



Czech Republic

**End-of-Term Self-Assessment Report
for Action Plan of the Czech Republic
Open Government Partnership
for 2018 to 2020**

Submitted by: Minister of Justice

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1 Introduction

The Government of the Czech Republic decided to accede to the *Open Government Partnership* initiative (hereinafter the “OGP”)¹ by its Resolution No. 691 of 14 September 2011. The submitted End-of-Term Self-Assessment Report for Action Plan of the Czech Republic Open Government Partnership for 2018 to 2020 (hereinafter the “Self-Assessment Report”) evaluates the implementation of the fourth Action Plan of the Czech Republic Open Government Partnership for 2018 to 2020 (hereinafter the “Fourth Action Plan”).

Along with the other members of the initiative, the Czech Republic has also endorsed the *Joint Declaration on Open Government for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. By linking the creation of a national action plan and the implementation of the objectives of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Czech Republic delivers on its commitments, just as it did previously, to meet the SDG “16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”, in particular the tasks “16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms” and “16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels”.

The Fourth Action Plan was approved by Government Resolution No. 499 of 31 July 2018. The commitments of the Fourth Action Plan have been grouped into three thematic areas: 4.1 Quality management in the civil service, 4.2 Open justice and the fight against corruption, and 4.3 Open education. In accordance with the long-term linkage to the government anti-corruption documents, the completion of the commitments was monitored within the framework of the Government Anti-Corruption Conception for 2018 to 2022 and in the anti-corruption action plans for 2019 and 2020. Within the commitments of the Fourth Action Plan, all four values of the OGP were pursued - access to information, civil participation, accountability, technology and innovation. As with its previous action plans and in the context of its other conceptions, the Czech Republic saw the creation and implementation of the OGP action plans as an important support tool that emphasizes elements of openness to civil society, transparency and participation within the already existent and implemented strategies and agendas. The issue of open government is closely linked to the topic of the fight against corruption in the Czech Republic. In the case of the Fourth Action Plan, the above mentioned synergies were also manifested, allowing the Government of the Czech Republic to respond to civil society initiatives dedicated to the fight against corruption. This included, for example, the commitment to publish the decisions of lower courts². The information contained in Chapters 4 and 5 of the Self-Assessment Report is based on the documents that were received from the implementing agencies of the individual commitments.

¹ The OGP is based on the idea that open government is more accessible, responsive and accountable to citizens and that improving the relationship between people and their governments brings exponentially growing long-term benefits for all. The OGP currently has 98 members, both at the national level (78 countries) and at the regional level (20 regional stakeholders), all of them cooperating with thousands of civil society organizations. Thematically, the commitments in the individual action plans adopted by the members of the OGP, and there are over 4,000 of them at present, cover more than 50 areas.

²<https://rekonstrukcestatu.s3.amazonaws.com/rekonstrukcestatu/production/files/2019/05/20/14/32/31/dc050898-4084-4856-a97d-f71ef180648/vyzva-vlade-7-pojistek-proti-zasahum-do-justice.pdf>

2 Processes during the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan

A. Processes of participation and co-creation throughout the OGP cycle

This part of the Self-Assessment Report focuses on the evaluation of the fulfilment of the requirements set by the [OGP Participation & Co-Creation Standards](#) for the entire OGP cycle. The Standards are evaluated in the following three thematic areas:

A.1 Dissemination of information

A digital repository, where all the relevant information with regard to the OGP is published, can be found on the [korupce.cz](#) website; most of the information is clearly included in the section “Open Government Partnership (OGP)” there. The [contact person of the Czech Republic for the OGP](#) is also clearly identified on that website, including the relevant contact details. Information on important events and processes with regard to the creation and evaluation of the OGP action plans is communicated to the public well in advance on the [korupce.cz](#) website and, as appropriate, also on the website of the Ministry of Justice [justice.cz](#), on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

A.2 Space and platforms for dialogue and co-creation

A multi-stakeholder forum (hereinafter the “MSF”), which oversees the individual elements of the OGP processes and plays a key role in the participation and co-creation on the part of the NGO sector, is the [Government Anti-Corruption Council Chair’s Working Commission for Open Government and State Administration Transparency](#) (hereinafter the “Working Commission”). All suggestions from the civil society and other relevant stakeholders are collected and taken into account in the Working Commission. Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the option of video conferences was also introduced for the Working Commission's meetings, in addition to the current in-person and per rollam proceedings. All relevant inquiries regarding the OGP in the Czech Republic, whether received directly or within the Working Commission, are handled by the Czech Republic contact person for the OGP within the [Anti-Corruption Unit](#) of the Conflict of Interests and Anti-Corruption Department of the Ministry of Justice. At the same time, the Anti-Corruption Unit seeks to raise awareness of the Czech Republic's activities within the OGP and also motivates the members of the Working Commission to do the same.

A.3 Co-ownership and joint decision-making

The functioning and meetings of the Working Commission are generally governed by the [Statute](#) and the [Rules of Procedure of the Government Anti-Corruption Council](#) (hereinafter the “Government Council”), but the OGP processes put a lot of emphasis on ensuring that as many activities as possible, including setting a specific agenda for meetings and taking important decisions, take place at the level of the Working Commission. The Working Commission has an equal representation of members from governmental and non-governmental sectors. Membership in the Working Commission is not limited in any way and is governed by the rules set out in the Statute of the Government Council. Individual members of the Working Commission, including members for the non-governmental sector, may also suggest and in practice do suggest new members to the Council’s Chair for appointment. In addition to the [korupce.cz](#) website, both in the digital repository and in the News section in appropriate situations, information on the activities of the Working Commission is also published on the website of the Ministry of Justice [justice.cz](#), on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). In order to ensure sufficient actionability of the Working Commission and to guarantee the smooth implementation of the decisions taken, the position of the Chair of the Working Commission is performed at the level of the Deputy Minister. At present, i.e. as of October

2020, the relevant deputy minister responsible for the OGP agenda is the deputy minister for the management of the Anti-Corruption Coordination Section, Dr. Jeroným Tejc.

B. Processes of participation and co-creation when implementing, monitoring, and reporting on the Fourth Action Plan

This part of the Self-Assessment Report focuses on assessing the fulfilment of the requirements set by the [OGP Participation & Co-Creation Standards](#) for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of action plans. The Standards are evaluated in the following three thematic areas:

B.1 Dissemination of information

The status of implementation of individual commitments of the Fourth Action Plan was evaluated at meetings of the Working Commission on a quarterly basis. After the quarterly progress reports on the implementation of the commitments were discussed, they were published, including an update of progress on the individual milestones, in the form of an update on the cards of individual [commitments in the section of the korupce.cz website dedicated to the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan](#). The general public also had an opportunity to comment on the information on the implementation of the commitments using a dedicated contact address.

B.2 Space and platforms for dialogue and co-creation

When discussing the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan, the meetings of the Working Commission were also open to non-members of the Working Commission who expressed interest in participating in the meeting (through the Czech Republic's contact person for the OGP). For example, one of the proponents of one of the commitments of the Fourth Action Plan participated in the negotiations several times. In addition to the publication of a link on the korupce.cz website, all the published reports of the OGP Independent Reporting Mechanism (hereinafter the "IRM") were also sent to the implementing agencies of all the commitments concerned and to the members of the Working Commission.

B.3 Co-ownership and joint decision-making

At the meetings of the Working Commission, its individual members could submit their comments on the status of implementation of the Fourth Action Plan and its commitments and ask questions that were answered by the commitment implementing agencies in the next regular evaluation at the latest. At least some representatives of the commitment implementing agencies regularly took part in the meetings of the Working Commission.

Based on the schedule adopted by the Working Commission at its 8 September 2020 meeting, the draft Self-Assessment Report was sent to an interdepartmental comment procedure and to the members of the Working Commission for comments on 30 October 2020. At the same time, public consultations were announced for 10 working days, with a request for comments from the general public. The comments received were settled without contradiction. The Self-Assessment Report was subsequently discussed by the Working Commission.

3 IRM recommendations

Based on the OGP rules, this part of the Self-Assessment Report deals with how the five key recommendations from the latest IRM report were included in the process of adopting and creating action plans of the Czech Republic within the OGP in the past period. Given that the [IRM 2018-2020 Interim Evaluation Report](#), which covered the process of drafting the Fourth Action Plan and assessed the nature and focus of its commitments, was again published, just like the previous report, with a considerable delay in May 2020, during a public consultation on the creation of the Action Plan of the Czech Republic Open Government Partnership for 2020 to 2022 (hereinafter the “Fifth Action Plan”), the IRM recommendations could only be reflected to a limited extent in the creation and implementation of the Fourth Action Plan and during the creation of the Fifth Action Plan. The individual IRM recommendations, together with a description of their consideration, are set out below:

- 1) **Elaborate a long-term open government strategy:** The first recommendation was partly reflected in the draft commitment of the Fifth Action Plan concerning the elaboration of a methodology for the participation of civil society representatives in participatory processes. The mentioned methodology can be perceived as the first gradual step to implement the principles of open government across the state administration (or local governments). It is not yet possible to talk about a comprehensive long-term open government strategy in the Czech Republic.
- 2) **Continue efforts in opening the court system:** The second recommendation was continuously fulfilled by commitment No. 4.2.2 Publishing the decisions of lower courts and will continue to be fulfilled in the future by a continuing commitment under the Fifth Action Plan, which should extend the publication of substantive court decisions to other court agendas based on the evaluation of pilot results.
- 3) **Commit to adopt the whistleblower protection law:** The third recommendation was taken into account in creating a commitment of the Fifth Action Plan, which is a continuing commitment with respect to commitment No. 4.2.3 Raising awareness of the issue of whistle-blowers on illegal activity. The relevant draft law on the protection of whistle-blowers and the related amending law, which transpose Directive (EU) 2019/1937 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2019 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law, were also submitted in a version for government deliberations on 30 September 2020.
- 4) **Stimulate the debate on the reform of access to information:** The fourth recommendation was not part of the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan, nor was it reflected in the creation of the Fifth Action Plan. However, the Working Commission dealt with legislation relating to access to information in its further work. During the period under review, both governmental and parliamentary drafts in this area were also developed and discussed, and some changes have already been adopted³.
- 5) **Promote a further push for open data:** The fifth recommendation was already implemented in the Fourth Action Plan through commitments No. 4.3.2 Open data – information on schools and school facilities from the InspIS information system, No. 4.3.3 Opening data – aggregated findings from outcomes of the Czech School Inspectorate’s activities, and No. 4.3.1 Open data on education and the education system, which is

³E.g. Act No. 177/2019 Coll., amending Act No. 340/2015 Coll., on special conditions for the effectiveness of certain contracts, publication of these contracts and on the Register of Contracts (Act on the Register of Contracts), as amended.

included in the Fifth Action Plan as a continuing commitment. The recommendation was newly taken into account in creating the commitment of the Fifth Action Plan to consult the possibility of creating a comprehensive publicly accessible open-data aggregated database of providers and recipients of public funds from grants.

4 Evaluation of 2018 to 2020 commitments

4.1 Topic: Quality management in the civil service

4.1.1 Introduction of quality management principles in service authorities (within the scope of improvement criteria or comprehensive quality management methods)	
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 30 June 2021	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of the Interior - Civil Service Section
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>Absence of a standardized quality management system in state administration</p> <p>In the Strategic Framework for the Development of Public Administration in the Czech Republic 2014 – 2020, the methods of quality management used in public administration were judged to be considerably fragmented, without the option of overall monitoring and evaluating the achieved outcomes. The quality management methods used in public administration were not systematically supported, coordinated or evaluated. In public administration in the Czech Republic, quality management methods are implemented primarily by local authorities, particularly on the basis of their own voluntary interest in improving the quality of services provided and the effectiveness of their management.</p> <p>The above mentioned premises were confirmed by a survey carried out by the Civil Service Section of the Ministry of the Interior within the scope of service authorities in 2016. Its conclusions are presented in the Analysis of the Use of Quality Methods in Public Administration and subsequently also in the Analysis of the Current State of Improvement Criteria and of Selected Quality Management Principles in Service Authorities, which was drawn up in 2017.</p>
What is the commitment?	Introduction of quality management principles in service authorities within the scope of improvement criteria or of comprehensive quality management methods under Resolution of the Government No. 214 of 4 April 2018.
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?	<p>The commitment supports the implementation of Act No. 234/2014 Coll., on the Civil Service, as amended.</p> <p>The objective thereof is to introduce a mandatory minimum quality standard in service authorities. It recommends expanding this minimum standard to an optimum standard by implementing a quality</p>

	<p>management method chosen from the three quality management methods listed in the Methodological Guideline for Quality Management in Service Authorities (hereinafter the “Methodological Guideline”), which have been tried and tested in public administrative practice over the long term and have a positive impact on the given organization.</p> <p>The Methodological Guideline for Quality Management in Service Authorities (approved by Resolution of the Government No. 214 of 4 April 2018) clearly defines the objectives, arrangements, approach to implementation, and outputs binding on the service authorities under each instrument, whether it concerns improvement criteria under a minimum quality standard or quality management methods.</p> <p>The content of the Methodological Guideline is in particular aimed at the internal processes of service authorities. Nevertheless, from the experience of those who drew it up it is possible to state that improvements in the management and operation of any organization will inevitably be reflected in the increased performance of its employees and the increased quality of the services provided.</p>
<p>How does the commitment relate to OGP values?</p>	<p>The commitment relates to the values of transparency, civil participation and public accountability. According to the above mentioned Methodological Guideline, the quality management system requires that the service authorities introduce a system of communication and transfer of information as a minimum quality standard, supporting communication and the cultivation of relationships with all stakeholders. Moreover, the service authorities are responsible for reviewing the current competency system set-up, preparing an authority development strategy or reviewing the adequacy of staffing capacity. All of this, including the implementation of other improvement criteria, will lead to better management and operation and to greater transparency in the service authority.</p>
<p>Further information</p>	<p>This commitment fulfils the task of the Strategic Framework for the Development of Public Administration of the Czech Republic 2014 – 2020, the Implementation Plan for Strategic Objective 1 “Modernization of Public Administration” and its appendices, and the Implementation Plan for Strategic Objective 4 “Professionalization and Development of Human Resources in Public Administration” and its</p>

	appendices.			
Completion level	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Finished
		X		
Description of results	<p>With regards to the state of completion of the commitment, whose deadline is 30 June 2021, the following activities were implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings of representatives of service authorities dealing with the implementation of the quality management system at the given authority to pass on previous experience. • Consultations during the implementation of the requirements of the Methodological Guideline. • Consultations of project plans and applications for support of the Operational Programme Employment. • Implementation of training for quality managers and, according to the requirements of service authorities, also for members of quality teams. • Provision of other sample documents in accordance with the Methodological Guideline or the improvement criteria. • Preparation and launch of a web-based environment for the purposes of methodological support, sharing practices and sharing good practices. • Review of the degree of fulfilment of the requirements of the Methodical Guideline for Quality Management in Service Authorities with management systems already established and maintained. • Commencement of work on the elaboration of a manual for the development of a quality management system based on the international standard ISO 9001. 			
Next steps	<p>2020 was a breakthrough year for the service authorities in terms of the successful implementation of the requirements of the Methodological Guideline.</p> <p>Those authorities that already started to perform this task in the previous year, in particular by carrying out preparatory work in the form of distribution of competencies and carrying out an input analysis, should proceed further and start dealing with specific substantive requirements of the Methodological Guideline.</p>			

For authorities that have progressed further and already meet the individual (or all) improvement criteria, they need to contact the Civil Service Section and agree on a programme and schedule for the review, whether final or pilot review.

Authorities with which the Civil Service Section has no contact so far will contact the Section directly with a request for current information on the status of fulfilment of the requirements of the Methodological Guideline.

In view of the above, the Civil Service Section faces the following tasks:

- actively continue with consultations with service authorities;
- on the basis of a completed tender procedure for the organization of training, prepare and implement training for quality managers and at the same time to revise the content of such training in terms of the transfer of experience and good practice between service authorities;
- motivate those service authorities which have not yet consulted and are not in contact with the Civil Service Section;
- carry out a review of the degree of fulfilment of the requirements of the Methodological Guideline for quality management at those authorities where the requirements of the Methodological Guideline are already implemented;
- complete the remaining sample documents in accordance with the Methodological Guideline;
- launch a web-based environment for sharing practices between service authorities;
- continue the benchmarking initiative and extend the pilot benchmarking with a group of state deputies to other working groups set up by other groups of service authorities;
- continue to develop a manual for the development of the quality management system;
- start work on the CAF model application manual for service authorities.

With regard to the experience with the operation of service authorities during the Covid-19 pandemic and the related other priorities of service authorities, the Civil Service Section will prepare a request for the Government of the Czech Republic to extend the

		deadline for fulfilling the requirements of the Methodological Guideline arising from Resolution of the Government No. 214, approved on 4 April 2018, from 30 June 2021 to 30 June 2022.		
Milestone status		Start date:	End date:	Completion level
Introduction of quality management principles in service authorities		1 September 2018	30 June 2021 (deadline stipulated by Resolution of the Government No. 214 of 4 April 2018)	Fulfilled in accordance with the work schedule.
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of the Interior - Civil Service Section		
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency		Štěpánka Cvejnová		
Title, Department		Head of the Independent Department of Support and Development of the Civil Service and Project Director, Ministry of the Interior		
Email and telephone		stepanka.cvejnova@mvcz.cz , +420 974 818 201		
Other actors involved	State actors involved	Service authorities defined by Act No. 234/2014 Coll., on the Civil Service, as amended, with the exception of the Office for Personal Data Protection and the Czech Telecommunication Office. Based on their own requests, these authorities are not subject to Resolution of the Government No. 275 of 10 April 2017, in which the Government approved the Methods for Introducing Quality Management in Service Authorities.		
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international organizations, working groups			

Additional information

Sharing good practice

Current knowledge of service authorities, consultations with service authorities on the topic of quality management, as well as the process of preparation of the ex-post RIA and the analysis of the effectiveness of the Civil Service Act, have raised new questions and new areas of concern to which the Civil Service Section will respond in all activities, and it is obvious that the range of problems mentioned here will also affect other actors involved in fulfilling the commitments arising from the Strategic Framework for the Development of Public Administration of the Czech Republic 2014-2020 and other already valid strategic materials with an overlap to 2030.

Consultations with the service authorities on the improvement criteria also show other problems that have not yet been identified and which are now emerging under the topic of quality management. In the coming years, service authorities will have to respond to the situation and get used to the fact that the processes that normally work in other areas of economy will also work and are also needed in state administration so that the authorities could become modern and functioning organizations and attractive employers on the labour market.

Knowledge, challenges and risks

The three-year fulfilment of the project's tasks and goals also revealed its possible risks. The possible failure to resolve them in the following period may fundamentally jeopardize the fulfilment of the project's determining indicator concerning the final number of authorities in which the minimum requirements of the Methodological Guideline will be successfully implemented.

The general effort to professionalize the state administration and increase the quality of its management as such seems to be risky. The existence of many similar projects, without perceiving their interconnectedness and exploiting the synergies of related effects within the state administration, weakens all these projects, including the project concerned, and demonstrates the need for a systematic approach. An approach that uses the principles of evaluating the input parameters of projects, addressing internal processes, human resources and overall greater independence in their management. Such principles will help to better coordinate projects, optimize their goals, eliminate duplications and seek sources of real good practice and possible practical applications.

One of the possible ways may be the use of benchmarking, but only under the assumption of specific and clearly defined needs, for example by ministries, developed at the level of groups of similar or identical subordinate authorities, and also by the Civil Service Section.

On the contrary, the general overuse of the term "quality" in many almost identical projects, and often without a deeper content, causes and is a possible cause of the authorities' lack of interest to really deal with the topic and not fulfil it only as a task which, in combination with other obligations from similar projects, overwhelms them mentally and in terms of capacity.

On the part of the Civil Service Section, the specific risks include the lack of quality managers with practical experience in its management, and on the part of the authorities,

there is a general mistrust in the goals and intentions of the project, which is simply one of many such projects.

Measures to address these risks are included not only in the project itself, in improving the acceptance of its outputs from the Civil Service Section and their incorporation in generally accepted documents, but also outside of the project, in the overall approach to the Strategic Framework for the Development of Public Administration in the Czech Republic 2014-2020 and the fulfilment of its intentions by all authorities.

The state of implementation of the quality management system is regularly evaluated by the document “Information on the State of Implementation of Quality Management in Service Authorities”. The latest information was prepared in 2019.⁴

Other initiatives beyond OGP

The activities of the Civil Service Section mainly focus on ensuring the use of electronic applications where their meaningful implementation will simplify some personnel, communication and other processes.

Education in electronic form. Training of staff responsible for the agenda is listed as a mandatory output across some improvement criteria. As regards the improvement criterion related to human resources policy, training of service authority employees in selected personnel processes is mentioned as one of the required outputs. Not only to support these tasks, the project team of the Civil Service Section is preparing an e-learning portal for state administration, as part of the project activity called “Innovation of initial continuing education”. The tool is called sLearning, as a derivative of the words “shared e-learning”. Its aim is to provide service authorities with a tool for the implementation of internal e-learning, but also the possibility to share general training across authorities, through a shared environment. In 2019, the team began analysing the use of digital technologies and other tools in the field of education, the options of using connections to existing instruments, such as the Civil Service Information System or the JIP/KAAS authentication tool for single sign-on. The preparatory part of this IT project included, for example:

- analysis of needs and setting of priorities;
- survey of interest among potential users);
- possibilities of connecting agenda information systems to other cooperating information systems of state administration;
- feasibility study taking into account the legal framework (including technical and operational parameters);
- evaluation of trends in the field of e-learning and proposal of other options of online communication as part of staff education and development;
- determining the functionalities and principles to be met by the e-learning system;
- definition roles for specific user groups within the e-learning system;
- elaboration of a draft amendment to the Civil Service Act as part of Parliamentary Print 756, containing the arrangement of data in the Civil Service Information System, establishment of the Education Portal and new competencies of the Civil Service

⁴ [Information on the State of Implementation of Quality Management in Service Authorities in 2019](#)

Section, all with the aim of supporting the creation of sLearning.

The implementation of this activity has also become the task of the Digital Czechia programme. 2020 will be absolutely crucial for the success of this activity, its goal will be the announcement of a public contract for the implementation of sLearning.

Publication of internal regulations in electronic form. This task becomes important not only on the basis of previous reviews or on the basis of information obtained during consultations with service authorities, in order to provide electronic support for the administration of regulations and other acts of management of service authorities and the civil service as a whole. The aim of this activity is to ensure, through a suitable electronic solution, the distribution of civil service documents to service authorities and the demonstrable familiarization of civil servants with them, while providing service authorities with an internal application for administering their own internal management acts, and the service authority and the Civil Service Section with an environment for obtaining information on the familiarization of a specific civil servant with a certain regulation. The resulting application can provide clear, understandable and uniform familiarization of employees with all internal management acts, function as a single electronic archive of all internal management acts, where you can quickly find the required internal management act using full-text search, and can inform employees of newly adopted internal management acts by an automatically sent notification email, including information on the possible obligation to demonstrably become familiar with the given internal management act. The task of 2019 was to obtain the application from the General Finance Directorate and to gather experience with this application from the authorities that already use it. The task of 2020 is to finalize the public contract for the implementer of this application at the service authorities interested in the application.

Partial conclusions - benefits and impacts

The success of the introduction of a quality management system in service authorities and its appropriate use in civil service practice depends mainly on the chosen approach of the authorities, their management and their employees to the requirements of the Methodological Guideline, especially in authorities that do not have much experience with quality management principles. In this group, there will be a significant difference between the authority's true will to change and head towards higher quality and efficiency and, on the other hand, an approach of merely fulfilling a government task, regardless of its real or desired impact. In this case, the Methodological Guideline only provides guidance on "what" and "how", although it is based on internationally recognized quality management methods and also on the needs identified by the representatives of the service authorities at the performed brainstorming meeting.

Leaving aside that the authorities had to implement the principles of quality management in a way that was predefined, but at the same time that they were not very accustomed to, it is possible to generalize the benefits and impacts on management and functioning of the authorities with the successful implementation of individual requirements of the Methodological Guideline in the following points:

- the internal organization of the authority is separated from political influences because a long-term development strategy of the authority is specified and its beneficiaries - employees - know it; they also know their specific goals and sub-tasks as part of the authority's direction;
- the office is arranged according to a clear organizational structure based on the

planning and long-term intentions of the authority, the content of activities of individual departments is clearly defined and described, their staffing is not a “mere” response to the current possibilities of the authority, but it is a long-term planned activity;

- the authority is subject to a detailed analysis of its procedures and activities and a related analysis of currently valid and effective regulations, legal, service and other internal management acts with an emphasis on evaluating their necessity, eliminating inconsistencies and duplications and establishing uniform and systemic rules;
- there is advanced internal communication within the authority and, as a result, well and efficiently managed changes in the authority’s organization;
- the authority is constantly evaluated and improved in all personnel processes and the good name of the authority in order to ensure and maintain a high level of personnel work and management in the authority and to acquire, motivate and retain capable and promising employees even under the conditions of strong competition on the labour market;
- the development of the managerial skills of the superiors is managed in the long term in such a way that it brings about their long-term and targeted behaviour in relation to the management of resources, agendas and people in the assigned departments and supports their individual accountability;
- conditions are constantly being created for the better use of individual abilities and skills of employees for the purposes of well-organized work;
- innovation in the authority is encouraged and valued, including the effective management of all resources, agendas and people in the respective departments;
- a knowledge database is created in the authority and continuously maintained, and outputs are presented and accepted in the form of good practice.

4.2 Topic: Open justice and the fight against corruption

4.2.1 Improving the annual statistical report of the Czech judiciary				
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 31 August 2020				
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice			
Commitment description				
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	In the past, the statistical data on the operation of the Czech courts was just a row in the basic statistical information with no further breakdown. The first statistical annual report in which the published data were analysed and interpreted was issued in 2017. The decision was taken to publish such a report every year.			
What is the commitment?	The annual report published in 2018 contains significantly more information than the previous report. However, the Ministry of Justice undertakes to accept suggestions for further improvements following publication, both from professionals and the general public (the technical form of this consultation is still to be clarified). The commitment's objective is to support access to justice and greater transparency in the Czech judiciary, so that the statistical report can also reflect the information required by the public on the course of justice.			
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?	Thanks to public feedback, the Czech judiciary's statistical report will in future be more reflective of the real need for information on the part of the professional and general public.			
How does the commitment relate to OGP values?	This commitment will improve the quality of information published and the transparency of the Czech judiciary. It reflects the needs of professionals and the wider public.			
Further information				
Completion level	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Finished
				X
Description of results	During the implementation, suggestions and comments on the content of the annual statistical report were obtained not only from the professional public, but also from the general public, which had the opportunity to participate in two extraordinary collections of suggestions, always taking place at the end of the calendar year. All received suggestions were evaluated and the relevant ones were incorporated. The annual			

	<p>statistical report is an annotated source of information used by the professional public, however, even the general public can now obtain many interesting information from the field of the Czech judiciary.</p>		
Next steps	<p>Based on the evaluation of the benefits of this activity, it is evaluated as obsolete. Possibilities for further improvement of the annual statistical report are currently exhausted and further continuation of brainstorming activities of the general public within the framework of extraordinary collections would be ineffective. Proper collections will, of course, continue.</p>		
Milestone status	Start date:	End date:	Completion level
Collection of suggestions, including the choice of the collection method, for the 2017 annual report	1 September 2018	31 January 2019	Finished.
Continuous publication of suggestions and responses to them	1 January 2019	30 April 2019	Finished.
Collection of suggestions, including the choice of the collection method, for the 2018 annual report	1 September 2019	31 January 2020	Finished.
Continuous publication of suggestions and responses to them	1 January 2020	30 April 2020	Finished.
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice		
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency	David Pánek		
Title, Department	High Ministerial Councillor, Department of Electronic Justice and Statistics		
Email and telephone	DPanek@msp.justice.cz, +420 221 997 367		
Other actors involved	State actors involved		
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international		

	organizations, working groups	
Additional information		
<p> <u>Knowledge, challenges and risks</u> The observations of the implementing agency in connection with the development and implementation of the action plan essentially copy the principles of strategic planning. The commitment definition phase should already include key goals, which should be set in cooperation with the implementing agency. The absence of specific goals carries the risk of perception of different expectations. In defence, it can be noted that in the preparation phase, the commitment was difficult to grasp without a deeper knowledge of the issue. As part of other principles of strategic planning, it is possible to mention the allocation of adequate resources - “makeshift” implementation of the commitment without broader technical support is limiting. </p> <p> <u>Other initiatives beyond OGP</u> As outlined above, the definition of the commitment could have taken a different direction with regard to the promotion of OGP values. In general, the Czech judiciary is sufficiently open in comparison with other OGP member states - in terms of statistical data that are freely available to the public. As mentioned in the interim evaluation reports, a challenge for further improvement of communication of the Czech judiciary with the public would be, among other things, the introduction of visualization tools available online. This issue is addressed outside the competence of the commitment implementing agency. </p>		

4.2.2 Publishing the decisions of lower courts	
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 31 December 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The decisions of lower courts are not currently sufficiently transparent in the Czech Republic, since the public and the courts themselves do not have access to the database of all court decisions. Publishing all court decisions in anonymized form will reinforce the unity of the judiciary and increase the transparency of court decision-making. Currently only the three highest courts publish their decisions. It is necessary to support greater transparency in the whole decision-making process in the court system, and to make it accessible to the public in a suitable form, along with the option of searching the decisions.
What is the commitment?	Publication (disclosure) of the texts of the final and enforceable decisions of the high, regional and district courts in electronic format (online).
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?	Publishing the decisions of lower courts will lead to reinforced, supported access to justice and increased transparency in court decision-making. Even though the Czech Republic does not have the system of precedent, publishing all court decisions will reinforce the principle of consistency in court decision-making and legitimate expectations.
How does the commitment relate to OGP values?	<p>The commitment meets the basic OGP values (principles):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to information (transparency) - civil participation - accountability (implementation of the highest quality standards in the Civil Service) - technology and innovation. <p>The commitment meets 2 of the 3 OGP <i>Grand Challenges</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improving public services (justice) - increasing public integrity.
Further information	<p><u><i>Link to other government programmes:</i></u></p> <p>This commitment is directly linked to the government strategy “<i>Departmental eJustice Development Strategy for 2016 – 2020</i>”, adopted by Government Resolution No. 505 of 8 June 2016 (supplemented and revised by</p>

Government Resolution No. 170 of 14 March 2018).

The strategy's objective is the further development of electronic justice (see point 1.2). One of the specific *eJustice* strategic objectives is Strategic Objective 4.2 – “*Form – to enable easy and pleasant communication with participants in the process, the public and other local authorities performing some state functions, including improving the quality and extending the scope of information provided*”.

This strategic objective has 7 specific targets. One of the specific targets is no 4.2.7, under the name “*Providing information on court decisions*”.

Link to other relevant plans, such as the national anti-corruption strategy:

The commitment may also partially fulfil the tasks arising from other government missions and strategies, such as action plans for the fight against corruption or missions relating to open data.

Other sources:

Failure to meet the obligation to publish selected decisions is also noted in the *Ombudsman's Annual Report for 2016* (see page 57 of the Report).

The problem further resonates in the professional press or general news publications (media).

Foreign benchmarks:

Electronic *Slov-lex* system of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic containing all final and binding court decisions.

Professional literature:

- Korbela, F. – Melzer, F. Společenské a právní základy zveřejňování judikatury a způsoby jeho realizace. *Právní rozhledy*, 2011, Vol. 9, pp. 1-7.
- Králík, L. Hromadné zveřejňování soudních rozhodnutí (in press).
- Králík, L. Tvorba a publikace judikatury. *Právník*, 2018, Vol. 4, pp. 320-332.
- Králík, L. Publikace judikatury v USA. *Právník*, 2018, Vol. 2, pp. 131-142.
- Králík, L. Citace judikatury. *Právní rádce*, 2017, Vol. 1, pp. 60-65.
- Králík, L. Soudní rozhodnutí versus judikát a jejich zveřejňování. In: sborník příspěvků z konference Weyrův den právní teorie, Brno: PF MU, 2015,



	online: www.pravniprostor.cz .			
Completion level	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Finished
		X		
Description of results	<p>A1 - An application for anonymization and a new database were developed internally in cooperation with the courts and will be launched in accordance with the deadline set out above</p> <p>A2 - Amendment of internal regulations and methodologies</p>			
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practical implementation ● Evaluation of the functioning of the set processes ● Further development (new categories of decisions, development of applications, updating of methodological documents) ● Inclusion of a continuation obligation in the next period 			
Milestone status	Start date:	End date:	Completion level	
Creating an anonymizer	-	31 December 2020	Finished.	
Publication of judgements in a single court agenda	-	31 December 2020	Limited.	
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice			
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency	Přemysl Sezemský	Eva Vidová		
Title, Department	Director of the Department of Electronic Justice and Statistics	Head of the Department of ICT Architecture and Strategy		
Email and telephone	221 997 291, PSezemsky@msp.justice.cz	221 997 340, EVidova@msp.justice.cz		
Other actors	State actors involved			

involved	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international organizations, working groups	
Additional information		
<p><u>Sharing good practice</u> Participation in the Ombudsman's round tables on the topics of anonymization and publication of decisions was assessed as beneficial for the implementing agency.</p> <p><u>Knowledge, challenges and risks</u> If the commitment focuses on the issue of information systems, there is a high risk that problems will arise during implementation. Such commitments should be preceded in the future by a thorough feasibility analysis.</p>		

4.2.3 Raising awareness of the issue of whistle-blowers on illegal activity	
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 31 December 2021	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Justice (formerly Office of the Government of the Czech Republic)
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>A somewhat negative attitude persists in the Czech Republic towards individuals who, in the public interest and under specified conditions, make a reliable notification of suspected illegal activity (not necessarily a criminal offence) of which they have learned in the course of their employment in particular.</p> <p>These individuals face not just an inconsistent reaction from those around them, but also often labour-law-related sanctions from their employers, such as bullying, harassment and other pathological phenomena in the workplace. However, these practices also mean that society retains a fear of the negative consequences of such actions, though they are highly desirable from the perspective of public interest.</p> <p>The response of EU member states to the negative phenomena linked to whistle-blowing resulted in the submission of a draft directive of the European Parliament and Council on the protection of persons reporting on breaches of Union law.</p>
What is the commitment?	<p>The objective is to support a change in the perception of whistle-blowers, to enhance appreciation of their social role, and at the same time, to inspire whistle-blowers themselves not to be afraid to draw attention to illegal activity, to give them knowledge of what protection is available to them and of whom they can turn to in case of need. Given the difficulties and necessarily gradual nature of the process of changing society's attitudes, this is a long-term campaign exceeding the period covered by one action plan. As part of the implementation of this commitment, the legislative development of the draft directive of the European Parliament and Council on the protection of persons reporting on breaches of Union law will be reflected, among other things, as will the course of the legislative process for the draft national legislation on the protection of whistle-blowers in the Czech Republic.</p>
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public	For both professionals and the general public, campaigns will be organized focusing on various aspects

<p>problem?</p>	<p>of the whistle-blowing problem, with the objective of raising awareness both of the whistle-blowers themselves and of employers and the relevant public authorities, and supporting the creation of an environment in which the reporting of illegal activities is neither punished nor stigmatized. Attention will also be paid to explaining the role and importance of reporting illegal activities, with an attempt to shift perception of this activity as a positive thing beneficial to society as a whole, in a campaign with the involvement of real whistle-blowers.</p>			
<p>How does the commitment relate to OGP values?</p>	<p>The commitment relates to the values of transparency, civil participation and public accountability, since it will provide more information on the issue of reporting illegal activities to all relevant stakeholders and improve the clarity and accessibility of this information. The commitment will improve conditions for the active operation of civil society, of which whistle-blowers are an integral part, and by shifting perceptions of reporting illegal activities as an action beneficial to society, it will create the conditions to increase the number of activities reported and correspondingly reduce the space for corruption, leading to more efficient management of state assets.</p>			
<p>Further information</p>	<p>The commitment is part of a wider spectrum of government anti-corruption activities enshrined in strategic government anti-corruption documents and it will contribute to meeting the Czech Republic's international commitments (to the OECD, for example).</p>			
<p>Completion level</p>	<p>Not started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Finished</p>
		<p>X</p>		
<p>Description of results</p>	<p>Due to the close interconnection of most of the activities of the commitment to the drafting and approval of a new law on the protection of whistle-blowers, most activities have so far been completed only to a limited extent. The relevant draft law on the protection of whistle-blowers and the related amending law that are transposing Directive (EU) 2019/1937 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2019 on the protection of persons reporting breaches of Union law (the "Directive") were submitted for the interdepartmental comment procedure on 30 June 2020 and in a version for the Government meeting on 30 September 2020. Most of the activities that took place within the fulfilment of individual activities thus took place in</p>			

	<p>connection with them. It should also be mentioned that these drafts were already submitted to the government once in February 2019; however, based on the ongoing process of negotiating the Directive, it was decided by the Government Legislative Council to resubmit them with the necessary amendments once the Directive would be approved.</p> <p>As part of the implementation of the first milestone, three meetings of the Government Anti-Corruption Council Chair’s Working Commission on Whistleblowing were held, where specific topics related to the created legislative protection of whistle-blowers were discussed with department representatives as well as with civil society representatives. Information on these meetings was presented to the public through minutes of meetings, press releases and posts on Facebook and Twitter by the Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>As part of the awareness-raising efforts focused on both the draft law being prepared and the issue of whistle-blower protection in general, representatives of the Ministry of Justice, as panelists, participated in several public events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • public discussion forum called “Whistle-blower - Hero or Snitch?”; • workshop “Whistle-blowing (not only) in state administration”; • Business Integrity Forum conference. <p>In the phase of obtaining data for a comparative analysis of whistle-blower protection, the Ministry of Justice uses, in addition to publicly available sources and information resulting from the Czech Republic's membership in the EU and also information shared by members of the Network of European Integrity of Whistleblowing Authorities (NEIWA). The Ministry’s Conflict of Interests and Anti-Corruption Department is a party to that platform. Based on the initiative of the Ombudsman's Deputies in the Netherlands in 2019, this expert platform was set up to assist EU member states in implementing the Directive, but it also acts as a platform to address the practical implications of legislation in practice. However, the draft analysis itself, due to the ongoing work on legislation, has not yet been prepared.</p>
Next steps	<p>This commitment is included in an updated and slightly expanded form, resulting from the requirements of civil society in the public consultation, as a continuing commitment in the Fifth Action Plan.</p>



Milestone status		Start date:	End date:	Completion level
Organization of events (workshops, seminars, training) on the issue of protecting whistle-blowers		1 September 2018	31 December 2021	Limited.
Awareness campaign on the problem of reporters of illegal activities		1 September 2018	31 December 2021	Limited.
Drawing up a comparative analysis		1 September 2018	31 December 2021	Limited.
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Justice		
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency		Jiří Kapras		
Title, Department		Director, Conflict of Interests and Anti-Corruption Department		
Email and telephone		JKapras@msp.justice.cz , 221 997 135		
Other actors involved	State actors involved			
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international organizations, working groups	Whistle-blowing Working Commission, Network of European Integrity of Whistleblowing Authorities (NEIWA)		
Additional information				
<p><u>Sharing good practice</u> The Ministry of Justice shared experience and examples of good practice in its work within the NEIWA platform.</p> <p><u>Knowledge, challenges and risks</u> If a commitment, albeit indirectly, is linked in its content to the adoption of legislation, as was the case with this commitment, there is a risk that its implementation will only be limited and that the focus of its activities will need to be deferred to achieve the intended synergic effect.</p>				

4.3 Topic: Open education

4.3.1 Open data on education and the education system	
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 31 December 2020	
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports itself, or via its subordinate organizations, combines data on education and the education system. At the same time, the Ministry will hold several public registers, in particular the core Register of Schools and School Facilities, the Register of Legal Persons and the Register of Universities and Accredited Programmes of Study. These data, which are primarily used to parametrize education policy or finance the entire education system, currently represent a significant information potential for professionals and the wider public. Although the data in aggregated form are largely publicly accessible, or rather provided in individual form by the ministry on public request, they are not, with exceptions, published as open data, which frequently causes a great administrative burden both to the applicant and to the data administrator (provider).
What is the commitment?	The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is implementing the MEYS Departmental Information System Project (MEYS DIS), where one of the key objectives is to ensure the publication of public data in accordance with the OpenData principle. This primarily concerns data on schools and school facilities held in the Schools Register / Register of Universities, but also data describing their predominantly quantitative attributes – current numbers of schools / school facilities, their workers – i.e., both teaching and non-teaching staff, children / pupils / students, classes / departments / groups, equipment etc. Other departmental organizations under the direct aegis of the Ministry that hold data more qualitative in nature are also involved in the MEYS DIS conception. The commitment is therefore to ensure this publication and to automate the activities which will continuously update the open data.
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?	The publication of public data in open format will enable the easier and administratively undemanding (and therefore much wider) use not just by the citizen-end user, but also, for example, by institutions engaging in education science and research or the media.



How does the commitment relate to OGP values?	The commitment will ensure access to public information combined by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, or, as the case may be, its selected subordinate organizations, which will significantly contribute to the use of these data by professionals and the wider public, as a result improving the quality of published information, supporting civil participation and last but not least, boosting the transparency of public (state) administration.			
Further information	The commitment will be met symbiotically, by implementing the MEYS Departmental Information System Project, which is co-financed under IROP (project registration number CZ.06.3.05/0.0/0.0/16_034/0005821).			
Completion level	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Finished
	X			
Description of results	<p>In December 2018, the final version of open data from the Register of Schools and School Facilities and the Register of Educational Legal Persons was put into operation.</p> <p>The implementation of the MEYS DIS project did not reach the planned stage and is now in the phase of a tender for the key public contract "Supply and support of MEYS DIS operation" (hereinafter the "Supply"). The tender was announced in September 2019 and the expected completion aimed at selecting a suitable supplier was to be completed in March this year. Subsequently, the fulfilment of the "Supply" itself was to begin (with the deadline of March 2023). However, the completion of the bid evaluation process was significantly burdened by the epidemiological situation in the Czech Republic associated with the occurrence of Covid-19 and the effects of this crisis, in particular the crisis and emergency measures introduced by the Government of the Czech Republic, and the tender procedure has not yet been completed for procedural reasons. Modifications to the schedule are currently under way as discussed with the grant provider and, based on an application, project implementation has been extended until 31 August 2023.</p>			
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Completion of the tender for the key public contract of Supply and support of MEYS DIS operation and subsequent implementation of related public contracts. ● Implementation MEYS DIS. ● Pilot and live operation of MEYS DIS. 			
Milestone status	Start date:	End date:	Completion level	



Presentation of data from the current Register of Schools and School Facilities in the form of open data, incl. their introduction in the National Catalogue of Open Data (temporary solution until the start of live operation of MEYS DIS)		1 September 2018	1 January 2019	Finished.
Implementation of a public contract for the supplier of MEYS DIS		2 July 2018	31 March 2020 (originally 1 January 2019)	Tender procedure not completed.
Implementation of MEYS DIS		-	31 March 2023 (originally 28 February 2021)	Not met.
Pilot operation of MEYS DIS		-	31 July 2023 (originally 31 July 2021)	Not met.
Full operation of MEYS DIS (including automated publication of public data in an open format and their transfer to the National Catalogue of Open Data)		-	31 March 2023 (originally 31 December 2021)	Not met.
Contact information				
Lead implementing agency		Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports		
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency		Václav Jelen		
Title, Department		Director of the Department of School Statistics, Analysis and Information Strategy		
Email and telephone		vaclav.jelen@msmt.cz , +420 234 815 242		
Other actors involved	State actors involved	Czech School Inspectorate Centre for Evaluating Educational Achievement (CERMAT) National Institute for Education		
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international	EDUin, o. p. s., Alliance for Open Education		

	organizations, working groups	
Additional information		
<p><u>Knowledge, challenges and risks</u></p> <p>The general lesson in connection with the implementation of the action plan with respect to the future commitments of a similar nature lies in setting a sufficiently long deadline for the implementation of public procurement. It is necessary to take into account the settlement of suppliers' objections, the proposal to initiate proceedings to review the contracting authority's actions and subsequent administrative proceedings before the Office for the Protection of Competition or repeated announcements of public contracts for lack of interest among suppliers.</p>		

4.3.2 Open data – information on schools and school facilities from the InspIS information system	
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 1 August 2019	
Lead implementing agency	Czech School Inspectorate
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	The Czech School Inspectorate holds data on schools and school facilities. Among other things, these data include practical information on the organization of teaching, material equipment and the like, including publicly accessible inspection reports. The information gathered by the activity of the Czech School Inspectorate is also supplemented by information from the schools themselves. It is now available via the InspIS PORTAL public information system (https://portal.csicr.cz), which is frequently visited by members of the wider public and pupils' legal representatives in particular. Publishing data from this system in open format will enable the wider use thereof among potential consumers, including via other electronic applications (e.g., other portals dedicated to schools and education, map systems and applications, etc.).
What is the commitment?	The commitment is to publish open data (information on schools) and public inspection outcomes from the InspIS PORTAL system and regular updates. This will be done with the highest possible efficiency without being a major burden on the staff of the Czech School Inspectorate.
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?	The proposal is to create an electronic model of existing information held by the InspIS system to enable the automatic publication (and updates) of the database described above, in RDF open format (to allow automatic sharing with other information systems) and CSV format (or similar) for less technologically sophisticated access. This will satisfy both the requirements of other information system operators (or their users) and professionals and the wider public.
How does the commitment relate to OGP values?	The commitment will significantly improve the accessibility of public information held by service authorities and will expand the information potential of such data, thanks to the option of publishing them and of linking to other data in electronic systems with a different purpose or much wider use than the Czech School Inspectorate's "parent" system. Moreover, the

	commitment will enable professionals or the media to use the data. Given the above, the commitment unequivocally relates to the values of transparency and civil participation.			
Further information	The proposal will be implemented as part of the Complex System of Financial Evaluation project within the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education [OP RDE]. The Czech School Inspectorate has already initiated the implementation process.			
Completion level	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Finished
				X
Description of results	<p>In accordance with the commitment, complete data sets were published (currently there are about 21 sets) including, for example, data from tens of thousands of observation records, questionnaires for teachers from the entire segment of initial education (kindergartens, primary and secondary schools), and data from international surveys.</p> <p>The data sets are published in the National Catalogue of Open Data, which is operated by the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>At the same time, an internal mechanism of preparation of other sets for the past school year was set up and the whole system is already in routine operation.</p> <p>Data on access to the sets through the National Catalogue are not available, but the Czech School Inspectorate observes an increased level of requests from academic institutions and non-profit organizations (operating in the field of education) for other specific sets of open data, which are thus provided for various further analyses (including secondary analyses or analyses in the context of data from other areas).</p>			
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematic promotion of the fact that the Czech School Inspectorate publishes open data, including suggestions for their further processing (it is and will be further implemented through educational events and seminars, as part of media outputs during the presentation of the CSI's analytical reports, etc.). • Other modifications of the information system, or the module for the publication of open data, leading to more efficient (with an even higher degree of automation) creation, publication and updating of data sets and to their use with the help of modern IT standards. • Setting up an internal system of activities, including 			

	in particular the continuous evaluation of the attractiveness of potential new data sets.		
Milestone status	Start date:	End date:	Completion level
Preparation and implementation of a public tender for technical modifications to the InspIS system	1 September 2018	15 September 2018	Finished.
Modifications to the InspIS system	16 September 2018	31 December 2018	Finished.
Pilot operation	1 January 2019	31 March 2019	Finished.
Full operation, publication of data and the entry thereof into the National Catalogue, automation of updates	1 April 2019	31 January 2020 (originally 1 August 2019)	Finished.
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Czech School Inspectorate		
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency	Kamil Melichárek		
Title, Department	Director of the ICT and Economic Administration Department		
Email and telephone	kamil.melicharek@csicr.cz , +420 251 023 225		
Other actors involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports – for the maximum consistency and validity, it is appropriate to publish (in the form of open data) the data from the Registry of Schools and School Facilities held by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (https://rejskol.msmt.cz) with which the Czech School Inspectorate's data are linked.	
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international organizations, working groups	EDUin, o. p. s.	

Additional information

With regard to the implementation complications in completion of the commitment, consisting of the impossibility to implement in time a related public contract concerning, inter alia, modifications of the Czech School Inspectorate's information system (InspIS), the modification concerning the publication of open data sets was finally implemented with a slight delay using an alternative form with the use of own capacities, with a limited scope of functionality, but without limiting the quality of the output (and thus the commitment itself).

4.3.3 Opening data – aggregated findings from outcomes of the Czech School Inspectorate’s activities	
Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 1 August 2019	
Lead implementing agency	Czech School Inspectorate
Commitment description	
What is the public problem that the commitment will address?	<p>The Czech School Inspectorate holds extensive data sets acquired during comprehensive or thematic inspections, primarily concerned with evaluating the quality of education in initial education in the Czech Republic. These data sets form the basis of the organization’s crucial and strategic outputs – annual and thematic reports or other similar documents intended for professionals, education policy-makers and other stakeholders. These outputs can be found here (http://www.csicr.cz/cz/DOKUMENTY/Vyrocnizpravy) and here (http://www.csicr.cz/cz/DOKUMENTY/Tematickezpravy), for example.</p> <p>Although the individual information (more than 10 million individual records in the InspIS information system) relating to the specific topics of schools and school facilities is not public, it is possible to publish electronically selected (regional) aggregated data, which are now part of the above published reports (document format).</p> <p>The publication of such data in open format enables the wider use thereof by potential consumers, or alternatively also via other electronic applications.</p>
What is the commitment?	The commitment is to publish open data (selected aggregated findings) from the InspIS system (DATA). This will be done with the highest possible efficiency without being a major burden on the staff of the Czech School Inspectorate.
How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?	The proposal is to create an electronic module of existing information held by the InspIS system which will enable automatic publication of selected aggregated findings, in RDF open format (to enable automatic sharing with other information systems) and CSV format (or similar) for less technologically sophisticated access. This will satisfy both the requirements of other information system operators (or their users) and professionals and the wider general public.
How does the commitment relate to OGP values?	The commitment will significantly improve the accessibility of public information held by service

	<p>authorities and will expand the information potential of such data, thanks to the option of publishing them and linking to other data in electronic systems. It will strengthen the possibility of professionals or education policy-makers, and also the media, using these data. Given the above, the commitment unequivocally relates to the values of transparency and civil participation.</p>			
Further information	<p>The proposal will be implemented as part of the Complex System of Financial Evaluation project within the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education [OP RDE]. The Czech School Inspectorate has already initiated the implementation process.</p>			
Completion level	Not started	Limited	Substantial	Finished
				X
Description of results	<p>In accordance with the commitment, complete data sets were published, including the official outputs of the Czech School Inspectorate and a whole range of information provided by the schools themselves through the InspIS PORTAL system. The data sets are also published in the National Catalogue of Open Data, which is operated by the Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>At the same time, a mechanism for automatically updating these sets was set up, and the entire system is already in routine operation.</p> <p>Data on access to the sets through the National Catalogue are not available, but the Czech School Inspectorate observes increased attendance of the InspIS PORTAL system itself, as well as requests from academic institutions and non-profit organizations (operating in the field of education) for other specific sets of open data, which are thus provided for various other analyses (including secondary analyses or analyses in the context of data from other areas).</p>			
Next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systematic promotion of the fact that the Czech School Inspectorate publishes open data, including suggestions for their further processing (it is and will be further implemented through educational events and seminars, as part of media outputs during the presentation of the CSI's analytical reports, etc.). • Other modifications of the information system, or the module for the publication of open data, leading to more efficient (with an even higher degree of automation) creation, publication and updating of data sets and to their use with the help of modern IT 			

	standards.		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting up an internal system of activities, including in particular the continuous evaluation of the attractiveness of potential new data sets. 		
Milestone status	Start date:	End date:	Completion level
Preparation and implementation of a public tender for technical modifications to the InspIS system	1 September 2018	15 September 2018	Finished.
Modifications to the InspIS system	16 September 2018	31 December 2018	Finished.
Pilot operation	1 January 2019	31 March 2019	Finished.
Full operation, publication of data and the entry thereof into the National Catalogue, automation of updates	1 April 2019	31 August 2019 (originally 1 August 2019)	Finished.
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Czech School Inspectorate		
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency	Kamil Melichárek		
Title, Department	Director of the ICT and Economic Administration Department		
Email and telephone	kamil.melicharek@csicr.cz , +420 251 023 225		
Other actors involved	State actors involved	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports – for the maximum consistency and validity, it is appropriate to publish (in the form of open data) the data from the Registry of Schools and School Facilities held by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (https://rejskol.msmt.cz) with which the Czech School Inspectorate's data are linked.	
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international organizations,	EDUin, o. p. s.	

	working groups	
Additional information		
<p>With regard to the implementation complications in fulfilling the commitment, consisting in the impossibility to implement in time a related public contract concerning, inter alia, modifications of the Czech School Inspectorate's information system (InspIS), the modification concerning the publication of open data sets was finally implemented with a slight delay using an alternative form with the use of own capacities, with a limited scope of functionality, but without limiting the quality of the output (and thus the commitment itself).</p>		

<p>4.3.4 Ensuring the publication of a wide variety of digital content, supported by public funds, under a Creative Commons open licence (or another such licence), thereby simplifying access to it and enabling modification and sharing with all education stakeholders</p>	
<p>Commitment start and end date: 1 September 2018 – 31 August 2020</p>	
<p>Lead implementing agency</p>	<p>Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs</p>
<p>Commitment description</p>	
<p>What is the public problem that the commitment will address?</p>	<p>Publicly-funded digital content is frequently not accessible to the public and in addition, the vast majority of cases have technical parameters which make further effective work with this content impossible (sharing, modifying, etc.).</p>
<p>What is the commitment?</p>	<p>Ensuring the publication a wide variety of digital content, supported from public funds, under a Creative Commons open licence (or another such licence), thereby simplifying access to it and enabling modification and sharing with all stakeholders. The expected outcome is that the great majority (with exceptions where it is impossible) of digital content created with support from public funds will have set rules of use as a default which will enable further sharing and modification.</p> <p>This commitment does not relate to the project outcomes in research and development, and under the Act on the Support of Public Research Institutions, project outcomes supported under the compatible public aid scheme or de minimis aid, and outcomes whose free dissemination is restricted by the protection of personal data, security regulations, the legal protection of intellectual property (e.g., industrial rights) and the protection of trade secrets.</p>
<p>How will the commitment contribute to solving a public problem?</p>	<p>Digital content will be accessible to the public and working (modifying, sharing) more effectively with it will be possible. A good example is the recent measure of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, which requires the use of a Creative Commons open licence, BY or BY-SA variants, for applicants and recipients of aid from the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education (OP RDE): priority axis 2 or 3. This practice must be extended to other subsidy programmes, both existing and forthcoming, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The commitment's basic objective is to impose the</p>

	<p>obligatory use of a Creative Commons licence, ideally the BY or BY-SA variants, in all new contracts for applicants and recipients of support in programmes providing public funds from the relevant implementing agencies.</p>			
<p>How does the commitment relate to OGP values?</p>	<p>The commitment to the use of open licences for digital content where the creation was supported by public funds relates to the value of transparency. Enabling the effective control of public spending, which becomes evident in the quality of public output, relates to the value of accountability.</p>			
<p>Further information</p>	<p>The creation of open educational materials conforms with Goal 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, primarily thanks to lowering the barriers to access to education. Furthermore, the stated commitment is a part of the already approved strategies. The Digital Education Strategy (sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports) contains measure 1.1, which states: “Ensuring the publication of a wide variety of digital content, supported from public funds, under a Creative Commons open licence (or another such licence), thereby simplifying access to it and enabling sharing with all education stakeholders.” The Digital Literacy Strategy (sponsored by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs) contains measure 6.4: “Supporting public access to open digital information and education sources” (also sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports).</p>			
<p>Completion level</p>	<p>Not started</p>	<p>Limited</p>	<p>Substantial</p>	<p>Finished</p>
			<p>X</p>	
<p>Description of results</p>	<p>Fulfilment by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: Project outputs that are linked to the commitment to publish under a Creative Commons licence (or another open licence) will be published in the OP RDE Project Output Database (https://databaze.opvvv.msmt.cz/) and on the RVP.cz portal (https://rvp.cz/), if it is stated in the Rules for Applicants and Recipients - Specific Part. Furthermore, the OP RDE Project Map application was launched, which can be downloaded into smart devices (https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=cz.visualio.msmt, https://apps.apple.com/zw/app/mapa-projekt%C5%AF-op-vvv/id1488458892). The application contains more than 13 thousand projects supported by the OP RDE.</p>			

Chapter 7.3.3 of the document “Rules for Applicants and Recipients - General Part” stipulates that the products created as part of project implementation will be available under the Creative Commons 4.0 licence, or will be made available to the public subject to unrestricted and free access.

Negotiations are currently under way to rewrite the requirements for the use of resources in open licences and in the new OP JAK.

The development and operation of the RVP.CZ portal is provided as part of the Support for Teachers’ Work system project. A module called EMA (ema.rvp.cz), developed within the project, serves as a reputation system for open sources, where users/educators can evaluate the quality of individual materials. Other portals which have freely available teaching materials are connected to the reputation system, too. Negotiations are also under way with other partners who could contribute to the connection of other open source portals. The Database of Outputs of OP RDE projects (<https://databaze.opvvv.msmt.cz/>) is connected to the EMA reputation system.

Fulfilment by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs:

Through the Digital Literacy Strategy of the Czech Republic for the period of 2015 to 2020, where the following activities are included in measure 6.4, *Supporting public access to open digital information and education sources*:

- Introduction of the obligation of recipients of subsidy funds to ensure the publication of information and educational outputs supported by subsidy funds in an open and accessible form online.
- Improving the traceability of publicly funded information and education resources by introducing technical measures for easy retrieval and categorization.

Through the obligation of the recipients of the Operational Programme Employment to publish the outputs of projects that have an educational or methodological character and to enable their further dissemination, based on the General Part of the Rules for Applicants and Recipients under the Operational Programme Employment. The outputs are published on the website www.esfcr.cz. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs also expects to include the obligation to

	<p>fulfil the commitment in the new programming period.</p> <p>Through the obligation of social partners to publish analytical, educational and other relevant materials that arise from funds provided under an agreement of the Economic and Social Council, concluded in accordance with Section 320a of Act No. 262/2006 Coll., Labour Code, as amended, under a Creative Commons open licence starting from 2020.</p> <p>From 2020, the commitment is extended to departmental research organizations of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The decision to provide institutional support for the development of a research organization in 2020 imposes the condition on the Research Institute of Labour and Social Affairs and the Research Institute of Occupational Safety to publish research results under an open Creative Commons licence.</p>		
Next steps	<p>MEYS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure support for open educational resources in the new OP JAK. <p>MLSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement into the OP Employment Plus a condition fulfilling the commitment, i.e. set the obligation to publish educational or analytical materials arising from the funds of this programme under a Creative Commons licence for the recipients of funds under the OP Employment Plus. 		
Milestone status	Start date:	End date:	Completion level
Within the subsidy programmes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the new contracts for applicants for and recipients of financial support stipulate the obligatory use of Creative Commons licences, ideally the BY or BY-SA variants. ⁵	1 September 2018	31 August 2020	MEYS: Finished. MLSA: Limited.
Contact information			
Lead implementing agency	Ministry of Education,		Ministry of Labour and

⁵The text of the milestone is taken from the evaluated Fourth Action Plan approved by a government resolution, and can therefore no longer be changed. To be terminologically correct, however, the text of the milestone should, instead of subsidy programmes, refer to individual calls and, instead of contracts for applicants for and recipients of support, to decisions on the provision of subsidies.

	Youth and Sports	Social Affairs
Name of the responsible person from the implementing agency	Lukáš Seifert	Pavel Dudek
Title, Department	Head, Strategy and Analysis Department - O230	Labour Market Conceptions and Strategies Unit, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
Email and telephone	Lukas.Seifert@msmt.cz , +420 234 811 747	pavel.dudek@mpsv.cz , +420 221 923 131
Other actors involved	State actors involved	Research Institute of Labour and Social Affairs Research Institute for Occupational Safety
	Non-state non-profit organizations, private sector, international organizations, working groups	EDUin, o. p. s., Alliance for Open Education
Additional information		
<p><u>Knowledge, challenges and risks</u></p> <p>MLSA - Implementation and development of the action plan: The submission of the interim evaluation report once a quarter is considered by the commitment implementing authority to be very common for such a systemic measure. The implementing authority considers it appropriate to consistently consider the types of products (content) created from the beginning of the creation of additional titles and to adapt the requirements to the condition of their publication accordingly.</p> <p>MLSA - Obstacles/challenges in implementation: Regarding the set-up of the OP Employment, the main obstacle to the fulfilment of commitments is that at the time of its adoption the methodology of the OP Employment concerning the publication of content created through the financial resources of this programme had already been set up. Although the recipients are obliged to submit the created content and products to the support provider (MLSA) for publication, and these are published on the website www.esfcr.cz, it is not stipulated that it must be a Creative Commons licence. Such content arises mainly in the context of systemic projects for which, however, the relevant decisions on the provision of support has already been issued and therefore insufficient space has been given for additional conditionality on the provision of funds by granting a Creative Commons licence.</p> <p><u>Other initiatives beyond OGP</u></p> <p>MLSA: The commitment primarily concerned the funds of the OP Employment, but in some cases the MLSA extended the commitment to recipients of other public sources - especially to its research organizations and also to social partners to whom it provided funding to promote social dialogue on the basis of Section 320a of Act No. 262/2006</p>		

Coll., Labour Code, as amended. If such projects generate analytical or educational content, the social partners are obliged to publish it under a Creative Commons licence.

Partial conclusions - benefits and impacts

MLSA: As the MLSA implements the commitment in practice gradually and it was implemented relatively late, it is not possible to objectively assess whether there has been a positive impact.

5 Conclusions, initiatives and next steps

5.1 Conclusions - benefits and impacts

In terms of the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan, three commitments were assessed as completed, one as substantially completed, three commitments were completed to a limited extent and only one was marked as not started based on the implementing agency's self-assessment. A detailed justification of the progress of completion of the individual obligations is part of the evaluation in Chapter 4. Although it is still premature to talk about the specific impacts of some commitments, in general, completing commitments in line with the values and principles of open government promotes public involvement in decision-making, increases the society's trust in the government sector and promotes the civil society's interest in achieving individual policy goals. Through the completion of commitments to open government, whether more or less ambitious, open government tools are increasingly being used as standard tools for good governance, in synergy with other government strategies and conceptions.

5.2 Other initiatives beyond OGP

As part of the open government agenda, representatives of the Ministry of Justice have participated in meetings of the newly institutionalized Working Party on Open Government (WPOG) since 2019. This Working Party was primarily established to monitor, evaluate and support the implementation of the Council Recommendation on Open Government of December 2017, to which the Czech Republic has also acceded. In addition to the above, WPOG serves in particular:

- to share experience among Member States implementing the said recommendations on open government;
- to create a sufficient database of examples of open government and to promote the systematic collection of information in this area;
- to support countries in developing and implementing initiatives leading to open government;
- to create uniform recommendations for procedures for the adoption, implementation and evaluation of comprehensive strategies for open government in individual countries, with the aim of moving in the long run from individual sub-initiatives to the concept of an open state.

5.3 Next steps

Commitments that were assessed as completed only to a limited extent and one commitment evaluated as not started were proposed and in most cases included as continuing commitments in the Fifth Action Plan. Only in the case of commitment No. 4.1.1 the procedure chosen was - in agreement with its implementing agency - that it will no longer be included in the Fifth Action Plan due to its nature, but that its implementation will continue to be monitored by the Working Commission. The Fifth Action Plan will thus include continuing commitments concerning the publication of lower court decisions, the protection of whistle-blowers and the provision of open data on education and the education system.

6 List of abbreviations

BY	credit author
BY-SA	credit author and share under the same licence
CAF	Common Assessment Framework
CERMAT	Centre for the Reform of the Maturita Exam - this is an abbreviation of the name of the institution that preceded the current Centre for the Evaluation of Educational Outcomes and which this Centre still uses in some cases
CIS	Central Information System
Covid-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CSV	comma-separated values
ČR	Czech Republic
CSI	Czech School Inspectorate
EMA	Catalogue of Digital Educational Resources
EU	European Union
IT	information technology
IKT	Information and communication technologies
InspIS PORTAL	information portal of the Czech School Inspectorate for easy and effective search for schools and information on them according to specified parameters
IRM	Independent Review Mechanism
IROP	Integrated Regional Operational Programme
JIP/KAAS	Unified Identity Space / Catalogue of authentication and authorization services
MI	Ministry of the Interior
MLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MEYS	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
NEIWA	Network of European Integrity of Whistleblowing Authorities
NGPO	Non-governmental non-profit organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OGP	Open Government Partnership
OP	Operational Programme
OP JAK	Operational Programme Jan Ámos Komenský
OP RDE	Operational Program Research, Development and Education
UN	United Nations
STW	Support for Teachers' Work
RDF	framework structure of resource description
DIS	Departmental Information System
RVP	Framework Educational Programme
OPC	Office for the Protection of Competition
USA	United States of America
WPOG	Working Party on Open Government