European Values Think-Tank

Our vision is that of a free, safe and prosperous Czech Republic within Central Europe that is an integral part of the West.

In 2016, we have helped to face aggressive regimes, radicalization within the society, the spread of authoritarian tendencies and extremist ideologies including Islamism.

We have provided politicians with expert recommendations and we systematically watched and evaluated their performance.

We consider active citizens, accountable politicians, political parties that fulfill their role as well as a cohesive society that shares the values of individual freedom, human dignity and equal rights to be the principle elements of a functioning liberal democracy. Since 2005 we have pursued research and educational activities as a non-governmental and non-profitable organisation with no linkage to any political party. In addition to publishing analytical papers and commentaries for the media, we organise conferences, seminars and training sessions for both experts and the wider public. Our events provide a platform for dialogue amongst politicians, experts, journalists, businessmen and students.

Radko Hokovský, Ph.D.
Executive Director of the European Values Think-Tank

Program for Cohesive Society: Countering the threat posed by Islamic extremism and uncontrolled mass migration

We are helping to prepare the Czech security institutions to avoid mistakes that have been made in the migration and integration policies of Western European countries.

- Parts of our plan are already being realized. In May 2016, we presented our eight-page proposal for reforming the EU's integration and asylum system in the European Parliament. Afterwards, we introduced the proposal to, for instance, the political adviser of the CDU. European politicians are already promoting individual components which are consistent with our proposal - in the issues of border protection, legalization of migration processes, or determination.
- The stance on migration and Islamisation of the majority of Czech political parties is close to our recommendations. We regularly present our analysis and recommendations to Czech politicians and organize a lot of events in the Parliament. Our main message is that even democracy can act tough when dealing with threats, and that it is necessary to leave a police state and restrict individual liberties.
- We bring top Western experts on migration and Islamism to Czech state institutions for consultations. Together with the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies, we have organized two seminars with Western experts on migration and Islamism.
- We participate in the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies. We organized a second year of a European forum on internal security homearcs, where experts discussed topics such as radicalization, terrorism, organized crime, cybercrime, illegal immigration or border protection.
- We create common bases for practitioners and experts on the perception of Islamic extremism in the Czech debate. We introduced a legal analysis of individual components of the Sharia law and its incomparability with the democratic legal order. We also published a typology of Islamic extremism, usable in the practice of security institutions. In the autumn of 2016, we were invited to present our recommendations for the prevention of Islamist propaganda to Czech public prosecutors during a judicial academy.
- We contributed to shaping the stance of the Czech government and its representatives, thanks to our long-term and intensive consultancy and communication activity, seminars and informal meetings in the Parliament or ministries, conferences on top political level, professional analyses and newsletters which we send to politicians.
- We actively strengthened the joint stance of the EU countries against the EU’s irresponsible immigration policy and against the currently tolerance of Islamic extremism. We organize regular meetings of high-level official, politicians, and experts from all four countries. In 2016, we held two seminars in Prague during which we presented our expertise and proposals in the field of migration policy and the fight against Islamic extremism.
- We trained judges and public prosecutors during a seminar called “Organised violence extremism, hate crimes” organised by the Czech Judicial Academy. Our goal is to raise awareness about which paragraphs of existing laws allow for taking legal actions against Islamic extremism (and how to identify it), and put judges and public prosecutors in a situation of the incompatibility of the Sharia law with the Czech legal order.
- We cooperate with the Ministry of the Interior in identifying main sources of Islamic extremism, such as Islamic publications, magazines, (Tripit, Runasp), and websites or chatrooms. We put together a methodology for a systematic analysis of all these sources, their classification on a four-level scale, and identification of those which are extremist and whose dissemination must be prevented. We are preparing a lot of all relevant Islamistic sources together with their evaluation.
- We prepared a security program called Self-Confident Czech Republic, which has been offered to the programs of Czech political parties before the 2017 parliamentary elections. Our political recommendations focus on 5 key areas for the security of the Czech Republic:
  1. Sustainable migration and asylum policy
  2. Immigration of refugees
  3. Fight against (Islamic) extremism
  4. Terror prevention
  5. Security system
- Together with many other experts, we put together commonalities for the development of the European security environment from the perspective of Czech interests. We identified four possible key events in the following three years, so-called “game-changers”, which might significantly change Europe's social and political system. The scenarios were discussed with 70 experts (Helen Lagaßmann, Øystein Bjorv, Peter de Jong, Greg Waskowicz, Eike Weiss) and presented to the General Staff of the Army of the Czech Republic.

Educational Program

- We organized 1 high school in the Czech Republic in 2016 with our “I love democracy” program. Together with personalities which significantly contributed to Czech state-building or are an important part of the Czech public debate, we discussed democracy, human rights, or active citizenship with more than 1630 participating students.
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We have managed to put the disarmament and hostile influence of the Kremlin on public, political, and governmental agenda. We have awakened the immune system - the Czech Republic finally started to work seriously on its defence strategy.

- Our recommendations are being heard. The Czech government established the specialized Centre Against Terrorism and Hybrid Threats under the Ministry of the Interior. This was one of our recommendations in the National Security Audit, in which we are official advisors for the chapter “Influence of Foreign Powers.”
- Our voice in the Czech public debate is strong and visible. We warn about threats posed by Islamic extremism, mass migration, and disarmament. In 2016, we were quoted nearly a thousand times in Czech media.
- We systematically brief top Czech politicians about disarmament operations. Amongst people who read our materials are, for example, Chairmen of the CDU/ODS Military Committee Petr Pavel, Minister of the Interior Milan Chovanec, or EU commissioner Věra Jourová. We also explain the disarmament threat to members of the US Congress or the European Parliament.
- On the European level, we are considered to be one of the best think tanks focusing on this issue. During 2016, we consulted on the topic of disarmament in 14 allied and partner states.

Among others, we were invited by the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Polish Ministry of National Defense, or German Federal Foreign Office. Moreover, the German Federal Academy for Security Policy has asked us to summarize our policy recommendation in their publications, and we introduced our defence strategy plan in the European Parliament.

- We try to make Prague the centre of resistance against the Kremlin’s hostile influence. Here, we organized the biggest European gathering of allied experts specifically focused on disarmament operations – the 2016 STRATCOM SUMMIT.
- We are the only non-governmental centre in the Czech Republic which deals with the disarmament threat systematically on a daily basis. In the Czech public space, only we are explaining why and how president Zeman is consistently acting like a Troika horse of the Russian Federation. Our pressure is one of the reasons why Miloš Zeman is more often confronted with the issue of his actions corresponding with Russian interests.
- The vice-president of the most important U.S. Congress-funded foundation “National Endowment for Democracy” considers the Kremlin Watch programme to be amongst the top 5 disarmament analyses.
- In 2016, our opinions and comments made its way to the majority of the most influential world media, such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, BBC, CNN, Der Spiegel, Frankfurter Allgemeine, 2DK, and many other leading nationwide newspapers and radio or TV stations in Italy, Spain, Ukraine, Poland, France, or Germany. This was possible thanks to our systematic, thorough, and strategic management of communication.
- Our open letter to Fedia Magheghi calling for taking the Russian disarmament threat more seriously, which contained a concrete proposal for strengthening the EU’s focus on this issue, received attention all over the world. More than 100 experts from the world’s most influential research and political institutions have signed it. The letter made its way in the news in more than ten languages, and F. Magheghi appeared in a live CNN interview based on our instance.