

Statutes

The Government of the Czech Republic, under Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 391 of 10 June 1998 on the National Security Council and on the planning of measures to safeguard the security of the Czech Republic, as amended by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 813 of 22 August 2001, Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 741 of 24 July 2002, Government Resolution No 164 of 12 February 2003, Government Resolution No 980 of 1 October 2003, Government Resolution No 828 of 1 September 2004, Government Resolution No 1109 of 10 November 2004, Government Resolution No 1174 of 11 October 2006, Government Resolution No 54 of 17 January 2007, Government Resolution No 195 of 16 February 2009 and Government Resolution No 687 of 1 June 2009 on the National Security Council and on the planning of measures to safeguard the security of the Czech Republic, inter alia approved the Statutes of the National Security Council.

Article 1

Introductory provisions

1. The National Security Council (hereinafter referred to as 'BRS') is a standing working body of the Government of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as 'Government') in the field of security issues.
2. The BRS was set up under Article 9 of Constitutional Act No 110/1998 on the security of the Czech Republic.
3. The principal task of the BRS is to contribute to the creation of a reliable state security system, and ensure the coordination and checking of measures designed to safeguard the Czech Republic's security and international commitments.

Article 2

Competence of the BRS

1. The BRS coordinates and evaluates issues concerning the security of the Czech Republic and prepares draft measures for the Government which are intended to ensure this security.
2. In particular, the BRS
 - a) is responsible for the interdepartmental coordination of planning, preparatory and implementation measures relating to the security of the Czech Republic,
 - b) assesses the intentions of planning, conceptual, preparatory and implementation measures relating to the security of the Czech Republic as submitted by ministries and other administrative authorities, BRS committees and local and regional government bodies,
 - c) assesses the risks of threats to the state which could spawn a crisis situation, and takes action or submits proposals to the Government for measures necessary to reduce or eliminate such risks,
 - d) assesses the summary requirements of ministries and other administrative authorities raised in relation to the security of the Czech Republic,
 - e) coordinates the preparation of conceptual documents of an interdepartmental nature required to ensure the security of the Czech Republic,
 - f) assesses and subsequently submits to the Government, for discussion, regular reports on the security of the Czech Republic, with proposals for action,

- g) cooperates with provincial security councils in the field of safeguarding the security of the Czech Republic,
- h) assesses and subsequently submits to the Government, for discussion, proposals for the Czech Republic's involvement in meeting allied commitments abroad, in the participation of the Czech Republic's armed forces in international operations to restore and keep peace, in the organization of the Czech Republic's humanitarian aid to other countries, and in the Czech Republic's participation in large-scale rescue operations abroad,
- i) if there is a threat of a crisis situation, or after a declaration of a state of emergency, state of danger or state of war,
 - ia) assesses the state's security situation and the scale of the potential threat,
 - ib) assesses the measures proposed by the Central Task Force,
 - ic) submits proposals to the Government for action to deal with the crisis situation,
 - id) coordinates activities relating to the security of the Czech Republic.

Article 3

Composition of the BRS

1. The BRS has nine members.
2. The BRS President is the Prime Minister.
3. The BRS Vice-President is the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Foreign Affairs.
4. Other BRS members are
 - a) the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence,
 - b) the Minister of the Interior,
 - c) the Minister for European Affairs,
 - d) the Minister for Finance,
 - e) the Minister for Industry and Trade,
 - f) the Minister for Transport,
 - g) the Minister for Health.
5. BRS meetings are also attended by the Governor of the Czech National Bank, the President of the Administration of State Material Reserves, the Manager of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, and the Director of the Section of the Prime Minister.
6. The President of the Republic is entitled to attend BRS meetings.
7. The term of office of BRS members is the same as the term of office of the Government.

Article 4

BRS President

The BRS President convenes BRS meetings. In the absence of the President, BRS meetings are convened by the BRS Vice-President or a designated BRS member. The BRS meets regularly, at least once every three months, or as required.

Article 5

BRS Board

1. The BRS Board is composed of the BRS President, the BRS Vice-President, the Deputy Prime Minister and for Defence, the Minister of the Interior and the Minister for Finance. Meetings of the BRS Board are attended by the director of the BRS Secretariat.
2. Members of the BRS Board may not be represented by other parties.
3. Meetings of the BRS Board are convened by the BRS President or, in his absence, by the BRS Vice-President. Meetings of the BRS Board are held as and when required.
4. At its meetings, in particular the BRS Board assesses the current security situation in the world and in the Czech Republic.
5. In the absence of the BRS President, the activities and meetings of the BRS Board are managed by the BRS Vice-President or a member of the BRS Board delegated by the BRS President.
6. Meetings of the BRS Board are governed mutatis mutandis by the Rules of Procedure of the BRS.

Article 6

BRS members

BRS members attend all BRS meetings; only in exceptional cases, and pursuant to the BRS President's approval, may they be represented by a delegated deputy minister from their office.

Article 7

BRS working bodies

1. The following bodies are active within the BRS:
 - a) the four standing committees of the BRS, i.e.
 - a.1. the Committee on the Coordination of Foreign Security Policy (coordinated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs),
 - a.2. the Committee on Defence Planning (coordinated by the Minister for Defence),
 - a.3. the Committee on Civil Emergency Planning (coordinated by the Minister of the Interior),
 - a.4. the Committee on Intelligence (coordinated by the Prime Minister).
 - b) the Central task Force as the BRS working body responsible for finding solutions to crisis situations or other serious situations concerning the security interests of the Czech Republic (coordinated by the Minister for Defence in the event of an external military threat to the Czech Republic, in the event of the fulfilment of allied commitments abroad and in the event of the participation of the Czech Republic's armed forces in international operations to restore and keep peace, or coordinated by the Minister of the Interior in case of other types of threat to the Czech Republic, in cases of the provision of large-scale humanitarian aid abroad, and in cases where the Czech Republic is involved in international rescue operations in the wake of accidents or natural disasters).

2. The statutes of BRS committees and of the Central Task Force are subject to Government approval.

Article 8

Expert working groups

1. The BRS may, as required, as a rule at the proposal of BRS members, set up and wind up expert working groups usually headed by a member of the BRS.

2. Expert working groups deal with issues in areas of the Board's competence; in particular they prepare documentation for BRS meetings. They do not have their own statutes or rules of procedure.

Article 9

External cooperation and tasking

1. The President of the Republic is entitled to demand reports from the BRS and its members and to discuss issues with the BRS or its members which fall within their remit.

2. The BRS may invite the Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies and the Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, ministers and heads of other administrative authorities who are not BRS members, representatives of local and regional government, and other experts to its meetings as and when required.

3. Regarding the security of the Czech Republic, the BRS may request information and analyses from all ministers and heads of other administrative authorities and may set them tasks connected with the safeguarding of the Czech Republic's security.

Article 10

BRS Secretariat

1. The activities of the BRS are arranged by the BRS Secretariat. The role of BRS Secretariat is played by the Defence and Security Department of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.

2. In particular, the BRS Secretariat

a) is responsible for the administration and organization of BRS activities,

b) monitors and assesses the fulfilment of conclusions from BRS meetings,

c) prepares, in cooperation with BRS members, the BRS work plan for the calendar year in accordance with the Government work plan and presents it, via the BRS President, to the BRS for approval,

d) is responsible for inviting the persons referred to in Article 9(2) to BRS meetings,

e) organizes working meetings with the responsible members of staff of departments who are designated to cooperate with the BRS Secretariat,

f) is responsible for ensuring that BRS meetings and working meetings where classified information is to be discussed take place only if all the conditions of administrative and physical security laid down by law^[1] have been met, and that such meetings are attended only by persons intended to be acquainted with the classified information to be discussed in accordance with Title X of the Act^[1],

- g) informs the Prime Minister and the BRS, in conjunction with BRS members, of the occurrence of a crisis situation and the further course thereof,
- h) gathers documentation and information, and draws up documentation required for BRS activities,
- i) keeps records of BRS resolutions and records of written minutes and sound recordings of BRS meetings,
- j) updates information about the BRS and its members published on the Internet.

3. The director of the Secretariat, who is the director of the Defence and Security Department of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, is responsible for the accomplishment of tasks imposed on the BRS Secretariat.

Article 11

Rules of procedure

Rules of procedure are an internal regulation of the BRS, BRS working bodies and the Central Task Force. The rules of procedure of the BRS, BRS working bodies and the Central Task Force, and amendments thereto, are subject to BRS approval.

Article 12

Final provisions

1. Amendments to the BRS Statutes are subject to Government approval.
2. These Statutes are available to the public at the website and at the seat of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. The consolidated text of the current Statutes is published on the website.
3. These Statutes enter into effect on 22 August 2001.

[1] [Act No 412/2005 on the protection of classified information and on security clearance.](#)