



RESPECT
FOR THE NATURAL RIGHTS
OF HUMAN BEINGS

Activities of the Czech Helsinki Committee in 2019

The presentation of the Czech Helsinki Committee is for INACH General Assembly which will take place on the 18th and 19th of June 2020. It is submitted to INACH on the 8th of June 2020.

- CHC presentation

The Czech Helsinki Committee (CHC) is a non-governmental and non-profit organization for human rights with a long record of performance on the national and international levels. The CHC, formerly Czechoslovak Helsinki Committee (CsHC), was founded in 1990 to monitor compliance with and violations of human rights in the former Czechoslovakia alongside the already active civil initiative Charter 77 and the Committee for the Defense of the Unjustly Persecuted (VONS).

The main mission of the organization is to foster and protect human rights by monitoring human rights, primarily in the Czech Republic, and bringing out the issues by issuing human rights reports since 1998, commenting on legislation and overall compliance with the standards of international and constitutional protection of human rights.

- CHC activities overview

Alongside monitoring legislation, legal and social practices, we nowadays continue to mitigate individual cases of human and civil rights violations, offer consulting services and provide human rights education in schools and for various professional groups.

The CHC continues actively to monitor human rights in the Czech Republic and submit human rights reports to various international monitoring bodies (including to the Council of Europe Committees and the United Nations Treaty Bodies and Human Rights Council). The CHC also directs statement at national, regional and international institutions.

CHC's activities are oriented towards the development and strengthening of civil society, democracy and social development in the Czech Republic. The CHC actively works in the spheres of prison system and criminal justice, discrimination, racism, hate speech, Roma rights and seeking redress for victims of forced sterilization, child's rights, women's rights, rights of elderly, rights of disabled persons and freedom of religion. Through individual counselling, multi-faceted topical projects and advocacy, CHC is a recognized expert in those fields.

- CHC activities in 2019

In 2019, the CHC, in parallel with its counselling activity, has wrote and submitted reports to the United Nations Treaty Bodies for the reviews of the Czech Republic. It focused on child's rights by submitting a report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child with the Alliance for the rights of the child. It also worked on civil and political rights by submitting an alternative report to the Human Rights Committee.

The CHC promoted and raised awareness about child's rights by organizing a press conference when submitting its alternative report, organizing a roundtable with foreign ambassadors in the Czech Republic and giving lectures to foreign students on child's rights in the Czech Republic.



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The CHC also advocated about the prohibition of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment in the Czech Republic by meeting the members of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT), and about racism and discrimination in the Czech Republic by meeting with members of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI).

More information at: www.helcom.cz

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