

# European Crime Prevention Award (ECPA)

## Annex I – new version 2014

Please complete the template in English in compliance with the ECPA criteria contained in the RoP (Par.2 §3).

### General information

1. Please specify your country.

Czech Republic

2. Is this your country's ECPA entry or an additional project? (**Only one ECPA entry per country plus a maximum of two additional projects may be submitted.**)

ECPA 2014 entry – Czech Republic

3. What is the title of the project?

Helping Foreigners in the Czech Republic – fighting and preventing illegal employment practices, training responsible staff and engaging the general public

4. Who is leading the project? Contact details.

Regional Police Headquarters of the South Bohemian Region – Foreign Police Department

Address: Prazska tr. 558, 370 74 Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic

Person: Lieut. Zdenek Zadka (phone#: +420 724 015 280, e-mail: zdenek.zadka@pcr.cz)

5. Start date of the project (dd/mm/yyyy)? Is the project still running (Yes/No)?

Start date: July 1, 2010

Yes, the project is still running.

6. Where can we find more information about the project? Please provide links to the project's website or online reports or publications (preferably in English).

Press release and other information can be found on the following links (in Czech language only):

<http://www.policie.cz/clanek/jihoceska-cizinecka-policie-uspesne-rozkryva-system-nelegalniho-zamestnavani-cizincu.aspx>

<http://ceskobudejovicky.denik.cz/zlociny-a-soudy/nacerno-pracujici-cizince-ceka-vyhosteni-20140518.html>

[www.strada.cz](http://www.strada.cz)

On May 20, 2014 Czech national TV channel broadcasted an in-depth coverage of the project, which is unfortunately not available online.

7. Please give a **one page** description of the project (**Max. 600 words**)

The project centres on the following two sets of issues:

1. The first part focuses on an improvement of work of the relevant state bodies when it comes to discovering and tackling illegal activities of employers towards their foreign employees and on an improvement of work of the relevant state institutions concerning a general employment policy for foreigners in the Czech Republic. This includes a creation of new methodological guidelines and an active work with foreigners in question and all relevant institutions with which they must deal when applying for the work permit and subsequently working in the Czech Republic.

Delegated experts from the regional State Police HQ (Foreign Police Dept.) therefore prepared a series of workshops and training courses for all relevant offices which deal with foreign employees (employment offices, job recruitment offices, relevant NGO's and relevant state and regional institutions). Each workshop or training session is focused on one particular aspect of the illegal employment issue and the issue of human trafficking and is carefully adapted to particular needs and interests of an invited "audience".

These workshops or training session are also open to those who employ foreigners and to foreigners who work in the Czech Republic. This proved to be a very successful concept as both employers as well as their foreign employees have been very keen to attend these events, they have actively engaged in discussions and shared their experiences with the rest of the audience. This resulted in a very efficient, effective and unprecedented knowledge exchange which helped to change the overall attitude towards various issues of illegal employment and human trafficking.

2. The second and equally as crucial part of the project centres on prevention activities and is coordinated with the NGO called La Strada ([www.strada.cz](http://www.strada.cz)) as the only organisation in the Czech Republic which focuses solely on issues of trafficking in human beings. These prevention activities can be divided into several groups:

- Engaging experts in the fields of human trafficking (identification, psychological and legal help to the victims, experts seminars for police officers, social workers, and employment offices personnel).
- Engaging employers - companies, job recruitment agencies, HR staff etc. (promoting zero tolerance approach through online and classic media campaigns, fair trade presentations, expert workshops)
- Primary prevention at schools (lectures and demonstrations tailored for this particular age group)
- Street work (working with and monitoring vulnerable groups of people as potential victims of THB – workers in construction sites, farms and other types of manual labour)
- Engaging general public (media campaigns, press releases, publishing activities etc.)

The overall impact of the project (i.e. of all above described parts) proves that its authors and initiators chose the right although very challenging approach. Since its beginning, the project has expanded considerably and grown over the regional boundaries to a nationally known and respected endeavour.

**I. The project shall focus on prevention and/or reduction of everyday crime and fear of crime within the theme.**

1. How does the project contribute to crime prevention and/or to the reduction of crime or the fear of crime? (**Max. 150 words**)

The first part of the project undoubtedly helps tackling and eliminating illegal employment problems and encouraged cooperation among various relevant subjects, including foreigners working in the Czech Republic and their employees. It also helped reducing the crime rate in given regions (statistical data).

The second (exclusively preventive) part of the project proved to be very successful in terms of a successful awareness raising among particular target groups (school children, general public etc.) and subsequently to rise their feeling of security. Moreover, working with employers primarily focuses on reducing of crime (trafficking in human beings in this particular case). Engaging experts helps to make their work and collaboration more effective which, logically, helps prevent and reduce trafficking in human being related crimes.

2. How is the project contributing to raising citizens' awareness of crime prevention? (**Max. 150 words**)

As already mentioned above, engaging general public the project's priorities (media campaigns, press releases, publishing activities). Managers of the project planned to increase public awareness about this particular type of crime (THB) and to let people know that anyone or everyone can help to fight it. It is important that people in the Czech republic realise that trafficking in human beings is a crime that exists also in this country and must be dealt with accordingly.

**II. The project shall have been evaluated and have achieved most or all of its objectives.<sup>1</sup>**

1. Reason for setting up the project: Was the context analysed **before** the project was implemented? How, and by whom? Which data were used? (**Max. 150 words**)

According the Foreign Police Dept. analysis carried prior to the project, there has been a growing number of illegal foreign workers and increasing crime rate connected to issue of THB.

The general awareness of THB problematics among Czech public was rather low. People assumed that THB is an issue that does not involve this country (results of

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on evaluation, see Guidelines on the evaluation of crime prevention initiatives (EUCPN Toolbox No.3): <http://www.eucpn.org/library/results.asp?category=32&pubdate>

a national survey carried prior to the project by La Strada). This goes hand in hand with the fact that it is very difficult to engage uninformed public to identify potential victims of THB and to inform them what type of help or assistance they can get in this country.

All these reasons created a strong impetus for the experts of the Foreign Police Dept. to set up the project.

2. What were the objective(s) of the project? Please, if applicable, distinguish between main and secondary objectives. (**Max. 150 words**)

- identify illegal foreign workers and those who recruited them
- create an effective methodology for the state and other relevant institutions how to deal with an issue of illegal employment of foreigners;
- rise general public awareness about the THB problematics and about ways to deal with it among the following target groups:
  - a. vulnerable groups of people as potential victims of THB (primary prevention in schools, field work)
  - b. people who may work with potential victims of THB (awareness raising, ways to identify and help the victims)
  - c. employers (information campaign, zero tolerance approach)
  - d. general public (awareness raising, information campaign, zero tolerance approach)

3. Implementation of the project: has there been a process evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation and what were the main results (for more information on process evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.9-10 & part 2 - section 2A)? (**max. 300 words**)

The project's activities have been regularly evaluated by the authors and collaborating partners since the very beginning (in some specific cases also by state authorities and those who contributed financially to the implementation of the project). For each target group there were special indicators being monitored in regular intervals. These indicators included the following: effectiveness of working with experts (past and present progress and future prospects), expansion of involved subjects and their evolution in terms of THB awareness, change of particular internal policies of monitored employers, impact of awareness campaigns and other preventive activities.

All evaluation reports showed that the situation concerning THB is gradually improving in all respects in the Czech Republic, i.e. in terms of all indicators being monitored. These reports (completed for the most part in 6-month intervals) are archived by the organisers and frequently studied and compared with the most recent ones.

For more information, see the following section.

4. Impact of the project: has there been an outcome or impact evaluation? Who conducted the evaluation, which data and evaluation method were used and what were the main results? (for more information on outcome or impact evaluation, see EUCPN Toolbox No.3, p.7-9 & part 2 - section 2A? **(Max. 300 words)**)

Since the project is still running, the final/concluding evaluation has not been carried out yet. Moreover, these types of preventive projects tend to be difficult to evaluate objectively, particularly in quantitative terms. Still, there cannot be any progress in any project unless there are clear evaluating means and methods introduced from its very beginning. Since 2010 till now, as the project kept evolving, different phases required different evaluation techniques and approaches (see previous section).

Furthermore, given the nature of different phases or parts of the project, certain phases had no objectively measured criteria set. Still, the subjective means of evaluation were used consistently in order that they could be subsequently used as an applicable data for a standard form of evaluating process.

For more information, see the previous section.

5. Please describe shortly any lessons learned for the future. What would you do differently next time?

The project has been monitored on a 6-month basis by its authors and the persons responsible for its implementation. The set objectives are compared with the achieved ones and the degree and scope of the planned activities with those already implemented.

First, it should be noted that thanks to an effective collaboration of all partners involved and financial support of several governmental institutions (second phase of the project - see the project 1-page description), the planned project activities have been so far successfully carried out and the overall project objectives achieved (see section II.2)

Since the nature of the project, it does not show any definite mathematical values that would provide information about the degree of its success. There are only numerical values providing evidence of the number of promotional items and materials created; however, these figures cannot replace data leading to determination of the degree of success of the project.

In general, the project was received positively from its very first phase in 2010, particularly the training of experts dealing with THB issues across the whole range of bodies (governmental, municipal, non-profit organisations). It should again be noted that this project is being implemented on a long-term basis which includes specialised sub-projects. This strategy allows continuous evolution and concentration on particular needs, such as timely detection and timely initiation of relevant processes. Sufficient public awareness of the phenomenon, quality and accessibility of information are by no means the most important prerequisites for achieving the project's overall objectives.

**III. The project shall, as far as possible, be innovative, involving new methods or new approaches.**

1. Why is the project innovative in its methods and/or approaches? (**Max. 150 words**)

The main innovative aspect can be seen in its complexity as it is centred on all major target groups. Yet, it is not only about quantitative approach as the quality of particular steps plays an equally as important part. In other words, the long-term goal of the project is undoubtedly connected to creating/providing the right tools to inform the public about the relevant THB issues. At the same time, the authors alter their methods and approaches according to the current developments and threats and according to the main receptive channels of particular target groups (traditional media, online forms of communication, personal encounters etc.)

**IV. The project shall be based on cooperation between partners, where possible.**

1. Which partners or stakeholders were involved in the project and what was their involvement? (**Max. 200 words**)

The principal partners/stakeholders of the project:

Part 1 of the project: Regional Police Headquarters of the South Bohemian Region – Foreign Police Department (for their involvement, see previous sections of this form).

Part 2 of the project: Foreign Police Department in cooperation with La Strada civic association (for their involvement, see previous sections of this form).

Because of its general preventive character and a focus on various segments of civic society, the 2nd part of the project also has other collaborating partners, the principal ones of which are the following:

- various departments of the Czech State Police (providing experts for various types of training or workshops)

- Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic (co-financing, providing experts for various types of training or workshops)
- Employment office (providing experts for various types of training or workshops)
- Prague City Council (co-financing, providing experts for various types of training or workshops)
- Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (street work and various community-oriented activities)
- Czech Catholic Charity Brethren (street work and various community-oriented activities)
- La Strada International – NGO network addressing THB in Europe (prevention of THB centred on employers)
- Antislavery UK (street work, experience exchange)

**V. The project shall be capable of replication in other Member States.**

1. How and by whom is the project funded? (**Max. 150 words**)

Police of the Czech Republic - standard type of financing of expert police officers  
 Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic – annual Crime Prevention Programme funding  
 Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – preventive activities with a social dimension  
 Prague City Council – annual Crime Prevention Programme funding  
 various private or publicly beneficial subjects – funding and promoting particular activities targeted at the general public (THB issues and crime prevention)

2. What were the costs of the project in terms of finances, material, infrastructure and human resources? (**Max. 150 words**)

1-st part of the project: Standard type of financing of expert police officers, including material, infrastructure, energy etc. (police experts in question perform all their activities as part of their official working duty).

2-part of the project (prevention): Social workers, street workers and project managers are funded by the annual funding programmes provided by the above described sources (Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Prague City Council, various private or publicly beneficial subjects, etc.). The same goes for organisation costs of workshops, trainings, lectures, printing activities, public campaigns etc. The overall annual costs of this part of the project are approximately 55 000 EUR.

3. Describe any cost-benefit analysis that was done on the project, including how and by whom it was carried out and list the main findings of the analysis. (**Max. 150 words**)

For these types of THB projects, particularly for the 2-nd preventive part of this particular project, it is very difficult to make any cost-benefit analysis. In fact, this is not even the main issue to be concerned with. What is the main benefit of this project is the fact that all target groups gets the right information according to which they will alter their attitude towards the current issues related to THB. In other words, such an outcome goes beyond any prize consideration, let alone any cost-benefit analysis.

4. Are there adjustments to be made to the project to ensure a successful replication in another Member State?

1-st part of the project: It is unnecessary to share experiences and findings of this project with other countries because the techniques of an illegal employment tend to be rather similar no matter what is the EU country. That is the reason why to implement this type of the project to as many EU countries as possible and to share experiences with those countries which have this project already running.

2-nd part of the project: All above described THB prevention approaches are fully replicable and applicable to other EU countries (with possible contextual alterations – particularly in cases of street work and the general public campaigns). In some cases this is already happening and the authors and managers of this project have been collaborating with particular countries or specific organisations which do have these measures implemented (see section concerning collaborating partners).

Please provide a short general description of the project (abstract for inclusion in the conference booklet – **max. 150 words**).

The first part of the project focuses on an improvement of work of the relevant state bodies when it comes to discovering and tackling illegal activities of employers towards their foreign employees and on an improvement of work of the relevant state institutions concerning a general employment policy for foreigners in the Czech Republic. This includes a creation of new methodological guidelines and an active work with foreigners in question and all relevant institutions with which they must deal when applying for the work permit and subsequently working in the Czech Republic.

The second and equally as crucial part of the project centres on prevention activities and is coordinated with the NGO called La Strada. These prevention activities can be divided into the following groups:

- Engaging experts in the fields of THB
- Engaging employers - companies, job recruitment agencies, HR staff etc.
- Primary prevention at schools
- Street work
- Engaging general public