

# Czech Republic

## *Ethnicity in Czech Republic*

### *Power relations*

The Moravians are well-represented in the political life of the country, but very, very few of them speak of themselves as Moravian, and there is no discrimination against them. There are Moravian political groupings, but they are, in fact, small to the point of irrelevancy. Thus, the Moravians are not listed here.

The Roma are discriminated against any facets of life. According to the US Department of State, Roma face widespread discrimination in education, employment, and housing (<sup>957</sup>). Also, conflicts between Roma and Czech nationalists have intensified: In Nov 2008, neo-Nazis have tried to attack housing estates populated mostly by Roma. These attacks have been stopped by the police (<sup>958</sup>, 190). Overall, it would be hard-pressed to say that the documented social discrimination is "with the intent of excluding the Roma from power." That is rather a side-effect of the overall discrimination. This assessment seems to be reasonable also for the period 2009 - 2013 (see e.g. <sup>959</sup>).

There is no political party or any political movement representing the Slovak minority. They are only organized in some sort of a cultural association (OS), which does not seem to be politically relevant. "The aim of OS activity in the CR is maintaining and growing national awareness of its members and create conditions for fulfillment of their cultural and societal needs. The main activities of the association is a growing Slovakness, reciprocity between Slovaks and Czechs, participation in public life in the CR, mutual cooperation and support." (<sup>960</sup>). Thus, the Slovaks, too, are coded as politically irrelevant.

<sup>957</sup> [United States State Department, 2009]

<sup>958</sup> [Freedom House, 2009]

<sup>959</sup> [Open Society Foundation, 2013]

<sup>960</sup> [Obec Slováků v České republice, 2014]

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## *Political status of ethnic groups in Czech Republic*

*From 1993 until 2013*

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Czechs	1.0	IRRELEVANT



Figure 220: Political status of ethnic groups in Czech Republic during 1993-2013.