

# REPORT ON EXTREMISM AND PREJUDICED HATRED ON THE TERRITORY OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2024

Ministry of the Interior Security Policy Department Prague 2025

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#### 1. Introduction

The Report on Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred in the Czech Republic in 2024 (hereinafter referred to as the "Report") is submitted on the basis of Government Resolution No. 305 of 7 May 2024.

The document does not capture all racist and xenophobic manifestations registered on the territory of the Czech Republic in 2024. In addition to members or sympathizers of extremist groups, the report also mentions other hateful entities and phenomena that do not meet the defining characteristics of the term extremism used by the Ministry of the Interior. For the Ministry of the Interior, it is not so much the politological aspect that is crucial, but rather the hateful element that stems from the prejudiced generalisation of certain social groups. Reporting is based on an established methodology. The document uses the definitions of the terms mentioned below, has a clearly defined process of drafting and approval.

The report is prepared by the Ministry of the Interior. Background materials were provided by the intelligence services, the Police of the Czech Republic, the Ministries of Justice and Defence, the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office and the General Inspectorate of Security Forces.

Spectator violence, or hooliganism, is dealt with separately by the Ministry of the Interior.

The document is produced annually. New measures are taken on the basis of its findings.

The first passage on the domestic scene is based, in particular, on data from the Security Information Service and the Police of the Czech Republic, specifically specialists on extremism and hate crime of the National Headquarters against Terrorism, Extremism and Cybercrime of the Criminal Police and Investigation Service and regional directorates of the Police of the Czech Republic. The chapter on extremism and prejudiced hatred as seen by the prosecution is based on documents provided by the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office.

Statistical data in the following section were provided by the Police of the Czech Republic, the General Inspectorate of Security Forces, the Ministry of Defence, the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Justice and the Probation and Mediation Service.

#### 2. Definition of Terms

According to the Ministry of the Interior, the term extremism refers to extreme ideological positions that deviate from constitutional and legal norms, are characterized by elements of intolerance, and attack basic democratic principles as defined in the Czech constitutional system. These principles include:

- respect for the rights and freedoms of man and the citizen (Article 1 of the Constitution),
- a sovereign, unitary and democratic state governed by the rule of law (Article 1 of the Constitution),
- immutability of the essential elements of a democratic state governed by the rule of law (Article 9(2) of the Constitution),
  - sovereignty of the people (Article 2 of the Constitution),
- free competition between political parties respecting fundamental democratic principles and rejecting violence as a means of advancing their interests (Article 5 of the Constitution),
- protection of minorities in the decision-making of the majority (Art. 6 of the Constitution),
- freedom and equality of people in dignity and rights, inalienability, indivisibility, non-transferability and irrevocability of fundamental rights and freedoms without discrimination as to sex, race, colour, language, creed and religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, membership of a nationality or ethnic minority, property, birth or other status (Article 1, Article 3 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms).

Extremist attitudes are capable of developing into activities that have a destructive effect, either directly or in the long term, on the existing democratic political-economic system, i.e. they seek to replace the democratic system with a non-democratic system (totalitarian or authoritarian regime, dictatorship, anarchy). This type of activity is dealt with by the Security Information Service under Article 5(a) of Act No. 153/1994 Coll., on the Intelligence Services of the Czech Republic.

The documents of the Ministry of the Interior are therefore based on a unified concept of extremism as a hotbed of activities directed against the constitutional establishment and the values it protects. Extremism typically uses the following instruments: historical revisionism, social demagoguery, activism, promotion of verbal or physical violence against opponents and against a priori defined social groups, and conspiracy theory. In politological literature, a distinction is usually made between left-wing and right-wing extremism, as well as religious, ecological and (in some cases) national (regionalist) extremism. The last three forms of extremism occur only sporadically or not at all in the Czech Republic, so the interpretation focuses mainly on right-wing extremists (inspired by and using primarily national, racial, and

ethnic resentment, sympathizing with historical fascism or Nazism) and left-wing extremists (motivated primarily by social, class, and anti-cultural resentment, sympathizing with historical communism or anarchism).

Although in the ideal right-left model left-wing and right-wing extremism are opposites, the reality is more complicated, as the socio-cultural and historical context against which these ideal types manifest themselves plays a role. This leads to the fact that these counterpoints can manifest themselves in different areas of unconstitutional action with very different intensities, and to different sensitivities to the societal danger of these counterpoints.

There is no definition of extremism in the law. Especially in the context of racially motivated crime, the term extremist crime or crime with extremist overtones can be found. Under this term, the Ministry of the Interior understands those forms of criminal activity for which there is reason to believe that they have been motivated or influenced by extremist attitudes. Alternatively, the term crime motivated by racial, national or other social hatred may also be used in a number of cases. It is an act that comprises the elements of a criminal offence or misdemeanour and is motivated by a primary hatred resulting from the addressee's belonging to a race, nationality, religion, class or other social group, while attacks against symbols or representatives of an existing social system, if motivated by a primary hatred against that system, are also a specific type of crime that can be included in this category.<sup>1</sup>

Not all extremist entities included in the Report were engaged in illegal activities in 2024. However, in the long term, they fulfil the characteristics of extremism as defined by the Ministry of the Interior.

The report uses the term "extremism" as well as "prejudiced hatred". It is a response to the fact that the influence of traditional extremist entities is waning and their rhetoric and activities are being slowly taken over by other entities that cannot be clearly identified as extremist.

Manifestations of prejudiced hatred refer to actions that are motivated by intolerance and social prejudice against a particular group of people. As a rule, these are groups defined by race, nationality, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, political or other opinion, social origin, etc. This does not have to be actual membership of a particular group, but also assumed membership (e.g., if a person is mistaken for a Roma because of his or her darker skin, but is not actually Roma). Such manifestations do not necessarily qualify as a criminal offence. It may be physical violence, verbal attacks or the use of offensive symbolism. Manifestations of prejudiced hatred differ from extremist manifestations mainly in that they do not have to be associated with one of the anti-democratic or unconstitutional ideologies.

The perpetrators are not necessarily members or supporters of extremist movements. They also do not clearly demand the overthrow of the system of plural democracy and its replacement by a non-democratic system.

The risks of expressions of prejudiced hatred are similar in many areas to those posed by extremists. These risks are described below. Perpetrators:

• do not seek the immediate destruction of the democratic system, but rather gradually weaken it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The full text of the definition of extremism is available here: <a href="http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/co-je-extremismus.aspx">http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/co-je-extremismus.aspx</a>.

- do not respect the concept of fundamental human rights.
- incite others to hateful activities.
- spread fear in society.
- split society, creating antagonisms.
- trivialise the fate of victims of totalitarian regimes and victims of hate crimes.
- use misinformation and conspiracy theories to communicate with the public.
- become an instrument of influence for countries and groups that do not respect the principles of plural democr.

Manifestations of prejudiced hatred can be seen among members or supporters of a number of political and other social entities. However, the Report mentions only those entities for which such manifestations actually constitute a dominant component of their discourses and activities. In practice, these are groups in which intolerant attacks against Romani people, immigrants, Muslims, or homosexuals continuously prevail. Other ideological agendas may be completely absent or only represent a complementary component.

For the Ministry of the Interior, the politicological categories (e.g., whether it is a neo-Nazi or neo-fascist entity) are not so important. What is crucial is the aspect of spreading hatred arising from a generalized prejudice. It is precisely hate speech that poses an immediate threat to certain groups of the population.

Two other groups are closely related to hate subjects, namely paramilitary and militia groups and the media spreading hateful prejudices.

The left-extremist spectrum includes anarchist groups and orthodox communists.

The chapter on religiously motivated extremism focuses on hate speech that is ideologically based on extremist interpretations of various religious concepts.

# 3. Report on Manifestations of Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred on the Territory of the Czech Republic in 2024

## 3.1. Summary

The year 2024 introduced new trends in radicalization and terrorism that kept security forces more busy than traditional extremist or xenophobic populist actors. These included the individual radicalization of minors and adolescents, often with no connection to a specific ideology, as well as subversion with the contribution of foreign state powers and the dissemination of alarmist messages with the aim to partially destabilize society or disrupt state institutions.

The traditional right-wing and left-wing extremist entities have not made any significant public appearances. They have failed to win new supporters, nor have they organised any major public event. They failed to find suitable mobilizing themes, merely repeating previously established dogmas.

The political scene has attracted the attention of entities whose representatives have used more radical rhetoric to compete with the long-dominant Freedom and Direct Democracy movement. In response, the movement "toughened up" its presentation in the regional election campaign.

The militia groups held several meetings during the year. However, they represent a very limited and closed subculture with absolutely minimal impact on society.

The production of media spreading hateful prejudices continued. This content fitted into a more general framework aimed at spreading a pro-Kremlin view of the world.

In terms of religious extremism, only individual cases of radicalization have been registered. Events in the Middle East and other regions of Africa and Asia and the spread of Islamist propaganda online remain risk factors

The formerly progressive anti-system movement was gradually losing its importance. The interest of law enforcement authorities in the illegal speeches of some of its representatives played a significant role.

In 2024, 159 hate crimes were detected by the Police of the Czech Republic. In addition, the police recorded a total of 119 prosecutions for hate crimes. A total of 114 persons were charged for crimes committed for racial, national and other hate motives. A total of 63 persons have been convicted for these crimes.

# 3.2. Right-wing Extremists

In 2024, the right-wing extremist scene was atomized into loose structures and groups. As a whole, it did not pose a direct risk to national security. Its activities are increasingly shifting from the real environment to the online space. The biggest threat in the field of right-

wing extremism was posed by individuals outside traditional organized extremist structures. Traditional right-wing extremist ideology begins to play a rather marginal role.

Organized right-wing extremist groups mostly focused on local issues or on activities that did not directly threaten the Czech Republic. The most active subject was the Nationalists group, consisting of several dozen right-wing radicals whose dominant activity was cultural and social events, not disruption of public order.

The importance and activities of right-wing extremist political entities were quite marginal. Their status confirms, in particular, the fact that the Workers' Party of Social Justice decided to close down its activities.

Several musical productions were organized with the participation of right-wing extremists, with an average of dozens to hundreds of participants. Several trips of Czech right-wing extremists to concerts abroad or performances of Czech extremist music groups abroad were also recorded. Various boxing or MMA tournaments were also popular.

Overall, the period under review can be assessed in terms of violent right-wing extremism as relatively calm and without significant security threats.

#### 3.3. Manifestations of Prejudiced Hatred

During the period under review, it was possible to register an increase in hate speech against Ukrainians. In particular, anti-Semitic incidents appeared in the online space. Prejudiced hate speech with anti-Gypsyism, Islamophobia and anti-migrant background occurred continuously.

As in previous years, various xenophobic populist subjects have been involved in stirring up social tensions. For example, the Freedom and Direct Democracy movement and its poster campaign before the regional elections can be mentioned. The Regional Court in Brno stated that "in this case, the campaign was simply stupid, morally decadent, with its xenophobic, racist and discriminatory elements exceeding the limits of elementary decency and ultimately underestimating the level of intelligence of the voters it was supposed to target. On the other hand, it says a lot about the actual electoral body that uses such a campaign in electoral competition, its relationship to the basic principles of political competition in a democratic society and its misunderstanding of the fundamental role of political parties, which serve primarily to aggregate and articulate relevant interests in society, rather than to create perceived threats, create a sense of fear and stir up hatred in society, the court noted that the possibilities of the electoral court are quite limited." During the period under review, the movement joined a new faction in the European Parliament called Europe of Sovereign Nations, initiated by MEPs from the German Alternative für Deutschland (Alternative for Germany).

However, there are other political actors who use radical rhetoric to provide competition to the movement. In the European Parliament elections, Freedom and Direct Democracy won only 5.73% of the vote.

Prejudicially hateful content of Czech political actors is often used in quasi-media output.

#### 3.4. Paramilitary and militia groups

The Czech militia scene consists of diverse and very loosely connected autonomous groups. The number of its members is stagnant, around a hundred individuals. A significant part of the militia is strongly influenced by various conspiracy theories. Ideologically, they are anti-democratic, for example, most of them sympathise with the Putin regime in the Russian Federation.

In 2024, the militia meetings were primarily of a conscript nature, focusing, for example, on shooting training, healthcare, and weapon protection against dangerous warfare substances, etc. The most dangerous activity in relation to the activities of the militiamen continued to be efforts to manufacture illegal firearms and explosives. These are not intended to be used by the militias to commit violent acts, but are seen as preparation for the collapse of the state and as necessary unregistered means of defence to be used for their protection.

#### 3.5. The Anarchist Scene

The anarcho-autonomous scene still lacked new faces, its meetings were mostly organized by already known and established activists. Several regular smaller events were organized.

During the year, anarchists focused on events in the Middle East. Initially, it was particularly concerned with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and later also with developments in Syria. Anarchists express sympathy for the Kurds living in the Rojava region. However, no violent physical manifestations have been recorded in the Middle Eastern context and the situation in the Czech Republic has been considerably calmer than the situation abroad. The range of anarchist concerns also included, for example, environmental issues or expressions of solidarity with foreign colleagues.

Individual activities of several Czech militant anarchists active in the international anarchist movement can be considered potentially risky. In general, the period under review can be assessed as relatively calm and without significant security threats from the perspective of violent left-wing extremism.

#### 3.6. Orthodox communists

The orthodox communist spectrum did not become more pronounced in the period under review. This subculture resonated more with foreign policy events. These were set in an anti-Western and anti-democratic framework. Orthodox communists purposely chose events as their topics in order to confront the Western democratic community with a dogmatic ideological view of such events. They thus represent a welcome tool for the Russian security forces for hybrid action against the Czech Republic.

However, the highlighting and celebration of historical events associated with communist regimes is in strong contrast to the documented crimes and practices of bullying committed by their protagonists against their opponents. In the period under review, the Czech authorities were involved in rehabilitation proceedings linked to victims of communism or criminal proceedings against representatives of the former security apparatus.

The Constitutional Court rejected the complaint of J. S. and V. K. sentenced to an eight-month suspended sentence for questioning historical facts about the so-called Katyn massacre<sup>2</sup>. The Court's resolution states that "In the present case, the complainants, entirely in the spirit of Communist propaganda doctrine, subordinated the truth to ideological purposes, with the aim of spreading sympathy for the former Soviet Union, while masking their denial of proven events with 'scientific opinion' and hiding behind alleged absolute freedom of expression."

# 3.7. Media spreading hateful prejudice<sup>3</sup>

The quasi-media scene<sup>4</sup> continued to systematically use local real or fictional incidents to reinforce generalising prejudices against specific ethnic, national, religious or sexual minorities. The production of contents targeting, for example, migrants, Muslims, Jews or the LGBT+ community continued. These messages were no longer regionally or time limited, but were embedded in a global framework as an irreconcilable and long-term clash of several cultural or civilizational entities defined, among others, by national or religious characteristics. Directly or indirectly, the news often implies that the only proper civilizational entity that has a hope of survival is the current Russian Federation.

The quasi-media scene very effectively facilitates the hostile hybrid action of the Russian Federation against the Czech Republic. It has gained its supporters and has succeeded in creating or fostering feelings of distrust in the legitimacy of the Czech Republic. The follow-up effort is to ensure a further value shift among its consumers. It no longer seeks merely to undermine and weaken confidence in the Czech Republic and to create antagonisms, but to create a sense that the Russian Federation is a positive, healthy and progressive alternative.

The year 2024 brought the first verdict against a disinformation medium in connection with published hate content. The District Court in Ostrava imposed a two-year suspended sentence with a three-year probationary period on the editor-in-chief of Patriotic Newspapers (Vlastenecké noviny), R.V., for the crimes of defamation of a nation, race, ethnic or other group of persons and incitement to hatred against a group of persons or to restriction of their rights and freedoms. Velička had published hateful content on the server, including offensive text concerning the Roma victims of the fire in Bohumín in 2020. The sentence included a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Case No. II.ÚS 1593/24. The Katyn massacre consisted in the murder of Polish officers and members of the intelligentsia by the Soviet NKVD. Communist propaganda later blamed this crime on Nazi Germany.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The report prioritises media outlets that have been producing hate messages for a long time, where this type of content makes up a significant part of their output.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> As for the terms quasi-media and quasi-media websites, which is practically the same thing, in the latter case it is just a more specified form of media, the Ministry of the Interior partly bases its use of the term on the methodology of the Foundation for Independent Journalism, which evaluates websites based on their compliance with basic journalistic standards (see https://www.nfnz.cz/rating-medii/). The term quasi-media is similarly used not only by the aforementioned Foundation for Independent Journalism, but also by the 2016 National Security Audit (see https://mv.gov.cz/chh/clanek/audit-narodni-bezpecnosti.aspx), so it can be concluded that it is a standard term. It is a term without emotional colouring.

financial penalty of 30,000.00. The court also closed down the Central Information Agency, which published the Patriotic Newspaper.

More information on this scene is available at the Centre against Hybrid Threats: <a href="https://mv.gov.cz/chh/">https://mv.gov.cz/chh/</a>.

#### 3.8. Religiously Motivated Extremism

The Czech Muslim community has not made much of a public appearance. It remains generally moderate. However, the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and the spread of Islamist propaganda online pose potential risks. The situation in the Middle East region is reflected in various propaganda audiovisual casts. There is also a risk that citizens living in the Czech Republic may have relatives, friends, colleagues, etc. in the Middle East who have died, suffered health, property or other harm as a result of the conflict..

At present, we need to take into account not only the complex dynamics of the Middle East, but also regional developments in various states in Africa or Central Asia. Militant organisations there are actively trying, not only to recruit supporters from European Union countries and motivate them to leave for the regions, but also, unfortunately, to carry out attacks, often using stabbing and slashing weapons. Part of the propaganda includes calls for financial support for terrorist organisations, with cryptocurrencies increasingly being used as a means. The targeting of 13 to 17 year olds by terrorist organisations for recruitment is also alarming.

Security forces have registered cases of individual radicalisation. Some cases were dealt with by law enforcement authorities.

The current situation is a matter of considerable concern in the Jewish community. Jewish communal buildings therefore require special protection.

Throughout the year, the terror threat level 1 was in force, according to the scale in effect at the time.

#### 3.9 Other relevant events related to extremism and terrorism

During the period under review, there were other incidents linked to extremism, terrorism and radicalisation. In addition to threats associated mainly with political or religious motivation, the following trends were registered:

- Individual radicalisation of minors and adolescents often without attachment to a specific ideology.
- Subversive activities with support of foreign state power.
- Spreading alarmist messages with the aim of a partial destabilisation of society or disruption of state institutions.

Individual radicalisation is a phenomenon that is spread across the spectrum of extremism and terrorism. Radical online communities in particular remain a security challenge, operating in a decentralised manner on different online platforms and often

bringing together users on a global level. Their shared element is the idea of violence as the only means to achieve individual and collective goals. Users typically benefit from the anonymity provided by virtual space, but also from the flexible and evolving online environment. Communication streams change quite frequently and there is frequent migration of users between groups or chats. Communication channels usually serve not only to disseminate promotion materials, but also to mobilise each other, increase motivation and, last but not least, to inspire and incite "action", usually attacks against ideological enemies. The followers of these communities are often recruited from among minors or adolescents. The way into these communities is not uncommon through online games and community servers.

The existence of radical online communities, the occurrence of explicit acts of violence and the demonstration of violence in general may be one of the reasons for frequent incidents involving threats of violence, including in education institutions. The shooting at the School of Arts of Charles University on 21 December 2023 is undoubtedly a significant factor in the increase in the number of reports and warnings of potentially dangerous actions. It is the warning of possible risky actions that is essential for taking timely and usually preventive measures. Very often in these cases, there is no link to a specific ideology, no longer-term commitment, but instead, a fascination with violence is very noticeable.

The anti-system movement did not significantly make itself felt in the past year. The activity of publicly known individuals in particular continued, but the real impact of their activities is rather marginal compared to earlier years.<sup>5</sup>

On 6 June, an attempt was made to set fire to buses of the Transport Company of the Capital City of Prague. The perpetrator was a citizen of Colombia. The case illustrates a trend evident since 2022, linked to the intelligence and subversive activities of foreign powers against European states. These activities are manifested by acts of sabotage that target in particular objects or entities providing or participating in humanitarian and military aid to Ukraine. However, several cases were aimed at targets unrelated to the war in Ukraine with the apparent intention to spread panic, fear, compromise or undermine confidence in domestic security forces and institutions. Potential perpetrators are recruited and trained in an online environment. Those recruited in this way may be given sub-tasks, may gradually develop their activity and may often become targets of blackmail for their activities on behalf of a foreign power. Subversion, including sabotage, is another form of so-called hybrid operations by a foreign power. Some anonymously disseminated alarm messages via online communication tools can also be mentioned in this respect. A prominent example was several intensive and threatening campaigns targeting mainly educational institutions in EU countries, including the Czech Republic. The widely distributed announcements about the placement of explosives or other forms of violent attacks in schools were clearly intended to create panic in society, strain the integrated rescue system, and generally, given their frequency and intensity, may have been aimed at the attempted dysfunction of society. In general, the number of such anonymous reports is on the rise and occurs on an almost daily basis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The term "anti-system movement" means a movement that disagrees with basic democratic principles as defined in the Czech Constitution. These principles are not recognised, are questioned or downplayed. In particular, some leaders and representatives of this movement are known, for example, for not recognising the Czech Republic as a sovereign, unified and democratic state ruled by law. The above labelling in no way refers to legitimate criticism of the actions of the current government.

# 4. Extremism and Prejudiced Hatred as Seen by the Prosecutor's Office

**Prejudicial crime** has not changed significantly in 2024 compared to the previous period in terms of how it is committed. Most of the hate speech was perpetrated through social networks or other virtual platforms. The perpetrators responded mainly to external stimuli, most often posts published on the Internet. The most frequent targets of hate speech were Ukrainians, Jews, Russians, Roma, and only sporadically Muslims. In principle, the identified reactions were not directed towards other groups, e.g. Asians or Africans. This can be explained by the fact that prejudicial crime is usually a reaction to specific external stimuli in which the target groups of the attack play a role and no stimuli apparently came from these regions to the perpetrators. Neither Africans nor Asians have been involved in events in the Czech Republic that would attract significant public attention.

The trend of threatening e-mails and statements on the Internet against government officials and the media continued, motivated by the government's support for defending Ukraine or its position in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict or other motives important to the perpetrators.

The continued Russian aggression in Ukraine and the large number of Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic are still reflected in **hate crime**. Despite the high number of Ukrainian refugees, the number of hate crimes against people of Ukrainian origin is relatively low, although attacks against Ukrainians are on the rise and at the moment probably outnumber attacks against Roma and other ethnic groups or nationalities.

Cases of hateful reactions in connection with the perpetration of serious crimes by foreigners have been recorded, which also confirms the above thesis on the link between prejudicial crime and specific external stimuli recorded on the part of the perpetrators. Although not all of the acts thus recorded have yet been resolved by the law enforcement authorities, it is necessary to carefully assess the motivation for these acts on the basis of specific factual findings. As a rule, these acts were not assessed as hateful, but only as grossly inappropriate reactions, without the need for criminal liability.

In 2024, prejudicial criminal activity was only sporadically accompanied by brachial violence (a combination of the legal qualification as a misdemeanour of violence against a group of citizens and an individual under Section 352 of the Criminal Code and one of the offences punishing a possible or incurred bodily injury, or even the offence of rioting under Section 358 of the Criminal Code, is possible). However, as in previous years, there were no racially (or otherwise prejudiced) motivated attacks causing death in 2024.

An isolated case of a violent act was recorded as an assault on the victim by tearing a headscarf off her head as a symbol of religious affiliation.

In a relatively unusual case from the sports world, a sportsman at a press conference of the Clash of the Stars sports organisation used vulgar insults against members of the LGBT community and threatened to kill them.

We can also mention a case that comes from the political environment. As part of the election campaign for the local and senate elections, one of the election parties published a leaflet saying "Imported 'surgeons' will not solve the healthcare problems" and "Stop the EU Migration Pact!", while the leaflet also depicted a dark-skinned person with a scowl, wearing

a blood-stained T-shirt and holding a blood-covered knife with a long blade in his right hand. According to the criminal complaint, this election leaflet could have been used to purposely project and imply a negative view of a particular group of immigrants, against whom, because of their race, the leaflet sought to provoke or reinforce prejudices or distorted views, attributing only negative characteristics to them and committing violent crimes against life and health.

In the context of the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel and the ensuing Israeli-Palestinian armed conflict, there has been a slight increase in the number of hateful verbal attacks, both against Palestinians and Jews, which, however, should not be confused with, for example, criticism of the actions of the Government of the State of Israel in Gaza.

No new findings were found with regard to expressing sympathy for a current movement within the meaning of Section 403(1) of the Criminal Code (Section 404 of the Criminal Code), most often neo-Nazi. Concurrent endorsement of genocide, crimes against peace or war crimes as defined in Section 405 of the Criminal Code was also very common in 2024.

When imposing sentences, as in 2023, all considerations under section 38 et seq. of the Criminal Code were consistently assessed. Due to the nature of prejudicial crime and the fact that it is not infrequently committed by persons who have not yet been punished, alternative sentences not linked to direct imprisonment were imposed in the vast majority of cases (most often a fine and suspended imprisonment), or a diversion from criminal proceedings is used, mostly in its qualified form (Article 179g(1), (2)(b) of the Criminal Procedure Code, Article 307(1), (2)(b) of the Criminal Procedure Code).

"In 2024, the offence of dissemination of an alarm report under Section 357 of the Criminal Code, namely spreading disinformation, was the subject of a Supreme Court resolution of 27 March 2024, Case No. 8 Tdo 161/2024. In a live broadcast on YouTube and on Facebook, the accused L. V. said: "So our government is very clear about who we will be at war with. That is, our government wants to attack the Russian Federation with nuclear warheads from fighter jets. That's what our government wants to do. If this doesn't get you out of your chair that our government wants to attack the Russian Federation with nuclear weapons, I don't know what else will. Because if our government does this, the Russian party will strike back and send nuclear warheads at the Czech Republic So if you don't understand what Minister Jana Černochová is trying to do and it leaves you sitting on your chair, then sit on your couch and enjoy the last few months of your life. I don't know how else to explain it." The Supreme Court rejected the defendant's appeal as manifestly unfounded, stating, inter alia, in paragraph 34 of its reasoning "Considering all these circumstances, it can be ruled out in this case that this was merely a subjective assessment of the situation of the aforementioned conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, which continues to be the subject of various comments, assessments and criticisms, because the accused was not assessing the situation of the current armed conflict between the two warring countries, but was making a completely false and alarmist statement that it would be the Czech Republic that would "attack the Russian Federation with nuclear weapons", a fact which he presented in a way that corresponds to the facts of the offence of which he was found guilty. It is therefore

necessary to oppose the accused's claim that this was an expression of the right to freedom of expression under Article 17(1) and (2) of the Charter."<sup>6</sup>

There have been no major changes as regards extremist crimes either. Like in the previous year, there were similar cases of expressions of sympathy for Nazi or neo-Nazi movements as defined in Section 404 of the Criminal Code, especially in the form of marching to the simultaneous verbal statements "Sieg hail", as well as cases of public presentation of other related symbols (swastika, SS symbols).

As for the offence of denying, questioning, approving and justifying genocide under section 405 of the Criminal Code, as in 2023, this offence involved the use of symbols representing support for the Russian Federation in its attack on Ukraine, thereby approving crimes against peace or war crimes committed on the territory of Ukraine. There have been cases of the use of the emblems of the so-called Wagner Group (e.g. patches or stickers in black, red and white with the image of a skull and the inscription "PMC Wagner Group"). The image of a white letter "Z" in a black field with a white border, used on military equipment of Russian troops operating mainly in eastern Ukraine in the Donbas and Luhansk regions, was still considered a symbol of approval of Russian aggression, also in conjunction with the depiction of the so-called St. George's Ribbon, which consists of three black stripes with two orange stripes between them, which is currently considered a symbol of support for Russian and pro-Russian separatist armed groups in the Donbas and Luhansk regions. Verbal statements endorsing Russian aggression are often supplemented by hateful or defamatory statements against Ukrainians, and sometimes the conduct in question is simultaneously qualified under Section 405 of the Criminal Code (denying, questioning, endorsing and justifying genocide) and Section 355 of the Criminal Code (defamation of a nation, race, ethnic or other group of persons), or possibly Section 356 of the Criminal Code (incitement to hatred against a group of persons or to restriction of their rights and freedoms).

We can mention the case of the accused D.M., who was convicted after a lengthy trial (where the initial conviction was revoked by the Supreme Court's resolution of 16 August 2024 No. 8 Tdo 418/2023) by the judgment of the District Court in Bruntál of 16.11.2023 in conjunction with the judgment of the Regional Court in Ostrava of 12.3.2024, of an offence under Section 405 of the Criminal Code. He committed the offence by (briefly) expressing his support for Vladimir Putin on Facebook, stating, among other things, that he believed that the "Ukrofascists" would be defeated and Ukraine liberated, and calling for the use of "hydrogen bombs of smaller tonnage to clear strategic territories and destroy offensive military equipment". He was fined a total of CZK 36,000.

It will also be important to note the Supreme Court's decision regarding the Supreme Public Prosecutor's appeal filed in June 2024 against the defendant, M.B., who was acquitted of the offence of denying, questioning, approving and justifying genocide under Section 405 of the Criminal Code, which she was alleged to have committed by questioning and justifying Russia's attack on Ukraine as a teacher in a Czech language class.

From a jurisprudential point of view, it is also worth to mention the judgments of the Supreme Administrative Court of 28 August 2024, No 6 As 85/2024-47 and of 28 August 2024, No 1 As 15/2024-33, which dealt with the right of assembly and the assessment of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "With regard to the date of publication of the Report, it should be noted that this decision was overruled by the decision of the Constitutional Court of 11 March 2025, No. I. ÚS 1927/24."

slogan "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free". Although these are not judgments of "criminal" courts, these decisions are significant in terms of the protection of freedom of expression. The above-mentioned decisions will also have to be taken into account when considering whether to impose criminal liability for the use of the slogan cited, which means, in particular, assessing the context of its use, with a focus on its possible impermissible, genocidal meaning in the sense of, for example, supporting or subscribing to the ideas of the Palestinian Hamas movement.

Towards the end of 2024, a resolution of the Constitutional Court of 22 October 2024, Case No. II ÚS 1593/24, was published concerning the criminal status of "questioning the Katyn massacre". The Constitutional Court stressed that "the unequivocally proven historical truth is not disputed or negotiated, even when the 'debaters' cover themselves with the lofty cloak of freedom of speech. The democratic rule of law rightly punishes deliberate falsification of history, based, moreover, on base motives, affecting the honour of the victims and the honour of the survivors. In accordance with the law and in the interests of the past, present and future."

There were no legislative changes on extremism and prejudicial hatred in 2024. However, relatively significant changes were included in the Chamber of Deputies Bill 861. On the issue of hate (prejudicial) crimes, this draft states: 'In order to achieve truly equal protection for persons attacked on prejudicial grounds, it is proposed to take into account as a factor determining the application of a higher criminal rate to the perpetration of an offence against another because of his actual or perceived membership of any group of persons (a group of persons united by a unifying element). The examples of such groups, or rather prejudiced motives based on this unifying element, contained in the Criminal Code today are thus supplemented by further examples - the list of prejudiced motives is explicitly expanded to include motives based on age, disability, sexual orientation, gender and membership of a social group. On this occasion, the range of offences for which prejudicial motivation will be taken into account as a qualifying condition for the application of a higher penalty rate is also expanded."

We should also mention the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic of 10 April 2024, No. 233, which adopted a legally non-binding working definition of anti-Roma attitudes - antigypsyism: "Anti-Gypsyism, i.e., discrimination against Roma, is the expression and actions of individuals, strategies and practices of institutions that lead to the marginalization or exclusion of Roma, the devaluation of Romani culture and lifestyle, physical violence or expressions of hatred directed against Roma and other individuals and groups who are considered "Gypsies". For this reason, they are stigmatised or were targeted for persecution during the Nazi era or even today. Because of this discrimination, Roma are subsequently treated as a presumably alien, different group and are associated with a number of derogatory stereotypes and misrepresentations, which in themselves constitute a specific form of racism." This definition was adopted in 2020 by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) to help better identify and respond to specific forms of racism, prejudice, discrimination or hatred against Roma and Sinti. The International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance then called on its member states, including the Czech Republic, to adopt this definition and to use it to combat racism and related intolerance and discrimination.

As regards crimes of a terrorist nature, the situation appears to be stable.

At the end of the calendar year 2024, 24 cases were under criminal investigation (25 cases in 2023), of which 11 are under review and 13 cases are under investigation or before a court. As a rule, these are verbal offences, either threatening to commit a terrorist attack (Section 312f of the Criminal Code) or approving it (Section 312e of the Criminal Code). As regards persons fighting on the Russian side, they are generally prosecuted as fugitives, some of whom are unaccounted for.

Among the individual cases, it is worth mentioning the case of the convicted A. P., who served in the armed forces of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic from 2016 to 2020, namely as a sniper, killing at least four Ukrainian soldiers. In 2023, he was convicted of the particularly serious crime of terrorist attack under Article 311(2)(a), (3)(a), (b) of the Criminal Code and sentenced to an unconditional prison term of 21 years. The Supreme Court's decision of 31 July 2024, Case No 3 Tdo 506/2024, dismissed his appeal as clearly unfounded.

The media has been following the case of the accused A. S. F., who was allegedly involved in the occupation of Crimea in 2014. The original acquittal of the Municipal Court in Prague was revoked on appeal of the prosecutor by the High Court in Prague, and subsequently by the Municipal Court in Prague in its judgment of 7 August 2014 which found the accused guilty of the crime of participation in an organised criminal group under § 361(1), (2), (3) of the Criminal Code, as amended until 31 January 2017, and imposed an unconditional prison sentence of 5 years and a 10-year deportation sentence. The public prosecutor appealed against the sentence, to the detriment of the accused, and by the judgment of the High Court in Prague of 6 November 2024, the accused was sentenced to 10 years' unconditional imprisonment and indefinite expulsion.

Another media case was the arson attack on Prague public transport buses committed by a Colombian citizen in June 2024. The accused is being held in custody and the case is classified as a particularly serious crime of terrorist attack under Section 311(2)(a), (3)(a) of the Criminal Code.

Finally, we should mention the case of a juvenile from Ostrava who presented himself on the Internet as a representative of the Mordwaffen Division group, called for the murder of homosexuals, Roma and Muslims, and published instructions for the homemade manufacture of explosives, etc. His conduct is qualified as the offence of establishing, supporting and promoting a movement aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under Section 403(1), (2)(a) of the Criminal Code and the offence of supporting and promoting terrorism under Section 312e(1), first indent, (4)(a) of the Criminal Code. The suspect is being held in custody.

Although there was no regression in terrorist crimes last year, the predictions for the future are difficult to foresee, especially due to the increasing radicalization of a part of society. In 2024, however, the trend observed in 2023 towards a refusal to respect the legitimacy of the Czech Republic has weakened. Although groups of so-called sovereign citizens remain active, no serious disruption of the activities of the authorities and courts has been recorded, and the relevant public officials (especially police officers) seem to be able to overcome the obstructive practices of these individuals.

# 5. Hate Crime Statistics <sup>7</sup>

#### 5.1. National Police Statistics

For the following statistical evaluation, acts of selected tactical-statistical classifications marked with the extremism symptom were counted as acts with extremist overtones.

In 2024, 159 hate crimes were identified by the Police of the Czech Republic. In total, 173,322 crimes were registered in the Czech Republic. Thus, hate crimes accounted for 0.09% of this figure.

Of the above-mentioned offences, 55.3%, i.e. 88 (in 2023 it was 45.9%, i.e. 83 offences) were cleared.

In 2024, a total of 119 prosecutions were registered for hate crimes.

Total number of hate crimes registered in the Czech Republic between 2016 and 2024

Year	Registered crime  Share in total crime (%)		Cleared crime	Prosecuted persons	
2016	143	0,07	99	X	
2017	153	0,08	102	132	
2018	179	0,09	107	136	
2019	170	0,09	96	122	
2020	134	0,08	61	92	
2021	108	0,07	61	99	
2022	149	0,08	69	73	
2023	181	0,1	83	98	
2024	159	0,09	88	119	

Source: PCR

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The data do not reflect latent crime, do not take into account acts that for various reasons have not been detected, reported and therefore recorded.

# 5.2. Police statistics by offences

## **Number of offences**

Tactical-statistical classification	Period 1.131.12.2024			
	registered	cleared		
Intentional bodily harm (§ 145 - 146a)	7	5		
Violence and threats against a group of persons and individuals (§ 352)	54	32		
Dangerous threats (§ 353)	13	4		
Damage to another's property (§ 228)	7	4		
Disorderly conduct at sports and public events (§ 358)	2	1		
Spraying (§ 228/2)	11	3		
Defamation of a racial, ethnic and other group (§ 355)	19	14		
Inciting national and racial hatred (§ 356)	46	25		
Support and promtion of a movement (§§ 403, 404, 405)	0	0		
TOTAL	159	88		

# Number of prosecuted persons

Tactical-statistical classification	Period 1.131.12.2024
Intentional bodily harm (§ 145 - 146a)	8
Violence and threars against a group of persons and individuals (§ 352)	32
Dangerous threats (§ 353)	4
Damage to another's property (§ 228)	2
Disorderly conduct at sports and public events (§ 358)	2
Spraying (§ 228/2)	5
Defamation of a racial, ethnic and other group (§ 355)	20
Inciting national and racial hatred (§ 356)	26
Support and promotion of a movement (§§ 403, 404, 405)	0
TOTAL	119

In 2024, 159 hate crimes were registered. Of these, 88 were cleared. The most frequent crimes in the reported period were violence against a group of citizens and violence against an individual with 54 offences.

In 2024, the Police registered a total of 119 prosecutions for hate-motivated offences. The most frequent crimes involved violence against a group of persons and violence against an individual totalling 32 persons.

# 5.3. Police statistics by regions

#### **Number of offences**

Committed in the western	Period 1.131.12.2024				
Commited in the region	registered				
Prague	72	25			
Central Bohemia	10	8			
South Bohemia	1	1			
Pilsen Region	10	8			
Ústí Region	8	4			
Hradec Králové Region	6	5			
South Moravia	12	10			
Moravia-Silesia	4	3			
Olomouc Region	7	4			
Zlín Region	7	4			
The Higghlands	4	3			
Pardubice Region	4	3			
Liberec Region	9	7			
Karlovy Vary Region	5	3			
CZ TOTAL	159	88			

#### **Number of prosecuted persons**

Committed in the region	Period 1.131.12.2024 number
Prague	29
Central Bohemia	13
South Bohemia	2
Pilsen Region	9
Ústí Region	14
Hradec	4

Králové	
Region	
South Moravia	13
Moravia-	5
Silesia	3
Olomouc	5
Region	3
Zlín Region	4
The Highlands	4
Pardubice	3
Region	3
Liberec Region	10
Karlovy Vary	4
Region	4
CZ TOTAL	119

In 2024, most hate crimes were registered in Prague (72), followed by the South Moravian Region (12). Most prosecuted hate crimes were registered in Prague (29), followed by Ústí nad Labem (14) and Central Bohemia (13).

# 5.4. Criminal activity motivated by hatred against selected groups

Number of offences by victim (victim of assault)

Group	Period 1.131.12.2024		
	registered		
Jews	33		
Roma	17		
LGBT+	14		
Ukrainians	71		

In 2024, 33 crimes with anti-Semitic subtext were registered. Compared to 2023, there was an increase of 15 acts. Crimes with an anti-Semitic subtext in 2024 accounted for 20.75% of the total number of crimes with an extremist subtext. In 2023, it accounted for 9.9%.

A total of 17 hate crimes against the Roma were registered in the period under review. This is a decrease of 8 acts compared to the previous year. In 2024, these crimes accounted for 10.69 percentage points of the total number of crimes with extremist overtones. In 2023, it was 13.8%.

In addition, 14 acts motivated by hatred of the LGBT+ community were registered, one more than in 2023.

In the period under review, 71 acts motivated by hatred against Ukrainians were registered.

#### 5.5. Crime committed by Security Forces

In 2024, the Office of the Inspector General of the Security Forces did not investigate any criminal offences involving elements of extremism. In 2024, the General Inspectorate of Security Forces investigated three cases involving signs of extremism, two of which were referred to disciplinary proceedings. In one case, the case was dropped because, after the investigation, no crime or other illegal act was found to have been committed.

#### 5.6. Criminal activities of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic

No evidence of an increase in extremism in the defence ministry was found within the statutory powers of Military Intelligence in the period under review. By setting up mechanisms under the Action Plan to Combat Extremism and Prejudicial Hatred, no indicators of increasing radicalisation were detected.

#### 5.7. Court statistics

In 2024, the courts of the Czech Republic convicted a total of 46,462 persons (in 2023 - 51,399, in 2022 - 50,196, in 2021 - 49,647, in 2020 - 48,556, in 2019 - 55,594, in 2018 - 54,488, in 2017 - 55,069, in 2016 - 61,399), which represents a decrease of 4,937 persons, i.e. by 9.61% compared to 2023. Of this number, a total of 63 persons were convicted of racially motivated offences in 2024. This number represents only 0.14% of the total number of convictions in that year.

Compared to the year 2023, we note an increase in the number of persons convicted of racially motivated offences (by 13 persons, i.e. by approximately 26%, when a total of 50 persons were convicted of such offences in the previous year 2023, 61 persons in 2022, 67 persons in 2021, 74 persons in 2020, 49 persons in 2019, 54 persons in 2018, 47 persons in 2017 and 77 persons in 2016). It is evident from the above data that the share of these offences in the total number of convictions in the Czech Republic remains very low. In absolute numbers, it has oscillated in recent years between about 50 and 100 offenders.

Offenders were convicted of the following offences in 2024 8:

	Provisions of the Criminal Code	Number of persons	
Criminal offence	("CC")	Convicted of a racially motivated crime, ('Criminal Code 40/2009'))	
Harm to health	§ 146	3	
Blackmail	§ 175	1	
Damage to another's property	§ 228	1	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The sum is more than 63 because one person can be (and often is) convicted of multiple offences

Violence against a public official	§ 325	2
Threat to influence a public official	§ 326	3
Violence against a group of persons and against an individual	§ 352	15
Dangerous threats	§ 353	3
Defamation of nation, ethnic group, race and religion	§ 355	12
Incitement to hatred against a group of persons or to restriction of their rights and freedoms	§ 356	11
Disorderly conduct	§ 358	23
Incitement to crime	§ 364	6
Approval of crime	§ 365	1
Establishment, support and promotion of a movement to repress human rights and freedoms	§ 403	1
Expression of sympathy for a movement to suppress human rights and freedoms	§ 404	17
Denial, questioning, approval and justification of genocide	§ 405	12

In 2024, the perpetrators of these offences were most often convicted of an offence under Section 358 of the Criminal Code - 23 persons. This is followed by convictions for the offence under Section 404 of the Criminal Code Manifestation of sympathy for a movement to suppress human rights and freedoms - 17 persons, Violence against a group of people and against an individual under Section 352 of the Criminal Code - 15 persons and Defamation of a nation, ethnic group, race and beliefs under Section 355 - 12 persons, Denial, questioning, approval and justification of genocide under Section 405 of the Criminal Code - 12 persons, Incitement to hatred against a group of persons or to restriction of their rights and freedoms under Section 356 of the Criminal Code - 11 persons.

For the above-mentioned racially motivated offences, 4 persons were sentenced to unconditional imprisonment. Of the persons convicted of racially motivated offences, three were designated by the courts as recidivists. In 2024, the courts finally imposed suspended prison sentences on 31 persons. The penalty of community service was imposed in 13 cases. A fine was imposed on 15 persons. 1 juvenile offender and 6 women were given sentences.

# 5.8. Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office statistics

According to statistical data of the Ministry of Justice, a total of 30,780 persons were prosecuted in the Czech Republic in 2024 (in the case of summary proceedings, a total of 37,235 persons). A total of 26,906 persons were indicted in 2024 (35,087 persons were subject to a motion for punishment). The attached data in Table 1 indicate that the share of racial, national or other hate crimes in the total volume of crime was also rather minimal in 2024. The proportion of persons prosecuted (+ summary pre-trial proceedings) for racial, national and other hate crimes to the total number of persons prosecuted (+ summary pre-trial proceedings) was 0.23%. In regard to the number of persons indicted (+ sentencing proposals) for racially motivated, national and other hate crimes, the proportion of the total number of persons indicted (+ sentencing proposals) was 0.18%. Although this is a low proportion, this type of crime should not be underestimated at all.

Table 1: Overview of racial, national and other hate crimes in 2016-20249

Crimes committed motivated by racial, national or other hatred grounds	rated by racial, nal or other hatred Persons prosecuted in total			
2016	95 (+33 ZPŘT)	92 (+30 ZPŘT)		
2017	98 (+31 ZPŘT)	90 (+29 ZPŘT)		
2018	144 (+33 ZPŘT)	128 (+31 ZPŘT)		
2019	98 (+16 ZPŘT)	89 (+15 ZPŘT)		
2020	95 (+29 ZPŘT)	81 (+14 ZPŘT)		
2021	86 (+25 ZPŘT)	58 (+14 ZPŘT)		
2022	98 (+30 ZPŘT)	78 (+ 24 ZPŘT)		
2023	59 (+62 ZPŘT)	43 (+ 47 ZPŘT)		
2024	99 (+60 ZPŘT)	74 (+ 40 ZPŘT)		

In 2024, there was an increase in the total number of persons prosecuted for racial, national and other hate crimes compared to 2023 (a total of 159 persons prosecuted; +38 compared to 2023). The number of persons indicted has also increased (114 indicted in total; +24 compared to 2023). For the 2016-2024 reporting period, the year 2024, with a total of 114 indicted persons, ranks among the average (minimum 72 persons; maximum 159 persons) for the number of persons indicted for this crime.

Table 2: Data on the number of persons prosecuted and charged for racial, national and other hate crimes for the years 2023-2024<sup>10</sup>

CR	§ 140	/3g	§ 145	/2f	§ 146/2	2e	§	175/2g	§ 228/	3b	§ 352/2		§ 352/3	
	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.
2023	0	0	1	1	3(+1)	3(+1)	1	0	2(+4)	2(+4)	19(+17)	14(+16)	3(+3)	2(1)
2024	0	0	7	7	8(+2)	8(+2)	1	1	0(+3)	0(+3)	17(+12)	11(+10)	11(+8)	9(+6)

CR   § 355   § 356   § 403   § 403a   § 404   § 40
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<sup>9</sup> This is the number of persons prosecuted and charged for whom the tag "racial, national or other intolerance" was filled in. The acronym 'ZPŘT' in the table stands for 'summary criminal proceedings'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Numbers of persons prosecuted and charged by Criminal Code qualification - one person may be involved in more than one qualification. Data in brackets refer to summary criminal proceedings.

	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.	pros.	char.
2023	8(+12)	4(+9)	12(+18)	7(+14)	1	1	0	0	20(+14)	16(+8)	10(+11)	8(+6)
2024	17(+12)	16(+9)	28(+18)	12(+13)	5(+1)	5(+1)	0	0	27(+22)	23(+19)	23(+16)	18(+11)

#### Note on Table 2:

In 2024, the most frequently occurring crimes committed for racial, national and other hate motives included the crime of:

- Expression of sympathy for a movement aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under Section 404 of the Criminal Code (49 prosecuted persons, 42 accused persons),
- incitement to hatred against a group of persons or to restriction of their rights and freedoms under Section 356 of the Criminal Code (46 prosecuted persons, 25 accused persons),
- denying, questioning, approving and justifying genocide under Section 405 of the Criminal Code (39 prosecuted persons, 29 accused persons)
  - defamation of a nation, race, ethnic or other group of persons under Section 355 (29 prosecuted persons, 25 accused persons),
- Violence against a group of persons and against an individual under Article 352(2) of the Criminal Code (29 prosecuted persons, 21 accused persons).

The first four crimes listed above contributed to the increase in the number of persons prosecuted and charged for racial, national and other hate motives in 2024. Specifically, the crime of expressing sympathy for a movement aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under Section 404 of the Criminal Code (+15 prosecuted persons, +18 defendants compared to 2023), and the crime of denying, questioning, approving and justifying genocide under Section 405 of the Criminal Code (+17 prosecuted persons, +15 defendants compared to 2023), the crime of inciting hatred against a group of persons or restricting their rights and freedoms under Section 356 of the Criminal Code (+16 prosecuted persons, +4 defendants compared to 2023), the crime of defamation of a nation, race, ethnic or other group of persons under Section 355 of the Criminal Code (+9 prosecuted persons, +12 defendants). In 2024, there was also an increase in prosecutions and indictments for the offence of violence against a group of persons and against an individual under Section 352(3) of the Criminal Code (+13 prosecutions, +12 indictments compared to 2023). There was also an increase in the number of prosecuted and accused persons in the number of cases for the offence of grievous bodily harm under section 145(2)(f) of the Criminal Code (+6 prosecuted persons, +6 accused persons compared to 2023) and the offence of bodily harm under section 146(2)(e) of the Criminal Code (+6 prosecuted persons, +6 accused persons compared to 2023).

On the contrary, a decrease in the number of prosecuted and charged persons compared to 2023 is registered for the offence of violence against a group of persons and against an individual pursuant to Section 352(2) of the Criminal Code (-7 prosecuted persons, -9 charged persons compared to 2023) and for the offence of damage to another's property under Section 228 of the Criminal Code (-3 prosecuted persons, -3 charged persons compared to 2023). Zero values are registered for the offence of murder under Article 140(3)(g) of the Criminal Code and the offence of dissemination of a work to promote a movement aimed at suppressing human rights and freedoms under Article 403a.

#### 5.9. Probation and Mediation Service statistics

The number of perpetrator files (cases) related to extremist-motivated crimes at the Probation and Mediation Service has long been very low. In 2024, there were 115 new perpetrator files nationwide. Since 2002, the proportion of such offences has ranged from 0.2% to 0.7% of new cases per year. In 2024, this proportion reaches 0.5% of all new perpetrator files (22,766 offender files). The proportion of cases with extremist overtones has thus increased on an annual basis.

Number of cases/files of perpetrators of crimes with extremist overtones in individual judicial regions and the Czech Republic in 2020 -

								2024										
	2020			2021			2022			11/2023			2023 (odhad)			2024 (nová metodologie)		
Počet případů / Kraj	Extremistický podtext	(%)	Celkem	Extremistický podtext	(%)	Celkem	Extremistický podtext	(%)	Celkem	Extremistický podtext	(%)	Celkem	Extremistický podtext	(%)	Celkem	Extremistický podtext	(%)	Celkem
Praha	11	0,5	2338	4	0,2	2139	9	0,4	2097	6	0,3	2047	7	0,3	2047	19	1,0	1827
Středočeský	7	0,2	2903	5	0,2	2673	4	0,1	2730	8	0,3	2745	9	0,3	2745	19	0,6	3125
Jihočeský	4	0,3	1473	0	0,0	1481	3	0,2	1680	10	0,6	1685	11	0,7	1685	4	0,3	1335
Západočeský	12	0,5	2403	3	0,1	2372	5	0,2	2304	8	0,4	2162	9	0,4	2162	15	0,7	2297
Severočeský	8	0,2	4055	11	0,3	3658	22	0,5	4076	7	0,2	3850	8	0,2	3850	15	0,4	3664
Východočeský	9	0,4	2199	2	0,1	1969	5	0,2	2184	7	0,3	2150	8	0,4	2150	3	0,1	2077
Jihomoravský	4	0,1	3117	2	0,1	3066	8	0,3	3140	8	0,2	3293	9	0,3	3293	19	0,5	3647
Severomoravský	15	0,3	4737	17	0,4	4421	7	0,2	4661	8	0,2	4547	9	0,2	4547	21	0,4	4794
ČR	70	0,3	22122	41	0,2	20517	57	0,3	21655	58	0,3	21429	67	0,3	21429	115	0,5	22766

As of 2024, a new unit "perpetrator's file" corresponding to one criminal case of one person with whom the Probation and Mediation Service started cooperation in the reporting period has been introduced. These figures are adjusted for referrals between the different regions and centres of the Probation and Mediation Service. Extremist offences in the Probation and Mediation Service statistics are defined as cases in which an extremist offence (§§ 352, 355, 356, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405 of Act No. 40/2009 Coll.) has been registered in the agenda, or an extremist subtext (racially motivated, religious, political, other) has been registered in the context of another crime.

In terms of the structure of the offences (more than one offence may be recorded in one registered case), the group of cases with extremist overtones consisted mainly of perpetrators of the offence of violence against a group of the persons and against an individual under Section 352 of the Criminal Code (18, 8 % of the Criminal Code) and perpetrators of the offences of defamation of a nation, race, ethnic or other group of persons, incitement to hatred against a group of persons or to restriction of their rights and freedoms, and expression of sympathy for a movement aimed at suppression of human rights and freedoms under Sections 355, 356 and 404 of the Criminal Code (in total 7.53 % of the crimes). Offences under Sections 403 and 405 of the Criminal Code occurred in only a few cases. Other crimes with extremist overtones (Sections 401 and 402 of the Criminal Code) did not occur at all in

2024. Extremist subtext was also recorded in connection or in combination with other crimes. It was most often associated with the offence of rioting under Section 358 of the Criminal Code (20.8% of offences).

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Překlad výše uvedené tabulky (nelze přeložit do tabulky):

Number of cases / Region 2024 (new methodology) Extremist subtext Total Prague Central Bohemian South Bohemian West Bohemian East Bohemian South Moravian North Moravian CZ