant that a joint

discussion platform for the Slovak national minority was not established as planned – instead two arose. The roots of this problem stretch back to 2004, when, based on an initiative of the *Social Culture Club*, the three main organizations (the *KSK*, the *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic*, and the *Slovak-Czech Club*) decided to reorganize the discussion platform. They agreed on the pillars, as evidenced by the signatures of two leaders from each organization. During the official act of establishing the *Slovak Forum*, the *KSK* announced that it would not honour its commitment and would not enter the forum because this move had not been approved by the *KSK* Council; instead, it said it would attend meetings as an observer (and in fact did so for several months). Later, the *KSK* announced that it would revive the activities of the umbrella organization under the original name of *Forum of Slovak Activities*. In spite of this schizophrenia, coordination and communication exists, as does specific cooperation through these fictitious boundaries. We consider the emphasis of the disputes between the two umbrella organizations to be buck-passing ideological justification for what is purely interpersonal aversion to communication among a handful of persons. That said, this situation can be considered temporary because there are virtually no real programme reasons for it to continue.

6. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities⁶⁷⁾

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Slovak Culture Club	Development of the culture of the Slovak national minority and preservation of Czech-Slovak continuity in 2006	Ministry of Culture	675,000
	Documentation of the Slovak minority and Czech-Slovak relations in 2006 -- KSK v ČR, DOMUS		120,000
	Publication of the periodical <i>Listy Slovákov a Čechov</i> in 2006		2,000,000
	Cultural activities of the Slovak Cultural Club in 2006 and in respect of the month of Czech-Slovak reciprocity		10,000
	Slovak and Czech – Close Languages?	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	220,000
Slovak Literature Club in the Czech Republic	Slovak literature in images	Ministry of Culture	50,000
	Publication of the book <i>Ľubomír Feldek v Prahe [Ľubomír Feldek in Prague]</i>		40,000
Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic	???		

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

At the level of provinces and municipalities, there was support for the regional branches of the *Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic*, collective members of the *Slovak-Czech Club* and autonomous entities such as the *Půčik* folk ensemble in Brno. Support for the Days

⁶⁷⁾ The authors provide an incomplete summary of supported projects within the scope of the programmes run by the Ministry of Culture (support for cultural activities and support for the dissemination and acceptance of information in the languages of national minorities) and a scheme run by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

of Slovak Culture took place directly with the coverage of costs, provision of premises and equipment, etc.

Projects supported by other donors

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (SKK)</i>
Slovak Culture Club	Slovakia today, from the point of view of its closest neighbour Slovak and Czech – Close Languages	Office for Slovaks Living Abroad (Slovakia)	60,000
	62 nd anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising – Steamboat 2006		60,000
	Website of the KSK and the periodical Listy		100,000

Not specified. The Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic, which runs a grant scheme for the support of foreign Slovaks, classifies associations of the Slovak minority in the Czech Republic among long-term grantees (see <http://www.uszz.sk/index.php?ID=2117>). The total amount of grants made available for these associations was SKK 2,446,500.

7. What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?

HN: The Slovak minority is divided into two parts. The representatives of *Slovak Forum* did not agree with the view that they are representatives of all Slovak associations (see the discussion on projects in the past few years, the presentation of the Slovak minority in the Council). Therefore, the *FOSA* representative was also forced to withdraw from this notion because he could not realize it versus the two other representatives.

For the Slovak associations under the *Forum of Slovak Activities*, representation in the Council is important because, through the sole representative, we obtain relevant information about the discussed issues concerning fundamental documents, e.g. the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. We are kept informed of the activities of various commissions, about advertisements for projects, about the possibilities of cooperation with various organizations, etc.

Bearing in mind the division of Slovak associations and their representatives in the *Forum of Slovak Activities* (no member in the Council from 2002 to 2004, one member from 2004 to the present) and the *Slovak Forum* (two members since 2004, two independent members from the same associations prior to 2004), it is complicated to comment further on this question because one member from *FOSA* cannot impose his opinion in the Council as he is always outvoted by the two votes of the *Slovak Forum* representatives. On behalf of *FOSA*, we brought attention to the differences in the activities of Slovak associations in *FOSA* and the *Slovak Forum* in 2005 – 2006.

VS: The representation of the Slovak minority in the Council is important for this minority as a source of information, a coordinating and initiative-taking body, even though its conclusions are not sufficiently respected. An example is the vain attempt to increase the binding indicators of the national budget. In 2006, the Slovak minority had three representatives in the Council: Štefan Medzihorský, Helena Nosková, and Vladimír Skalský. Helena Nosková raised objections to the fact that believed the other two members had a majority over her. It should be added, however, that in the overwhelming majority of cases the Council takes decisions as a body, i.e. the ‘majority’ she refers to is not at all possible. In several cases it is essential for representatives for a specific minority to reach a consensus; in all these cases there was considerable effort to reach a consensus, which was not always easy to come to. This resulted, for example, in the failure to answer one of the questions in the previous report

(for 2005) because it was impossible to formulate a joint opinion. We consider this phenomenon to be undesirable and temporary; at the same time, however, it should be noted that a compromise was reached in the other points, evidencing that frank negotiations took place between all the representatives.

8. *How to you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?*

HN: The representatives of the *Slovak Forum* and the representative of *FOSA* do not cooperate with each other. Given the inequality of the three votes, the *Slovak Forum* representatives have no intention of cooperating and all three met together for the last time in 2004. The *Slovak Forum* representatives do not need to hold discussions with the sole *FOSA* member; without the knowledge of the *FOSA* representative, and hence without the knowledge of associations in *FOSA*, they promote opinions and requirements without regard to associations in *FOSA*. The third representative is not invited to their strategies. In 2005 – 2006 the *Slovak Forum* representatives made some fundamental errors which, as functionaries of the Council and commission members, they should not have made. The Council had to discuss the situation at its March session; the subsequent May session removed the problem from the agenda. Therefore, the current work by the Slovak representatives cannot be rated positively, even in the case of the one *FOSA* member, whose vote cannot be heard at Council meetings. In this respect, we believe that the representatives of associations should not sit on commissions of those ministries awarding grants; they should be replaced by persons free of all minority membership.

VS: A positive factor is clearly the intensive involvement of some of the Slovak minority's representatives in the issues discussed by the Council. This is particularly pertinent, for example, as regards communication with the ministries and Parliament, especially in national budget issues and the implementation of grant schemes, or international projects such as *Visegrad – Terra Interculturalis*, which was launched with a press conference at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic attended by both deputy chairpersons of the Council in cooperation with the Council Secretariat. A clear downside is the open disputes caused by one Council member with some of her submissions.

9. *In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)*

HN: After consultation with the statutory representatives of associations in *FOSA* and other representatives of the national minority, we have formulated the observations below, which are not requests or requirements. They are merely the opinions of one part of the minority.

We believe that the Council should discuss the elimination of pressure on members in various grant commissions, which is not an easy task. In practice: a certain Slovak civic association incorrectly completes the grant form, including major errors in the budget, and therefore the application for financial assistance must be disqualified because of the errors. The Slovak representative present in the commission is then accused by non-self-critical representatives of an association of deliberately damaging that association, and a petition is submitted for the representative to be removed from the commission. Although the commission member is an expert in the matter at hand, and as an expert genuinely avoids favouritism and discrimination, and furthermore does not comment on and is unable to vote on the grants of the member's own minority in these cases, the commission member is still replaced with another representative of the Slovak minority who is from the ranks of *Slovak Forum* sympathizers.

The Council has to address expert problems and therefore its members should be sufficiently informed about the issues, just like members of the individual commissions. I believe, then, that future members nominated by minorities, in cases of a large minority in the Czech Republic, should pass through some form of competition if there is disagreement concerning their appointment (or if there is a large number of nominees) in order to determine their practical knowledge of the activities carried out by the civic associations of minorities. From experience, we know that many seek Council membership for reasons other than actually working in the Council. One of the reasons is that this position comes with a certain prestige. The prestige should be preserved and a requirement for this is ethics, expertise, diligence, and the refusal to manipulate.

The Council should place an emphasis on the cooperation of various national minorities with each other in various programmes. Minorities should mutually recognize the richness of their cultures and language. Rules for the support of national minorities' programmes should be stricter: whether to contribute to the import of culture from the motherland, in which case the minority plays the role of an agency, or whether to contribute to authentic programmes arising within the minority's setting in the Czech Republic. In some countries, the institutions have introduced the award of a tolerance prize to a minority member, magazine or newspaper for a given year. The winner is announced on Tolerance Day, 16 November, and receives a certificate and a symbol (e.g. a cuddle zebra because it harmonizes black and white, etc.). We would welcome this consolation prize and assessment of ethics.

VS: In our opinion, the Council should deal with a longer-term concept of policy relating to national minorities – the concept could cover a period of five or ten years.

In our view, a topical theme is bilateral cooperation in the field of the mutual support of national minorities. There are clear indications that in the case of the Slovak minority in the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic is very interested in similar cooperation based on the model of existing mixed Hungarian-Slovak and Slovak-Ukrainian commissions.

The Council should strive to increase its clout and try to assert its resolutions more effectively, especially as regards the preparations for the national budget. It should also help acquaint applicants better with the grant schemes and contribute to making the process of their administration more precise.

We are also in favour of a greater emphasis on the mutual cooperation of national minorities and the establishment of a tolerance prize for the representatives of minorities.

10. *What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?*

HN: The Slovak minority expects a significant expansion in the use of the Slovak language in the mass media, schools and regions. A 'problem' is that most Slovaks in the Czech Republic prefer the quality of cultural enjoyment and therefore only quality programmes succeed (Czech and Slovak). We are compelled to note, with criticism of our own ranks, that not all Slovak programmes emerging from the environment of the minority are of a decent quality. This mainly concerns publications which, were it not for the fact that they are minority publications subsidized from the national budget, would never have seen the light of day. It is then difficult to demand that Czech Slovaks or Czechs read them if there is ample other good-quality literature on the shelves. The same can be said of certain cultural programmes.

VS: The Slovak minority expects to see progress primarily in the fields of electronic media and education. It has registered certain changes in the form of a methodological manual for primary school teachers. The Slovak minority is preparing a project for the establishment of a Slovak nursery school, as well as club activities for primary school pupils and secondary school students. It also considers the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages to be a

guarantee of the Slovak language's preserved, specific status in the Czech Republic's legal system. The Charter is also a major impulse for Czech Slovak studies, especially on a university level. We view the setup of an autonomous grant scheme for the implementation of the Charter's objectives which are not currently covered by existing schemes to be a major plus. The current schemes are intended for the protection of minorities, not languages in line with the spirit and content of the Charter.

SERBIAN MINORITY⁶⁸⁾

1. ***Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).***

In 2006, members of the Serbian minority in the Czech Republic continued their organized cultural and social life. The *Serbian Association of St Sava* [Srbské sdružení sv. Sávy] continued its planned activities and efforts to present the Serbian minority to majority society in a quality manner and to a high standard, thus contributing to multicultural co-existence in the Czech Republic. After five years of organized activity by this association, the members of the Serbian minority started realizing the immense significance of the association's operations, both internally (within the minority) and externally. The number of association members and sympathizers in the past year shot up, and more members of the minority became involved in the association's activities.

2. ***Provide a brief summary of their activities.***

In 2006, the *Serbian Association of St Sava*, i.e. members of the Serbian minority, realized two important projects with assistance from the Ministry of Culture (Department for Regional and Nationality Culture) and continued the successful publication of the periodical in the minority's own language – *Srbské slovo* [Serbian Word]. Last year, members of the association, the minority's only organization in the Czech Republic, met regularly at club meetings held every Saturday. During the summer – in July and August – there were no club meetings. The coordinator and implementer of club meetings was an association member, and club premises were hired for the realization of the project. In the last year, three holidays important for the Serbian nation were celebrated for the first time. The first was held on 27 January, the feast of St Sava, which is also an official holiday in Serbia. Those association members present and representatives of the Embassy were particularly moved, and we all sang songs devoted to St Sava. The periodical *Srpska reč* [Serbian Language] printed a two-page supplement with photographs from our celebration. Another folk and official holiday we celebrated was Easter, which last year fell on 23 March according to the Julian calendar. Again, the periodical *Srpska reč* printed a two-page supplement with photographs from the celebration. Another official holiday was Vidovdan, a significant day in Serbian history; we celebrated only with a reminder of the history and its fateful significance for the Serbian nation. Unfortunately we did not undertake our long-standing wish to visit, on this day, the cemetery in Jindřichovice pod Smrkem, which holds the graves of 7,254 Serbs, Serbian prisoners of war from the First World War. At the regular club meetings we also remembered feast days such as Djurdjevdan and St Nicola, but on these occasions limited ourselves to a talk on the life of the saints without celebratory tables.

⁶⁸⁾ The text was prepared by the new Council member Karin Kubešová.

During the year, club meetings were enriched with lectures by prominent association members, and we invited a guest from Belgrade. In terms of theme, the lectures were linked to major figures from Serbia culture or history. The lectures were held on Saturdays and were delivered in Serbian.

The Serbian Association of St Sava has a high number of members who are artistically gifted or are by profession artists. The members of the *Serbian Association of St Sava* include more than ten architects and almost a dozen artists. In 2006, the works of three members, Margita Zmijanović, Milovan Rajković and Predrag Novaković, were exhibited within the scope of the project *Three Exhibitions of Members of the Serbian Minority*. The exhibitions were held at the Novodvorská community centre. Margita Zmijanović, a painter and academic painter, presented her drawings and pastels. The exhibition of the *Projects and Work* of Milovan Rajković, who has lived in the Czech Republic for 35 years and is the author of 1,000 projects and works, offered a glimpse of just a fraction of his work. We are confident that we will continue to present the work by this member in the future. The last of the three exhibitions was an exhibition of the watercolours of Predrag Novaković.

The periodical *Srbské slovo* regularly announced these exhibitions and the presentation of the work of these three association members was of a high aesthetic standard. It showed that the association, after five years of presenting Serbian culture, knows how to organize such events. In the future, it plans to continue presenting the work of its members who specialize in art or literature, and in this respect we are confident that we will receive assistance from the Ministry of Culture. At this point, we would like to extend our gratitude once again to helpers from the Ministry's Department of National and Regional Culture for their constructive approach and assistance. *Srbské slovo*, the periodical of the Serbian minority in the Czech Republic, is published every two months with a print run of 800 copies. The periodical focuses on the culture, awareness, history and current status of Serbs in the world and in the Czech Republic. The periodical's editing team tries to provide readers with as much news as possible from home and from the motherland, and also strives to print trustworthy, informed articles on the history of Serbia and the Czech Republic. So far, it has printed a serialized essay and pages devoted to Czech-Serbian cultural relations in the past. Regular sections are: a children's page, a recipe page and a page on curative plants. The periodical also regularly provides information about the activities of the *Serbian Association of St Sava*. We also presented *Srpska reč* in Serbia, informing the Ministry for the Diaspora of Serbia, the Foreign Ministry, the State Library, the Academy of Sciences and other ministries of the publication of the periodical, with a stress on the fact that it would be hard for us to publish the periodical without the financial assistance of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, which has enabled the Serbian minority to have a periodical in its own language. In Serbia, too, the periodical was received exceptionally well. Last October, there was a presentation of the periodical at the stand of the Ministry for the Diaspora of Serbia, attended by the deputy minister, at the International Book Fair in Belgrade.

3. *What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?*

Unfortunately, we are compelled to stress an unpleasant matter for the Serbian minority which occurred at the beginning of 2006. The Serbian association submitted five projects in the grant award procedure of Prague City Hall; these projects were designed to contribute to the development of a multicultural society in Prague and raise the minority's profile. The projects were rated positively by two independent assessors, who were unknown to us, and specific financial amounts were proposed for the support of these projects. Regrettably, the grant commission refused all the association's applications, resulting in a situation where the

Serbian minority did not receive a penny from Prague City Hall for the support of its activities in 2006. Members of the Serbian minority felt a certain degree of discrimination had come into play because in 2006 only the Serbian minority did not receive any funding at all for the support of its activities; we believe this feeling was entirely justified. The association submitted a request to Councillor H. Halová to revisit the original assessments of the projects, but the City Hall did not adopt a constructive approach. As the *Serbian Association of St Sava* is a non-profit organization, despite the sacrifices of members who organize activities free, and despite the realization of projects without any profit, it is evident just how much its existence depends on the support of the City of Prague and other institutions.

4. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Serbian Association of St Sava	Srpska reč (periodical)	Ministry of Culture	600,000
	Club meetings of the Serbian minority		90,000
	Three exhibitions of members of the Serbian minority in Prague		70,000

The minority's representative did not answer the other questions.

UKRAINIAN MINORITY⁶⁹⁾

1. Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).

In 2006, the Ukrainian minority organizations were active with their own projects, based on mutual awareness and cooperation. Communication between Ukrainian organizations in the Czech Republic takes place in the form of working meetings, and by means of electronic correspondence and letters. The organizations have their own membership base; individual administrators are responsible for income, including membership fees, in accordance with laws and statutes in force. The organizations regularly take part in grant award procedures, especially within the scope of state and local administration (the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, city halls, etc.).

2. Provide a brief summary of their activities.

The organizations contribute to the preparation of the *Days of Ukrainian Culture in the Czech Republic* (a week of events in the autumn), organize cultural activities for members of Ukrainian nationality in the Czech Republic, contribute to the integration of newly arriving citizens from Ukraine, preserve Ukrainian cultural traditions and maintain awareness of the historical and current legacy of Ukrainians in the Czech Republic by means of educational activities.

⁶⁹⁾ The text was prepared by Bohdan Rajčinec, Council member in the 2004 – 2006 period.

3. What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?

Cooperation with public administration authorities can be considered positive. In addition to the City of Prague, there are specific forms of cooperation in other Czech cities (Brno, Ostrava, Plzeň, Chomutov, Zlín, Teplice, etc.).

4. What was cooperation like with other national minorities?

We rate cooperation with other national minorities positively at official level and at the level of specific projects and discussions.

5. What problems were there in the lives of the communities of national minorities?

The Ukrainian community believes there are problems in the form of prejudice against the Ukrainian national minority in general, despite the constant activity by the minority's organizations, NGOs, specialist centres, academic groups and subsidized entities, the position of the Ukrainian minority is viewed more neutrally.

6. Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

organization	project, purpose of grant	donor	grant (CZK)
Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic [Ukrajinská iniciativa v ČR]	Porohy (periodical)	Ministry of Culture	570,000
	Days of Culture		150,000
	Ukrainian Club		250,000
Ruta civic association	Ukrajinský žurnál		891,000

Projects supported by municipalities / chartered cities / provinces

organization	project, purpose of grant	donor	grant (CZK)
Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic	Cultural activities	Prague City Hall	110,000

Projects supported by other donors

organization	project, purpose of grant	donor	grant (CZK)
Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic	Support of an integration project for Ukrainians on the labour market	Civil Society Development Foundation	362,000

7. What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?

The representation of the Ukrainian minority in the Council is important for the presentation of opinions and initiatives to be handled by the Czech Government.

8. How do you rate the work of your representatives in the Government Council for National Minorities so far?

The representative did not provide a reply.

9. ***In your opinion, what themes should the Government Council for National Minorities address? (specify in points, where appropriate with brief comments)***

As a matter of priority, the Council should address the proposals put forward by representatives of national minorities in the light of the various needs of national minorities, in particular:

- communication with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the integration of foreign nationals in the light of the Czech Republic's foreign policy,
- the possibilities of submitting comments in comment procedure within the scope of communication with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as regards certain foreign-policy issues,
- proposals for a change to the Czech Government's grant policy within the scope of national minorities,
- a concept for the support of minority organizations whose members are not Czech citizens,
- a long-term concept of the Council's work, with an outlook covering the period after the end of the Czech Republic's Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

10. ***What expectations does your community have in connection with the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages?***

The representative did not provide a reply.

JEWISH COMMUNITY⁷⁰⁾

1. ***Evaluate the activities carried out by organizations of your national minority (inter alia their mutual cooperation, method of communication within the minority community, the method financing their activities, etc.).***

In general, the situation of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic has not changed much since the previous year. We remain representatives of the Jewish community, which in the overwhelming majority of cases does not claim the status of a national minority. The Federation is registered with the Ministry of Culture within the meaning of Act No 3/2002 on churches and religious societies. Its affiliate members include several civic associations. In this respect, we can cite the relevant passages from the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in 2003.

More information about the Jewish community is available from www.fzo.cz. The Federation has planned an Annual Report of the *Forum Against Anti-Semitism*, which will be published in mid-April. The report indicates that in 2006 there was a fall in the number of statistically recorded anti-Semitic attacks in the Czech Republic.

2. ***Provide a brief summary of their activities.***

Lauder Schools: *Gur Arje* Primary School and *Or khadash* Grammar School⁷¹⁾

Until the end of the 18th century, Jews in the Czech Lands educated their children exclusively in their own schools. It was not until Emperor Joseph II issues a decree in 1781 that they were

⁷⁰⁾ The text was prepared by a permanent guest of the Council, Tomáš Kraus, and the Council Secretariat.

⁷¹⁾ The text was prepared by reference to an article by Radka Kvačková entitled 'We are a church school, not a religious school', 24 November 2006, *Lidové noviny*.

permitted to attend other schools, including universities. However, assistance was also made available for the establishment of secular Jewish schools with state supervision and lessons in German, mathematics, geography and ethics. Most German Jewish schools were closed at the end of the 19th century and replaced by the separate teaching of religion at public schools. In pre-war Czechoslovakia, there were also independent Jewish schools, such as the Elementary Jewish School in Prague, the Jewish Grammar School in Brno, and the Jewish Grammar School in Mukachev. A significant chapter in the history of Jewish education was the illegal teaching of children in the Terezín ghetto and other concentration camps. After the war, Jewish schools were not reopened, and after 1948 the state also dropped the traditional teaching of religion and the teaching of Hebrew in language schools. After November 1989, religious teaching was renewed by the Jewish Community in Prague and later, with the assistance of the Roland S. Lauder Foundation, a nursery school was opened, followed by a primary school and, in 1999, a grammar school.

At the grammar school established in 1999 (called Or khadash – ‘New Light’) candidates take entrance examinations just like anywhere else. Last year the school accepted 16 of the 25 candidates. It held an open day on 30 November. However, it is also possible to transfer to a Lauder school (including the primary school) during the year. Because Hebrew, which is the main distinguishing feature, is taught in groups based on proficiency rather than age, it is possible to start with the beginners or attend a class of the relevant level. The classrooms are small, but there are many of them. Some are filled with computers, others with musical instruments, including a drum, while others are used as art workshops.

The head teacher, Kateřina Dejmalová, describes the school’s characteristics as follows: ‘We are a church school, not a religious school. Although we offer Hebrew prayers in the morning before lessons begin, participation is voluntary. Of the 80 primary school pupils and 53 grammar school students, ten at most go to prayers on a regular basis.’ The Lauder school has Jewish studies (Judaism). Hebrew lessons become compulsory in the sixth grade. ‘Eighty per cent of the school’s pupils have at least one Jewish grandparent, but we are open to everyone. Candidates who come from a non-Jewish background are only asked why they chose our school,’ says the head teacher. In most cases they say that Judaism simply interests them; others are just looking for an alternative to a normal school and a partner-based approach from teachers. Of the 132 pupils and students, 32 are foreigners, who are mainly children whose parents work in the Czech Republic (a programme of Czech for foreigners is provided to these pupils and students). There are also pupils from Christian and atheist families here. Incidentally, at one time the Lauder school also offered Arab lessons; according to the head teacher these lessons are not available at the moment only because there is no teacher to teach this subject.

3. What was the cooperation like between national minority organizations and public administration authorities at all levels and in all relevant regions?

As regards the cooperation with local authorities, last year the Federation of Jewish Communities was invited to cooperate with the City of Prague Council’s Commission for National Minorities. Some Jewish communities have cooperated with local authorities for many years.

4. ***Provide a summary of the financial assistance granted to the organizations of your national minority by donor (national budget, the budgets of provinces, towns and municipalities, other donors)***

Projects supported by central state administration authorities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>donor</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bejt Simcha	Publication of the magazine <i>Maskil</i>	Ministry of Culture	465,000

7. ***What does representation in the Government Council for National Minorities mean for your national minority community?***

The very fact that a representative of the Federation is invited to its meetings is an example of good practice. This gives us the opportunity to react to topical stimuli in the field of legislation and contribute our experience and views to issues common for all minorities. In this spirit it is necessary to mention the problems our community has faced (racism, anti-Semitism). This links us in particular with the issues of the Roma community, and we welcome cooperation in the field of criminal law, as well as in the fields of education and prevention.

Annexes

Examples of the Czech Police Force's work with minorities in the regions

BOHUMÍN

In cooperation with the *Silesian Diacony Community Centre* in Bohumín, police officers held five public discussions with citizens from socially excluded communities on the themes of usury, crime prevention, credit fraud, issues related to marriage with Vietnamese citizens, non-alcohol-related drug addiction, etc. Thanks to this contact, several cases of marriages in return for bribes were documented in time, which forestalled the prosecution of individual participants.

BRNO

Police offices printed leaflets entitled *Don't become a white horse*, which bring attention to a problem commonly encountered by Roma where, in an effort to obtain funds, they are lured by con artists and, in return for instant financial remuneration, they take on credit which they are unable to repay. Another leaflet has been produced that draws attention to the new Highways Act. Both leaflets were distributed to Roma centres, Roma advisers and field workers of Brno City Hall.

The *Brno City Directorate* holds regular roundtable discussions with all institutions in Brno which deal with the integration of minorities into society, work closely with the nongovernmental sector, especially the *Drom* centre (a police information board and anonymous police advice centre for crime victims and witnesses have been set up here), *I.Q. Roma Servis* and others. It takes an active part in Brno City Hall's community planning of social services and contributes to decision-making processes in this field.

Another police project run by the Brno City Directorate is *People from the Street for People from the Street*, which is connected with many other local activities in the field of minority policing. The aim is to establish and maintain cooperation between police patrols and field social workers from nongovernmental organizations, Brno City Hall, and local borough authorities, as well as teaching assistants in schools in those areas of Brno which have a high concentration of minorities. During their work on the city streets, police officers on the beat and field workers are the first to come into contact with potential problems in these localities. Police officers and field workers are in permanent contact (by telephone or in person), they exchange all relevant information and work together on specific problems which may arise among children and young people at schools and in 'problem' families. Through their close day-to-day cooperation, they help to stabilize relations within these localities and relations between minorities and majority society.

From January to March 2006, the Brno City Directorate, in cooperation with the Roma organization *Drom*, hosted training in communication for police officers from the warrant service and operating centres; this focused on the techniques of communicating with minorities and coping with racial prejudice. The trained police officers were placed in model situations directly with people of Roma nationality.

In September 2006, the Brno City Directorate held a conference on the issues of social exclusion in Brno. The conference was intended primarily for police officers and teachers of the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Brno. Representatives of local authorities and nongovernmental organizations active in Brno were invited to the conference. The lecturers were police officers and staff from the Ministry of the Interior, as well as officials from Brno City Hall, representatives of the academic community and the nongovernmental sector. The main themes presented at the conference in connection with social exclusion were drug addiction, youth crime, the debts of socially disadvantaged strata

of the population and usury, trafficking in human beings, policing in relation to minorities, etc.

At the end of 2006, a pilot project of supervision was launched at the Brno City Directorate, designed to remove racial prejudice among police officers. The prime objective is to verify whether supervision methods are usable and effective in the police force. The project is based on cooperation between two specialists – a psychologist and a supervisor. The psychologist, working directly at the City Directorate, works with all police officers on preventing negative phenomena in general and negative phenomena in communication with the members of minorities (coping with stress, stressful situations, improving self-control; coping with manifestations of racism, xenophobia or intolerance in general, the handling of prejudices, etc.). The supervisor works as an external associate for selected departments. The supervisor's task is to manage regular group sessions (once a month) exclusively for police officers who work with minorities – coping with prejudices, communication in stressful situations, being on duty in the specific setting of 'ghettoes', etc. The supervisor also provides individual supervision for police officers who request it.

Police officers actively contributed to Children's Day celebrations at the Drom centre, where Roma children competed for prizes. In cooperation with the low-threshold centre Teen Challenge, they provided gifts and interactive methodological aids to a children's holiday camp in Vysočina. On the premises of the Brno City Directorate in Řečkovice, they organized a suburban camp for children from Roma families, where members of staff from the individual services of the Czech Police Force prepared an active programme for the Roma children that centred on crime and drug prevention and good transport discipline. At the SKP Kometa sports complex, they held a team competition for primary school pupils called 'Competing with the Police', which was attended by three teams of pupils from schools in Roma localities, and a team from the Vietnamese and Greek community. They competed in disciplines that police officers are required to undertake to check their fitness; there were also competitions geared towards crime and drug prevention and good transport discipline.

ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Police officers entered into cooperation with the excellent community centre for Roma *KoCeRo, o.p.s.*

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

Police officers established contact with the *Multik* multicultural centre, which inter alia organizes courses in Czech for foreigners (especially for the Vietnamese and Russians).

HODONÍN

Police officers in Hodonín cooperated with the local *Association of Roma and National Minorities* to organize the Roma Days and MISS ROMA of the Czech Republic 2006.

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

Police officers cooperate with the nongovernmental organization *Bridge for Human Rights [Most pro lidská práva]*, which specializes in legal counselling for foreigners in the Czech Republic, primarily in the districts of Pardubice and Chrudim. They also established cooperation with the *Hradec Králové Diocese*, which provides clothing and other necessities to detained refugees.

CHEB

Members of the *Eger* working party (Cheb District Directorate), in particular two police officers from the criminal investigation police who focused in the work on crime where the perpetrators or victims are children and young people, cooperate with other authorities, a body for the social-law protection of children, schools, paediatricians, the Probation and Mediation Service and the educational and psychological counselling centre. Following a consultation with colleagues from other institutions, they organize joint meetings to which clients and clients' parents or legal guardians are invited with a viewing to finding the best way to proceed. In this way, the police officers in the working party have managed to create a functioning network of institutions helping to tackle problems with children and young people in the region.

Eger team members attended expert seminars on *Timely Intervention* and *Trafficking in Human Beings*. Both seminars centred on the protection of children, and involved a large number of entities from society.

KARVINÁ

The project of *Roundtables* is organized by the civic association named *Association of Roma of Moravia and Silesia*. Roundtable discussions, attended by the police and other entities, were held in the *Roma Cultural and Social Centre* in Karviná – Nové Město. The conclusions of these events were submitted to the Municipal Council and should help address specific problems in this area.

Police officers from the Karviná District Directorate worked as leaders of a second annual Karviná camp in Česká Ves, on the *Orel* ranch, called *One World*. The camp was organized by Karviná Social Services under the aegis of the mayor. The camp was organized as a way for the town to thank the children who, although they were from socially excluded communities, managed to fulfil their duties properly throughout the year. The camp was open to children who, during the school year, did not commit any crimes, did not play truant and did not have a reduced grade for behaviour.

MILEVSKO

Police officers from Písek District Directorate, based on complaints regarding the provision of loans to Roma, and based on experience and direct contact with Roma, initiated a project with a cultural programme, involving the participation of a psychologist, police officers and a lawyer, to prevent the Roma ethnic group from becoming indebted. This initiative was the motivation for the project *Borrowing is an Option – Repaying is a Must*, which Roma organizations organized in cooperation with Jihočeský kraj Provincial Authority and the Czech Police Force.

MOST

On 29 August 2006, the town hosted the event *End of the Holidays with the Czech Police Force*, which was attended by 22 children from excluded localities. The aim was to raise awareness of policing among the minority society and improve the positive perception of the police. An art competition was held as part of the event.

In Most, police officers were involved in the *Lektor* project, which increased computer literacy among the Roma population and improved their chances of becoming integrated in the labour market. The *Most Association of Roma* was selected for this project of five candidates who were actively involved in the project. The measure of success was their independent work in text and spreadsheet editors and general computer knowledge, in

particular their handling of the Internet to search for employment and the way they coped with electronic means of communication. The project lasted from 1 March 2006 to 30 June 2006.

Other projects in Most in which the Czech police Force participated were *IT Training for Equal Opportunities on the Labour Market* (this project ran from 1 September 2006 to 15 December 2006 and centred on citizens aged 15 to 30 years; seven clients attended the course) and *Learning through Play* (focusing on young people with the aim of teaching them basic IT skills, thus drawing the away from the defective environment of a negative community and limiting crime factors in the locality; the project was designed for the risk group aged 10 to 15 years).

Police officers in Most organized the preventive event *Helping Victims of Usury*, in which four people were provided with counselling.

OSTRAVA

In 2005, a training centre was set up at the Ostrava City Directorate for police training and the further professional training of police officers. Teaching at the centre is provided by members of staff of the quality support group at the Ostrava City Directorate and external experts. One of the first thematic courses to be prepared at the training centre was on policing minorities. From August 2005 to March 2006, the training centre hosted a one-day course called *Minorities – the Police Officer in a Multicultural Environment*, which was attended by 968 police officers (of the total 1,100). Senior members of staff were trained first, followed gradually by all other police officers in the direct performance of their duty. The aim was to familiarize all police officers with the different traditions and cultural values of members of minorities living in the territory, and in this respect to enhance communication between police officers and members of minorities. The course ended with a knowledge test. It is still run on an irregular basis for new recruits.

Police officers from the Ostrava City Directorate took part in two rounds of camps organized by the civic association *Co-existence*, which took place in Olomouc. They were generally critical of the material means available for the individual rounds. Conversely, the programme preparations for the camps were much better than in previous years.

PARDUBICE

Police officers cooperate with the Roma centre; they dealt with drug issues in the Roma community at primary schools. Police officers also provide information to Roma coordinators about crime in the field.

PELHŘIMOV

Police officers prepared a *Roundtable* focusing on recognizing the differences of minorities and communication with minorities. At these roundtable discussions, school educators, staff from state administration and local government, representatives of free time centres and minorities have an opportunity to meet each other. The project will be expanded to take in Humpolec.

PÍSEK

A member of the working party participated in *Children's Miss 2006*, held as part of the *KHAMORO 2006* project.

SOKOLOV

Based on talks between the municipal authority in Sokolov, a police station was set up in the socially excluded locality of *Dolní Rychnov*. Assigned police officers in Sokolov initiated

Roma meetings with a view to the launch of an association specializing in the organization of free-time activities for children in socially excluded localities; they published a brochure called *Czech Police Force, At Your Service*, containing a plan of Sokolov that displays the streets and specifies the police officer responsible for that section. The brochure is now being drawn up in an electronic version and will be published on the Sokolov website. Noticeboards were installed at primary schools in Sokolov with information about the police officer responsible for the school.

Selected police officers from the Sokolov District Directorate took part in an expert seminar on socially excluded localities in Karlovarský kraj. The seminar included a presentation of research conducted by the University of West Bohemia, Plzeň, in the mentioned localities. The project focused on determining crime factors within socially excluded localities occupied primarily by Roma. These police officers also took part in psychological training in the field of communication and transaction analysis.

STRAKONICE

The *Building Bridges* project of the Strakonice District Directorate focuses on the prevention of socio-pathological phenomena among pupils from one of the primary schools in Strakonice. This school is attended by children predominantly from socially weak families (80% of pupils are Roma), and the school often encounters problematic behaviour from these pupils (verbal and physical attacks, drug abuse, etc.). The Czech Police Force's aim here is to regulate these phenomena through regular seminars with pupils from higher grades, to promote the work done by the Czech Police Force and to set up an anonymous 'police advice centre' for children and parents in the school. This is a long-term project; the results will be evaluated every year by Strakonice police together with the management of the school. The advice centre has proven its worth and there is interest in it. In the project, police officers also participated in a summer camp in Kadov, where they created model situations of bullying, domestic violence, etc.

TEPLICE

Police officers are involved in the *Polis* project implemented by the local branch of *People in Need* in Bílina. The aim of the project is to interconnect the services and activities of organizations specializing in social exclusion.

JIHOČESKÝ KRAJ

Police officers from Jihočeský kraj organized a working meeting with a lecture on media politics and the rudiments on verbal and non-verbal communication with selected groups of the population.

MORAVSKOSLEZSKÝ KRAJ

The project Shared World is implemented by the Severomoravský kraj administration and includes the training of police officers in communication skills in their work with minorities and foreigners, the publication of the Czech Police Force's occasional periodical Information bulletin for national and ethnic minorities, and joint seminars with other institutions involved in problems connected with the lives of minorities. The initial focus was on the districts of Ostrava, Karviná, Nový Jičín and Bruntál, and was gradually expanded to Vsetín, Olomouc, Šumperk, Přerov and Jeseník. The project includes the participation of police officers as leaders at summer camps for children from socially weak families. In 2006, four rounds of children's summer camps were organized; two were combined into a single round. Of the

explicitly Roma organizations capable of preparing for such an event, only the Association of Roma in Moravia was successful. A special situation arose in the preparations for a camp in Jeseník. No organization could be found here that was interested in contributing to the event. The management of the Jeseník District Directorate did not want a good idea to go to waste and therefore decided to organize the camp itself. The camps at Jeseník, Šternberk and Olomouc passed off without any problems. Relations between the children, leaders and police officers were very good and beneficial for all those involved.

Since 2004, under the *Shared World* project the Severomoravský kraj administration has published the occasional periodical *Information bulletin of the Czech Police Force for national and ethnic minorities*, in which it provided information about news in the sphere of its activities, the work of nongovernmental organizations in the field of crime prevention, and brought attention to specific risks connected with various types of crime; the aliens and border police was also given room in the bulletin. In all the issued editions of the periodical, contact details have been provided for the minorities liaison officer and delegated police officers. So far, eight issues have been published, each with a print run of 5,000 copies. The most recent issue was published in October 2006. In November 2006, as part of the financing of the project *Shared World II* a map of Ostrava was published which displays the locations of branches of individual police stations to help strangers find their way around the city.

The provincial police administration uses social events connected to minority and foreigner issues in order to profile its work. Examples of this include a preview of the exhibition *Roma Craftwork*, held by the Moravskoslezský kraj Provincial Authority, and a preview of photographs of successful persons contributing to the 'Roma Revival', organized at the RKSC in Karviná. The *Shared World* project was presented by the liaison officer at an international seminar in crime prevention organized by EU institutions in Finland in November 2006.

OLOMOUCKÝ KRAJ

As part of the *Shared World* project, 12 police officers in Olomoucký kraj were trained in work with Roma children and children from socially excluded communities. Thirty police officers from the Jeseník district underwent training on minority issues within the scope of lectures to mark the international IPA conference in Česká Ves in the Jeseník area, which also focused on this issue. The training was carried out by the minorities liaison officer of the Severomoravský kraj administration.

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

The minorities liaison officer of the Západočeský kraj administration organized an expert seminar on Roma issues for police officers from the preventive information groups of the Západočeský kraj administration. The seminar was led by lecturers from the *University of West Bohemia*, Plzeň, and the organization *People in Need*.

In the province, Czech Police Force Days were held at children's summer camps organized by Roma and nongovernmental organizations (Plasy, Mladotice, Tachov and Cheb) to demonstrate the activities of the individual services provided by the Czech Police Force. At Chance weekend stays for children from socially excluded localities, lectures were given with a view to preventing socio-pathological phenomena.

The Czech Police Force cooperated on the research into socially excluded localities in Plzeň and Sokolov, focusing on determining crime factors in these localities. Based on the results of the research, the police adopted preventive and repressive measures in the individual localities. Another area of research in the Roma community geared towards crime and drug abuse in the community was aimed at mapping out the situation, at the application of the

research results in further activities and at providing assistance to the community; it was conducted in summer 2006, also in Brno.

The Liaison Officer for Minority Issues of the West Bohemian administration, thanks to good-quality, professional relations with *People in Need*, was able to use opportunities to present his work in a mono-thematic supplement of *Lidové noviny*, which was devoted to this organization's activities relating to the integration of minorities.

CITY OF PRAGUE

Since the beginning of 2005, the Prague City Administration has held continuous training for police officers called Multicultural Communication, Racism – Extremism. The courses held within the scope of this training take place once a month and are intended for police officers from the patrol police section and the criminal investigation police. The course is three days long and has four themes:

1. Roma in the Czech Republic from a social, ethnic and historical aspect
2. Legal and sociological aspects of extremism
3. Neo-Nazism in Europe
4. Multicultural communication

The courses are taken by the minorities liaison officer and external lecturers from the academic community and nongovernmental organizations who deal with this issue.

Police officers from the Prague City Administration took part in a lecture at the Training Institute for the Protection of Children and Young People, where they gave a presentation on *Sociological and Legal Aspects of Extremism* and provided information about the activities of the liaison officer and his working party. The target group was staff from the Municipal Police Force, the Praha 7 and Praha 11 Borough Authorities, primary schools and other institutions working in the social field in particular.

The minorities liaison officer of the Prague City Administration, along with staff from the PIS administration, present the work of the police in this field in the daily newspaper *Metro*, in which space is regularly made available for the administration's operations, e.. the article of 25 June 2006 entitled *A Police Officer among National and Ethnic Minorities*. He also attended the Roma Ball and sat on the panel of judges for the MISS ROMA Prague contest.

Police training and lecturing are a separate area of activity. Police officers from preventive information groups deliver lectures in special schools, in the lower levels of primary schools, where they use *Ajax's Diary* to shed more light on policing, and in selected apprentice and secondary schools, where they give presentations on racism, anti-Semitism and extremism.

In connection with the implementation of measures under the *Report on the Progress and Interim Results of Implementing the Strategy for the Work of the Czech Police Force in Relation to National Minorities for 2006 – 2007*, the following activities are carried out:

- Secondary Police Schools of the Ministry of the Interior incorporated the model situations offered in the *Alternatives* project into the curriculum. Situation models are used in the subjects of psychology and police ethics in particular to cultivate communication skills with members of national minorities and foster positive attitudes towards them.
- Within the scope of the additional training provided every year for teachers from secondary police schools of the Ministry of the Interior and instructors from police training centres of the Czech Police Force, devoted to a theme intended to enhance the standard of their teaching skills in a given issue, a seminar called *Racism – Extremism* was held at the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Jihlava on 19 – 20 September 2006.

- Every year, four short-term placements are organized for ministerial and external experts in courses devoted to police work at secondary police schools (two placements) and police training centres (two placements). A summary report must be drawn up in all cases.
- The police training centres of the Czech Police Force have the issue of racial intolerance of national minorities incorporated into their entry courses, in the second part of work experience and in enhancement training. The Manual of the Ministry of the Interior and specially trained lecturers who have been trained by police lecturers to deal with racial equality is used in teaching. A separate course on *Multicultural Education and Trafficking in Human Beings* at the Police Training Centre in Brno in 2006 was attended by eight students.
- On 6 – 8 March 2006, a pilot course on professional ethics for the lower management of the Czech Police Force was held at the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague. The programme was compiled on the basis of outputs and conclusions from meetings of the working groups in the project *Inclusion of human rights, respect for minorities and their protection, and professional ethics in the vocational training of the Police Force of the Czech Republic and the work of the Czech police*. The programme comprised numerous interactive activities complemented by theoretical input.
- On 21 March 2006, the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Holešov hosted an excursive meeting of the *Working Group of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs for Internal Affairs and the Czech Police Force*. Here, information from the Czech Police Force was provided, for example, about the current situation regarding racially motivated crimes, and observations were presented from research into crime in socially excluded localities in Ústecký kraj.
- The issue of extremism receives considerable attention in the individual subjects in the bachelor, master and doctoral programme, and in the lifelong learning provided by the Police Academy of the Czech Republic. In the 2006/2007 school year, the following courses were offered: *Post-modern problems of human rights and global society*, *New extremism* and *Cross-cultural communication*.
- The Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague, Further Professional Training Section, Centre for Human Rights Education, dealt with extremism, for example, in the production of the teaching material *Police between Cultures*. The comprehensive teaching material comprises a multimedia interactive CD-ROM based heavily on the presence of animations and video, an accompanying and expanding Students Manual, and a Teachers Manual with methodological notes. In terms of theme, it provides basic information about various forms of cross-cultural relations, prejudices, xenophobia, racism, intolerance, etc., and addresses the styles and stances taken in handling conflicts by officers from the Czech Police Force.

Another activity is the project *Language Bridges*. This entails the creation of four sets of interactive CD-ROMs and complementary teaching materials (printed) for language teaching for police offices (English, German, Russian, Romani). The content of the teaching material centres on improving the communication of officers from the Czech Police Force in selected languages with foreign nationals in the Czech Republic and with members of the Roma minority. Elements of anti-racist content are continuously incorporated into this focus.

The project *Communication Skills Focusing on Foreign Nationals* is also being prepared. This is a three-day course on the communication skills of officers from the Czech Police Force, concentrating on communication with foreigners. The teaching programme of courses has

been prepared so that participants are equipped with a knowledge of foreigner-related issues, social and communication skills, and the ability to prevent and cope with conflicts in negotiations with foreigners. Part of the teaching programme will focus directly on communication free of prejudice and stereotypes. The project is currently at the stage where the teaching programme is being prepared with selected lecturers.

In 2006, a teaching block *Extremism issues in the Czech Republic* was implemented once a month for approximately 50 employees of the Ministry of the Interior.

The *Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Brno* included this area in its teaching process, e.g. in basic vocational training. In the subject of Law, this issue is discussed as part of an analysis into the substance of crimes – the crimes of the support and promotion of movements intent on suppressing citizens' rights and freedoms, violence against a sub-population or against an individual, defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or belief, and inciting hatred against a group of persons or a restriction in their rights and freedoms. Students apply the law to the relevant conduct, they explain the substance of the crime with the help of remarks and the relevant case-law. In the subject Psychology and Ethics of Police Work, the theme of the Police Officer in a Multicultural Society deals with the police's role in a context with issues of opinion-related and political, cultural, religious tolerance and issues concerning the conduct of police officers in relation to members of various socially excluded communities.

Within the scope of specialized courses for managers and deputy managers in lower organizational rungs of the patrol police service, the above-mentioned issue of discussed in lessons on substantive criminal law applied to mass situations (Czechtek, gatherings of skinheads, anarchists, etc.)

At the *Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Jihlava*, extremism is incorporated into basic vocational training, within the themes of multicultural society, racism, prejudices; behaviour in relation to minorities, inter-ethnic conflicts, socio-pathological phenomena; psychological aspects of taking action against particular social groups; violent crime and moral crime, racism.

Students in basic vocational training can opt for a seminar where four lessons are devoted to problems of the contemporary world. The seminar covers not only extremism, but also other problems such as fundamentalism and terrorism.

At the *Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Holešov*, the above-mentioned issue is covered in the curriculum comprehensively and by interdisciplinary means from the aspect of cross-cultural psychology, the theory of multiculturalism, international, European and national law in individual types of studies.

Within the scope of ZOP, the issue is approached theoretically and practically in broken-down and full-scale model situations. In the supplementary programme of educational activities, cooperation continues with the Working Party of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs for Interior Affairs and the Czech Police Force and its representatives in the individual provinces. A set of lectures entitled *Moral and Christian Upbringing* has been created in cooperation with consistories in Olomouc. Permanent cooperation and the organization of seminars and discussions with representatives of universal experience are progressing (e.g. *Problems of Zlínský kraj in the integration of foreign nationals and the Roma community and the province's grant policy*; Activities of the civic association *Slovo 21*

(the *Family next Door* project), participation in the International Conference on the *Genocide of Roma in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia*).

The *Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Praha-Ruzyně* mainly provides lifelong learning for criminal investigation police officers in departments with national competence in the form of specialized and innovative courses centring on operative investigative operations.

For 2007, the curriculum of the specialized course where students, through external lecturers, are acquainted with manifestations of extremism, racism and xenophobia, the division, structure and organization thereof, and cooperation with other units of the criminal investigation police and the Security Information Service, including foreign security units, has been updated. Extremism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, etc., are also covered in other specialized courses for police officers assigned to operative documentation departments, for police officers assigned to the corruption and financial crime department, for police officers from the special actions unit and technical protection group of the criminal investigation police, for police officers at the National Narcotics Headquarters, and for police officers from the department for the detection of illegal proceeds and tax crime at the criminal investigation police.

The school organizes regular visits to the Jewish Museum for course participants, including lectures on Jewish culture and religion.

Important documents of the Ministry of the Interior in relation to national minorities and multiculturalism

- Strategy for the Work of the Police Force of the Czech Republic in Relation to Minorities
www.mvcr.cz/dokument/2006/mensiny_2006_7.pdf
- Explanation of the Terms Extremism, Xenophobia, Racism
www.mvcr.cz/souteze/2006/sod/extremismus/1_pojmy.pdf
- Survey on Relations between the Czech Police Force and National and Ethnic Minorities
www.mvcr.cz/dokument/2006/mensiny.pdf.

Museum of Roma Culture in Brno, selection of activities in 2006

EXHIBITIONS AT THE MUSEUM

<p>Great times...? (Roma in historical photographs) Extensive collection of black-and-white and several colour photographs by various authors from the end of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century.</p>
<p>Roma in the news: from the photo library of the Czech Press Agency Black-and-white and colour photographs from the interwar period to the recent past, provided by the ČTK archives.</p>
<p>Six times nothing on three plates. Approximately 50 graphic works by the Austrian German Sinto Alfréd Ullrich comprising his work in a studio close to the German city of Dachau.</p>
<p>Secret of life Selection of work by the amateur Roma artist Jozef Cichy</p>
<p>We know it too Roma children's artwork under the guidance of Jozef Cichy, Nižný ŽIPOV,</p>
<p>Roma in Gemer The kernel comprises an exhibition loaned from the Gemer – Malohont Museum in Rimavská Sobota, the output of a project to document Roma dwellings in Gemer.</p>
<p>Where there's song, woes disperse / Kaj šund'ol e gi'fi, e dukh naš'ol. Exhibition on traditional Roma music and folk songs of the Roma. With side programme.</p>
<p>Čalo vod'i – Saturated soul First exhibition on Roma literature in the Czech Republic, with side programme.</p>
<p>S'oda pre tute?! What on Earth are you wearing? Roma clothing, personal ornaments and interior decorations, from the traditional to the contemporary. With side programme.</p>
<p>Silky way Painting on silk under the guidance of an expert lector.</p>
<p>Luminita Dances – fashion show (part of the series <i>Who are the Roma?</i>)</p>

PERMANENT EXHIBITION

<p>The story of the Roma (1945 – 2005)</p>
<p>Exhibitions outside the museum (and museum collections loaned for exhibitions by other institutions)</p>
<p>Jesenik National History and Geography Museum – the Museum lent the travelling exhibition E luma romane jakhenca – The world through the eyes of the Roma</p>
<p>Museum in Hohenau an der March (Austria) 'Mit glühendem Eifer und glühendem Eisen' (in the Czech Republic as 'Black Trade') – the Museum loaned blacksmith products</p>
<p>Carolinum, Prague – as an accompanying event to the Conference of Education Ministers, organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport – exhibition of Presentation panels of the Museum of Roma Culture. Panels exhibited together with a presentation of the Jewish Museum.</p>
<p>House of the Lords of Kunštát, Brno – as part of a joint presentation of national minorities living in Brno, Returning to Roots – three of the Museum's presentation panels exhibited</p>
<p>Prague City Library, Holešovice Branch, – exhibition of the Museum's presentation panels</p>
<p>Ethnographic Institute of the Moravian Museum + Brno Museum (Museum in Ivančice – A. Mucha Monument Gallery): 'No man like a blacksmith' – the Museum loaned blacksmith products</p>
<p>Office of the Ombudsman (Congress Hal), Údolní 39, Brno – Roma Holocaust. The genocide of the Roma and Sinti and racism in Europe today – exhibition of the Documentation Centre of Roma and Sinti in Heidelberg, the Museum and the Association of Roma in Moravia cooperated on the preparation of the Czech version of the exhibition; the Museum was the expert guarantor and installer of the exhibition and implemented side events. With a side programme, e.g. a variant of the interactive programme for secondary schools, with an expert guide.</p>
<p>Pižeň, Šeříkova House of Culture, Festival of Roma Music Gipsy Wings – MRK</p>

<p>Town Hall in Dachau, Germany – Museum This project was implemented in cooperation with the German Sinto Alfred Ullrich, whose exhibition has its preview on the same day in the evening, and in cooperation Dachau Town Hall, which covered all the expenses connected with the installation of the exhibition.</p>
<p>Moravian Museum, Dietrichstein Palace: Toys, Games and Playing – the Museum loaned collections. Vysočiny District Gallery, Jihlava: Bohumila Doleželová, 1922-1993. The Museum loaned eight of the artist's pictures.</p>
<p>Museum café (exhibition space inside) The world through the eyes of victims of involuntary sterilization – exhibition of amateur photographs taken by members of the Club of Sterilized Women attached to the Co-existence civic association, Ostrava.</p>
<p>OTHER EVENTS ORGANIZED BY THE MUSEUM</p>
<p>Luminita dances Show of items from the collection of clothing, part of the tourism fair GO+ Regiontour, Brno – Exhibition Grounds</p>
<p>Holocaust Day in the Museum building (for schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion with witnesses of the Roma Holocaust • Screening of the film 'These are difficult memories' • lecture by the museum historian Michal Schuster relating to this theme (80 children)
<p>Official naming of Milena Hübschmannová's book <i>Po židoch cigáni...</i> In the Museum building, attended by the editor-in-chief of the <i>Triáda</i> publishing house, Jan Krumphanzl, and Roma eyewitnesses involved in a discussion moderated by Jana Horváthová, screening of Dadam Gebart's film 'Posthumous Pictures', about Milena Hübschmannová through the eyes of her fellow workers and friends.</p>
<p>Ceremony – 63rd anniversary of the mass transport of Roma from Brno to Auschwitz</p>
<p>Official naming of the Museum's new publications: Bulletin 13/2004 and a collection of museum postcards; in the Museum building</p>
<p>Celebrations of International Roma Day</p>
<p>Christening of the catalogue of the museum art collection Official announcement of the winners of the children's writing competition Romano Suno; organized by the non-profit company Nová škola, o.p.s.; in the Museum building.</p>
<p>Night in the Museum of Roma Culture The Museum joined in with the Brno Museum Night</p>
<p>Luminita Dances – show of items from the collection of clothing, as part of a presentation of national minorities living in Brno – Returning to Roots, Brno, House of the Lords of Kunštát.</p>
<p>Hodonín u Kunštátu, chapel and structure of mass grave – ceremony to honour the memory of the Roma Holocaust.</p>
<p>Django fest Music festival of the Association of Roma in Moravia, Brno-Klub Flora, at this event the Museum screened an edited programme about its research work.</p>
<p>A year with Jewish culture: in 2006, the Museum of Roma Culture was involved in the celebrations of the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the Jewish Museum in Prague, entailing the following events: Joint concert by a Jewish and Roma band, <i>Létající rabin z Prostějova</i> [the Flying Rabin of Prostějov] (based on Klezmer music) and the Brno Roma group <i>Gulo čar</i>. In the centre of Brno, on the courtyard of the Old Town Hall as of 7:30 p.m., as part of the Brno Summer of Culture. Day of the Fight against Fascism and anti-Semitism 'They Say We Were Lucky' Discussion with Jewish and Roma survivors of the Holocaust concerning mutual contacts and cooperation in the First World War. The discussion was moderated by the museum historian Michal Schuster.</p>

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES – LECTOR DEPARTMENT

LECTURES AT THE MUSEUM
The lecture series <i>Who are the Roma?</i>
The Roma in Czechoslovakia (changes after 1945) Screening of the author's photographs and preview of her new book, lectures by the ethnologist Eva Davidová.
Traditional music and song culture of the Roma Listening to sound recordings produced in the field, from the Museum's collection, lecture by Tomáš Šenkyřík
Roma literature, lecture by Helena Sadílková
Autumn with Roma music, part of the series <i>Who are the Roma?</i>
Traditional musical culture of the Roma Authentic sound and video recordings made at Slovak Roma settlements, live music input from Roma musicians, Tomáš Šenkyřík, Anna Juránková
Neve giľa (New songs) New musical influences penetrating traditional Roma music, merger with Anglo-American culture.
Luminita dances Fashion show accompanied by dulcimer music from Viliam Oraček, echoes of the Džango Fest.
Living memory A project of lectures and discussions with pupils from the second level of primary schools (i.e. lower secondary students) and students of secondary schools about the Roma Holocaust, the Museum in cooperation with the civic association <i>Living Memory [Živá paměť]</i> , with participation from eyewitnesses
LECTURE SERIES OUTSIDE THE MUSEUM
History of the Roma
Lecture (two-semester) series for students studying Academic Information and Librarianship – Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University
Lecture series for students of Ethnology – Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University
Lecture series for students from the Roma Secondary School of Social Affairs

Research trips

THE MUSEUM'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES OF OTHER INSTITUTIONS
VISITS BY GUESTS TO THE MUSEUM
SEPARATE PUBLISHING ACTIVITY AND CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE MUSEUM STAFF TO EXPERT AND POPULAR PUBLICATIONS
PARTICIPATION IN RADIO AND TELEVISION PROGRAMMES AND OTHER MEDIA
ADDITIONS TO THE MUSEUM'S COLLECTION
COURSES OF ROMANI FOR THE PUBLIC
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM CLUB

Annex 3

Ministry of Culture – Grant Scheme to Support the Cultural Activities of Members of National Minorities in 2006 (Summary of projects)

(including increases and refunds of unused funds)

grant approved total (CZK)
for project

Bulgarian

Bulgarian Cultural and Education Organization, Prague		
Days of Bulgarian Culture – Olomouc 2006	60,000	100,000
We Can Communicate in 2006	40,000	
Pirin, Brno		
Preserving Bulgarian folk traditions and dances	50,000	50,000
Vazrazhdane, Prague		
Days of Bulgarian Culture	60,000	130,000
Vazrazhdane Club	70,000	

Croatian

Pálava Ethnographic Association, Mikulov		
15 th Cultural Day of Moravian Croats in Jevišovka	59,979	59 979

Hungarian

Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Prague		
National cultural and educational meeting of members of the Hungarian minority	70,000	650,000
Days of Hungarian Culture	160,000	
Cultural, informative and documentary activities of the Hungarian minority in the Czech Republic	420,000	

German

Youth Contact Organization in the Czech Republic – JUKON, Prague		
On the trail of the cultural traditions of the German minority in the Czech Republic	25,000	25,000
Association of Germans – Hřebečsko regional group, Moravská Třebová		
Folk dances of the German minority	65,000	125,000
German-Czech Days of Culture	60,000	
Assembly of Germans in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, Prague		
Large Gathering of Folk Art and Culture of the German Minority and Friends of Germans from All Regions	200,000	200,000
Silesian German Association, Opava		
Presentation of German culture in selected towns in Silesia	6,130	31,130
Festival of cultural work by the German minority in Silesia and Moravia	25,000	
Union of Germans – Chebsko regional group		
'Music Without Frontiers' concert	15,000	40,000
Workshop, rehearsals and year-round presentation of Chebsko folk dances by a folk dance group	15,000	
Production and decoration of Cheb folk costumes	10,000	
Union of Germans - Krušné hory region and foothills, Chomutov		
Cultural festival: German Week in Chomutov	12,000	12,000
Union of Germans - Liberec, Lužice – North Bohemia, Liberec		
Czech-German Cultural Afternoon 2006	12,000	22,000
Christmas Celebration 2006	10,000	

Polish

ARS MUSICA Polish Art Association, Český Těšín		
Propagation of choir singing, folk music and forms of drama ...	90,000	90,000
COLLEGIUM CANTICORUM Polish choir association, Český Těšín		
Development of the art of choir singing	53,788	53,788
House of Culture – Association of Art and Special-Interest Activities, Třinec		
Support of the activities of Hutník Polish choir	40,000	40,000
GÓROLE, folk ensemble, Mosty u Jablunkova		
International festival of folk groups and folk ensembles 2006	40,000	40,000
Polish Club in Prague, Prague		
Polish Days in Lysá nad Labem (5 th Annual Days of Polish Culture)	48,337	48,337
Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic, Český Těšín		
Documentation Centre of the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic	250,000	640,000
Perspektiva 21	200,000	
The way we are 2006	190,000	
Polish Association of Artists in the Czech Republic, Český Těšín		
Catalogue of the Polish Association of Artists in the Czech Republic	20,000	20,000
Polish Cultural and Educational Union in the Czech Republic, Český Těšín		
Gorolski Świeto - Żywobyci Goroliczka	80,000	1,415,000
Cultural and educational activities	485,000	
Bajka puppet theatre	850,000	
Association of Polish Book Friends, Český Těšín		
Publication of a collection of poetry by Henryk Jasiczak	25,000	55,000
Exhibitions of Polish books and side literature events	30,000	

Roma

Čhavorikamo Luma, Červený Kostelec		
Cultural tape – 'Ten years of Čhavorikamo luma'	13,000	13,000
Cultural Traditions civic association, Liberec		
5 th Festival of Roma Culture in Liberec and Sára, Patron Saint of Roma, in Hejnice 2006	50,000	50,000
Slovo 21, Prague		
Khamoro World Roma Festival 2006 - seminar	150,000	1,750,000
Khamoro World Roma Festival 2006	1 600,000	

Ruthenian

Skejušan folk ensemble, Chomutov		
Jánošík's Ducat 2006, international festival of Slovak folk traditions in the Czech Republic	28,000	28,000

Russian

Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition in the Czech Republic, Prague		
Cultural and social activities of Russian Tradition in 2006	170,000	170,000

Greek

Association of Greek Communities in the Czech Republic, Brno		
Cultural activities of the Greek minority in the Czech Republic	370,000	370,000
Lyceum of Greek Women, Brno		
Preservation and development of the culture of the Greek minority in the Czech Republic	130,000	130,000

Slovak

CzechoSlovak Scene, Prague		
Operation of the CzechoSlovak Scene – the Slovak minority on the stage and in the auditorium	100,000	100,000
PŮČIK folk association, Brno		
Children and tradition	30,000	110,000
Returning to Roots	40,000	
Fifteen years of wandering with folk songs and dance	40,000	
Šarvanci folk ensemble, Prague		
Gulping from the sources of Slovak folklore	9,000	29,000
Prague – Home of Many Nations	20,000	
Slovak Culture Club, Prague		
Documentation of the Slovak minority and Czech-Slovak relations in 2006 -- KSK v ČR	120,000	795,000
Development of the culture of the Slovak national minority in the Czech Republic and the preservation of Czech-Slovak cultural continuity	675,000	
Limborá – Slovak folk association, Prague		
Limborá in 2006	70,000	220,000
Echoes	50,000	
20 th anniversary of the Limborá group	100,000	
Community of Slovaks in the Czech Republic, Prague		
Days of Czech-Slovak cultural reciprocity	46,037	174,297
Jánošík's Ducat - 2006 - International Festival of Slovak Folklore	90,000	
Roots Clubs - 2006 – series of public discussions	38,260	
Slovak-Czech Club, Prague		
Days of Slovak Culture in the Czech Republic	230,000	650,000
Comprehensive programme of cultural activities of the Slovak national minority in the Czech Republic	350,000	
Ten years of the Slovak-Czech Club	70,000	
Slovak Literature Club, Prague		
Prague – Slovak writers workshop	50,000	130,000
Publication of the book <i>Lubomír Feldek v Prahe</i>	40,000	
Publication of the memoirs of Oľga Szántová: <i>Nežila som nadarmo</i> [My life was not for nothing]	40,000	
Union of Slovaks in the Czech Republic, Prague		
Slovak Students at Czech Universities 1930 – 1939, Part II (publication)	40,000	40,000

Serbian

Serbian Association of St Sava, Prague		
Club meetings of the Serbian minority in Prague	90,000	160,000
Three exhibitions of members of the Serbian minority	70,000	

Ukrainian

Association of Ukrainians and Friends of Ukraine, Prague		
Choir of St Vladimir	60,000	125,000
National association activities	25,000	
The association in the regions	40,000	
Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic, Prague		
Days of Ukrainian Culture in the Czech Republic 2006	150,000	400,000
Ukrainian Club	250,000	

other civic associations + multiethnic

League for the Advancement of Silesia, Opava		
37 th Silesian Days	80,000	80,000
Nations Along the Dyje River, Mikulov		
Seventh Festival of Nations Along the Dyje	20,000	20,000
Association of Members and Friends of the Folk Ensemble Jackové, Jablunkov		
8 th Annual International Children's Folk Festival 'Jacks for the Children'	20,000	20,000
Other entities (the submitter is not a civic association)		
Association of Roma in Moravia, Brno		
Fifth Annual Djangofest	22,000	22,000
Jewish Museum in Prague (association of legal persons with a common interest), Prague		
Publication of 'Mazi Tov – Lots of Luck. Wedding Ceremonies of Ashkenazi Jews – Past and Present'	40,000	40,000
		total 9,473,531

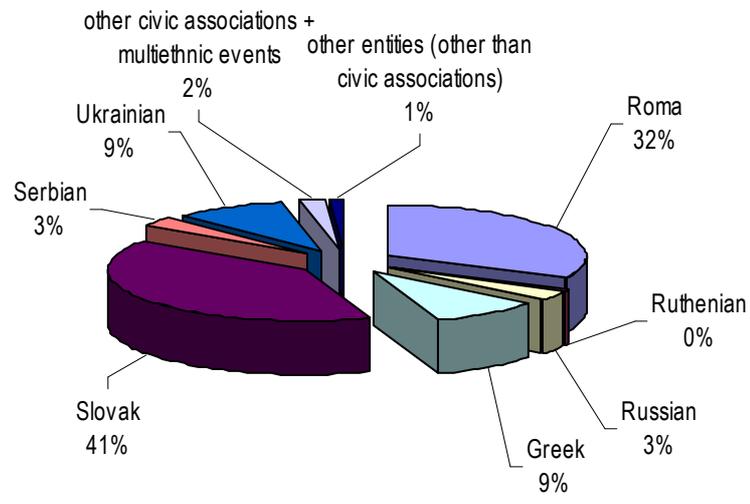
Grants by individual national minority

<i>civic associations</i>	<i>CZK</i>
Bulgarian	280,000
Croatian	59,979
Hungarian	650,000
German	455,130
Polish	2,402,125
Roma	1,813,000
Ruthenian	28,000
Russian	170,000
Greek	500,000
Slovak	2,248,297
Serbian	160,000
Ukrainian	525,000
other civic associations + multiethnic events	120,000
other entities (except civic associations)	62,000
total 9,502,216	

Note:

Under 'other entities, the Association of Roma in Moravia, Brno, received CZK 22,000, i.e. the total for the Roma national minority is CZK 1,837,000.

Grants by minority



Ministry of Culture, Art and Libraries Department – Summary of grants

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Colour Production, s.r.o. Ostrava	Colours of Ostrava	500,000
Jaromír Hanzlík, Prague	Eurotrialog Mikulov 2006	250,000
Náměšť n. Oslavou Municipal Cultural Centre	Folkworld Music Festival – Folk Holidays	300,000
	Colloquium of Magic in World Music	150,000
Municipality of Smržovka	Wonderfest – Music at Trojzemí 2006	30,000
Jazzfuzz, o.s.	LATINFESTBRNO	200,000
Slovo 21, civic association	Music programme of the Khamoro World Roma Festival 2006	100,000
Ostrov, s.r.o.	Ethno folk ostrov	50,000
P J Music, s.r.o.	Jazz Meets World 2006	180,000
RACHOT Production, s.r.o.	RESPECT Ethnic World Music Festival 2003	250,000
	RESPECT Plus 2006-festival world music, Praha 3	40,000
Jiří Švéda	ETNO Music Festival Brno 2006	100,000
Probiot civic association, Prague	Teatr Novogo Fronta	350,000
Dragan Dragin, Prague	Performance written with light	40,000
Divadlo Continuo civic association	Divadlo Continuo 2006	1 200,000
Encountering Contemporary Dance, civic association	Meetings in Prague	130,000
Happy End Production, s.r.o.	Seven Strange Tales	100,000
Farm in a Cave, civic association	Waiting Room	375,000
Líšeň, civic association	Year-round activities of the theatre	500,000
CEICA, civic association, Brno	Billboard Gallery Europe	200,000
Josef Vomáčka, Prague	Intercity Berlin-Prague	250,000
Galerie Klatovy Klenová, Plzeňský kraj	5 th international symposium of lino-cutting	40,000
Egon Schiele Art Centre, Český Krumlov	Alberto Giacometti	100,000
Association of South Bohemian Artists	Intersalon	50,000
Pratur Bienale Foundation	Flash Art CS	500,000
Evropan.cz, civic association	Evropan.cz 8	250,000

total 6,235,000

21st Century Library

A. Marek, Municipal Library, Turnov	Purchase of Vietnamese literature	8,000
Municipality of Návší	Purchase of Polish literature	5,000
Litomyšl Municipal Library	Purchase of Slovak literature	5,000
Karviná Regional Library	Purchase of Polish literature	10,000
Museum of Roma Culture in Brno	Purchase of Roma and Roma-related literature	6,000
Slovak Culture Club	Purchase of Slovak books	10,000
Municipality of Milovice	Purchase of Polish literature	5,000

total 39,000

**Ministry of Culture, Department for the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage,
Museums and Galleries – Summary of grants**

The activities of the *Museum of Roma Culture in Brno*, the organization partly funded from the public purse and set up by the Ministry of Culture, were safeguarded when a contribution of CZK 7,798,000 to the operation of the museum in 2006 was approved.

In terms of the preservation, research and presentation of Roma culture, CZK 1,200,000 of the grant for the support of cultural activities was used to promote the exhibition project *Roma Literary Output in the Czech Republic*.

Summary:

- The department supported projects for the promotion of cultural activities in 2006 with CZK 2,980,000;
- The department ensured the operation of the *Museum of Roma Culture in Brno* by means of an approved operating budget in 2006 of CZK 7,798,000;
- The department ensured the operation of the *Terežín Monument* by means of an approved operating budget in 2006 of CZK 23,206,000.

Total: CZK 33,334,000 (i.e. CZK 3,922,000 more than in 2005)

Ministry of Culture – Grants in the audiovisual field and mass media, where grants are awarded to projects incorporating the promotion of national minorities’ cultural activities.

None of the festivals subsidized in 2006 in the audiovisual and media programme is devoted exclusively to national minority issues. However, films and radio programmes on this theme appear at many of them. These include *FAMUfest*, Report – the festival of radio documentaries and current affairs programmes, the *One World International Festival of Documentaries*, and the *Jihlava International Festival of Documentaries*.

The theme of national minorities is also present in some films and radio programmes which are part of events supported financially under the programme Cultural Activities in Media and Audiovisual Fields.

Summary of projects incorporating an element of support for the cultural activities of national minorities, subsidized under the programme *Cultural Activities in Media and Audiovisual Fields*:

<i>organization</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Academy of Performing Arts – Film and Television Faculty	FAMUfest – festival	200,000
People in Need	One World – 8 th international festival of documentaries on human rights	3 900,000
Gender Studies	Gender Tuesdays ‘...through the eyes of women’ – series	46,000
Cineart TV Prague, s.r.o.	The Indian and the Nurse	48,000
Studio Fama 92, s.r.o.	Mrs Šnajdrová’s Sadness	354,000
Culture Club	Třinec Summer of Film	200,000
Association for Radio Output, civic association	Report – festival of documentary and current affairs radio programmes	62,000
STUD Brno, civic association	Mezzanine 2006 – 7 th gay and lesbian film festival	40,000
Unijazz – association for the promotion of cultural activities	Boskovice 2006 – festival for the Jewish quarter	50,000
Union Film, s. r. o.	Documentary Monday – series	50,000
Jihlava Association of Amateur Film Makers, civic association	Jihlava 2006 – international festival of documentaries	3,000,000
	total	7,950,000

**Ministry of Culture (Autonomous Unit of State Fund Administration)
summary of grants**

The State Cultural Fund of the Czech Republic may, under Act No 239/1992, provide resources for the support of cultural projects intended to preserve and develop the culture of national minorities in the Czech Republic (Section 8(1)(g)).

In 2006, the Fund's Council supported the following projects with a total of CZK 430,000:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic, civic association, Český Těšín	publication – Kazimierz Kaszper: Ziola na kamieniu	40,000
Jewish Museum in Prague	summary notes – My Encounter with Judaism	30,000
Střelnice Cultural and Social Centre, Český Těšín	17 th International Drama Festival WITHOUT FRONTIERS	120,000
Líšeň, civic association, Brno	Paramisa – continuation of a Roma project	130,000
Prague Multicultural Centre, civic association, Prague	Photographic exhibition and artistic installation at the 3 rd annual festival Dialogue of Cultures	30,000
Jewish Museum in Prague	100 years of the Jewish Museum in Prague – a year of Jewish culture, side programmes	80,000
Total		430,000

The State Fund of the Czech Republic for the Support and Development of Czech Film may, under Act No 241/1992, provide resources for the production, distribution and propagation of cinematographic works of national and ethnic minorities living in the Czech Republic (Section 9(1)(f)). However, in 2006, this Fund's Council did not support any of the aforementioned projects.

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports – Programme to Promote Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Upbringing in 2006

<i>organization</i>	<i>application (CZK)</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarian minority			
Pirin	84,000	Lessons of Bulgarian folk dancing and singing	75,000
Vazrazhdane, civic association	68,000	Reading, writing, speaking Bulgarian	68,000
total			143,000
Hungarian minority			
Iglice, civic association	388,190	Linguistic and educational programmes for children in Hungarian, and for majority society	250,000
total			250,000
German minority			
Youth Contact Organization in the Czech Republic – JUKON	50,000	W.A. Mozart – a music star in Prague	30,000
total			30,000
Polish minority			
Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic	409,600	Ondraszek-Pan Łysej Góry (Ondráš – Lord of Lysá hora). Publication of a Czech-Polish educational interactive CD and DVD set	200,000
Primary school and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction	49,000	Implementation of primary school curricula with the assistance of regional elements or getting to know the Těšín area of Silesia	49,000
Primary school and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction, Havlíčkova, Český Těšín	70,000	Athletics championship for pupils from schools with Polish as the language of instruction	70,000
Association of Polish Book Friends	72,000	A Reading Child is a Thinking Child – support for reading in the mother tongue among the pupils of primary schools with Polish as the language of instruction in the Těšínské Slezsko region	72,000
total			391,000
Roma minority			
Athinganoi, civic association	391,590	Romaverzitas	340,000
ROMEIA, civic association	845,000	Tribute to Milena Hübschmannová and her contribution to co-existence	765,000
Nová škola o.p.s.	73,370	Romano suno – dialogue and cooperation...	73 370
Museum of Roma Culture in Brno	35,000	Dzhanes romanes? - Can you speak Romani?	35,000
Khamoro – Roma Integration Centre, civic association	542,500	Khamoro - extra-curricular lessons and free-time activities	250,000
Association of Roma Education	649,500	Roma student access to and integration in education	260,000
Liberec Roma Association	117,000	Weekend trips	80,000
total			1,803,370
Russian minority			
Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition in the Czech Republic (Russian Tradition)	300,000	Slovo dietyam (Slovo for Children) – supplement to Russkoye slovo	260,000
total			260,000

Greek minority

Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	265,000	Lessons of Greek dance	200,000
Association of Greek Communities in the Czech Republic	793,450	Greek language lessons in the Czech Republic	750,000

total 950,000

Projects on the Holocaust

Terezín Initiative – International Terezín Association	490,000	Educational trips by Czech schools to the Terezín Monument	490,000
	159,280	Holocaust – Memory Loss?	159,280
Terezín Monument	834,400	Seminars for teachers on how to teach about the Holocaust	800,000
Terezín Monument	330,000	Seminar for teachers on how to teach about the Holocaust	330,000
MULTISONIC a. s.	299,000	Arnošt Lustig – Confession	299,000
Oblivion	340,000	Neighbours disappeared	170,000

total 2,248,280

Multicultural Studies

Palacký University, Olomouc – Teacher Training Faculty	364,000	Framework Education Programme guiding pupils towards citizenship, with a focus on combating racial and minority intolerance	264,000
Litvínov co-existence	380,000	Children from UNA	380,000
Králíky Grammar School	120,000	Three foreign languages in the Králiky region and their fates	110,000
Teacher Training Faculty, Charles University, Prague	386,336	Multicultural education in the training of future teachers and in the further training of teachers	286,000
Educational and Psychological Counselling Institute of the Czech Republic	1,701,500	Training of teaching assistants for socially disadvantaged children, pupils and students – realistic points of departure and prospects	1,701,500
SPHV	892,000	Educational server to support education in connection with the cultivation of tolerance and prevention of violence and genocide	892,000
W.I.P., s.r.o., Prague	250,000	Czech children of the Second World War – publication of interactive educational material	100,000
Comenius Museum of Teaching in Prague	70,000	The Jewish schooling system and its influence on the Czech culture of education	70,000
Primary school and nursery school of T.G.Masaryk, Zastávka, Brno-venkov	100,000	Living Together	100,000
Bělá pod Bezdězem primary school, Mladá Boleslav	100,000	Living Together	100,000
Jakub Škoda Grammar School, Přerov	135,000	Another Take	100,000
Romano jasnica	155,750	Trmice Training Centre	155,750
University of West Bohemia, Plzeň	57,100	Slavonic nations today	57,100
	131,050	I – Immigrant. I am an immigrant.	131,050
Kutná Hora District Charity	149,455	Rohozná 2006, summer integration camp	149,455
Council for International Relations	840,000	European identity	600,000
Teacher Training Faculty, Charles University, Prague	106,000	A healthy family – the source of generally human and ethnic friendship	106,000
Primary school, Přerov, Komenského 25	54,470	Joint education of children and parents	14,470
Primary school and nursery school, Brno, Jana Brozkvy 3	31,860	Czech for foreigners	31,860

ETNICA association	310,000	School of Revived Traditions	150,000
MIRET, civic association	340,000	systematic activity by the dance group M dance Club Brno	200,000
Limbora, Slovak association	300,000	School of Echoes from Home	100,000
Society of Citizens Assisting Migrants	223,227	We found a home here, or the life of a foreigner in Bohemia	150,000
SPHV	91,000	Multicultural education – prejudices and stereotypes; didactic project on a cross-sectional theme	91,000
Teacher Training Faculty, Charles University, Prague	311 500	Education of minorities living in the Czech Republic	245,000
Lidice Monument, organization partly funded from the public purse, founded by the Ministry of Culture	501 410	Knowledge competition for young people – Lidice for the 21 st century	400,000
	284 145	Seminar for teachers – Story of the Czech village of Lidice	284,145
Primary school, Ústí nad Labem, Školní náměstí 100/5, organization partly funded from the public purse	152 144	Předlice together 4	152,144
total			8,288,465

Ministry of Culture – Programme to Promote the Integration of Members of the Roma Community

Summary of projects

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Athinganoi, Prague	Celebrations of International Roma Day in 2006	49,818
Democratic Alliance of Roma in the Czech Republic, Valašské Meziříčí	Jekhetane – Together	80,000
	Roma Song 2006	400,000
Drom, non-profit company, Brno	Festival of music and dance	25,000
	Roma folk music and dance	50,000
	Traditional Roma crafts 2006	150,000
Hurray Friends Club, Pardubice	Children's summer workshop – let's get to know each other	60,000
Chánov Community Centre, Most	Our song and dance 2006	80,000
Miret, Bystré u Poličky	International Roma Festival – Gypsy Celebration 2006	200,000
Museum of Roma Culture, Brno	Exhibition of Roma clothing and accessories – We were to our own (What are you wearing?)	133,000
Mania, civic association, Chomutov	Talent Roma	45,000
R-Mosty, civic association, Praha 5	Culture and awareness in the Roma community centre	40,000
Savore civic association, Šumperk	Romano Džives	31 200
Association of Roma in North Moravia, civic association, Karviná	7 th Karviná Roma Festival 2006	200,000
Litvínov Co-existence, civic association, Litvínov	Coming to grips with our own culture	33,000
Co-existence, civic association, Ostrava	Days of Roma Culture 2006, Ostrava	30,000
Romea, Praha 1	Presentation of Roma culture in the media	55,000
Romano jasnica association, Trmice	3 rd Multi-coloured music festival in Trmice	50,000
Association of Roma Citizens in Lysá nad Labem	6 th Roma festival in Lysá nad Labem 2006	35,000
Association of Roma in Moravia, Brno	Fifth Annual Djangofest	22,000
'Beginning Together' Community, Plzeň	Miro suno	15,000
Association of Friends for the Publication of the Periodical Host, Brno	Special issue of <i>Host</i> devoted to Roma literature	65,000
Committee for Compensation for the Roma Holocaust in the Czech Republic, Hořice	Exhibition of the Holocaust of the Sinti and Roma in Europe	150,000

Total 1,999,018

**Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – Summary of projects geared towards the
integration of the Roma minority supported in 2006**

PROJECTS SUPPORTED FROM ESF FUNDS

Projects directly focusing on support of the Roma minority

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>plan</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association for Probation and Mediation in the Judiciary	System of mentoring in criminal justice	The prime objective of the project is to create a national <i>Mentor</i> system that can be applied anywhere in the Czech Republic, including a system for cooperation between the mentor and the <i>Probation and Mediation Service of the Czech Republic</i> . The project will help improve respect for Roma and reduce the risk of their social exclusion. Thanks to the project, members of the Roma minority who fall foul of the law will have a better chance to reintegrate into society.	6,166,680 / 1,891,990
DROM, o.p.s.	Two-level educational programme – DROM for field social workers	The two-level educational programme <i>Drom</i> for field social workers is designed to increase skills for work in socially excluded localities. The prime objective of the programme is to provide a minimum of specialized training to field social workers, especially those who, for various reasons, have not had the opportunity to enjoy a formal education or whose education is not suited to work in a public-service profession. Education is conceived as multi-spectral and the themes of individual seminars concern areas which the field workers meet most frequently in their work (civil law, methods and techniques of field work, employment projects, socio-pathological phenomena, etc.).	5,725,500 / 2,172,946
DROM, Roma centre	SASTIPEN CR – Health and social assistants in excluded localities	The prime aim of the project is to create and test a network of health and social assistants for Roma at risk of social exclusion. The assistants should operate as mediators and advisers, facilitating better communication and mutual access between the Roma minority and the health system. In terms of implementation, the project can be expanded to the level of a pilot study, social activity and the actual training of 20 assistants.	10,802,620 / 5,235,415
Slovo 21	Pale o vudar – Open doors	This project focuses on the education of the Roma community – on the support of Roma students at universities.	2,167,700 / 1,115,067
Mutual Co-existence civic association	Key to Change	This project follows up on <i>Co-existence's</i> eight-year experience in socially excluded Roma communities in Ostrava and the surrounding area, field programmes and community work in these localities, and draws on stimuli and feedback from clients. The projects principal instruments lie in the provision of services directly in localities inhabited by socially excluded people; these services are provided by a professional Czech-Roma team which tries to lessen and where possible remove barriers in social, cultural, education, communication, and economic fields which cause marginalization.	13,699,302 / 6,141,235

Moravskoslezský kraj	TERNE CHAVE (Young People) – project for the training of professional staff of centres for the development of functional literacy of young Roma people	The project entails the creation of seven implementation teams and their training in social work methods, focusing on the development of the functional literacy of young people coming from the Roma ethnic group. The aim of this project is to pave the way for a functioning network of providers of specific social services designed primarily for users at risk of social exclusion as a result of living in spatially segregated localities in the province.	4,127,600 / 1,074,852
Roma Civic Association, Karlovy Vary	Training of Roma field social workers	The aim of the training is to improve the quality of field social work, with an emphasis on the positive impact in the field of motivating clients to look for work and address their personal problems. In this context, field social workers are viewed as an opportunity to contact clients in their natural environment, and to aid and support the Roma ethnic group with the aim of integration into majority society. A related social service is the work of the Citizens' Advice Bureau, which is a member of the <i>Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaus of the Czech Republic</i> and is operated by an applicant in Karlovy Vary. The programme they pass through during training is also sent to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport for official accreditation under the name <i>Course: Field Social Worker</i> .	713,000 / 355,250
Romodrom	Romodrom for the Regions II.	The aim of the project is to create a comprehensive, coordinated programme of field social work focusing on the issue of lessening the social exclusion of the Roma minority. A system programme of field social work, culminating in an increase in the standard of the services provided in individual regions, will be created. A major boon of the project is the establishment of cooperation between individual Roma organizations. The programme of field social work will focus on clients from the Roma minority and implemented by Roma entities, Roma field social workers. This means natural knowledge of the specific needs of the Roma – their cultural and linguistic specific features – will be used.	13,266,400 / 3,316,600
Association of Roma in Moravia	Field social work in Roma communities	The project <i>Field Social Work in Roma Communities</i> focuses on the provision of field social services for Roma citizens who fall in the category of socially excluded persons or at risk of falling in this category.	7,941,475 / 1,500,001
Krok (Step)	Training and cooperation	This project, through the innovative method of the comprehensive training of social workers, will provide the predominantly Roma population with the opportunity of acquiring or adding to their social education, thus making it easier for them to be integrated into the labour market. The aim of the project is to train and prepare social workers, who will be involved in social work and will be willing to work in the prepared Roma re-socialization community, and persons who want to expand their social education.	2,007,010 / 501,752

Total 66,617,287 / 23,305,108

Projects concerning the Roma minority in part

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>plan</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Sananim civic association	Systematic training for social service providers in the field of addiction-related diseases	This is a coherent educational programme for social service workers in the field of alcohol and non-alcohol drug addiction, comprising on a basic course for new workers of low-threshold facilities and advice centres with a specific expansion to incorporate Roma employees and employees from national minorities in this area.	3,020,600 / 816,900
Palačák University, Olomouc – Teacher Training Faculty	Training of providers of services to minority groups of the population in the light of their job prospects	The subject of the project is the creation and implementation of a modern education system for social service providers that will focus on developing the client's specific and transferable skills. The idea of the project is to foster the capabilities and skills of minority groups of the population so that they can find a footing on the labour market. The target groups are primarily workers at social facilities working in supported employment projects with the disabled, social therapists working in halfway houses and sheltered workshops, workers at shelters, workers at community centres working with Roma, workers at asylum facilities – reception centres, asylum residence centres and integration asylum centres. A secondary target group is representatives of minorities.	1,874,420 / 830,817
Horizons civic association	Programme of support in the introduction of social service quality standards	The content of this project is training programmes for five non-profit organizations to support the introduction of social service quality standards. Key activities are training programmes tailored for each organization involved, following an analysis of its requirements. Each training programme contains a series of workshops focusing on the introduction of social service quality standards. The number and content of workshops is set for each organization based on its needs. The project's target groups are social service providers. Specifically, it is for the employees of five non-profit organizations providing social services: - Drom, Roma Centre (Brno), - IQ Roma servis (Brno), - J. J. Pestalozzi Centre (Chrudim), - Co-existence (Ostrava), - Roudnice nad Labem Parish Charity.	3,330,394 / 1,474,165
Jan Evangelista Purkyně University	VIA II – Training of field social workers	VIA II follows up on the VIA project, which is implemented in Ústecký kraj under the Phare 2003 programme, and wants to use its output – training courses for field social workers, a publication on field social work and the use of websites to improve awareness and speed up and simplify communication between field social workers. The direct target group of the project will be field social workers who work with problem minorities, the homeless, young people living on the edge, drug addicts...	3,641,800 / 910,450

Total 11,867,214 / 4,032,332

PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY GRANTS FROM THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
AWARDED TO NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SOCIAL SERVICES

Programme of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for support of the provision of special social services in socially excluded Roma communities

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>social service</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Plzeň Diocesan Charity	Field social work for families with children and young people at risk of social exclusion (original name: Field social work in families at risk of social exclusion – Plzeň)	Social guidance	719,200
Pontis Šumperk o.p.s.	Low-threshold club for children and young people Rachot		427,200
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren	Low-threshold club for Roma children and young people ROMAklub		760,900
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren	Community centre for Roma families in Vsetín	Social activation services for families with children	342,400
Silesian Diacony	Low-threshold facility for children and young people Bohumín-Pudlov	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	450,900
Prague Archidiaconal Charity	Station and club for Roma children Roudnice nad Labem		1,665,700
Diocesan Charity Litoměřice	Advice centre for young people at risk – Living Together		396,900
	Community centre Světluška	501,700	
	Community centre Amicus	231,500	
Diocesan Charity Hradec Králové	Community educational centre Maják	Other	462,900
Diocesan Charity Brno	Clubroom for Roma children and young people	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	1,122,100
	Community centre for children and young people Třebíč		585,300
	Community centre Puteren o Vudar Blansko	Social activation services for families with children	121,800
Archidiaconal Charity Olomouc	Charity station Khamoro – Sun for Roma děti	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	778,000
	Jiloro – social station for children from Roma and socially disadvantaged families, Šternberk		405,100
	Community centre <i>Zeferino</i>		694,600
	Community centre <i>Convergence</i> , Kroměříž		368,500
	Club of Roma children and women		547,400
	Roma community centre Lačo jilo – Good Heart		352,200
	Centrum for Roma mothers and children	Day service centres	470,400
Diocesan Charity Ostravsko-Opavská	Nezbeda Club	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	300,900
Diocesan Charity Ostravsko-Opavská	No-School		153,100
	Village of Co-existence in Ostrava – Muglinov		2,734,800
	Zvidálek centre of extra-curricular activities for Roma children		71,100

People in Need – Society attached to Czech Television	Field programmes in socially excluded localities	Field programmes	10,761,000
Association of Roma in Moravia	Field social work in Roma communities II		1,592,000
Hope	Integration programme – Houses of Hope, Česká Třebová and Vysoké Mýto	Social activation services for families with children	173,800
	Integration programme, Plzeň	Field programmes	241,900
	Integration programme, Písek		260,800
ROSA Centre for the Assistance of Children At Risk	Care for ethnically disadvantaged and socially vulnerable children	Field programmes	216,100
civic association Velká Ohrada	Provision of special social services for Roma	Social guidance	223,200
civic association Ratolest Brno	Low-threshold club PAVLAČ	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	259,900
Beginning Together Community	Club	Other	226,500
KAPPA-HELP	ROMA COMMUNITY CENTRE KAPPA - HELP	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	279,900
civic association Sallinger	Community centre at Pražská and Okružní ulice in Hradec Králové	Other	1,617,500
NOPO - Independent Citizen's Advice Bureau, Olomouc	ROMA FOR SOCIETY – Development of special advisory and ancillary services for citizens at risk of social exclusion, including social field work	Social guidance	609,400
Lačhe Čhave	PRO 2006	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	430,800
Together - Jekhetane	Comprehensive community programme implemented at community centres set up in localities in the cadastral district of Ostrava densely populated by Roma families		1,599,700
civic association Savore	Savore – cultural, social and educational base VII.		372,800
Co-existence Litvínov	Living Together		334,500
	Social advisory and information centre for Roma	Social guidance	164,900
civic association EPONA	From the street back to horses and nature	Day service centres	84,700
Petrov – association for work with children and young people	Assistance for Roma children	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	288,300
IQ ROMA SERVIS	IQ Roma Servis – Community centre and field social work	Field programmes	1,768,900
civic association Romano dives	Housing, work, qualifications – three elements in the development of the Roma community	Social guidance	365,300
Khamoro-Roma integration centre	Khamoro - Roma integration centre	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	458,000
Liberec Roma Association	Field social work in the Liberec Region	Field programmes	224,600
civic association Shared Life	Provision of social counselling and targeted assistance in the handling of housing and social problems in socially excluded Roma communities in the form of field social work.	Field programmes	287,200
civic association Bohemian West	Progressing with the courage to tackle issues	Other	302,300
civic association of children and young people 'Beginning Together'	Civil law counselling	Social guidance	809,900

Darjav	People in a Roma locality	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	670,100
Cikne Čhave	CC advice centre	Other	151,000
Argo	Chance	Social guidance	564,800
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren	Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, Rokycany	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	500,000
Most District Charity	Let's play together		207,800
civic association Světlo	Families against exclusion		345,000
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Plzeň	Increasing the job prospects of members of the Roma community	Social guidance	378,000
Together Jekhetane	Community headquarters.....		1,000,000
civic association Co-existence	Development of timely assistance for inhabitants..	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	5,313,300
Co-existence, Litvínov	Social counselling and information centre for Roma	Social guidance	347,300
civic association Ester	Prevention of exclusion in Roma communities	Other	2,061,100
Chánov Community Centre	Elimination of the social exclusion of Roma in Chánov	Social guidance	1,010,900
IQ Roma Servis	Youth Centre		1,090,600
League for Human Rights, Rights of Children and Young People	DZHIVIPEN	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	3,978,000
civic association Bohemian West	On our own two feet	Other	279,500
Romano Jasnica association	Centres in the Ústecko area	Social guidance	460,700
civic association Beginning Together	Community centre	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	492,700
Jekhetani Luma	Comprehensive assistance for long-term unemployed Roma	social guidance	521,900
Palaestra	Programme of comprehensive assistance for the successful social integration of children	Low-threshold facility for children and young people	995,400
Association of Roma and National Minorities of the Czech Republic	Social guidance for members of Roma communities	Social guidance	300,000
Association of Roma and National Minorities, Plzeňský kraj	Jekhetano Drom	Field programmes	150,000
Total			59,436,600

**PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY GRANTS FROM THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
AWARDED TO NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING FAMILY SUPPORT**

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>plan</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Roma Vidnava	Family centre	Free-time and consulting activities for families taking care of children up to the age of 6 years, with a view to the prevention of social exclusion + rehabilitation of families with children at risk of dysfunction	321,200
Slovo 21, civic association	Dzhivipen andro pativ the andro kamiben – Life in Harmony and Love	Awareness, preventive and consulting activities concerning family, partnership and parenthood issues. This project includes discussions with young Roma (once a month), two three-day seminars for young Roma aged between 13 and 18, three one-day workshops for Roma families, a seven day course for future instructors	291,300
Total			612,500

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports – grant programme to support the integration of the Roma community in 2006: summary of projects

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Primary School, Praha 3, Havlíčkovo náměstí 10/300	School with full-day programme, Havlíčkovo náměstí	1,321,276
Primary School, Praha 5 - Smíchov, Grafická 13	School with full-day programme, Grafická	1,314,110
Primary school, Jihlava, Jarní 22	School in the countryside	150,000
Primary School and Nursery School, Brno, nám. 28. října 22	School with full-day programme	200,000
Total		2,985,386

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
MANIA civic association	Sluníčko Community Centre	90,000
Primary School and Nursery School, Brno, Křenová 21 (organization partly funded from the public purse)	School for the whole family	24,000
Primary School and Nursery School, Brno, nám. 28. října 22	School with full-day programme in the centre of Brno	150,000
Liberec Roma Association	Free-time activities of the Liberec Roma Association	228,000
Primary School, Dobromilice, Prostějov (organization partly funded from the public purse)	Children's club	100,000
Savore civic association	Savore – cultural, social and educational base VII	190,000
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren	Preschool preparation of Roma children	200,000
TJ FC- Roma Karlovy Vary	Understanding and tolerance through sport	160,000
Association of Roma and National Minorities in Hodonín	Educational activities	150,000
Primary school and nursery school, Ejovice, Rokycany	Support for the adaptation of the curriculum in the school in the light of the specific composition of pupils	80,000
Educational and Psychological Counselling Institute of the Czech Republic	'Teaching assistant' course	188,000
Protivín Parish Charity	Preschool club for Roma children – Rybička ('Little Fish')	100,000
Primary school, nursery school (special) and Practical School, Jesenice	Creative workshop	36,260
PALAESTRA, association for extra-curricular sports activities	Support for the extra-curricular activities of children and young people	60,000
Lužánky – free time centre, Brno, Lidická 50	From the earth to a flower	65,016
Primary School, Bílina, Lidická 31/18, Teplice (organization partly funded from the public purse)	Working with computers better and more easily	116,938
	Choosing a career	62,000
Primary School, Most, Zlatnická 186 (organization partly funded from the public purse)	Preschool club	129,640
Post-Secondary Vocational College, Secondary Teaching School and Commercial Academy, Most, Zd. Fibicha 2778, organization partly funded from the public purse	EDUCA-ROM	200,000
Drom, o.p.s.	Free-time activities for children and young people from socially excluded localities	143,200
Hranice House of Children and Young People	We Can Communicate	150,000
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren	Free-time education of Roma children and young people at the Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren – centre in Vsetín	90,000
'Beginning Together' Community	Club	313,625
Šluknov Roma Association	Computer club for children and young people	40,000
Primary school, Krnov, nám. Míru 13, Bruntál, organization partly funded from the public purse	Road safety	126,000
Grammar School, Králíky, Velké náměstí 367	Two-week intensive introductory course for socio-culturally disadvantaged children	220,000

total 3,412,679

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Primary school, Lipník nad Bečvou, Osecká 301	Playing as a basic activity for children's self-realization, or how to play, learn and create in the Dandelion play centre	70,000
Primary school and nursery school, Vsetín, Turkmenská	Integration of the Roma community – promotion of extra-curricular activities and preparation for successful integration at primary school	124,574
	Afternoon at school	73,360
Primary school, Brodek u Prostějova, Prostějov	Internet club	60,000
Brno Diocesan Charity – Jihlava District Charity	Club for preschool Roma children and their mothers	219,000
Lovosice Parish Charity	Amicus Community Centre	150,000
Masaryk University, Brno	Educational programmes designed for the Roma population	469,000
Salesian Youth Centre – House of Children and Young People, České Budějovice	Activities open to everyone	165,780
Secondary school, primary school, and nursery school, Šumperk, Hanácká 3	Open Doors	240,000
Brno Diocesan Charity – Třebíč District Charity	Ambrela - community centre for children and young people, Třebíč (formerly Roma Centre – club for children and young people)	300,000
Přerov Most District Charity	Roma community centre – wandering through the history of the region	86,000
Horizon civic association, Jihlava	Lentilky community centre	64,000
Šluknov Roma Association	Music club	50,000
Primary School and Practical School, Kladno, Pařížská 2249	Afternoons without boredom	53,000
Primary School and Practical School, Kutná Hora	Music helps children	86,540
Primary School and Nursery School, Brno, Křenová 21 (organization partly funded from the public purse)	KŘENKA low-threshold club	418,770
Post-Secondary Vocational College, Secondary Teaching School and Commercial Academy, Most, Zd. Fibicha 2778, organization partly funded from the public purse	IN-ROM	849,680
Czech Democratic Alliance of Roma	Support for the education of Roma children	188,940
Child – Chavoro	Assistance in the education of Roma children	231,000
Primary School, Most, organization partly funded from the public purse, Zlatnická 186, 434 01 Most	Learning through play	306,400
ROMIPEN	Children, come to school!	369,240
Bohemian West civic association	Doors always open	385,325
Beginning Together civic association	Community centre – low-threshold facility	492,700
'No Difference'	No Difference low-threshold centre – educational and free-time activities	300,000
Teatro civic association	Singing course – support for the development of expression through voice	441,000

total 6,223,309

Summary of municipalities where more than 10% of the population comprises members of national minorities and where no Committee for National Minorities has been set up⁷²⁾

<i>Municipality where at least 10% of the population comprises members of national minorities</i>	<i>National minority</i>	<i>Remarks, reason for not setting up a committee</i>
Abertamy	German, Slovak	---
Benešov nad Černou	Slovak, Ukrainian, German	no request to set up a committee
Bělá pod Pradědem	Slovak, German, Roma, Ukrainian, Polish	lack of interest
Bílá	Slovak	lack of interest
Bohdalovice	Slovak, German	'there are no national minorities'
Bublava	German, Slovak	---
Březová (Sokolov)	Slovak, German	lack of interest
Cetechovice	Slovak	none in the municipality since 2005
Dasnice	Slovak, German	---
Dolní Dvořiště	Slovak, Ukrainian, German	lack of interest
Dolní Nivy	Slovak, German	'there are no national minorities'
Doubrava	Polish, Slovak	did exist, discontinued since 2005 for formal reasons, the minority is not interested
Dubenec	Ukrainian	'less than 10% of citizens of foreign nationality' in the municipality
Frymburk	Slovak	---
Habartov	Slovak, German	---
Hlavenec	Slovak	---
Horní Blatná	German, Slovak	---
Horní Maršov	Slovak, German, Polish	---
Horní Tošanovice	Slovak, Polish	---
Hrčava	Slovak, Polish	lack of interest
Chbany	Slovak, German	---
Chvaleč	Slovak, German, Polish	'the minorities do not account for 10%'
Jáchymov	Slovak, German, Ukrainian	---
Jindřichovice	Slovak, German	---
Josefův Důl	German, Slovak	---
Královské Poříčí	Slovak, German	---
Krásná	Slovak, German	lack of interest
Kryštofovo Údolí	German	---
Křišťanovice	Slovak, Roma	no organizations
Kytlice	German, Slovak, Ukrainian	lack of interest
Lenora	Slovak, German	lack of interest
Lesná	Slovak, Ukrainian, German	lack of interest
Libá	Slovak, German	'there are no national minorities'
Lipno nad Vltavou	Slovak, Ukrainian, German	the municipality did not register any willingness for a committee to be set up
Lipová (Děčín)	German, Slovak, Ukrainian	the minorities are inactive
Loučovice	Slovak, German, Polish	no organizations
Malá Morava	Slovak, German	lack of interest
Malonty	Slovak, German	lack of interest
Merklín	Slovak, German	---
Milotice nad Opavou	Slovak	---
Nebanice	Slovak, German	---
Nepomyšl	Slovak, German	---
Nová Pec	Slovak	---

⁷²⁾ The submitter drew on the 2001 census (<http://www.czso.cz/sldb/sldb2001.nsf/index>); the current population could therefore have changed since then, but this is not taken into consideration.

Potůčky	German, Slovak	lack of interest
Přední Výtoň	Slovak, German	---
Rožmberk nad Vltavou	Slovak, German	the minorities don't feel any need
Rožmitál na Šumavě	Slovak	'some of the number cited as Slovaks are Roma who do not live in the municipality' ⁷³⁾
Skalná	German, Slovak	---
Skorošice	Slovak, German	no organizations
Staré Sedlo	German, Slovak	discontinued due to 'inactivity'
Stříbrná	German, Slovak	lack of interest
Světlík	Slovak	---
Vápenná	Slovak, German	---
Velká Štáhle	Slovak	---
Velké Kuněvice	Roma, Slovak	---
Velký Karlov	Slovak, Ukrainian	no organizations
Vidnava	Slovak, German	---
Vilémov	German, Slovak, Polish	---
Vysoká Pec	German, Slovak	---

<i>Municipality where at least 10% of the population comprises members of national minorities, but where the population is not more than 200</i>	<i>Number of members of national minorities</i>
Broumov, okr. Tachov (125 obyvatel)	14 Slovaks, 4 Ukrainians
Dalešice (114)	10 Germans
Hory (185)	11 Slovaks, 11 Germans
Hraběšice (101)	8 Germans, 4 Slovaks
Kámen (154)	4 Slovaks
Korozluky (123)	7 Slovaks, 6 Germans
Malšín (113)	37 Slovaks
Měděnec (155)	39 Germans
Mikulov(150)	22 Germans
Moldava (141)	7 Germans, 16 Vietnamese
Ostružná (154)	11 Slovaks, 3 Germans
Podhradí (166)	14 Slovaks, 10 Germans
Rokytovec (124)	12 Slovaks
Tatrovice (134)	28 Germans, 4 Slovaks
Těšovice (140)	10 Germans, 8 Slovaks
Velký Luh (126)	17 Slovaks, 7 Germans
Vojtanov (192)	11 Slovaks
Vrbice (170)	16 Slovaks, 2 Roma, 1 Pole and 1 Ukrainian

<i>Municipality where at least 10% of the population comprises members of national minorities, but where this includes the Vietnamese, Moravian and/or Silesian community</i>	<i>specifically</i>
Bohumín	Moravian, Silesian
Branná	Moravian, German, Slovak
Hošťka	Vietnamese, Moravian
Hřensko	Vietnamese
Hroznětín	Vietnamese
Huzová	Moravian
Javorník	Moravian, Silesian
Jenišov	Vietnamese
Jindřichov	Moravian
Krásný Dvůr	Moravian
Mírová	Vietnamese
Nová Ves v Horách	Vietnamese
Otovice	Vietnamese
Petrovice	Vietnamese
Přimda	Vietnamese

⁷³⁾ Note of the submitter of the Report – the anonymity of the census results tends to be used as an argument for the assembly not to set up a committee. Here the parish chairwoman is sure which nationalities are in the municipality without specifying how she came to her conclusion.

Rotava	Moravian, Vietnamese
Sokolov	Vietnamese, Moravian, Silesian
Vestec	Vietnamese
Vyšší Brod	Vietnamese, Moravian, Silesian
Železná Ruda	Vietnamese

Municipalities, chartered cities and provinces – Summary of grants provided to promote the organizations of members of national minorities and to promote the integration of the Roma community in 2006 – summary of projects

MUNICIPALITIES

ALBRECHTICE

In 2006, the municipality donated CZK 20,000 as a non-capital grant under Resolution of the Municipal Council No 94/06 of 22 June 2006.

BOCANOVICE

The municipal assembly was constructive in relation to the Polish minority organized in the local PZKO chapter. In 2006, the PZKO received financial assistance for repairs to its facilities.

BRNO – ŘEČKOVICE AND MOKRÁ HORA

The borough incorporates a financial amount in its budget that is earmarked for the committee's activities. The committee is composed of members of the borough assembly and activists claiming membership of a minority national group.⁷⁴⁾

BUKOVEC

In 2006, the municipality did not financially support the activities of local nationality organizations as local organizations did not apply for any such assistance in 2006. There is no separate grant title in the budget for these events. It is worth mentioning the financial assistance provided by the municipality for a school theatre production organized and rehearsed by the local primary school with Polish as the language of instruction.

BYSTRICE

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
PZKO	capital grant for the renovation of the PZKO building	100,000
	publication of the prospectus W.Przeczek	3,000
	ZLOT festival	35,000
Primary School with Polish as the Language of Instruction	folk ensemble activities	28,000
	Majowy concert	10,000
	Zjazd gwiazdzisty	10,000
	student exchange	4,000
	running races	5,000
	Pupils' swimming championship	15,000
Polish Youth Association	Days of Student Culture	3,000

ČESKÝ TĚŠÍN

In 2006, the municipality supported the organization / activities of national minorities within the scope of the Principles for the Provision of Grants from the Český Těšín Municipal Budget for the Support of Cultural, Artistic, Sports and Other Activities. Grants were awarded, for example, to the following entities:

⁷⁴⁾ Note by the submitter of the report: it is not clear whether or not the borough supports the activities of members of national minorities.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of Polish Youth in the Czech Republic	grant for activities	10,000
PZKO	grant for activities of the local chapter	27,000
Zaolziańskie Towarzystwo Fotograficzne	grant for activities	16,000
Ars Musica Polish Art Association	grant for activities	29,500
Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic	grant for activities	15,000
Harcerstwo Polskie w Republice Czeskiej	grant for activities	10,000

DOLNÍ LOMNÁ

The municipality made a financial contribution, together with the Dolní Lomná, to the investment project *Reconstruction of the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction*. Dolní Lomná contributed CZK 1,395,146, the Ministry of Finance CZK 10,546,000.

DOUBRAVA

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
PZKO	grant for activities of the local chapter	8,000

The municipality did not set up a committee, but cooperates well with the Polish minority; it makes the Doubrava National House available free of charge.

HNOJNÍK

No direct financial assistance was provided. Indirect assistance included the free of operation of a stall and sound cooperation at cultural and social events held in the municipality.

HORNÍ SUCHÁ

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Local PZKO chapter	Support of cultural and sporting activities	85,000
	Repair of the façade and replacement of external doors of the PZKO building	742,000
Local chapter of the Democratic Alliance of Roma	Support of cultural and sporting activities	9,000
Macierz Szkolna	Support of cultural and sporting activities	10,000
Macierz Przedszkola	Support of cultural and sporting activities	9,500
Harcerstwo Polskie w Republice Czeskiej	Support of cultural and sporting activities	7,200

HRÁDEK

The local PZKO chapter received a grant available for local organizations and associations. The municipality co-finances sports events organized together with the PZKO.

CHEB

Most of the assistance from the city is channelled into Roma organizations; in the past two years, three have reported activities – the *Laco jilo* civic association (a youth dance troupe), the *Council of Roma Organizations* and the *Roma Working Society*.

The rent and services for room hire, for example, are covered for these organizations from the budget of the social affairs and health department (CZK 160,000 in 2006). In addition, the city awarded the following grant:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Laco jilo civic association	one-off events and year-round activities for young people	60,000

In addition a further CZK 50,000 is earmarked in the department's budget for events relating to the integration of the Roma (social events, support of the activities of the low-threshold

centre for Roma children, school equipment for Roma children at the 4th and 6th primary school, etc.).

CHODOV

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Khamoro civic association	Coverage of some of the electricity costs at the Shelter	19 500
	Free-time activities of young people	19 900
	International Roma Day	4 787

CHOTĚBUZ

Following a request from one of the Polish organizations, the municipality approved a financial grant of CZK 5,000 for the organization's activities. The other Polish organization did not apply for a grant.

JABLUNKOV

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
PZKO	A. Sikora Regional Hall	10,000
	Gorolski Święto folk festival	30,000
	Gorol choir	7,000
	Zaolzi folk ensemble	7,000
	Zaolzioczek children's folk ensemble	10,000
	Nowina folk band	10,000
	Wianki folk festival	1,000
	Gorolski Dym rock festival	5,000
	folk craft seminar and workshops	10,000
Torka children's folk ensemble	activity	10,000
Lipka children's folk ensemble	activity	10,000
Nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction	cultural and sports event on Children's Day	2,000
H. Sienkiewicz primary school with Polish as the language of instruction	Zjazd Gwiazdzisty ski races	20,000
	year-round school competition	5,000
Roman Catholic parish in Jablunkov	church choir	4,000
DDM Jablunkov	Rytmik dance club	15,000

JIŘÍKOV

In 2006, the municipality did not financially assist any national minority organizations or their activities.

JOSEFOV

The municipality did not financially support the activities of national minorities.

JOSEFŮV DŮL

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Union of Germans –Jablonec n. N. Region	The organization's activities	6,000

KOBYLÁ NAD VIDNAVKOU

The municipality covered the repair of a building, costing more than CZK 600,000.⁷⁵⁾ The municipality submitted several proposals for housing projects, but none were successful because of issues regarding the ownership of the buildings. This has now been resolved. The

⁷⁵⁾ They evidently mean a building occupied predominantly by inhabitants of Roma origin.

building was transferred to one of the tenants free of charge after the repairs. The municipality participated in a long-term employment programme and, beyond the scope of the community work programme, recruited a further five people at risk of long-term unemployment or with disabilities. This programme will continue in 2007.

The municipality made financial contributions to the costs of the nursery school and a club at the primary school. In this respect, it significantly affected the sending of children to the preschool facility and subsequently affects their learning results. It eliminated the transfer of pupils from our low-class school to schools with a special focus, not only formally, but also due to the knowledge acquired at the level of other pupils. In the near future, the municipality will deal with the placement of former pupils in fields of study; this will significantly improve the children's inclusion in society without restricting their job prospects.

Funds to cover the costs for these children are obtained, for example, at cultural and social events held by the municipality's officials. In the opinion of the municipal chairman, there is no need to apply for funds for everything: 'Becoming involved and showing a willingness to work can work wonders in a small municipality.'

KRAVAŘE

In 2006, the municipality did not provide any grants in relation to national minorities.

MALÁ ŠTÁHLE

Not realized separately.

MĚROVICE NAD HANOU

The municipality does not have property where it can hold various courses for the education of citizens of another nationality. Therefore, funds are not earmarked from the municipal budget for the development of the special-interest activities of citizens.

MIKULÁŠOVICE

CZK 10,000 – 20,000 is generally earmarked in the municipal budget.

MOSTY U JABLUNKOVA

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Przełęcz choir	The organization's activities	14 300
Górole group	The organization's activities	14 700
Local PZKO chapter	The organization's activities	14 800
Macierz Szkolna	The organization's activities	11 200

NÁVSÍ

The municipality arranges for children of the Polish minority to receive lessons at the school and the preschool facility. It also co-finances the cost of the local library's collection of Polish literature. The Návsí PZKO chapter was awarded a grant (a special grant title in the budget) of CZK 63,000 to acquire local Horal folk costumes.

The *Melodia* women's choir, active as part of the local PZKO chapter in Návsí, as part of the *Melodia Beskyd* project under the Operational Programme INTERREG III A Czech Republic – Poland (ERDF Structural Fund) (Measure: *Support for the initiatives of local communities (micro-projects)*), obtained CZK 112,500 in financial aid from the European Union out of a total budget of CZK 150,000. This project entailed the performance of four concerts (two in the Czech Republic and two in Poland) and the publication of a bilingual information leaflet and brochure.

NEJDEK

In 2006, no society or organization dealing with minorities applied for financial resources.

NOVÉ MĚSTO POD SMRKEM

The town expressed financial assistance primarily in the form of the free use of the former nursery school by the civic association *Community Centre Without Discrimination*.

The town also contributes to activities in the form of grants, e.g. to the *Association of Citizens of German Nationality*.

NOVÉ SEDLO

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Meta – Roma Integration Centre, civic association	activity	3,000
	Summer camp for Roma children	20 800

NÝDEK

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
PZKO	Lump-sum grant for activities	20,000

ORLOVÁ

In 2006, civic associations and associations had the opportunity to apply for non-capital grants for their events from the variable funds of culture and children and young people.

PÍSEK

The municipality did not financially support the activities of national minorities.

PRAHA 5

In 2006, the financial assistance of organizations and activities of national minorities mainly occurred within other grant schemes, through the provision of grants, the provision of minimum prices for hire for civic associations, and the provision of computers and equipment.

ROPICE

The municipality complied with the requirements of the national minority, primarily by making financial contributions to certain events. Grant schemes have not been used in our municipality.

SKALNÁ

The town makes an annual lump-sum contribution to the *Cultural Association of Citizens of German Nationality* (the local Skalná chapter) for its activities; this contribution is subject to approval by the Town Council. The town supports irregular events with lump-sum contributions, e.g. to cover the hire of the Social Hall. These funds are released from the approved town budget.

STARÁ VES

The municipality does not earmark special funds in its budget for the requirements of the national minority, as the national minority does not express itself as a minority.

STONAVA

The municipality financially supports the activities of national minorities, covers the cost of hiring the hall and rooms where the choir rehearses, and arranges for the purchase of books and periodicals in Polish for the library.

It makes an annual contribution of CZK 15,000 to rent and the activities of national minorities, and CZK 5,000 to the purchase of periodicals and books for the library.

TĚRLICKO

Every year the municipality distributes grants for the activities of special-interest organizations. Special-interest organizations submit grant applications; in 2006 CZK 20,000

was distributed, and was awarded for a theatre project, a Children's Festival, a tournament of a traditional ball game (similar to piggy in the middle), an exhibition of handiwork, and sports events.

TŘANOVICE

In 2006, the municipality provided financial support of CZK 9,000 through its programme to the activities of the local PZKO chapter.

TŘINEC

Every year, Třinec earmarks financial contributions from its budget for special-interest activities in culture and sport. In 2006, CZK 4,500,000 was distributed in the form of assistance for specific projects. The following national minority organizations were assisted:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Local PZKO chapter, Oldřichovice	Activities of the Oldrzychowice dance troupe	20,000
	Dožínky na fojtství, Oldřichovice	3,000
	Activities of the Tyrka z Oldřichovice dance troupe	5,000
Local PZKO chapter, Nebory	Dzień Oszeldy	10,000
Local PZKO chapter, Kanada	Zgoda choir	10,000
Guty PZKO	Dożynki Śląskie – Silesian Harvest Thanksgiving	3,000
Local PZKO chapter, Dolní Líštná	Puchar lata – international championships (30 th jubilee)	5,000
Macierz szkolna at the primary school with Polish as the language of instruction (Nádražní 10)	May Bar – Poprzecka majowa	3,000
Association of Greek Communities in the Czech Republic, Greek Community of Třinec	Cultural events, dance club	10,000
	Greek Community sports activities	5,000
Regional Community of Slovaks in Třinec	Day of National Minorities	5,000
	Year-round activities of the children's folk ensemble	5,000
	Sports games in the Euroregion	5,000
Láčo Láv civic association	Activities of the Roma youth music group	1,500
	Sports activities of the Roma community	5,000
total		95,500

VEJPRTY

A community centre was built. The children became accustomed to regular attendance, sometimes with their parents, and other children from primary schools made their way here. Interesting discussions were held here with doctors, lawyers, and social workers, who answered all the questions asked by those in attendance. The town contributed to the centre's operating costs.

VENDRYNĚ

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Local PZKO chapter - Cytelnia	Repair of the roof and replacement of windows at the house of culture.	170,000
Local PZKO chapter - Zaolzie	PZKO building - repairs	70,000

VĚLOPOLÍ

The municipality did not financially support the activities of national minorities; there are no national minority organizations here.

VLČICE

The municipality did not financially support organizations / activities of national minorities in 2006.

CHARTERED CITIES

BRNO

Social Welfare Department	<i>total</i>	<i>of which for Roma organizations</i>
national minorities	800,000	75,000
Crime prevention	880,000	880,000
Culture Department	127,000	35,000
Department of Youth, Education and Culture	175,000	44,000
total	1,982,000	1,034,000

Grants were awarded to minority organizations from the city budget for cultural and special-interest activities, publishing, free-time activities for unorganized children, including young Roma people, the completion of a playground in the park at Náměstí 28. října square, repairs in the *PAVLÁČ* club, and for the payment of organizations' operating costs (room hire, club meetings and educational activities, meetings of minority members to celebrate official holidays, the organization of lectures, the updating of websites, etc.).

The activities of national minority organizations in Brno are highly diverse and are used to present and propagate the individual nationalities, e.g. at various festivals held in the Czech Republic.

The effective cooperation between Brno and the Roma community was also in evidence in the *Project of Terrain Social Work in the Roma Community*. In 2006, two members of staff worked for the Social Welfare Department at Brno City Hall in this field as of 1 April 2006. The amount of the special-interest grant from the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic – Office of the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs was CZK 186,800, and Brno's contribution, depending on the project and the set conditions, was more than 30%.

ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

In 2006, the implementation of a JROP project was launched with a total budget of CZK 1,700,000, which is directly intended for the support of social work with Roma.

DĚČÍN

In 2006, within the scope of the grant award procedure of the social affairs and health department, support was provided to a project of the *Indigo* Roma association called 'Material security of the *Friend* low-threshold centre for children and young people, five-day stay for children in the countryside', with a grant of CZK 30,000.

FRÝDEK-MÍSTEK

Crime prevention fund

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Frýdek-Místek Charity	Nezbeda Club	30,000
Association of Roma in Moravia		30,000

Chartered City of Frýdek-Místek

Spring free-time centre		170,000
-------------------------	--	---------

HAVÍŘOV

Every year, the city makes a financial contribution to the projects of civic and non-profit organizations which are involved in Roma issues (e.g. the Salvation Army, SP+D Kontakt, the Silesian Diacony). These organizations are also active in other areas.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Salvation Army	Support of free-time activities for Roma children	30,000
SP+D Kontakt	Socio-psychological training	30,000
Association of Greek Communities in the Czech Republic, Greek Community of Havířov	Celebrations of an official holiday of the Hellenic Republic	5,000
Polish Cultural and Educational Union in the Czech Republic, local PZKO chapter in Havířov - Bludovice	Meeting with culture	10,000
	Silesian Harvest Thanksgiving	4,000
	Blendowianie dance troupe	70,000
Secondary Technical School, Lidická 1a/600, Havířov-Šumbark	Programme of mutual contacts and cooperation between SŠTO, Lidická 1a/600, Havířov-Šumbark and Zespól Szkół Nr 6 in Jastrzębie Zdrój	15,000
Punko Natalia	International piano courses, tuition fees of ZUŠ B. Martinů for her daughter Olga Punko	11,000

HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

In 2006, Hradec Králové advertised a grant scheme for good causes – financial contributions in support of activities in the field of crime prevention – from its budget. CZK 2,785,600 was distributed among projects aimed at furthering the integration of national minorities. It is anticipated that the city will continue this grant policy in the upcoming years.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Salinger civic association	Community centre in Pražská and Okružní, Hradec Králové	600,000
	Low-threshold centre for children and young people	500,000
	Triangle preventive activity programme	62,600
PROSTOR PRO civic association	Easy - low-threshold centre for children and young people	400,000
Adra civic association	Advice centre for victims of violence and crime	240,000
Laxus civic association	Field programmes	175,000
	Laxus Contact Centre 2006	347,500
	Laxus Outpatient Centre 2006	244,500
	Prison Drug Services – Laxus 2006	86,000
Quest civic association	B+ and Adra against violence, boredom and social isolation	130,000
total		2,785,600

JIHLAVA

The Chartered City of Jihlava announces regular grant schemes focusing on various areas. It did so again in 2006 when, within the scope of the advertised schemes, it provided financial assistance to various organizations, associations and individuals who registered with the relevant schemes and met the conditions for a grant. However, a specific summary was not drawn up.

KARLOVY VARY

Karlovy Vary has supported projects submitted by Roma civic associations for several years by providing non-capital special-purpose grants under the grant scheme.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Roma Civic Association, Karlovy Vary	Citizens' Advice Bureau, Roma Cultural and Information Centre	210,000

KARVINÁ

Department for the Social Law Protection of Children

This department, responsible for Roma issues in the city, received a special-purpose non-capital grant in 2006 of CZK 273,508 for the *Field Work Support* programme. The grant was awarded by the KRP of the Office of the Government under Decision No 130/81/06. The aim of the grant was for field work in socially excluded Roma communities.

The Department for the Social-Law Protection of Children, which used the grant, contributed to the financing of field work from its budget with CZK 72,588.50, i.e. 30% of the total grant. The funds were used for the activities of four field workers who worked in the city under an agreement on work activity in the period from 1 June 2006 to 31 December 2006. Of the total grant, CZK 241,851 was used.

Education and Culture Department

This department contributions to the support of national minorities by providing grants within the scope of individual funds of the Chartered City of Karviná.

Grants from the Funds of the Chartered City of Karviná administered by the Department of Education and Culture for the special-interest activities of national minorities (2006)

Grants from the Children's Free-Time Fund of the Chartered City of Karviná – 2006

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of Roma in North Moravia, civic association	PC literacy	3,000
	Rambling Club	2,000
	Aerobics	3,000
	Art Club	3,000
	Cooking Club	4,500
total		15,500
Czech Democratic Alliance of Roma	St Nicholas Party	1,000
	Children's Day	1,000
	Small football tournament	1,000
total		3,000
Macierz Szkolna w RC – School Foundation in the Czech Republic	Activities of the AZYMUT rambling club	3,300
Primary school and nursery school with Polish as the language of instruction, Szkoła Podstawowa i Przedszkole Karviná -Fryštát, Dr. Olszaka 156	Folk Club	3,300
	Music Club (band)	3,300
	My Home - Zaolzie	3,300
	Art Club	3,300
	Journalism Club	3,300
	Ecology Club	3,300
	Sports Club for Primary School Pupils	3,300
	Floorball Club for Primary School Pupils	3,300
	Art Club	3,300
total		29,700

Grants from the Fund of the Mayor of Karviná – 2006

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Local PZKO chapter, Karviná-Nové Město	Clubroom operating expenses and maintenance	15,000
	Sports events for children and young people	10,000
Harcerstwo polskie w Republice Czeskiej	Summer rock-climbing trip by the tourist club – Kamchatka 2006	20,000
PRZYJAŹŃ Polish singing association	Koszalin	20,000

Grants from the Cultural Fund of the Chartered City of Karviná – 2006

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Local PZKO chapter, Karviná-Fryštát	Propagation of choir singing via the choirs <i>Kalina</i> and <i>Hejnal-Echo</i>	10 00
	Organization of an exhibition, theatre production and concert by the choir to mark the 30 th anniversary of the construction and launch of activity of the PZKO building in Karviná-Fryštát	15,000
total		25,000
Local PZKO chapter, Karviná-Ráj	May Day over the Olše 2006	60,000
	Dźwięk and Dźwięczek mixed choir	20,000
	St Anne's Fair	10,000
Local PZKO chapter, Karviná-Darkov	Darkovská jesień	10,000
total		100,000
Association of Roma in North Moravia	7 th Karviná Roma Festival 2006	80,000
PRZYJAŻŃ Polish singing association	Active work by the PRZYJAŻŃ choir in promoting Karviná	25,000
Union of Czech-Polish Friendship, Karviná	Fun with St Nicholas	3,000
Community of Slovaks in Karviná	Support of operations – cultural activities for the public	20,000
Polish Cultural and Educational Union in the Czech Republic - Staré Město	Cultural events for citizens and young people	10,000
Przyjaźń choir and music ensemble	Propagation of choir singing and music at a good artistic standard	25,000
Greek Community of Karviná	Minority policy of the Greek Community of Karviná	20,000
Association of Polish Book Friends	Exhibition of Polish books and side events	10,000
total number of projects assisted – 36		grant funds total 431,200

KLADNO

In 2006, no national minority organizations applied for financial assistance.

LIBEREC

In 2006, the city had five funds, offering financial grants to applicants for the implementation of their activities. These funds are: the cultural fund, the sports fund, the education support and development fund, the environmental fund, and the health and social fund. Entities active in the field of national minorities rarely submit applications to these funds.

In 2006, the following projects, among others, were supported from the SML Health and Social Fund:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Liberec Roma Association	Field social work	6,000
Romipen	Children, come to school!	19,000
Gipsy	Handicap Help	13,600

In 1999, the city received a special-purpose government grant for the project *Liberec Roma Community Centre* ('RCC') within the comprehensive Cooperation Programme of Local Crime Prevention. This project was implemented in a separate building with direct assistance from two city employees – the RCC coordinator and RCC assistant. The RCC coordinator plays the role of a Roma adviser. Most activities carried out for the Roma community and other national minorities are concentrated in this centre; they are fully covered out of the city budget (2006: CZK 1,249,745.85). Field work was supported with a government grant of CZK 381,675; the city covered costs of CZK 114,503.

MLADÁ BOLESLAV

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Chalavel Kham	activities of a dance club*	10,000
	hire of new premises	4,000
	coverage of loss from Roma entertainment	4,400

* grant advertised by the Department of Education, Culture, TV and Health

Other civic associations of the Roma national minority did not apply for a grant. A grant application was submitted by the civic association *Jekhetani Luma – Shared World* (Kněžmost 70), which has a branch in Havlíčkova Street in Mladá Boleslav (citizens' advice bureau) – the application was not approved by the city assembly.

MOST

In the field of culture and sport, the Commission recommended that the City Council provide financial gifts for cultural traditions and sports activities. The Commission recommended that the City Council redistribute funds amounting to CZK 100,000 from the city budget in support of the activities of Roma associations and other organizations in accordance with the budget and rules approved for 2006. Based on applications submitted, organizations were granted the following resources:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Dživas	Emil Cina Memorial; Acknowledgement to seniors; Cultural events and educational excursions – zoo	19,000
SRMM	Transportation to festivals and activities in 2006	19,500
Chanov Community Centre	support for the projects 'Elimination of the social exclusion of Roma in Chánov – Social and community work in Chánov'; 'Our song and dance' – cultural performance – Children's Day	19,900
total		58,400

The following projects were implemented at the *National Minorities Club*:

- Phare 2003 HRD, Measure 2.1 grant from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, *Field social work in families at risk*, launched in November 2005; duration: 10 months; partner: Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren – CZK 839,000.
- *Field Work 2006*, financed from the Czech national budget and approved and appropriated via the Czech Government Council for Roma Community Affairs; duration: January 2006 – December 2006, grant: CZK 245,457, and city's contribution: CZK 213,831 (46.56%).
- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic – *Roma Club for Primary School Children* as of September 2005; duration: 21 months; project partner: *Most Association of Roma* CZK 852,000; city contribution: CZK 85,000.

OLOMOUC

Every year, the city makes grants available for the support of NGOs in various fields; no special grant title is set aside solely for national minorities. The *We Can Communicate* event received financial assistance of CZK 40,000 from the city.

OSTRAVA

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of Ukrainians and Friends of Ukraine	Publication of the almanac <i>Ostravská prosvita</i>	20,000
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic	Days of Hungarian Culture 2006, Ostrava	60,000
Co-existence civic association	Days of Roma Culture 2006	80,000

Support for organizations working with the Roma minority amounted to CZK 3,265,000.

PLZEŇ

The city's grant policy in relation to national minorities is set as follows: Assessments and recommendations of applications for grants from the city budget are solely in the competence of individual commissions of Plzeň City Council – the recommended organizations are subsequently forwarded to Plzeň City Council and Assembly for approval.⁷⁶⁾

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
SRNM PK	Romale kajdzhas, field social work project	295,000
Podmostní primary school	Cycling and rambling course for socio-culturally disadvantaged children	33,800
SONŽ – Plzeň branch	Launch of advice centre operations in Plzeň	300,000
SRNM PK	Romale kajdzhas, field social work project	171,000
SONŽ – Plzeň branch	Improving the efficiency of advice centre operations – better quality services	119,000
HERE and NOW	Vaccination of volunteers against hepatitis B	54,000
STREET	HR brochure and A Day with Street	55,000
HUMR	Series of human rights lectures at Plzeň Grammar School, focusing on minority issues	10,000
HUMR	Production and printing of information leaflets on the monument Garden of Memories	50,000
People in Need	One World 2007, Plzeň	90,000

PŘEROV

The city supports cultural, sports and social activities geared towards integration. Support takes the form of direct subsidies (the *District Charity*, *KAPPA-HELP*, *Salvation Army*) or in the form of the City Grant Scheme. The City Hall arranges camps, excursions and discussions within the scope of crime prevention projects. Projects realized in cooperation with the nongovernmental sector or educational institutions naturally receive financial assistance (the project *Another Take*, a concert by a Roma violinist, etc.). The city makes a significant contribution to the Field Work Support programme.

ÚSTÍ NAD LABEM

In the scope of community planning, the city has drawn up a system for the allocation of funding for the provision of social services. Applications for funding must comply with the approved *Ústí nad Labem Community Care Plan*, must be submitted by the notified deadline, and must be drawn up in accordance with the required and approved rules. The applications are then assessed in the structure of management and coordination of social services and recommended for support.

In the evaluation process, the following projects were supported from the city budget in the reporting period:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Charity	Světluška Community Centre	110,000
Jekhetane	Preservation of the operation of the new training and contact centre in Krásné Březno	60,000
	Maintenance and improvement of activity at the training centre in Mojžíř	50,000

⁷⁶⁾ Application forms can be downloaded from the Plzeň City Hall Information Server at: <http://info.plzen-city.cz>
→ Aktuální → Co Vás zajímá → Granty a dotace.

Romano jasnica	Ústecko advisory and information centres	65,000
Integration Advice Centre	Social and legal consulting for recognized refugees and foreigners living long term in Ústí nad Labem and its catchment area	150,000
total		435,000

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Primary school, Školní nám. 100	Table-tennis tournament	5,600
	Aerobics contest	5,600
	Singing competition	2,600
	Festival of dance troupes	5,600
	Football-tennis tournament	4,400
	UNESCO CUP	4,400
total		28,200

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Cultural Association of Citizens of the Czech Republic of German Nationality	Year-round activities	8,000
KS Čarnica	St Nicholas appearance	2,000
Jekhetane Community Centre	Year-round activities – football	18,150
	Rom-Fest 2006	10,000
Ústí nad Labem City Community Centre	13 th annual Roma Culture Festival	15,000
Integration Advice Centre	Presentation of the cultures of ethnic communities living in Ústí nad Labem and the surrounding area	15,000
	Colour Planet VII	67,000
Special primary school and practical school, Trmice	Roma Talent 2006	2,000
	Afternoon Full of Ghosts	3,000
	Roma Talent 2006	5,000
Black and white	Long-term activities	12,261
total		164,311
aggregate		627,511

ZLÍN

The Chartered City of Zlín supports diverse good causes through its funds. Funds are provided directly for specific purposes. In 2006, the following grants were awarded from the Zlín Social Fund:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Zlín Charity	Roma Horizon	4 898

From the Zlín Cultural Fund:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of Roma Children and Young People	Exhibitions: <i>Books about Roma and Children's Art</i>	12 500
	Exhibition of photography on Roma settlements in the 1970s	8,000

PROVINCES

Jihočeský kraj

The province does not have a grant scheme specifically for national minorities. The grant scheme of the social affairs and health department, focusing in the social inclusion of national

minorities, foreigners and recognized refugees, is mainly used by Roma and pro-Roma civic associations which, in their activities, also realize projects targeting Roma citizens.

In 2006, the following were assisted under the scheme over the course of two calls for applications:

- 3 Roma civic associations with funding totalling CZK 114,000
- 4 pro-Roma civic associations with funding totalling CZK 156,000

No national minority organization registered in the grant scheme *Support of Live Culture*, geared towards the support of all cultural genres, within the scope of the AP PRK in 2006.

JIHOMORAVSKÝ KRAJ

The province announced a *Grant Scheme for the Activities of National Minorities in Jihomoravský kraj*, and CZK 2,500,000 was earmarked in the province's budget for this scheme.

In 2006, within the scope of the grant award procedure, 24 projects submitted by 21 civic associations were assisted with a total of CZK 1,599,750, and one special grant of CZK 30,000 was approved. These were civic associations operating in the field of national minorities and focusing on cultural programmes, training programmes, or the free-time activities of socially disadvantaged children and young people, and drew on a financial grant in this respect.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of Roma and National Minorities in Hodonín	Roma Days, Hodonín, 2006	302,750
	Education of children and association activities	100,000
Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Association	Bulgarian culture in Moravia	75,000
Community of Slovaks in Brno	Slovak culture in Brno	40,000
Friends of South Slavs Society	The culture of South Slavs and mutual cultural relations in 2006	30,000
Association of Roma in Moravia	Learning through play	50,000
Museum of Roma Culture	Children's Museum Club	30,000
ROMENSTUDIO	Romenstudio Mikulov	120,000
Roma Centre, Hodonín	Activities of the Roma centre	110,000
Pirin	Preserving Bulgarian folk traditions and dances	27,000
	Lessons of Bulgarian folk dancing and singing	30,000
Národy Podují	Festival of Nations Along the Dyje	25,000
Pálava Ethnographic Association	Winter clothing	50,000
Brno Kids	Pavlač Club – free-time activities	35,000
Miret	Cultural and free-time activities of M Dance Club	30,000
Association for Bulgaria	Bulgarian culture in Jihomoravský kraj 2006	50,000
SOLIDAFRICA	Africa Day	40,000
HELLENIKA endowment fund	HELLENIKA, preservation of Greek cultural awareness	50,000
PŮČIK Folklore Association	Use of free time and special-interest...	75,000
	Fifteen years of folk songs and dance	50,000
	Living in the same town	30,000
Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic	Activities of the Lyceum of Greek Women in the Czech Republic in 2006	90,000
Jewish Community of Brno	Activities of Rabbi Feder Cultural and Training Centre in 2006	100,000
Union of Hungarians, Brno	Preservation, development, and presentation of the culture of the Hungarian national minority	40,000
Roma culture	Paramisa	50,000
Total		1,629,750

Under the Grant Scheme for the Activities of National Minorities in 2006, further financial amounts were assigned, i.e.:

- CZK 300,000 for the multiethnic meeting of national minorities *Returning to Roots*.
- CZK 374,200 for the *Programme for the Development of Schools and Educational Establishments* in the field of multiculturalism in 2006; within the scope of this regional programme for multiculturalism, eight schools and educational establishments were involved in the South Moravia region (Josef Mareš primary school and nursery school, Znojmo, primary school Ivanovice na Hané, Vyškov district, primary school Rašovice, Vyškov district, secondary vocational school and secondary vocational centre of information science and communications, Brno, Čichnova 23, Integrated Special School, Brno, Purkyňova 97, JUNIOR – House of Children and Young People, Dornych 2 (with a branch in Vranovská), LUŽÁNKY – Free-time Centre, Brno, Lidická 50, Educational and Psychological Counselling Centre, Hodonín, Jilemnického 2, Hodonín. The projects focused on specific educational programme and on the history, traditions and contemporary life of nationalities and ethnic groups living in the region.
- CZK 15,000 as a financial donation in the form of a foundation contribution to the programme *Paths to Integration (Good Will Committee – Olga Havlová Foundation)*.

These activities and manifestations by members of national minorities are fully respected and supported by the province, and therefore conditions are cultivated not only for their activities, but also for mutual cultural enrichment and the understanding of citizens in the region.

KARLOVARSKÝ KRAJ

The Social Affairs Department of the Provincial Authority, within the scope of the Principles for the Provision of Financial Resources for Social Services in 2006, announced inter alia a grant scheme funded by the province called *Support of the Provision of Social Services in Socially Excluded Roma Communities*, which centred on support for the integration of members of the Roma community and support of the social work in Roma communities.

KRÁLOVÉHRADECKÝ KRAJ

The region's grant schemes for national minorities are not separate from other programmes. Applicants who comply with the conditions of the grant award procedure may submit applications in particular to the social affairs and health department (social services), the education department (education) and the department of regional development, tourism, culture and free-time activities – culture and monument care unit (cultural events) and free-time activity unit (free-time activities)..

In its grant award procedure, the region does not discriminate against any minority; all organizations who meet the conditions may apply. The results of all grant award procedures are posted on the province's website.

LIBERECKÝ KRAJ

The provincial authority supports the activities of national minorities by means of the grant title *Grant Fund of Liberecký kraj, Programme No 9, Projects supporting the activities of national minorities and ethnic groups*. This grant scheme has the following priorities:

- support for primary prevention in Roma communities (e.g. Roma community centres, preparatory classes)
- support for the activities of national minorities and ethnic groups
- support for activities aimed at multicultural education, educating towards tolerance and against xenophobia

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
ROMIPEN, civic association	Children, come to school!	100,000
Liberec Roma Association	Field social work in Liberecký kraj	300,000
Town of Česká Lípa	PARAMISA Clubroom	200,000
Greek Catholic parish at the Holy Rood in Liberec	Family Next Door 2006	100,000
Without Discrimination, civic association	Multipurpose community centre - Without Discrimination	100,000

MORAVSKOSLEZSKÝ KRAJ

Under Resolution of the Provincial Assembly No 9/810/1 of 23 February 2006, a decision was made to provide financial assistance to twelve projects submitted in the Grant Scheme for the support of the activities of members of national minorities in 2006, in which CZK 1,000,000 was distributed.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic, Český Těšín	Gala Concert – <i>The Way We Are 2006</i>	85,000
	W. Przewczek and H. Jasiczek – documentary work of two Polish poets	55,000
League for the Advancement of Silesia, Dolní Lomná	14 th On the Border Festival	83,730
Community of Slovaks in Karviná	Support of activities	51,000
Local chapter of the Polish Cultural and Educational Union, Jablunkov	Festival of children's folk music at the first day of the Gorolski Świato festival	100,000
PZKO, Český Těšín	Second annual Miyszani lowiec	57,000
Association of Roma in Moravia, Brno	Support of the activities of the Rýmařov community centre	100,000
ARS MUSICA, Český Těšín	Propagation of choir singing, folk music and forms of drama at a high artistic level as alternative means of cultural self-realization for young people and adults in their free time	75,000
Regional Community of Slovaks in Třinec	Folk traditions – linking nations	84,670
Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic, Ostrava		65,000
Silesian German Association, Opava	International festival of cultural work by the German minority	84,600
Together – Jekhetane, Ostrava	Amari gili-jekhetani chib	60,000
Chartered City of Karviná (Karviná Municipal House of Culture)	The Blending of Cultures or Don't We Know Each Other?	99,000

OLMOUCKÝ KRAJ

Olomoucký kraj did not announce any special grant title for activities geared towards national minorities. Civic associations, humanitarian organizations, and natural persons may apply for contributions of up to CZK 20,000 for the following areas: education and science, youth, culture, sport and physical education, crime prevention, social pathology and primary prevention of drug addiction, health care, social services and humanitarian aid, tourism and the environment. The regional council makes decisions on the granting of contributions. In 2006, the above-mentioned entities and municipalities were able to apply for grants as part of significant projects of the province; the provincial assembly makes decisions on the award of grants, whereby the same areas as those above apply. In 2006, no organization carrying out activities related to national minorities applied for a grant within the scope of significant projects. In terms of contributions for activities up to CZK 20,000, the following grants were awarded:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Amary Fajta		11,500
Savore		20,000
Association of Roma in Moravia (Olomouc)		15,000
Centre of Political Activities, Prague	Roma for the Roma in Olomoucký kraj	19 500
Roma Vidnava		20,000
Ester Zálesí		20,000

PARDUBICKÝ KRAJ

The Commission submitted a draft resolution to the provincial Council concerning the *National Action Plan on the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015*. The current situation of Roma communities in the province was described in detail in the explanatory report. At its meeting on 24 August 2005, the provincial Council adopted Resolution R/40405, in which it discussed the submitted report and recommended that municipalities cultivate conditions for the use of the Government's Field Social Work programme and proceed in accordance with the National Action Plan on Social Inclusion and the National Action Plan on the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015.

PLZEŇSKÝ KRAJ

In 2006, the province advertised the grant scheme *Programme for the Support of Social Work in Socially Excluded Roma Communities* with total available funding of CZK 400,000 (four nongovernmental organizations were assisted), and within the scope of the JROP, Measure 3.2 – Support of social integration in Plzeňský kraj, assistance was provided to the project *LOCUS* – support of social inclusion in Plzeň and the surrounding area, which is implemented by *People in Need – Society attached to Czech Television* (Plzeň Regional Branch) with its partners.

CITY OF PRAGUE

One of the pillars of support for the activities of national minorities is the grant procedure *City Programmes for the Support of the Activities of National Minorities in the City of Prague*.

For 2006, the grant procedure *City Programmes for the Support of the Activities of National Minorities and Integrating Foreigners in the City of Prague for 2006* was advertised with the following programmes (Programmes 1 to 3 were intended for civic associations and national minority organizations specializing in the preservation and development of national identity and in the development of communication and dialogue between national minorities and the majority in the City of Prague):

- Programmes geared towards the presentation of national-minority cultures in the City of Prague, the cultural and social activities of national minorities.
- Programmes geared towards publishing, connected with the relationship between national minorities and the City of Prague.
- Programmes geared towards propagation and awareness, connected with the relationship between national minorities and the City of Prague.
- Programmes geared towards propagation and awareness, connected with the relationship towards the integration of foreigners in the City of Prague.

An important part of the above-mentioned grant procedure is support for the publishing activities of national minorities, through which Prague tries to motivate national minorities to publish materials in their own languages and, where possible, bilingually in Czech and in the language of the minority in question.

Civic associations of national minorities also obtained financial assistance via grants from the City of Prague in the fields of culture and art in the case of large festivals – the *Khamoro* World Roma Festival and the international folk festival *Prague Heart of Nations*. At the same time, certain projects of Roma civic associations were supported via the grant procedure in the

field of crime prevention, social affairs and education within the scope of the declared programmes of the City of Prague for these areas.

In cooperation with the Advisory Body of Roma Advisers of the Boroughs, the City of Prague staged a Festival of Roma Children's Ensembles.

Traditionally, the City of Prague cooperates with the borough of Praha 9 to hold the multicultural festival *Etnofest 9*, where the culture of various ethnic groups is presented.

City programmes for the support of the activities of national minorities and integrating foreign nationals in the City of Prague for 2006

1 - presentation of national-minority cultures in the City of Prague, the cultural and social activities of national minorities

<i>minority</i>	<i>organization</i>	<i>project name / notes</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarians	Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization – Prague Regional Club	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Bulgarian traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000
	Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization of SS Cyril and Methodius, Prague	Integration and Understanding – discussions, film screenings, exhibitions, concerts, drama, literature, etc. The cost of hall hire, equipment (lighting, sound), decorations, costumes, invitations, posters, fees of participants, the installation and de-installation of exhibitions.	20,000
	Vazrazhdane	Days of Bulgarian Culture – concerts, lectures, exhibitions. The cost of hall hire, operations, technical services (postage, publicity, telephony services, photocopying, office equipment, documentation), arrangements for participants – transportation and board for participants from outside Prague.	50,000
Hungarians	Iglice Association	Linguistic and educational programmes for children in Hungarian, and presentations for majority society – playful language teaching, theatre productions for children, summer camp. The cost of materials (books, CDs and video cassettes, the expansion of the library, art materials), staff costs, services (theatre and hall hire, the printing of invitations).	20,000
	Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic	Days of Hungarian Culture 2006 -social event. The cost of invitations, an exhibition (catalogue, curator, transportation of pictures), a lecture to mark the 50 th anniversary of the 1956 revolution and Humour in Hungarian (fee, accommodation, transportation, board), a concert to mark the 125 th anniversary of the birth of Béla Bartók (fee, accommodation, transportation, board), a concert by János Koós (fee, accommodation, transportation, board), postage, telephones.	37,000
		Club meetings - social events (club evenings). The costs of room hire, postage, telephony services, stationery for the preparation of invitations.	20,000
		International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Hungarian traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, publicity, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000

Germans	Cultural Association of Citizens of the Czech Republic of German Nationality	Arranging for regular meetings of the members of the Prague chapter with a view to the preservation and further development of their cultural activities – the organization of social and cultural events connected with German culture in Prague. The costs of hiring social premises, fees for lecturers, postage, the reproduction and sending of invitations, admission fee and guide for visits to cultural monuments relating to German culture.	40,000
Poles	Klub Polski v Pradze	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Polish traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000
Roma	Athinganoi	Celebration of International Roma Day 2006 – cultural and social activities. The costs of stationery, room hire, information stand hire, panel and table hire, travel expenses of bands, the preparation and production of souvenirs of International Roma Day, postage, telephony services, Internet, refreshments for participants, the preparation of Roma dishes.	50,000
	Cikne Chave	Roma Talent – second annual contest to discover Roma child talents. The costs of room hire, sound, musical accompaniment, refreshments, prizes for winners, publicity, diplomas, organizers, organizational activity, moderators, accommodation, board, transportation.	60,000
	Lache Roma	Activities of the Roma dance and music body – rehearsals and public performances. The costs of costumes for dancers, room hire for rehearsals, the repair and additional purchases of musical instruments, summer practising.	40,000
	Our World	Activities of the children’s art group Our World – the provision of teaching, rehearsals and performances by the group. The costs of repairing and sewing costumes, room hire, refreshments at performances, promotional materials and invitations, artwork for decorations and the production of wings, purchase of photographic material and production of photographs.	20,000
	R-Mosty	Club for children and young people at the Roma community centre – regular activities with the target group. The costs of services – room hire, telecommunications, legal and economic services, the insurance of clubrooms and offices, materials – clubroom equipment, artwork, musical instruments and music media, board games, sports, publications and educational aids, fees for lectors, travel expenses, admission to cultural facilities, refreshments at social and cultural events.	50,000
	Romano dives	Presentation and development of Roma culture, awareness and advisory service, educational activities. The costs of room hire, services, material costs of events, publicity, excursions (transportation, organization), advisory activities, promotion of the Roma culture and the history of the Roma.	20,000

Roma	Romodrom	Exhibition of photographs Where the Paths of the Roma Also Lead 2006 – exhibition and preview of an exhibition of photographs depicting the life of Roma in Prague, bringing attention to the current social problems of the Roma. The costs of publicity, graphic services, music production, photographic material and services, refreshments, presentation panels.	20,000
	Rom Prague	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Roma traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, publicity, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000
	Roma Christian Educational Association of the League for the Advancement of the Roma	Activities and operations of the office of the League for the Advancement of the Roma – year-round activities. The costs of the office’s activities – telephony services, office equipment, photocopying, postage, the organization of the Christian conference CCIT, cultural discussions, discos for children and parents, remuneration for organizers, organization of Christmas discussion, Roma missions accompanied by music, visit to the zoo with transportation by steamboat and refreshments, transportation and refreshments for a trip to Holy Mountain near Příbram, visit to Holy Hill near Olomouc.	40,000
		International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of a Roma ensemble from Bardejov. The cost of bus transportation from Bardejov, accommodation, board.	30,000
		Exhibition of photographs – Roma and the Church – exhibition of photographs at the Řepy Care Centre. The costs of room hire, a curator, purchase of photographic materials, photograph development and enlargement, preview, remuneration for the project manager and exhibition organizer, arrangements for Roma dulcimer music.	30,000
	Slovo 21	Khamoro 2006 – exhibition devoted to Milena Hübschmannová – reading of Roma literature and photographic exhibition Portraits of Roma Musicians. The costs of room hire, the installation and re-installation of the exhibition, the production of photographs, framing, preview, transportation of exhibits, the design and printing of invitations, selection of exhibits, travel expenses and accommodation of authors of Roma literature, selection of photographs, telephony services and Internet, assistance.	70,000
	Velká Ohrada	Support of cultural and social activities – ensuring year-round free-time activities for children and young people. The costs of a seminar on the co-existence of national minorities (other wages), transportation and admission on trips to castles, club activities (other wages – management of clubs, lecturing activities), consumables (art and sports products, office equipment, telephony services, postage, room hire – seminars and club activities).	80,000
Ruthenians	Friends of Ruthenia Society	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the performance of the Ruthenian folk ensemble Skejušan. The costs of room hire, publicity, invitations.	30,000

Russians	Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition in the Czech Republic	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Russian traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000
		Bravo Opera IV gala concert. The costs of room hire, music sheets and copyrights, publicity, production of posters, invitations and programmes, transportation, production of stage, borrowing of props, photographic and film work, postage, telephony services, office equipment.	70,000
		Vltava – music and literature gatherings of poets and artists – exhibition. The costs of room hire, equipment and instrument hire, production of programmes, posters, invitations, postage, telephony services, stationery.	30,000
		Exhibition and forum of artists. Gold – Red, Czech Republic - Russia. The costs of room hire, the preparation of the exhibited works (framing), the production of programmes, posters, invitations, postage, telephony services, other office equipment.	40,000
Greeks	Greek Community of Prague	Cultural, social and educational activities – social evenings to celebrate official Greek holidays. The costs of room hire, sound equipment, postage, invitations.	50,000
		Akropolis song and dance troupe – performances at Prague Heart of Nations and other social events. The costs of music accompaniment at Prague Heart of Nations 2006 (accommodation, transportation, board), transportation, cleaning, maintenance and acquisition of costumes, hire of rehearsal room.	30,000
Slovaks	Šarvanci folk ensemble	Presentation of the results of the activities of the Šarvanci folk ensemble – preparation and realization of performances with the ensemble's participation. The costs of room (theatre) hire, the printing of posters and publicity for the performance, transportation and accommodation of the guest partner ensemble from Slovakia, fees.	20,000
		Support for the year-round activities of the Šarvanci folk ensemble – rehearsals of the dance, music and singing company. The costs of room fire for rehearsals by the dance, singing and music ensemble.	20,000
	Slovak Culture Club	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Slovak traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000
	Community of Slovaks in Prague	Slovak evenings – club activities. The costs of room hire, remuneration for participants, music, travel expenses, invitations, letters, postage, telephony services, office equipment.	20,000
		Slovak Rag Day – social and cultural evening. The costs of room hire, cloakroom, decorations, music, travel expenses, fees for participants, invitations, postage, letters, telephony services, office equipment.	15,000
		Slovak Christmas - traditions and customs of Slovak Christmas – social and cultural evening. The costs of room hire, invitations, letters, postage, telephony services, office equipment, fees for participants, performance by Slovak folk artists, cloakroom and organization services, conference manager.	25,000

Slovaks		Slovak – Ukrainian Evening – social and cultural evening. The costs of room hire, invitations, letters, postage, telephony services, office equipment, remuneration for participants, cloakroom.	10,000
	Limbora, Slovak folk association	Limbora in 2006 – support for the ensemble's activities. The costs of materials (tangible assets), equipment, stationery, stands, racks, rent of storage room, offices and rehearsal room, postage, telephony services, travel expenses, publicity, energy, gym hire.	70,000
		Traditional programmes – traditional concerts in a theatre. The cost of room hire, accommodation, board for participants, moderator, equipment, transportation.	30,000
	Slovak-Czech Club	Ten years of the Slovak-Czech Club – official programme to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the club's foundation. The costs of room hire, fees, sound, lighting, technical services, telephony services, transportation, accommodation, the production of invitations and posters, postage, publicity, catering.	30,000
		Club evenings of Slovak Touches – series of discussions and exhibitions. The costs of room hire, fees, sound, technical services, installation, telephony services, transportation, accommodation, the production of invitations and posters, postage, publicity.	30,000
	Slovak Literature Club	Prague – Slovak writers workshop - comprehensive programme. The costs of room hire, musical accompaniment, sound, lighting, technical services, telephony services, fees, the printing of publications, invitations and posters, postage, publication on the Internet, web design, editing, publicity.	40,000
Ukrainians	Association of Ukrainians and Friends of Ukraine	Choir of St Vladimir – concerts. The costs of room hire, publicity – leaflets, posters, bulletins, cultural overview, music sheet documentation, archive recordings – audio, video, photo, scanning, postage, small musical instruments, ancillary equipment, travel expenses for choir members from outside Prague, repair of costumes.	30,000
		Ukrainian culture – honouring the memory of the poet Taras Shevchenko in Prague – concert, lecture and recital, performance by soloists from the National Theatre. The costs of room hire, publicity – leaflets, posters, bulletin, cultural overview, music sheet documentation, archive recordings – audio, video, photo, scanning, postage, soloist and lecturer fees, travel expenses for soloists from outside Prague, decoration, floral arrangements.	15,000
	Association of Ukrainian Women in the Czech Republic	Taras Shevchenko – concert. The cost of room and equipment hire, accommodation, board, fees, transportation, consular charges, hospitality, publicity, realization.	10,000
	Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic	International Folk Festival Prague Heart of Nations 2006 – ensuring the participation of representatives of Ukrainian traditional culture. Cost of accommodation, board, transportation, overheads (rent, technical services, etc.).	30,000

		Activities of the IGNIS Ukrainian vocal and instrumental group – year-round operations and performances by the group in Prague and throughout the Czech Republic. The costs of rehearsal room hire, repair of instruments and costumes, publicity.	30,000
		Concert and lecture to mark the 150 th anniversary of the birth of Ivan Frank – concert, lecture devoted to the memory of the Slavist, Ukrainianist and writer Ivan Frank. The costs of room hire, postage, publicity, invitations, hall decorations, fees, accommodation of foreign participants.	30,000
Jews	Bejt Simcha	Unknown music of the Prague synagogues (second year) – concerts, music theatre, accompanying lectures with demonstrations of music. The costs of room hire, publicity, printing, distribution, technical services (postage, photocopying, telephony services), photographic documentation, catalogue of events, transportation for participants.	45,000
Slovaks	Black Swan – Czech-Slovak Theatre	Swan Cocktail – regular programmes in the form of informal club meetings (evenings of music and poems on a given theme). The costs of the production team, fees for participants, communication, energy, technical staff, copyrights, minor technical equipment, publicity and the printing of programmes.	50,000

Total: 1 677,000

City programmes for the support of the activities of national minorities and integrating foreign nationals in the City of Prague for 2006

2 – publishing connected with the relationship between national minorities and the City of Prague

<i>minority</i>	<i>organization</i>	<i>project name / notes</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarians	Bulgarian Cultural and Educational Organization – Prague Regional Club	The Bulgarian Sedyanka and its Successors in the Czech Lands – publication of book. The cost of the publication calculation, photographic supplement, paper, printing, binding.	60,000
		When Windows Open – author Ela Mandažieva, publication of book. The cost of the publication calculation, photographic supplement, paper, printing, binding.	40,000
Roma	Athinganoi	Romipen – literature on modern identity – publication. The costs of printing, including preparation, arrangement of distribution and postage, graphic design of cover, proofreading.	50,000
	Romano dzhaniben	Publication of the summary notes of Romano dzhaniben – preparation, printing and distribution of summary notes. The costs of office hire, consumables – office equipment, Internet, copies, communications, postage, publication, printing, external accounting.	80,000
	Rom Prague	Miroslav Dědič - <i>Květušinská poema</i> - publication. The costs of editing and administration, services (presentation costs), printing of the book, discussions in Prague schools.	70,000
	Roma Christian Educational Association of the League for the Advancement of the Roma	Our Path to Light – publication. The costs of translations, illustrations, editing and pre-printing preparation, printing, transport costs and presentation of the book.	70,000

Russians	Association of Compatriots and Friends of Russian Tradition in the Czech Republic	Construction of Orthodox Churches in Bohemia and Moravia and Andrei Kolomackiy - publication of book. The costs of preparing the publication – photocopying, paper, other office equipment, photo and graphic materials, postage, telephony services, other sundry expenditure, the cost of printing – graphic processing and preparation of DTP, printworks.	50,000
Slovaks	Etnica association	Documentation of ethnic culture – summary notes, audio and video. The costs of the exhibition of photographs, documentation, photographic documentation, video documentation, summary notes, audio, bulletin.	30,000
	Limbora, Slovak folk association	Limbora Sings – publication of a set of songs of the Slovak nationality in Prague. The costs of preparing texts, preparation for printing, printing, binding, publication.	30,000
	Association of Friends of Slovak Theatre in the Czech Republic	Publication of the book <i>Ľubomír Feldek in Prague</i> – publication of memoirs to mark the author's seventieth birthday. The costs of printing, paper, other bookmaking work, graphic design, cover, mirrors, the author's fee, photographs, editor, distribution, postage, overheads (telephony services, photocopying), publicity.	60,000
	Association of Friends of Slovak Theatre in the Czech Republic	Czech and Jewish children in the Second World War - preparatory work for the publication of interactive educational material for pupils and students of Prague schools and members of the Slovak minority and Jewish community. The costs of purchasing VHS, DVD, CD, photographic documentation, telecommunication charges, production and organization of discussions and presentations at schools in Prague, graphic work, expert work with the Internet, preparation for printing, production of a literary competition, preparation for the organization of a seminar for teaching staff at Prague schools.	40,000
Total:			580,000

City programmes for the support of the activities of national minorities and integrating foreign nationals in the City of Prague for 2006

3 – publicity and educational activity connected with the relationship between national minorities and Prague

<i>minority</i>	<i>organization</i>	<i>project name / notes</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Bulgarians	Vazrazhdane	Vazrazhdane Club – lectures, seminars and club meetings. The cost of room hire, technical services (postage, publicity, telephony services, photocopying, office equipment, documentation), arrangements for participants – transportation and board for participants from outside Prague.	20,000
Hungarians	Union of Hungarians Living in the Czech Republic	Lessons in Hungarian folk dancing in Prague 2006 – weekend practising of folk dancing. The costs of the teachers' fees, the return travel of teachers from Transylvania and Slovakia, the accommodation of teachers.	15,000
Roma	Our World	Project of integration and free-time activities for children and young people, education – ensuring year-round activities of the association. The costs of fees for lecturers, extra-curricular lessons, expenditure on a computer course, equipment for clubs (recitals, dancing, art), admission charges, transportation, refreshments, stay for children at summer camp, accommodation.	15,000

	R-Mosty	Expert seminars of the Khamoro World Roma Festival 2006. Costs of room hire, interpreting equipment, interpreter, projector hire, information and publicity materials, fees for lecturers (Czech Republic and abroad), expert group (preparation and production of expert seminars), transportation (the Czech Republic and abroad), moderators, photographic and video documentation, accommodation, board for lecturers, office equipment, telephone and fax services and Internet, postage, insurance, transportation around Prague, refreshments, other sundry expenses.	70,000
	Romea	Romano vod'i for Prague schools – Prague supplement and Roma Information Service – presentation of information on web pages and distribution of Romano vod'i. The costs of services, materials, staff costs.	60,000
Ruthenians	Obščestvo Rusinů	Year-round activities of the Community (Obščestvo) – regular meetings of members. The costs of room hire, refreshments, postage and office equipment, remuneration for participants.	20,000
	Friends of Ruthenia Society	Carpathian – Russian wooden chapels – exhibition of photographs and images. The costs of hall hire, installation of the exhibition, production of enlargements, exhibition publicity, invitations, catalogue, preview, lectures.	15,000
		Activities of the Ruthenian section of the Friends of Ruthenia Society – publicity, educational activities and lectures, establishment of contact between Czech citizens and citizens of Ruthenian nationality. The costs of room hire, club activities – expert lectures on living requirements and culture, publicity in the press, invitations.	30,000
Greeks	Greek Community of Prague	Lectures and seminars, free Greek language lessons. The costs of room hire, material for language teachings (textbooks, photocopies).	20,000
Ukrainians	Association of Ukrainians and Friends of Ukraine	Ukraine Known and Unknown – exhibition of photographs, primarily from Transcarpathian Ukraine, and lecture on the Ukrainian grammar school in the pre-war Czech Republic. The costs of room hire, photographic materials, postage, publicity – leaflets, posters, remuneration for the photographer and lecturer, installation. transfer and de-installation of the exhibition..	20,000
	Association of Ukrainian Women in the Czech Republic	Olena Teliha – prominent poet and publicist – lecture evening. The cost of hall and equipment hire, accommodation and board for foreign participants, fees, transportation, consular charges, hospitality, publicity, realization.	10,000
	Ukrainian Initiative in the Czech Republic	Support for the activities of the UIČR club for children and young people – year-round club operations. The costs of telephone and fax services, postage, rent, fees, small tangible assets.	20,000
Jews	Hidden Child Prague	Contrasts – screening of a documentary with a discussion in Prague schools involved in the project Neighbours Disappeared. The costs of the information brochure, leaflets on the documentary, production of VHS and DVD copies of the documentary, postage, services (technician, sound engineer), coordinator.	20,000
Total:			335,000

City programmes for the support of the activities of national minorities and integrating foreign nationals in the City of Prague for 2006

4 – publicity and educational activity connected with the relationship towards the integration of foreigners in Prague

<i>organization</i>	<i>project name / notes</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of Refugees in the Czech Republic	The Czech Republic – Our New Home – publication of book. The costs of human resources – author's fee, editor's fee, proofreading, illustrator, photographer, graphic design, project coordinator, operating expenses – printing of book, overheads for distribution – telephony services, postage, Internet, office equipment.	50,000
	KultIn – lectures on Czech history, literature, art, demographic situation and geography. The costs of human resources (preparation of a comprehensive programme, fees for lectors, project coordinator), overhead expenses (room hire, preparation of refreshments, printing of leaflets and promotional material, telephony services, postage, Internet, office equipment, loan of technical equipment, provision of literature).	50,000
Humanitas Africa	Educational activities of the African Information Centre and Library – workshops, seminars, educational events, exhibitions. Non-capital costs for rent, publicity, telephone + Internet, materials for workshops, art products, raw materials for tasting events (African dishes), plastic plates, printing of photographs, office equipment, photocopying or printing of programmes, clips for image decoration.	100,000
Caucasus – Eastern Europe Information Centre	Publication of a supplement to the periodical ORER devoted to Prague and its multinational culture. The costs of printing, graphic design, translation, journalism, editing, proofreading.	40,000
Bambus Club	Traditional Christmas meeting for children of various nationalities – an evening with a cultural and social programme. The costs of room hire, preparation and printing of invitations, fees for participants.	15,000
Organization for the Development and Assistance of Africa	ORPA NEWS – informative, cultural and social bulletin of the African community. The costs of fees for contributors, translations, editor's fee, graphic design, printing, distribution, processing for the Internet.	30,000
Skaryna Awareness Association	Traditional Belarusian Christmas – social evening with a cultural and artistic programme, tasting of traditional Belarusian dishes. The costs of room hire, refreshments, travel expenses for foreign guests, invitations, postage, music production, photographic and video documentation.	14,000
Association of Benin Citizens in the Czech Republic	Africa – Our Roots – theatre production combined with a workshop. The costs of room hire, stage design, costumes, publicity.	60,000
Slovo 21	The Family Next Door – meetings between the families of foreign nationals and Czech families at a shared lunch, monitoring and analysis of the current situation regarding the integration of foreigners, database, media coverage. The costs of the project coordinator, expert, assistant, the creation of a database, media campaign, information and promotional material, photo and video documentation, contributions to the family lunch, telephony services and Internet, postage, other sundry costs (maintenance, photocopying), room hire, processing of analyses.	80,000
Czech-Arabic Society	Getting to know the Arab world in Prague – lectures, discussions, art workshops, art competition. The costs of organizing lectures, room hire, artistic material, telephony services and postage, the production of promotional material, photo documentation, travel expenses of experts from outside Prague.	30,000

Union of Russian-Speaking Writers in the Czech Republic	The activities of the Union of Russian-Speaking Writers in the Czech Republic. The costs of organizing meetings of members – room hire, office equipment, the production of forms, the creation and administration of web pages, the organization of meetings with writers and readers – leaflets, invitations, advertising, room hire, audio, video and photo documentation.	20,000
Total		489,000

STŘEDOČESKÝ KRAJ

In the field of grant policy, with regard to national minorities the authority focuses primarily on the Roma national minority. Therefore, in the past year the assembly supported projects in this field in particular in the grant procedure of the Středočeský kraj Humanitarian Fund. The activities of other organizations drawing together members of national minorities in the province can be considered minimal.

The distribution of social grants from the province's Humanitarian Fund – Roma

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
ROSA Centre for the Assistance of Children At Risk	Care for ethnically and socially disadvantaged children	170,000
Roma association of Civic Understanding	Field social workers in Vycherov	190,000
Municipality of Kolín	Kolín Roma Club	30,000
Leccos civic association	Music entertains us	80,000
ROMEIA, civic association	Educational and informative activities with a nationality theme focusing on Středočeský kraj	120,000
Kralupy nad Vltavou Parish Charity	Rep Sun Roma Club	150,000
Municipality of Neratovice	Support of field social work in Roma communities in Neratovice	130,000
Association of Roma Citizens in Lysá nad Labem	Shelters	180,000
total		1,050,000

ÚSTECKÝ KRAJ

There are no separate grant schemes in support of national minorities. Organizations of members of national minorities have the opportunity to enter all other grant programmes announced by Ústecký kraj.

In 2006, there projects received assistance in the following programmes:

Programme for the support of regional cultural activities in 2006

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Integration Advice Centre	Colourful Planet VII multicultural festival	50,000

Support for social services provided by NGOs at regional level to seniors and the disabled.

<i>organization</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Jewish Community	Meeting the social and health needs of seniors and their families with special consideration for the needs of persons affected by the Holocaust and the isolated.	50,000

VYSOČINA

In 2006, the province was not asked for financial assistance for national minority organizations or for activities organized by national minorities.

ZLÍNSKÝ KRAJ

Every year, an amount is earmarked in the Zlínský kraj budget which is used for the integration of the Roma community in Zlínský kraj and is distributed in the form of grants. In 2006, CZK 650,000 was distributed in the programme, and this year CZK 700,000 is earmarked in the province's budget for a low-scale sub-programme for the integration of the Roma community.

In 2006, CZK 700,000 was used inter alia for the following projects:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
ARGO Good Will Society	Chance	200,000
Primary school and nursery school, Vsetín	Dance – my life	24,000
	Use of cultural and artistic activities and their presentation to form positive qualities of the personality in Roma children in connection with their educational needs.	99,000
Cyrrillos Vsetín, civic association	United Colours of Vsetín 06 or Campaign against Racism	32,000
Vsetín Charity	Educational and free-time activities for Roma children	90,000
Association of Roma Children and Young People, Zlín	Exhibitions of art, Roma in paintings, and photographs from Roma settlements	110,000
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, Vsetín	Contact point	67,000
SVČ TÝMY Holešov	Assistant for the free-time activities of Roma children	78,000

In 2006, the provincial budget also earmarked a separate CZK 500,000 for field social work in the Roma community for municipalities and nongovernmental organizations, and CZK 500,000 for support for the construction of housing for socially disadvantaged families. The municipality of Rožnov pod Radhoštěm received a grant of CZK 400,000 for a cable system in the construction of low cost housing for socially disadvantaged citizens. The Vsetín Centre of the Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren received a grant of CZK 600,000 for the construction of facilities in a socially excluded locality for the provision of social services. In all, CZK 1,700,000 was disbursed from the provincial budget in 2006 for the integration of the Roma community.

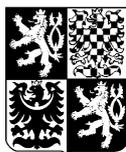
In 2006, CZK 200,000 was earmarked for the integration of foreigners; of this, CZK 34,000 was contributed to the *Slovo 21* civic association and CZK 65,000 to *SOZE* for projects (i.e. a total of CZK 99,000).

In 2006, the Social Affairs Department of Zlínský kraj Provincial Authority announced a grant title in the form of a *Sub-programme for nongovernmental organizations in the field of social services – Area B – other target groups*. In this sub-programme, CZK 280,000 was distributed to nongovernmental organizations for the Roma community. The following entities received assistance:

<i>organization</i>	<i>project, purpose of grant</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Vsetín Charity	Centre for Roma mothers and children	74,000
Diacony of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, Vsetín Centre	Community centre for Roma families in Vsetín	93,000
Valašské Meziříčí Charity	Zeferino Community Centre	113,000

In 2006, the province channelled CZK 2,079,000 into the activities of national minorities.

GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



RESOLUTION

OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

No 637 of 11 June 2007

concerning the Report
on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2006

The Government

I. takes due note of the Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic in 2006, contained in Part III of Document Ref. No. 815/07 (hereinafter the “Report”);

II. imposes on

1. the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports to make arrangements for the conduct, until 30 June 2008, of a survey mapping the occurrence of the Romany language and ethnic dialects of the Czech language with Roma specifics as a follow-up of the analysis of socially excluded Roma communities carried out in 2006;

2. the Minister and the Chairperson of the Government Council for National Minorities

a) to prepare the final version of the Report;

b) to arrange for the publication of this Resolution in the Government Journal for bodies of regions and municipalities;

III. authorizes the Prime Minister to submit the Report to the Chairperson of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and to the Chairperson of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic for the information of the respective committees of the Parliament of the Czech Republic;

IV. recommends

1. that the governor of the Moravian-Silesian Region makes arrangements for the systemic award of grants for the implementation of the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages in the Moravian-Silesian Region and to send to the Director of the Government Office by 29 February 2008 a settlement of the amount of grants drawn in 2007 out of the total amount of CZK 5,000,000, which was allocated as a special-purpose non-investment grant from the budget chapter of the Government Office to the budget of the Moravian-Silesian Region for the implementation of the above Charter;

2. that the regional governors, mayors of chartered cities, chairpersons of municipalities with delegated municipal authorities and chairpersons of municipalities where a Committee for National Minorities has been set up, make arrangements for the systemic

award of special-purpose grants from public finances for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of the integration of members of the Roma Community pursuant to the Governmental Order No 98/2002 Coll. laying down conditions and the method for the award of grants from the national budget for the activities of members of national minorities and for the support of the integration of members of the Roma Community, as amended.

To be executed by:

Prime Minister,
Minister and Chairperson
of the Government Council for National Minorities
Minister of Education, Youth and Sports

Noted by:

Governors
Mayor of the Capital City of Prague
Mayors of chartered cities

Prime Minister
Ing. Mirek Topolánek [Sgd.]

REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2006
Elaborated by the secretariat of the Council for National Minorities of the Government of the Czech Republic (contact pospisil.milan@vlada.cz)

Edited by: Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, Nábřeží Edvarda Beneše 4, 118 01 Praha 1, tel. 224 002 111, <http://web2006.vlada.cz>. Printed by: Dpt. of Polygraphy of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. 246 pages

Copyright © 2007 - Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, all rights reserved.

ISBN 978-80-86734-70-5