

## CZECH REPUBLIC

	Key steps since 2011	Assessment
<b>Education</b>	<p>Announced amendment of Decree on education forbidding education of socially disadvantaged children according to the educational programmes for pupils with disabilities.</p> <p>Amendment of Decree obliging the school counselling facilities to periodically review the special educational needs of pupils.</p> <p>Adoption of the Action plan of measures to execute the Judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case D.H and others vs. the Czech Republic, setting up the legal guarantees to ensure objective placement of children in education programmes for the mentally disadvantaged, without discrimination.</p>	<p><i>Further legislative efforts combined with effective implementation and proper monitoring are needed to eliminate enrolment of Roma children from socially disadvantaged environments into special-needs education.</i></p> <p><i>Ensuring access to, and promoting participation of, Roma children in quality inclusive pre-school education needs to be reinforced.</i></p> <p><i>Promotion of vocational education and training should also be prioritised.</i></p>
<b>Employment</b>	<p>Standard active employment policy tools are provided, increased attention from the labour offices' staff is paid to persons defined as needing special attention.</p> <p>The specific employment support programmes for Roma are provided by NGOs and financed mostly by the ESF or ERDF.</p> <p>Municipal initiatives on including social considerations into public procurement.</p>	<p><i>Extending social considerations in public procurement by municipalities to increase employability of Roma is a positive step which should be scaled up.</i></p> <p><i>The capacity of public employment services should be further developed to allow for individualised/targeted services for Roma job seekers. In this connection, the capacity of the Agency for Social Inclusion should be also reinforced.</i></p> <p><i>Support services for improving employability within temporary public work schemes should be ensured with a view to effective integration of Roma into the open labour market. In addition, promoting social enterprises and Roma entrepreneurship, reaching out to private employers, targeting Roma under the Youth Guarantee, training and employing Roma civil servants should be considered.</i></p> <p><i>Fighting and monitoring discrimination in the labour market needs to be ensured.</i></p>
<b>Health</b>	<p>Preventive outreach measures targeting Roma are solely implemented by the programme of health and social assistants in excluded localities. The implementation of the programme is provided by the NGO.</p> <p>Notification to health insurance companies about discriminatory practices of some healthcare professionals.</p>	<p><i>Further improving the access of Roma to healthcare should be addressed more systematically.</i></p> <p><i>Measures towards healthcare professionals to avoid discriminatory practices should also be reinforced.</i></p>
<b>Housing</b>	<p>Approval of Concept of Homelessness until 2020.</p> <p>Use of European Regional Development Fund for housing interventions.</p>	<p><i>Improving access of Roma to quality social housing should be part of an integrated approach with a long-term objective of desegregation.</i></p> <p><i>EU structural funds should not be used for any kind of sub-standard housing, as is currently the case with social hostels ("ubytovny").</i></p>

		<i>Attention needs to be paid to unlawful practices in the property market.</i>
<b>Anti-discrimination</b>	<p>Awareness raising activities. Support to victims of discrimination provided by the Ombudsman. Free legal assistance provided by the Czech Bar Association.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The effective practical enforcement of Antidiscrimination laws needs to be ensured.</i></li> <li>• <i>Effective measures should also be taken to combat anti-Roma rhetoric and hate speech.</i></li> <li>• <i>Desegregation measures need to be reinforced.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<p>Roma inclusion has been supported by national and EU funds under various mainstream policy measures, including social inclusion measures. Main support has been provided via:</p> <p><u>ERDF</u>: €14 million for housing interventions</p> <p>In the 2007-2013 financial period, Czech Republic has allocated 9,7 % (~€ 365 million) of its total ESF budget for integrating disadvantaged people.</p>	<p><i>Sufficient allocation of European Structural and Investment Funds including in the specific investment priority for the integration of marginalised communities such as Roma, should be ensured in the 2014-2020 programming period. Furthermore, Roma inclusion should be mainstreamed into all relevant policy areas, including under the thematic objectives on social inclusion, education and employment.</i></p> <p><i>All existing possibilities to support Roma inclusion, including under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) should be considered.</i></p> <p><i>Strong cooperation and coordination between the National Roma Contact Point and the authorities responsible for the management of European Structural and Investment Funds is necessary to ensure the successful mobilisation of EU funds for Roma integration, efficiency and sustainability of measures as well as proper monitoring of their impact. Funding should be mobilised to support capacity building of Roma NGOs.</i></p>
<b>Structural priorities that should be considered</b>	<p><i>Mainstream policy reforms particularly in the fields of education, employment, health and housing should contribute to support Roma inclusion. Measures targeting Roma should be carried out within an integrated approach supported by adequate sustainable funding. The monitoring of the impact of these measures should be ensured. Mapping and strengthening the territorial aspects of policy making should focus on the most disadvantaged regions. A constructive dialogue with the civil society, as well as close cooperation with local and regional authorities should be ensured.</i></p>	