



Regional Studies Association

COUNTRY REPORT CZECH REPUBLIC

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The main aim of this report is to provide brief information and summary of regional studies issues in the Czech Republic. This report on the Czech Republic case was elaborated with a close cooperation of academics and practitioners at the Prague University of Economics and Business and IREAS, Institute for Structural Policy (<http://www.ireas.cz/en/>).

The Country report of the Czech Republic consists of the following parts:

1. List of current journals on regional studies issues in the Czech Republic
2. List of regular seminars and conferences on regional or rural issues
3. List of current associations on regional studies issues in the Czech Republic
4. Contact list of universities, institutions, departments, agencies specialised in regional policies

Report on regional studies in the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic is a democratic parliamentary republic situated in the heart of Europe. It was established on 1 January 1993 following the peaceful dissolution of Czechoslovakia. During the 1990s, the country underwent a profound political and economic transformation from a centrally planned economy to a market-based economy, accompanied by extensive institutional reforms and decentralisation. These changes enabled the Czech Republic to integrate into key international organisations, becoming a member of the OECD (1995), NATO (1999) and the European Union (2004), while also participating actively in the United Nations, the Visegrad Group and other international institutions.

Today, the Czech Republic faces a new generation of regional development challenges. Although the country has largely achieved economic convergence towards the EU average, strengthening long-term competitiveness through innovation, digitalisation and productivity growth remains a key policy priority. At the same time, regional disparities have become increasingly pronounced, particularly between metropolitan growth centres and rural or inner peripheral areas. A distinctive feature of Czech regional policy is the ongoing socio-economic transition of the three former coal regions (Moravian-Silesian, Ústí and Karlovy Vary Regions), supported by the RE:START Strategy and the EU Just Transition Mechanism. These processes have already generated important institutional and innovation successes, particularly in the Moravian-Silesian Region. Prague, Brno and Ostrava have emerged as the country's leading innovation hubs, while many rural and peripheral municipalities continue to face demographic decline, limited accessibility and weaker economic performance. These challenges are further shaped by the Czech Republic's exceptionally fragmented settlement structure, comprising more than 6,200 municipalities, which creates both opportunities for local governance and constraints for efficient public service delivery and regional development.

List of current journals on regional studies issues in the Czech Republic:

- **Česká geografická společnost (Czech Geographical Society)** – is also issuing the oldest scientific journal in Czechia published since 1895 - **Geografie**. All contributions are reviewed. Issued by Czech Geographic Society. Published four times a year, usually three issues in Czech language, one in English. At the most two issues per year are prepared as special issue. Website: <https://geografie.cz/>
- **Mendel University in Brno**
EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE - Reviewed International Scientific On-Line Journal in the field of rural research.
Publisher: VERSITA, o.p.s., ISSN: 1803-8417- The Journal is issued four times a year since March of 2009. The articles are published in English, the abstracts are in English and in the native languages of the respective authors.
Website: <http://www.european-countryside.eu/>
- **Faculty of Management and Economics of Tomas Bata University in Zlín** offers results of basic and applied economic research of domestic and international authors in the English language - the scientific periodical **Journal of Competitiveness**
Website: <http://www.cjournal.cz>

- **Technical University of Liberec** in cooperation with other universities in the Czech Republic and Slovakia – **E&M Economics and Management** is a scientific journal that publishes original scientific articles and scientific studies based on theoretical and empirical analyses. The journal is comprised of several sections: Economics, Business Administration, Finance, Management, Information Management, Marketing & Trade.
Website: <https://www.ekonomie-management.cz/home/>
- **University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Economics, Czech Republic** in cooperation with other central European universities – **DETUROPE (The Central European Journal of Regional Development and Tourism)** is an international online peer-reviewed open-access journal that exists since 2009. It offers a possibility for the international community of professionals working in the fields of regional and rural development or tourism to exchange their ideas and research results or practical achievements as it publishes results of both theoretical and applied research in these fields. The journal is published by consortium of three academic establishments: University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Economics, Czech Republic; Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Georgikon Campus Keszthely, Hungary and Regional Science Association of Subotica, Serbia.
Website: <https://www.deturope.eu/>

List of regular seminars and conferences on regional or rural issues:

- **The Evaluation Conference, which is organized by the Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of Regional Development CZ** – The Evaluation Conference, organised by the Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of Regional Development – the National Coordination Authority, is the largest annual gathering of experts dedicated to the topic of evaluations in the field of European funds. Each year, the Evaluation Conference attracts nearly 200 professionals not only from the Czech Republic, but also from other EU countries.
The 12th edition of the conference will take place **on 4 November 2026 in Prague** in an in-person format at the Ministry of Regional Development, Academy of Public Investment, Pařížská 4, Prague 1.
Website: <https://www.dotaceeu.cz/en/microsites/evaluacni-konference/obecne-informace>
- **Infproforum** (every year – Autumn, November)
INPROFORUM 2026 "Future Economy: Innovation, Digital Transformation and Sustainable Competitiveness"
20th International Scientific Conference, November 26-27, 2026
The International Scientific Conference INPROFORUM is a traditional event held by the Faculty of Economics, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (USB). It is focused on the research achievements in the fields of Innovations, Enterprises, Regions and Organizations.
International Conference offers the opportunity to discuss relevant topics among academic and practicing economists. The Conference is organized under the auspices of doc. RNDr. Zuzana Dvořáková Líšková, Ph.D., Dean of the Faculty of Economics, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice.

In an era marked by artificial intelligence, digital transformation, the growing pressure for sustainability, and increasing geopolitical uncertainty, innovation has become one of the most defining concepts of our time. Organizations and institutions are called upon to innovate constantly, yet many innovation projects fail to deliver the expected results. This year's conference therefore provides a space for critical, open, and experience-based discussion on the true meaning of innovation, its benefits, limitations, and risks.

Website: <https://inproforum.ef.jcu.cz/>

- **Region in the Development of Society 2026 – RESPO** - Social, Political, Environmental and Public Administration Challenges in the European Union.

Date - from 1st to 3rd October 2026

The 14th International Scientific Conference, 'Region in the Development of Society', will focus on selected aspects of regional development and international studies. The conference aims to share knowledge from economic, social, political, security, demographic, geographical and environmental perspectives. It emphasises a multidisciplinary approach, as well as the practical application of knowledge.

Website: <https://frms.mendelu.cz/en/science-and-research/conferences/respo/?psn=200>

- **MĚ100 - Student scientific conference on economics on a city or regional scale – in November every year (Prague).** We open a topic that is seldom discussed in the context of spatial planning in central Europe. We would like to explore the connection between urban and regional planning and the economics. Since 2016 we invite every year academics from various universities and professionals in this field and moderate a discussion in an open forum with PhD students. The conference combines presentations of PhD students' work with conference papers of invited experts, allowing for a scholarly and scientific debate and engagement to occur. To this end, the organizers invite professionals that work outside of the academic sphere: municipal representatives, especially those in departments responsible for the budgets of towns and regions; representatives of banks involved in financing public construction projects; or experienced managers of private sector interested in co-operation between public and private sector.

Website: <https://www.me100.info/indexen.html#about>

List of current associations on regional studies and other relevant issues in the Czech Republic:

- **Czech Evaluation Society** is a voluntary, self-governed, non-profit, apolitical, independent association of professionals who engage in evaluations of public and private development programs and projects, and unites its members on the basis of a common interest.
Website: <http://www.czecheval.cz/eng.html>
- **Association for Urban and Regional Planning of the Czech Republic** (*Asociace pro urbanismus a plánování*)
Website: <http://www.urbanismus.cz/about-us>
- **CZECH RURAL website.** On it you will find information from social science sources focused on the study of rural society. You will find: an overview of relevant institutions, organizations and experts, information about activities connected with research concerning the of countryside, information about publications, invitations to relevant conferences and

This website is guaranteed by the Department of Humanities at the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague.

Contact list

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