

**INFORMATION  
ON THE ISSUE OF EXTREMISM  
IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC  
2004**

## Table of Contents

<b>I. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II. The Situation in the Czech Republic after its Accession to the European Union</b>	<b>1</b>
2.1 How the Issue of Extremism Is Covered in the Czech Republic	2
2.2 Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations in terms of Observing Human Rights in 2004	2
2.2.1 United Nations	2
2.2.2 European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia	3
2.2.3 Council of Europe: European Commission against Racism and Intolerance	3
2.2.4 Evaluating Mission of the Council of Europe	4
2.2.5 U.S. State Department	4
<b>III. The Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2004</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.1 Brief Characteristics of the Extremist Scene</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1.1 Right-Wing Extremism	4
3.1.1.1 Neo-Nazi Scene	4
3.1.1.2 Nationalistic Groups	6
3.1.2 Left-Wing Extremism	7
3.1.2.1 Anarcho-Autonomous Movement	7
3.1.2.2 Marxist-Leninist Groups	8
3.1.3 Summary	8
<b>3.2 Crimes Having an Extremist Context</b>	<b>8</b>
3.2.1 The Situation in Individual Regions of the Czech Republic	8
3.2.2 The Most Serious Cases from the Point of View of the Czech Police	9
3.2.3 The Issue of Anti-Semitism	10
3.2.4 The Issue of Concerts of Right-Wing Extremist Music Bands	11
3.2.5 Misuse of the Internet	12
3.2.6 Crimes Committed Through Printed Materials, Symbols and Emblems	13
3.2.7 Criminal Activities Related to Spectator Violence	13
<b>IV. The Situation in the Central European Geopolitical Area</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>V. The Most Important Activities Carried Out by State Bodies in 2004</b>	<b>17</b>
5.1 Government of the Czech Republic	17
5.2 Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic	18
5.2.1 International Cooperation in Combating Extremism	18
5.2.2 Advisory Bodies Working within the Ministry of the Interior	20
5.2.3 Other Activities	22
5.2.4 The Issue of Extremism within the Police of the Czech Republic	26
5.3 Ministry of Justice and Supreme State Prosecutor's Office	26
5.3.1 Ministry of Justice	26
5.3.2 Supreme State Prosecutor's Office	29
5.4 Ministry of Foreign Affairs	31
5.5 Ministry of Defence	31
5.6 Preventative activities	32
5.6.1 Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	32
5.6.2 Ministry of Culture	34
5.6.3 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	35
<b>VI. Conclusion</b>	<b>37</b>

*Appendix: diagrams (No. 1 and No. 2), a table (No. 1) and a map.*

## I. Introduction

A prerequisite for preventing the phenomenon known as extremism is to inform the general public on its various manifestations. A coherent range of reports from 1996/1997 up until 2002 provides information on the development and nature of manifestations of extremism.

In 2004, development of the report on this issue changed. The report was drawn up as a brief, independent annex to the “Report on Public Order and Internal Security in the Czech Republic” (hereinafter referred to as the “Report”) under the title Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2003” (hereinafter referred to as the “Information”). The Information represented a reduced version of the original Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic and it was a follow up to the previous Reports whilst having the same value as the Reports themselves. The text reduction concerned all chapters. Some sub-chapters were completely cut out (such as Dangerous Sects and Pseudo-Religious Organisations or Notes on the Relation of Some Sub-Cultures with Manifestations of Extremism), whereas Chapter 3 concerning the description of the Czech extremist scene was substantially shortened. Taking into account the new concept such description is more general, selecting only the most important facts and referring to a more detailed description of right-wing and left-wing extremist organisations contained in previous Reports. With regard to the activities of individual ministries only activities relating to the year monitored were considered. As a consequence of such principal reductions the text has been cleared of otherwise necessary footnotes. In this form the Information was approved as a part of the Report by the National Security Council and the Government took note of it by its Resolution No. 662 of 30 June 2004.

The submitted **Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2004** (hereinafter referred to as the “Information”) is the consensual view of state administration bodies on the issue in question. The Information was drawn up by the Ministry of the Interior along with the Ministry of Justice, although the representatives of the following ministries and organisations also participated in its preparation: the Security Intelligence Service, the Foreign Relationship and Information Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, and the Czech Government Human Rights Council.<sup>1</sup> **The concept of extremism, crimes having an extremist context and other terms used in the Information are identical with the definitions of terms as they were formulated in previous Reports dealing with the issue of extremism.**<sup>2</sup> The data included in the Information relates to the situation of extremism in 2004.

The Information is submitted in compliance with requirements of the European monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), pointing out the need for annual reports of individual EU Member States in this area.

## II. The Situation in the Czech Republic after its Accession to the European Union in 2004

In 2004, as in 2003, information on the situation of human rights, extremism and national minorities in the Czech Republic continued to be provided in publicly accessible documents:

- Report on the Situation in Human Rights in the Czech Republic (1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004),
- Information on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic (formerly the Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic and the Report on the Approach of State Bodies in Punishing Crimes Motivated by Racism and Xenophobia or Committed with the Support

---

<sup>1</sup> When developing the text of the Information we have also taken into account several factual, additional notes of JUDr. PhDr. Miroslav Mares, PhD (Masaryk University, Brno).

<sup>2</sup> The last one was Report on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2002 which was accepted by Government Resolution No. 669 of 9 July 2003. See [www.mvcr.cz...](http://www.mvcr.cz...)

of Extremist Groups, and on the Activities of Extremist Groups in the Czech Republic) (1996/1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003),

- Report on the Situation of National Minorities in the Czech Republic (2001, 2002 and 2003).

## **2.1 How the Issue of Extremism Is Covered in the Czech Republic**

It might be said again that nowadays the issue of extremism is covered at the level of Government, individual ministries, the state prosecutors' offices, and other state administration bodies. It is covered through a set of permanent measures applied within the scope of competencies of such authorities.<sup>3</sup>

The Czech Republic perceived a strengthened international dimension in extremist issues which was in 2004 paid increased attention to by the European Union and international institutions as well as by NGOs.<sup>4</sup> *The "Annual Report of the European Union on Human Rights" (covering the period from 1 July 2003 until 30 June 2004)* clearly highlighted among areas of special interest of the EU racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism, and the position of members of ethnic minorities<sup>5</sup>. In 2004 the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), which monitors EU Member States, continued to emphasise the need for the states reviewed to take a comprehensive approach towards the issue. To this effect it put an emphasis, at the level of individual governments, for example on publishing annual reports on the issue in question, on implementing a monitoring system, on the introduction of police and judicial statistics of this kind on criminal offences, on monitoring and classifying victims of racially motivated criminal acts and violence, and so forth. It also noted the necessity of monitoring cases related to anti-Semitism.

In the context of overall European development, of which typical features were mainly increasing anti-Semitism, the electoral success of ultra-right-wing parties in some EU Member States, international contacts between extremists as well as the threat of Islamic extremism, state administration bodies dealt in 2004 with this issue on an ongoing basis, while placing an emphasis on prevention. State authorities responded to the actual situation at the beginning of the year monitored by defining priorities in the field of extremism for 2004 at the level of the Inter-ministerial Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism and Xenophobia. This effort was followed up at the international level by activities carried out within the Working Group for Combating Extremism of the V4 Countries and Austria. Such activities also reflected an increasing risk of using the Internet networks for committing criminal offences, including extremist crimes. As of 1 November 2004 the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic established the Unit of Cyber-Crime of the Office of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service, which also involves a specialist on the issues of extremism.

Even though in 2004 anti-extremism policy of the Czech Republic may be evaluated as successful, some areas emerged which should require increased attention and a proactive approach to be taken by all state administration bodies involved in combating extremism.

## **2.2 Evaluation of the Czech Republic by International Organisations in terms of Observing Human Rights in 2004**

### **2.2.1 United Nations (UN)**

When discussing the Third Periodical Report of the Czech Republic on Measures Adopted to Implement the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the UN Committee against Torture dealt with some aspects of combating racism and intolerance within control mechanisms of the UN. The Committee expressed its anxiety regarding the lasting occurrence of violent acts against Roma and *"alleged unwillingness of the police to provide reasonable protection and to investigate such criminal offences despite the efforts of the state to*

---

<sup>3</sup> Coverage of this issue may be found in the Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2003 (Chapter II).

<sup>4</sup> For example international conferences held by the OSCE, the ECRI General Recommendation No. 8 on Combating Racism while Fighting Terrorism of 17 March 2004, and the ECRI General Policy Recommendation No. 9 on the Fight Against Anti-Semitism of 25 June 2004.

<sup>5</sup> Annual Report on Human Rights, Council of European Union Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Luxembourg 2004.

*prevent such acts*". In this regard the Committee recommended strengthening efforts towards preventing the occurrence of poor treatment on the side of the police and other public officials, including cases motivated by ethnic membership. The committee was also anxious about accusations concerning several cases of *"involuntary sterilisation of poorly informed Roma women as well as about the incapability of the Government to carry out relevant investigations due to insufficient identification of individual claimants"*. To this end the Committee recommended the Czech Republic *"to revise complaints regarding involuntary sterilisation while using medical and personal records and to invite claimants to assist, within their possibilities, the proving of such accusations"*.

### **2.2.2 European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC)**

EUMC regularly draws up an annual status report on racism and xenophobia in EU Member States.<sup>6</sup> In 2004 their report presented partial information on the situation in the Czech Republic in the summary chapter devoted to the "new" Member States, entitled "Minorities and the Education Sector". The text also mentioned the Act on National Minorities and the Education Act which was then under preparation. As examples of good practice the activities of the People in Need organisation were described. With respect to structure and content, the concept of this first report on new Member States was markedly different from the text relating to the original 15 EU Member States. Information presented regarding the new Member States, including the Czech Republic, was, as a matter of fact, limited to the area of education. The text about the Czech Republic was informative and did not include criticism. *Currently EUMC is preparing information on the situation in the Czech Republic which will be published in a standardised form. It is based on the national report under the guidance of the People in Need organisation which acts as a national contact point for EUMC in the Czech Republic.*

### **2.2.3 Council of Europe: European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (hereinafter referred to as "ECRI")**

The third Report on the Czech Republic was adopted on 5 December 2003 and it was published on 8 December 2004.<sup>7</sup> The ECRI Report reviewed whether the principal recommendations contained in the previous Report were implemented and if they were, to what extent they were successful and what their effect was. In this context the Report for example assessed constitutional provisions and other fundamental regulations, including provisions of the Criminal Code, the issue of anti-Semitism, racially motivated violence, the conduct of policemen, and the level of monitoring in areas requiring higher attention. ECRI stated that from the time of publishing the Second Report on the Czech Republic (18 June 1999) progress had been achieved in a range of areas. However, it was still concerned about racially motivated violence and the poor treatment of Roma, including Roma children, by the Police of the Czech Republic. Therefore it recommended Czech authorities to, *inter alia*, strengthen measures towards combating racially motivated violence, including more consistent application of relevant provisions of the Criminal Code. It also calls for a consistent approach to be taken towards cases of ill-treatment of minority members on the side of the Police of the Czech Republic.

*(On 17 March 2005 ECRI adopted the Declaration on the Use of Racist, Anti-Semitic and Xenophobic Elements in Political Discourse.)*

---

<sup>6</sup> Racism and Xenophobia in the EU Member States, Trends, Developments and Good Practice. Annual Report.

<sup>7</sup>[http://www.coe.int/T/E/Human\\_Rights/Ecri/1-ECRI/2-Country-by-country\\_approach/Czech\\_Republic\\_CBS-3.asp](http://www.coe.int/T/E/Human_Rights/Ecri/1-ECRI/2-Country-by-country_approach/Czech_Republic_CBS-3.asp). (Czech version). According to ECRI the Report describes the situation as of 5 December 2003; any changes after this date are therefore neither included in the following analysis nor taken into account in submitted recommendations or suggestions. The Report was subject to a confidential dialogue with Czech authorities and ECRI took a note of number of their comments and incorporated them into the text. As a follow up to this dialogue the Czech party however requested that comments of the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs be attached to the Report as addendum (*Addendum to the Draft Third Report on the Czech Republic adopted by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance on 5 December 2003*).

## **2.2.4 Evaluating Mission of the Council of Europe**

The monitoring mission of the Council of Europe visited the Czech Republic in November 2004 and evaluated how the Czech Republic met the *European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events, in particular Football Matches*. The delegation was received by the management of the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, by senator Mr. Jarab, and it also had meetings with representatives of the Police of the Czech Republic and the Czech-Moravian Football Union. The delegation also visited two risk matches (Sparta v Teplice, and Slavie v Banik Ostrava). At the end of the visit delegation members acknowledged measures adopted by the Czech Republic in recent years and **stated** that with regard to improving the activities of the Ministry of the Interior, the Police of the Czech Republic, the Czech-Moravian Football Union and other entities involved in safeguarding security at sports events, in particular football matches, manifestations of spectator violence at stadiums had been considerably suppressed and the situation of fan violence, which is under the responsibility of the Police of the Czech Republic, had been stabilised. They also appreciated activities carried out by the Police of the Czech Republic in relation to international cooperation concerning large international tournaments. Larger attention should be paid especially to further broadening the cooperation of all stakeholders in preparing domestic matches in terms of security.

To date, the current approach of the Czech Republic has resulted in electing a representative of the Ministry of the Interior as a Chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Council of Europe on Spectator Violence.

## **2.2.5 U.S. State Department<sup>8</sup>**

The annual Country Report on Human Rights Practices criticised the Czech Republic mainly in connection with the case of alleged involuntary sterilisation of Roma women. It also mentioned the situation of the Roma ethnic minority in the Czech Republic who continued to live in poverty, and whose members are unemployed, illiterate, suffer from diseases, are discriminated against, and face inter-ethnic violence. In this context the Report mentioned some specific cases which occurred in 2004 or in 2003. Furthermore, the Report stated that the number of incidents which the police and state prosecutors classify as criminal offences with a racial or extremist subtext had increased.

Late in 2004 the status Report on Anti-Semitism World-Wide was disclosed. As regards the Czech Republic, the Report mentioned several concrete cases which were registered by the Police of the Czech Republic.

# **III. The Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2004**

## **3.1 Brief Characteristics of the Extremist Scene<sup>9</sup>**

### **3.1.1 Right-Wing Extremism**

#### **3.1.1.1 The Neo-Nazi Scene**

The neo-Nazi scene continued to be decentralised also in 2004. The majority of their supporters “worked” within informal regional groups and organisations, the most important of which was the National Resistance (NR), participating in organising concerts of “white power music” and other similar events. The trend of concealing the places where such concerts are held continued.

According to declarations disclosed on web sites a militant skinhead racist organisation known as Bohemia Hammer Skins (BHS) has renewed its activities.<sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of State: Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – 2004, Czech Republic. Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. February 28, 2005.

<sup>9</sup> A detailed description of the right-wing scene including organisations which ceased to exist or did not carry out any activities is contained in previous Reports on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic, publicly accessible on the Ministry of the Interior’s web-sites. See [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz)

A long-term target of the neo-Nazi movement in the Czech Republic is to eliminate the present democratic social system and to replace it with a national socialism. After several unsuccessful attempts to penetrate Czech political life in recent years Czech neo-Nazis averted from efforts to make headway by means of policy, and began to use more conspiratory methods in their activities. In this context, as in previous years, discussions on armed combat were reported. Within the ANTI-ANTIFA campaign neo-Nazis continued to attack ideological opponents coming from extremist left-wing organisations and in this field they cooperated with football hooligans. However, **violent anti-establishment activities proving a growth in radical tendencies were not seen.**

### *Activities*

Also in 2004 the number of politically motivated, publicly organised activities stagnated. A rare public event organised by neo-Nazis was held on 21 August 2004 in Jeseník and was called “A Memorial March to Honour the Victims of Communism”. However, this march was devoted to the memory of Rudolf Hess. Only 30 persons participated in this march since a number of Czech neo-Nazis preferred that day to march to the grave of Rudolf Hess in Wunsiedel, a little town in Bavaria, where Hess was buried. The second quite large public neo-Nazi event was a demonstration held on 28 October 2004 on the Czech national day in Ostrava. It was organised by the National Resistance of Silesia. This event, which was attended by about 80 supporters of the National Resistance, was the largest reported in advance public event organised by neo-Nazis in the past year.

On the other hand there was a considerable increase in the number of social activities of neo-Nazis. In 2004 there were more skinhead concerts and parties with music performances organised by neo-Nazis than in 2003. This growth was affected, *inter alia*, by a spread in use of mobile phones and Internet communication which makes organisation of such event easier and increases the operability and flexibility of their organisers.

The year 2004 saw an increasing trend whereby the majority of concert visitors refrained from punishable extremist manifestations, such as crying out with the greeting “Sieg Heil” or using fascist slogans or wearing right-wing extremist symbols in public, and so forth. The Police of the Czech Republic usually do not have any reason to intervene in such events. Some concerts were preceded by sports events and pious acts.<sup>11</sup>

Skinhead concerts are, along with an associated sale of extremist materials, the main source of finance for the neo-Nazi movement. The majority of funds are used for private purposes, however a part of such money serves to finance other activities of the movement or as assistance provided to imprisoned extremists.

There were also small groups of persons in the Czech Republic which do not have any name, are not organised together with other entities on the right-wing extremist scene and are exclusively neo-Nazi. They are mainly members of the former National Alliance (*current Right Alternative – RA*) in West Bohemia, North Moravia, and in Prague. However, they have very good contact with similar groups as well as individuals abroad. They publish once-off printed documents and electronic journals and sometimes they organise discussions and marches, but they neither hold skinhead concerts nor demonstrations. By electronic means and through personal contact, only between “authorised” persons, they distribute racist and anti-Semitic texts which frequently celebrate the Third Empire (Reich) and promote national socialism as an ideal political and economic system for the state. An example of such a text, published electronically by one of the aforementioned groups, is “*Last Generation*” which can be downloaded from the web site [www.nsec-88.org](http://www.nsec-88.org). This web site is placed in

---

<sup>10</sup> According to the opinion of Mr. Miroslav Mares, a political scientist and expert in this area, the reason for the renewal of this organisation professing a saintly racial war – “Rahowa” – was to show young skinheads the elite of the skinhead movement and attract them to more elaborated neo-Nazism. However, he considers the current influence of BHS less than in the mid-1990s.

<sup>11</sup> Mr. Miroslav Mares, as an expert in extremist issues, says that some neo-Nazis meet at concerts which are presented to the public as concerts of apolitical skinheads and punk supporters. Such concerts are attractive to neo-Nazis thanks to the previous involvement of members of such bands in neo-Nazi structures and they also can strengthen their mutual links and awareness of collective identity. Actually there are manifestations of racist tendencies within the skinhead scene declaring itself as apolitical – in some of its zines reviews of white power bands can be found. According to Mr. Mares a number of neo-Nazis try to disguise themselves as apolitical skinheads.

the USA, with the hosting server in Atlanta. Authors of this journal have permanent links to Ahnenerbe – a socialist and nationalist oriented society participating in the promotion and distribution of neo-Nazi and racist print-outs.<sup>12</sup>

### **Communication**

For their communication, neo-Nazis increasingly use more possibilities provided by the Internet, which is, *inter alia*, becoming for them an important means of promoting and disseminating neo-Nazi ideology. They communicate via web networks and their communication is encrypted by a software ciphering tool known as PGP. There were also chat or board discussion groups through which information was provided or right-wing extremist events were described. The authors of such texts used different manners of preventing their identification, such as proxy servers, anonymisers and some others. These facts made the exposure of offenders of extremist activities more difficult.

### **International Contact**

In 2004 Czech neo-Nazis continued to maintain extensive international contact. However, it was more individual, personal contact with extremists from neighbouring countries rather than systematic cooperation within supranational groups. Such contacts did not lead to making the domestic extremist scene more radical.

#### **3.1.1.2 Nationalistic Groups**

On the other hand, the second part of the right-wing extremist scene represented by ultra right-wing nationalistic entities was involved mainly in activities of a political nature. With regard to the fact that unregistered nationalist organisations are currently of no significant importance or are inactive, in particular duly registered nationalistic political parties or civic associations were active on the ultra right-wing nationalistic scene in 2004.

As a consequence of efforts to acquire new electors from among the general public, the representatives of such entities expressed themselves in public speeches very generally using a populist language with which they actually wanted to cover their real goals. Although they presented in public a distance from radical neo-Nazi or fascist attitudes, due to their personal contact among main representatives of both scenes there are increasing closer links within the whole right-wing extremist scene. As an example of silent cooperation the participation of militant neo-Nazis and skinhead movement supporters in publicly held events of ultra nationalist entities may be mentioned - who served as “guards” against attacks from the side of radical supporters of extreme left-wing organisations.

However, due to the fact that the majority of nationalists in the Czech Republic try to operate legally, they used the 2004 election to acquire a political influence. Therefore they focused all their activities in 2004, prior to the election, on the presentation of nationalist entities. However, no ultra nationalistic party succeeded in the election. The reason might have been, apart from other things, the fact that these entities, with respect to the lasting disagreement in opinion of their principal representatives, were not able to cooperate efficiently. Despite the above-mentioned facts electoral failure at the end of 2004 forced nationalistically oriented political parties to renew negotiations on mutual cooperation and on establishing a single nationalist entity which would be a candidate in the 2006 parliamentary election.

The principal public event where nationalists endeavoured to present their programme included demonstrations, held on 1 May 2004 in Prague, of the National Unification (NU), which is a political party, and the Patriot Front (PF), a civic association. These demonstrations were organised as representing disagreement with the Czech Republic’s accession to the EU. PF also held its traditional demonstration on 28 October 2004.

The enhancing of contact of the political party National Unification (NU) within the informal organisation the EUROPEAN NATIONAL FRONT, which is formed, apart from Czech

---

<sup>12</sup> In this context Mr. Mareš points out the establishment of a local neo-Nazi cell - Bruderschaft Brünn – which presents itself in Brno by distributing leaflets and administering its own web site. It professes national-socialism and is oriented towards Nazi esoterics and neo-Nazi pagan metal. It also stresses the Moravian identity and does not conceal that its members admire the German nation.

representatives, by nationalists from Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Russia and Serbia, ranked among the most important activities of nationalists within international cooperation.

### 3.1.2 Left-Wing Extremism

#### 3.1.2.1 Anarcho-Autonomous Movement

The stagnation in activities on the anarcho-autonomous scene did not end in the course of 2004. The whole scene is without identifiable personalities, significant activities or marks showing any radicalisation. Although activities of the anarcho-autonomous movement have remained dampened, activists have been trying to find a solution to this situation.<sup>13</sup> In particular, members of the Czechoslovak Anarchist Federation (CSAF) are fully aware of their passive approach.

#### *Activities*

In 2004 the main attention of anarcho-autonomous groups was again devoted to protests against the war in Iraq. Anti-war demonstrations organised by anarchists in Prague and Brno were held on 20 March 2004, which was declared a Day against the War in and Occupation of Iraq. When compared with events abroad the demonstrations were peaceful with a low number of participants.

Anarchist organisation CSAF participated at the beginning of April in the Congress of the Internationale of Anarchist Federations in Italy and became its full member. However, this fact did not affect the situation with CSAF in any significant way. The continuing passivity of the majority of Federation members and withdrawal of the main representative of CSAF, who left in mid-May, even broadened the overall, gloomy situation in the organisation. The Moravian region of CSAF has been essentially inactive for a long period of time and the Slovak region of CASF opened at the end of 2004 discussions on the option of obtaining within the organisation either larger autonomy or to become independent.

CSAF public activities were very rare and not very successful. They were all held without any violent excess. The 2004 anarchist May Day, which ranks among traditional events organised by anarchists, was described by the participants themselves as the “laziest” one to date

Neither did a merger between the groups the Antifascist Action and the Federation of Anarchist Groups completed in the mid of the last year lead in 2004 to more intensive activities or to radicalisation on the anarcho-autonomous scene. Main events held by this group are among so-called traditional events such as a May Day demonstration in Jihlava and a not very successful ANTIFA CAMP in July 2004.

In the late months of 2004 members of the anarchist Organisation of Revolutionary Anarchists – Solidarity (ORAS) started to be more active. This organisation began to publish the Internet journal “*Hammer on Capital*” where the group is presented under the new name - 1155 KPK<sup>14</sup>.

After the main activists left the branch of the Independent Media Centre (IMC) operating in Prague and its activities were dampened, it was closed on 1 July 2004 and Prague was deleted from the list of cities on the international web site of the IMC.

---

<sup>13</sup> According to Mr. Miroslav Mares, an expert in this area, the main promotion body of the anarcho-autonomous spectrum is the A-Kontra journal which is registered at the Ministry of Culture and is publicly distributed. According to him, Czech anarchists also participate in publishing the East European anarchist periodical *Abolishing the Borders from Below*, which is issued in Berlin.

<sup>14</sup> This figure allegedly means the date of the first proven strike in ancient Egypt, and KPK (in English CaC) means “collectively against capital”. Mr. Miroslav Mares, working in the area of political science however points out also an organisation known as the Anarcho-Communist Alternative (ACA) which in 2003 split from ORAS and has its base in Brno and Lipnik nad Bečvou. It publishes professional texts concerning the history of anarchism as well as leaflets. In 2004 it started along with an organisation entitled “Uherske Hradiste Anarchist Group” (UHAG) to participate in publishing the *Permanent Revolt* journal. Both organisations comprise of only several individuals. According to Mr. Mares militant tendencies are also supported by the music band Edelweiss Piraten, which is linked to the Antifascist Action (AFA).

### 3.1.2.2 Marxist-Leninist Groups (Neo-Bolshevism, Trotskyist Movement)

Marxist-Leninist groups continued in 2004 to implement the project of social forums in the Czech Republic. Since the beginning of 2004 the main entities which associated in January within the Initiative for Social Forum (ISF) with the aim of establishing a single “anti-capitalistic” platform inspired by the anti-globalisation movement of social forums, started to closely cooperate. During the course of the year representatives of ISF concentrated, in particular, on media promotion of their attitudes and ideas of social forums. Under the auspices of ISF left-wing activists organised on 20 March 2004 a demonstration in Prague, i.e. on the day which was declared by participants of the Second European Social Forum as a Day against the War in and Occupation of Iraq.

ISF activists completed their activities by holding the first Czech Social Forum (CSF) in Prague which preceded the Third European Social Forum (ESF) held in London in October 2004. CSA contributed to the fact that, compared with the Second ESF in Paris, the Third ESF was attended by double the number of activists from the Czech Republic. Participants were orthodox communists, Trotskyists from REVO, the Socialist Organisation of Workers and from the Socialist Solidarity, however there were also representatives from principal peace groups and some NGOs.

The course of the Third ESF demonstrated that two wings, in terms of their views, operated in the anti-global movement: alter-global and revolutionary. These two wings have not yet agreed upon a common strategy under which ESF activities should continue in the future.

A Resolution of Youth adopted by the Third ESF and presented in the press, *inter alia*, called for the organisation of protests and stopping the European Summit in Brussels in March 2005 or the G8 Summit in Scotland in July 2005 and to organise protests against the European Agreement on Constitution. The resolution also called for direct action to stop attacks by the EU against social care and working people and for solidarity with groups participating in national liberation struggles.

### 3.1.3 Summary

- In 2004 no essential changes were seen on the extremist scene. Both the right-wing and left-wing extremist spectra remained heterogeneous and fragmented, especially when taking into account the anarcho-autonomous segment of the scene, and there was an absence of leading personalities which had been already seen in 2003. Generally, the current situation may be described as dampened, inactive, with ideological disputes.
- As a result of the aforementioned facts it is not yet realistic to merge several opinion streams into one entity, both on the right-wing and left-wing scenes, especially in the case of the anarcho-autonomous movement.
- The risk of mutual clashes between militant, antifascist anarchists and neo-Nazi oriented supporters of the skinhead movement remains a problem.
- In the Czech Republic:
  - a) no operations of dangerous religious sects or new religious associations were recorded;
  - b) no findings on the operations of Islamic extremists were ascertained;
  - c) the existence of activities carried out by extremist groups within the armed forces of the Czech Republic were not detected.

#### *Forecast*

Taking into account the current situation, rapid considerable activation of the extremist scene is not probable. Significant signs demonstrating substantial radicalisation have not been seen so far.

## 3.2 Crimes Having an Extremist Context

### 3.2.1 The Situation in Individual Regions of the Czech Republic <sup>15</sup>

Of the total number of 351,629 criminal offences detected in the Czech Republic in 2004, 366 registered crimes had an extremist context, which accounted for 0.1% (0.09% in 2003) of total criminal activities recorded.

---

<sup>15</sup> See Act No. 36/1960 Coll., on the Territorial Division of the State, as amended.

In 2004, in comparison with 2003, a growth in detected crimes with an extremist context was registered, of 31 crimes, i.e. 9.3%, (366 in 2004, 335 in 2003). 289 criminal offences, i.e. 79%, were solved. 401 persons (+67; 334 persons in 2003) were prosecuted for the aforementioned crimes. Most such crimes were recorded in the North Moravian Region (132, i.e. 36.1%), the capital city of Prague (61, i.e. 16.7%) and the North Bohemian (60, i.e. 16.4%) and South Moravian (32, i.e. 8.7%) Regions.

### ***Composition of Criminal Offences***

No substantial changes were recorded in the composition of crimes having an extremist context. Crimes under Sections 260, 261, and 261a of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms) prevailed – 137 crimes, for which 132 persons were prosecuted – and criminal offences under Section 198 of the Criminal Code (defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief) – 101 crimes for which 126 persons were prosecuted. Furthermore, 48 crimes of violence against a group of people or an individual under Sec. 196 of the Criminal Code and 17 crimes under Sections 221 and 222 of the Criminal Code (intentional serious injury to another person's health) were detected. No homicide attempts or murders with a racial context were committed. In connection with extremism no terrorist activities occurred. No crimes having an extremist context committed by policemen were registered either.

With regard to criminal proceedings against perpetrators of crimes having a racial or other extremist context, many were closed, the majority of cases by submitting an indictment – 238 offenders (58.6%), and in summary proceedings pursuant to Sec. 179c (1) of the Rules of Criminal Procedure 49 (12.1%) offenders were investigated and investigations were closed, whilst 88 offenders are still being investigated (21.7%), and 18 cases were suspended under Sec. 159a (2) and Sec. 159a (3) of the Rules of Criminal Procedure (4.4 %). Five cases (1.2%) were discontinued pursuant to Sec. 172 (1) (d) of the Rules of Criminal Procedure and five cases (1.2%) were conditionally discontinued pursuant to Sec. 307 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure.

### ***Offenders***

In 2004 the make-up of offenders did not see any changes. Offenders of the above-mentioned crimes were both skinhead movement supporters and citizens of the majority society who do not have any links to any right-wing extremist movements, however in exceptional cases such crimes were also committed by Roma. As in the previous years, in 2004 offenders of crimes having an extremist context came from categories with lower education. Persons having a basic education and an apprentice certificate – 187 (46.1%) and persons having a basic education and no qualification - 112 (27,6%) continued to prevail. There were 37 (9.1%) offenders having a secondary education and 59 (14.5%) foreign national offenders whose education was not ascertained.

If the age of offenders is taken into account, offenders of the 21-29 years age category prevailed (160, i.e. 36.7 %), followed by 18 – 20 years of age (87, i.e. 20%), 30 – 39 years of age (67, i.e. 15.4%), and 15 – 17 years of age (51, i.e. 11.7%).

### ***Crimes with an Extremist Context Committed by Policemen***

Of the total number of criminal offences committed by members of the Police of the Czech Republic in 2004, one criminal act having a racial subtext was solved. It was a crime of defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief under Section 198 (1) (a) of the Criminal Code for which the state prosecutor prosecuted a policeman from the South Moravian Region because via the Intranet on the web sites of the Police of the South Moravian Region he had disseminated within a discussion forum “Racism within the Police” statements insulting the Roma nation. The case is still being investigated.

This type of criminal activity, taking into account the total crime committed by policemen, occurs only rarely and therefore it is not possible to come to general conclusions.

### **3.2.2 The Most Serious Cases from the Point of View of the Czech Police**

In 2004 the Police of the Czech Republic recorded not only serious cases of attacks against Roma or foreign nationals but also citizens of the majority society. Thus the trend of mutual attacks between supporters of the skinhead movement and anarchists was confirmed.

In this context for example an assault on two Roma women in Ostrava (on 17 April) or an attack against some Roma in a car in Krnov (7 May) might be mentioned. The Police of the Czech Republic closed both cases by submitting an indictment. Although nobody was injured and no property damaged the attack of an unknown offender (19 July) driving a car with lights switched off and throwing burning bottles at a house in Brno – Zidenice where Roma resided was considered to be serious. During the first three months of the year reviewed skinheads, members of the hard core, repeatedly attacked the Roma ethnic minority in Jeseník. Roma were also seriously physically assaulted in Prague (27 February; 19 June) where verbal and physical attacks against a Japanese tourist (12 May) were also investigated. A member of the majority society was brutally attacked in the Billiard Club in Prague 10 (25 July) when he asked the offender to refrain from using Nazi greetings. The injured suffered from a number of fractures of face bones, haematoma of cerebrum and other injuries, requiring a stay in hospital. The suspects were taken into custody and are being investigated for crimes under Sections 9/2 k 222/1, 9/2 k 202/1 and 260/1 of the Criminal Code. Activists of the anarchist movement was brutally attacked in Prague (5 March) and in the North Bohemian Region (7 February). Supporters of the skinhead movements attacked a punk concert in Vtelno, in the Most district (9 October) where the attacked persons were injured. At the end of 2004 (31 December) seven offenders, probably skinheads, attacked in the North Bohemian Region the Tipsportbar Restaurant in Most. They were masked by balaclavas and to attack the restaurant they used rubber hammers, metal sticks, and baseball bats.

The Police of the Czech Republic included among the most serious cases a collective organised attack of Ostrava hooligans and disturbances during a football match between FC Opava and FC Baník Ostrava (15 May), carried out both at the Opava stadium, on roads to Opava, and in Opava city itself. There were large numbers of injured policemen as well as other persons, and property of the Czech railways, the football club, citizens of Opava and the municipality of Opava was damaged. The Police of the South Moravian Region also noted a disturbing case of fan violence when one fan of FC Vysocina Jihlava was heavily injured in the head after being physically assaulted.

### 3.2.3 The Issue of Anti-Semitism

No serious anti-Semitic attacks or a growth in the number of such attacks were recorded in the Czech Republic<sup>16</sup>. Manifestations of anti-Semitism are seen mainly in connection with the right-wing spectrum of the extremist scene (press, web sites, distribution of MCs and CDs containing racist and anti-Semitic texts, concerts of right-wing extremist bands, and so on). In the majority of cases these were verbal attacks of football fans, hooligans, or supporters of the skinhead movement. In some cases Jewish buildings were damaged by signs or symbols, and cases of desecration of Jewish cemeteries or memorials were recorded. In relation to the war against terrorism and US and Israeli policy manifestations of antipathy against these countries were registered, especially during demonstrations against the war in Iraq. However, in such cases it is necessary to sensitively distinguish between anti-Semitism and the criticism of concrete political steps or the concept of the Israel state.

Targets of extremist attacks in the Czech Republic were mainly members of the Roma community, or foreign nationals with darker skin; attacks against persons for their alleged or real Jewish race were not, from the point of the Police of the Czech Republic, recorded.

With regard to the above-mentioned context another case can be mentioned. This was the case where the main door to the synagogue in Palmovka were written all over with anti-Jewish slogans such as: *“Only a few of you pegged out in B cyclone”* or *“Jude raus”* and by Nazi symbols of a swastika. This case was reported to the Department of the Police of the Czech Republic in Liben and due to the fact that similar attacks against this synagogue had been several times registered in the past the case was transferred to the Department of Terrorism and Extremism of the Unit for Combating Organised Crime of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic. The investigation into the crime of defamation of nation, ethnic group, race or under Section 198 (1) (a), of the Criminal Code continues. A similar case was recorded in the North Moravian Region (Krnov, the Bruntal District) of May 2004. An unknown offender engraved in the wall of the Krnov synagogue symbols of a

---

<sup>16</sup> As of 1 January 2005 code files of the Statistical Recording System of Crime (ESSK) were extended so that codes now enable the identification of crimes motivated by religious or national hatred against Jews and Jewish belief, including attacks against facilities belonging to the Jewish community and their equipment, against synagogues, Jewish cemeteries and other facilities.

swastika. Altogether there were six such symbols having different sizes. Moreover, an offender engraved also the symbol of "Oregon" and signs "Fuck of Jew" and "I.S.D. Jude". On 16 May 2004 criminal proceedings in accordance with Section 158/3 of the Criminal Code were commenced against an unknown offender on the grounds for committing an offence under Section 260/1 of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms). During the investigation, which focused on members and supporters of the skinhead movement, mainly on those who committed similar crimes in the past, it was impossible to identify the offender of the said crime. Therefore the investigated case was on 31 May 2004 suspended under Section 159 a/4 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure. However this case is still being paid attention to and in order to find the offender information sources have been activated. A similar case was also recorded in the South Moravian Region (Boskovice, the Blansko District), where an unknown offender damaged the façade of a house with signs "OJ", "FUCK OFF" and damaged the walls of the synagogue by a sign reading "JUDE RAUS", and both its sides he/she drew a swastika and a five-pointed star (pentacle). This case is being investigated under ref. number ORBK-1069-1/BO-TČ-2004 as a crime committed under Section 257b (1) of the Criminal Code (Damage of Another Person's Thing) and under Section of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms). The Jewish cemetery was also damaged for example in Teplice (the Central Bohemian Region) where ten grave-stones were knocked down and other damage was caused by an attempt to get into a tomb (14 and 15 March).

### **3.2.4 The Issue of Concerts of Right-Wing Extremist Music Bands**

In 2004 the number of right-wing musical performances further increased, thus the trend from the second half of 2003 continued. Concerts of "white power music" were held in the whole territory of the Czech Republic. The conspiratorial nature of concert organisation was a marked trend. Their organisers tried to distract the attention of police forces by purposeful disinformation on such events and endeavoured to have their own "guards". With regard to the fact that concerts and various festivals are always presented as "closed" events it is impossible to get there without a private invitation (telephone calls, SMS). A shift in organising such concerts was seen in the last year. On one hand Czech skinhead bands emerged, on the other hand larger numbers of foreign bands arrived. In this context the concert of the Russian KOLOVRAT music band may be mentioned. It was held on 24 January 2004 in Chroustovice (the Chrudim District). The frontman of this band, Denis Andrejevich Gerasimov, was prosecuted for his activities and was taken into custody.

Investigations into the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Section 260/1,2, Denis A. Gerasimov (\*1976), were commenced on 30 January 2004. He, as a member of the Kolovrat band, participated at an unidentified place near to Prague on 23 August 2003 in a memorial held to honour I. Stuart where his band played songs with neo-Nazi texts. On 24 January 2004 he again performed together with the Kolovrat band at a concert organised by the Czech skinhead movement. Music with racial-hatred text was produced and the audience used the Nazi greeting Sieg Heil. On 30 January 2004 he was apprehended when he attempted to fly back to Moscow. Many promotion documents relating to neo-Nazi movement were found in his luggage.

*On 13 April 2005 an appeal trial was held at the District Court of Prague 6 where Denis A. Gerasimov, was, on the basis of judgment, discharged from criminal prosecution. However, the state prosecutor immediately appealed against such judgement and the accused remains in custody. The proceedings will continue.*

As regards other concerts, for example a concert of skinhead movement supporters held on 4 September 2004 in Prague ("U Karla Hašlera" restaurant) may be mentioned. Czech bands Squad 96, Randall Gruppe, and B.S.E performed. Six participants were examined by the police since they were suspected of having committed a crime under Section 261 of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms). After the end of the event and when participants were leaving the television staff were attacked and clashes with the police occurred. The police apprehended three attackers. With regard to four persons *the case was suspended under Section 261 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure; in two cases the state prosecutor from the District State Prosecutor's Office in Prague 5 repealed the resolution on commencing criminal prosecution and returned the case to the Police of the Czech Republic to complete investigations. In relation to the concert there was another file concerning an anonymous call to line 158 saying that that there were explosives placed in the restaurant during the concert. This case is still being investigated.*

In 2004 the police several times successfully obtained information in advance, using an operative manner, on the organiser, on performing bands and also on the date and place of the event. Such information then enabled the police to adopt not only adequate security measures but also to cancel some events. Operative information was important also in terms of international cooperation. The last time it was used was in relation to a concert of right-wing extremist bands held on 4 December 2004 in

Slovakia (Zohor, the Malacky District), which was visited by persons from the Czech Republic and by the band Agrese 95. The Slovak police carried out repressive security action in which they examined the Czech nationals and one of them was charged with the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms.

In order to limit the growth in right-wing extremist events in the Czech Republic the *“Rules for cooperation of state administration and self-governing bodies with the bodies of the Police of the Czech Republic in combating collective extremist events”* (meetings of all stakeholders were carried out under the responsibility of the Ministry of the Interior on 29 March and 14 December 2004) and consistent application of all legal options of the Police of the Czech Republic when implementing preventative and security measures, are of high importance.

### **3.2.5 Misuse of the Internet**

During the course of 2004 searching for criminal activities on the Internet related to extremism proved to be of fundamental importance. Special features of such crimes were given by a range of factors. Extremist users of the Internet started to use in their mutual communication specific and very complex methods. Individual levels, according to the hierarchy and credibility of individual users were established.

Flexibility and efforts to go unpunished when using the Internet may be currently seen; for example some sites change their web addresses and in this context they move from a certain server to another (a web site provider), for example because citizens lodged criminal information or their sites were disclosed in the press, television, or radio. The Internet is becoming a place where the number of new or renewed web sites (those cancelled in the past) is getting higher. Such pages have a new name, however their content remains unchanged. Presently extremists use the world wide web for the following activities: promotion and recruitment activities (the creation of web sites containing extremist topics which are to serve not only the mutual exchange of information between extremists but they increasingly serve to acquire new supporters); gathering funds for example in relation to the dissemination of extremism, mainly neo-Nazi and racist culture (via the Internet it is for example possible to order CDs with extremist songs, neo-Nazi documents, or to obtain a data file for domestic production of such a CD); the Internet also serves as a reliable means of communication between individual groups – it is used for calling assemblies, demonstrations or concerts (for example the participants receive information on the place where an event will be held just before its beginning, which serves to conceal such events from “unauthorised” persons, in other words from the police). In the majority of cases foreign providers are utilised (for example the USA or India), or Internet cafes, which make the possibility to obtain findings on the actual offender more difficult. The number of pieces of information sent via this communication network using encryption algorithms increased as well. Selected individuals both from the right-wing and left-wing extremist spectrum monitor, on an ongoing basis, or check, the domains of their web sites and in the case that an uncovered client, i.e. the Police of the Czech Republic, is connected, they usually immediately find out that their activities are being monitored. This usually leads to immediate disconnection of the contact with the given web site of an extremist organisation or an individual. E-mail may also become a tool for spreading extremist ideas although it was originally designed only for communication (sending extremist promotion materials to addressees who did not request correspondence of this kind).

The most important task in monitoring criminal activities of extremist group on the Internet is to follow information concerning prepared events, demonstrations, and in particular to monitor guest books, chats and other discussion clubs and auditoriums. When monitoring different chats of extremist groups important information is gathered. Such information is then used by specialised units involved in the issue of extremism as evidence for proving the grounds of a crime or minor offence, or is used in preventative measures to maintain public order and to restrict unlawful conduct. Differences given by various legal norms in jurisdictions of individual countries represent a steady problem in investigating this kind of criminal activity. Such differences disenable the collection of relevant information on the perpetrators of such criminal acts who use foreign servers. For example the web site [www.combat18.org](http://www.combat18.org), which is in the USA, promotes fascism and spreads national hatred, but also other web sites could be mentioned. The web sites of extremist groups containing a number of half lies and disinformation newly emerged in the Internet. Their primary aim is to convince “readers” of the need to change the way of thinking. They are adjusted so that the activities of extremist entities are perceived by the general public positively and the arguments published seem to be “justified”.

### **3.2.6 Crimes Committed Through Printed Materials, Symbols and Emblems**

In 2004 no substantial changes occurred with respect to the nature of this type of criminal activity. A decrease in the right-wing extremist press, which had been seen since 2002, continued proportionately with an increasing use of the Internet on which they are now presented. To this effect, the Police of the Czech Republic carried out investigations relating to the committing of a crime by means of press or texts disclosed on the Internet. The police continued to pay attention to the issue of emblems especially during right-wing extremist events, and thus prosecution of concrete persons was carried out. As in previous years, various fascist or neo-Nazi symbols, for example drawn on the walls of various building, where the offender remained unknown, or goods sold in Army Shops where badges or other relicts from the era of the Third Empire (Reich) were sold as articles for collectors, were a problem when being investigated.

In 2004 there was a trial at the Municipal Court in Brno of the entrepreneur P.O. who was charged with selling in the Brno Army Shop parts of uniforms and badges containing Nazi symbols. The Municipal Court in Brno acquitted the defendant.

Within investigations of an international right-wing extremist group led by the German BKA in relation to the crime of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms, one co-offender from the Czech Republic, a member of this group, was detected and investigated. Between 2001 and 2003 contractual “customers” from the whole of Europe, for example from Austria, Germany and Poland, were sent CDs with racist content. The content of the CDs was created in Germany however the CDs were manufactured in Poland and one of the distribution channels was across the Czech Republic. Upon investigation, a person living in Decin (J.P.) was detected as an offender. The offender sent the delivered CDs according to a list to contractual addresses and collected cash using an anonymous postal box address: after deducting his commission he transferred money to Germany to the aforementioned right-wing extremist group.

The Police of the Czech Republic continue to investigate a case of several copies of the printed exile journal “PATRIOT NEWS” which is published by V.S. in Toulon. This case is being investigated under Section 158 of the Rules of Criminal Procedure since a crime under Section 198 of the Criminal Code could have been committed. The file will be transferred through the Municipal State Prosecutor’s Office to the relevant French bodies.

In 2005 the case of M. Zitko, a publisher, was closed. Zitko published in 2000 the Czech translation of Adolf Hitler’s book “Mein Kampf”, without an additional commentary, in the amount of 100,000 books, which were distributed for free sale. (He sold 90,000 books, whilst 10,000 were confiscated by the Czech Police when they started his criminal prosecution.) On 10 March 2005 the Supreme Court acquitted the defendant on all charges.

### **3.2.7 Criminal Activities Related to Spectator Violence**

The year 2004 fully confirmed the trend recorded in 2003. The increase in the number of Czech spectators, who travelled to watch matches of the national team or matches played by their clubs abroad, including risk fans<sup>17</sup>, continued. The matches at which there was most risk of violence<sup>7</sup> in the Czech Republic were mutual matches of FC Banik Ostrava, AC Sparta Praha and 1<sup>st</sup> FC Brno clubs. The behaviour of spectators changed substantially and especially the fans of FC Baník Ostrava became more radical. In connection with football and ice hockey matches there were frequent physical assaults, damage to property and manifestations of racism.<sup>18</sup> During international club matches (UEFA Cups) there were 34 serious crimes, among them crimes having a racial context, serious bodily injuries, assaults of a public official, and hooliganism. During matches of the national league and in relation to these matches 162 serious criminal offences were recorded.

---

<sup>17</sup> Thanks to the direct participation and cooperation of the Police of the Czech Republic in security measures adopted abroad, serious incidents caused by Czech fans occurred only quite rarely.

<sup>18</sup> A specialist involved in the issue of spectator violence recorded in 2004 in total 205 criminal offences related to spectator violence, which accounted for an increase of 206% (67 crimes in 2003). He also reported a growth in crimes committed by juvenile offenders - 59 criminal offences, which accounted for 28.8% of all recorded crimes (26 crimes in 2003). The statistics are only of an informative nature, and are maintained by a specialist working at the Office of Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium He works also for the National Football Information Point. These are not crimes having an extremist subtext but crimes committed in relation to spectator violence generally.

The most serious violation of law was reported at football matches between FC Baník Ostrava and AC Sparta Prague (Ostrava, 8 May 2004); FC Opava and FC Baník Ostrava (Opava, 15 May 2004); FC Baník Ostrava and AC Sparta Prague (Prague, 18 May 2004 – the final match of the Cup of the Czech Moravian Football Union); FC Slovan Liberec and FC Schalke 04, Germany (Liberec, 24 August 2004 – the final match of the Intertoto Cup); FC Baník Ostrava and Middlesbrough FC, England (Ostrava, 30 September 2004 – the UEFA Cup, 1<sup>st</sup> round); FC Olympique Lyon, France and AC Sparta Prague (Lyon, 8 December 2004 – the Champions League). In the latter case a group of six fans of Sparta verbally as well as physically attacked a French fan of a darker skin.

**The total number of crimes with an extremist context recorded in the Czech Republic in 1996 – 2004**  
(according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic - ESSK)

YEAR	Number of crimes recorded	Share in total crime (as %)	Crimes cleared-up	Number of persons prosecuted
1996	131	0.03	58	152
1997	159	0.04	132	229
1998	133	0.03	100	184
1999	316	0.07	273	434
2000	364	0.09	327	449
2001	452	0.1	406	506
2002	473	0.1	374	483
2003	335	0.09	265	334
2004	366	0.1	289	401
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,729</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,124</b>	<b>3,172</b>

Table No. 1 provides data on the number of crimes registered in the Czech Republic in 1996 – 2004.

**An overview of extremist crimes involving attacks on a nation, nationality or race or on members thereof, and crimes committed by the incitement of national or racial hatred – total numbers in 1996 - 2004 (according to the types of crime)**

(according to the Statistical Recording System of Crime at the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic - ESSK)

Section of the Criminal Code	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Sec.196 (2)	85	76	85	80	41	61	71	41	45
Sec. 198	62	46	69	85	111	86	105	71	101
Sec.198 a	11	11	15	18	11	16	18	11	13
Sec.219 (2g)	0	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0
Sec.221 (2b)	20	19	23	7	11	8	6	14	9
Sec.222 (2b)	4	10	10	4	5	7	4	7	5
Sec.235 (2f)	0	5	0	3	1	3	2	1	4
Sec. 236	5	1	2	0	1	1	1	0	0
Sec. 238 a	28	30	28	0	1	1	0	1	0
Sec.257 (2b)	82	51	82	38	11	6	14	4	4
Sec. 259	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sec. 260	33	20	32	70	53	88	95	77	50
Sec. 261	50	62	104	107	95	174	123	123	87

Table No. 2 gives a summary of the total number of individual crimes with an extremist context within the last nine years. It confirms the trend which started in 1998 – most criminal acts related to Sections 260, 261 and 198 of the Criminal Code.

## IV. The Situation in the Central European Geopolitical Area

In 2004, as compared to 2003, no substantial changes were seen in *Austria, Hungary, Slovakia, or Poland* in relation to extremist scenes which endangered internal security.<sup>19</sup>

In 2004 Austrian right-wing extremist parties and organisations – the National Democratic Party of Austria, the movement Stop Foreigners, prohibited National Out-of-the-Parliament Opposition - had only a low influence in society. The same applied to the skinhead movement. An anti-Czech mood could be seen mainly in small towns near the border between Austria and the Czech Republic or in places where larger numbers of post-

<sup>19</sup> For a basic description of Central European extremist scene – see [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz) - Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic (2002, 2001).

war evacuees from the then Czechoslovakia live and where their organisations operate. In the course of January and February 2004 the Sudetendeutsche Landsmannschaft in Austria (SLÓ) attempted again to open issues of real estate confiscated by the Czech state after the withdrawal of German inhabitants. On 25 September 2004 Sudeten Dayscelebrated was held in Vienna. The chairman of this organisation unscrupulously attacked the Czech Republic and its President.

In relation to left-wing extremism, the communist Party of Austria (KPÖ) might be mentioned, however this party stagnated in its activities. As a matter of fact it operated only in Vienna, Linz and Vorarlbergsk. It also affected the Austrian anti-global movement which it helped to establish. On 3 – 6 June 2004 the second Congress of the Austrian Anti-global Social Forum (ASF), chaired by T. Hubmayer, a member of the communist youth, was held. The main purpose of this Congress was to complete the ASF organisation. The event was a follow up to the meeting of the World Social Forum held in January in Bombay.

In 2004, as compared with 2003, no changes relating to Islamic extremism were reported. However the image of Islam remained highly negative in Austrian society, especially after the Dutch film director Theo van Gogh was murdered by a Muslim fanatic in November 2004.

Scientologists were not practically seen in 2004. Scientologist centres are run in Vienna, Salzburg and Wolfsberg, whilst the activities of scientologists were forbidden in state administration by a special Act in 1999 and are monitored by state bodies and the police, and therefore their number declined.

In 2004, when compared to 2003, there were no substantial changes in the field of extremism in *Hungary* and the extremist scene was only marginal. The right-wing extremist scene saw the establishment of a group belonging to the supranational organisation Hammerskins.

In *Slovakia* the core of the extreme right-wing scene was formed by skinheads, neo-Nazis and neo-fascists, consisting of about 500 persons. Their centre is the Region of Presov. In particular Blood&Honour (B&H), having links in Austria, Hungary, Poland, Serbia, and the Czech Republic, ranked among right-wing extremist organisations, followed by Slovakia Hammer Skins (SHS), Slovak Skin Action Group (SSAG), Slovak National League, Slovak Dawn, and Arian Nation. More than ten right-wing extremist journals are published, among them for example Biele víťazstvo (White victory), Biely odpor (White Resistance), Naša stráž (Our Guards), Právo bielych, (Right of the White), Edelweiss, and Intervention. Their ideology is based on the adjusted rules of Hlinka's Guards and their rapid response squads. B&H has its headquarters in Bratislava and distributes the English magazine Blood&Honour, the Slovak journal "1939" and other printed documents. Local branches of B&H, which carry out their own activities, are also in other cities, for example in Nitra, Zilina or Poprad. The Bratislava headquarters host illegal organisations such as B&H Tatras Slovakia (Presov), B&H Engerau (Bratislava-Petrzalka), and B&H Cassovia (Kosice), which are autonomous. These groups also entered into international contact (Germany, Austria, Scandinavia, Poland, Russia, Belarus, Serbia, and Canada). Groups such as Combat 18, SS AG Slovakia (now functioning under the name Security Service Action Group- Slovakia) and hooligans limited their activities as a result of several criminal trials. In 2004 neo-fascist civic associations Slovak Solidarity, whose seat is in Banska Bystrica, and New Free Slovakia and White Slovak Unity, operated in Slovakia. The programme of these groups are xenophobia, racism and ideology of the Slovak State (the Second World War State). In 2004 activities of the New Free Slovakia (NFS), having contacts with ultra right-wing organisations in the Czech Republic, intensified. NFS has five local organisations (Kosice, Presov, Vranov nad Toplou, Trebisov, and Hnust. On 17 and 20 May 2004 NFS issued calls to support Palestinians against Israel and the USA. This civic association intends to re-register to become a political party and to participate in the 2006 parliamentary election.

The left-wing Slovak extremist scene was negligible; activities of Islamic groups were not recorded.

Scientologists have their centres in Bratislava, Martin, Banska Bystrica, and Levice. They also present themselves as civic associations, language schools and private companies, and strive to broaden their scope of activities and to acquire new members. The estimated number of members is about 10,000 persons, however it is, due to a high turnover, quite variable.

More than 10,000 skinheads were active on the right-wing scene in *Poland*. The hard core (about 3,000 persons) threatened by "warning" actions – mainly against Polish Jews. Through leaflets they were permanently declaring the racial war and used brutal violence. Sandomer, a town situated on the "skinhead axis Kielce – Ostrowiec Swietokrzyski – Sandomer became in the second half of 2004 the centre of Polish skinheads. Their increased activity was aimed against courts, schools, cultural as well as (sometimes) against religious institutions. They were mainly involved in writing on walls signs such as "Juden raus!", "Poland to Poles" "White Power" and "Skinheads 88". In 2004 legal political parties – the League of Polish Families (LPF) and the Territorial Army – continued their activities in agitating against the EU, whilst such events were accompanied by manifestations of anti-Semitism and vulgar anti-communism. The bearer of such opinions is Młodzież Wszechpolska (MW = All Poland Youth), and the extremist nationalistic party Republican League (RL). During the course of 2004 LPF, chaired by Roman Giertych, was gradually changing in the party of leader's type and an increasing larger role in its management was played by educated and ambitious members of the All Poland

Youth. Wojciech Wierzejski and Sylwester Chruszcz won the election to the European Parliament and at least five persons from the All Poland Youth works in the Giertych personal staff.

Left-wing extremist entities (the Polish Communist Party, the Polish Socialist Party, the Anarchist Federation and New Left-Wing) limited their activities to pious demonstrations with participation of communists and socialists held on 19 April 2004 in Warsaw on the occasion of anniversary of uprising in the Warsaw ghetto and during celebrations of the May Day in Warsaw, Lublin, Wrocław, Opole and in Białystok, where also anarchists participated. In the period monitored the anti-global movement did not demonstrate any substantial activities.

A legal organisation of Polish Muslims (the Association of Muslim Students –AMS, the Islamic Assembly Ahl-ul Bayt-IZAuB and the Union of Polish Muslims - UPM) are monitored by intelligence agency - ABW, because during the year 2004 they disseminated anti-Israeli and racist opinions, offered badges and T-shirts with symbols of terrorist organisations. Grand Polish Iman, Ahmad Ammar from Armenia, was extradited from Poland as a person endangering the state. He had spent fourteen years (until 24 May 2004) in Poznań.

Scientologists do not develop any activities in Poland and their Warsaw centre was deactivated inactive.

The National Democratic Party of Germany (Nazionaldemokratische Partei Deutschland-NPD) continued their activities in the *Federal Republic of Germany* under the leadership of Udo Voigt, having the strongest membership base in Saxony and Bavaria. Its contact to skinhead organisations slightly decreased in 2004. Since the beginning of 2004 NPD concentrated on its principal aim – to get mandates at city councils in the local election. In Saxony and Brandenburg NDP together with the German People's Union (DVU) succeeded in the election to state governments held in September 2004. Neo-Nazis from NPD strive to return to open anti-Semitism. With participation of managers from NPD another pious assembly to honour Rudolf Hess was held in Wunsiedel on 21 August 2004. This assembly was also this time attended by Czech neo-Nazis and skinheads marching under the Czech national flag. It is not assumed that NPD would have apart from contact with organisations of Czech skinheads further wide contacts in the Czech Republic. Small towns are predominantly centres of neo-Nazi extremism (Greifswald, Stralsund, Frankfurt an der Oder, Riesa, Pirna, Gera, Coburg, and Deggendorf), where there is also anti-Czech and anti-Polish hate. Late in 2004 NPD did not display any activity. Although German section of **B&H-Division Deutschland** was prohibited in 2002 (14 September) its part still operated illegally. The programme of this organisation was to disseminate neo-Nazi ideology mainly through rock music and Internet journals. The aforementioned groups were organised in order half-military organisations could be immediately set up from them. Their target is to gaud the World Arian National socialist Revolution which should be held in the form of Saint Racial War. Attention should be also paid to the organisation of former Sudeten-germen Nazis – Witikobund, which spread, in the environment of landsmanschafts, anti-Czech opinions.<sup>20</sup> The programme of this organisation is to eliminate “criminal Benes’ Decrees” and to redress alleged war crimes committed by the Allies and their supporters against the German nation. Furthermore, the programme contains the requirement to clear the history of lies about crimes committed by Germans during the Second World War and it criticises so-called holocaust culture as a manifestation of non-German manner of thinking. Besides Bavaria its strongest unit in Germany is an organisation operating in North Rhineland - Westphalia. Since 2001 Witikobund has been considered by the German Intelligence Service (BfV) to be an extremist organisation. It also operates in Austria, where it is involved in the strongest anti-Czech propaganda. The influence of Witikobund in Germany has recently increased. Activities of other neo-Nazi organisations, for example kameradschafts, were oriented mainly towards incitement against immigrants, anti-Semitism, and manifestations of xenophobia in general.

In 2004 activities of left-wing extremist groups decreased considerably. Nevertheless the activities carried out by the ANTIFA (fraction AAB and ALB) continued; fraction ALB publishes the Internet journal Arranca! - linke Zeitschrift (To the starting line!-left-wing journal), the editorial board of which is in Berlin. Both fractions organise street clashes which are exceptionally brutal (for example in Berlin or in the north of Germany from 30 April until 2 May 2004).<sup>21</sup> Both AAB and ALB have supporters in the Czech Republic among anarchist organisations (CAF, A-Kontra journal). The

---

<sup>20</sup> This organisation has its seat in Munich, the number of members is estimated to be about 1,000 persons. They publish the Witiko-Brief journal which is, however, an internal publication.

<sup>21</sup> The strategy to alleviate tension between the police and extremist demonstrators which is for example in Berlin applied by the senate consisting of SPD and PDS, has not yet been successful..

ATTAC-Deutschland, an organisation which in 2004 represented the German anti-global movement, has contact in the Czech Republic with an activist with whom it shares the same views.

Activities were carried out in Germany by the largest organisation of militant Turkish political Muslims – the Islamic Association Milli Görüs (IGMG), which diverted its prohibition by becoming a collective member of the restrained Islamic Council for the Federal Republic of Germany, which is an umbrella organisation. In the west of Germany activities of laic Kurd groups including the banned PKK or Kongra-Gel continued by means of demonstrations and protest actions against the Turkish government, NATO, and the USA. In December 2004 the network of Kurd Islamic supporters Ansar al-Islam was detected in Germany. Clerics of Turkish nationality, the kalif from Koln upon Rhine, Metin Kaplan, was banished from Germany (he was deported to Turkey in October 2004 where a trial against him was commenced in December) and the Iman of the Mevlana mosque in Berlin– Kreuzberg was banned since he had been giving aggressive sermons and thus spread religious hatred against unbelievers, citing as examples suicidal assassins while calling Muslims to be ready for such acts, and furthermore calling for hostility against Jews.

The registered churches Scientology Kirche Deutschland e.V. (SKD) and Scientology Kirche Berlin (SKB) are central organisations of scientologists in Germany. These organisations are oriented especially towards officers, managers and freelance people or towards persons possessing extensive assets or having a certain influence in higher society. Since 5 June 1997 the activities of scientologists have been monitored by BfV, as they are suspicious that they endanger the free, democratic and security principles of the state. On 22 September scientologists stated through their press bodies that between 1998 and 2004 at least 1,500 their members had been monitored in Germany by BfV.

## V. The Most Important Activities Carried Out by State Bodies

Permanent measures arising from Government Resolutions No. 198 of 19 March 1998, No. 720 of 14 July 1999, No. 684 of 12 July 2000, No. 498 of 21 May 2001, No. 903 of 12 September 2001, No. 994 of 14 October 2002, No. 83 of 22 January 2003, and No. 800 of 25 August 2004 have been met on an ongoing basis.<sup>22</sup>

### 5.1. Government of the Czech Republic

In 2004, as in previous years, the Government of the Czech Republic considered the issue of extremism to be a security risk and the application of a thorough approach against this phenomenon was among its priorities.<sup>23</sup> An important role was assigned to preventative measures targeted at protecting national and ethnic minorities, with the aim of supporting conflict-free and tolerant multicultural coexistence. Educational and training activities in the field of human rights and multicultural education and a systematic approach of state authorities towards the integration of foreigners were an important contribution to the prevention of xenophobic attitudes of the general public. An emphasis is also placed on the possibility of informing the general public on the situation in the field of extremism and to disclose such information, therefore the Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic is published annually.

As regards actual activities, in particular a project focused on strengthening tolerance and understanding between ethnic minorities and the majority society – the governmental **“Campaign against Racism – Project of Tolerance”** should be mentioned. As compared with 2003, the 2004 campaign was broken down into three or four separate blocks, while the continuity of some previous years’ activities was maintained. The projects are as follows: *“Variety Books to Libraries III”* (Prague Multicultural Centre); *“Monitoring Czech Right-Wing Extremism for the Purpose of a Targeted and Efficient Governmental Campaign against Racism”* (the civic association Tolerance and Civic Society); *“The National Educational Campaign against Racism”* (the National Educational Fund); and last but not least a republic-wide prevention and information campaign *“We Are All Victims”*

---

<sup>22</sup> See [www.vlada.cz](http://www.vlada.cz), [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz) (Reports on the Issue of Extremism)

<sup>23</sup> For more information on the activities undertaken by the Government of the Czech Republic see [www.vlada.cz](http://www.vlada.cz)

(Creative Bazaar), the aim of which is to inform people by means of selected cases of racially motivated violence or discrimination with an emphasis put on victims, and to bring about a change in opinion and attitude of the majority society. The second aim is an effort to influence the attitudes of perpetrators of such criminal activities, including potential offenders.

In compliance with its priorities in the area concerned, the Government of the Czech Republic discussed and took note, *inter alia*, of the following documents:

- by Resolution No. 800 of 25 August 2004, “Report on the Progress and Interim Results of Implementing the National Strategy for Police Work Relating to Ethnic and National Minorities in the Czech Republic”;
- by Resolution No. 968 of 6 October 2004 concerning the proposal to sign the Convention on Computer Crime, the Government agreed to signing the Convention under the reservations of its ratification;
- by Resolution No. 1171 of 24 November 2004, “Final Recommendations of the Committee against Torture - a control body of the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment”; and
- by Resolution No. 1193 of 1 December 2004, the Draft Act on Equal Treatment and on Legal Means for Protection against Discrimination (the Antidiscrimination Act).

With regard to legislation, the following legal regulations may be mentioned:

- Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-School, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act), effective of 1 January 2005;
- Act No. 34/2004 amending Act No. 231/2001 Coll., on Operating Radio and Television Broadcasting and on the Amendment to Some Other Acts.

## **5.2 The Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic (MI and the Czech police)**

In 2004 the most important activities of the Ministry in the field of extremism both at the international level (the Working Group of the Countries of V4 and Austria for Combating Extremism) and activities of advisory bodies of the Ministry of the Interior (the Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism and Xenophobia, the Working Group of the Council of the Czech Government for Roma Community Affairs for the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech Police, and the Commission of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for the Integration of Foreigners - this follows up the Work of the Commission of the Minister of the Interior for Preparing and Implementing the Policy of the Government of the Czech Republic in the Field of the Integration of Foreigners and Development of Relations Among Communities), as well as implementation of the National Strategy for Police Work Relating to Ethnic and National Minorities in the Czech Republic. In addition to the aforementioned areas, activities carried out by the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police were aimed at some partial activities or aspects of the problems concerned.

### **5.2.1 International Cooperation in Combating Extremism**

#### ***Agreements on Police Cooperation***

In 2004, as in previous years, the issue of extremism and racism was taken into account in new draft agreements on police cooperation. These agreements are mostly among areas for cooperation expressly combating extremism, racial incitement, and xenophobia.

*The Agreement between the Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the Moldova Republic on cooperation in combating organised crime, illicit trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances, terrorism, and other forms of serious crime* of 7 August 2003 (effective of 9 September 2004) *came into effect*; the *Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic on cooperation in combating crime, in protecting public order and in protecting the national border* (effective of 24 February 2005) was signed in Bratislava on 27 January 2004; negotiations at the level of experts concerning the *Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Poland on cooperation of police bodies in combating criminal activities and protecting*

*public order and on cooperation in the borderland* were completed (currently the Draft Agreement is being discussed at domestic levels); negotiations at the level of experts concerning the *Agreement between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Austria on police cooperation and on the second addendum to the European Convention of Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 20 April 1959* (currently the Draft Agreement is being discussed at domestic level).

#### ***The Working Group of the Countries of V4 and Austria for Combating Extremism***

This Working Group meets once a year under the responsibility of the Czech Republic or the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic respectively. Such meetings are closed to the general public.

The meeting held in February 2004 made a decision on further activities of the Working Group after the accession of V4 countries to the EU, as an expert group at the supranational level which will continue to exchange information, evaluate security risks relating to extremism in the Central European geopolitical area, and cooperate at the level of experts involved in the issues in question. Priorities for 2004 were set out.<sup>24</sup>

The next regular meeting of the Working Group was held on 2 and 3 February 2005. This was the first meeting of the Working Group after the V4 countries joined the European Union. The main agenda included issues relating to the situation in the field of extremism in Central Europe or on the territory of the V4 countries, to evaluating priorities laid down for 2004 and to setting out priorities for 2005. The meeting also dealt with secondments of specialists at the level of Ministries of the Interior and police units concerning the issues in question. Members of the Working Group were informed, in a separate block, on the situation of spectator violence in their respective countries and on the system of work and procedures of relevant police forces. An important point of the agenda was to discuss participation of Polish, Slovak and Hungarian representatives in the project Security Risks of Extremism in the Central European Geopolitical Area, which the Czech party intends to submit within the AGIS Programme in Autumn 2005. Further topics common to police forces generally were discussed (the issue of the relationship between the police and the mass media, the police and NGOs, or the manner of how to detect persons showing an interest in working for police forces and holding extremist opinions). During the two-day meeting participants also touched upon some other partial problems and exchanged a number of specific findings.

Some, already identified, similar trends as well as differences in extremist scenes in the V4 countries were confirmed. In covering the issues monitored the V4 countries are comparable. In each of these countries specialised units dealing with the issues of extremism operate.<sup>25</sup> For example a small office for cooperation with the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia was established within the Polish Ministry of the Interior and Information. It is responsible for processing and analysing information and data relating to racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in Poland. The discussion confirmed the different practices of police units, for example using court experts, and the punishability of symbols. The most significant difference was seen with respect to spectator violence where, contrary to in the Czech Republic, this issue in Slovakia, Poland and Hungary falls under the responsibility of special police units and specialists dealing with the issue of extremism; the main responsible party being the police (constables) on beat. For example the issue of private events and concerts held by right-wing extremist supporters was mentioned again. The option and limits of police intervention in such cases as well as a number of other questions were discussed.

When summarising and assessing the present situation participants agreed that in 2004, as compared with 2003, there were no changes in the field of extremism in the V4 countries (and in Austria), and protagonists of extremism did not and do not represent a threat to the democratic fundamentals of these countries. Participants also took into account the requirements of international

---

<sup>24</sup> See [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz) - the Information on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2003, Chapter V: The Most Important Activities Carried out by State Bodies

<sup>25</sup> Section II, Division IV, Central Bureau of Investigation, General Police Headquarters deals with extremism in Poland; the National Bureau of Investigation, Hungarian National Police, within which a specialised unit dealing with the issues of extremism operates, was established in Hungary on 1 June 2004; the Unit for Combating Racism and Extremism operates in Slovakia within the Department for Combating Terrorism of the Office for Combating Organised Crime of the Police Forces Presidium.

organisations and the issue of racist and extremist attacks endangering asylum seekers, migrants and foreign workers which were included among their priorities. At the same time they agreed that the Working Group for Combating Extremism of the V4 countries and Austria would annually issue a joint communiqué concerning the situation in the field of extremism, disclosing the principal conclusions of their meetings. Furthermore, they decided to draw up a final version of the draft project “Security Risks of Extremism in the Central European Geopolitical Area” and to continue in consultation on its final design. They also agreed on joint secondments at the level of Ministries of the Interior and police forces.

### ***International Seminar Concerning Punishment of Racial, Anti-Semitic and Other Hatred Propaganda Published Via the Internet***

At the end of 2004 (16 and 17 December) the Ministry of the Interior organised an international seminar on misuse of the Internet by extremists, attended by police experts from Germany, Spain, Greece and Slovakia. The Security Intelligence Service and the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic were involved in preparing the seminar. Czech police specialists exchanged experiences with foreign police experts. Representatives of the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office, the Czech Telecommunication Office and academics participated in the seminar as well. Participants informed each another on the situation in individual countries and the related legislative background for punishing this type of crime, they dealt with the problems relating to the punishment of computer crime in practice, and they discussed a range of issues of a specific, technical nature. The outcome of the seminar confirmed that the problems which the police forces were facing were to a certain extent identical and the same applied to the possibilities and limits for combating this kind of criminal offence.

At the end of the two-day meeting participants agreed to organise a similar follow-up meeting which would focus mainly on the more specific issue of technical and security measures and technological problems. The seminar underlined the importance of police cooperation at the level of European Union structures as well as the need to enter into joint projects whilst using some of the Community programmes.

## **5.2.2 Advisory Bodies Working within the Ministry of the Interior**

### ***Inter-Ministerial Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism and Xenophobia (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”)***

In 2004 two meetings of the inter-ministerial Commission (in January and in July 2004) were held. The January meeting approved priorities for 2004 and inclusion of the Report on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic in its reduced form as the “Information on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2003” as a separate annex to the Report on Public Order and Internal Security in the Czech Republic.<sup>26</sup> In July 2004 the Commission debated the current situation of extremism in the past half-year. Proposals of the Ministry of the Interior – such as setting up a “hot line” where citizens can report web sites containing racial, anti-Semitic and other hatred texts – were approved<sup>27</sup>. The Commission also approved the organisation of a working seminar on punishing racist, anti-Semitic and other hatred propaganda via the Internet which should be attended by foreign experts, and the organisation of a round table (in 2005) on the issues of anti-Semitism, Islamic extremism and Islamicophobia and their respective manifestations in the Czech Republic.

Another meeting of the Commission was held in 2005 (8 March). Mr (Ing.) Petr Uhl, a member of the Steering Committee of the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) and Ms. (Mgr.) Andrea Barsova, Director of the Department of Human Rights of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, who is responsible for the contact of state bodies with EUMC, functioning as a liaison, were invited. They informed the Commission members on their scope of responsibilities within the EUMC and the latest activities of this organisation monitoring the

---

<sup>26</sup> See [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz) Information on the Issues of Extremism in the Czech Republic in 2003, Chapter. V: The Most Important Activities Carried out by State Bodies.

<sup>27</sup> For this purpose the Police Presidium set up for the general public an e-mail inbox: [ukpvextr@mvcr.cz](mailto:ukpvextr@mvcr.cz)

situation in individual EU Member States. The Commission then set out priority topics for 2005. The decision that the Commission will assist as an expert advisor to a liaison of the Czech Republic with the EUMC and that Commission members will cooperate on the basis of needs, were among the fundamental conclusions of the meeting of the Commission.

***Working Group of the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs concerning the Ministry of the Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic***<sup>28</sup>

This Working Group, which is the only official working group associating Roma coordinators of Regional Councils, set forth, at the beginning of 2004, the “Plan of Activities in 2004 and 2005”. The Plan takes into account a number of relevant topics, among them the migration of Roma, the work of the Czech police in relation to national and ethnic minorities, discrimination and racism, specific problems of the Roma Community (usury, social exclusion, drugs), the role of territorial public administration, the activities of Roma coordinators of Regional Councils, the activities of Roma advisors in municipalities with extended scope of powers, i.e. municipalities executing state powers, and conceptual measures.

In 2004 the Working Group dealt with, for example, racially motivated criminal offences where the victim was a Roma, and enhancing policing in this area; the migration of Roma from Slovakia; the migration of Roma to EU Member States; improving the selection and professional preparation of future as well as current policemen; the system of crime prevention at the local level; and research activities. The Commission at its meeting held in the Pardubice Region primarily solved the problem of the region and introduced positive activities of the Czech police, the Regional Council, municipalities as well as non-profit making organisations in the field of integration of Roma communities. The Working Group represents a valuable platform for communication between state administration and representatives of self-government, the exchange of information, the formulation of attitudes, and joint draft measures aimed at solving identified problems.

***Commission of the Minister of the Interior for Preparing and Implementing the Policy of the Government of the Czech Republic in the Field of Integration of Foreigners and Development of Relations Among Communities (hereinafter “the MI Commission“)***

The MI Commission was abolished by the Instruction of the Minister of the Interior No. 52 of 24 September 2003, and effective from 1 January 2004 it was transferred to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.<sup>29</sup>

In 2004 the Ministry of the Interior met in this area assignments supporting the integration of foreigners in the Czech Republic within the *Strategy on Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic*. Although this activity was directly related to the issues of extremism, a part of those activities aimed at supporting the integration of foreigners was a contribution to the prevention of extremism. This concerned mainly drawing up and implementing some sections of the “*Plan of Integration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior in 2004 – 2006*”. Apart from supporting projects of legal consultancy for foreigners legally residing in the Czech Republic for a long time, focusing on residence aspects of foreigners, in 2004 the MI also supported, in the framework of the Strategy on Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic and in compliance with the aforementioned plan of the Ministry of the Interior, projects aimed at preventing racism and xenophobia in relation to foreigners and projects supporting the development of mutual relations between communities in the Czech Republic. Attention was also devoted to the promotion of the enforcement of principles of modern policing in a multicultural society.

---

<sup>28</sup> A Chairman of this Commission is the First Deputy of the Minister of the Interior, its members being employees of the Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police, representatives of the Government Council for Roma Community Affairs, the Office of this Council, and in particular Roma coordinators.

<sup>29</sup> For the text relating to the Commission see sub-chapter 5.6.3 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

### 5.2.3 Other Activities

#### *Applying State Power in the Area of the Right of Assembly*

In connection with entities registered under Act No. 83/1990 Coll., on the Assembly of Citizens, as amended, and Act No. 424/1991 Coll., on Association in Political Parties and Political Movements, as amended, the Ministry of the Interior did not detect in 2004, as in 2003, any unlawful activities related to the issue of extremism. There was no single case which needed intervention in the activities of a relevant association under a legal regulation on the basis of the illicit alteration of statutes with regard to the proclaimed aim of their activities

#### *Spectator Violence*

In 2004 the objective of the Ministry of the Interior involved solving spectator violence in individual cities, towns and villages as well as other relevant entities. The Ministry of the Interior, on the basis of the good experience of some cities, drew up a draft generally binding decree of a municipality on laying down conditions for organising sport events accessible to the general public. There were meetings with the Union of Towns and Villages which became an important partner of state administration, the police and football clubs in drafting required measures. Moreover, there were negotiations on replacing the “*Agreement on Mutual Cooperation in Ensuring Public Order, Protecting the Security of Persons and Property during Football Matches between the Police of the Czech Republic and the Czech-Moravian Football Union*” of 1995 by “*Organisational Arrangements between the Czech-Moravian Football Union and the Police of the Czech Republic*”, which would take into account some construction requirements and the technical equipment of stadium, the role of organisers from individual clubs, and would define principles for a common media policy of the police and football clubs.

The Ministry of the Interior also initiated and supported educational, informative and research programmes aimed at decreasing and eliminating spectator violence.

Within its efforts to eliminate **incidents of spectator violence at sports events**, the Ministry of the Interior organised in March 2004 in cooperation with the Embassy of the United Kingdom and the Czech-Moravian Football Union, a seminar entitled “*Security at Football Stadiums*” for representatives of cities where matches of the First (and partially of the Second) League are played, for representatives of football clubs and police members working in the city concerned. The seminar concentrated on two principal topics: 1) the role and options of municipalities when ensuring public order and security in relation to sports events, and 2) the possibilities for cooperation between municipalities and clubs in preventative work with fans and youth in general. Both topics were presented with the experiences of Great Britain, having had a long lasting practice in state and municipal supervision over security at stadiums, as well as in using the attractiveness of football for preventative work with youth. Three experts from Great Britain participated in the seminar; specialists from the Czech Ministry of the Interior, representatives of the Czech police and some cities and clubs were involved as well.

In 2004 the Ministry of the Interior approved a preventative social project entitled “*Positive Fandom*” focused on young football fans aged between 10 and 20 years. The objective of the project is to establish a group of young football fans on the principle of the positive approach of fans and to prevent their infiltration into hooligan groups. The project includes systematic, preventative work with fans on the basis of club membership, an offer of leisure activities, promotion of positive events for fans and education towards positive football supporting. The project is being implemented in Liberec city and supported by the amount of CZK 100,000.

With regard to participation of the Czech National Team in the 2004 European Football Championship in Portugal, the Ministry of the Interior financially supported (in the amount of CZK 15,000) the project of the Czech Fan Embassy. The Fan Embassy ensured, during the whole Championship, information in the Czech language on its course, transport, accommodation, food, local customs, and so forth. A printed Guide for Fans was developed by the Fan Embassy.

In the last year the Ministry of the Interior also co-participated in implementing projects to aimed at equipping some town with Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) in the neighbourhood of stadiums (Liberec, Teplice, Pardubice).

The Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police perceive as an important measure in combating spectator violence entering into closer cooperation with colleagues from neighbouring

countries. One of the first concrete steps was a business trip of Czech experts involved in the issue of spectator violence to Poland in November 2004. Czech representatives met members of the Polish police on beat and criminal police in towns from which Polish hooligans regularly travel to the Czech Republic (Wrocław, Kraków, Katowice). During this business trip the Czech party was explained the structure, activities and equipment of the Polish police units engaged in suppressing spectator violence. The rules of future cooperation among police experts were agreed on, especially as regards the exchange of operative information on the movement of Polish or Czech hooligans or the exchange of information databases on football hooligans and extremists.

***National Strategy for Police Work Relating to Ethnic and National Minorities in the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as “the Strategy”)***<sup>30</sup>

The Strategy is a fundamental conceptual document concerning the issue of the relationship between national and ethnic minorities and the Czech police, and policing by the Czech police in relation to national and ethnic minorities. *The Report on Progress and Interim Results in Implementation of the Strategy (hereinafter referred to as the “Report”)* was adopted by the Czech government by Resolution No. 800 of 25 August 2004.

During the course of 2004 medium as well as long-term objectives of the Ministry of the Interior in the field of policing in relation to national and ethnic minorities were met. As regards education and the career paths of policemen, significant progress was made in 2003 and 2004. The issue of minorities, questions of equality of races and human rights are included in the education of students at secondary police schools as well as in the ongoing training of teachers at these schools and in the educational programmes of basic vocational training. Since the second half of 2004 a course focusing on the issues of police practice in relation to minorities has been run in the framework of life-long learning of policemen working for Regional Police Administrations. Gradually all policemen of all police services will participate on this course. In the next two years it will be necessary to add the issue of minorities into the programme of police management education and to develop special courses for the members of the Alien and Border Police Service.

The Ministry of the Interior and the Czech police will intensify the recruitment of minority members to work in the Czech police while using appropriate means for promoting their employment policy toward those members of minority groups. They will continue to consistently apply antidiscriminatory procedures in policing and will implement the system of policemen’s conduct within the basic preparation with respect to some xenophobic and racist manifestations.

Upon evaluation of pilot projects implemented within the Administration of the Police of the Czech Republic in the North Moravian and West Bohemian Regions (*“The Plan of Activities of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to National and Ethnic Minorities”*, *“A Liaison for the Issue of Minorities”*, and *“An Assistant of the Police of the Czech Republic for Combating Usury in Socially Excluded Roma Communities”*)<sup>31</sup>, the Police President assigned at the meeting held on 17 December

---

<sup>30</sup> See Government Resolution No. 85 of 22 January 2003. In order to implement this document the Police President issued Order No. 78 of 6 June 2003 determining organisational units of the Police Presidium and police units responsible for meeting assignments contained in this document. Police specialists dealing with the issue of extremism and related criminal acts participated in launching these projects.

<sup>31</sup> The Police Administration of the West Bohemian Region was assigned by means of Police President Order No. 78 of 6 June 2003 to implement this pilot project. Under Order of the Director of the West Bohemian Police Administration No. 72/2003, a Working Group consisting of six policemen (four policemen from the Criminal Police and Investigation Service from the Districts of Domazlice, Karlovy Vary, and Sokolov, and two policewomen from the Preventative Information Group from the West Bohemian Police Administration and the Cheb District Directorate of the Police of the Czech Republic) was established. A specialist involved in the issue of extremism of the West Bohemian Police Region was appointed as liaison. He developed the *“Plan of the West Bohemian Police Administration in Relation to National and Ethnic Minorities”*. Within this project a specialised team “EGER” was established in Cheb. This team, in cooperation with two Roma female assistants of the Czech police for cooperation with the Roma community, dealt with the alleged *“widely spread prostitution of Roma children”*, pointed out by an unjustified statement of the German NOG KARO. On the basis of the work of this team cooperation with the Roma community improved and a community centre for Roma was established. Ahead of schedule the North Moravian Police Administration appointed a liaison for the Roma ethnic minority. Again this is a specialist from the Criminal Police and Investigation Service involved in the issue of extremism. This liaison drew up the project titled *“Common World”* and entered into cooperation with both governmental agencies and NGOs. Problematic districts and district departments were selected where

2004 all Directors of Administrations of individual regions to appoint by means of an internal instrument at every Police Administration a liaison for the issue of minorities and to ensure, in terms of organisation, conditions for his/her activities not later than by 31 January 2005. Thus at all Regional Police Administrations police specialists until then involved in combating extremist crime within the Criminal Police and Investigation Service were appointed as liaisons for work with minorities. In order to meet individual tasks, teams of policemen from the Criminal Police and Investigation Service dealing with the issue of extremism at District Directorates of the Police of the Czech Republic were set up. The teams include also employees of Preventative Information Groups.

Liaisons are responsible for developing the “*Plan of Activities of Relevant Regional Police Administrations in relation to Minorities*” and for the systematic implementation and coordination of objectives resulting from such document.

A liaison is a police expert involved in the issues of policing in relation to national and ethnic minorities and his/her services may be used by different police units for solving a problem within the scope of their competence. A liaison is authorised to carry out the following activities:

- to develop and implement the “Plan of Activities of the Police of the Czech Republic in Relation to National and Ethnic Minorities” in a given locality, which is a document laying down specific priorities of activities within the Czech police in relation to members or communities of minorities;
- to systematically monitor structures of members and communities of national minorities and foreigners in the given locality;
- to support pro-active policing in relation to minorities in all areas relating to the scope of competencies of the Czech police;
- to specialise in the crime-causing potential of minority communities in the region concerned;
- to systematically cooperate with local government, state administration and NGOs in solving specific problems falling under the lawful competence of the Czech police and relating to the life of a minority community;
- to systematically meet the tasks of a competent intermediary between the police and the minority community;
- to build trust between the Czech police and members of communities of national and ethnic minorities; and
- to assist in investigating serious offences which are connected with the life of minority communities and so forth.

The basis for further draft proposals in a given area will be data obtained from a sociological survey aimed at the relationship between the Czech police and national and ethnic minorities.

### ***The Issue of Extremism in the System of Prevention***

In 2004 the Ministry of the Interior, responsible for activities carried out by the Republic Committee for Crime Prevention, continued in implementing the Crime Prevention Programme at Local Levels, which involves cities with the highest crime rates and amount of other pathological social phenomena. A specific system of assistance was ensured by the “Programme for Preventing Crime at the Local Level – Partnership” (hereinafter referred to as the “Partnership Programme”). The Partnership Programme is a non-repressive method through which it has been possible since 1996 to systematically focus on the improvement of inter-ethnic relationships, to overcome prejudice, to limit xenophobia, to increase tolerance and patience on the side of the majority, and to emancipate, educate and find a place in society for the Roma minority. It is meant to eliminate or at least alleviate social exclusion of Roma communities, the consequence of which is also an increased risk of racist and extremist attitudes. Projects focus mainly on children and youth, whose system of values and habits is **more open to positive changes**.

Therefore the priority of the Partnership Programme is the national minority of Roma showing for a long period of time the highest risks in terms of security. The Programme tries to decrease social handicaps of Roma and to support their full integration. General objectives of the partnership Programme is to maximally decrease risks and consequences relating to crime, enhancing the feeling

---

policemen were trained and Roma assistants appointed who assisted policemen in combating usury and meeting some other tasks. In the framework of the project “Common World” the priority was not to obtain operative information but to enable trust between the Czech police and the Roma community. It affected the organisation of a very successful camp for Roma children. This cooperation will continue also in 2005 within the project of a liaison.

of safety of citizens, and strengthening trust in the police and institutions of public administration. Towns displaying the highest rate of crimes committed and demonstrating a large accumulation of other pathological social phenomena – unemployment, poverty, extremist manifestations, socially excluded Roma communities, and so forth – are included in the Partnership Programme. In 2004, 31 towns (municipalities) implemented 41 projects concerning Roma communities, which were subsidised by CZK 2,919,000. Funds were released under the Government Resolution from the Budget Chapter “General Cash Management”, however finance was not earmarked from the budget of the Ministry of the Interior. The condition upon which projects were supported was co-financing by a municipality and active participation of Roma in their implementation.

### ***Educational Projects***

In 2004 the objective of educational projects and training activities extended and became more specific.

Standard activities continued in 2004. Twelve trainers of training police centres of Regional Police Administration were trained in the course titled “*Extremism – Racism – Prejudice – Drugs*”. The total number of trained policemen was 144 persons. With regard to newly drafted basic professional preparation of policemen the issue of racism and extremism was incorporated in three of four topics of integrated subjects. During the whole year of 2004 a long term project “*Inclusion of human rights, rights of minorities and their protection and professional conduct in the training programmes of the Czech police and the police work*” continued in training trainers, training the working group of users and the working group of management, and published four training textbooks<sup>32</sup>. Manuals “*Racism and Racially Motivated Crime*”, “*Police Powers and Respect for Human Rights*”, “*Contacts of a Czech Policeman in a Roma Community*” and “*Refugees and Policing of the Czech Police*” were developed by the Secondary Police School of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague. For police members and civil servants the Police Academy of the Czech Republic organised in June 2004 a course titled “*Extremism within Life-long Learning*”, informing on the current situation in researching the phenomenon of extremism, and on the roots and manifestations of extremism in the context of European integration, including measures adopted by democratic states against this phenomenon.<sup>33</sup>

In collaboration with Amnesty International, audio-visual aids concerning topics of human rights and social tolerance and asylum policy were obtained and provided to the Police Training Centres. Further they received a CD containing “*A Guide to the Sociology of Racism*”, being drawn up since January 2004 within the project implemented by the Faculty of Social Studies of Masaryk University in Brno – “*Ethics, Minorities and Marginal Groups in the Czech Republic*” – which is also supported by the Prague Multicultural Centre and by the People in Need organisation. The authors were assisted by the Department of Education and Administration of Police Training and by intermediary contact with experts from the Ministry of the Interior as well as outside of it. The civic association ISKE – oriented towards the study of cultural plurality, ethnic relations and various forms of ethno-centrism, in particular nationalism and racism, also participated in drafting this Guide.

Under the professional auspices of the Association of Mediators of the Czech Republic a two-day educational and training course “*Tolerance of Differences*”, focusing on tolerance and prevention of racism, was prepared for the representatives of Preventative Information Groups of District Directorates of the Police of the Czech Republic, heads of District Departments of the Police of the Czech Republic, and the Alien and Border Police Service on the territories under their jurisdiction where there are refugee facilities.

In 2004 one preparatory course for citizens of national minorities applying for work with the police was held. Of the number of nine applicants two participants successfully completed the course.

---

<sup>32</sup> In cooperation with Dutch trainers the Police Presidium, Secondary Police School of the MI in Prague, the Police Training Centre and the Department of Education and Police Training of the MI participated in the project.

<sup>33</sup> Thanks to enormous interest in the course in its extended form (“*Extremism and Anti-Extremist Policy*”), the course will be repeated in June 2005.

## **Mass Media**

The Ministry of the Interior informed the general public, on an ongoing basis, on the issue of extremism both on web sites of the Ministry ([www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz)), and by means of the Internet Radio of the Interior which in 2004 broadcasted twelve informative reportages responding to events relating to extremism. Most frequently this was information on events organised by right-wing extremists and on spectator violence at sports matches. Documents were published on web sites under the heading “extremism”. Within media monitoring articles of the foremost Czech press and electronic media relating to the Ministry of the Interior and the issue of extremism were filed.

In its effort to cooperate in forming a positive attitude towards asylum seekers and ethnic minorities, the Radio of the Interior in its programmes depicted their different habits and provided information on projects and activities determined for asylum seekers (for example: “*Interesting Matters*”, “*Do you know that...?*” and “*We have asked a question*”). Inquiries relating to extremist or asylum issues or foreigners living in the Czech Republic made by citizens and journalists were answered on an ongoing basis. Journalists as well as the general public were also in 2004 invited to exhibitions of art works created by the children of asylum seekers, “Open Door” days in asylum facilities, multicultural events, and sporting days organised by the Refugee Facility Service.

The Ministry of the Interior communicated with the general public, *inter alia*, through the journals *Policista* (Policeman) and *Kriminalistika* (Criminal Sciences) published by the Ministry, through the Press Service of the Department of Crime Prevention and via its web sites, reports in other mass media, and by distributing educational and informative materials.

The journal “*Policista*” presented three times in 2004 information relating to the issue in question. In total 30 Press Services (special press releases) were published and were distributed to almost 600 places in the Czech Republic; thirteen of these paid attention to the issue of extremism, racism and xenophobia. Information from the Press Service is determined mainly for journalists, policemen and those who cooperate in crime prevention at the local level, but also for teachers and staff dealing with pathological social phenomena. Press Services are also sent to mayors of towns and villages and other who show their interest just for their information. Modified versions of Press Services are disclosed also on the Internet.

### **5.2.4 The Issue of Extremism within the Police of the Czech Republic**

Neither organisational background nor staffing relating to the issue of extremism saw in 2004 considerable change. The issues in question were well covered by the Czech police at the level of Regional Police Administration as well as at the level of districts. Police specialists from the Unit of Youth, the Unit of Crimes against Human Dignity and the Unit of Extremist Crime, and policemen from the Unit of Extremism of the Department of Terrorism and Extremism of the Office for Combating Organised Crime dealt with this issue within the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic.

*As of 30 January 2005, of 140 policemen involved within the Criminal Police and Investigation Service in the issue of extremism liaisons who deal with the issue of minorities were appointed at all Police Regional Administrations. Policemen for the Criminal Police and Investigation Service of District Directorates of the Police of the Czech Republic became members of their teams.*

## **5.3 Ministry of Justice and the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office**

### **5.3.1 Ministry of Justice (MJ)**

#### ***Court Statistics***

In 2004 courts of the Czech Republic lawfully sentenced in total 68,442 persons, of whom 160 were sentenced for crimes with an extremist context, which accounted for 0.23% of the total number of lawfully sentenced persons (in 2003 – 158 sentenced persons).

#### **Persons lawfully sentenced in the Czech Republic in 2004 for crimes having an extremist context<sup>34</sup>**

---

<sup>34</sup> Crimes of thefts (Sec. 247 of the CC), damaging another person’s things (Sec. 257 of the CC) and unauthorised use of another person’s thing (Sec. 249 of the CC) are among criminal offences having an extremist

Type of Crime	Sec. of the Criminal Code	Number of persons
Support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms	260,261	50
Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief	198, 198a	37
Violence against a group of people or an individual	196	22
Injury to health with a racial context	221 (2	16
Injury to health	222 (2	9
Hooliganism	202	11
Extortion	235	2
Forcible entry into a dwelling	238	2
Theft	247	1
Damaging another person's thing	257	1
Unauthorised use of another person's thing	249	1

Of the total number of persons lawfully sentenced for these crimes 88 were male offenders, 20 were female offenders, 28 were juvenile persons, and 24 were repeat offenders.

For the aforementioned criminal offences 16 persons received unconditional sentences of imprisonment, of them for 14 persons the sentences were for up to one year and for two persons from one to five years of imprisonment; 91 sentenced persons received sentences of imprisonment with a suspension; 30 offenders were sentenced to community service; and 23 persons received other punishment. 12 juvenile offenders were not punished. 47 persons committed a crime under the influence of alcohol. (Most offenders were sentenced by courts of the North Moravian Region – 84 persons, and of the North Bohemian region – 42 persons.)

### *Activities of the Ministry of Justice*

The Ministry of Justice meets, on an ongoing basis, tasks laid down by Government Resolutions since crimes having a racist subtext are paid continuous attention to in regular six month and annual evaluations of activities carried out by courts which are subject to working meetings of the management of the Ministry of Justice and Chairpersons of Regional Courts. This area is monitored also by supervisory bodies of the Ministry of Justice and within inspections which concentrate on controlling the speed and smoothness of proceedings.

### **Probation and Mediation Service (PMS)**

#### *Cases*

Of the total number of cases solved by PMS centres in 2004, **87 cases were crimes with an extremist context which accounted for 0.3% of the total number of newly recorded crimes.** This number remains in the third sequent year at this very level. With regard to criminal-legal classification the majority of cases were public manifestations of sympathy toward movements stipulated in Sec. 260 of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms) and other criminal offences having an extremist context (Sections 257/1, 202/1, 197a, and 199/1). The most frequent particular criminal offences which were subject to prosecution related to Section 196 and 197a of the Criminal Code (violence against a group of people or an individual), and to threats of violence and murder, including assaults, to Section 261 of the Criminal Code (support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms), where sympathies for fascist ideology were manifested, or to 198 of the Criminal Code (defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief), where there were verbal and physical attacks against members of other ethnic groups.

---

context – they are included on the basis of particular circumstances and after assessment of an authorised person working on statistical reports. In the year reviewed statistics reported as crimes having an extremist context also a crime of fraud under Sec. 250 of the CC (one person) and a crime of neglect of compulsory maintenance of a child under Sec. 213 of the CC (one person). Their inclusion among crimes with an extremist context is justified since they were committed along with other similar criminal offences.

**Number of cases recorded by PMS in individual regions (divided according to court administration) between 2002 and 2004**

<b>Regional Courts</b>	<b>Total number of cases in 2002</b>	<b>of which with a racial context</b>	<b>Total number of cases in 2003</b>	<b>of which with a racial context</b>	<b>Total number of cases in 2004</b>	<b>of which with a racial context</b>
Prague	3,229	16 (0.5%)	3,207	7 (0.2%)	2,698	3 (0.1%)
Central Bohemia	2,993	9 (0.3%)	2,812	8 (0.3%)	2,558	5 (0.2%)
South Bohemia	1,970	2 (0.2%)	1,993	4 (0.2%)	2,208	8 (0.4%)
West Bohemia	3,329	7 (0.2%)	3,242	4 (0.1%)	3,328	11 (0.3%)
North Bohemia	5,106	2 (0.0%)	4,284	21 (0.5%)	4,212	14 (0.3%)
East Bohemia	2,834	14 (0.5%)	2,931	12 (0.4%)	2,791	12 (0.4%)
South Moravia	4,284	7 (0.2%)	4,503	19 (0.4%)	4,970	18 (0.4%)
North Moravia	5,546	18 (0.3%)	5,393	27 (0.5%)	5,638	16 (0.3%)
<b>Total – Czech Republic</b>	<b>29,291</b>	<b>69 (0.3%)</b>	<b>28,365</b>	<b>102 (0.4%)</b>	<b>28,403</b>	<b>87 (0.3%)</b>

***Measures Adopted by PMS***

The Probation and Mediation Service met also in 2004 tasks arising from the “Policy of Probation and Mediation Service of the Czech Republic in the Field of Procedure and Solution of Crimes Relating to Extremism” and from Government Resolution 789/1999 on measures against movements suppressing human rights and freedoms. Information which met these tasks was, within specified deadlines, submitted to the department of Supervision and Complaints of the Ministry of Justice.

The Directorate of PMS maps, on an ongoing basis, the situation concerning probation and mediation activities with offenders of crimes having an extremist context, including the use of alternative approaches and sanctions for such offenders. Interim information provided by probation service officers and assistants show that PMS staff work with offenders and victims of extremist crimes during pre-trial proceedings (most frequently within drawing up a report before a decision is taken or if custody is replaced by supervision), and then if punishment of community work or supervision is imposed. If supervision is imposed, supervision probation officers take an individual approach to offenders of this type of criminal offences, and the inclusion of offenders in resocialisation programmes or any other similar programme is exceptional.

With regard to the fact that PMS centres have only very rare experiences with offenders of extremist crimes, PMS, when solving this pathological social phenomenon, relies mainly on findings gathered by their foreign colleagues.

Foreign experience from work with offenders of extremist crimes shows that an individual approach brings better results than group work. **Development of specific programmes aimed at changes in behaviour of offenders of criminal acts with an extremist context (for example long work with a group of young skinheads in Germany) does not appear, based on current experience, to be an efficient approach of working since it is difficult to bring about, in such a group, changes in the attitudes and conduct of those offenders.** The current practice used for example in Northern Ireland, the Netherlands or Australia, represents a different approach towards work with perpetrators of crimes motivated by extremism – the solution of complex conflict situations is oriented towards utilising tools of restorative justice, which could be mediation or family confrontation (used for example in Canada). This model is used especially because it does not concentrate only on the offender but also on the victim and at the same time it considers the needs and interests of the community where the extremist crime in question was committed. Another well-proven foreign experience is the fact that crimes having an extremist context are also solved by means of implementing targeted projects which assume close cooperation of the police, state prosecutors, judges, probation officers, and complementary social services. During such projects the target locality where such crimes occur is mapped in detail. Target groups of offenders are identified and possible strategies for resolving this problem are selected. In order that this approach be used efficiently also in the Czech Republic **more intensive cooperation between PMS and law enforcement agencies as well as other entities, in particular social services and social programmes, is required.**

### 5.3.2 Supreme State Prosecutor's Office (SSPO)<sup>35</sup>

<i>Crimes motivated by racial, or similar hatred</i>	<i>Total number of persons prosecuted</i>	<i>Total number of persons charged</i>
<b>1995</b>	508	461
<b>1996</b>	616	552
<b>1997</b>	569	495
<b>1998</b>	535	439
<b>1999</b>	580	510
<b>2000</b>	535	451
<b>2001</b>	529	369
<b>2002</b>	467 (+51 ZPŘT)	435 (+50 ZPŘT)
<b>2003</b>	325 (+44 ZPŘT)	286 (+44 ZPŘT)
<b>2004</b>	351 (+48 ZPŘT)	326 (+47 ZPŘT)

2004 data proves that crimes of defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race or religious belief under Section 198 of the Criminal Code and of support and propagation of movements suppressing human rights and freedoms under Section 260 and 261 of the Criminal Code were on the rise (quite a considerable growth). A less substantial increase applies to crimes of violence against a group of citizens or an individual under Section 196 (2) (3) of the Criminal Code. On the other hand the number of crimes of incitement of hatred against a group of persons or restriction of their rights and freedoms under Section 198 of the Criminal Code, and injury to another person's health under Section 221 (1) (2) (b) and Section 222 (1) (2) (b) of the Criminal Code decreased – however absolute figures are very low, thus the decline in the number of offenders is minimal. As compared with the very low occurrence of such crimes in 2003 (the lowest numbers since the beginning of 1990s), the year 2004 – if taking into account the total amount of such crimes – saw a growth, although the numbers from the mid-1990s, when this kind of crime was on a continuous rise, were, by a wide margin, not reached. Police statistics do not correspond with the development trend which lies with a certain increase in the number of persons prosecuted and charged (or those who were investigated as suspects or were charged within summary proceedings).

The share of all crimes motivated by racial, national or similar hatred in the total amount of crime remained also in 2004 quite minimal and did not reach, by a far margin, **1 %**. The composition of crimes remained, as compared with 2003, unchanged.

As regards crimes under Sections 260 and 261 of the Criminal Code, high latency might be assumed, which corresponds mainly with findings on the organisation of concerts of bands by supporters and those showing sympathy for the skinhead movement, where it is almost not possible to gather evidence on the criminal liability of the organisers of these events or at least the bands performing. The activities of the police at those events focus on order, while it is impossible to gather documentation for prosecution to a full extent, with regard to the conspiracy of suspects; so in the future such cases might be solved only when operative means and technology is used for a longer period of time.

The state prosecutor's offices continue to follow General Instruction No. 3/1995, which is undoubtedly of high importance in terms of clarification of this type of crime as one of the priorities of the state prosecutor's offices even when taking into account that these criminal activities are also paid maximum attention to during court proceedings (the execution of supervision, the trial itself, examining the case in relation to the option for an appeal, or drawing up a complaint regarding a violation of law).

<sup>35</sup> Detailed data concerning activities carried out by the state prosecutor's offices will be published at the end of May or beginning of June in the 2004 Annual Report drawn up by the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office.

Overview of Persons Prosecuted and Charged for Crimes Motivated by Racial, National or Similar Hatred <sup>36</sup>												
ČR	Sec. 196/2 prosec. charged		Sec. 196/3 prosec. charged		Sec. 198 prosec. charged		Sec. 198a prosec. charged		Sec. 219/2g prosec. charged		Sec. 221/2b prosec. charged	
1989					44	25						
1990					14	1						
1991					6	4	0	0				
1992					1	1	1	0			3	2
1993					15	9	8	4			1	0
1994					40	36	13	12			3	3
1995	177	162	18	17	112	108	28	22	0	0	13	12
1996	210	179	18	17	74	66	30	29	1	1	90	82
1997	150	119	29	19	107	103	25	20	0	0	56	55
1998	126	111	3	0	124	90	7	6	3	2	40	36
1999	139	123	24	24	103	91	12	11	2	2	42	42
2000	98	84	24	24	150	129	19	14	0	0	22	13
2001	95	92	0	0	127	118	19	16	0	0	28	27
2002	85	81	3	3	105	98	4	3	2	2	21	20
2003	64	56	0	0	81	77	8	7	0	0	28	27
2004	67	63	8	8	105	101	5	5	1	0	21	21
+ - 2003	4.7%	12.5%	100%	100%	29.6%	31.2%	-37.5%	-28.6%	100%	0	-25.0%	-22.2%

ČR	Sec. 222/2b prosec. charged		Sec. 235/2f prosec. charged		Sec. 257/2b prosec. charged		Sec. 260 prosec. charged		Sec. 261 prosec. charged		Sec.26 1a prosec. charged	
1989							6	4	33	30	0	0
1990							3	1	7	2	0	0
1991							1	0	3	1	0	0
1992	0	0					2	0	14	12	0	0
1993	3	1					8	5	11	6	0	0
1994	13	12					34	32	13	13	0	0
1995	23	23	0	0	6	5	13	11	118	101	0	0
1996	42	41	1	1	27	25	30	27	93	84	0	0
1997	45	43	5	5	18	15	29	18	105	98	0	0
1998	28	28	6	6	16	16	27	15	155	129	0	0
1999	30	28	1	0	16	16	52	37	159	136	0	0
2000	12	12	0	0	7	6	79	67	124	102	0	0
2001	6	6	3	3	2	2	51	41	198	164	1	0
2002	24	24	2	2	3	3	75	67	143	132	1	1
2003	13	13	0	0	6	4	28	17	96	84	1	1
2004	9	5	4	4	1	1	31	25	96	90	3	3
+ - 2003	-30.8%	-61.5%	100%	100%	-83.3%	-75.0%	10.7%	47.1%	0.0%	7.1%	200%	200%

<sup>36</sup> Statistics of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office as well as court statistics differ from police statistics with respect to the time period in which a crime is reported. The time when the crime was committed is not what is decisive, but the time when the State Prosecutor prepares a criminal charge, or decides to drop charges, and so forth.

## 5.4 Ministry of Foreign Affairs (the MFA)

In 2004 the Minister of Foreign Affairs informed representatives of his Ministry as well as embassies and consulates of the Czech Republic at international forums, within bilateral relations or during multilateral meetings, on measures adopted by the Czech Republic in order to punish crimes motivated by racial, national or similar hatred and on the effort to eliminate all manifestations of racial discrimination in Czech society. The MFA submitted to its foreign partners the “Information on the Issue of Extremism in the Czech Republic”. Presentations of the MFA at OSCE meetings also provided information on measures adopted by the Czech Republic to support the integration of members of the Roma community.

Representatives of MFA also participated in three OSCE international conferences which resulted in a range of recommendations for the participant countries.

*The OSCE Conference on Anti-Semitism* (Berlin 28 – 29 April 2004) called the governments of member states to strengthen national legal regulations aimed at punishing extremist crimes, cooperating with the non-governmental sector, supporting education, and reminding people on the historical causes of the holocaust, including the possibility to include a relevant subject into the basic school syllabus. The conference stressed the need for a specific strategy fighting against anti-Semitism by coordinated monitoring (the collection and evaluation of relevant statistical data), common information activities in the media, including a fight against anti-Semitic manifestations on the Internet, overall focus on the educational process, strengthening legislation, and supporting NGOs. An extraordinary meeting of the OSCE Human Dimension concerning “*The Relation between Racial Xenophobia and Anti-Semitic Propaganda on the Internet and Racially Motivated Crimes*” (Paris 16 – 17 June 2004) underpinned the necessity to prosecute the misuse of the Internet for committing criminal offences in such a manner that the freedom of media, expression and free exchange of opinions on the Internet are respected. States should strive to extend access to the Internet by supporting the Internet industry in producing user filters, voluntary Codes of Conduct, and general user rules. Final recommendations call for accession to the Convention of the Council of Europe on Crime via the Internet, substantial support of projects of NGOs in this area, and for establishing “hot lines” where web sites with a racist content may be reported. *The OSCE Conference on Racism* (Brussels, 13 – 14 September 2004) concentrated on extreme manifestations of intolerance.

As a follow up to the Conference on Anti-Semitism there was a discussion within the OSCE on establishing an implementing mechanism for combating anti-Semitism. The Bulgarian Presidency then appointed three OSCE representatives for issues of intolerance, whose mandates were extended also by the current Slovenian Presidency. They are: a representative for racism, xenophobia and discrimination, including discrimination against religious beliefs; a representative for combating intolerance and discrimination against Muslims; and a representative for combating anti-Semitism.

The Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs was also involved in discussions on transferring the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia to the Agency of the European Union for Human Rights. The Czech Republic supports this transformation, however it stresses that the subject of combating racism and intolerance must be among the priority activities of such a newly established agency.

In 2004 the MFA also paid considerable attention to refuting allegations that relevant Czech authorities are inactive in cases where they have been charged, in particular by Roma women, with carrying out forced sterilisation. Representatives of the MFA used at the meetings of OSCE Human Dimension (Warsaw October 2004) the right of reply to refute allegations that the Czech Republic did not investigate cases of involuntary sterilisations of Roma women. After the Ombudsman was submitted specific information which it was possible to examine the MFA provided its foreign partners with information on current investigations.

## 5.5 The Ministry of Defence (MD)

In 2004, as in the previous year, the Ministry of Defence paid attention to the protection of human rights and prevention of pathological social phenomena. The issues of racism, xenophobia, and extremism were incorporated, to different extents, in all educational programmes. At the end of 2004 the Minister of Defence approved a key document titled the “*Strategy for Prevention of Socially Undesirable Phenomena for 2005 – 2009*”. This document defines the basis of and directions for

solving the prevention of socially undesirable phenomena in organisations under the competence of the Ministry of Defence, among them, *inter alia*, discrimination, racial intolerance, manifestations of extremism, and terrorism. It lays down objectives, sets out priorities and defines the tasks of individual entities within the Ministry of Defence.

In their preventative activities in 2004 the Military Police paid adequate attention to the issue of racist manifestations within the Army of the Czech Republic. They regularly included this topic in the programme of discussions and lectures for national servicemen as well as for professional soldiers, with the aim of preventing this socially undesirable phenomena. In order to reveal early signals of the committing of any criminal activities, cooperation of the Military Police with the Open Army Line and staff of the Inspection of the MD, in particular with the Chief Inspector for the Protection of Human Rights within the MD, continued.

In 2004 the Military Police did not investigate any manifestations of racism among the military or civil staff or Roma members of the Army of the Czech Republic. However, five cases were reported where prosecution was commenced on the suspicion that a crime with a racist context had been committed. But the injured were not soldiers of Roma origin.

Representative research “A 2004 Military Professional” deserves attention. This research demonstrated that military professionals only to a very limited extent support the skinhead movement (3.9%) and the anarchist movement (1.4%), but it at the same time pointed out the existence of xenophobic tendencies. The research also demonstrated the fact that with an inflow of young soldiers with lower education, xenophobia will be on the rise in the army, thus it is necessary to pay increased attention to this problem.

Almost two thirds of professional soldiers display latent hostility against the Roma ethnic group: 60% of soldiers think that the approach towards Roma should be tougher than today, while one fifth absolutely agree with this statement. More than a half of military professionals call for vigilance towards foreign nationals and 13% absolutely support this opinion. Approximately one third of soldiers consider the principle “Czechia is for Czechs” to be correct and 11% totally identify themselves with this “rule”; warrant-officers and lower ranked offices, soldiers having completed their education without a school-leaving examination as well as those who passed a school-leaving examination incline to such opinions, and these views are also supported by younger soldiers.

## **5.6 Preventative Activities**

### **5.6.1 Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)**

#### **Legislation**

Act No. 561/2004 Coll., on Pre-School, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education (the Education Act), and Act No. 563/2004 Coll., on Pedagogical Staff and on the Amendment to Some Other Acts. The equal access of all people to education and respect for individual needs in education are defined in the new Act in its introductory general provisions (Preamble) and penetrate the whole text of the Act. The Act contains special provisions relating to the education of national minorities, teaching religion, the education of pupils with special needs and extraordinarily gifted pupils. The Act does not contain any provision which could be interpreted as discriminatory. The Act came into effect on 1 January 2005.

#### **Conceptual Area**

##### ***Framework Educational Programmes***

The issues of human rights and multicultural education are comprehensively solved in the Framework Educational Programme for basic education (hereinafter referred to as “FEDBS”) which was approved by MEYS as a follow up to the Education Act. The aforementioned document (consolidated version) is published on [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz).

The issue of human rights is explicitly contained in an educational project “Man and Society”, where it focuses on forming positive civic attitudes, strengthening the orientation of desirable values, and which also integrates knowledge and skills from different branches, in particular humanitarian

subjects. It develops awareness of coexistence with European civilisation and cultural existence, and supports the adoption of values on the basis of which current democratic Europe is being built. The prevention of racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes, education towards tolerance and respect for human rights and education towards respect for the natural and cultural environment has become an important part of education in this area. "Man and Society" includes history and education towards citizenship and at the same time it projects into other educational areas as well as into the whole life of schools. It directly follows up the educational project "Man and the World", which describes "the world and the society" for pupils of primary schools.

The competences of a student who has successfully completed secondary education are formulated in draft Framework Educational Programmes for Secondary Education (hereinafter referred to as "FEPSE") which are currently being developed for individual branches and levels of education at secondary schools. They also define target requirements for the general and specific knowledge of a student, his/her skills, habits and requirements for further necessary attributes. An obligatory transversal topic "A Citizen in a Democratic Society", which substantially strengthens within the whole curriculum education towards human rights, democracy and thus towards multicultural coexistence and the elimination of extremism, is included in the general part of FEPSE.

When developing strategic material for **history**, MEYS concentrates on the history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in compliance with Recommendation No. 15 "on teaching history in the Europe of the 21<sup>st</sup> century" of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. In terms of school-taught history, the history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century is irreplaceable for understanding modern times as well as for understanding current relations in society. An integral part of education is the prevention of racist, xenophobic and extremist attitudes, education towards tolerance and respect for human rights, and education towards a natural and cultural environment and for the protection of artistic and cultural values.

### ***MEYS' Subsidy Programmes***

MEYS subsidises a range of civic associations. Programmes are supported either directly from MEYS sources or from sources of the Government which are transferred to MEYS for special purposes.

***The Programme of National Support for Work with Children and Youth*** for non-profit making (non-governmental) organisation – financially supported activities for children and youth covered by the Roma civic association by the amount of CZK 466,000. These funds were determined to cover a whole year of work with children in interest clubs – musical and cultural (payment of rent and equipment) - and to support summer camps.

Further the *Programme of Supporting Education in the Languages of National Minorities and Multicultural Education and the MEYS Programme on Supporting Integration of the Roma Community*.

### ***Support of Roma Students at Secondary Schools***

In the first half of 2004 MEYS provided a subsidy to support 1,069 students with the amount of CZK 5,021,063. In the second half of 2004 in total 895 pupils and students were supported, in the due term, by the amount of CZK 4,054,700 Kč.

### ***Education of Roma***

The new Education Act systematically solves necessary support for the education of Roma pupils. This Act does not separate basic and special schools, however it creates, within basic education, conditions for pupils to be provided education and support adequate to their specific educational needs (Section 16 of the aforementioned Act No. 561/2004 Coll.).

In 2004 MEYS recommended to founders of schools 52 new applications for establishing the post of an assistant for children from a socially disadvantaged environment.

### ***Education of Foreigners***

MEYS has dealt systematically and on an ongoing basis since 2000 with the issues of education of foreign nationals within the **Strategy on Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic** and in compliance with effective legal regulations it publishes and updates, on an ongoing basis, necessary instructions in the field of education of children of foreign nationals.

Consistent attention is paid to *multicultural education at basic and secondary schools and apprentice centres*. Multicultural education is at a very good level and is being developed in particular at schools with larger numbers of foreign pupils; such schools have long-term experience with such education. Comprehensive conditions needed for the gradual implementation of effective multicultural education of the whole Czech school population are created mainly by promoting *programmes* focusing on the multicultural education of pupils.

### ***Education of Teachers***

MEYS supported the publishing of the following informative documents for schools:

- The Protection of Copyrights (the text is disclosed on [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz))
- Extremism (the text is handed out at seminars for teachers)
- Miscellany Volume from the Summer School for Teachers of Civics (the text was sent to all participants of the Summer School)

## **5.6.2 Ministry of Culture (MK)**

### ***Regional Culture and Culture of Nationalities***

The Ministry of Culture and its subordinated agencies supported all cultural activities focused on eliminating negative social phenomena such as racism, xenophobia, or anti-Semitism. The grant programme for the support of cultural activities of members of national minorities living in the Czech Republic remained a priority. In 2004 subsidies supporting projects of civic associations of Czech citizens of Hungarian, German, Polish, Russian, Greek, Slovak, and Ukrainian nationalities and for implementing cultural activities of members of the Roma community or activities related to this ethnic group were provided by this programme. In 2004 the Ministry of Culture also launched the fourth grant programme supporting the integration of foreigners living in the Czech Republic, within which different types of cultural and cultural-educational activities are supported, including activities focusing on religion. Projects are determined not only for foreign nationals themselves but also for the majority society. Broadening knowledge of the cultures of other ethnic groups and of their differences leads to the removal of prejudice and the overcoming of racist attitudes.

### ***Protection of Goods of Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries***

As of 1 January 2005 the Museum of Roma Culture in Brno was transformed into an organisation partially covered by the state budget established by the Ministry of Culture, which should contribute to its financial stability and should be reflected in more consistent and better work to the benefit of the Roma ethnic group.

### ***Art and Libraries***

The Ministry of Culture supported in the area of art and libraries also activities which were to contribute to the cultivation of personality of people and promote a cultural dialogue, as well as mutual recognition of different cultures. In 2004 the grant-programme titled “Library of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, specifically for libraries, was offered. One of its sections supported work with national minorities and the integration of foreigners. Funds were provided for discussions and exhibitions aiming at the presentation of other cultures and for the purchase of books for national minorities.

### ***Preventative Activities***

In 2004 the Ministry of Culture participated in a number of preventative activities. They were for example an international conference “*Safety Museum*” which apart from other things dealt with the protection of cultural heritage and museums against extremism; programmes of the Educational Centre of the Museum of Memorial in Terezin (a seminar titled “*How to Teach on the Holocaust*”, seminars

relating to the issue of the holocaust, anti-Semitism, racism and intolerance in society, and the presentation of documentary films); *and* activities of the Jewish Museum in Prague (a cycle of lectures and programmes for basic schools, programmes for school “*The Holocaust in Documents*” and “*Reflection – Offenders, Rescuers and the Others*”, a lecture for adults “*The History of Anti-Semitism, Persecution, the Mass Murders of Jews (Shoa), Racism and Xenophobia*”, and a film presentation “*Holocaust in Film and Anti-Semitism*”).

Prevention against violence at football stadiums as an exhibition “*Football (1934 – 2004, 70 years from the Final in Rome)*” opened in the National Museum from November 2004 until March 2005. This was important since it represented football as a world-wide phenomenon worthy of being paid the attention of the National Museum and reminded of its original purpose at heart, mainly its positives features which are currently hidden behind the violence at auditoriums of stadiums.

### **Mass Media**

In 2004 Act No. 34/2004 Coll. amending Act No. 231/2001 Coll., on Operating Radio and Television Broadcasting and on the Amendment to Some Other Acts, as amended, was approved. A new legal regulation prohibits commercials or teleshopping discriminating on the basis of gender, race, colour, language, national or social origin or membership of a national or ethnic minority.

The programme for supporting the dissemination and reception of information in the languages of national minorities focused on publishing periodical press and operating radio and television broadcasting in the language of national minorities or spreading information on such minorities.

### **Churches and Religious Life**

In 2004 no problems with racist, xenophobic or other extremist manifestations were recorded with regard to the entities or representatives of organisations registered with the Ministry of Culture.

In 2004 administrative proceedings relating to registration of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in the Czech Republic finished. The proposal was filed in 2003 and it was rejected. In 2004 a religious society – the Jewish Centre Chai - filed a proposal for registration (the proposal was rejected) as did another religious society, the Headquarters of Muslim Associations. During the proceedings concerning the registration of the latter religious society it was ascertained that the filed proposal satisfied all requirements stipulated by law: no extremist, xenophobic, racist or other dangerous manifestations of this religious society were detected. Therefore the Ministry of Culture, on 30 August 2004, issued a decision on registration of the religious society the Headquarter of Muslim Associations as a legal entity operating in the Czech Republic.

The Ministry of Culture does not monitor the activities of unregistered religious groups. However conditions laid down in the provisions of Section 5 of Act No.3/2002 Coll. are obligatory not only for registered entities, which may be abolished when violating law, but also for religious associations unregistered with the Ministry of Culture.

## **5.6.3 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MLSA)**

### **Commission of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for Integration of Foreigners**

The Commission of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs for Integration of Foreigners (hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”) was established in 2004 as a follow up to Government Resolution No. 126 of 11 February 2004 *in order to implement the Strategy on Integration of Foreigners of 2003 and to ensure its further development in relation to the Czech Republic’s accession to the EU*. Its establishment was based on experiences gained from the activities of the previous *inter-ministerial Commission of the Minister of the Interior for Preparing and Implementing Czech Government Policy in the Field of Integration of Foreigners and Development of Relationships between Communities*, which was abolished in December 2003 as a consequence of the transfer of activities relating to the coordination of implementation of the Strategy on Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The Commission meets the function of an advisory body to the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs when meeting tasks required in Governmental Resolutions adopted in the field of integration of foreigners and helps the Minister in creating conditions for preparing and implementing the Czech

Government policy concerning the integration of foreigners.<sup>37</sup> The Commission is also a policy-making body and is involved mainly in formulating fundamental expert decisions and political recommendations in the area of integration of foreigners. However the core activities of the Commission are delegated to expert consultancy groups set up as working parties of the Commission (Expert Consultation Group for Statistics and research; Expert Consultation Group for Strategies and Legislation; Expert Consultation Group for Non-Profit-Making NGOs, Regions and Social Partners; and Ad Hoc Expert Consultation Group for Mapping Needs for Studies and Surveys). In 2004 three meetings of the Commission were held.

### **Subsidies**

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs announced another round of subsidies for 2004 within which projects aimed at prevention of negative social phenomena and crime prevention were supported by the amount of CZK 243,019,800. Furthermore, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs published on 17 December 2004 a call to submit projects within the grant framework “Operational Programme for Development of Human Resources, Measure 2.1 – Integration of Specific Groups of Inhabitants Endangered by Social Exclusion”. The Ministry will support the two following programmes.<sup>38</sup>

### ***Vocational Education of Social Service Staff Integration of Specific Target Groups***

The programme Integration of Specific Target Groups focuses on particular projects which will be implemented nation-wide and will strive to solve the problems of the specified target groups comprehensively and systematically.

The principal target groups will be as follows:

1. Ethnic minorities and persons from a different social and cultural environment including immigrants, which currently represent a low proportion within the population, however in the long-term perspective their number will grow. They may be characterised by high unemployment, low qualifications, low motivation to find a job and to educate themselves, dependency on social allowances, long-term and repeated unemployment. If they are employed they have only occasional jobs. The solution should be to seek the possibility of better and attractive employment through innovative measures, in particular at the local level.
2. Homeless persons who usually do not have any money or opportunities, whose access to social services is difficult, who are stigmatised in society, whose self-confidence is low and who display a tendency towards social isolation.
3. Persons released from prisons, who are stigmatised by imprisonment and for whom it is not possible to place them in the labour market, although the majority would be able to make a livelihood by working. The provision of social services is not sufficiently inter-connected with the activities of Labour Offices even though problems must be solved comprehensively (accommodation, material support, psychological advice, motivation, re-qualification, place in the labour market, and so forth).
4. Victims of crimes or domestic violence and persons commercially abused, victims of trafficking in human beings. The interference with the personal integrity of these people, the accumulation of psychological and physical disorder, frustration in life, low self-confidence and loss of trust in state administration bodies appear to be handicaps to their access to the labour market. If such people are exploited for a long time (prostitution, being a victim of trafficking in human beings) the loss of working habits is probable.

---

<sup>37</sup> The Commission consists of 26 members. Ministries participating in the implementation of the *Strategy on Integration of Foreigners*, the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, the Czech Statistical Office, academics, NGOs, associations of foreign nationals, Trade Unions and Employee Unions, Association of Regions of the Czech Republic, and the Union of Cities and Villages of the Czech Republic, are all involved in the work of the Commission.

<sup>38</sup> The Call is available on the web site: [www.mpsv.cz](http://www.mpsv.cz) and [www.esfcr.cz](http://www.esfcr.cz).

The aforementioned groups are considered to be principal, however the submission of projects aimed at other target groups which are difficult to integrate back into society and mainly into the labour market, is possible. Applicants for financial support may be regions, organisations established by regions, municipalities, organisations established by municipalities, associations of municipalities, non-profit-making organisations involved in social services, civic associations carrying out activities under Act No. 83/1990 Coll., on Associating Citizens, generally beneficial societies under Act No. 248/1995 Coll. on Generally Beneficial Societies, religious legal persons established under Act No. 3/2002 Coll., on Churches and Religious Societies, organisational units of the state, organisations partially covered by the state budget and operating in the social area, educational institutions such as schools and universities, and legal persons associated on the basis of common interest where such persons are the above-mentioned private non-profit-making organisations – for example associations. *The deadline for submitting proposals was 11 March 2005. The allowable costs of the project will be financed up to 100%, namely 80% from the financial means of the European Social Fund and 20 % from national co-financing. The results of this public procurement as of 30 April 2005 are as follows:*

***1<sup>st</sup> round of the Call of MLSA in Measure 2.1 of the Operational Programme – Human Resources Development***

*Name of the measure: Integration of Specific Groups of Inhabitants Endangered by Social Exclusion*

*Total number of projects filed: 70*

*Total financial requirements: CZK 428,411,489.00č*

*Of this amount:*

***Support Programme A: Education of Providers and Contracting Authorities of Social Services***

*Total number of projects filed: 52*

*Total financial requirements for Support Programme A: CZK 259,392,158.00*

***Support Programme B: Integration of Specific Target Groups***

*Total number of projects filed: 18*

*Total financial requirements for Support Programme B: CZK 16,901,9331.00*

*In terms of feasibility eight projects were rejected, thus 62 projects were submitted for factual assessment. The next round will be announced in September 2005.*

**Measures to Prevent and Combat Extremism Adopted within the Scope of Competencies of MLSA for 2005**

MLSA will continue to earmark funds within its subsidy policy for the programme of social prevention and crime prevention and thus it will support projects aimed at preventing and combating extremism. During the course of 2005 the Ministry will select projects submitted within Measure 2.1. of the Operational Programme for Development of Human Resources - and according to the respective Operational Manual it will control and evaluate supported projects. In the second half of 2005 MLSA will announce another call for the submission of projects within this Measure.

## **VI. Conclusion**

In 2004 no development trends which would mean an actual threat to the democratic fundamentals of the state by extremists were recorded in the Czech Republic. The situation in extremism prior to, as well as after, the Czech Republic's accession to the European Union was comparable with other EU Member States.

The Czech extremist scene did not see considerable change. In 2004 this scene was only marginal. Long-lasting disunity and fragmentation of both the right-wing and left-wing extremist scenes, in particular its anarcho-autonomous segment, recorded in 2003, disabled the unification of activities of extremist entities.

The neo-Nazi National Resistance and left-wing extremist Antifascist Action have remained the most militant organisations. However, no findings on the operations of Islamic extremists in the Czech Republic were gathered.

In 2004, when compared with 2003, a growth of 9.3% (366 in 2004, 335 in 2003) in the number of crimes concerned was detected. The number of offenders increased by 20% (401 in 2004, 334 in 2003). With regard to the manner in which criminal prosecution was terminated the proposal for submission of an indictment prevailed. In terms of the composition of criminal offences, crimes under Sections 260, 261, and 261a (the support and propagation of movements aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms) and Section 198 (the incitement of national or racial hatred) of the Criminal Code prevailed. In 2004, as in 2003, no homicide attempts or murders with a racial context were committed.

Offenders of crimes having an extremist context were both skinhead movement supporters and citizens of the majority society who do not have any links to any right-wing extremist movements. Neither did the profile of victims see any change, being mainly members of the Roma ethnic minority.

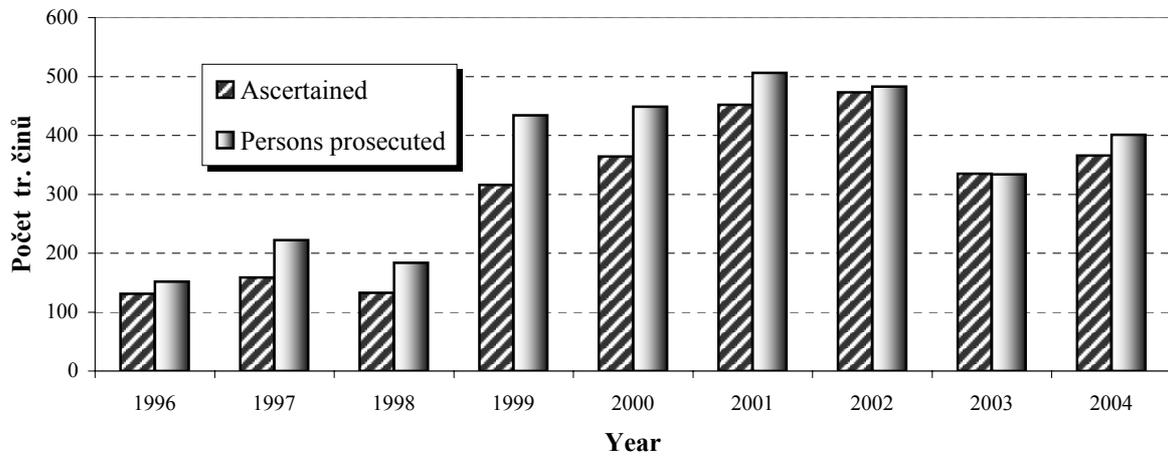
Nevertheless, during the course of 2004 areas within which a negative trend was identified, requiring increased attention from the side of state administration bodies, emerged. These were mainly a continuing growth in the number of concerts of right-wing extremist music bands in the Czech Republic which were attended by foreign “partners”, and misuse of the Internet and other communication technologies by extremists, but also existing xenophobic attitudes within Czech society and the existence of “passive” racism. Increased attention was also devoted to the general issue of spectator violence which displayed an increase in 2004. Therefore an emphasis was also put not only on anti-extremist national policy and on the meeting of measures by all involved parties but mainly on an active and diversified approach towards new problems emerging in the area concerned. International cooperation and consistent exchange of experience with foreign partners, reflecting the international nature of extremism, remains a priority. Preventative activities at all levels of state administration bodies are stressed as well. In this regard attention should be paid to, for example, implementation of the “the National Strategy for Police Work Relating to Ethnic and National Minorities in the Czech Republic”, in the development of which policemen dealing with the issues of extremism are involved.

Since 2004 the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Combating Extremism, Racism and Xenophobia, which is an advisory body to the Minister of the Interior, and the Working Group for Combating Extremism of the V4 Countries and Austria, decided to set up annual priorities to which increased attention will be paid and which will be evaluated. As priorities for 2005 both forums specified **anti-Semitism, anti-globalism, racist and extremist attacks endangering asylum seekers, migrants and foreign workers, misuse of the Internet and state-of-the-art information technologies by extremist groups, and Islamic extremism.**

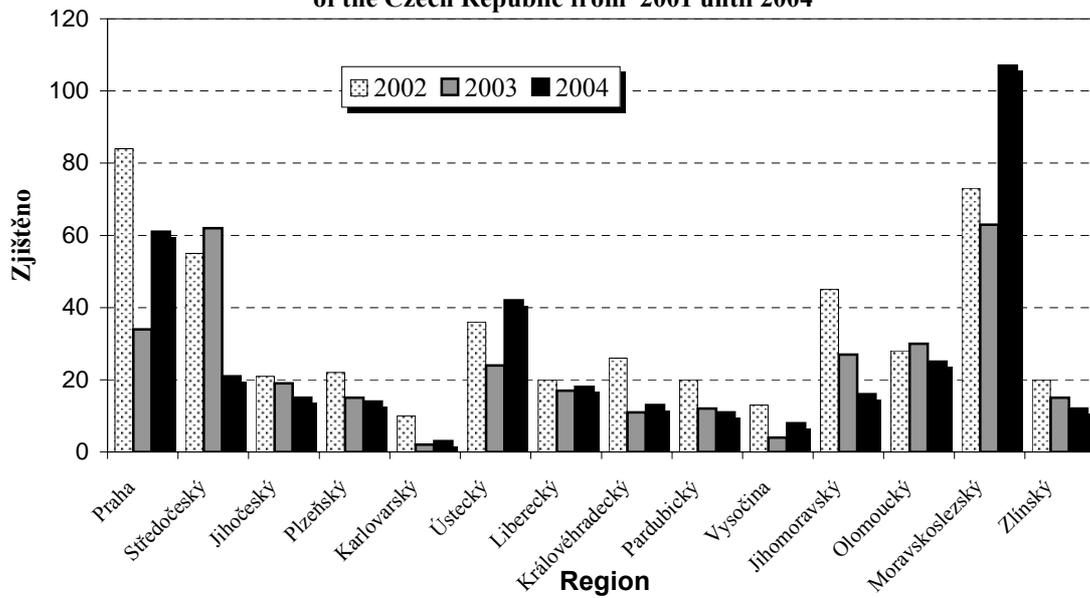
Combating extremist crime continues to require the support of other involved entities, including the non-governmental and private sector, which may to a large extent contribute to the success of anti-extremist policy.

Diagram 1

**The Development of Crimes with an Extremist Context and Their Offenders Ascertained in the Czech Republic from 1996 until 2004**



**Crimes with an Extremist Context in Regions (according to a new regional division) of the Czech Republic from 2001 until 2004**



**Proportion of Individual Regions (according to a new regional division) in Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2004**

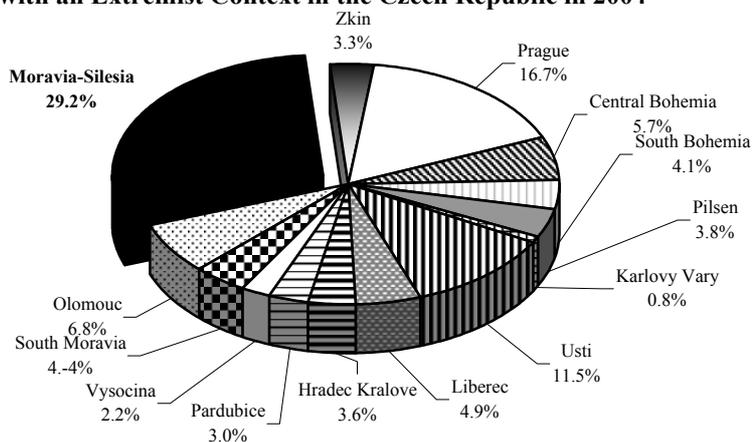


Table 1, Diagram 2

The Number of Crimes with an Extremist Context in the Czech Republic in 2003 and 2004

Year		2003	2004	Factual change	
Region	District	Number of crimes	Number of crimes		
Prague	Praha	34	61	27	
CB	Benesov	0	2	2	
	Beroun	4	1	-3	
	Kladno	7	6	-1	
	Kolin	0	0	0	
	Kutna Hora	3	0	-3	
	Melnik	5	5	0	
	Mlada Boleslav	1	2	1	
	Nymburk	1	2	1	
	Prague - vychod (East)	40	0	-40	
	Prague- zapad (West)	0	0	0	
	Pribram	1	3	2	
	Rakovnik	0	0	0	
	Total		62	21	-41
SB	Ceske Budejovice	10	6	-4	
	Cesky Krumlov	0	0	0	
	Jindrichuv Hradec	0	1	1	
	Pelhrimov	0	4	4	
	Pisek	3	0	-3	
	Prachatice	3	2	-1	
	Strakonice	1	3	2	
	Tabor	2	3	1	
	Total		19	19	0
	WB	Domazlice	3	1	-2
Cheb		2	0	-2	
Karlovy Vary		0	1	1	
Klatovy		1	0	-1	
Pilsen - mesto (City)		9	6	-3	
Pilsen - jih (South)		1	0	-1	
Pilsen - sever (North)		1	0	-1	
Rokycany		0	6	6	
Sokolov		0	2	2	
Tachov		0	1	1	
Total			17	17	0
NB		Ceska Lipa	3	4	1
		Decin	2	4	2
	Chomutov	1	1	0	
	Jablonec n. Nisou	1	3	2	
	Liberec	12	11	-1	
	Litomerice	5	7	2	
	Louny	1	1	0	
	Most	8	19	11	
	Teplice	1	6	5	
	Usti n. Labem	6	4	-2	
	Total		40	60	20

Year		2003	2004	Factual change	
Region	District	Number of crimes	Number of crimes		
EB	Havlickuv Brod	0	0	0	
	Hradec Kralove	3	2	-1	
	Chrudim	3	1	-2	
	Jicin	0	3	3	
	Nachod	5	5	0	
	Pardubice	9	7	-2	
	Rychnov n. Kneznou	0	1	1	
	Semily	1	0	-1	
	Svitavy	0	1	1	
	Trutnov	3	2	-1	
	Usti n. Orlici	0	2	2	
	Total		24	24	0
	SM	Blansko	4	4	0
Brno - mesto		15	7	-8	
Brno - venkov		2	1	-1	
Breclav		0	0	0	
Hodonin		4	3	-1	
Jihlava		1	2	1	
Kromeriz		2	3	1	
Prostejov		2	1	-1	
Trebic		1	0	-1	
Uherske Hradiste		4	5	1	
Vyskov		0	0	0	
Zlin		5	3	-2	
Znojmo		2	1	-1	
Zdar n. Sazavou	2	2	0		
Total		44	32	-12	
NM	Bruntal	4	3	-1	
	Frydek - Mistek	3	2	-1	
	Jesenik	7	8	1	
	Karvina	16	11	-5	
	Novy Jicin	3	5	2	
	Olomouc	12	7	-5	
	Opava	5	35	30	
	Ostrava	32	51	19	
	Prerov	5	6	1	
	sumperk	4	3	-1	
	Vsetin	4	1	-3	
	Celkem	95	132	37	
	Czech Republic - total		335	366	31

Share of Individual Regions in Crimes with an Extremist Context Ascertained in the Czech Republic in 2004

