

**Comments by the Czech Republic on the Third Report of the Committee of  
Experts on the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages, concerning  
compliance with obligations arising from the Charter**

**Czech Republic**

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*The Czech Republic welcomes the Third Report of the Committee of Experts as part of a continuous dialogue, which makes an important contribution to meeting the commitments arising from the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. The evaluations and findings of the Committee of Experts will be taken into account in the preparation or review of measures to ensure compliance with these commitments, but the Czech Republic is now submitting the following comments in order to clarify certain ambiguities and to provide additional information for the text of the report.*

## **1. Comments on selected areas**

### **1.1. Concerning committees for national minorities – proposed amendment to Act No. 128/2000 Coll., on Municipalities (paragraphs 29, 30 and 31 of the Report)**

At several points, the report highlights the fact that no legislative changes have been made recently regarding the issue of the committees for national minorities (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”), which are currently regulated by Act No. 128/2000 Coll., on Municipalities (the Municipal Order), as amended.

At its meeting on 8 April 2015, the Government approved a bill amending Act No. 128/2000 Coll., on Municipalities (the Municipal Order), as amended, Act No. 129/2000 Coll., on Regions (Establishment of Regions), as amended, Act No. 131/2000 Coll., on the City of Prague, as amended, and Act No. 256/2013 Coll., on the Land Register (Catastral Act), which also includes amendments to the activities of the committees for national minorities and provides for bilingual street signs to be displayed in the language of the national minority. The bill (Parliamentary Print No. 454) has been distributed to members of the House of Deputies of the Czech Parliament on 13 April 2015. After the first reading, which took place on 29 April 2015, the bill was debated on 11 June 2015 by the Guarantee Committee for Public Administration and Regional Development, which recommended its approval. The proposed amendment to Sections 29 and 117 of the Municipal Order corresponds to the wording approved by the Government. Given the current stage of the legislative process, we can expect the bill to be passed by the end of 2015.

The report largely submits to criticism of the setting of percentage thresholds for establishing Committees in municipalities and displaying bilingual road signs. The Government’s proposed amendment to the Municipal Order (Parliamentary Print 454) maintains these percentage thresholds.

### **1.2. Ethnic minorities and the media (paragraphs 108, 110, 159, 160, 161, 163, 164, 208, 209, 210 and 213 of the Report)**

At the meeting of the Government Council for National Minorities (hereinafter referred to as the “Council”) in March 2015, statutory representatives of the public media (Czech Radio and Czech Television), were invited to present the approach adopted by these media with regard to national minorities. The presence of statutory representatives of the relevant media councils was also beneficial on this occasion (Council for Radio and Television Broadcasting, Czech Radio Council and Czech Television Council).

A debate on possible changes in the broadcasting schedule for ethnic minority broadcasts by Czech Radio was initiated on the basis of this meeting and members of the Working Group for ethnic minority broadcasting, the Advisory Panel to the Council, held five meetings over six months, together with the relevant Czech Radio employees, to generate the first systemic changes. The Czech Radio management allowed access to journalists/editors at Czech Radio regional stations, who were instructed to communicate with contact persons from ethnic minorities regarding activities minority representatives wish to present to the general public. As part of the proposed changes in its broadcasting policies, Czech Radio is also preparing

a strategy for new Czech Radio broadcasts aimed at ethnic minorities. It will present its proposals to the Council (working group) for consideration.

At the same time, this November Czech Radio is preparing to establish a desk for broadcasts aimed at people from the countries of the former Yugoslavia and is also considering setting up joint desks for other minorities who do not have their own broadcasting channels (i.e. for the Belarusian, Bulgarian, Hungarian, Ruthenian, Russian, Greek, Ukrainian and Vietnamese minorities). Given the current situation in Ukraine, special attention is being paid to the Ukrainian minority, which has requested its own broadcasts.

The fact that Czech Radio has initiated this dialogue is seen as extremely positive and may signify a qualitative shift towards a greater respect for minority groups and their languages.

The progress outlined above may have a positive impact on a number of areas which are currently viewed in the Third Report as problematic (e.g. the image of minority groups in the media - item M in the findings of the Committee of Experts in the third monitoring cycle; the status of German as a minority language - item H in the findings of the Committee of Experts in the third monitoring cycle; the prestige of the Romani language and its speakers in society/the media - item F in the findings of the Committee of Experts in the third monitoring cycle; Chapter 4.1 of the Report). The participation by Czech Radio in discussions as part of the Working Group on National Minority Broadcasting is perceived as positive.

A similar process has been planned for discussions with statutory representatives of Czech Television.

### 1.3. The Croatian minority (paragraphs 40, 41, 59, 71 and 89 of the Report)

In connection with Moravian Croatian, we feel it is necessary to point out that the Czech Republic is still at the stage of assessing, at the level of the Council, whether and to what extent it will accede to the inclusion of Moravian Croatian under the protection of the Charter, a situation which the Committee of Experts is aware of (see also paragraph 41 of the evaluation report).

One of the projects which received an award from the Ministry of Culture under its Aid Programme for cultural activities by members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic was the Documentation of the Croatian national minority living in the Czech Republic, which was presented by the Association of Croats in the Czech Republic, Jevišovka. This involves on-going research consisting of the collection, sorting and gradual publication of materials, which aims to collect material documenting the Croatian minority, in either material (photographs, archive documents, official documents, private correspondence) or non-material form (information obtained through interviews with members of this minority), which will be presented in a museum in a Croatian house in Jevišovka, as well as partly over the Internet, and will also be used by professional and scientific institutions with which the association is working.

**Tab. 1 Ministry of Culture subsidies for the Croatian minority documentation project for the period from 2011-2014**

<i>year</i>	<i>project</i>	<i>subsidy (CZK)</i>
2011	Documentation of the Croatian national minority in south Moravia and its language	210 000
2012 <sup>1</sup>	Documentation of the Croatian national minority in the Czech Republic during the period from 1840 - 2011	150 000

<sup>1</sup> Because the Association of Croats in the Czech Republic in Jevišovka sent its invoice for the subsidy for 2011 after the deadline, under Section 44a of Act No. 218/2000 Coll. this constituted a breach of budgetary discipline by the beneficiary and was subject to sanctions under the applicable legislation. This meant that the subsidy for 2012 could not be provided. The beneficiary of the subsidy for 2012 was the Civic association of Moravian Croats, Jevišovka.

2013	Documentation of the Croatian national minority in the Czech Republic during the period from 1840 - 2011	80 000
2014	Documentation of the Croatian national minority in the Czech Republic	170 000

During the period from 2012 – 2014, alongside Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports also providing funding through its aid programme to support education in minority languages and multicultural education. This covered the following projects: *Expansion of the e-learning system for teaching Moravian Croatian* and *Expansion of the Moravian Croatian dictionary and the use of words in sentences*.

We should also add that, at its meeting on 10 November 2014, the Council started a debate on the prerequisites for including Croatian under the protection of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. The main concern is what form of the language should be included: the Moravian Croatian dialect, the Gradistan Croatian literary language (see the approach adopted by Austria) or literary Croatian (as was, for example, used by Slovakia during its ratification of the Charter).

Concerning general support for Croatian culture and language, we should mention that, on 15 October 2014, the Government approved Resolution No. 847 authorising the transfer of funds to support the reconstruction of the Museum of Moravian Croats in Jevišovka, amounting to CZK 8,351,710. This was aid administered by Ministry of Culture under the Aid Programme for the development and renewal of the material and technical base of regional cultural facilities. It was provided in response to a request from the Croatian minority in 2012, and approximately the same amount of aid is anticipated in 2016 to complete the necessary stages of reconstruction of this community centre for the Croatian minority in its historic settlement area.

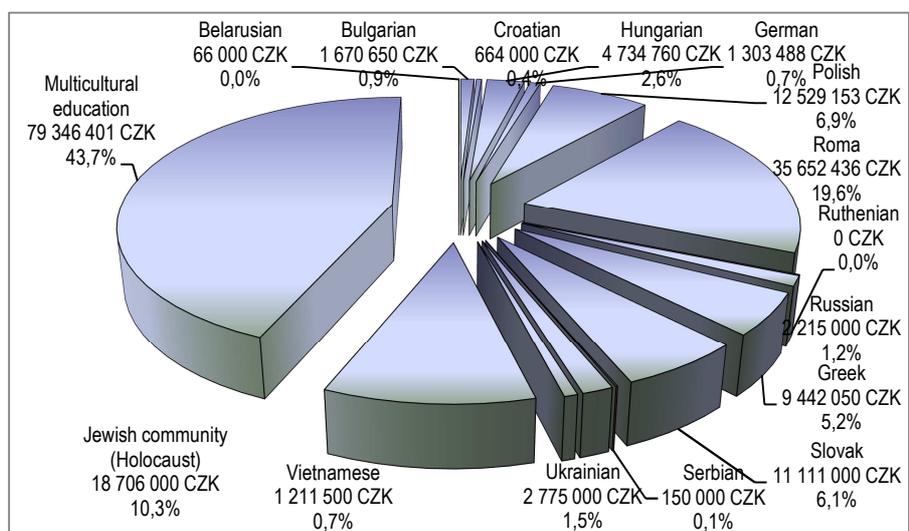
#### 1.4. Subsidies for the activities of national minority organisations (paragraphs 48, 49, 50, 51 and 54 of the Report)

As can be seen from the graphs showing the long-term development of financial support from the state, the largest decline in subsidies for national minority activities occurred in 2013 (from the Ministry of Culture), while the figures for 2014 reflect an increase in support. Financial support by local and regional authorities shows a different situation.

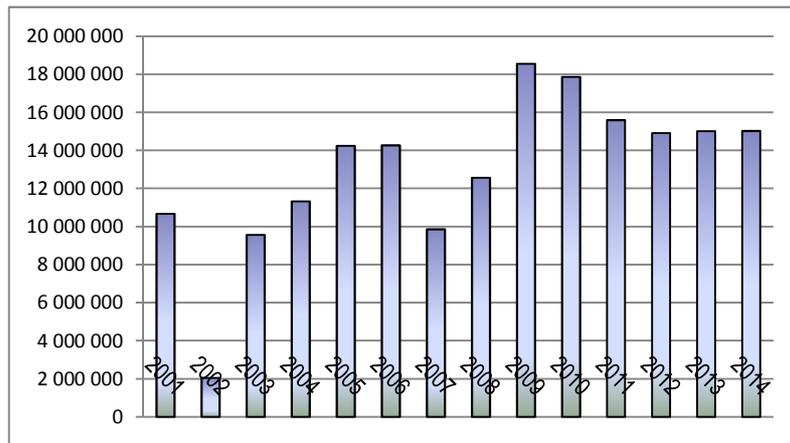
#### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND SPORTS

Aid programme for education in national minority languages and multicultural education:

**Graph no. 1 Subsidy from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports during the period from 2001-2014**



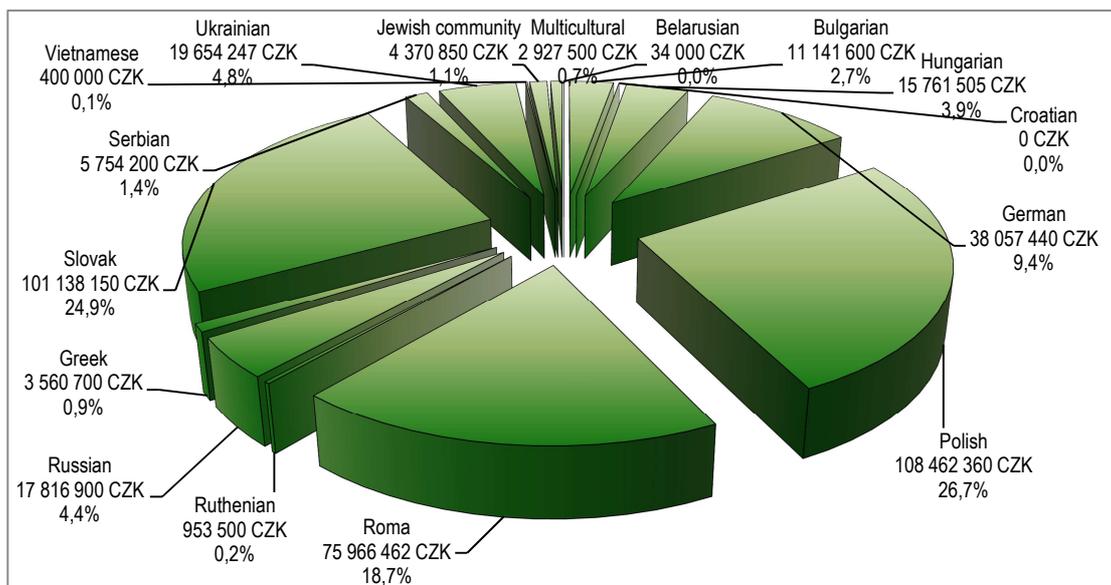
**Graph no. 2 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



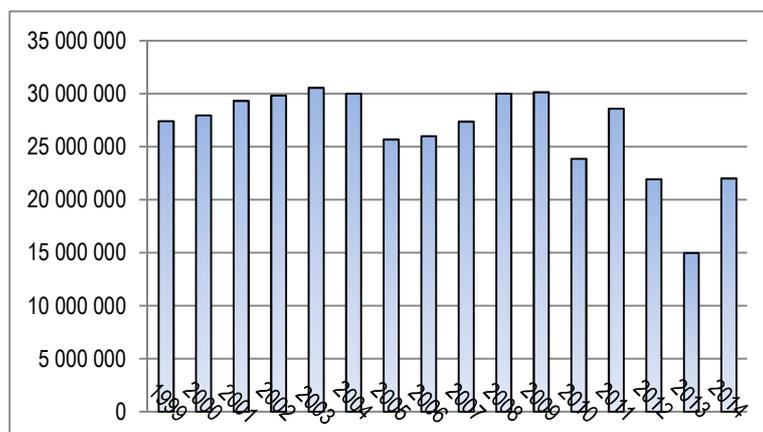
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

Aid programme for the dissemination and acquisition of information in national minority languages:

**Graph no. 3 Subsidy for disseminating and acquiring information in national minority languages (1999-2014)**

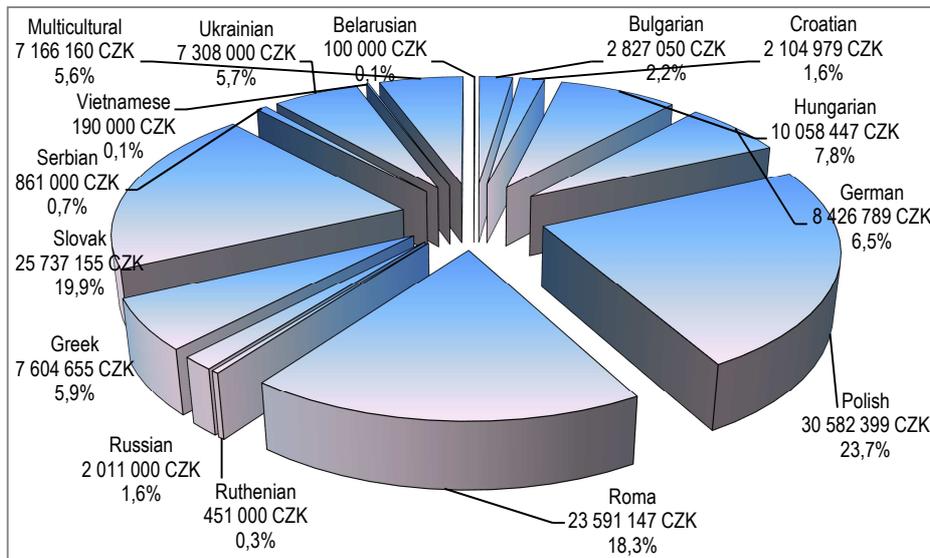


**Graph no. 4 Subsidies broken down by individual years**

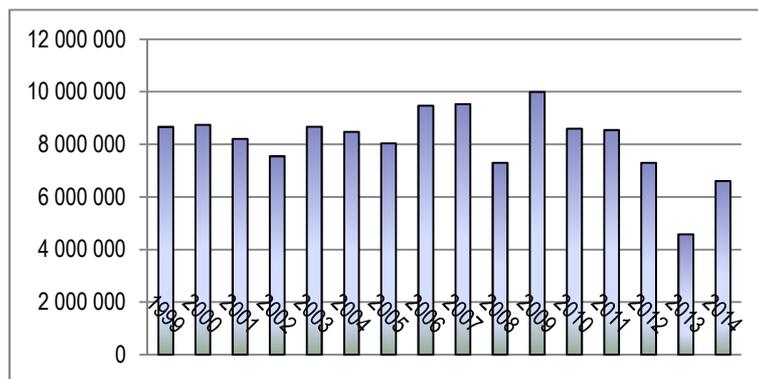


Aid programme for cultural activities by members of national minorities:

**Graph no. 5 Subsidies for cultural activities of members of national minorities (1999-2014)**

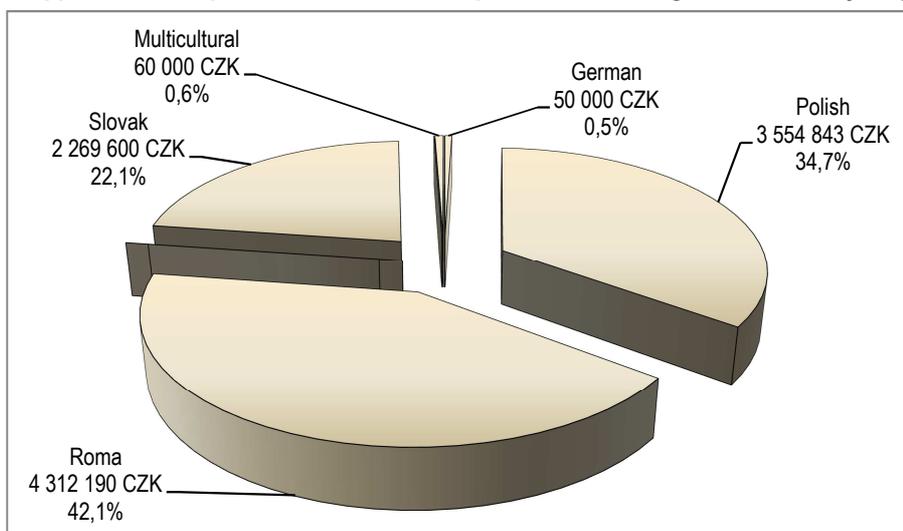


**Graph no. 6 Subsidies broken down by individual years**

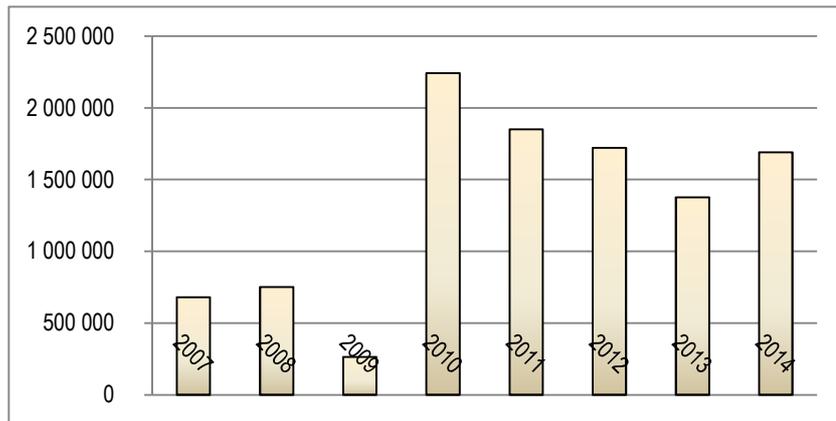


OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT

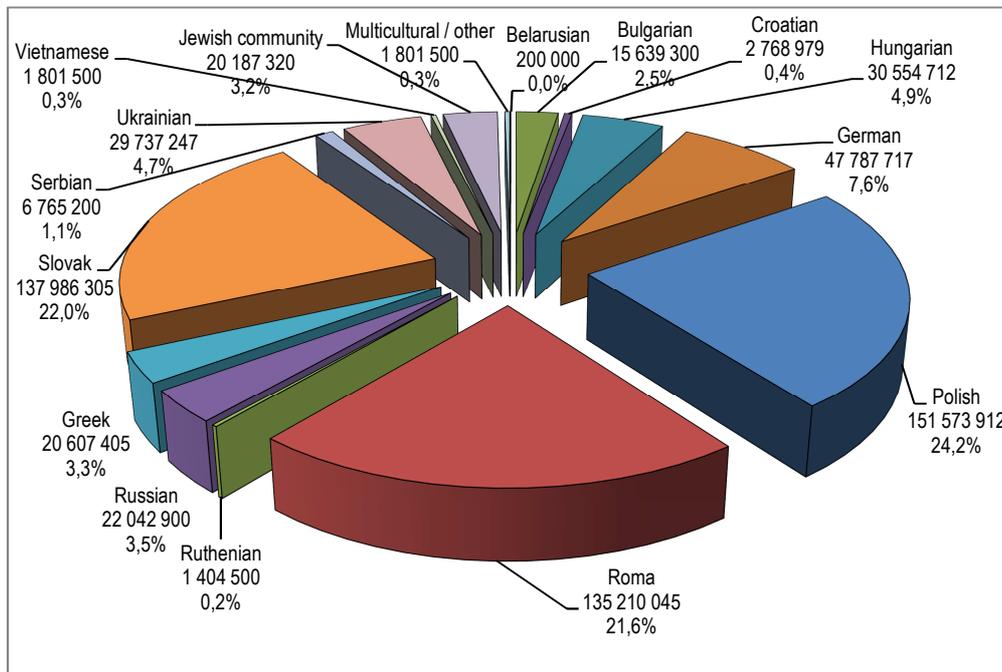
**Graph no. 7 Support for the implementation of the European Charter of regional or minority languages (2007-2014)**



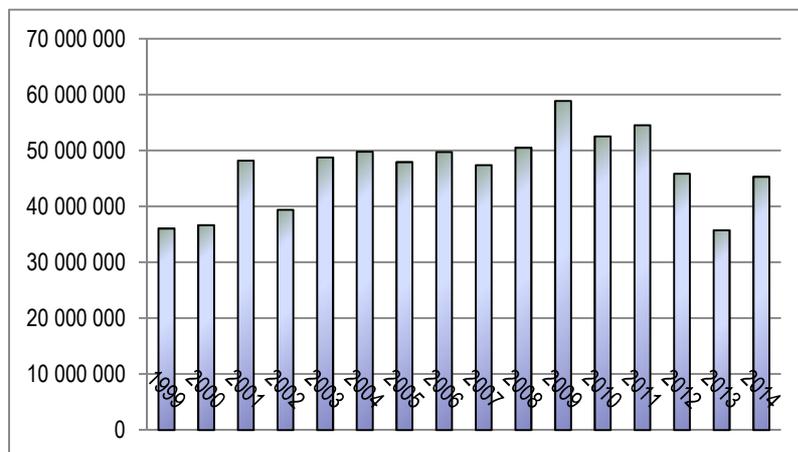
**Graph no. 8 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



**Graph no. 9 Subsidies from the state administration as a whole for the period 1999-2014**



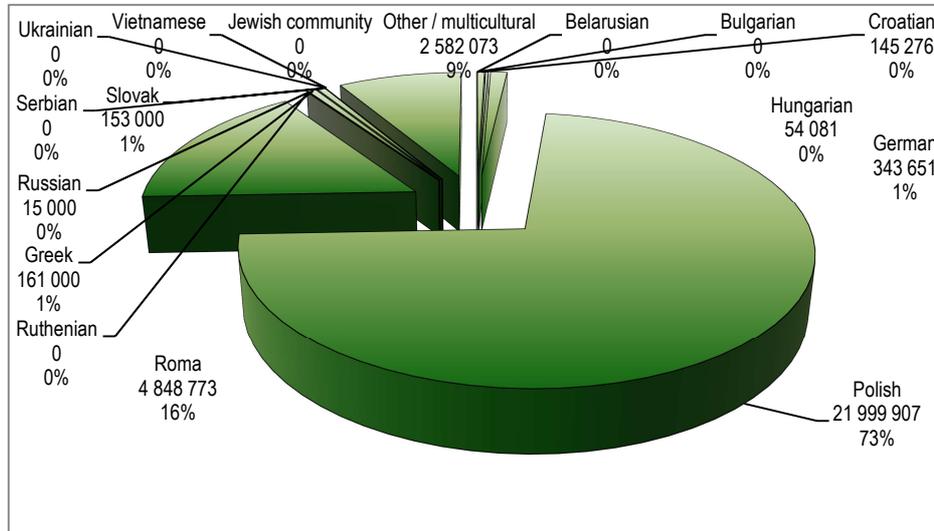
**Graph no. 10 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



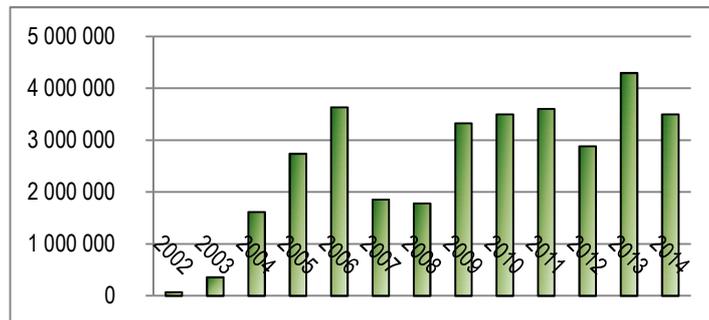
MUNICIPALITIES, STATUTORY CITIES, REGIONS

The situation is different for local and regional authorities, where 2013 is not the worst year in terms of the level of subsidies, both in the case of municipalities and statutory cities and in the case of the regions. By far the largest beneficiary of municipal subsidies is the Polish minority, while the Roma population and multinational and multicultural projects benefit most from subsidies from statutory cities and the regions.

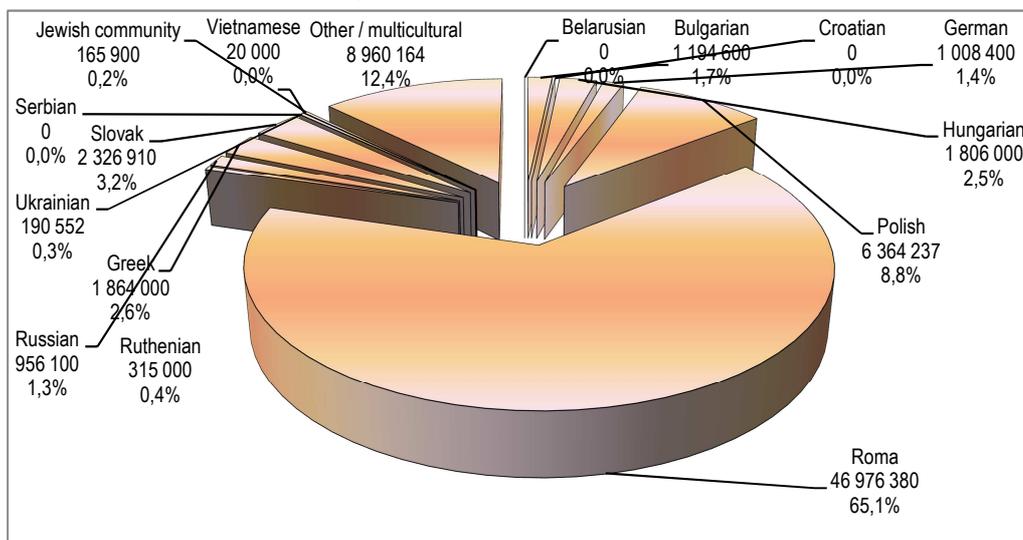
**Graph no. 11 Subsidies from municipalities (2002-2014)**



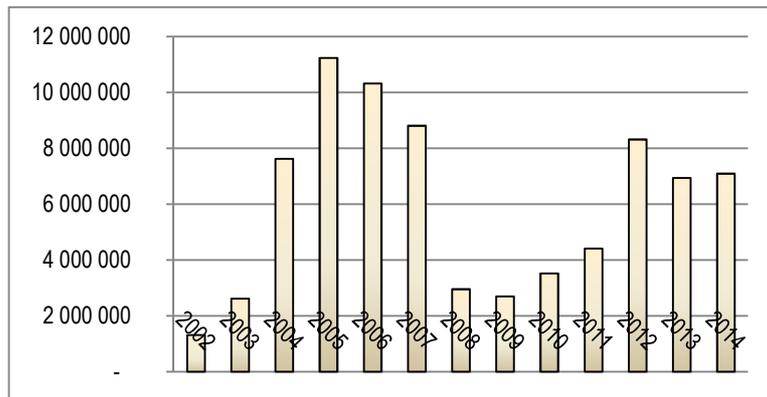
**Graph no. 12 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



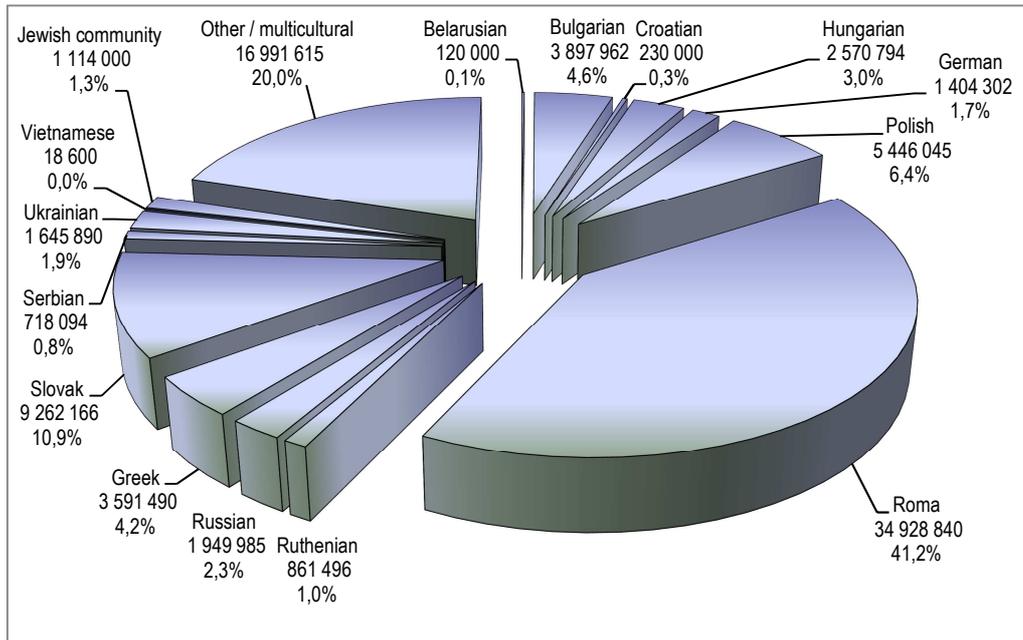
**Graph no. 13 Subsidies from Statutory Cities (2002-2014)**



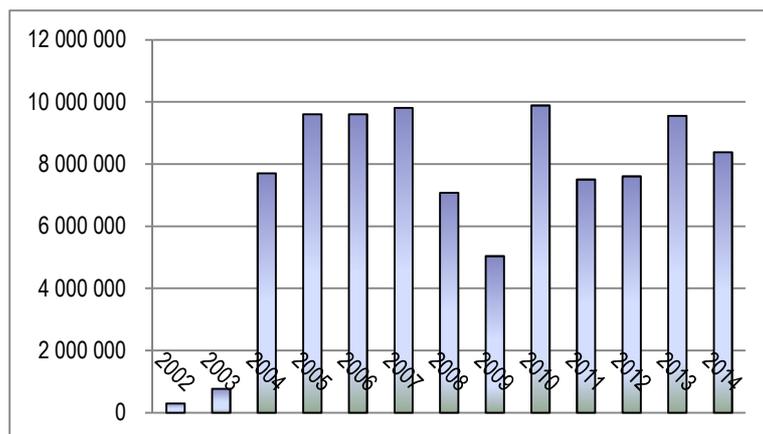
**Graph no. 14 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



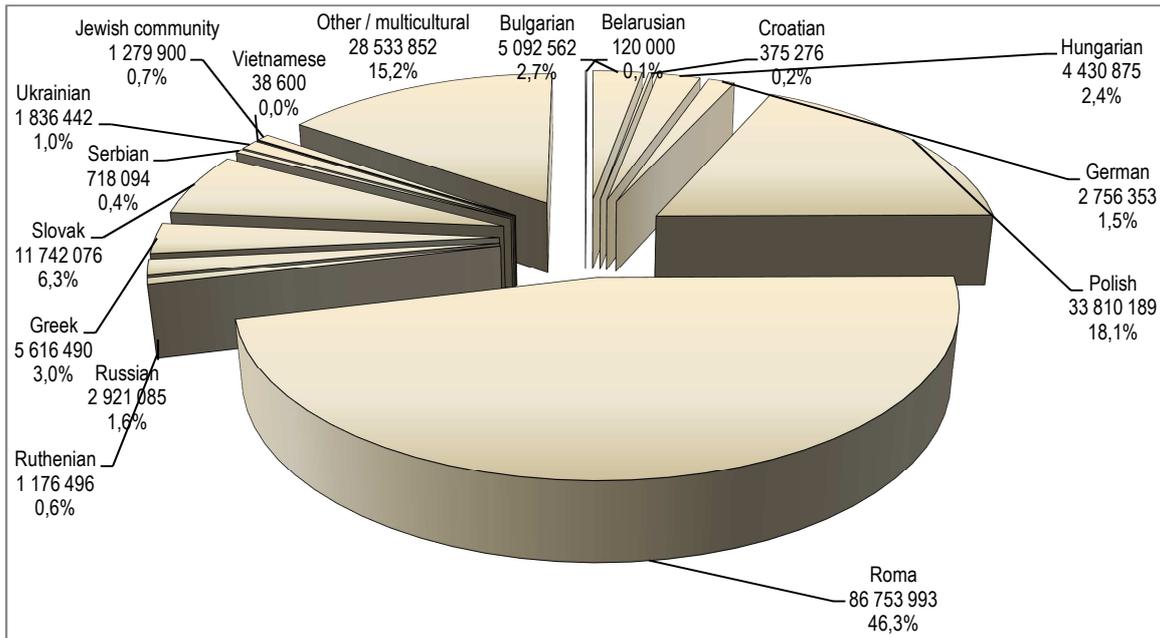
**Graph no. 15 Subsidies from regions (2002-2014)**



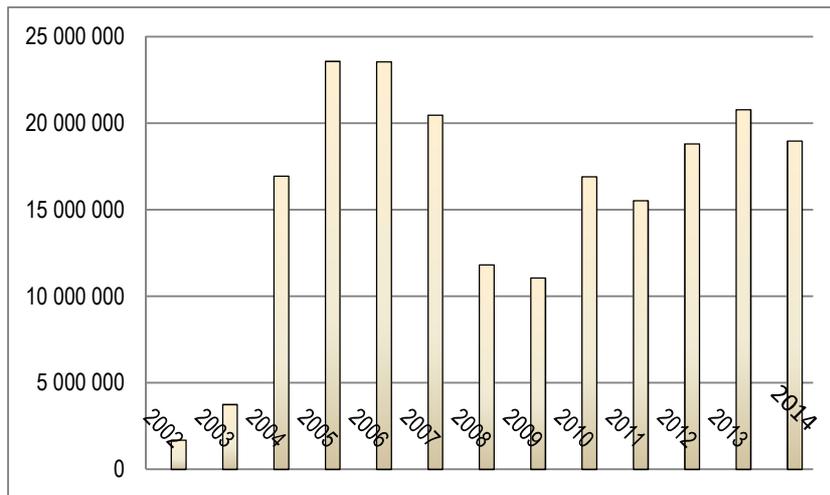
**Graph no. 16 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



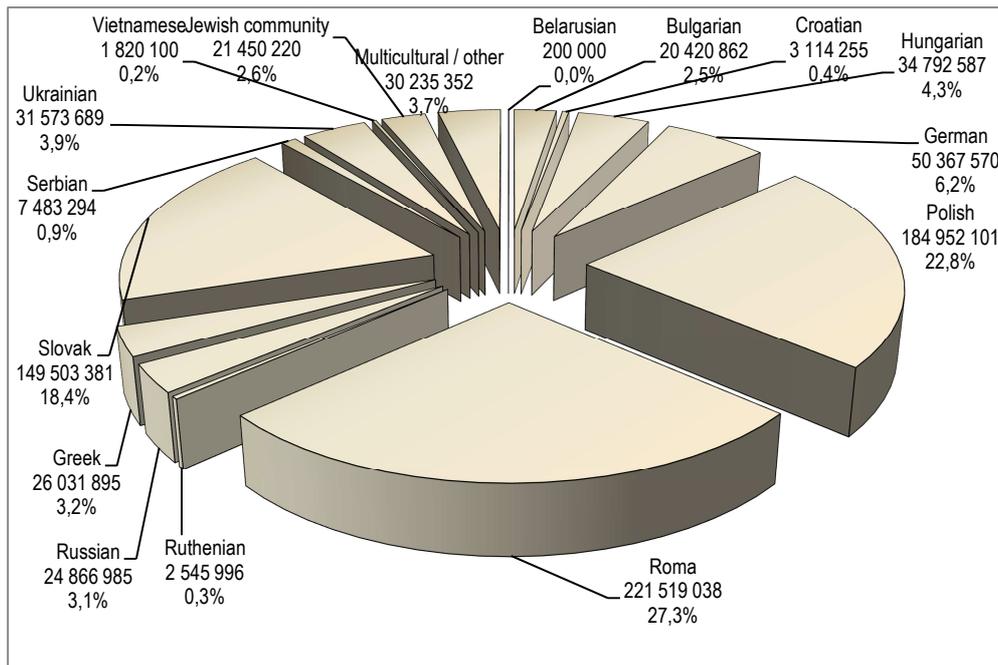
**Graph no. 17 Subsidies from the public administration as a whole (2002-2014)**



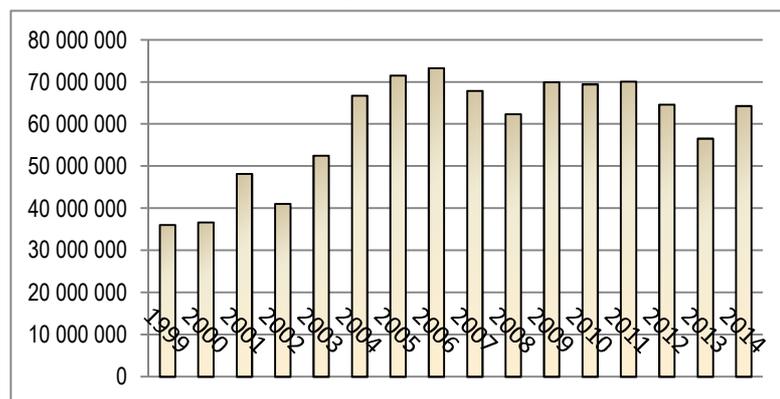
**Graph no. 18 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



**Graph no. 19 Subsidies as a whole (central and local government)**



**Graph no. 20 Subsidies broken down by individual years**



1.5. Explanation of individual items

Paragraphs 19 and 20

Information is available concerning the Slovak minority in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia *en bloc* from the censuses that were carried out in 1921 (where the number of Slovaks was 15,630) and 1930 (44,452 individuals). During this period the number of Slovaks mainly increased in traditional immigration points in Bohemia and Moravia – in the major cities and locally in industrial and mining areas. The first post-war census in 1950 assessed the Slovak minority as being six times larger than the pre-war census (258,025 individuals). The reason for this significant increase was primarily the transfer of the German population and the associated, at first spontaneous, repopulation of the border area, which was followed up by an organised resettlement programme.

The only information available for the period before 1945 combines data from historical parts of the country, and the data from the 1920<sup>2</sup> and 1930<sup>3</sup> censuses are as follows:

**Tab. 2 Czech and Slovak nationals in 1920 and 1930**

Land	Number of residents by nationality			
	Czech		Slovak	
	1920	1930	1920	1930
Bohemia	4 373 159	4 683 220	6 657	30 146
Moravia and Silesia	2 338 974	2 581 628	8 973	13 906
Slovakia	71 733	120 926	1 941 942	2 224 983
Ruthenia	9 477	20 719	10 298	13 242

#### Paragraph 27

Since 16 April 2014, the representative of the Union of Towns and Municipalities has been a member of the Council.<sup>4</sup>

#### Paragraph 30

The ten percent threshold must be met. The condition requiring a written request for a committee was included to cover cases where, despite an invitation by the local authority to join a committee, there is no interest from the local community.

#### Paragraph 31

The Slovak minority reaches 10% in two municipalities (Světlík, in the Český Krumlov district; Bílá, in the Frýdek-Místek district). There was no interest in establishing a committee. In two municipalities, where representatives of the Slovak minority and other ethnic minorities together make up more than 10%, a committee was established (Těrlicko, in the Karviná district; Josefov, Sokolov district). In municipalities where committees have been established, although there was no obligation to do so under the law, the Slovak community always represents a certain proportion (e.g. in Aš, Cheb district, 2.98%; Malá Štáhle, Bruntál district, 7.43%; Stanovice, Karlovy Vary district, 2.48%). Of the four regions which have established a committee, three were obliged to by law: Karlovy Vary, Moravia-Silesia and the Capital City of Prague.

#### Paragraph 38 and paragraphs 90 - 95

A number of Romani dialects are spoken in the Czech Republic, with different rates of use. Non-Walachian Romani dialects are under the greatest threat of linguistic change (according to research by the Roma Studies seminar at the Charles University Faculty of Arts in Prague). The fundamental causes of this phenomenon are the stigmatisation of the Roma identity (where the Romani language is still perceived as one of its markers) and an underestimation of the communicative functions of Romani and its status as a fully-fledged language. The long-term goal of this measure is to support Romani and to change its perception, both by the Roma and the non-Roma public, by promoting its use in public as a fully-fledged communication tool and not only in symbolic terms, including support for the teaching of the Romani language in primary schools. Results from the study also indicate that teachers are not fully prepared to work with children from environments that use other languages, including children from families who speak Romani and/or a Czech Roma ethnolect. The Strategy for Roma Integration to

<sup>2</sup> Census in the Czechoslovak Republic dated 15 February 1921. Czechoslovak statistics - Volume 9. Prague, SÚS, 1924.

<sup>3</sup> Census in the Czechoslovak Republic dated 1 December 1930. Czechoslovak statistics - Volume 98. Prague, SÚS, 1934.

<sup>4</sup> By virtue of the aforementioned Government Resolution No. 262 of 16 April 2014

2020 therefore sets out measures to create conditions for the more effective use of the subsidy budget to support the implementation of the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages with relation to Romani, to support the use of Romani as a minority language in primary schools, to support the development of methodological and teaching materials and tools for lessons in Romani and support for research into the use of the Czech language by children from environments that use Romani and/or a Roma ethnolect of Czech in their normal communication; to encourage the development of practical tools to correct “errors” in the use of general/literary Czech by children from these environments; to train teachers and teaching assistants who are required to expand the topic of language use by Roma pupils in concrete ways and in the consequences of language and communication barriers in general.

Romani language teaching should be provided at schools in the same way as other less commonly taught languages (i.e. as an additional optional or non-compulsory subject) and should respond to demand by pupils and their parents. With regard to children who speak the language, the teaching of Romani at school is not only a tool to promote its development as a minority language, but is primarily a tool to improve the quality of teaching for these children. Awareness of their own language and the possibility of developing other language skills (e.g. various ways of working with texts) is seen as a natural part of language learning. Romani speakers still do not have this opportunity. At the same time, we can assume that these pupils will also be able to apply some of the general skills acquired during Romani lessons to other subjects. The teaching of Romani and its inclusion in the linguistic landscape of the school may also help to create a positive attitude to school and to develop an informed and tolerant school environment. Some progress has been made in recent years in the preparation of methodological and teaching materials for the Czech environment. The Ministry should systematically encourage the development of additional methodological and teaching materials, prepared on the basis of existing European documents used for Romani teaching, and at the same time should make significant efforts to address the problem of a shortage of teachers qualified to teach Romani and to incorporate it into the Czech educational system.

There is no evidence to support the sentence “Moreover, special education is frequently presented to Roma parents as the better option for their children” and this is not based on fact.

#### Paragraph 66

Every project, not only *Landesecho*, has to raise at least 30% of the project funds from sources other than the subsidy. In the case of this project, Germany finances the editor’s salary, with the editor coming directly from Germany. This ensures that the work will be carried out and also contact with a native speaker. The amount of the financial assistance is around CZK 500 thousand, which covers about 20%.

#### Paragraph 73

The Romano Džaniben magazine did not only receive financial assistance in 2013, but was also subsidised in 2011, 2012 and 2014; in 2011 and 2012 this magazine was published biannually.

#### Paragraph 114

Polish, Slovak, German and Romani speakers each have two representatives among the members of the Council.

#### Paragraph 123

Representatives of the Polish minority are members of the working group to reform the financing of regional schools: the Director of the Pedagogical Centre for Polish education

in Český Těšín, and a representative of the Association of Polish Teachers and the Congress of Poles in the Czech Republic.

#### Paragraph 132

Czech School Inspection reports are prepared on the basis of the inspection timetable for all levels of initial education (pre-school, basic and secondary education).

#### Paragraphs 136 - 144

Article 25 paragraph 2 (b) of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms states that citizens belong to national and ethnic minority groups are also guaranteed the right to use their own language in their relations with officials, under the conditions set down by law. The rights of members of national minorities, including their language rights, are regulated by Act No. 273/2001 Coll., on the rights of members of national minorities and on amendments to certain other Acts, which states in Section 9 that, “members of national minorities, who have traditionally enjoyed long-term residence on the territory of the Czech Republic, have the right to use the language of their national minority in relations with officials and before the courts”. However, the same provision of the Act refers to conditions laid down by other legal regulations for the exercise of this right, i.e. cases where a national minority language is used in criminal proceedings are governed by the Penal Code. Section 2 paragraph 14 of the Penal Code states that “anyone who declares that he/she does not speak Czech is entitled to use his/her mother tongue or a language he/she declares that he/she can speak before the criminal justice authorities”. This interprets Article 37 paragraph 4 of the Charter (“Anyone who declares that he/she does not speak the language in which a proceeding is being conducted has the right to the services of an interpreter.”).

It can be concluded from the previous paragraph that the formal condition for the use of a national minority language (or a regional language) by a particular person is his or her declaration that he/she does not have a command of Czech. There has been no change in this respect since the last evaluation.

It should be pointed out that there is no formal form of the “declaration” in the sense of Section 2 paragraph 14 of the Penal Code, and it is sufficient that the relevant court or criminal justice authorities receive any form of information or communication that the individual wants to use his/her mother tongue, or there may also be cases where the criminal justice authorities discover this by themselves. This is not a task that has any defamatory form and it should not deter the person concerned from using a regional or minority language, particularly because the criminal justice authorities are not able to examine to what extent the person who wants to use their mother tongue does or does not speak Czech.

It is also not known whether the aforementioned has given rise to any problems in practice, as is also stated in the evaluation report. Indeed, a change to this declaration is also accepted in practice (the judgment of the Regional Court in Pilsen can be used as an example here – file no. 6 To 550/2001, which states that “*if the accused declares at any point during the course of the proceeding that he/she requests the assistance of an interpreter in order to use his/her mother tongue, it is the responsibility of the criminal justice authorities to comply with this request, even if the accused did not request an interpreter in earlier stages of the proceeding and it was clear that he/she was able to communicate in Czech. If no interpreter is provided despite being requested by the accused, this shall constitute a substantial procedural defect because it leads to a significant curtailment of the rights of the accused. However, this does not affect the legality of procedural acts carried out without the participation of an interpreter in a situation where the accused declared prior to the proceeding that he/she understands Czech and did not request an interpreter*”).

In terms of the European Convention on Human Rights, the provisions of the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages goes far beyond its scope, whether with regard to the right to a fair trial [Article 6 paragraph 3 (a) and (e) of the Convention] or the right to

liberty and security (Article 5 paragraph 2 of the Convention). The Convention requires that the accused [i.e. the person charged with a criminal offence, not any party to court proceedings] be informed of certain facts “in a language which he understands” and be provided with “the free assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand or speak the language used in court”.

If you continue to insist on the removal of the condition that any individual who wishes to use a language other than Czech in criminal proceedings must declare that he/she does not have a command of Czech, this may result in increased mandatory spending on translations and interpretation. Similarly, it may also result in interpreters being called in more often when there is de facto no need for them, and may also unnecessarily and inefficiently extend the criminal proceedings themselves. Criminal proceedings must also abide by the principle of speed and efficiency, thereby reflecting the individual components of the right to a fair trial. In a given case, the right to a fair trial may have to be weighed against the right to use a regional or minority language. Interpretation and translation in cases that are not affected by ignorance of the language might be more detrimental for individual parties to criminal proceedings than a failure to use a minority or regional language in any given case.

Chapter 3.2.1 contains an assessment of how the Czech Republic is meeting the obligations arising from Part III of the Charter with regard to Polish. We think that the assessment of compliance with Article 9 of the Charter in the English version of the report submitted confuses the Administrative Procedure Code and the Code of Administrative Justice. In the context of the report as a whole and the contents of Article 9, which concerns proceedings held by judicial authorities, as well as from other connections it appears that this part of the report focuses on the “soudní řád správní” (Act No. 150/2002 Coll.), or “the Code of Administrative Justice”, and not “the Administrative Procedure Code”, which corresponds to the Czech “správní řád” (Act No. 500/2004 Coll.). For clarification we would emphasise the fact that the administrative courts proceed in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Code, which is actually based on the wording of the civil procedure code, as stated in the text. On the other hand, the administrative authorities organise administrative proceedings in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Code, which has its interpretation of the procedural language. Section 16 paragraph 4 of the Administrative Procedure Code addresses the use of minority languages by members of national minorities (Czech citizens) and, in our opinion, in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Charter.

#### Paragraphs 146 and 148

In response to the statement that “Polish speakers often prefer to use Czech in dealings with the administration, believing this would ease the procedure” (paragraph 146, last sentence) we have to acknowledge that this presumption by Polish-speaking people (as well as representatives of other national minorities) is justified. Given that, under Section 16 paragraph 1 of the Administrative Procedure Code states that the procedural language in administrative proceedings is Czech, parties who wish to file a submission or to communicate on other issues in Polish (or another foreign language) must have their submissions translated. It is difficult to avoid the requirement that administrative documentation be always maintained in Czech. Even if officials working in first stage administrative authorities understood the minority language in question, it cannot be assumed that officials with the same language skills would be found at later stages of the proceedings (to the level of the State administrative authorities) as well as in the administrative and constitutional judicial bodies. The possibility of other parties to the proceedings, who do not necessarily understand the minority language, must also be taken into account. The only viable solution is to keep the files primarily in Czech and, if required, also in the national minority language. As has already been stated above, the need for translation is always associated with financial costs (which are borne by the State in the case of members of the Polish minority), but also with time. We believe that it should be left to the discretion of the national minorities to decide what is more suitable for them in their specific case, whether to communicate with the authorities in their mother tongue, or the speed with which their rights are

recognised, and not to force them to use their mother tongue despite the fact that it will ultimately be to their disadvantage.

#### Paragraphs 175 - 177

In 2014, as in previous years, the statutory city of Brno awarded subsidies amounting to CZK 80 thousand out of its own budget to support the association of members of the Polish minority, Polonus, in the Cultural and Social activities of the Polish Club in Brno (the South Moravian region also contributed financial assistance). The budget of the City of Prague was also drawn on to provide financial support for two exhibitions by the Polish Club in Prague (Veškerenstvo věcí – sculptures and a photography exhibition), totalling CZK 80 thousand.

#### Paragraphs 180 and 220

**Tab. 3 Events held by Czech Centres to support national minority culture**

##### GERMAN

<i>Czech Centre</i>	<i>date</i>	<i>event / comments</i>
Munich	10.12.2013	<b>How the third generation sees it</b> A project by the Goethe Institute in Prague shows an example of 4 young people aged between 18 and 35, who represent the third generation of the German-speaking minority in the Czech Republic. Short film portraits describe the effect the German language has on their sense of identity today.
	19.10.2012	<b>Organ concert: Music in service of Czech-German neighbourliness</b>
Vienna	3.3.2014	<b>Whimsical musical portraits by Czech and German speaking composers. Josef Bohuslav Foerster und Erwin Schulhoff @ Rok české hudby 2014</b> Works by two composers whose musical activities were interrupted or fell into oblivion because of the political upheavals and crimes of the 20 <sup>th</sup> century.
Paris	3.3.2014	<b>Whimsical musical portraits by Czech and German speaking composers</b>

##### POLISH

Warsaw	19.10.2013	<b>Czech poet and performer Foll at a major festival of slam poetry in Warsaw</b> Improvisation in Polish – Czech poet Jakub Foll, lecturer at DAMU and Czech master of slam poetry.
	23.-26.9.2014 24.-26.7.2013	<b>European day of languages – getting to know Czech</b> Language exercises on Polish-Czech language mistakes. Location: Warsaw University
Berlin	22.9.2013	<b>Divided cities and territories</b> Český Těšín, Cieszyn and Těšínské Slezsko: lectures and a concert by J.Nohavica

##### ROMANI

Bucharest	8.-16.2.2013	<b>Concert tour + workshops by Mário Bihári and Bachtale Apsa</b>
	23.-25.9.2013	<b>Mário Bihári &amp; Gadjo.cz @ SOUNDCZECH</b>
	9.4.2013	<b>Concert on the occasion of the International Romani Day</b> Pianist Cătălin Răducanu – improvisation drawing on Roma music
	20.-24.8.2014	<b>Banát festival</b> Performers including the Roma band Bitumen Beat
	23.9.2013-12.10.2013	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> annual SOUNDCZECH festival</b> Iva Bittová, Mário Bihári & DJ Gadjo.cz
Bucharest	7.-10.6.2012	<b>Mário Bihári &amp; Bachtale Apsa at the IRAF festival</b>

Sofia	22.2.2013	<b>Mário Bihári and Bachtale Apsa - concert</b>
	21.2.2013	<b>Workshop with Mário Bihári and Bachtale Apsa</b>
Stockholm	13.8.2014	<b>Cultural festival in Göteborg</b> Věra Bílá and Kale concert
New York	19.11.2013	<b>Evening with Helena Třeštková</b> Presentation of a documentary by the Czech director and discussions with the author of a documentary about a Roma personality, Vojta Lavička: Nahoru a dolů
Vienna	26.-29.4.2014	<b>11<sup>th</sup> annual Crossing Europe festival</b> Helena Třeštková: Vojta Lavička – Nahoru a dolů @ Crossing Europe
Moscow	6.2.2013	<b>PAVEL ŠPORCL - GIPSY WAY, concert of Roma music</b>
Warsaw	5.-12.12.2012 18.5.2014	<b>Czech films at the Warsaw human rights in film festival WatchDocs</b> The jury selected 70 films from a total of around 1200. The film selected from the Czech Republic was "Vojta Lavička" (H.Třeštková).
	28.-29.7.2012	<b>International Days of Roma Culture</b> Performances by Terne čhave, Romano Suno Cigany alom from Satoraljaiuhely, the Polish group Kale Jakha from Nowé Huty, Romathan theatre from Slovakia
Munich	6.5.2013	<b>Benga Show</b> On the occasion of the opening of the "Past and present of the Sinti and Roma in Europe" exhibition, the Roma group Benga Show.
	9.9.2012	<b>Concert by the Roma group Bitumen Beat</b> As part of the Prague Island event at Corso Leopold
	28.4.2012	<b>Le Čhavendar</b> Roma band from Rokycany
Paris	4.5.2012	<b>Cindži Renta</b> , Roma band from Český Krumlov
Düsseldorf	1.9.2013	<b>the Čankišou group at the Tropen Tango festival</b>
	31.8.2013	<b>Čankišou at the folklore festival in Krefeld</b>
Budapest	11.8.2013	<b>Roma band Terne Čhave at Sziget</b>
	20.9.2012	<b>Bitumen Beat at the A 38 festival</b>
Brussels	14.6.2013	<b>Czech Street Party for the seventh time!</b> Alžběta Kolečkářová, Michal Hruža, Čankišou and David Koller
Berlin	8.12.2012	concert by the Roma band, Bitumen Beat

#### SLOVAK

Bratislava	4.7.2014	<b>Joined by a song</b> Concert by visually handicapped artists from the V4 countries.
	28.11.2013	<b>Czecho Mecho</b> Czech Centre and OZ literary club - Slam poetry
	17.11.2012	<b>NÁŠ CIEL JE ZAJÍČEK (OUR SKY IS A LITTLE HARE)</b> Readings from dramatic texts, concert by URBAND and DG307
	27.11.2014	<b>Pohádečko moje - Rozprávočka moja (My fairytale)</b> Readings from Czechoslovak storybooks for children and meeting with authors
Paris	2.3.2014	Czecho-slovak duo, concert as part of the Year of Czech Music
Vienna	19.3.2014	Czechoslovak chamber duo Antonín Dvořák & friends
London	30.11.2013	Czechoslovak party with Midi Lidi, Lavagance and Puding paní Elvisovej, concert
	26.10.2013	<b>Czechoslovak party</b> Chinaski, Polemic, Mario Bihari (Roma chansonnier) and Dj Gadjo.cz
Bucharest	14.5.2013	<b>Czech - Slovak Battle</b> Concert, Slovak and Czech dulcimer

## OTHERS (Holocaust, Yiddish)

Stockholm	23.2.2014	<b>Film and recital Refuge in Music: Terezín</b> Projection of a documentary film, which pays tribute to notable Jewish composers and musicians imprisoned in the Terezín Nazi concentration camp.
Munich	18.5.2014	<b>Paths of suffering – the pathway of life (concert)</b> The R. Z. Nováka oratorio, which reflects German-Czech history: the indifference of most of the population on the German side to the Holocaust and the expulsion of the Germans by the Czechs.
Berlin	11.3.2012	<b>Yiddish in three</b> Musical programme representing a new approach to Jewish songs.
Paris	21.9.2014	<b>Prayer for Terezín</b> The Debussy quartet pays tribute to composers deported to Terezín.

Tab. 3 contains additional data from the Third periodic report on compliance with the obligations arising from the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages in the Czech Republic, the original Table no. 26 from the Third Periodic Report, on support for foreign activities through the Ministry of Culture.<sup>5</sup> Information on 2014 has been added.

**Tab. 4 Support for foreign activities through the Ministry of Culture (2014)**

## POLISH

<i>project</i>	<i>organisation / grant beneficiary</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Association of amateur musicians – youth brass band, Jistebník	8th youth orchestra competition for the “Crystal Round”, Poland - Kolo	20 000
Rosénka folklore association, Prague	International folklore festival “World under Kyczera”, Poland - Legnica	30 000
Chorus Ostrava, Ostrava	3rd Gdaňsk International Choral Festival, Poland - Gdaňsk	25 000
Ostrava teachers choir, Ostrava	18th international “Varsovia Cantat” festival, Poland – Warsaw	20 000
Polish Arts Association Ars Musica, Český Těšín	6th International Wrocław choral festival “Vratislavia Sacra”, Wrocław	15 000
RO. NA. TA., Nový Jičín	Puellae et pueri at the international festival in Warsaw, Poland – Warsaw	20 000
Vojtěch Kouba, Chrást	Participating in the Lidová muzika folk ensemble from Chrást at the International Student Festival in Katowice, Poland – Katowice	14 000

## SLOVAK

<i>project</i>	<i>organisation / grant beneficiary</i>	<i>grant (CZK)</i>
Svitání children's choir, Prague	Svitání at Musica Sacra Bratislava, Slovakia – Bratislava	30 000
Vokál mixed choir, Přerov	Slovakia Cantat competition festival, Slovakia – Bratislava	10 000

<sup>5</sup> Programme to promote foreign contacts in the area of amateur artistic activities.