

OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2018

Statement by the Czech Republic

Working session 9: Tolerance and non-discrimination II
14 September 2018

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Mr Chairman,

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the statement of the European Union and would like to add some comments in its national capacity.

Policy of Roma integration remains a priority for the Government of the Czech Republic. The Government is resolutely implementing measures of the Strategy of the Roma Integration up to 2020. Roma civil society is involved in the process of implementation and monitoring of the Strategy as well in the process of the preparation of a new Strategy of Roma integration 2021-2027.

The Czech Government has purchased the large-scale pig farm in Lety and terminated it. Last pigs left the Lety farm in March 2018. Archaeological research of the site and then demolition of the buildings of the former farm is planned. The future of the memorial site is a matter of an ongoing discussion with the general public, especially with Roma civil society.

Another important memorial site of suffering of Roma during the World War II in Hodonín u Kunštátu is since the beginning of the year 2018 under the administration of the Museum of Romani Culture in Brno, a contributory organization of the Ministry of Culture.

Compared to the statement presented last year at HDIM, a slight progress has been made also in areas of education, employment, security and anti-discrimination. Especially in the field of education, positive effects of the amendments to the School Act slowly show up. Since September 2017, the last year of the pre-school education is obligatory.

Policy of Roma integration is a priority for the Government of the Czech Republic. It is initiated, implemented, monitored and evaluated in close cooperation with Roma civil society through Government Council for Roma Minority Affairs and its working groups.