

Principles, bases, actions and tools of the state policy with respect to NGOs for the years 2015 – 2020

Principles of the state policy	Bases of the state policy	Actions of the state policy	Tools of the state policy
<p>The Czech Government supports a permanent sustainability of strong, varied and independent NGOs</p>	<p>The Government sees the operation of NGOs in many areas as irreplaceable and perceives their activities not only as an equal part of the system of services and activities for citizens and communities but also as a legitimate way in which citizens participate in the public life of the society</p>	<p>Develop the dialogue between the Government and NGOs through the GCNGNPO. Involve members of all forms of NGOs and all types of NGOs by their functions in the work of the GCNGNPO and its committees</p>	<p>Tool: Statute of the GCNGNPO (change in the number of members of the GCNGNPO). Who: GCNGNPO.</p>
		<p>At the level of the GCNGNPO, continue creating various platforms to discuss the non-profit sector issues. With regard to quality outcomes of the discussion, strive for a broader cooperation with academics who deal with the non-profit sector in terms of science</p>	<p>Tool: Work of work groups and committees, organizing seminars and conferences concerning the current topics, selected by the committees. Who: GCNGNPO.</p>
		<p>Establish substitutable membership in the GCNGNPO also for members from among NGOs and develop the procedures of seeking consensus and deliberation</p>	<p>Tool: Statute of the GCNGNPO. Who: GCNGNPO.</p>
		<p>Support of the establishment and existence of democratic NGO networks and umbrellas, based on field-specific as well as multi-field principles. At the level of the GCNGNPO Chairman, prepare a grant title to support the nation-wide multi-field networks as a manifestation of the state support of the establishment and activities of autonomous NGO entities</p>	<p>Tool: Principles, Main Areas¹, a new grant title of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. Who: GCNGNPO, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.</p>
		<p>Ensure the representation of NGOs in the structures established by the Government and its bodies to support</p>	<p>Tool: Statutes of work and advisory bodies of the Government. Who: Work and advisory bodies of the</p>

¹ Main Areas of the State Grant Policy with Respect to NGOs for the respective budgetary year.

		the principle of a good government	Government.
	The Government sees important work not only in service NGOs, which provide services to citizens, and philanthropic NGOs, which financially support other NGOs, but also in advocacy NGOs, which strive for system changes in different areas of the public life, and special-interest NGOs, which satisfy and protect the interests of their members	In drafting governmental as well as departmental policies, distinguish between the individual NGO types, taking into account their characteristic attributes and functions	Tool: Grant policies of ministries, strategic and conceptual documents of ministries. Who: Supporting ministries.
		When choosing a NGO as a partner, verify its representativeness or expert experience	Tool: Criteria for the selection of partner NGOs. Who: GCNGNPO.
	The Government respects the independence of NGOs and will desist from the state regulation of NGOs in cases where it is not bound by its obligation to protect the legitimate interests and rights of citizens or where it does not aid NGOs from the state budget	Monitoring and commenting on bills and policies in terms of ensuring the independence of NGOs	Tool: Work of the GCNGNPO committees and comment procedures. Who: GCNGNPO and its committees.
	The Government recognizes the importance of a suitable legislative embedding of NGOs which constitute a special group of private entities, and will ensure that this group as well as its adequate comfort in the Czech law is taken into account in the preparation of the relevant legislation	Following the adoption of the act on the public benefit status, strive for adequate advantages for legal persons with the status to compensate for the administrative burden associated with the application for the status and the fulfillment of its conditions	Tool: Monitoring the impacts of the act on the public benefit status in the application practice. Who: GCNGNPO, Ministry of Justice.
		If the act on the public benefit status is adopted, continuously monitor its impacts and on their basis, in perspective, consider the amendments to the act	Tool: Monitoring the application practice of the act on the public benefit status. Who: GCNGNPO and its Committee for Legislation and Funding.
		Ensure a uniform interpretation of the Civil Code in the practice of the register courts	Tool: Agreement with the Ministry of Justice. Who: GCNGNPO, Ministry of Justice, register courts.
	The Government will strive for an easier availability of information and data which NGOs need for their successful work. At the same time, the Government	Support the development of an NPI satellite account, maintained by the CZSO, and the expansion of the data monitored in the account	Tool: CZSO Methodology. Who: GCNGNPO, CZSO.

	will support the collection of information and data about NGOs which are available to the public	At the level of the GCNGNPO or one of its committees, establish a permanent work group composed of representatives of institutions which administer the state information systems, where this work group will prepare a strategy to make available information and data about NGOs and for NGOs	Tool: Appointment of members of the permanent work group by the Chairman of the GCNGNPO. Who: GCNGNPO.
The Government acknowledges that NGOs providing services to the public are part of the system of services, in addition to services provided by the state administration and local governments, and as such will have an equal access to the state budget aid. The Government welcomes the professionalization of such NGOs and their efforts to achieve transparency for the benefit of the users of their services		In the system of providing public services, ensure the equality of NGOs and other legal types of providers	Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: Supporting ministries.
		Distinguish between NGOs which are special-interest and work mainly for their members and service, philanthropic, humanitarian, advocacy and some special-interest NGOs which provide services to the general public or to generally defined target groups of which provide financial support for such activities	Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: Supporting ministries, GCNGNPO.
		Distinguish between NGOs where it is necessary to require professionalization and NGOs where it is not	Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: Supporting ministries, GCNGNPO.
		Monitor the compliance with the deadlines for the provision of grants from the state budget so that NGOs obtain the allocated grants by the end of the first quarter of the respective year	Tool: Principles, grant practice. Who: GCNGNPO, Supreme Audit Office, supporting ministries.
		Provide the possibility of funding strategic partners from among NGOs over multiple years in cases where it is necessary to ensure their continuous financial support, through agreements on long-term cooperation	Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: GCNGNPO, supporting ministries.
		Ensure that adequate funds for the so-called operating expenses, especially for personnel costs of the needed operational employees (accountants,	Tool: Principles, act on budgetary rules. Who: GCNGNPO, Ministry of Finance, supporting ministries.

		financial management etc.), form an integral part of national grants or grants from the European Social Fund	
		Ensure that the amounts of the imposed penalties according to the budgetary rules are adequate to the degree of offense against the budgetary discipline	Tool: Act on budgetary rules, Principles, decisions to provide grants. Who: GCNGNPO, Ministry of Finance, supporting ministries.
		As part of the activities of the Committee for Legislation and Funding of the GCNGNPO, monitor and seek ways to suitably make information about the issue and the addressing of the rules of state aid available to NGOs	Tool: Work plan for the second half of 2015 and the year 2016. Who: Committee for Legislation and Funding of the GCNGNPO.
	The Government acknowledges the society-wide benefit of social business and will support its development	Ensure the legislative definition of social business	Tool: Social Business Act. Who: Human Rights Section of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.
		Support the expansion of the work of social businesses to working with other target groups in addition to the disabled and the socially handicapped	Tool: Social Business Act. Who: Human Rights Section of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.
		Monitor and measure the number and size of social businesses and make this information public	Tool: Social Business Act. Who: Human Rights Section of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.
		Create a social environment supporting social innovations in the environment of social businesses	Tool: Promotion of the idea of social business. Who: GCNGNPO, Agency for Social Inclusion of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

Principles of the state policy	Bases of the state policy	Actions of the state policy	Tools of the state policy
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<p>The Government of the Czech Republic will strive for an efficient and transparent proposing of state policies with respect to NGOs including legislative actions, funding and institutional security</p>	<p>In the preparation of the proposals of policies, programmes and services that are related to NGOs and their activities, the Government through its bodies will cooperate with selected NGOs in the earliest stage possible</p>	<p>Develop a dialogue between the Government and NGOs through the GCNGNPO. Involve members of all forms of NGOs and all types of NGOs according to their functions in the work of the GCNGNPO and its committees</p>	<p>Tool: Statute of the GCNGNPO (change in the number of members of the GCNGNPO). Who: GCNGNPO.</p>
		<p>Create a work group of the GCNGNPO, composed of representatives of regional authorities</p>	<p>Tool: Appointment of members of the permanent work group by the Chairman of the GCNGNPO. Who: GCNGNPO.</p>
		<p>Ensure the representation of NGOs in the structures established by the Government and its bodies to support the principle of a good government</p>	<p>Tool: Statutes of work and advisory bodies of the Government. Who: Work and advisory bodies of the Government.</p>
	<p>The Government will ensure that NGOs that will be aided from the state budget are supported in a reasonable and fair way in the areas in which they help the state to fulfill its tasks and objectives. The Government will also make sure that NGOs are indirectly supported with a system of suitable tax reductions</p>	<p>In the system of the provision of public services, ensure the equality of NGOs and other legal types of providers</p>	<p>Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: Supporting ministries.</p>
		<p>Following the adoption of the act on the public benefit status, strive for adequate advantages for legal persons with the status to compensate for the administrative burden associated with the application for the status and the fulfillment of its conditions</p>	<p>Tool: Monitoring the impacts of the act on the public benefit status. Who: GCNGNPO, Ministry of Justice.</p>
	<p>The Government will strive to achieve that the preparation and application of laws and policies do not increase (or that the preparation and application of laws and policies even reduce) the administrative burden in the case of NGOs, especially in the case of special-interest membership NGOs in the form of associations</p>	<p>Distinguish between NGOs which are special-interest and work mainly for their members and service, philanthropic, advocacy and some special-interest NGOs which provide services to the general public or to generally defined target groups of which provide financial support for such activities</p>	<p>Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: Supporting ministries, GCNGNPO.</p>
		<p>Distinguish between NGOs where it is necessary to require professionalization and NGOs where it is not</p>	<p>Tool: Monitoring the preparation of bills and state policies, comment procedures. Who: GCNGNPO and its committees.</p>
	<p>The Government will ensure in the grant policies of central bodies that they include reasonable and relevant indirect</p>	<p>Ensure that adequate funds for the so-called operating expenses, especially for personnel costs of the needed</p>	<p>Tool: Principles, act on budgetary rules. Who: GCNGNPO, Ministry of Finance, supporting ministries.</p>

	costs of NGOs, including the costs associated with the involvement of volunteers, in the eligible project costs	operational employees (accountants, financial management etc.), form an integral part of national grants or grants from the European Social Fund	
	The Government will ensure that the topics, especially in the area of enforcing equality and non-discrimination, brought by the NGO activities, are identified and used by the central bodies in the formulation of changes of the relevant state policies	Systemically support the NGO networking and cooperate with field-specific networks and umbrellas or with resource centers from among NGOs, having long-term experience and expert knowledge, at the level of the Government and the individual ministries	Tool: Criteria for the selection of partner NGOs, state policies in the individual sections of activities of the state administration. Who: GCNGNPO, ministries.
		Ensure the representation of NGOs in the structures established by the Government and its bodies to support the principle of a good government	Tool: Statutes of work and advisory bodies of the Government. Who: Work and advisory bodies of the Government.
	As part of ensuring multi-source funding, the Government will support a higher availability of financial resources for NGOs from the European funds	Support an increase in the absorption capacity for the ESIF support in the programming period of 2014 – 2020 from less than 2 % to at least 4 % of registered NGOs	Tool: Monitoring the ESIF implementation and participation in its evaluation in the programming period of 2014 – 2020. Who: GCNGNPO and its Committee for the EU, managing authorities of operational programmes.
The Government of the Czech Republic will support volunteering and donations as a manifestation of participation of citizens in public affairs	The Government recognizes the importance of volunteering in the Czech society as a manifestation of participation of citizens in public affairs and an integral part of the operation of NGOs. It will support the development of volunteering through sensible and targeted actions	Finish the volunteering act that is being prepared and that covers the entire area of volunteering through social recognition, and thoroughly ensure the necessary and tolerable degree of state regulation in this area	Tool: A new volunteering act. Who: Ministry of the Interior.
		Value voluntary activity as a non-financial performance according to a uniformly recognized methodology and establish the inclusion of this non-financial performance in the co-financing of the projects aided by the state budget	Tool: Volunteering act, Principles. Who: Ministry of the Interior, GCNGNPO, supporting ministries.

		Include volunteering that is a visible part of the economic production in the standard economic indicators	Tool: CZSO Methodology. Who: CZSO, GCNGNPO.	
		Prepare the concept of the development of volunteering in the Czech Republic with an accent on ensuring regional and field-specific availability of volunteering in the form of volunteer centers and ensure at least a two-year financial support of such centers	Tool: Methodology and grant policy in the section of volunteering. Who: Ministry of the Interior, GCNGNPO.	
	The Government is aware of the importance of private donations and philanthropy in favor of NGOs as an important factor in the area of cohesion and solidarity in the society, and will continue supporting such donations through sensible actions. It will charge the GCNGNPO as its advisory body with the preparation of an action proposal for this support		Support the development of financial as well as non-financial corporate donations, although in this direction the state's options are limited to a considerable extent, e.g. in changing the social climate so that volunteering and the general support of the civil society are common, socially valued and state-supported civic activities	Tool: Czech Government Resolution. Who: GCNGNPO.
			Support the development of volunteering and individual donations through formal as well as non-formal education of children and the youth	Tool: School educational programmes. Who: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.
			Prepare an analysis of the possibility of deductions from the tax on the income of natural persons who make contracts to support specific NGOs repeatedly for at least 5 years	Tool: Amendment to the Income Tax Act. Who: Ministry of Finance.
The Government of the Czech Republic will support the development of effective and purposeful partnerships and cooperation with NGOs	The Government will cooperate with NGOs especially through their field-specific and universal networks and umbrellas at the level of the Government as well as at the level of individual bodies of the state administration, provided that these networks and umbrellas show their representativeness with sufficient membership bases. The Government will charge GCNGNPO as its advisory body with the preparation of	Support NGO networks and umbrellas being established on a universal (all-field) principle. At the level of the Chairman of the GCNGNPO, ensure a grant title to support nation-wide universal networks and umbrellas of NGOs as a manifestation of the support of the state for the establishment and activities of self-governing NGO entities	Tool: Principles, grant guidelines of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. Who: Human Rights Section of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.	
		Introduce the possibility of establishment of grant titles for selected	Tool: Principles. Who: GCNGNPO.	

	the rules and criteria of such cooperation	field-specific NGO networks and umbrellas that would ensure their stable operation as partners of the relevant ministries	
		Introduce grant titles and the establishment of long-term agreements between ministries and selected field-specific NGO networks and umbrellas that would allow the stability of partnerships and cooperation in the horizon of 3 – 5 years	Tool: Principles, grant policies of ministries. Who: GCNGNPO, supporting ministries.
		In the selection of NGO networks and umbrellas as partners, verify their representativeness and expert experience	Tool: Criteria for the selection of partner NGOs. Who: GCNGNPO.
	The Government will strive after giving timely notifications through the central bodies of the state administration to partner NGO networks and umbrellas concerning the possibility of getting involved with their comments in bills and policy proposals. So far as is reasonably practicable, the Government will ensure the handling these comments	Include contractual partners from among the selected field-specific and universal NGO networks and umbrellas in the comment places of partner ministries in the preparation of bills and policies which relate to them	Tool: Comment procedures. Who: Ministries, GCNGNPO.
	The Government intends to cooperate in particular with NGOs which represent, support and provide services to underrepresented or disadvantaged persons or which protect, enforce and promote the legitimate interests and rights of such persons. It will take into account their opinions including the evaluation of impacts in the proposing and implementation of state policies, programmes and services	The work and advisory bodies of the Government, given their participatory role, will systemically ensure the acquisition and expansion of examples of good practice established by service and advocacy NGOs which represent, support and provide services to underrepresented or disadvantaged persons or which protect, enforce and promote the legitimate interests and rights of such persons	Tool: Statutes of work and advisory bodies of the Government. Who: Work and advisory bodies of the Government.