



European network against racism

ENAR Shadow Report 2011-2012

ENAR SHADOW REPORT

Racism and related discriminatory practices in the Czech Republic

Linda Janků, Miroslav Knob, Václav Krajňanský,
Anna Matušinová, Zuzana Melcrová, Hubert
Smekal

**The Czech Centre for Human Rights and
Democratization**

Racism is a reality in the lives of many ethnic and religious minorities in the EU. However, the extent and manifestations of this reality are often unknown and undocumented, especially in official data sources, meaning that it can be difficult to analyse the situation and to establish solutions to it.

The ENAR Shadow Reports are produced to fill the gaps in the official and academic data, to offer an alternative to that data and to offer an NGO perspective on the realities of racism in the EU and its Member States. NGO reports are, by their nature, based on many sources of data - official, unofficial, academic and experiential. This allows access to information which, while sometimes not backed up by the rigours of academic standards, provides the vital perspective of those that either are or work directly with those affected by racism. It is this that gives NGO reports their added value, complementing academic and official reporting.

Published by the European Network against Racism (ENAR) in Brussels, March 2013, with the support of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - PROGRESS (2007-2013), the Open Society Foundations, and the ENAR Foundation.

PROGRESS is implemented by the European Commission. It was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment, social affairs and equal opportunities area, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 Strategy goals in these fields. The seven-year Programme targets all stakeholders who can help shape the development of appropriate and effective employment and social legislation and policies, across the EU-27, EFTA-EEA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries. For more information see: <http://ec.europa.eu/progress>

The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission or of the Open Society Foundations.

ENAR reserves the right not to be responsible for the accuracy, completeness or quality of the information provided in this report. Liability claims regarding damage caused by the use of any information provided, including any information which is incomplete or incorrect, will therefore be rejected.



1. Executive summary

As well as a general analysis of racism and other forms of discrimination, this report provides an in depth look at the topic of Islamophobia in the Czech Republic. The report covers the period from March 2011 to March 2012. Unlike many western European countries, the Czech Republic has not experienced serious problems relating to the Muslim minority. The low salience of the issue is a result of the relatively low number of Muslims in the Czech Republic and of the fact that the majority are university-educated people working in high-skilled jobs. Unfortunately, the level of latent xenophobia and Islamophobia in the society is relatively high. Knowledge about Islam remains scant and media reporting is often misleading and (or) uninformed.

The most pressing issues are the following:

- The period under review saw increased tensions between the majority and the Roma minority. Public rallies incited by far-right groups occurred in disadvantaged regions with high unemployment and a larger proportion of Roma population. On several occasions police intervention was necessary to prevent the situation from escalating into violence.
- Some violent attacks occurred involving Roma both as perpetrators and as victims. There were several false reports of assaults, arousing xenophobic sentiments in society. In particular, the tabloid newspapers aggravated the situation with unprofessional reporting which simply echoed unfounded rumours.
- It is imperative that the Czech Republic thoroughly reforms its education system. Roma children are disproportionately sent to elementary schools with simplified curricula, worsening their further education and work prospects. The segregation of the Roma population from the rest of the Czech population thus begins from childhood and is reinforced over time. While piecemeal reforms are continuously adopted, a bold systemic change which would include Roma children in the mainstream education is needed. Furthermore, efforts should be taken to raise awareness among Roma parents of the importance of education for their children.
- The overall low level of education of the Roma minority leads to their concentration in low-skilled jobs and high unemployment rates. Moreover, employers are often reluctant to employ Roma and discrimination in recruitment persists. Availability of legal assistance for victims of discrimination in the labour market should be improved.
- The worrying process of “ghettoization” continues, as the Roma often move to peripheries of cities and form segregated communities with high unemployment, lower quality infrastructure and high crime rates. The Czech Republic must develop an effective strategy for public housing and provide protection against abuse from owners of lodging-houses.
- It is essential to open public health insurance to immigrants.

2. Table of contents

1. Executive summary.....	2
2. Table of contents	3
3. Introduction	4
4. Significant developments in the country during the period under review	5
5. Special focusm: Islamophobia	7
6. Access and full participation in all collective areas of society	13
6.1 Racism and related discrimination in employment.....	14
6.2 Racism and related discrimination in education	16
6.3 Racism and related discrimination in housing	19
6.4 Racism and related discrimination in health.....	22
6.5 Racism and related discrimination in access to goods and services.....	25
6.6 Racism and related discrimination in political participation	27
6.7 Racism and related discrimination in media.....	29
6.8 Racism and related discrimination in criminal justice	31
7. Civil society assessment and critique in ensuring protection of fundamental rights	37
8. Good practices.....	41
9. National recommendations	43
10. Conclusion	45
Bibliography	46
Annex 1: List of abbreviations and terminology	60

3. Introduction

This ENAR Shadow Report seeks to assess the situation in the Czech Republic in the fields of racism and discrimination in various areas which are listed below. The report covers the period from March 2011 to March 2012.

An assessment was conducted in areas of employment, education, housing, health, access to goods and services, political participation, media and criminal justice. It also provides civil society's assessment and critique of the protection of fundamental rights in the Czech Republic.

There have been no significant changes in regard to targeted communities since last year's report. The Roma minority continues to be the community most vulnerable to racism and discrimination. Other vulnerable communities include Romanians, Albanians, Ukrainians and the Muslim population.

In the period under review, some legal reforms were adopted in the areas of employment (amendments to the Employment Act and the Labour Act), education (two amendments to regulatory decrees took effect in September 2011), healthcare (the amendment to the Public Health Insurance Act) and asylum and migration policy (an amendment to the Residence Act). For more information about these legal developments, see Chapter 4.

In the fields of housing, criminal justice and political participation, the Government or Ministries approved various strategic documents (the Concept of Housing Policy to 2020, the Strategy Combating Social Exclusion, the Conception for Roma Integration for 2010-2013 and the Ministry of Interior's draft of the Citizenship Act submitted to the Government in February 2012).

There were no notable changes relating to media or access to goods and services.

This report specifically focuses on racism and discrimination against Muslim communities in the Czech Republic. It appears that latent Islamophobia in the Czech Republic is widespread; Muslims face prejudice from the majority population, and are portrayed negatively in the media. While this is a concern, it seems that the Muslim community do not generally experience the serious problems faced by some other groups such as the Roma. The report provides an overview of the Muslim community's position in the Czech Republic, examines different forms of discrimination and racism against Muslims, and assesses causes and consequences of hostility towards Muslims.

4. Significant developments in the country during the period under review

The composition of vulnerable groups has remained largely unchanged during the period from March 2011 to March 2012. Roma persist in being the minority most frequently subject to racism and discrimination. A number of legal reforms¹ were adopted in response to the economic crisis which have faced serious criticism².

Amendments to the Employment Act (Act No. 435/2004 Coll.) and the Labour Act (Act No. 262/2006 Coll.)³ came into force on January 1, 2012. These changes resulted in a narrowing of the grounds of illegal discrimination in Czech employment law. In the field of education, two amendments to regulatory decrees took effect in September 2011. While these may be a step towards greater participation of Roma children in mainstream education, significant reforms are still needed. In the area of healthcare, the amendment of the Public Health Insurance Act established two tiers of healthcare⁴ and increased the charges for hospital stays nearly twofold.

Following an amendment to the Residence Act which entered into force January 1, 2011, the Asylum and Migration Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior has been created to deal with immigration. The Ministry of the Interior became a body of appeal.

In the field of political participation, the Ministry of the Interior submitted a draft of the Citizenship Act to the Government in February 2012 which would allow for dual citizenship.

The Government adopted a number of strategic and conceptual instruments in the fields of healthcare, housing, criminal justice, social integration of Roma and political participation. The Government's resolution of 29 February 2012 calls for the amendment of the legal regulation of commercial health insurance in relation to immigrants by the end of 2012. The Ministry of Regional Development's "Concept of Housing Policy to 2020" has been drawn up to improve the accessibility of housing for groups at risk of social exclusion by 'stimulating supply and demand'. In the field of criminal justice, the Strategy for Combating Social Exclusion was adopted by the Government in September

¹ For example, it became more difficult to qualify for unemployment benefits, parenthood benefits were reduced, and the "reduced" VAT rate (for food and medicine) increased from 10% to 14% (the base VAT rate did not change). Aktuálně, *Vláda Vám mění život. Velký přehled schválených reforem*, <http://aktualne.centrum.cz/finance/grafika/2011/12/08/vladni-reformy-prehled/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

² E.g. Former Constitutional Court judge Eliška Wagnerová. Kozelka, Petr, *Vládní reformy jsou šílené a asociální*, <http://www.novinky.cz/domaci/261554-vladni-reformy-jsou-silene-a-asocialni-rika-soudkyne-us-wagnerova.html>, accessed 20 August 2012.

³ Both acts can be accessed at <http://portal.gov.cz/app/zakony/?path=/portal/obcan/>.

⁴ Patients may be charged extra for certain "above-standard," more sophisticated methods of treatment that exceed the "standard" level of health care provided. Government Information Center, *Reforma zdravotnictví*, <http://icv.vlada.cz/cz/reforma-zdravotnictvi/>, accessed 20 August 2012.

2011. It seeks to enact legal measures in order to introduce free legal services for socially marginalised crime victims.

Anti-Roma sentiment has increased in the Czech society, accompanied by anti-Roma demonstrations and protests, especially in the border region of Šluknovský výběžek. Ordinary citizens as well as right-wing extremists engaged in the protests. The demonstrations featured calls for ethnic violence. A number of politicians joined in the anti-Roma rhetoric.

5. Special focus: Islamophobia

The population of the Czech Republic is largely homogeneous with a relatively low proportion of minorities. The Muslim community is rather small, numbering approx. 11 000 persons⁵, i.e. only about 0.1% of a population of nearly 10.6 million. This includes both actively practising and non-practising Muslims. The largest communities are organised in the two biggest cities – Prague and Brno⁶, where the only two mosques in the Czech Republic are situated. Muslims in the Czech Republic come from many different backgrounds and countries. The community is highly heterogeneous and it is not clear that we can talk about a single Muslim community at all.

In general, Islamophobia is not a “hot” political topic in the Czech Republic. News concerning Muslims in the Czech Republic enters the media only occasionally, primarily in local politics; mainstream parties and the Government do not emphasise Islam-related issues at national level⁷. Muslims are generally not targets of violent attacks. Animosity towards them is manifested through other channels, such as distrust, negative prejudice and a low overall level of tolerance in the Czech society⁸.

5.1 Muslim communities in the Czech Republic

The term “Muslim community” can be used only as an umbrella term. In practice, it is not possible to talk about a homogeneous and united “community” of Muslims in the Czech Republic⁹. The structure of Muslim population is loose and highly diverse in terms of ethnicity (nationality), belief, language and cultural background¹⁰.

⁵Topinka, Daniel, 2006, *Integrační proces muslimů v České republice – pilotní projekt*, research report for the Ministry of Interior, p. 49.

⁶ Disputes persist concerning which sites can be called mosques. According to some opinions, the only mosque is in Brno, whereas some also consider sites (in addition to Brno and Prague) in Teplice and Hradec Králové to be mosques.

⁷ In its 2010 Coalition Agreement, the Government omitted the issue of Islam and Muslims completely. Government of the Czech Republic, *Coalition Agreement on the Formation of a Coalition of Budgetary Accountability, the Rule of Law and the Fight against Corruption*, <http://www.vlada.cz/assets/media-centrum/dulezite-dokumenty/Coalition-Agreement-.pdf>, accessed 29 July 2012.

⁸ This is also confirmed by V. Sářka, the head of the Islamic Foundation in Prague: “Open and strong manifestations of Islamophobia appear only from a rather small group of people, both politicians and anti-Muslim activists and bloggers... However, latent Islamophobia is very widespread in the Czech Republic and it follows mostly from the poor knowledge about Islam, Muslims, their history and current situation in Muslim countries.” Interview with Vladimír Sářka, conducted by email on 3 August 2012.

⁹ According to B. Ostřanský, “[t]he idea that Muslims in the Czech Republic form a coherent and united mass which pulls together and coordinates its activities must be strongly rejected as absolutely unfounded and misleading.” Mendel, Miloš, and Ostřanský, Bronislav, and Rataj, Tomáš, *Islám v srdci Evropy* (Praha: Academia, 2007), p. 411.

¹⁰Bečka, Jiří, and Mendel, Miloš, *Islám a české země* (Praha: Votobia, 1998).

The Turkish Muslims are an example of a small homogenous group distinct from the majority Muslims of Arab origin. Based in Prague, they run their own prayer room lead by a Turkish imam, and their ceremonies are held in Turkish. Melichárek, Tomáš, *Turecká komunita a*

The exact number of Muslims living in the Czech Republic is difficult to determine, due to a lack of official statistics. According to one study¹¹, there were 11,235 Muslims in the Czech Republic in 2006, of which 62.6 % came from a Turkic Sunni background (i.e. the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asian countries) and 28.6% from an Arab Sunni background (i.e. from the Middle East and African countries). Shi'a Muslims accounted for only about 2% of the Czech Muslim population. Interestingly, long-settled Muslims are generally university educated and Czech-speaking people working as highly skilled professionals.¹² Only a small proportion of Muslims in the Czech Republic actively practice their religion. Around 2 000 Muslims actively participate in the religious life of the community, of which approx. 200 or 300 are Czech converts to Islam¹³. According to the 2011 census, 3,385 people listed Islam as their religion¹⁴.

The official status of the Muslim community is recognised in accordance with the Religious Freedom and Position of Churches and Religious Communities of 2001 Act (No. 3/2002). An umbrella organisation, the Office of Muslim Communities (Ústředí muslimských obcí), was registered in 2004 by the Ministry of Culture as a religious community of the first level¹⁵.

With regard to the internal structure and territorial organisation of the Muslim community, several associations and communities have been formed across the country. The two leading communities, the Islamic Foundation in Prague (Islámská nadace v Praze) and the Islamic Foundation in Brno (Islámská nadace v Brně), are located in the two biggest cities. Other significant Muslim communities and prayer rooms are located in the cities of Teplice, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Plzeň and Karlovy Vary¹⁶. Apart from organisations founded

modlitebna v Praze', *PŘES: Čtvrtletník o migraci a lidských právech*, VI, 20-21 (2010), pp. 36-37.

¹¹Topinka, Daniel, 2006, pp. 43-50.

¹²Židková, K. 2011, 'Alrawi: Už deset let jen vysvětlují, že nejsme teroristé', *Brněnský deník*, 11 September, <http://brnensky.denik.cz/rozhovor/alrawi-uz-deset-let-jen-vysvetluji-ze-nejsme.html>, accessed 15 July 2012.

¹³ These numbers follow from Topinka's study, as well as estimates of representatives of Muslim community but some estimates reach even 400 or 500 persons. There is a notably high proportion of Czech women converts. See Mendel, Miloš, et al., 2007 pp. 408, 428-429.

¹⁴ To put the number into perspective, there were 3699 people who subscribed to Islam in the 2001 census and only 495 in 1991 (the census then did not include foreigners living in the Czech Republic on a long-term or permanent residence permit). Czech Statistical Office, *Obyvatelstvo podle náboženské víry podle krajů - podrobné údaje*, www.scitani.cz/sldb2011/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo_podle_nabozenske_viry_podle_kraju_podrobnou_udaje/%24File/sldb_podrobna_vira.xls, accessed 15 July 2012; and Czech Statistical Office, 2001, *Obyvatelstvo podle náboženského vyznání a pohlaví podle výsledků sčítání lidu v letech 1921, 1930, 1950, 1991 a 2001*, [http://notes3.czso.cz/csu/2008edicniplan.nsf/t/24003E05ED/\\$File/4032080119.pdf](http://notes3.czso.cz/csu/2008edicniplan.nsf/t/24003E05ED/$File/4032080119.pdf), accessed 15 July 2012.

¹⁵ The law recognises two levels of registration. In obtaining the second-level registration, a religious community is entitled to some additional rights, such as receiving financial support from the state, founding its own hospitals and schools, etc. The Office of Muslim Communities will be able to apply for the second level of registration in 2014.

¹⁶ For more information and contacts on individual Muslim communities in the Czech Republic see Al-islam.cz, *Mešity a modlitebny v ČR a SR*, <http://al-islam.cz/mesity-a-modlitebny/mesity-a-modlitebny-v-cr-a-sr.html>, accessed 7 August 2012.

and run by the members of Muslim community themselves, there are no non-governmental organisations (NGOs) which specifically support or work with Muslims in the Czech Republic¹⁷.

A number of anti-Islamic initiatives have developed in response to the formation of several large Muslim communities across the Czech Republic. These often include protests against the planned construction of mosques¹⁸ or expressions of discontent and opposition against the presence of Muslims.

5.2 Islamophobia in public sphere

We define both 'Islamophobia' and 'the public sphere' broadly in order to cover a wide range of behaviour. Islamophobia refers to manifestations (e.g. speeches, writings, drawings, songs, gesticulation and other non-verbal means of communication) which take a deeply negative stance towards Islam. The public sphere is understood as a residual category – it includes all manifestations which are not performed completely in private.

Due to the small number of Muslims in the Czech, Muslim-related issues have little impact on the national political agenda. Media coverage of the topic and the information provided is scarce, with the media focusing only on "sensationalist" topics intended increase readership. However, Miloš Mendel asserts that the media's role is very important: "Paradoxically, the main cause of current Islamophobia in the Czech Republic is not the personal experience of the Czech population with Muslim communities and their 'difference' [I]t is a result of following shallow news in some media ..."¹⁹

Presentation of Muslims in the Czech media is fragmented, and the public cannot therefore create a comprehensive view of the Muslim community. Czech Islamophobia is characterized by "demagogic polemics ..., presentations of lies and half-truths, [or] shallow interpretations showing a lack of knowledge about the problem ..."²⁰ Muslims are presented as foreigners and their difference is emphasised. According to an analysis by Lucie Sedláčková;

[t]he media work with unverified prognoses which provoke fears of a possible increase in Muslim extremism. The main topics are terrorism, violence in Muslim countries, inequality of women, religious fanaticism and political oppression. The result is xenophobic moods in the society, not only among the far right

¹⁷ The only exceptions are associations of people interested in Arabic culture, such as the Czech-Arab Society (Česko-arabská společnost), Opus Arabicum, or Baraka: the Centre for Cultures of the Middle East and North Africa (Baraka: Centrum pro kultury Blízkého Východu a Severní Afriky), which organise public discussions and lectures, and publish informational bulletins and books on selected issues of interest concerning the Arab world.

¹⁸ Such plans usually provoke strong displays of opposition and anti-Islamic views. As Mendel observes, "Czech Islamophobia is strong inasmuch that it repeatedly prevented construction of a mosque in some places ... [T]here is an unsubstantiated fear of an influx of terrorism, of which mosques are thought to be the centres ..." Mendel, Miloš, et al., 2007, p. 135.

¹⁹ Mendel, Miloš, et al., 2007, pp. 135-136.

²⁰ Ibid., pp. 134-135. As Mendel further specifies, "[t]here is a constant reference to a low level of tolerance of Muslims towards other religions, to a higher crime rate among the Muslim immigrants or to some ambiguous or archaic aspects of Islamic belief." Ibid., p. 136.

supporters. ... There is a complete lack of information which presents Islam in a positive light”²¹

Muslims themselves consider media coverage of Islam in Czech media to be biased and distorted, lacking, for example, reports of success stories of Muslim doctors²².

In addition to the general ignorance and bias in the mainstream media, some internet websites display more explicit Islamophobia²³. The most prominent servers include “Eurabia”²⁴, “Truth about Islam” (Pravda o islámu)²⁵ and “Media about Islam” (Média o islámu)²⁶. There is also a Facebook group called “We Don’t Want Islam in the Czech Republic” (Islám v České republice nechceme), which has attracted almost 60 thousand followers so far.

Displays of Islamophobia occasionally feature in politics. However, intolerant views towards the presence of Muslims in the Czech Republic are openly expressed by only a few individual politicians and fringe parties, mostly from the extremist part of the political spectrum²⁷. In 2011, the nationalist group Czech Movement for National Unity (České hnutí za národní jednotu) organised seven petition campaigns against the planned construction of a mosque in Hradec Králové. However, the public paid relatively little attention to these campaigns. Anti-Muslim sentiments have also been invoked by other far-right Workers’ Party of Social Justice (Dělnická strana sociální spravedlnosti). These two groups (parties) are the only political actors who repeatedly denounce Muslims as an integral part of their political program²⁸.

²¹ Sedláčková, Lucie, *Islám v médiích*, (Liberec: Nakladatelství Bor, 2010), p. 53. For more on the presentation of Islam in the Czech media, see e.g. Mendel, Miloš et al., 2007, pp. 437-444.

²² Topinka, Daniel, 2006, pp. 61, 77, 87; Radoňová, Zuzana, ‘Naděje a obavy arabských muslimů v Česku’, BA Thesis (Masaryk University, 2007), p. 29-31. Representatives of various Muslim communities actively try to appear in the public sphere, convening seminars with Czech experts on Islam and informing the public about Islam at schools as well.

²³ According to Sářka, “[m]ost of the aggressive manifestations of Islamophobia are to be found on the internet.” Interview with Vladimír Sářka, 3 August 2012. As Sářka further explains, some websites are openly Islamophobic, while on others the Islamophobic focus is latent.

²⁴ Eurabia presents itself through a prism of the alleged threat of Islam’s penetration to Europe and the consequent destruction of traditional European life and culture. The subtitle of the website is “Islam attempts to conquer Europe, Eurabia.cz defends it.”

²⁵ The site is a platform for critics of Islam connected with the international Islamophobic site FaithFreedom.org. According to the website’s subtitle, “Islamic militarism must be fought militarily and its ideology by ideological means. There are two front lines in the war against barbarism”.

²⁶ This website gathers information and news about Islam from Czech and foreign media (the selection is however biased, with an implicit aim of provoking Islamophobic attitudes) and publishes various anti-Islamic blog posts.

²⁷ Interestingly, pro-Islamic stances were on the other hand sometimes demonstrated by few anti-Semitic Neonazis (who perceive Jews as their common enemy with Muslims). Mareš, Miroslav et al., 2011, ‘České militantní neonacistické hnutí (aktuální trendy)’, Analysis for the Ministry of Interior, p. 6, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/studie-ceske-militantni-neonacisticke-hnuti-aktualni-trendy.aspx>, accessed 13 July 2012.

²⁸ Ministry of Interior, 2012, ‘Zpráva o extremismu a projevech rasismu a xenofobie na území České republiky v roce 2011’, ‘Vyhodnocení plnění Konceptce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2011 a Konceptce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2012’, pp. 16, 47, 56, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-vyrocní-zpravy-o-extremismu-a-strategie-boje-proti-extremismu.aspx>, accessed 12 July 2012.

5.3 Muslim communities in comparative view

For a long time, the most problematic issue regarding minorities in the Czech Republic has been relations with the Roma. The majority population maintains a very negative stance towards the Roma which overshadows its relationship towards any other minority in the Czech Republic, including Muslims.

However, a high level of latent Islamophobia persists in society. The predominance of negative views held about Muslims has been shown in several opinion polls. According to a 2006 poll by STEM, “[t]here is not much known about the life of Muslims in the Czech Republic; three-quarters of Czechs do not hold any positive views about Islam and 60% of respondents are afraid of it”²⁹. Similar findings follow from a 2010 survey on attitudes of the Czechs towards extremist, racist and xenophobic ideas. In an inquiry on the level of openness towards minorities, Muslims ranked in the third “worst” category (out of four). Most of the Czechs express antipathy towards Muslims and would refuse to share property with them on a long-term basis.³⁰ At the same time, the survey confirmed that the Czechs do not judge Muslims based on a direct contact with them and thus hold a “negative prejudice” towards Muslims³¹.

Unlike other groups, Muslims are associated with the stigmatizing label of “terrorism”. The attitude of Czech society towards Muslims changed after the attacks of 11 September 2001 on New York and Washington. Insinuations about Muslims as terrorists became more common and internet discussions have radicalized³². However, the Government does not consider the presence of Muslims to be a security threat. Reports by the Ministry of the Interior and the Intelligence Service (Bezpečnostní informační služba) on developments of extremism do not mention any manifestations of extremist behaviour from the Muslim community at all³³. The Ministry of the Interior has stated that in the Czech Republic the issue of ‘Islamization of Europe’ is not perceived to be as relevant as in Western Europe³⁴. The same holds true for the annual reports on human rights by various NGOs (e.g. Amnesty International (AI), the Czech Helsinki Committee (CHC)) which do not even mention Islam-related issues.

²⁹ Topinka, Daniel, 2006, p. 5.

³⁰ The survey’s outcomes ranked attitudes of the majority Czech population towards Muslims in the same category as their attitude towards the Roma. The only worse category belonged to drug addicts. On the other hand, Czechs hold a less negative view of homosexuals, blacks, immigrants, Ukrainians, Vietnamese, homeless and prostitutes, who were all ranked into the second category which represents distant, but still tolerant attitudes.

³¹ Ministry of Interior, *Zmapování postojů veřejnosti v České republice k pravicově extremistickým, rasistickým a xenofobním myšlenkám a jejich šířitelům s ohledem na integraci menšin a cizinců*, pp. 27-30, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/zaverecna-zprava-z-vyzkumu.aspx, accessed 18 July 2012.

³² The head of the Muslim community in Brno summarized the situation as follows: “11 September changed my life. There was an outpour of hostile statements on the internet. The aversion was coming from Czech extremists, some politicians, clergymen as well as journalists. Basically, I have spent the past ten years explaining that Muslims are not terrorists”. Židková, K. 2011. This negative trend after 11 September is also confirmed by experts, see Mendel, Miloš, et al., 2007, p. 437.

³³ Mareš, M. et al., 2011, p. 6.

³⁴ Ministry of Interior, *Extremismus. Souhrnná situační zpráva. 3.čtvrtletí roku 2011*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/zprava-extremismus-3q-pdf.aspx, accessed 12 July 2012.

Multiple discrimination based on the intersection of religion and race does not seem to be an issue of particular concern. The highly diverse ethnic structure of Muslims in the Czech Republic (see Chapter 5.2) disassociates Islam from any particular ethnic or national origin of its followers.³⁵ The situation is more problematic as regards Muslim women (i.e. intersection of religion and gender). In contrast to men, the affiliation to Islam is visible in Muslim women, which leaves them more exposed to Islamophobia. Even though the issue of wearing veils or headscarves has not been specifically regulated in Czech legislation, people often regard women wearing *hijab* with suspicion³⁶. According to Mendel, this is not solely the result of a problematic reputation of Islam “but also – perhaps much more importantly – of the fact that the Czechs are not prepared to accept such an open manifestation of religiousness”³⁷. An increase in problems faced by Muslim women wearing veils reportedly took place after 11 September³⁸.

To conclude, Islam in the Czech Republic is an issue of relatively low political and social relevance, both due to the small number of Muslims and the specific composition of Muslim community (university educated people, well-integrated)³⁹. On the other hand, Muslims experience problems with their activities (e.g. construction of mosques) and the distorted picture of Islam and Muslims in Czech media, as well as the influence of Islamophobic websites and forums support a negative prejudice against Muslims and a high level of latent Islamophobia among the Czech public.

³⁵ Sáníka adds: “[t]he xenophobic attitudes towards Muslims within the Czech society result partly from the intolerance towards foreigners of different race, colour or nationality and partly from the aversion towards anything Islamic. Therefore the xenophobia of some people is also directed against Czech Muslims [converts].” Interview with Vladimír Sáníka, 3 August 2012.

³⁶ According to Sáníka, “Muslim women, especially those who appear veiled in public, face much stronger pressure from the society. They are targets of various improper and offensive remarks, they may face problems regarding employment, and it is more difficult for them to find a job.” Interview with Vladimír Sáníka, 3 August 2012.

³⁷ Mendel, Miloš, et al., 2007, p. 428.

³⁸ According to Hassan Alrawi from Brno, there were several incidents of tearing off the veils from women’s heads by passers-by in Prague and Brno. Židková, K. 2011.

³⁹ However there have been some sporadic incidents of controversial voices from inside the Muslim community. The police e.g. lately investigated the case of an anti-Semitic speech of a Czech convert to Islam in the Brno mosque. Horák, Michal. 2012, ‘Policie: Kázání v brněnské mešitě bylo trestné, je ale promlčené’, *iDNES*, 27 May, http://brno.idnes.cz/policie-kazani-v-brnenske-mesite-bylo-trestne-je-ale-promlcene-pbq-/brno-zpravy.aspx?c=A120526_1783737_brno-zpravy_bor, accessed 18 July 2012.

6. Access and full participation in all collective areas of society

The following chapter describes developments in the area of discrimination and racism in the Czech Republic. Firstly, we give an overview of the ethnic composition of the population in the Czech Republic in general, and highlight certain vulnerable groups. According to research carried out by the Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences in March 2012, Czechs feel an affinity with Slovaks (88%), Poles (67%), Germans (49%), Jews (47%) and Greeks (45%). Antipathy is felt towards Romanians (47%), Albanians (47%), Ukrainians (51%) and Roma population (78%)⁴⁰.

In the official census from 2011, only 5,199 respondents indicated their nationality as Roma⁴¹. However, Government estimates (2006 figures) of the number of Roma range between 150,000 and 300,000 in the Czech Republic⁴². Such a massive discrepancy may point to a certain unease on the part of some Roma about revealing their ethnicity. Overall, there is a lack data disaggregated by ethnicity, which makes it impossible to specify the main problems of Roma. Many Roma live in socially isolated communities⁴³, which are concentrated predominantly in the north of the Czech Republic⁴⁴.

The most serious problems in the period under the review were connected to the anti-Roma sentiments present in the Czech Republic, especially in the region of Šluknovský výběžek and other regions where socially excluded Roma communities are concentrated. Numerous anti-Roma demonstrations took place in these regions. Moreover, the Roma are stigmatized as criminals by the majority population, both in these areas as well as in the country generally.

There is also a lack of data on the Czech Muslim community. There are no official statistics and very few surveys (either from the Government or from NGOs) regarding the situation of Muslims in any of the fields covered in this chapter. Therefore the relevant information can only be inferred from statements of the representatives of Muslim communities or from the opinions of academics.

⁴⁰ Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic, *Vztah Čechů k národnostním skupinám žijícím v ČR – březen 2012*, http://www.cvvm.cas.cz/upl/zpravy/101271s_ov120413.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

⁴¹ Czech Statistical Office, *Preliminary results of the Census 2011, Population*, <http://www.scitani.cz/slodb2011/eng/redakce.nsf/i/population>, accessed 3 August 2012.

⁴² Government, *Romská národnostní menšina*, <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/pracovni-a-poradni-organy-vlady/rnm/mensiny/romska-narodnostni-mensina-16149/>, accessed 3. August 2012.

⁴³ Such communities often have limited access to institutional aid and social and other services. The causes of social exclusion are mostly unemployment, insolvency, housing problems, illness etc. Agency for Social Inclusion, *Co je sociální vyloučení*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/co-je-socialni-vyloucení>, accessed 12 August 2012.

⁴⁴ The biggest concentration of socially excluded communities in this part of the Czech Republic is in the cities of Děčín, Jiříkov, Šluknov, Varnsdorf, Ústí nad Labem, Chomutov, Most and Jirkov. European Social Fund, *Mapa sociálně vyloučených a sociálním vyloučením ohrožených romských lokalit v České republice*, http://www.esfcr.cz/mapa/stav_mapy_obce.html, accessed 12 August 2012.

6.1 Racism and related discrimination in employment

6.1.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination in employment

The Office of the Ombudsman has been empowered to conduct research in the area of the right to equal treatment. The first research project concerned discriminatory advertisements⁴⁵. According to the results, advertising is not discriminatory on the grounds of race and ethnicity (0 discriminatory advertisements). More problematic is the criterion of nationality appearing in advertisements. However, as this issue arose in not more than 0.3% of advertisements surveyed, it does not appear to be a significant problem. Overall, 16.9 % of ads contained a discriminatory requirement, mostly for reasons of age (10.8%) and sex (7%)⁴⁶. Based on this finding, research advertising company jobs.cz began to work in cooperation with Ombudsman and was awarded the Czech Award for Public Relations in the category of “Business to Business”⁴⁷.

The Roma remain the most vulnerable group in the Czech labour market. Roma unemployment continues to be significantly higher than that of the non-Roma population.⁴⁸The difficult position of Roma in the labour market has been demonstrated by Czech TV reporting (November 2011)⁴⁹, which investigated discrimination against a Roma candidate for employment with reference to his ethnicity.

Victims of discrimination are also limited by their lack of awareness of relevant legal provisions and funding for proper legal representation. The Czech Bar Association provides free legal assistance, but does not focus on ethnic discrimination. Some NGOs arrange for free legal consultancy (such as IQ Roma Service and the Counselling Centre for Citizenship, Civil and Human Rights); however in the period under review, there was no strategic litigation. According to the CHC Report on Human Rights, there were only 16 cases of alleged discrimination; all of which were rejected by the courts⁵⁰. The Czech Republic still does not have any sort of free legal aid Act to regulate the legal framework for free aid to the deprived and help to improve access to qualified lawyers for the victims of discrimination.

⁴⁵ Office of the Ombudsman, *Výzkum veřejného ochránce práv – projevy diskriminace v pracovní inzerce*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Doporuceni/Doporuceni-Inzerce.pdf, accessed 20 August 2012.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Association of Public Relations Agencies, *Česká cena za Public Relations – Výsledky*, <http://www.cenapr.cz/7/vysledky.html>, accessed 20 August 2012

⁴⁸ As regards the Muslim minority, there are no structural problems such as high unemployment rate (see Chapter 5.2.).

⁴⁹ Czech Television, *Zaměstnání pro Romy*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/porady/10117034229-168-hodin/211411058251106/video/>, accessed 3 August 2012.

⁵⁰ Czech Helsinki Committee, *Zpráva o stavu lidských práv v České republice za rok 2011*, p. 8, http://www.helcom.cz/dokumenty/ZLP_2011_CHV.pdf, accessed 6 August 2012

6.1.2 Facilitating factors or protective measures to combat employment challenges

NGOs have played a significant role in the development of anti-discrimination policy from March 2011 to March 2012, acting as counselling centres assisting with the search for suitable work, especially in the area of the Roma employment. One example is the work done by IQ Roma Service, an NGO aimed at helping Roma inhabitants of socially excluded areas. Another example is Romodrom, o. s., an NGO which actively combats social exclusion and provides assistance in searching for employment⁵¹.

Most NGOs working with immigrants or ethnic minorities focus on issues in the labour market, the possibility of obtaining legal residence in the Czech Republic, and improving Czech language skills⁵².

Trade unions play an important role in the area of employment. An example of good practice is the online counselling centre of the Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions, which offers free employment counselling. It is also connected to a network of advisory centres for employees located in larger cities⁵³. The positive role of the European Union (EU) can be seen in the fact that most of the NGOs dealing with discrimination are funded by the EU.

⁵¹ Romodrom, *Výroční zpráva 2011*, p. 43, http://www.romodromcz.cz/cs/kdojsme/zpravy/romodrom_vz-2011_a5-148x210mm_verii_final.pdf, accessed 13 August 2012.

⁵² Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, *Cizinci v České republice*, <http://www.cizinci.cz/clanek.php?lg=1&id=359>, accessed 19 August 2012.

⁵³ Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions, *Přehled Regionálních poradenských center pro zaměstnance 2012*, http://www.cmkos.cz/data/articles/down_1255.pdf, accessed 19 August 2012.

6.2 Racism and related discrimination in education

6.2.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination in education

The Czech Republic has become infamous for its discriminatory practices towards the Roma pupils in the elementary education system. The issue attracted international attention especially after the judgment *D.H. and others v. Czech Republic*⁵⁴ in 2007. The Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights found massive overrepresentation of Roma children at schools with a substandard curriculum in violation of the prohibition of discrimination taken together with the right to education. Almost five years after the judgment, significant problems remain. International pressure criticising the discrimination against Roma children in education has greatly intensified in recent years⁵⁵.

While the Czech Republic has a relatively good public education system, it is clear that problems exist below the surface. Almost all children in the country participate in the public education system; only a tiny percentage of children from the ages of 7 to 15 do not attend primary school⁵⁶. In a recent survey the Czech Republic was among the highest scoring EU countries in the category of “household members aged 20 to 24 who have completed at least general or vocational upper-secondary education” – however, only 30% of Roma fell into the category⁵⁷. Thus, it appears that while a high proportion of Roma children attend school, they receive lower quality education. The latest research by the Office of the Ombudsman found that the Roma children form approximately one-third of pupils in “special schools,”⁵⁸ which is much higher than the

⁵⁴ European Court of Human Rights, *D.H. and Others v. Czech Republic* (Grand Chamber), 13 November 2007 (Appl. no. 57325/00). Interestingly, the Chamber initially did not find any violation of the European Convention on Human Rights, but the Grand Chamber then decisively (13 to 4) overturned the initial decision.

⁵⁵ See e.g. Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe, *Report by Thomas Hammarberg, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, following his visit to the Czech Republic from 17 to 19 November 2010*, <https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1754217>, accessed 12 July 2012; Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, *Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Czech Republic*, p. 4, http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/CZECH_REP_COBs_CERD79.pdf, accessed 10 July 2012; Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 44 of the Convention Concluding Observations: Czech Republic*, p. 6, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/co/CRC.C.CZE.CO.3-4.doc>, accessed 15 July 2012.

⁵⁶ The Czech Republic belonged to better performing countries in the 2011 EU FRA survey – EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *The situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States. Survey results at a glance*, p. 14, http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-2012-Roma-at-a-glance_EN.pdf, accessed 12 August 2012.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 15.

⁵⁸ Office of the Ombudsman, *Výzkum veřejného ochránce práv k otázce etnického složení žáků bývalých zvláštních škol*, p. 10, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Vyzkum/Vyzkum_skoly-zprava.pdf, accessed 25 July 2012. The results of the study are very similar to earlier study of the Office of Czech School Inspection which was carried by a different method; therefore the

proportion of Roma children in the general population. In other words, a Roma child has a considerably higher chance of ending up in a “special school,” which is designed for children with learning difficulties and follows a less rigorous curriculum. The consequences of this two-track system are very serious – Roma children typically study in a less stimulating environment, lack positive role models, and due to the less demanding academic requirements and a stigma of having attended a special school find it more difficult to enter a secondary school and then a university.

While ethnicity-driven bullying remains a problem, it appears to be less of an issue in the Czech Republic than in other countries. Less than 60% of students experienced the practice, compared to more than 90% in the United Kingdom, France or Hungary.⁵⁹

The Minister of Education Josef Dobeš prioritised other issues during the period under review, with the result that the inclusion of Roma pupils into mainstream schools was side-lined. The Department within the Ministry dealing with the promotion of inclusive education was drastically downsized and more than 50 persons resigned from an expert group in June 2011 in protest against the Ministry’s indifference⁶⁰. The Ministry provoked further controversy when Ladislav Batora, a controversial politician with far-right leanings, became the Director of Human Resources at the Ministry in July 2011⁶¹.

The issue of schooling in relation to the Muslim community appears particularly relevant for the second generation of Muslims, because the majority of Muslim children currently at school are “second generation” immigrants⁶². They attend secular public schools, as the Muslim community has been unable thus far to obtain the second level of registration, which would allow them to run their own schools or provide religious education on

figures can be considered reasonably precise – see the Office of Czech School Inspection, *Souhrnné poznatky z tematické kontrolní činnosti v bývalých zvláštních školách*, p. 5, <http://www.csicr.cz/getattachment/6e4232be-1c17-4ff8-ac72-763a23569109>, accessed 20 July 2012.

⁵⁹ Szalai, J., and Messing, V. and Nemenyi, M. 2010, ‘Ethnic and Social Differences in Education in a Comparative Perspective’, *EDUMIGROM*, Budapest, p. 121, http://www.edumigrom.eu/sites/default/files/field_attachment/page/node-5387/comparativesurveyfinal.pdf, accessed 18 July 2012.

Instances of bullying in the Czech Republic were reported also by a majority of Roma children who moved to the Great Britain and successfully participated in the British education system. EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *Annual Report 2011. Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2011*, p. 170, http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-2012_Annual-Report-2011_EN.pdf, accessed 12 August 2012.

⁶⁰ Ministry’s lack of interest had also financial consequences – e.g. the EU funds for inclusive education remained largely unused. Open Society Justice Initiative, *Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: Submission for Review of the Czech Republic*, p. 9, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/ngos/JusticeInitiativeCzechRepublic79.pdf>, accessed 25 July 2012.

⁶¹ Batora was later forced to resign after protracted pressure.

⁶² According to the President of Islamic Foundation in Prague, Vladimír Sáňka, the Muslim community in the Czech Republic is relatively young as “the second generation of Muslims is formed by children up to 10 years of age.” Interview with Vladimír Sáňka, 3 August 2012.

Islam in public schools⁶³. However, Muslim parents have expressed interest in providing religious education for their children⁶⁴. Despite the absence of Muslim schools, there have been no reports of systemic discrimination of Muslim children. Although there have been a few incidents when the “xenophobic attitudes of teachers made the life of Muslim students very unpleasant and forced them to change the school”⁶⁵, these appear to be isolated incidents rather than a widespread problem.

6.2.2 Facilitating factors or protective measures to combat education challenges

The Government adopted a National Action Plan on Inclusive Education (NAPIE) in March 2010, which seeks to increase the level of inclusiveness in the Czech education system⁶⁶. Two significant measures were approved in the past years to improve the Roma children’s chances of participating in mainstream education – preschool education (“0th classes”) and introduction of teaching assistants. While preschool education seems to be effective, so far the use of teaching assistants has not matched expectations⁶⁷.

Two amendments to regulatory decrees⁶⁸ took effect in September 2011, but they brought only piecemeal changes (e.g. provisions on counselling), not an overhaul of the system. Moreover, these amendments enable children without disabilities to be educated (albeit exceptionally and only as long as necessary) in a class for pupils with disabilities, which is precisely what supporters of an inclusive approaches oppose.

⁶³ The Office of Muslim Communities applied for the second level registration, but was rejected by the Ministry of Culture in 2006, which has been considered as a display of Islamophobia by the Muslim community. See Topinka, Daniel, 2007. *Významy vzdělávání v procesu integrace muslimů v České republice*, <http://aeduca.upol.cz/2007/sbornik/SOUBORY/ZNE/ZNE06Topinka.pdf>, accessed 7 August 2012.

⁶⁴ Most of the Muslim parents would rather their children attended a Muslim school (or a school where Islamic religious education would be provided) rather than the “mainstream” Czech school. However, parents have been relatively liberal as regards the curriculum of their children (concerning e.g. sexual education or music). They would only prefer an integrated model of Muslim schools which approximates Czech public schools, rather than strictly Islamic schools which exclude certain subjects and activities from the curriculum on religious grounds. Svobodová, Kateřina, 2009. *Názory muslimů a muslimek na výchovu a vzdělávání muslimských dětí*. Bachelor Thesis (Masaryk University, 2009), pp. 31-36.

⁶⁵ Interview with Vladimír Sáňka, 3 August 2012.

⁶⁶ NAPIV, *Národní akční plán inkluzivního vzdělávání – přípravná fáze*, p. 1, <http://www.napiv.cz/download.php?document=1>, accessed 18 July 2012.

⁶⁷ Schools were facing problems finding qualified Roma assistants – Stejskalová, Michaela, 'How the Czech Educational System has Failed the Roma Children and why it Keeps Failing them', *Journal of Educational and Social Research*, Vol. 2, 5 (2012), p. 59.

⁶⁸ Communication from the Czech Republic concerning the case of *D.H. and others against Czech Republic* (Application No. 57325/00), 11/10/2011, DH - DD(2011)825E, <https://wcd.coe.int/com.instranet.InstraServlet?command=com.instranet.CmdBlobGet&InstranetImage=1962655&SecMode=1&DocId=1797718&Usage=2>, accessed 30 July 2012, for details, including translation of the decrees. For criticism on the changes see, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, 2011, p. 4.

6.3 Racism and related discrimination in housing

6.3.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination in housing

The housing market also suffers from problems of racial discrimination. Applications by Roma are often rejected, irrespective of their ability to pay rent. The refusal is often expressed in advertisements pre-emptively refusing “minorities,”⁶⁹ or stems from the demands of other inhabitants of the apartment building⁷⁰. Discrimination in the housing market, and thus inability to enter into standard rental contracts, pressures many Roma to accept a long-term accommodation in lodging-houses (cheap hostels) which are often in a dilapidated condition⁷¹. Since those who cannot enter into ordinary rental agreements have little choice but to accept the terms of the lodging-houses, the rent in some lodging-houses even exceeds the local market rent for apartments, even though facilities are poor⁷².

Some lodging-houses owners have turned the accommodation of the socially excluded into a profitable business. The current system of social support allows part of the support – the housing benefit – to be paid directly to the provider of the accommodation of the beneficiary as a means of securing payments of the rent⁷³. Moreover, the housing benefit is derived from the price of the rent and up to 2012 there were no limits to the payment. It was therefore profitable for the lodging-house owners to set high prices. They then collected extravagant payments from public funds⁷⁴. As of 1 January 2012, the housing benefit is derived from the size of the city where the beneficiary lives and is capped. The same system was also used by local authorities⁷⁵. The Demographic Information Centre NGO has stated in its report for the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs: “this mechanism has been misused by cities for many years, but currently it's often a strategy of local authorities. In some cases, lodging-houses are operated and owned by the city itself”⁷⁶. In this way, some cities made a profit on the socially excluded through deliberately moving the Roma into city-run lodging-houses with excessive rents and used the state funding as an income to supplement their budget.

⁶⁹ Czech Television, 168 hodin, *Hledám pronájem – jsem slušný, nejsem menšina*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/regiony/137909-hledam-pronajem-jsem-slusny-nejsem-mensina/>, accessed 13 July 2012.

⁷⁰ Czech Helsinki Committee, *Zpráva o stavu lidských práv v České republice za rok 2011*, p. 42.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* p. 42.

⁷² Čopjaková, K., *Ubytovny pro chudé, stále výnosný byznys*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/ubytovny-pro-chude-stale-vynosny-byznys>, accessed 20 July 2012.

⁷³ Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, *Doplatek na bydlení*, <http://portal.mpsv.cz/soc/hn/obcane/bydleni>, accessed 18 July 2012.

⁷⁴ Čopjaková, K., *Ubytovny pro chudé, stále výnosný byznys*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/ubytovny-pro-chude-stale-vynosny-byznys>, accessed 20 July 2012.

⁷⁵ Czech Television, *Některá města zneužívají dávky. Platí jimi drahý nájem ve svých ubytovnách*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/domaci/176110-nektera-mesta-zneuzivaji-davky-plati-jimi-drahy-najem-ve-svych-ubytovnach/>, accessed 19 July 2012.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

The issue of socially excluded communities also causes tension between the majority population and the Roma. The overall number of socially excluded communities is estimated to have increased to about 400, as compared to approx. 310 communities mentioned in the last official data of 2006. Total population of these communities is about 80,000, almost three quarters of which are Roma⁷⁷. According to some, the creation and expansion of socially excluded enclaves is a result of Roma involuntarily moving to suburban areas and into lodging-houses⁷⁸. The living conditions in these lodging-houses are reflected in the findings of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency survey of 2011, which shows that in the Czech Republic, the average number persons per room in Roma households was over 2.1⁷⁹. The percentage of Roma households which lacked some basic amenities such as an indoor kitchen, toilet, or shower, or electricity was about 15%⁸⁰.

In March 2011, the Office of the Ombudsman reported a complaint concerning the actions of a municipality after a Roma family was refused a council flat⁸¹. The municipality's reasoning included the unsuitability of placing a large family in small flat, the applicant's lack of income other than parental benefit, the fact that her partner had only a temporary employment contract, and the housing committee's opinion that the family was "socially problematic". The Ombudsman concluded that "it was not possible to rule out discriminatory practice on the part of the municipality." He thus advised the municipality to "specify in more detail the criteria for granting council flats, to take into consideration the income situation of families with children (to consider also the social insurance benefits which substitute income from employment), and not to excessively rely on information from secondary sources"⁸².

In July 2011, the Ombudsman published a report of a case concerning alleged racial discrimination against a Roma. The practice involved a town district representative who refused to make a rental contract with the complainant concerning a flat he had been initially offered, even though he documented his income. The Ombudsman opened an investigation and asked the mayor for a statement on the issue. In the meantime, the situation has been remedied: the mayor apologised to the complainant who agreed to rent the flat⁸³.

⁷⁷ Czech Helsinki Committee, *Zpráva o stavu lidských práv v České republice za rok 2011*, p. 41. See also Faltýnek, Vilém, *V Česku přibývá chudinských ghett*, <http://romove.radio.cz/cz/clanek/23918>, accessed 17 July 2012.

⁷⁸ European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, *ECRI Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the Czech Republic subject to interim follow-up*, http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Country-by-country/Czech_Republic/CZE-IFU-IV-2012-027-ENG.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

⁷⁹ EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *Annual Report 2011. Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2011*, p. 22.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.* p. 23.

⁸¹ The term "council flat" refers to an apartment in the possession of a municipality. The problem of allocation of council flats is caused by often conflicting interests of the town's authority which on one hand wants to rent its apartments profitably, but at the same time needs to solve housing problems of people in pressing situations.

⁸² Ombudsman, *Zpráva o šetření ve věci uzavření nájemní smlouvy k obecnímu bytu*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/bydleni/Neuzavreni_na_jemni_smlovy_k_obecnimu_bytu_.pdf, accessed 14 August 2012.

⁸³ Office of the Ombudsman, *Pronájem bytu a diskriminace z důvodu etnické příslušnosti*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/bydleni/Pr

As regards the Muslim community, there are no reports of problems in relation to housing. It appears Muslims do not face any particular discrimination when renting or buying real estate (except for the general legal limitation for non-EU citizens concerning the purchase of real estate in the Czech Republic). There are no excluded localities where Muslims are concentrated and separated from the majority population. Instead, Muslims living in the Czech Republic are intermingled with the majority population.

6.3.2 Facilitating factors or protective measures to combat housing challenges

The Government approved a Concept of Housing Policy until 2020 in July 2011 which aims to improve the accessibility of housing by 'stimulation of supply and demand' for groups at risk of social exclusion. The Concept focuses on supporting the construction of flats, removing barriers to access to existing flats and building a clear legal framework for social housing⁸⁴. Nevertheless, the housing policy in the Czech Republic falls within the competence of local authorities; therefore the practical implementation of the proposals on depends on their political will.

The Agency for Social Inclusion, established in 2008 as a department of the Section for Human Rights of The Office of Government, is still in its pilot phase. In July 2011, the Government decided to extend its activities for another 3 years. The main purpose of the Agency is to provide assistance to local authorities regarding matters of social exclusion. Unfortunately, in the beginning of 2011, the Agency suspended its cooperation with the city of Holešov, and with Chomutov and Duchcov the next year, on the basis that the authorities of these cities were uncooperative⁸⁵.

onajem_bytu_a_diskriminace_z_duvodu_etnicke_prislusnosti_.pdf, accessed 14 August 2012.

⁸⁴Government, *Concept of Housing Policy in the Czech Republic Till 2020*, http://www.sfrb.cz/o-sfrb/koncepce.html?no_cache=1&cid=376&did=315&sechash=d2af822d, accessed 18 July 2012.

⁸⁵Agency for Social Inclusion, *Tisková zpráva Agentury pro sociální začleňování z 30. ledna 2012*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/tiskova-zprava-agentura-pro-socialni-zaclenovani-ukonci-spolupraci-s-mestem-duchcov>, accessed 18 July 2012, and Agency for Social Inclusion, *Tisková zpráva Agentury pro sociální začleňování z 3. února 2011*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/tiskova-zprava-agentura-prodlouzi-pusobeni-v-sesti-pilotnich-lokalitach-do-konce-roku-2012>, accessed 18 July 2012.

6.4 Racism and related discrimination in health

6.4.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination in health

A long-term problem related to the access to health care is the exclusion of certain groups of immigrants⁸⁶ from the public health insurance system. They are obliged to resort to commercial health insurance companies, which offer a more limited service than that provided in the public system (both regarding the types of health care covered and the maximum amount of money provided). Furthermore, the companies have no legal obligation to conclude the insurance contract and therefore they can select only “lucrative” clients (i.e. in good health). Migrants and new-born children with health problems as well as the elderly are often unable to access insurance at all, which leaves them with huge debts to health care providers⁸⁷. Despite repeated criticism by experts and NGOs⁸⁸, the situation has not improved. The Government adopted a resolution in February 2012 which calls for drafting a preliminary amendment to the laws regulating the commercial health insurance in relation to immigrants by the end of 2012.⁸⁹ However, the consequences of the proposed amendment are far from certain⁹⁰.

Access to health care by irregular migrants represents another recurring problem. In addition to the restrictions described above, irregular migrants are further discouraged from seeking health assistance by fears of being reported to the Immigration Police⁹¹.

⁸⁶ This problem concerns foreigners who are neither employed by a Czech employer, nor fall under certain specific categories (e.g. asylum seekers) until they obtain a permanent stay permit (after 5 years of stay). It does not concern immigrants from other EU countries and their family members.

⁸⁷ Hospitals register millions in debts for the health care provided to these groups of migrants. Horáková, V. 2012, ‘Nemocnicím v Brně dluží cizinci miliony’, *Brněnský deník*, 23 January, http://brnensky.denik.cz/zpravy_region/nemocnicim-v-brne-dluzi-cizinci-miliony20120123.html, accessed 8 August 2012.

⁸⁸ Migration4media.net, *Cizinci z novely vypadli, komerční pojišťovny se radují*, <http://migration4media.net/2011/08/30/cizinci-z-novely-vypadnou-komercni-pojistovny-se-raduji/#more-1364>, accessed 6 August 2012.

⁸⁹ Government, *Usnesení vlády České republiky ze dne 29. února 2012 č. 121 k věcnému záměru nové právní úpravy vstupu a pobytu cizinců na území České republiky, volného pohybu občanů Evropské unie a jejich rodinných příslušníků a ochrany státních hranic*, http://kormoran.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/web/cs?Open&2012&02-29, accessed 10 August 2012.

⁹⁰ Last time the law was amended in 2010, there was a very strong lobbying by the commercial insurance companies and the adopted amendment accommodated their interests. Čížinský, Pavel, *Co je to komerční pojištění cizinců?*, http://inbaze.cz/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=181&catid=52, accessed 10 August 2012.

⁹¹ Even though such practices are illegal, as doctors are bound by confidentiality, it nevertheless took place in some cases. “Unfortunately, it happens that health care is sometimes not provided to [irregular] migrants who do not have health insurance and moreover the health-care facility denounces them”. Migration4media.cz., *Strach z udání odrazuje cizince “bez papírů” od vyhledání lékařské pomoci*,

The Ministry of Health continued with the reform of the Czech health system in 2011. By amending the Public Health Insurance Act (No. 48/1997) it established a double standard of healthcare and increased the charges for hospital stays nearly twofold⁹². The insurance companies will only provide for the 'standard' level of health care, while patients will be charged directly for more expensive operations and medications. The amendment was heavily criticised by NGOs as well as the Patients Association and the Ombudsman, arguing that the double standard will create a gap between poor and rich people as poor, old and disabled people will not be able to afford health care⁹³.

There do not appear to be any systemic problems faced by Muslims in the area of healthcare. Muslims come into contact with the health care in the Czech Republic both as medical personnel⁹⁴ and as patients. Specific needs of Muslim women are taken into consideration by many hospitals and health-care facilities, especially in big cities⁹⁵. There were no reports of cases involving discrimination of Muslim patients during the observed period. There were some incidents of Muslim medical personnel facing problems at work because of their religion. Specifically, two nurses experienced difficulties in

<http://migration4media.net/2011/05/17/strach-z-udani-odrazuje-cizince-%E2%80%9Ebez-papiru%E2%80%9C-od-vyhledani-lekarske-pomoci/>, accessed 9 August 2012.

⁹² Patients may choose a health care provider for free, but the selection of a particular doctor at the hospital carries a fee (from approx. €200 to €580). Věstník Ministerstva zdravotnictví ČR, *Doporučený postup ke sjednocení postupu při výběru poplatku za volbu lékaře pro organizace v přímé působnosti Ministerstva zdravotnictví ČR*, 2012/4, http://www.mzcr.cz/Legislativa/dokumenty/vestnik-c4/2012_6288_2510_11.html, accessed 9 August 2012.

⁹³ See Czech Helsinki Committee, *Stanovisko: Pravidla pro poskytování zdravotní péče obsahují prvky zjevné neústavnosti*, <http://www.helcom.cz/view.php?cisloclanku=2012062101>, accessed 9 August, 2012. ProAlt, *Tisková zpráva. Iniciativa proAlt vydala kritického průvodce reformami „PROTI VLÁDĚ ŠKRTŮ“*, <http://www.proalt.cz/?p=3392>, accessed 9 August, 2012. Patients Association, *Stanovisko Svazu pacientů k tzv. reformním zákonům ministra Hegera*, <http://www.pacienti.cz/clanek.php?id=2790>, accessed 9 August 2012. Czech Television, *Ombudsman kritizuje stovku za den v nemocnici*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/domaci/121525-ombudsman-kritizuje-stovku-za-den-v-nemocnici/>, accessed 9 August, 2012. The Amendment was also criticised by the government opposition which lodged a constitutional complaint against it in December 2011. Constitutional Court, *Poslanci napadli u ústavního soudu zdravotnickou reformu*, <http://concourt.cz/clanek/6045>, accessed August 9, 2012.

⁹⁴ As many Muslims in the Czech Republic have university education (see Chapter 5.2.), including specialization in medicine, there are relatively many doctors. For example in Brno, medicine is one of the main professions of local Muslims according to the representative of Brno's Muslim community Hassan Alrawi. Židková, K. 2011.

⁹⁵ In Brno, the Faculty Hospital of St. Anne cooperates with the Brno mosque to be prepared to help Muslim patients while respecting their religious needs (e. g. women's prohibition of getting undressed in the presence of unrelated men). Fasurová, H. 2011, 'Nemocnice se přizpůsobí islámu', *Brněnský deník*, 22 November, http://brnensky.denik.cz/zpravy_region/nemocnice-se-prizpusobi-islam20081121.html?reakce=link&id=178934, accessed 3 August 2012. A similar practice also takes place at the Faculty Hospital Bohunice in Brno, where all patients are treated "in compliance with the principles of 'multiethnic health care' respecting the traditions and habits of patients ..." Interview with Anna Mrázová, spokeswoman of Faculty Hospital Bohunice, conducted by email on 7 August 2012. Another similar practice is reported by Sářka in Prague: "A lot of health-care facilities and schools pay attention to the specifics of health care provided for Muslims and they come to the mosque in Prague to ask us for a consultation." Interview with Vladimír Sářka, 3 August 2012.

their workplace because they were wearing headscarves⁹⁶. However, these appear to be isolated cases which do not indicate a systemic discriminatory attitude against Muslims working in the healthcare system.

6.4.2 Facilitating factors or protective measures to combat health inequalities

One of the positive changes underway is the presence of ombudsmen in hospitals, who facilitate communication between patients and medical personnel. Yet, out of approximately 80 hospitals in the Czech Republic, there are present in only six⁹⁷. Moreover, NGOs criticise the system in that the patients' ombudsmen are employed by hospitals, and their impartiality is therefore compromised⁹⁸. In addition to the ombudsmen in hospitals, there are also regional ombudsmen (so far in five regions)⁹⁹.

⁹⁶ One of them was repeatedly forced to leave her jobs in various hospitals in Prague; the other one had been forced by her subordinates to stop wearing her headscarf at workplace. However, after consulting a lawyer she eventually obtained a permission from the hospital's management to wear the headscarf and kept her job. Interview with Vladimír Sáňka, 3 August 2012.

⁹⁷ This includes Faculty Hospital in Ostrava, Thomayer's Hospital in Prague, Faculty Hospital in Olomouc, Faculty Hospital in Hradec Králové, Svitava's Hospital and Faculty Hospital in Motol.

⁹⁸ For more information see Liga lidských práv, *Ochrana práv pacientů – návrhy k diskuzi o mimosoudním řešení sporů ve zdravotnictví*, lp.cz/wp-content/uploads/Ochrana_prav_pacientu.pdf, accessed 13 August 2012. The majority of complaints concerns insufficient information provided to patients.

⁹⁹ They are associated with local authorities and offer their assistance to all patients in the region.

6.5 Racism and related discrimination in access to goods and services

6.5.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination with access to goods and services in the public and private sector

There are no official statistics concerning racial discrimination in access to goods and services in the Czech Republic. The Office of Czech Trade Inspection oversees the legality of business owners' behaviour, including various forms of discrimination against customers. It examines discrimination based on race, age, nationality, gender and other criteria. While the Office of Czech Trade Inspection regularly conducts investigations, it is largely dependent on complaints lodged by individual customers. Public awareness of the existence of antidiscrimination laws is low (slightly over 50%)¹⁰⁰, which makes discriminatory behaviour more difficult to recognise.

According to the 2011 Annual Report of the Office of Czech Trade Inspection, the number of cases focusing on discrimination against consumers totalled 1099. The Office documented discriminatory behaviour in only 19 cases (i.e. in 1.7 %). The Office found at least one case of racial discrimination against a Roma in accommodation services, although it does not provide separate statistics on racial discrimination as such¹⁰¹.

According to a recommendation of the Office of the Ombudsman published in August 2011, discrimination in the form of refusing services is relatively common in Czech Republic and an "excessively high price is sometimes used as a way to refuse services to unwelcome consumer groups"¹⁰². From time to time, the media report on cases of discrimination in restaurants and bars which have refused service to Roma¹⁰³.

There are no reported cases indicating problems faced by the Muslim community as regards the access to goods and services. However, individual negative experiences resulting from the general reality of negative prejudice and distrust towards Muslims in the Czech society cannot be excluded¹⁰⁴. As there is no prohibition of wearing headscarves or veils in public, the Czech

¹⁰⁰ EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *Annual Report 2011. Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2011*, p. 27.

¹⁰¹ Office of Czech Trade Inspection, *Výroční zpráva České obchodní inspekce za rok 2011*, <http://www.coi.cz/userdata/files/dokumenty-ke-stazeni/vyrocní-zpravy-o-cinnosti/2011-vyr-zprava-cinnost.pdf>, accessed 8 July 2012.

¹⁰² Ombudsman, *Doporučení veřejného ochránce práv pro cenové rozlišování*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Doporuceni/Doporuceni-Cenove-rozlisovani_158-2010-JKV.pdf, accessed 8 July 2012.

¹⁰³ Kovaříková, Markéta, and Tejnorová, Michaela, *Diskriminace jako předstupeň násilí z nenávisťi*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/diskriminace-jako-predstupen-nasili-z-nenavisti>, accessed 15 July 2012.

¹⁰⁴ Vladimír Sářka does not consider the issue of the access to goods and services as a problem with respect to Muslim discrimination. Interview with Vladimír Sářka, 3 August 2012. On the other hand, Hassan Alrawi described occasional negative comments encountered by his wife on public transport because she was wearing a headscarf. Židková, K. 2011.

Republic has not experienced the controversy that this issue has provoked in some other countries¹⁰⁵.

6.5.2 Facilitating factor or protective measures to promote equality in accessing goods and services

The Czech state-owned rail operator Czech Railways started a pilot project providing women-only compartments at the beginning of 2012. The goal was to provide safer and more comfortable travelling for women. At present, the project is being primarily tested in international EuroCity trains which had already offered separate compartments for travellers with children. The Office of the Ombudsman has already faced complaints from male passengers about discriminatory practices, but did not consider such a measure *a priori* discriminatory, as long as its intentions are legitimate¹⁰⁶. No other notable protective measures aimed at promoting equality of access to goods and services were introduced from March 2011 to March 2012.

¹⁰⁵Mendel, Miloš et al., 2007, p. 428.

¹⁰⁶Office of the Ombudsman, *Kupe ve vlaku vyhrazené pouze pro ženy*, p.1, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/zbozi_a_sluzby/Kupe_ve_vlaku_vyhrazene_pro_zeny_.pdf, accessed 8 July 2012.

6.6 Racism and related discrimination in political participation

6.6.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination in the realm of political participation

Citizenship is the condition for the right to vote and run for election.¹⁰⁷ This, together with the impossibility of dual citizenship, creates a significant barrier to the political participation of immigrants. Reforms regarding the possibility of dual citizenship were considered during the period between March 2011 and March 2012. The Ministry of the Interior submitted a draft of the Citizenship Bill to the Government in February 2012, which would allow for dual citizenship¹⁰⁸. However, Pavel Čížinský from the Counselling Centre for Citizenship, Civil and Human Rights, an NGO, criticised the draft for tightening conditions for granting citizenship¹⁰⁹.

There are no systemic measures discriminating against the Muslim minority. In general, immigrant Muslims are subject to the legislation on citizenship and residency requirements before being entitled to vote. However, when they fulfil the general legal conditions for standing in elections, there do not appear to be any obstacles that prevent Muslims in particular from holding or running for political positions. Some sporadic incidents (comments in the media, blog posts etc.) to defame local politicians have occurred; however, these discriminatory statements did not garner much attention from the mainstream media and have not been translated into a relevant political topic on a society-wide level¹¹⁰. There is no Muslim political party in the Czech Republic.

¹⁰⁷ EU citizens have right to vote and the right to run for election at the local level; see Redlová, Pavla, et al, *Studie východiska migračních politik, politická a občanská participace imigrantů v České republice*, <http://www.konsorcium-nno.cz/dokumenty-ke-stazeni.html>, accessed 21 August 2012.

¹⁰⁸ *EKLEP, Library of draft legislation*, <http://eklep.vlada.cz/eklep/page.jsf?pid=KORN8L9AXEEV>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁰⁹ Jiříčka, Jan, 2012, 'Češi budou moci mít dvojí občanství. Když získají cizí, neztratí české', *iDNES.cz*, 19 February, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/cesi-budou-moci-ziskat-dvoji-obcanstvi-dyz-domaci.aspx?c=A120213_143330_domaci_jj, accessed 11 August 2012.

¹¹⁰ For example, there have been defamatory internet discussions and a small demonstration in front of the local hospital where the protesters held a xenophobic poster against Raduan Nwelati, a city mayor (originally an orthopaedist) in Mladá Boleslav who is of Syrian descent. The information about the demonstration was published in the local newsletter, allegedly under the influence of Nwelati's political opponents. See e. g. Klapalová, M. 2011. 'Rathův magazín vyzývá primátora Boleslavi, ať se vrátí zpět do Sýrie', *iDnes.cz*, 8 July, http://praha.idnes.cz/rathuv-magazin-vyzyva-primatora-boleslavi-at-se-vrati-zpet-do-syrie-1id-praha-zpravy.aspx?c=A110708_1615120_praha-zpravy_ab, accessed 9 August 2012. Another incident involved a dispute about the alleged Islamic religious affiliation of Libor Matouš, the vice-president of the Sovereignty Party. The background of the case lies in the fact that Matouš, allegedly a former Muslim (which he denies), ran as a candidate for a populist party known for its Islamophobic positions. For more on the media coverage of this issue see Chapter 6.7.

6.6.2 Facilitating factor or protective measures to promote equality in political participation

There has been significant progress in the promotion of political participation by vulnerable groups. The Equal Opportunities Party, established as a political party in January 2012, seeks to improve the social status of socially vulnerable groups in the Czech population (mostly Roma). The Party can be considered as an active attempt by Roma to participate in politics¹¹¹. Czech political parties' programs do not cover the issue of race relations in any great detail. Only the extra-parliamentary Green Party¹¹² has covered the issue in depth and invites representatives of minorities as party candidates. Other parliamentary parties have not displayed similar efforts. Finally, political participation of immigrants has not been a significant topic except for the issue of dual citizenship (see Chapter 6.1.).

The Government established several advisory bodies in an effort to empower vulnerable groups to be more politically active¹¹³. The Inter-Ministerial Commission for Roma Community Affairs acts as an advisory body to the Government. In 2012, it received the power to propose the use of endowment funds from the budget of the Office of the Government.

¹¹¹Kopecký, Josef, 2012, 'Romové to zkoušejí s vlastní stranou. I my jsme Češi, říká její šéf', *iDNES.cz*, 20 January, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/romove-to-zkouseji-s-vlastni-stranou-i-my-jsme-cesi-rika-jeji-sef-pxh-/domaci.aspx?c=A120120_143716_domaci_kop, accessed 19 August 2012.

¹¹² Green Party, *Program pro Romy*, <http://www.zeleni.cz/program-strany-zelenych-pro/romy/>, accessed 4 August 2012.

¹¹³ Relevant advisory bodies include the Government Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Roma Community Affairs, the Government Council for Human Rights, the Government Council for National Minorities, non-governmental organisations, and the Government Board for People with Disabilities.

6.7 Racism and related discrimination in media

6.7.1 Manifestations of racism and related discrimination in the media, including the internet

Racism and discrimination in the media are highly problematic issues. This year František Kostlán of ROMEA, o.s. conducted an extensive analysis of the portrayal of the Roma minority in the mainstream Czech media¹¹⁴. The analysis showed the failure of basic journalistic principles in reporting on cases concerning the Roma minority. Tabloid newspapers and private televisions sometimes deliberately seek out cases with Roma offenders¹¹⁵ and help to fuel a public perception of Roma as criminals. The news also typically omits views from the Roma community, which has no opportunity to resist the stigmatization.

It appears that the media portrayal of Roma has deteriorated in comparison with previous years, and that the media often sacrifice journalistic ethics in pursuit of sensationalist headlines. This leads to a rise in the number of fabricated reports about Roma crime, such as articles about the rape of young women, attacks against postwomen and robbery in Varnsdorf (according to Děčín Police Press spokesman Vojtěch Haňka, all these crimes were fabricated¹¹⁶). The media also generally associate the Roma community with the term "maladjusted" ("nepřizpůsobivý") which has a pejorative meaning in Czech and leads to an overall negative view of the Roma. According to the research of media by ROMA.cz the word "maladjusted" was used in 8%¹¹⁷ of texts about Roma (January 2012 figures)¹¹⁸.

With regards to the Muslim community, the media provided extensive coverage of the planned construction of mosques in Brno and Hradec Králové¹¹⁹. In addition to the regional activities, occasional negative public

¹¹⁴ Kostlán, František, *Podle průzkumů nemají Češi rádi Romy. Mohou za to do velké míry média – díl I až IV.*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/publicistika/komentare/podle-pruzkumu-nemaji-cesi-radi-romy-mohou-za-to-do-velke-miry-media-dil-i>, accessed 16 August 2012.

¹¹⁵ For example, the tabloid newspaper Blesk, *Divoký sever: Opilí Romové ničili hospody*, <http://www.blesk.cz/clanek/zpravy-udalosti-domaci/159642/divoky-sever-opili-romove-nicili-hospody.html>, accessed 16 August 2012, or a report by TV NOVA, *Romové opět zaútočili! Tentokrát se rvali s policisty!*, <http://tn.nova.cz/zpravy/regionalni/lide-zautocili-na-policisty-chteli-osvobodit-zadrzeneho-kluka.html>, accessed 16 August 2012.

¹¹⁶ Kostlán, František, *Břeclavská lež není prvním vymyšleným případem, který rozvířil nenávist proti Romům*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/breclavska-lez-neni-prvnim-pripadem-ktery-rozviril-nenavist-proti-romum>, accessed 16 August 2012.

¹¹⁷ Jüptner, Jan, *Mediální obraz Romů v ČR aneb Síla slova*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/medialni-obraz-romu-v-cr-aneb-sila-slova>, accessed 16 August 2012.

¹¹⁸ For example, see report by Czech Television, *Záťah proti nepřizpůsobivým narazil na možné záškoláky a nepřihlášeného psa*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/regiony/161097-zatah-proti-neprizpusobivym-narazil-na-mozne-zaskolaky-a-neprihlaseneho-psa/>, accessed 16 August 2012.

¹¹⁹ An initiative called *AntiMešita* (Anti-Mosque) campaigned against these plans, supported by regional administration of Christian Democrats Party. See e. g. Šnidl, V. 2011, 'Desátek proti mešitám', *Ekonom*, 18 August, <http://ekonom.ihted.cz/c1-52602440-desatek-proti>

statements against Islam and Muslims made by state-level politicians, such as the presidential candidate Miloš Zeman¹²⁰, were reported. Outspoken critic of Muslims in the Czech Republic Lukáš Lhořan has also been active in the media in the period under review, decrying the purported radicalization of the Muslim community¹²¹. The media also reported on the case of the alleged religious affiliation to Islam of Libor Matouš, the vice-president of a local section of the Sovereignty Party (Suverenita)¹²². For a general overview of the presentation of Muslims in the Czech media, see Chapter 5.3.

6.7.2 Facilitating factor or protective measures in the media

Romea continues to deal with the issue of newspaper coverage of the Roma. Romea.cz is focused on the information from within the Roma community (an average of 2,500 visitors a day) and on education in media image of the Roma¹²³.

mesitam, accessed 17 July 2012. The media also covered several debates between supporters and opponents of the mosques, which have been organized in both cities. See Bednář, P.2012, 'Na univerzitě se sešli odpůrci i obhájci islámu, v diskuzi to vřelo,' *iDnes.cz*, 8 March, http://hradec.idnes.cz/na-univerzite-se-sesli-odpurci-i-obhajci-islam-u-v-diskuzi-to-vrelo-1c8-/hradec-zpravy.aspx?c=A120308_1745021_hradec-zpravy_kol, accessed 7 August 2012.

¹²⁰ Zeman stated that "[a] moderate Muslim is contradictio in adjecto, same as a moderate Nazi" and called Islam as an "anti-civilization" (because of its attitude towards women), which is financed "partly by oil trade and partly by drug trade." Brandejská, A. 2011, 'Islám je anticivilizace kvůli vztahu k ženám, trvá na svém Zeman', *iDnes.cz*, 7 July, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/islam-je-anticivilizace-kvuli-vztahu-k-zenam-trva-na-svem-zeman-ppsp-/domaci.aspx?c=A110707_154449_domaci_abr, accessed 7 August 2012; Buchert, V. 2011, 'Umírněný muslim je stejný protimluv jako umírněný nacista, tvrdí expremiér Zeman', *Reflex*, 3 August, <http://www.reflex.cz/clanek/politika/42738/umirneny-muslim-je-stejny-protimluv-jako-umirneny-nacista-tvrdi-expremier-zeman.html>, accessed 18 July 2012.

¹²¹ See e.g. Lhořan, Lukáš, *Islámisté: „Demokracii využijeme, ale chceme ji zrušit“*, <http://lukaslhotan.blog.idnes.cz/c/181797/Islamiste-Demokracii-vyuzijeme-ale-chceme-ji-zrusit.html>, accessed 9 August 2012; Lhořan, Lukáš, *Korán povoluje bití žen, zakážeme ho?*, <http://lukaslhotan.blog.idnes.cz/c/194006/Koran-povoluje-biti-zen-zakazeme-ho.html>, accessed 8 August 2012.

¹²² *Kauza: muslim kandiduje na starostu v brněnské městské části*, <http://mediaoislamu.cz/tema/kauza-muslim-kandiduje-na-starostu-v-brnenske-mestske-casti/>, accessed 7 August 2012.

¹²³ Mostly work of František Kostlán, his texts on Romea, *František Kostlán*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/autori/frantisek-kostlan>, accessed 14 August 2012.

6.8 Racism and related discrimination in criminal justice

6.8.1 Policing and ethnic profiling¹²⁴

There are no statistics concerning ethnic profiling in the Czech Republic in 2011. The most recent statistics dealing with the issue come from the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights Report from 2010, which focused exclusively on the Roma¹²⁵.

6.8.2 Racist violence and crime

In 2011, extreme¹²⁶ right movements revived and manipulated the anti-Roma sentiment present in Czech Republic for their own benefit. Extreme right wing party, The Workers' Party of Social Justice (DSSS)¹²⁷ engaged in protests against the socially excluded, particularly the Roma. The worst manifestation of anti-Roma sentiment occurred in Šluknovský výběžek, especially in the cities of Varnsdorf, Rumburk, Nový Bor and Šluknov, where a number of demonstrations and protests took place. The protests were mostly organised by the general public in each area, but DSSS representatives often engaged in the protests and tried to incite anti-Roma hatred¹²⁸.

The authorities have attributed the aggravated situation in Šluknovský výběžek to the continuous and unsolved social exclusion of certain groups;

¹²⁴ The Open Society Institute defines "ethnic profiling" as the "use of generalisations grounded in ethnicity, race, national origin, or religion - rather than objective evidence or individual behaviour - as the basis for making law enforcement and/or investigative decisions about who has been or may be involved in criminal activity" .

¹²⁵ Roma respondents were asked if they felt ethnic profiling while stopped and controlled by the police. 18% of Roma respondents answered yes, 16% answered no and the rest of the respondents have not been stopped by the police for the last 12 months. Ministry of Interior, *Etnické profilování v Evropské unii, Výzkum ve službách policejní praxe*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/1-2011-prilmens-pdf.aspx, accessed 6 August 2012.

¹²⁶ There is no uniform definition of extremism. According to the Ministry of Interior, extremism means the holding of extreme ideological views which are illegal, intolerant and are directed against the fundamental constitutional and democratic principles, for example protection of minorities, human rights, sovereignty of the state etc. Ministry of Interior, *Vysvětlení pojmů extremismu, xenofobie, rasismu, rasové diskriminace, rasového násilí*, http://aplikace.mvcr.cz/archiv2008/souteze/2006/sod/extremismus/1_pojmy.pdf, accessed 11 August 2012; Czech Police, *Co je extremismus?*, <http://www.policie.cz/clanek/prevence-informace-o-extremismu-co-je-extremismus.aspx>, accessed 11 August 2012.

¹²⁷ The DSSS is a successor of the DS (Dělnická strana) which was abolished by the Supreme Administrative Court in February 2010. Supreme Administrative Court, *NSS rozpustil Dělnickou stranu*, http://www.nssoud.cz/main.aspx?cls=art&art_id=427, accessed 8 August 2012.

¹²⁸ Ministry of Interior, 2012, 'Zpráva o extremismu a projevech rasismu a xenofobie na území České republiky v roce 2011', 'Vyhodnocení plnění Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2011 a Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2012', pp. 11-12, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-vyrocní-zpravy-o-extremismu-a-strategie-boje-proti-extremismu.aspx>, accessed 6 August 2012; Brunner, F. 2011, 'Anti-Roma Protests Turn Violent in the Czech Republic', *Spiegel*, 16 September, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/wave-of-hate-anti-roma-protests-turn-violent-in-the-czech-republic-a-786495.html>, accessed 6 August 2012.

increasing migration of the socially excluded to already problematic areas (the number of ghettos raised substantially)¹²⁹; an increase in the crime rate¹³⁰; and high unemployment in the area as a result of the economic crisis.

The acts which directly provoked the escalation of the anti-Roma sentiment were two violent incidents perpetrated by groups of the Roma in Nový Bor and Rumburk¹³¹. Another eight smaller incidents followed.

The EU Fundamental Rights Agency reported that Roma properties were destroyed during a demonstration in Rumburk in August 2011. During the anti-Roma protest in Varnsdorf in September 2011, one of the protesters was charged with the crime of denying genocide. She was also wearing the T-shirt with a slogan: "Revive Hitler! Get rid of the dirt! Roma to gas chambers!"¹³² Demonstrations against the Roma population also took place in Krupka (9 April 2011), Brno¹³³ (1 May 2011) and Přerov (25 June 2011) and other sensitive parts of the Czech Republic as Havířov, Černý Most in Prague, Rotava and Vimperk, and other places.

The majority population¹³⁴ and civil society representatives criticised the inadequate response of the Government and municipalities to the situation in the region of Šluknovský výběžek¹³⁵. Civil society¹³⁶ and state agencies¹³⁷ also

¹²⁹ A migration analysis in the region of Šluknov shows that the migration has been mostly of an interregional character (61.6%). Moreover, 153 socially vulnerable persons migrated to the region and 174 of such persons moved away from the region. The analysis concluded that the migration was one of the reasons for the problems in the region, but not as significant as the media reported. Kafková, Jiřina., and Sokačová, Linda, and Szénássy, Edit, *Analýza migračních trendů na Šluknovsku (Varnsdorf, Rumburk, Jiřikov, Krásná Lípa a Šluknov)*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/vyzkum-na-sluknovsku-chudi-lide-migruji-predevsim-v-ramci-regionu-ten-vyrazne-chudne>, accessed 5 August 2012.

¹³⁰ According to the Ministry of Interior Report, 3282 criminal offences were reported from 1 January to August 2011 in the region of Šluknovský výběžek, which is 435 more than in the same period in the previous year. The biggest increase appeared in property criminal acts, thefts and burglary. The Roma were often almost automatically regarded as criminals by the majority population. Some cases of false accusations against the Roma appeared as well. Ministry of Interior, *Události ve Šluknovském výběžku*, p. 3, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/problematika-socialne-vyloucenych-lokalit.aspx>, accessed 5 August 2012; Kafková, J. et al, p. 3.

¹³¹ A group of ethnic Roma allegedly attacked customers in a local bar in Nový Bor on 7 August 2011 and another group of ethnic Roma attacked six persons in Rumburk on 21 August 2011. Ministry of Interior, *Události ve Šluknovském výběžku*, p. 6, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/problematika-socialne-vyloucenych-lokalit.aspx>, accessed 5 August 2012.

¹³² EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *Annual Report 2011. Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2011*, p. 156, http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-2012_Annual-Report-2011_EN.pdf, accessed 8 August 2012.

¹³³ The protest in Brno was blocked by an anti-demonstration called "Brno is blocking" in which civil society representatives, the Roma and other ethnic minorities representatives and the general public took part.

¹³⁴ According to a public survey on the situation in Šluknovský výběžek, 51% of the population assessed police actions positively and 43% of the population were positive about the reaction of the municipality. On the other hand, the Government and mayors' of cities in the region reactions were mostly perceived negatively. The Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences, *Názory české veřejnosti na situaci ve Šluknovském výběžku*, p. 2, www.cvvm.cas.cz/upl/zpravy/101199s_ob111109.pdf, accessed 6 August 2012.

¹³⁵ European Roma Rights Centre, *Parallel Report by the European Roma Rights centre to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the Czech Republic for Its*

criticised the media for their coverage of the situation. The Ministry of the Interior took several measures to deal with the situation in Šluknovský výběžek. “Anti-conflict teams”¹³⁸ were deployed during the protests and specialist units from Prague, Brno and Ostrava were appointed for long-term maintenance of public order in the most problematic locations¹³⁹.

Overall, the number of extremist criminal offences¹⁴⁰ (including racially motivated criminal offences) did not increase in comparison with the rest of the criminal offences detected in the Czech Republic in 2011 (0.08% of the overall criminality)¹⁴¹. 209 of them were racially motivated.¹⁴² The number of crimes directed against the Roma increased in 2011. The most serious racist crimes in 2011 were arson attacks against Roma families in Býchory (10 July 2011) and Krtý (10 August 2011) which were inspired by a series of such incidents conducted in previous years¹⁴³.

The majority of the perpetrators of racist crimes in 2011 were poorly educated (66.7% are elementary school graduates with or without a vocational certificate) and a large proportion were between 21-29 years of age (44%). 93.7% of perpetrators of racist crimes are men, 44.8% are recidivists and 3.6% are foreigner nationals¹⁴⁴.

Consideration at the 79th Session, <http://www.errc.org/cms/upload/file/czech-republic-cerd-submission-22-july-2011.pdf>, accessed 9 August 2012; Amnesty International, *Tisková zpráva k výroční zprávě o stavu lidských práv za rok 2011*, <http://www.amnesty.cz/news/article.php?id=701>, accessed 6 August 2012.

¹³⁶ Romea.cz, *Bitka, která rozpoutala nepokoje na severu, se odehrála jinak. Média informovala nepravdivě*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/bitka-ktera-rozpoutala-nepokoje-na-severu-se-odehrala-jinak-media-informovala-nepravdive>, accessed 8 August 2012; Romea.cz, *Šluknovsko: Asi osm případů trestné činnosti bylo vymyšleno. Famy zvyšují nenávisť vůči Romům*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/sluknovsko-asi-osm-pripadu-trestne-cinnosti-bylo-vymysleno-famy-zvysuji-nenavist-vuci-romum>, accessed 8 August 2012.

¹³⁷ The police labelled the media reports as “unbalanced and biased”. Ministry of Interior, *Události ve Šluknovském výběžku*, p. 6, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/problematika-socialne-vyloucenych-lokalit.aspx>, accessed 5 August 2012.

¹³⁸ Anti-conflict teams try to prevent violence and negotiate with both sides to set certain rules for behaviour during demonstrations. Ministry of Interior, *Události ve Šluknovském výběžku*, p. 7, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/problematika-socialne-vyloucenych-lokalit.aspx>, accessed 5 August 2012.

¹³⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 8 – 7, 15.

¹⁴⁰ Extremist criminal offences are such criminal offences which are motivated by the extreme ideological views of the perpetrator. Alternatively, these offences may be called also as crimes motivated by racial, national and other social hate. Extremist criminal offences are similar to so called „hate crimes“. Czech Police, *Co je extremismus?*, <http://www.policie.cz/clanek/prevence-informace-o-extremismu-co-je-extremismus.aspx>, accessed 11 August 2012.

¹⁴¹ 238 extremist criminal offences were reported and 246 persons prosecuted in 2011. Ministry of Interior, 2012, ‘Zpráva o extremismu a projevech rasismu a xenofobie na území České republiky v roce 2011’, ‘Vyhodnocení plnění Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2011 a Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2012’, pp. 21, 89, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-vyrocnizpravy-o-extremismu-a-strategie-boje-proti-extremismu.aspx>, accessed 6 August 2012.

¹⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 89 – 92.

¹⁴³ Mareš, Miroslav et al, *České militantní neonacistické hnutí, Analýza pro Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky – Odbor bezpečnosti politiky*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/soubor/ceske-militantni-neonacisticke-hnuti-aktualni-trendy-pdf.aspx>, accessed 14 August 2012.

¹⁴⁴ Ministry of Interior, 2012, ‘Zpráva o extremismu a projevech rasismu a xenofobie na území České republiky v roce 2011’, ‘Vyhodnocení plnění Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok

Racist crimes and subsequent penalties are defined in the Criminal Code (No. 40/2009) and the process for investigating offences is covered by the Code of Criminal Procedure (No. 140/1961). Regarding the success of the investigation and prosecution of extremist crimes, 157 cases out of totally 238 extremist crimes which were recorded in 2011 were brought to a conclusion¹⁴⁵.

Muslims have not been reported to be targets of attacks against their physical integrity because of their religious affiliation¹⁴⁶. The Ministry of the Interior evaluates the opposition against Muslims as predominantly “intellectual” resistance¹⁴⁷.

6.8.3 Hate speech

The Roma are often victims of hate speech. Perpetrators of these crimes can be divided into two groups – right-wing extremists who try to incite hatred against the Roma as part of their political agenda and authors of non-political hate speech (their acts are usually not qualified as a punishable criminal act). The non-political hate speech is a mixture of lies and half-truths that spreads (often as a hoax) anti-Roma sentiments among the population¹⁴⁸. The second group is predominantly described in the chapter Discrimination in media (see Chapter 6.7.).

Hate speech is prohibited according to the Criminal Code. It has created a legal framework enabling the police to prosecute specifically the right-wing extremism and perpetrators of hate speech. A number of prosecutions were brought against neo-Nazis during the period under review. According to statistics from the Ministry of the Interior, there were 144 cases of hate speech recorded, 95 cases were prosecuted and 152 offenders were arrested (2011 figures)¹⁴⁹. According to police statistics, 35 hate speech crimes were committed against the Roma¹⁵⁰.

2011 a Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2012', pp. 95 – 99, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-vyrocní-zpravy-o-extremismu-a-strategie-boje-proti-extremismu.aspx>, accessed 6 August 2012.

¹⁴⁵Ibid. p. 89 – 90; The European Roma Rights Centre Parallel Report to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the Czech Republic maintained that “according to monitoring of the state response to anti-Roma violence in 14 cases reported by the media, in four cases no suspects were identified, and in only two cases was racial motive confirmed by the court”. European Roma Rights Centre, *Parallel Report by the European Roma Rights centre to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the Czech Republic for Its Consideration at the 79th Session*, <http://www.errc.org/cms/upload/file/czech-republic-cerd-submission-22-july-2011.pdf>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁴⁶In the past, there have been sporadic cases of damaging walls of the mosques by defamatory symbols. However, no such incidents occurred during the period concerned.

¹⁴⁷Ministry of Interior, *Extremismus. Souhrnná situační zpráva. 3. čtvrtletí roku 2011*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/zprava-extremismus-3q-pdf.aspx, accessed 12 July 2012.

¹⁴⁸List of Czech most popular hoax are at HOAX.cz, *Databáze*, <http://hoax.cz/hoax/databaze/>, accessed 20 August 2012.

¹⁴⁹Ministry of Interior, *Extremismus, souhrnná situační zpráva. 4. čtvrtletí roku 2011*, p. 13, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnostni-hrozby-337414.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NA%3D%3D>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁵⁰Ministry of Interior, *Trestné činy motivované nenávisť proti Romům v ČR v roce 2011*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/romove-xlsx.aspx, accessed 9 August 2012.

Some speeches of the Islamophobic politicians could be classified as hate speech. A criminal complaint was lodged against the presidential candidate Miloš Zeman in July 2011 because of his defamatory anti-Islamic statements¹⁵¹.

Some crimes which do not fall under the traditional conception of hate speech were recorded. Therefore, it appears the authorities have interpreted the law on hate speech broadly in these cases¹⁵². Patrik Vondrák and Micheala Dupová, as well as other high-profile figures from the Czech neo-Nazi scene, were accused of posting stickers with the National Resistance logo and of unapproved march organisation¹⁵³. Accusation of posting stickers with the NR logo is an example of broad interpretation of the hate speech prohibition.

In the Czech Republic, the fight against racism and discrimination is focused almost exclusively on neo-Nazism and right-wing extremism¹⁵⁴. Other manifestations of racism and discrimination receive little the attention from the state¹⁵⁵.

The Constitutional Court has upheld the constitutionality of the criminal prosecution of hate speech (in the context of freedom of speech)¹⁵⁶.

6.8.4 Counter-terrorism

There have been no significant changes in the field of counterterrorism in the Czech Republic during the period under review. The Counter-terrorism Strategy 2010 – 2012¹⁵⁷ is still in force, but there are no reports assessing its implementation in practice. The Annual Report of the Security Service for 2011 has not yet been published. The issue of counterterrorism in relation to Muslims in the Czech Republic is addressed in Chapter 5.4. of this report.

6.8.5 Facilitating factor or protective measures in criminal justice

¹⁵¹ Vaše věc, *Miloš Zeman: Trestní oznámení za jeho xenofobní výroky*, <http://www.vasevec.cz/clanky/milos-zeman-trestni-oznameni-za-jeho-xenofobni-vyroky>, accessed 9 August 2012. For more about Zeman's statements see Chapter 6.7.

¹⁵² For the traditional concept of hate speech see Weber, Anne, *Manual on Hate Speech*, (Strasbourg: Council of Europe Publishing, 2009), p. 3.

¹⁵³ Ministry of Interior, *Projevy extremismu na internetu*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/projevy-extremismu-na-internetu.aspx>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁵⁴ According to annual analyses of Intelligence Service from the first quarter of 2012, extremism is not a real threat. Intelligence Service, *Informace BIS o vývoji na extremistické scéně v 1. čtvrtletí roku 2012*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnostni-hrozby-337414.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NA%3D%3D>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁵⁵ Ministry of Interior, *Projevy extremismu na internetu*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/projevy-extremismu-na-internetu.aspx>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁵⁶ Constitutional Court, *Judgement*, <http://www.concourt.cz/soubor/5998>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁵⁷ Ministry of Interior, *Strategie boje proti terorismu na léta 2010 – 2012*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/dokumenty-454055.aspx>, accessed 10 August 2012.

In the period under review, the Government adopted the Social Exclusion Combating Strategy and identified the most serious problems associated with socially excluded localities and their causes¹⁵⁸ and proposed a list of measures¹⁵⁹ to address the situation. Data collection procedures have not changed significantly since the previous year. The only positive change is that racist crimes against Roma began to be monitored separately from other racist crimes for the first time in 2011¹⁶⁰.

The support for the victims of hate crimes in the Czech Republic is mostly provided by civic organisations (In Iustitia, Romea, o.s., The Pro bono Alliance, The Counselling Centre for Citizenship, Civil and Human Rights, etc.) which offer a broad range of legal services (legal consultancy, preparing legal actions, representation during court proceedings etc.) usually free of charge. Moreover, the new Social Exclusion Combating Strategy seeks to enact free legal services for socially marginalised victims of hate crimes¹⁶¹.

Islamophobia is an issue of relatively low salience in the Czech Republic (see Chapter 5); therefore no action to enhance protection against Islamophobia or specific targeting of Muslim communities has been taken either by the Government or by NGOs.

¹⁵⁸ These causes listed included the high crime rate, poverty, insolvency, unemployment etc. Ibid., pp. 8 – 10.

¹⁵⁹ The strategy introduced, for example, the establishment of special units dealing with a widespread phenomenon of loan-sharking in socially excluded areas and appointment of communication working groups operating in cities with socially excluded areas to solve security issues (pilot project) etc. Ibid., p. 12 - 13.

¹⁶⁰ Ministry of Interior, 2012, 'Zpráva o extremismu a projevech rasismu a xenofobie na území České republiky v roce 2011', 'Vyhodnocení plnění Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2011 a Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2012', p 89, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-vyrocní-zpravy-o-extremismu-a-strategie-boje-proti-extremismu.aspx>, accessed 6 August 2012.

¹⁶¹ Government of the Czech Republic, *Strategie boje proti sociálnímu vyloučení*, pp. 14 – 15, www.aspcr.cz/sites/default/files/strategie-2011-2015_2.pdf, accessed 7 August 201.

7. Civil society assessment and critique in ensuring protection of fundamental rights

A number of NGOs actively focus on combating discrimination and promoting integration of ethnic minority groups in the Czech Republic¹⁶². In 2011, NGOs criticised the Government primarily for the persisting problem of segregation of the Roma in the education system, for the growth of extremism, and for the situation faced by migrants¹⁶³.

As the Roma encounter the most serious racial discrimination, many NGOs focus on this minority group. The Czech presidency of the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 from July 2010 to June 2011 offered a unique opportunity to inform the Czech society about the Roma. The Czech presidency divided its priorities into five categories – education, living conditions and rights of children, Roma women, implementation of integration policies at a local level and media and the image of the Roma. Individual countries introduce action plans to reach the objectives of the Decade. The Czech Government adopted the Conception for Roma Integration for 2010-2013 in December 2009¹⁶⁴. These measures aim to improve the position of the Roma and help them to fully participate in cultural, social, economic and political life. However, serious drawbacks sometimes appear in their implementation. The Conception introduced a new position of Roma Consultants, but towns are reluctant to introduce them, usually with a reference to budget constraints. The plan for 2011 also required the cooperation of Roma Assistants during public census and promotion of gender equality among the Roma. According to the Government, both of these goals were achieved¹⁶⁵. However, in March 2011, the members of the Government Council for Roma Affairs strongly criticised the inability of the Government to implement the Conception, whose role remains only formal in their opinion¹⁶⁶.

Racism became a pressing topic in 2011 due to unrest at the border areas. In September 2011, the Czech Helsinki Committee (CHC) issued a commentary

¹⁶² The members of ENAR are the Czech Helsinki Committee, IQ Roma Servis, Romodrom, o.s., The Association for Integration and Migration, Slovo 21, Vzájemné soužití, o.s. and Zřívule práva. The NGOs focusing mainly on integration of foreigners are Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům, Sdružení občanů zabývajících se emigranty, and InBáze Berkat o.s. Additionally, there are many other NGOs working on the relevant issues of concern.

¹⁶³ These three areas were emphasised in the Amnesty International human rights report of 2011. Amnesty International, *Rok 2011 v České republice z pohledu Amnesty International: bohatý na události, chudý na výsledky*, <http://www.amnesty.cz/z701/rok-2011-v-ceske-republice-z-pohledu-amnesty-international-bohaty-na-udalosti-chudy-na-vysledky>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁶⁴ Government, *Koncepce romské integrace na období 2010-2013*, <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/ppov/zalezitosti-romske-komunity/dokumenty/koncepce-romske-integrace-na-obdobi-20102013-71187/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁶⁵ Government, *Výroční zpráva o činnosti Rady vlády ČR pro záležitosti romské menšiny za rok 2011*, p. 23 – 26, <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/ppov/zalezitosti-romske-komunity/dokumenty/vyrocní-zprava-o-cinnosti-rady-vlady-cr-pro-zalezitosti-romske-mensiny-za-rok-2011-96911/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁶⁶ Romea.cz, *Občanská část Rady vlády pro záležitosti romské menšiny tvrdě kritizuje činnost vlády*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/obcanska-cast-rady-vlady-pro-zalezitosti-romske-mensiny-tvrde-kritizuje-cinnost-vlady>, accessed 15 August 2012.

to implementation of The Recommendations of European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)¹⁶⁷ which criticised the Czech government for its negligent approach to the implementation of the recommendations. According to the authors of the commentary, none of recommendations have been implemented yet and in some cases preparation for their future fulfilment has not even begun¹⁶⁸.

One of the most significant initiatives in response to racist activities in border areas was the “Šluknov Call”, an open letter calling for a systematic solution in aid of socially excluded localities. The Foundation of Michael Kocáb (the ex-Minister for Human Rights) initiated the Call and passed it to the Government in September 2011. The Call was signed by different NGOs, as well as by many individuals¹⁶⁹. The European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC) and Amnesty International also supported the initiative “Hatred Is not an Option” (Nenávist není řešením). The letter was sent to the Government in March 2012 and called for urgent suspension of violence and of manifestations of extremism in the border regions¹⁷⁰.

In addition, In IUSTITIA, La Strada and the White Circle of Safety (Bílý kruh bezpečí) attracted public attention in February 2012 with their criticism of the Government draft law on victims of crime.¹⁷¹

7.1 Changes in the position of aliens in 2011

The most significant change for immigrants was the amendment to the Residence of Aliens Act (No. 326/1999) which has been in force since 1 January 2011. The amendment transferred the immigration agenda competences from the Immigration Police to the Asylum and Migration Policy Department of the Ministry of the Interior (AMPD). As a result the AMPD has been constantly overloaded due to the insufficient capacity of the department which complicated the situation of applicants. The overload of the AMPD is a result of the applicant’s obligation to submit an application personally (with the exception of applications for extension of the long-term residence permit). Additionally, applicants for the long-term and permanent residence must apply

¹⁶⁷ The recommendations for the Czech Republic were published in May 2012. European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, *ECRI Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the Czech Republic subject to interim follow-up*, http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Country-by-country/Czech_Republic/CZE-IFU-IV-2012-027-ENG.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁶⁸ Valeš, F., and Šabatová, A. *Komentáře k implementaci doporučení Evropské komise proti rasismu a nesnášenlivosti (ECRI)*, <http://www.helcom.cz/view.php?cisloclanku=2011092001>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁶⁹ It was signed by the AI, the CHC, The Open Society Fund Prague, Romea, o.s. and Vzájemné soužití, o.s. Czech Helsinki Committee, *Výzva vládě k činnosti*, <http://helcom.cz/view.php?cisloclanku=2011090901>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁷⁰ Romea.cz, *ERRC a Amnesty International žádají českou vládu, aby zamezila násilí páchanému na Romech*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/errc-a-amnesty-international-zadaji-ceskou-vladu-aby-zamezila-nasili-pachaneho-na-romech>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁷¹ According to the critics, the draft law reduces the quality of services provided to victims of crime as it does not require the people who provide legal counselling to the victims to hold a law degree. Romea.cz, *Stanovisko neziskových organizací k návrhu zákona o obětech trestných činů*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/stanovisko-organizace-la-strada-k-navrhu-zakona-o-obetech-trestnych-cinu>, accessed 15 August 2012.

solely through Visapoint system. The measure aims to prevent 'visa shopping'; however, the Ombudsman has strongly criticised these requirements, and has questioned their legality¹⁷². The capacity problems of the AMPD are further exacerbated by the obligation to issue residence permits with biometric data since July 2011 (as provided by the EC regulation No. 2252/2004). The CHC doubts that the current immigration system is ready for the administrative requirements imposed by the new law¹⁷³. On the other hand, some experts consider the transformation of the immigration administration is a positive step. They claim that the reforms have increased transparency, although the length of the proceedings remains a concern¹⁷⁴. A positive development is that immigrants can now appeal to the Ministry of the Interior which re-examines the grounds for not granting a visa.

In summer 2011, the Ministry of Interior issued a draft of a new Aliens Act. The Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organisations in the Czech Republic (Consortium)¹⁷⁵ criticised the draft for an absence of clear goals in the migration policy and its underlying principles, as well as for a lack of analysis of the current situation, that is, the advantages and disadvantages of the Act on the Residence of Aliens which is currently in force¹⁷⁶. On the other hand, the Consortium evaluated positively the law's ambitions to deal with the issue of health insurance and to strengthen procedural safeguards for immigrants¹⁷⁷.

7.3 Conclusions

In 2011, the Czech NGOs focused mainly on racism in border regions. Therefore they initiated public calls to the Government in order to prevent racist riots and hatred marches. The NGOs proposed projects with emphasis on education of the Roma and cooperated with the State Authorities in various consultative bodies. Nevertheless, their activity cannot compensate for the unwillingness of the Czech Government to fully implement the Conception for Roma Integration.

¹⁷² Ombudsman, *Fungování systému Visapoint a přijímání žádostí o víza*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/STANOVISKA/Cizinci/2273-2011-PP-ZSO.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁷³ Czech Helsinki Committee, *Zpráva o stavu lidských práv v České republice za rok 2011*, p. 68, http://www.helcom.cz/dokumenty/ZLP_2011_CHV.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁷⁴ Program migration, *Rozhodování o pobytech cizinců v rukou ministerstva vnitra: bilance prvního roku*, <http://migration4media.net/2012/01/30/rozhodovani-o-pobytech-cizincu-v-rukou-ministerstva-vnitra-bilance-prvniho-roku/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁷⁵ The Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organisations in the Czech Republic consists of eight NGOs.

¹⁷⁶ Program migration, *Ombudsman: "Věcný záměr nové cizinecké legislativy snižuje v některých případech stávající standardy ochrany cizinců"*, <http://migration4media.net/2011/08/31/ombudsman-%E2%80%99Evecny-zamer-nove-cizinecke-legislativy-snižuje-v-rade-pripadu-stavajici-standardy-ochrany-cizincu-%E2%80%9C/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁷⁷ Migraceonline.cz, *Připomínky Konsorcia nevládních organizací k návrhu věcného záměru nového cizineckého zákona*, <http://migraceonline.cz/e-knihovna/?x=2310155>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Another problematic issue is the situation of migrants. Although the aim of the Act on the Residence of Aliens was to improve and simplify the immigration proceedings, in reality the AMPD is overloaded by the agenda, leading to increased complications for immigrants. In addition, the majority of immigrants still cannot vote in the Czech Republic and some of them are not covered by the Czech public health insurance.

8. Good practices

Example of NGO Good Practice in Employment

The NGO Romea runs a web portal Job Fair (Burza práce) which provides assistance in finding a job or retraining course for (mostly) Roma job applicants. The NGO IQ Roma Servis provides a range of assistance services for its socially excluded clients.¹⁷⁸

Example of NGO Good Practice in Education

A systemic change to the education system does not seem probable for the time being, due to reluctance on the part of influential stakeholders (the Ministry of Education, directors of special schools, special education teachers, school psychologists etc.) to undertake thorough reforms. Therefore some NGOs have introduced small-scale projects in order to demonstrate successful examples of a more inclusive approach. The League of Human Rights runs a project called 'Fair School' (Férová škola) which rewards schools' inclusive practices with a Fair School certificate. Furthermore, experts from The League of Human Rights organise seminars for teachers and pupils, offer counselling and also comment on education-related bills.

In the 2011/2012 school year, Romea introduced the Roma Mentor project, which seeks to integrate disadvantaged children into the education system through leisure activities in arts and culture¹⁷⁹. Also other NGOs work systematically with children on the ground such as IQ Roma Servis.

Example of NGO Good Practice in Housing

IQ Roma Servis provides temporary apartments for families with children in difficult social situations. The rental contract is limited from six to twelve months. The project also provides further assistance and education aimed at stabilising the situation of a family¹⁸⁰.

Example of NGO Good Practice in Health

The League of Human Rights runs a project named Fair Hospital (Férová nemocnice) which informs patients about their rights and spreads awareness about human rights issues in health care.

¹⁷⁸Accompanying the clients at job interviews etc. IQ Roma Servis, *Centrum komunitní a terénní sociální práce*, <http://iqrs.cz/search.php?rsvelikost=sab&rstext=all-phpRS-all&rstema=77>, accessed 17 July 2012.

¹⁷⁹Mentor positions are held by famous Roma personalities. Romea.cz, *Romský mentor – integrace prostřednictvím umění a kultury*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/romsky-mentor-integrace-prostrednictvim-umeni-a-kultury>, accessed 15 August 2012.

¹⁸⁰IQ Roma Servis, *Modelový byt s doprovodným sociálním programem*, <http://iqrs.cz/search.php?rsvelikost=sab&rstext=all-phpRS-all&rstema=213>, accessed 28 July 2012.

Example of NGO Good Practice in Access to Goods and Services

IQ Roma Servis provides a range of services for its socially excluded clients as a part of their work, including accompanying their clients at job interviews, helping with housing applications etc.¹⁸¹. In 2011, IQ Roma Servis workers assisted a total of 617 clients who faced problems with insolvency¹⁸².

Example of NGO Good Practice in Promoting Political Participation

The NGO Forum 50% actively seeks out politicians who want to promote gender equality. The “Coalition for balanced representation of women and men in politics” was formed to coordinate their efforts.

Example of NGO Good Practice in Media

In February 2012, the website Parlamentní listy reported that the Roma Party had allegedly been robbed by the party treasurer soon after its foundation¹⁸³. The report appeared in the majority of Czech media (tn.cz and TV Nova)¹⁸⁴. Members of ROMEA, o.s. Patrik Banga and František Kostlán revealed that it was a lie and a hoax¹⁸⁵.

Example of NGO Good Practice in Criminal Justice

Some NGOs provide victims of hate crimes with unpaid legal assistance. For example, In Iustitia runs the Justýna Counselling Centre, an online legal assistance service to support victims of hate crime.

¹⁸¹ IQ Roma Servis, *Centrum komunitní a terénní sociální práce*, <http://iqr.s.cz/search.php?rsvelikost=sab&rstext=all-phpRS-all&rstema=77>, accessed 17 July 2012.

¹⁸² IQ Roma Servis, *Jak probíhala práce v terénu v roce 2011*, <http://iqr.s.cz/view.php?navezclanku=jak-probihala-prace-v-terenu-v-roce-2011&cisloclanku=2012080009>, accessed 15 July 2012.

¹⁸³ Prokůpek, Václav, *Romové založili stranu a mají problém. Zmizel jim pokladník i s penězi*, <http://www.parlamentnilisty.cz/zpravy/Romove-zalozili-stranu-a-uz-maji-problem-Zmizel-jim-pokladnik-i-s-penezi-222538>, accessed 9 August 2012.

¹⁸⁴ The information has been removed from the tn.cz server. Links to the tn.cz page and other sites discussing the case can be found in Rožánek, Filip, *Vítejte ve světě vymyšlených zpráv: jak to skutečně bylo s romskou stranou a uprchlým pokladníkem*, <http://www.mediar.cz/vitejte-ve-svete-vymyslenych-zprav-jak-to-skutecne-bylo-s-romskou-stranou-a-uprchlym-pokladnikem/>, accessed 13 August 2012.

¹⁸⁵ Banga, P., and Kostlán, František, *Parlamentní listy vypustily zprávu o okradení Evropské romské strany. Je to kachna, kterou převzala média?*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/parlamentni-listy-vypustily-zpravu-o-okradeni-evropske-romske-strany-je-to-kachna-kerou-prevzala-media#.T0DVKd-CyJ0.facebook>, accessed 16 August 2012.

9. National recommendations

Special Focus: Muslim Communities

Very little attention is paid to the issue of Muslims in the Czech Republic by either the Government or NGOs. Muslims encounter problems such as hate speech and negative media portrayals. The Government should pay more attention and provide resources to address this issue, in order to avoid the development of potentially more serious and complex problems in the future.

Employment

It is essential to increase the availability of legal assistance for victims of discrimination in the labour market. In particular, the adoption of a free legal aid Act would regulate the legal framework for pro bono aid to the deprived, and help to improve access to qualified lawyers for the victims of discrimination in the labour market.

Education

The existence of parallel systems of education, with disproportionately high numbers of Roma children attending schools with substandard curricula, increases hostility between the majority and Roma population. Unfortunately, tightening the rules for allocation of Roma pupils to special schools alone may not deliver significant change, as the primary schools with higher proportions of Roma children experience “the flight” of white children to other schools. In order to bring communities together, a bolder and more intrusive action will be needed – e.g. setting quotas for the Roma children at elementary schools. In addition, steps which were envisioned by the administration such as ‘0th grades’, teaching assistants or stricter standards for sending a child to a special school should be more vigorously applied in practice.

Housing

As regards housing, an overall change to the existing system is necessary. The Czech Republic still lacks a strategy for social housing for the poor, which in the end allows for the misuse of benefits for housing support by the owners of lodging-houses.

Health

Public health insurance remains inaccessible for certain categories of immigrants. In addition, more attention must be paid to the social impact of healthcare reform, which can result in decreased accessibility for poor, elderly or disabled people.

Access to goods and services

Often, the members of Roma community are still seen as unwelcome consumers. Price discrimination remains an issue and must be eliminated in order to ensure equal access to goods and services.

Criminal justice

The issues of incitement to racial violence and internet hate speech must be addressed.

Media

In order to reduce racism and other forms of discrimination in the media, commitment to journalistic ethics must be reinforced. NGOs should focus on searching out and refuting fabricated reports of Roma crime, and on promoting ethical practices of the journalist community through education and training.

10. Conclusion

Racism and prejudice are still deeply rooted in Czech society. The most problematic issue in the period under review has been anti-Roma sentiment, in particular anti-Roma protests and demonstrations. Anti-Roma hatred particularly increased in regions with a high number of socially excluded communities (for example in Šluknovský výběžek).

Although the public and the media have criticised the authorities for their inadequate response to these difficulties, it is worth noting that the short-term solutions (deployment of specialist police units, anti-conflict teams etc.) were reasonably successful. The change of perception of the socially excluded communities and especially of the Roma population and eradication of the prejudice and negative attitude to these communities are to be a part of long-lasting policy program solution. In this respect, the authorities adopted several concept documents (e.g. the Conception for Roma Integration for 2010-2013 or the Social Exclusion Combating Strategy). The real effects of the measures drafted by these documents require long-term evaluation.

The Czech Republic faced international criticism for insufficient implementation of the *D.H. and others. v. Czech Republic* decision by the European Court of Human Rights. This decision concerned the overrepresentation of Roma children at schools with substandard curriculum. The concept of inclusive education was introduced in 2010 but progress has not been significant to date.

The importance of activities by NGOs in dealing with racism and discrimination in various domains of life must be recognised. NGOs' engagement in problematic issues has often partially compensated for the lack of response from the authorities (for example in housing problems of socially excluded communities, in free legal assistance for socially marginalised persons, or in case of biased and unbalanced reports of the media about the Roma population).

The report shows that Islamophobia in the Czech Republic is latent but deeply rooted in the public perception of the religion of Islam and Muslim communities. However, Islamophobia was not a significant social and political issue in the period under the review. This is mostly because the Muslim community the Czech Republic is rather small and does not face systemic problems such as high unemployment rate, social exclusion or violence.

Bibliography

Agency for Social Inclusion, *Co je sociální vyloučení*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/co-je-socialni-vyloucení>, accessed 12 August 2012.

Agency for Social Inclusion, *Tisková zpráva Agentury pro sociální začleňování z 30. ledna 2012*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/tiskova-zprava-agentura-pro-socialni-zaclenovani-ukonci-spolupraci-s-mestem-duchcov>, accessed 18 July 2012.

Agency for Social Inclusion, *Tisková zpráva Agentury pro sociální začleňování z 3. února 2011*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/tiskova-zprava-agentura-prodlouzi-pusobeni-v-sesti-pilotnich-lokalitach-do-konce-roku-2012>, accessed 18 July 2012.

Agency for Social Inclusion, *Zpráva o činnosti v roce 2011*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/dokumenty/o-agenture/agentura-pro-socialni-zaclenovani-v-romskych-lokalitach-zprava-o-cinnosti-v-roce-2011/download>, accessed 18 July 2012.

Aktuálně, *Vláda Vám mění život. Velký přehled schválených reforem*, <http://aktualne.centrum.cz/finance/grafika/2011/12/08/vladni-reformy-prehled/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Al-islam.cz, *Mešity a modlitebny v ČR a SR*, <http://al-islam.cz/mesity-a-modlitebny/mesity-a-modlitebny-v-cr-a-sr.html>, accessed 7 August 2012.

Amnesty International, *Rok 2011 v České republice z pohledu Amnesty International: bohatý na události, chudý na výsledky*, <http://www.amnesty.cz/z701/rok-2011-v-ceske-republice-z-pohledu-amnesty-international-bohaty-na-udalosti-chudy-na-vysledky>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Amnesty International, *Tisková zpráva k výroční zprávě o stavu lidských práv za rok 2011*, <http://www.amnesty.cz/news/article.php?id=701>, accessed 6 August 2012.

Association of Public Relations Agencies, *Česká cena za Public Relations – Výsledky*, <http://www.cenapr.cz/7/vysledky.html>, accessed 20 August 2012.

Banga, Patrik, and Kostlán, František, *Parlamentní listy vypustily zprávu o okradení Evropské romské strany. Je to kachna, kterou převzala média?*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/parlamentni-listy-vypustily-zpravu-o-okradeni-evropske-romske-strany-je-to-kachna-kerou-prevzala-media#.T0DVKd-CyJ0.facebook>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Bečka, Jiří, and Mendel, Miloš, *Islám a české země* (Praha: Votobia, 1998).

Bednář, P. 2012, 'Na univerzitě se sešli odpůrci i obhájci islámu, v diskuzi to vřelo,' *iDnes.cz*, 8 March, http://hradec.idnes.cz/na-univerzite-se-sesli-odpurci-i-obhajci-islam-u-v-diskuzi-to-vrelo-1c8-/hradec-zpravy.aspx?c=A120308_1745021_hradec-zpravy_kol, accessed 7 August 2012

Blesk.cz, *Divoký sever: Opilí Romové ničili hospody*, <http://www.blesk.cz/clanek/zpravy-udalosti-domaci/159642/divoky-sever-opili-romove-nicili-hospody.html>, accessed 16. August 2012.

Brandejská, A. 2011, 'Islám je anticivilizace kvůli vztahu k ženám, trvá na svém Zeman', *iDnes.cz*, 7 July, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/islam-je-anticivilizace-kvuli-vztahu-k-zenam-trva-na-svem-zeman-pp-domaci.aspx?c=A110707_154449_domaci_abr, accessed 7 August 2012

Brunner, F. 2011, 'Anti-Roma Protests Turn Violent in the Czech Republic', *Spiegel*, 16 September, <http://www.spiegel.de/international/europe/wave-of-hate-anti-roma-protests-turn-violent-in-the-czech-republic-a-786495.html>, accessed 6 August 2012.

Buchert, V. 2011, 'Umírněný muslim je stejný protimluv jako umírněný nacista, tvrdí expremiér Zeman', *Reflex*, 3 August, <http://www.reflex.cz/clanek/politika/42738/umirneny-muslim-je-stejny-protimluv-jako-umirneny-nacista-tvrdi-expremier-zeman.html>, accessed 18 July 2012.

Čermák, Michal, *Faktor R*, <http://jinepravo.blogspot.cz/2012/03/faktor-r-onu-skutecnost-jsem-si.html>, accessed 20 August 2012.

Čížinský, Pavel, *Co je to komerční pojištění cizinců?*, http://inbaze.cz/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=181&catid=52, accessed 10 August 2012.

Commissioner for Human Rights, Council of Europe, *Report by Thomas Hammarberg, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, following his visit to the Czech Republic from 17 to 19 November 2010*, <https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1754217>, accessed 12 July 2012.

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. *Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Czech Republic*, http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/CZECH_REP_COBs_CERD79.pdf, accessed 10 July 2012.

Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 44 of the Convention Concluding Observations: Czech Republic*, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/co/CRC.C.CZE.CO.3-4.doc>, accessed 15 July 2012.

Constitutional Court, *Poslanci napadli u ústavního soudu zdravotnickou reformu*, <http://concourt.cz/clanek/6045>, accessed August 9, 2012.

Čopjaková, Kateřina, *Ubytovny pro chudé, stále výnosný byznys*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/ubytovny-pro-chude-stale-vynosny-byznys>, accessed 20 July 2012.

Czech Helsinki Committee, *Stanovisko: Pravidla pro poskytování zdravotní péče obsahují prvky zjevné neústavnosti*, <http://www.helcom.cz/view.php?cisloclanku=2012062101>, accessed 9 August, 2012.

Czech Helsinki Committee, *Výzva vládě k činnosti*, <http://helcom.cz/view.php?cisloclanku=2011090901>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Czech Helsinki Committee, *Zpráva o stavu lidských práv v České republice za rok 2011*, http://www.helcom.cz/dokumenty/ZLP_2011_CHV.pdf, accessed 6 August 2012.

Czech Police, *Co je extremismus?*, <http://www.policie.cz/clanek/prevence-informace-o-extremismu-co-je-extremismus.aspx>, accessed 11 August 2012.

Czech School Inspection, *Souhrnné poznatky z tematické kontrolní činnosti v bývalých zvláštních školách*, <http://www.csicr.cz/getattachment/6e4232be-1c17-4ff8-ac72-763a23569109>, accessed 20 July 2012

Czech Statistical Office, *Obyvatelstvo podle náboženské víry podle krajů - podrobné údaje*, www.scitani.cz/slodb2011/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo_podle_nabozenske_viry_podle_kraju_podrobne_udaje/%24File/slodb_podrobna_vira.xls, accessed 15 July 2012;

Czech Statistical Office, *Obyvatelstvo podle náboženského vyznání a pohlaví podle výsledků sčítání lidu v letech 1921, 1930, 1950, 1991 a 2001*, [http://notes3.czso.cz/csu/2008edicniplan.nsf/t/24003E05ED/\\$File/4032080119.pdf](http://notes3.czso.cz/csu/2008edicniplan.nsf/t/24003E05ED/$File/4032080119.pdf), accessed 15 July 2012.

Czech Television, 168 hodin, *Hledám pronájem – jsem slušný, nejsem menšina*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/regiony/137909-hledam-pronajem-jsem-slusny-nejsem-mensina/>, accessed 13 July 2012.

Czech Television, *Některá města zneužívají dávky. Platí jimi drahý nájem ve svých ubytovnách*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/domaci/176110-nektera-mesta-zneuzivaji-davky-plati-jimi-drahy-najem-ve-svych-ubytovnach/>, accessed 19 July 2012.

Czech Television, *Ombudsman kritizuje stovku za den v nemocnici*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/domaci/121525-ombudsman-kritizuje-stovku-za-den-v-nemocnici/>, accessed 9 August, 2012.

Czech Television, *Ústecký kraj je z hlediska kriminality nejrizikovějším v ČR*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/regiony/162230-ustecky-kraj-je-z-hlediska-kriminality-nejrizikovejsim-v-cr/?mobileRedirect=off>, accessed 10 August 2012.

Czech Television, *Zaměstnání pro Romy*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/porady/10117034229-168-hodin/211411058251106/video/>, accessed 3 August 2012.

Czech Television, *Zátaž proti nepřizpůsobivým narazil na možné záškoláky a nepřihlášeného psa*, <http://www.ceskatelevize.cz/ct24/regiony/161097-zatah-proti-nepripusobivym-narazil-na-mozne-zaskolaky-a-neprihlaseneho-psa/>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Czech Trade Inspection, *Výroční zpráva České obchodní inspekce za rok 2011*, <http://www.coi.cz/userdata/files/dokumenty-ke-stazeni/vyrocnizpravy-ocinnosti/2011-vyr-zprava-cinnost.pdf>, accessed 8 July 2012.

Czech Women's Lobby, *Otevřený dopis premiéru Nečasovi k institucionálnímu zabezpečení rovných příležitostí žen a mužů*, <http://www.czlobby.cz/novinky/135-1/otevreny-dopis-premieru-necasovi-k-institucionalnimu-zabezpeceni-rovnnych-prilezitosti-zen-a-muzu/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Czech Women's Lobby, *Čeští lékaři proti desítkám zahraničních výzkumů*, <http://zenskaprava.cz/vystupy/cesti-lekari-proti-desitkam-zahranicnich-vyzkumu/>, accessed 10 August 2012.

Czech Women's Lobby, *Skutečná rovnost je pro české ženy stále v nedohlednu: Tisková zpráva ČŽL ke Dni rovnosti*, <http://www.czlobby.cz/novinky/134-1/skutečna-rovnost-je-pro-ceske-zeny-stale-v-nedohlednu-tiskova-zprava-czl-ke-dni-rovnosti/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Czech Women's Lobby, *Výzva za bezpečný porod*, <http://www.czlobby.cz/novinky/140-1/vyzva-za-bezpecny-porod/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions, *Přehled Regionálních poradenských center pro zaměstnance 2012*, http://www.cmkos.cz/data/articles/down_1255.pdf, accessed 19 August 2012.

EKLEP, *Library of draft legislation*, <http://eklep.vlada.cz/eklep/page.jsf?pid=KORN8L9AXEEV>, accessed 9 August 2012.

EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *Annual Report 2011. Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2011*,

http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-2012_Annual-Report-2011_EN.pdf, accessed 12 August 2012.

EU Fundamental Rights Agency, *The situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States. Survey results at a glance*, http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/attachments/FRA-2012-Roma-at-a-glance_EN.pdf, accessed 12 August 2012.

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, *ECRI Conclusions on the implementation of the recommendations in respect of the Czech Republic subject to interim follow-up*, http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri/Country-by-country/Czech_Republic/CZE-IFU-IV-2012-027-ENG.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

European Roma Rights Centre, *Parallel Report by the European Roma Rights centre to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on the Czech Republic for Its Consideration at the 79th Session*, <http://www.errc.org/cms/upload/file/czech-republic-cerd-submission-22-july-2011.pdf>, accessed 9 August 2012.

European Social Fund, *Mapa sociálně vyloučených a sociálním vyloučením ohrožených romských lokalit v České republice*, http://www.esfcr.cz/mapa/stav_mapy_obce.html, accessed 12 August 2012.

Faltýnek, Vilém, *V Česku přibývá chudinských ghett*, <http://romove.radio.cz/cz/clanek/23918>, accessed 17 July 2012.

Fasurová, Hana, 2011, 'Nemocnice se přizpůsobí islámu', *Brněnský deník*, 22 November, http://brnensky.denik.cz/zpravy_region/nemocnice-se-prizpusobi-islam20081121.html?reakce=link&id=178934, accessed 3 August 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *'Coalition Agreement on the Formation of a Coalition of Budgetary Accountability, the Rule of Law and the Fight against Corruption'*, <http://www.vlada.cz/assets/media-centrum/dulezite-dokumenty/Coalition-Agreement-.pdf>, accessed 29 July 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *Concept of Housing Policy in the Czech Republic To 2020*, http://www.sfrb.cz/o-sfrb/koncepce.html?no_cache=1&cid=376&did=315&sechash=d2af822d, accessed 18 July 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *Koncepce romské integrace na období 2010-2013*, <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/ppov/zalezitosti-romske-komunity/dokumenty/koncepce-romske-integrace-na-obdobi-20102013-71187/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *Romská národnostní menšina*, <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/pracovni-a-poradni-organy-vlady/rnm/mensiny/romska-narodnostni-mensina-16149/>, accessed 3 August 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *Strategie boje proti sociálnímu vyloučení*, www.aspcr.cz/sites/default/files/strategie-2011-2015_2.pdf, accessed 7 August 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *Usnesení vlády České republiky ze dne 29. února 2012 č. 121 k věcnému záměru nové právní úpravy vstupu a pobytu cizinců na území České republiky, volného pohybu občanů Evropské unie a jejich rodinných příslušníků a ochrany státních hranic*, http://kormoran.vlada.cz/usneseni/usneseni_webtest.nsf/web/cs?Open&2012&02-29, accessed 10 August 2012.

Government of the Czech Republic, *Výroční zpráva o činnosti Rady vlády ČR pro záležitosti romské menšiny za rok 2011*, <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/ppov/zalezitosti-romske-komunity/dokumenty/vyrocnizprava-o-cinnosti-rady-vlady-cr-pro-zalezitosti-romske-mensiny-za-rok-2011-96911/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Green Party, *Program pro Romy*, <http://www.zeleni.cz/program-strany-zelenych-pro/romy/>, accessed 4 August 2012.

HOAX.cz, *Databáze*, <http://hoax.cz/hoax/databaze/>, accessed 20 August 2012.

Horák, Michal, 2012, *'Policie: Kázání v brněnské mešitě bylo trestné, je ale promlčené'*, iDNES.cz, 27 May, http://brno.idnes.cz/policie-kazani-v-brnenske-mesite-bylo-trestne-je-ale-promlcene-pbq-/brno-zpravy.aspx?c=A120526_1783737_brno-zpravy_bor, accessed 18 July 2012.

Horáková, Veronika, 2012. *'Nemocnicím v Brně dluží cizinci miliony'*, *Brněnský deník*, 23 January, http://brnensky.denik.cz/zpravy_region/nemocnicim-v-brne-dluzi-cizinci-miliony20120123.html, accessed 8 August 2012.

iDNES.cz, *Diskutér „kraxna“ vyhrožoval správci fór iDNES.cz smrtí, dostal podmínku*, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/diskuter-kraxna-vyhrozoval-spravci-for-idnes-cz-smrti-dostal-podminku-13b-/krimi.aspx?c=A110510_115501_krimi_jj, accessed 15 August 2012.

Government's Information Center, *Reforma zdravotnictví*, <http://icv.vlada.cz/cz/reforma-zdravotnictvi/>, accessed 20 August 2012.

Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic, *Vztah Čechů k národnostním skupinám žijícím v ČR – březen 2012*, http://www.cvvm.cas.cz/upl/zpravy/101271s_ov120413.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

Intelligence Service, *Informace BIS o vývoji na extremistické scéně v 1. čtvrtletí roku 2012*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnostni-hrozby-337414.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NA%3D%3D>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Intelligence Service, *Informace BIS o vývoji na extremistické scéně v 2. – 4. čtvrtletí roku 2011 a v 1. čtvrtletí roku 2012*, <http://www.bis.cz/zpravy-extremismus.html>, accessed 10 August 2012.

IQ Roma Servis, *Centrum komunitní a terénní sociální práce*, <http://iqrs.cz/search.php?rsvelikost=sab&rstext=all-phpRS-all&rstema=77>, accessed 17 July 2012.

IQ Roma Servis, *Jak probíhala práce v terénu v roce 2011*, <http://iqrs.cz/view.php?navezclanku=jak-probihala-prace-v-terenu-v-roce-2011&cislocclanku=2012080009>, accessed 15 July 2012.

IQ Roma Servis, *Modelový byt s doprovodným sociálním programem*, <http://iqrs.cz/search.php?rsvelikost=sab&rstext=all-phpRS-all&rstema=213>, accessed 28 July 2012.

Jiříčka, J. 2012, *Češi budou moci mít dvojí občanství. Když získají cizí, neztratí české*, *iDNES.cz*, 19 February, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/cesi-budou-moci-ziskat-dvoji-obcanstvi-dyz-domaci.aspx?c=A120213_143330_domaci_jj, accessed 11 August 2012.

Jüptner, Jan, *Mediální obraz Romů v ČR aneb Síla slova*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/medialni-obraz-romu-v-cr-aneb-sila-slova>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Kafková, Jiřina, and Sokačová, Linda and Szénássy, Edit, *Analýza migračních trendů na Šluknovsku (Varnsdorf, Rumburk, Jiříkov, Krásná Lípa a Šluknov)*, <http://www.socialni-zaclenovani.cz/vyzkum-na-sluknovsku-chudi-lide-migruji-predevsim-v-ramci-regionu-ten-vyrazne-chudne>, accessed 5 August 2012.

Klapalová, M. 2011, *'Rathův magazín vyzývá primátora Boleslavi, ať se vrátí zpět do Sýrie'*, *iDnes.cz*, 8 July, http://praha.idnes.cz/rathuv-magazin-vyzyva-primatora-boleslavi-at-se-vrati-zpet-do-syrie-1id-/praha-zpravy.aspx?c=A110708_1615120_praha-zpravy_ab_ accessed 9 August 2012.

Kopecký, Josef, 2012, *'Romové to zkoušejí s vlastní stranou. I my jsme Češi, říká její šéf'*, *iDNES.cz*, 20 January, http://zpravy.idnes.cz/romove-to-zkouseji-s-vlastni-stranou-i-my-jsme-cesi-rika-jeji-sef-pxh-domaci.aspx?c=A120120_143716_domaci_kop, accessed 19 August 2012.

Kostlán, František, *Břeclavská lež není prvním vymyšleným případem, který rozvířil nenávist proti Romům*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/breclavska-lez-neni-prvnim-pripadem-ktery-rozviril-nenavist-proti-romum>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Kostlán, František., *Podle průzkumů nemají Češi rádi Romy. Mohou za to do velké míry média – díl I.,*

<http://www.romea.cz/cz/publicistika/komentare/podle-pruzkumu-nemaji-cesi-radi-romy-mohou-za-to-do-velke-miry-media-dil-i>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Kostlán, František, *Podle průzkumů nemají Češi rádi Romy. Mohou za to do velké míry média – díl II.*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/podle-pruzkumu-nemaji-cesi-radi-romy-mohou-za-to-i-media-dil-ii-tv-prima-ceska-televize>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Kostlán, František, *Podle průzkumů nemají Češi rádi Romy. Mohou za to do velké míry média – díl III.*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/podle-pruzkumu-nemaji-cesi-radi-romy-mohou-za-to-i-media-dil-iii-mf-dnes-idnes-cz-pravo-novinky-cz>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Kostlán, František, *Podle průzkumů nemají Češi rádi Romy. Mohou za to do velké míry média – díl IV.*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravodajstvi/domaci/podle-pruzkumu-nemaji-cesi-radi-romy-mohou-za-to-i-media-dil-iv-denik-cz-ctk-bulvar>, accessed 16 August 2012.

Kovaříková, Markéta, and Tejnorová, Michaela, *Diskriminace jako předstupeň násilí z nenávisti*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/diskriminace-jako-predstupen-nasili-z-nenavisti>, accessed 15 July 2012.

Kozelka, Petr, *Vládní reformy jsou šílené a asociální*, <http://www.novinky.cz/domaci/261554-vladni-reformy-jsou-silene-a-asocialni-rika-soudkyne-us-wagnerova.html>, accessed 20 August 2012.

Liga lidských práv, *Ochrana práv pacientů – návrhy k diskuzi o mimosoudním řešení sporů ve zdravotnictví*, lp.cz/wp-content/uploads/Ochrana_prav_pacientu.pdf, accessed 13 August 2012.

Lhoťan, Lukáš, *Islámisté: „Demokracii využijeme, ale chceme ji zrušit“*, <http://lukaslhotan.blog.idnes.cz/c/181797/Islamiste-Demokracii-vyuzijeme-ale-chceme-ji-zrusit.html>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Lhoťan, Lukáš, *Korán povoluje bití žen, zakážeme ho?*, <http://lukaslhotan.blog.idnes.cz/c/194006/Koran-povoluje-biti-zen-zakazeme-ho.html>, accessed 8 August 2012.

Mareš, Miroslav et al., 2011, 'České militantní neonacistické hnutí (aktuální trendy)', Analysis for Ministry of Interior, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/studie-ceske-militantni-neonacisticke-hnuti-aktualni-trendy.aspx>, accessed 13 July 2012.

Média o Isámu, *Kauza: muslim kandiduje na starostu v brněnské městské části*, <http://mediaoislamu.cz/tema/kauza-muslim-kandiduje-na-starostu-v-brnenske-mestske-casti/>, accessed 7 August 2012

Melichárek, Tomáš, 'Turecká komunita a modlitebna v Praze', *PŘES: Čtvrtletník o migraci a lidských právech*, VI, 20-21 (2010).

Mendel, Miloš and Ošťanský, Bronislav and Rataj Tomáš, *Islám v srdci Evropy* (Praha: Academia, 2007).

Migraceonline.cz, *Připomínky Konsorcia nevládních organizací k návrhu věcného záměru nového cizineckého zákona*, <http://migraceonline.cz/e-knihovna/?x=2310155>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Migration4media.net, *Strach z udání odrazuje cizince "bez papírů" od vyhledání lékařské pomoci*, <http://migration4media.net/2011/05/17/strach-z-udani-odrazuje-cizince-%E2%80%9Ebez-papiru%E2%80%9C-od-vyhledani-lekarske-pomoci/>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Migration4media.net, *Cizinci z novely vypadli, komerční pojišťovny se radují*, <http://migration4media.net/2011/08/30/cizinci-z-novely-vypadnou-komercni-pojistovny-se-raduji/#more-1364>, accessed 6 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, 'Zpráva o extremismu a projevech rasismu a xenofobie na území České republiky v roce 2011', 'Vyhodnocení plnění Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2011 a Koncepce boje proti extremismu pro rok 2012', <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/extremismus-vyrocní-zpravy-o-extremismu-a-strategie-boje-proti-extremismu.aspx>, accessed 12 July 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Etnické profilování v Evropské unii, Výzkum ve službách policejní praxe*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/1-2011-prilmens-pdf.aspx, accessed 6 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Extremismus. Souhrnná situační zpráva. 3.čtvrtletí roku 2011*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/zprava-extremismus-3q-pdf.aspx, accessed 12 July 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Extremismus, Souhrnná situační zpráva. 4. čtvrtletí roku 2011*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/bezpecnostni-hrozby-337414.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NA%3D%3D>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Projevy extremismu na internetu*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/projevy-extremismu-na-internetu.aspx>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Strategie boje proti terorismu na léta 2010 – 2012*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/dokumenty-454055.aspx>, accessed 10 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Trestné činy motivované nenávisťmi proti Romům v ČR v roce 2011*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/romove-xlsx.aspx, accessed 9 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Události ve Šluknovském výběžku*, <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/problematika-socialne-vyloucenych-lokalit.aspx>, accessed 5 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Vysvětlení pojmů extremismu, xenofobie, rasismu, rasové diskriminace, rasového násilí*, http://aplikace.mvcr.cz/archiv2008/souteze/2006/sod/extremismus/1_pojmy.pdf, accessed 11 August 2012.

Ministry of Interior, *Zmapování postojů veřejnosti v České republice k pravicově extremistickým, rasistickým a xenofobním myšlenkám a jejich šířitelům s ohledem na integraci menšin a cizinců*, www.mvcr.cz/soubor/zaverecna-zprava-z-vyzkumu.aspx, accessed 18 July 2012.

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, *Aktualizovaná opatření Priorit a postupů vlády při prosazování rovných příležitostí pro ženy a muže*, <http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/12199/Aktualizovana-opatreni-2011.pdf>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, *Cizinci v České republice*, <http://www.cizinci.cz/clanek.php?lg=1&id=359>, accessed 19 August 2012.

NAPIV, *Národní akční plán inkluzivního vzdělávání – přípravná fáze*, <http://www.napiv.cz/download.php?document=1>, accessed 18 July 2012.

NESEHNUTÍ, *Aktivní rodičovství*, <http://zenskaprava.cz/tema/aktivni-rodicovstvi/>, accessed 10 August 2012.

Office of Czech School Inspection, *Souhrnné poznatky z tematické kontrolní činnosti v bývalých zvláštních školách*, <http://www.csicr.cz/getattachment/6e4232be-1c17-4ff8-ac72-763a23569109>, accessed 20 July 2012.

Office of Czech Trade Inspection, *Výroční zpráva České obchodní inspekce za rok 2011*, <http://www.coi.cz/userdata/files/dokumenty-ke-stazeni/vyrocnizpravy-o-cinnosti/2011-vyr-zprava-cinnost.pdf>, accessed 8 July 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Doporučení veřejného ochránce práv pro cenové rozlišování*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Doporuceni/Doporuceni-Cenove_rozlisovani_158-2010-JKV.pdf, accessed 8 July 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Fungování systému Visapoint a přijímání žádostí o víza*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/STANOVISKA/Cizinci/2273-2011-PP-ZSO.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Kupe ve vlaku vyhrazené pouze pro ženy*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/zbozi_a_sluzby/Kupe_ve_vlaku_vyhrazene_pro_zeny_.pdf, accessed 8 July 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Nabídka pracovní pozice obchodního ředitele výhradně pro muže*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/prace/Nabidka_pracovni_pozice_obchodniho_reditele_vyhradne_pro_muze_.pdf, accessed 9 August 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Pronájem bytu a diskriminace z důvodu etnické příslušnosti*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/bydleni/Pronajem_bytu_a_diskriminace_z_duvodu_etnicke_prislusnosti_.pdf, accessed 14 August 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Výzkum veřejného ochránce práv – projevy diskriminace v pracovní inzerci*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Doporuceni/Doporuceni-Inzerce.pdf, accessed 20 August 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Výzkum veřejného ochránce práv k otázce etnického složení žáků bývalých zvláštních škol*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Vyzkum/Vyzkum_skoly-zprava.pdf, accessed 25 July 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Zpráva o šetření – vyloučení přístupu dětí mladších dvanácti let do provozoven M., s.r.o.*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/zbozi_a_sluzby/Zamezeni_vstupu_do_prodejny_detem_mladsim_12_let_.pdf, accessed 15 August 2012.

Office of the Ombudsman, *Zpráva o šetření ve věci uzavření nájemní smlouvy k obecnímu bytu*, http://www.ochrance.cz/fileadmin/user_upload/DISKRIMINACE/Kauzy/bydleni/Neuzavreni_najemni_smlovy_k_obecnimu_bytu_.pdf, accessed 14 August 2012.

Open Society Justice Initiative, *Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination: Submission for Review of the Czech Republic*, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/ngos/JusticeInitiativeCzechRepublic79.pdf>, accessed 25 July 2012.

Patients Association, *Stanovisko Svazu pacientů k tzv. reformním zákonům ministra Hegera*, <http://www.pacienti.cz/clanek.php?id=2790>, accessed 9 August 2012.

ProAlt, *Tisková zpráva. Iniciativa proAlt vydala kritického průvodce reformami „PROTI VLÁDĚ ŠKRTŮ“*, <http://www.proalt.cz/?p=3392>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Program migration, *Ombudsman: "Věcný záměr nové cizinecké legislativy snižuje v některých případech stávající standardy ochrany cizinců"*, <http://migration4media.net/2011/08/31/ombudsman-%E2%80%9Evecny-zamer-nove-cizinecke-legislativy-snižuje-v-rade-pripadu-stavajici-standardy-ochrany-cizincu-%E2%80%9C/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Program migration, *Rozhodování o pobytech cizinců v rukou ministerstva vnitra: bilance prvního roku*, <http://migration4media.net/2012/01/30/rozhodovani-o-pobytech-cizincu-v-rukou-ministerstva-vnitra-bilance-prvniho-roku/>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Prokůpek, Václav, *Romové založili stranu a mají problém. Zmizel jim pokladník i s penězi*, <http://www.parlamentnilisty.cz/zpravy/Romove-zalozili-stranu-a-uz-maji-problem-Zmizel-jim-pokladnik-i-s-penezi-222538>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Radoňová, Zuzana, 'Naděje a obavy arabských muslimů v Česku', BA Thesis (Masaryk University, 2007).

Redlová, Pavla, et al, *Studie východiska migračních politik, politická a občanská participace imigrantů v České republice*, <http://www.konsorcium-nno.cz/dokumenty-ke-stazeni.html>, accessed 21 August 2012.

Romea.cz, *Bitka, která rozpoutala nepokoje na severu, se odehrála jinak. Média informovala nepravdivě*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/bitka-ktera-rozpoutala-nepokoje-na-severu-se-odehrala-jinak-media-informovala-nepravdive>, accessed 8 August 2012.

Romea.cz, *ERRC a Amnesty International žádají českou vládu, aby zamezila násilí páchanému na Romech*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/errc-a-amnesty-international-zadaji-ceskou-vladu-aby-zamezila-nasili-pachaneho-na-romech>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Romea.cz, *Občanská část Rady vlády pro záležitosti romské menšiny tvrdě kritizuje činnost vlády*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/obcanska-cast-rady-vlady-pro-zalezitosti-romske-mensiny-tvrde-kritizuje-cinnost-vlady>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Romea.cz, *Romský mentor – integrace prostřednictvím umění a kultury*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/romsky-mentor-integrace-prostrednictvim-umeni-a-kultury>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Romea.cz, *Šluknovsko: Asi osm případů trestné činnosti bylo vymyšleno. Fámy zvyšují nenávist vůči Romům*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/sluknovsko-asi-osm-pripadu-trestne-cinnosti-bylo-vymysleno-famy-zvysuji-nenavist-vuci-romum>, accessed 8 August 2012.

Romea.cz, *Stanovisko neziskových organizací k návrhu zákona o obětech trestných činů*, <http://www.romea.cz/cz/zpravy/stanovisko-organizace-la-strada-k-navrhu-zakona-o-obetech-trestnych-cinu>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Romodrom, *Výroční zpráva 2011*,
http://www.romodromcz.cz/cs/kdojsme/zpravy/romodrom_vz-2011_a5-148x210mm_verii_final.pdf, accessed 13 August 2012.

Rožánek, Filip, *Vítejte ve světě vymyšlených zpráv: jak to skutečně bylo s romskou stranou a uprchlým pokladníkem*, <http://www.mediar.cz/vitejte-ve-svete-vymyslenych-zprav-jak-to-skutecne-bylo-s-romskou-stranou-a-uprchlym-pokladnikem/>, accessed 13 August 2012.

Sedláčková, Lucie, *Islám v médiích*, (Liberec: Nakladatelství Bor, 2010).

Stejskalová, Michaela, 'How the Czech Educational System Has Failed the Roma Children and Why It Keeps Failing Them', *Journal of Educational and Social Research*, Vol. 2, 5 (2012).

Supreme Administrative Court, *NSS rozpustil Dělnickou stranu*, http://www.nssoud.cz/main.aspx?cls=art&art_id=427, accessed 8 August 2012.

Svobodová, Kateřina, 2009. '*Názory muslimů a muslimek na výchovu a vzdělávání muslimských dětí*'. Bachelor Thesis (Masaryk University, 2009).

Szalai, Julia, and Messing, Vera and Nemenyi, Maria, 2010, 'Ethnic and Social Differences in Education in a Comparative Perspective', *EDUMIGROM*, Budapest,
http://www.edumigrom.eu/sites/default/files/field_attachment/page/node-5387/comparativesurveyfinal.pdf, accessed 18 July 2012.

Šnidl, V. 2011, 'Desátek proti mešitám', *Ekonom*, 18 August,
<http://ekonom.ihned.cz/c1-52602440-desatek-proti-mesitam>, accessed 17 July 2012.

The Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences, *Názory české veřejnosti na situaci ve Šluknovském výběžku*,
www.cvvm.cas.cz/upl/zpravy/101199s_ob111109.pdf, accessed 6 August 2012.

Topinka, Daniel, 2006, '*Integrační proces muslimů v České republice – pilotní projekt*', research report for the Ministry of Interior.

Topinka, Daniel, 2007. *Významy vzdělávání v procesu integrace muslimů v České republice*,
<http://aeduca.upol.cz/2007/sbornik/SOUBORY/ZNE/ZNE06Topinka.pdf>, accessed 7 August 2012.

TV NOVA, *Romové opět zaútočili! Tentokrát se rvali s policisty!*,
<http://tn.nova.cz/zpravy/regionalni/lide-zautocili-na-policisty-chteli-osvobodit-zadrzeneho-kluka.html>, accessed 16. August 2012.

Valeš, František, and Šabatová, Anna, *Komentáře k implementaci doporučení Evropské komise proti rasismu a nesnášenlivosti (ECRI)*, <http://www.helcom.cz/view.php?cisloclanku=2011092001>, accessed 15 August 2012.

Vaše věc, *Miloš Zeman: Trestní oznámení za jeho xenofobní výroky*. <http://www.vasevec.cz/clanky/milos-zeman-trestni-oznameni-za-jeho-xenofobni-vyroky>, accessed 9 August 2012.

Věstník Ministerstva zdravotnictví ČR, *Doporučený postup ke sjednocení postupu při výběru poplatku za volbu lékaře pro organizace v přímé působnosti Ministerstva zdravotnictví ČR*, 2012/4, http://www.mzcr.cz/Legislativa/dokumenty/vestnik-c4/2012_6288_2510_11.html, accessed 9 August 2012.

Weber, Anne, *Manual on Hate Speech*, (Strasbourg: Council of Europe Publishing, 2009).

Women in National Parliaments, <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>, accessed 21 August 2012.

Židková, K. 2011, 'Alrawi: Už deset let jen vysvětlují, že nejsme teroristé', *Brněnský deník*, 11 September, <http://brnensky.denik.cz/rozhovor/alrawi-uz-deset-let-jen-vysvetluji-ze-nejsme.html>, accessed 15 July 2012.

Annex 1: List of abbreviations and terminology

AI	Amnesty International
AMPD	Asylum and Migration Policy Department
CHC	Czech Helsinki Committee
CWL	Czech Women's League
DSSS	Workers' Party of Social Justice
ECRI Intolerance	European Commission against Racism and
ERRC	European Roma Rights Centre
EU	European Union
NAPIE	National Action Plan on Inclusive Education
NGO	Non-governmental organisation

