

ANNUAL REPORT

2016

**Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences,
Center for Social and Economic Strategies**



Content

Our Mission.....	2
Introductory Word from the Head.....	3
Research Projects	4
Central European Journal of Public Policy.....	6
Publications	10
Funding.....	12
Contact Us.....	13
The CESES Team.....	14

Our Mission

The Center for Social and Economic Strategies is an interdisciplinary research and education unit developing the theory, methodology and practice of investigating possible futures, and applying forecasts in decision making. For this purpose, CESES:

- ⇒ identifies key problems and development priorities for the Czech Republic in the contexts of globalization and European integration;
- ⇒ produces partial as well as comprehensive analyses, scenarios, visions and strategies of the social, political, economic, environmental and political development of the Czech Republic in a European and global context;
- ⇒ creates cognitive and methodological prerequisites for improving the strategic governance of the country;
- ⇒ promotes dialogue with experts, politicians, civil servants, civic sector actors, and citizens.

Introductory Word from the Head



Dear friends, colleagues and those interested in our work,

The following pages of this Annual Report provide information about projects that we implemented over the last year. Among that year's publications, let me emphasize C. H. Beck's *Veřejná politika*, a public policy textbook in which Kamila Vlčková, Veronika Rudolfová and I tried to reflect the most recent developments of this young but increasingly diverse discipline. *Inter alia*, we applied different policy theories on three illustrative case studies of the pension reform process in the Czech Republic.

We also continued to support the *Central European Journal of Public Policy* which had, over the past ten years of existence, managed to win a respectable and irreplaceable position in the ever more competitive environment of international policy periodicals.

We have always viewed our work as a challenge to investigate the current as well as prospective problems of our country and the possible ways of solving them openly, participatively, and based on solid analysis and the most robust methods possible.

Prof. PhDr. Martin Potůček, CSc., MSc.

Research Projects

⇒ **Social Sciences in Challenges of the New Era (P17)**

The CESES participates in the implementation of the Charles University Programme of Development of Scientific Disciplines (PRVOUK) by managing sub-programme P17 which aims at the development and application of sciences on society, politics and media as reflected in contemporary challenges.

Principal Investigator at the CESES: Martin Potůček

⇒ **Extending Working Lives - Health and Well Being Implications and Facilitators**

Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK), the key focus of this international and interdisciplinary programme of research is to provide insights into how to promote longer and healthier working lives which are resilient to the pressures of globalised, intensified and highly competitive labour markets. The study is divided into four work strands which examine macro, meso and micro levels and are unified by a focus on the maintenance of health and wellbeing among older workers.

Principal Investigator: Martin Nekola

⇒ **Totalitarianism and the Non-Banality of Evil**

Funded by the Czech Science Foundation, the project aims to develop a political-sociological theoretical model that explains how totalitarianism is possible and especially why people under totalitarian regimes seem so willing to commit “evil” acts, such as murder and torture.

Principal Investigator: Steven Saxonberg

⇒ **Using social science research in analytical activities for strategic decision-making in public administration**

The project is implemented within the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic's OMEGA Programme which supports applied social research and experimental development. One of the most substantial problems of strategic policy-making in the Czech Republic public administration is insufficient use of social science research. The aim of the project is to explore the main causes of this problem and identify the main barriers of social science research utilization. On the basis of this analysis and successful practices abroad "Methodics of systematic review of evidence in design and evaluation of public strategies" will be created, piloted and certified.

Principal Investigator: Arnošt Veselý

Information on projects that have been implemented at CESES in recent years can be found on CESES website: <http://ceses.cuni.cz/>

Central European Journal of Public Policy



Editor-in-Chief

Martin Nekola

Editorial Board

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Fakulta sociálnych a ekonomických vied, Univerzita

Komenského, Bratislava, Slovensko

ANNUAL REPORT CESES 2016

Prof. František Ochrana, Ph.D.

Fakulta sociálních věd, Univerzita Karlova, Praha

Prof. Martin Potůček, Ph.D.

Fakulta sociálních věd, Univerzita Karlova, Praha

Prof. Dr. Peter Schmidt, Ph.D.

Justus-Liebig University, Germany

Prof. Andy Smith

Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux,

Université de Bordeaux, France

Dr. Katarína Staroňová

Fakulta sociálnych a ekonomických vied, Univerzita
Komenského, Bratislava, Slovensko

Dr. Nigel Swain

School of History, University of Liverpool, United
Kingdom

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Budapest School of Communication and Business,
Hungary

Prof. Jean-Michel De Waele

Centre d'Etude de la Vie Politique (CEVIPOL),
Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgique

Prof. Nikolaos Zahariadis

University of Alabama at Birmingham, United
Kingdom

E-mail

editor@cejpp.eu

Website

<https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/cejpp>

ANNUAL REPORT CESES 2016



The year 2016 saw continued publication of the Central European Journal for Public Policy (CEJPP) which seeks to disseminate latest theoretical and methodological empirical evidence among researchers and experts from different fields of public policy. As a peer-reviewed scholarly journal in English published in cooperation with De Gruyter, the CEJPP covers a multitude of policy areas, including civil society, social services and health care, environmental protection, education,

labour market, immigration, security, public finance and budgeting, administrative reforms, performance measurement and governance. Its broad coverage commits the journal to taking a multidisciplinary approach and to striving for a balance between policy description, explanation and evaluation through a wide array of quantitative and qualitative social science methodologies.

The journal's operations in 2016 were funded by the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University and from other sources. Two regular issues of Volume 10 were published.

1/2016

Author	Article title
Remeikiene, Rita / Gaspareniene, Ligita	Evaluation of the Impact of the EU Structural Support on the Competitiveness of Lithuanian Economics"
Spáč, Peter	For the Game, for the Loyal Partisans: Distribution of Sport Grants in Slovakia
Bajakić, Ivana / Kos, Veseljka	What Can We Learn About Regulatory Agencies and Regulated Parties from the Empirical Study of Judicial

Review of Regulatory Agencies' Decisions? The Case of Croatia

Dobiášová, Karolína
/ Tušková, Eva /
Hanušová, Pavla /
Angelovská, Olga /
Ježková, Monika

The Development of Mental Health Policies in the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic since 1989

2/2016

Author

Article title

Sumskaite, Alvija /
Juknyte-Petreikiene,
Inga

Parameters for the Assessment of the Impact of Internationalisation Policy on Quality in Higher Education and its Influence on the Development of Society: The Lithuanian Case

Dunajevs, Eugenijus
/ Skučienė, Daiva

Mandatory Pension System and Redistribution: The Comparative Analysis of Institutions in Baltic States

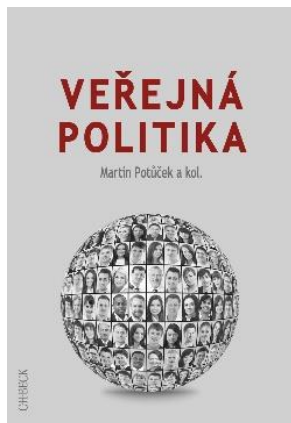
Ochrana, František /
Plaček, Michal /
Půček, Milan Jan

Shortfall of Strategic Governance and Strategic Management in the Czech Republic

Kopečná, Vědunka

Counterfactual Impact Evaluation of the Project Internships for Young Job Seekers

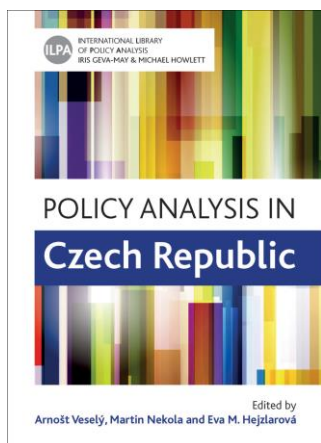
Publications



Martin Potůček a kol.: Veřejná politika

C. H. Beck, 2016, Prague

Public policy is a young, dynamically evolving interdisciplinary field that investigates in-depth sources and contexts of different social phenomena and recommends unprejudiced solutions to urgent policy issues. While it builds on the evidence from and methods of a number of other disciplines, including economics, political science, sociology, demography, law and public administration, it is distinguished by the emphasis it places on application of the knowledge obtained in political and administrative practice. Its theories and methods are exemplified on three case studies of the process of Czech pension reform. This systematically-designed textbook will speak to anyone who not only wants to better understand policy issues but also intends to propose effective solutions – whether as students or public figures, experts, officials and politicians.



Arnošt Veselý, Martin Nekola, Eva M. Hejzlarová: Policy Analysis in the Czech Republic

Policy Press at the University of Bristol, 2016, Bristol

This new volume in the International Library of Policy Analysis series is the first comprehensive overview of policy analysis in the Czech Republic—and the first of any postcommunist Central or Eastern European region. As such, it offers a unique picture of policy analysis that differs profoundly from prevailing Western versions. Written by experts in the field, including scholars and policy makers, the book outlines the historical development of policy analysis in the region, identifies its role in education and research, and examines its styles and methods.

Impact-factor journal articles

Nekola, M. - Kohoutek, J. Policy Work at the Sub-national Level: Analytical Styles of Canadian and Czech Directors and Managers. *Canadian Public Administration*, 59/2016, č. 2, s. 289-309.

Veselý, A. Policy advice as a policy work: A conceptual framework for multilevel analysis. *Policy Sciences*. Available on-line: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11077-016-9255-z>.

Frič, P. - Vávra, M. Czech civil sector face-to-face with freelance activism. *The Journal for International Sociology and Social Policy*, 36/2016, č. 11/12, s. 774 – 791.

Plaček, M. - Půček, M. - Ochrana, F. - Křápek, M. - Matějová, L.: Political Business Cycle in the Czech Republic: Case of Municipalities. *Prague Economic Papers*, 25/2016, č. 3. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18267/j.pep.566>.

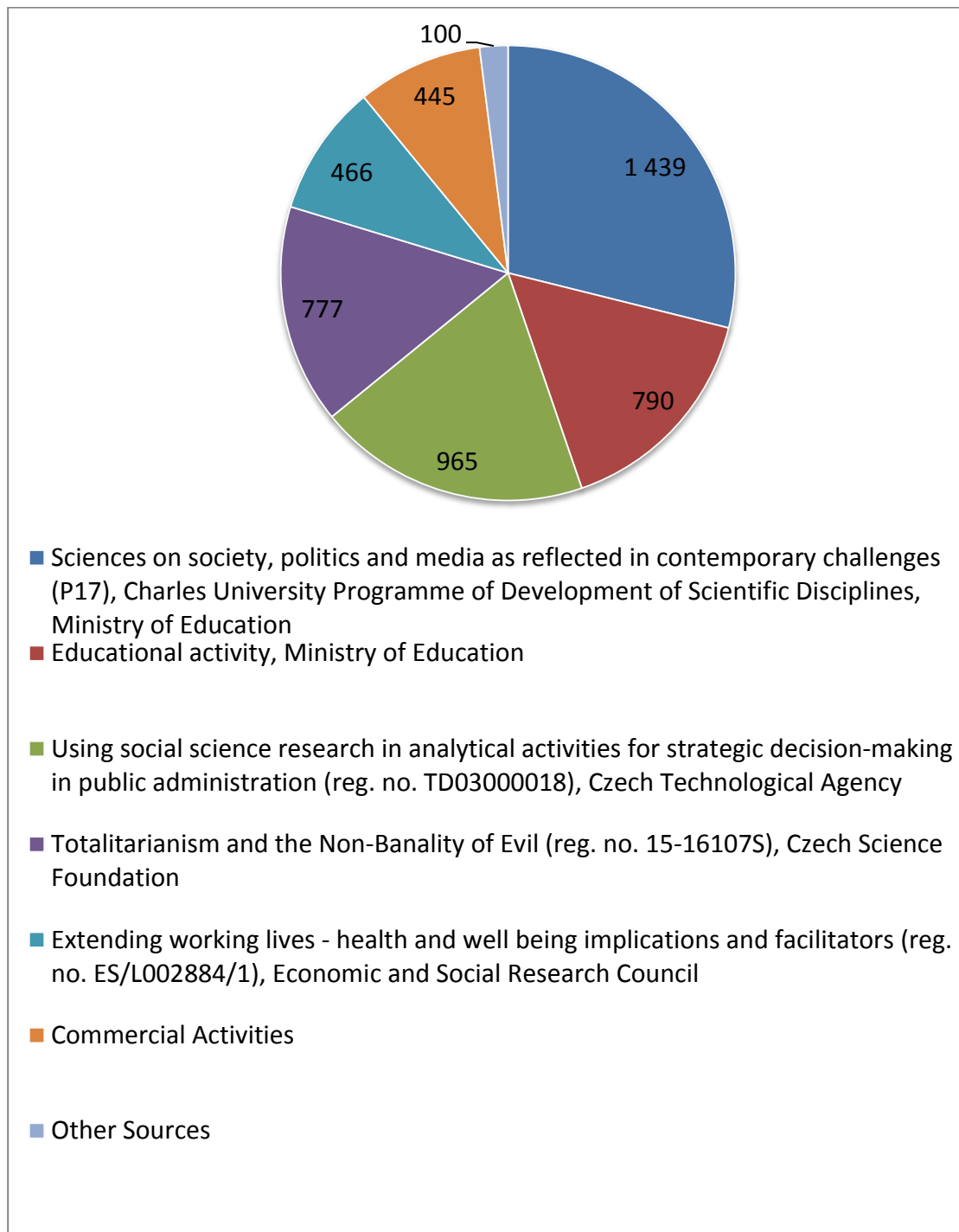
Plaček, M. - Schmidt, M. - Ochrana, F. – Půček, M.: Impact of Selected Factors Regarding the Efficiency of Public Procurement (the case of the Czech Republic) with an Emphasis on Decentralization. *Ekonomický časopis*. 64/2016, č. 1, s. 22-36.

Articles in SCOPUS

Plaček, M. –Ochrana, F. – Schmidt, M. –Půček, M.: The evaluation of the role of the Office for Protection of Competition of the Czech Republic in regulating public procurement. *NISPACEE Journal of Public Administration and Policy*, 9/2016, č. 1, s. 97-116. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/nispa-2016-0005>

Potůček, M. – Rudolfová, V. Rivalry of advocacy coalitions in the Czech pension reform. *NISPACEE Journal of Public Administration and Policy*. 9/2016, č. 1, s. 117-134. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1515/nispa-2016-0006>.

Funding



CESES activity was covered by various grant funds and institutional funds of Ministry of Education.

The total annual budget amounted to 8 360 TCZK.

Contact Us

Address (Registered Office)

Center for Social and Economic Strategies

Celetná 20

116 36 Praha 1

Czech Republic

Mailing Address

Univerzita Karlova

Fakulta sociálních věd

Centrum pro sociální a ekonomické strategie

Smetanovo nábřeží 6

110 01 Praha 1

Telephone (Secretary)

+420 224 491 493

E-mail

ceses@fsv.cuni.cz

Web

<http://www.ceses.cuni.cz/>

ANNUAL REPORT CESES 2016

The CESES Team

Head of CESES

Potůček, Martin	potucek@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 492
Public and Social Policy, Forecasting	www.martinpotucek. cz	

Deputy Head of CESES

Klejnová, Miroslava	klejnova@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 490
Population Development and its Social and Policy Implications		

CESES Staff (in alphabetical order)

Frič, Pavol	fric@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 674
Forecasting Theory and Methodology, Civic Sector		
Mareš, David	mares@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 652
IT podpora		
Märzová, Hana	hana.marzova@fsv.cu ni.cz	+420 224 491 493
Administrative Assistant, Library		
Nekola, Martin	nekola@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 496
Policy Analysis, Drug Policy		
Ochrana, František	ochrana@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 487
Public Administration, Public Sector		
Saxonberg, Steven	sax@post.utfors.se	+420 224 491 487
European social model, Policy processes		
Veselý, Arnošt	veselya@fsv.cuni.cz	+420 224 491 496
Educational Policy, Human Resources, Public Policy Methodologies		