

CZECH REPUBLIC REVIEW

I. Justice System

B. Quality of justice

Training of justice professionals (including judges, prosecutors, lawyers, court staff, clerks/trainees)

Under the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, the Czech Republic supported recommendations to intensify efforts to train professionals, especially members of the judiciary and law enforcement, to conduct prompt and independent investigations and effective prosecution of hate crimes and racist incidents (A/HRC/53/4).

C. Efficiency of the justice system

In light of its Universal Periodic Review, the Czech Republic supported recommendations to strengthen efforts to effectively prevent, combat and investigate cases of trafficking in persons, including the trafficking, sale and sexual exploitation of children as well as sexual exploitation of children in cyberspace. Support was also given tot he recommendation to establish and strengthen support mechanisms for persons with disabilities, rather than restricting their legal capacities through the courts (A/HRC/53/4).

III. Media pluralism and media freedom

C. Framework for journalists' protection, transparency and access to documents

Rules and practices guaranteeing journalists' independence and safety, including as regards protection of journalistic sources and communications, referring also, if applicable, to followup given to alerts lodged with the Council of Europe's Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists

Under the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, the Czech Republic supported recommendations to ensure that officials refrain from any interference with the legitimate exercise of the right to freedom of expression of journalists and media workers, that their effective protection against any kind of threat, pressure, intimidation or attack is guaranteed, and that illegal acts against journalists are thoroughly investigated and those responsible are brought to justice (A/HRC/53/4)

IV. Other institutional issues related to checks and balances

B. Independent authorities

Independence, resources, capacity and powers of national human rights institutions ('NHRIs'), of ombudsman institutions if different from NHRIs, of equality bodies if different from NHRIs and of supreme audit institutions

Under the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of the Czech Republic, the country



supported recommendations to expand the role of the Office of the Ombudsman and establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles and allocating sufficient resources (A/HRC/53/4).

E. Initiatives to foster a rule of law culture

Other

Adoption of international instruments - In 2023, under the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of the Czech Republic, the country supported recommendations to ratify and implement the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence ('Istanbul Convention') (<u>A/HRC/53/4</u>).

