

- ▶ *future-oriented thinking* stemming from the knowledge of long-term trends;
- ▶ creative search for *interdependencies* between often artificially sequestered areas;
- ▶ thinking in terms of a wider context of Europe and the world;
- ▶ efforts to say it like it really is for the benefit of the general public wherever applicable and desirable.

## Our Sources of Funding

Most of our funding is obtained on the basis of our projects selected for tenders for national programs in support of science:

- ▶ Institutional support for Faculty of Social Sciences Charles University research project; Ministry of Education Policy Fund, National Research Program I, Czech Grant Agency

Ever more means keep reaching us from the EU funds and resources:

- ▶ Sixth Framework Program, European Social Fund – JPD 3

Foreign partners and cooperating institutions finance many of our minor projects:

- ▶ University of California (Berkeley), UNDP, NISPAcee.

Our intention is to increase the share of advisory and educational activities in the overall volume of our income.

## Our International Partners

- ▶ The United Nations University – The Millennium Project, Washington, U.S.A.
- ▶ Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Germany

- ▶ Carl Vinson Institute of Government, Athens, U.S.A.
- ▶ Network of Institutions and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee), Bratislava, Slovakia
- ▶ National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), Washington, U.S.A.
- ▶ European Co-operation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST)
- ▶ University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A.
- ▶ United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- ▶ Wissenschaftszentrum Für Sozialforschung, Berlin, Germany
- ▶ European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, Dublin, Ireland
- ▶ Konstanz Universität, Germany
- ▶ Research Network of 6<sup>th</sup> Framework EU Program, (CINEFOGO), Roskilde University, Denmark
- ▶ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris, France
- ▶ Institute for Public Affairs (IVO), Bratislava, Slovakia

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# Center for Social and Economic Strategies

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
 CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE  
 CZECH REPUBLIC

## Our Mission

The Center for Social and Economic Strategies is an interdisciplinary research and education unit engaged in the development of theory, methodology and practice of exploring possible futures, and the application of analyses and forecasts in decision making. For this purpose, CESES

- ▶ identifies the key problems and development priorities of the Czech Republic;
- ▶ provides partial and comprehensive analyses, scenarios, visions and strategies of the social, economic, political, environmental and security development of the Czech Republic in a European and global context;
- ▶ promotes dialogue between experts, politicians, civil servants, civil sector activists, as well as individual citizens;
- ▶ provides cognitive and methodological provisions so as to help improve the strategic governance of the country

## Our Profile

We were established in October 2000 at the Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences. We are an interdisciplinary research think-tank, and we interact with many organizations and institutions in and outside the Czech Republic. Our partners are international organizations, universities, and research institutes. We have established contacts with the Government of the Czech Republic, both Houses of Parliament of the Czech Republic, scientists, civic activists and the media. Because of our profile and orientation, we aim to fill one blank space in the structure of social science institutes of the Czech Republic.

Our team, led from CESES' inception by Professor Martin Potůček, PhD., comprised 21 researchers in 2005.

## Our Clients

Two key orientations shape all our activities. Being an academic institution, we aim to channel scientific-research outcomes to all those interested. Therefore, a significant proportion of our publishing efforts should address those members of the general public who care about the future of the Czech Republic and Europe. However, we also provide quite specific expert outputs of practical, as well as methodological, character to organizations working with medium to long-term prospects.

Our chief target groups include:

- ▶ public administration;
- ▶ political parties;
- ▶ international institutions;
- ▶ research and educational institutions;
- ▶ NGOs, trade unions, professional associations;
- ▶ corporations;
- ▶ media.

## Our Activities

Our unit is engaged in target-oriented, social-science research of high quality. Both the scope of our research work and the membership of our team have expanded progressively since our foundation in 2000. CESES currently conducts research work in the following areas:

- ▶ Governance, Public Administration and the Public Sector;

- ▶ Education Policy, Research and Development Policy, Human Resources and Social Capital;
- ▶ Economic Competitiveness;
- ▶ Security and Foreign Policy;
- ▶ Demographic Trends;
- ▶ Quality of Life and Sustainable Development;
- ▶ European Integration;
- ▶ Modernization Concepts;
- ▶ Social Cohesion, Cultural and National Identities.

## Our Approach

We build our approach on the **cooperation** of both experienced and upstart researchers in a number of social scientific fields, ranging from sociology and demography right through to economics and political sciences. We want to deliver quality, and that is why we interact with prominent practical experts. Our interdisciplinary approach to social science is anchored, both theoretically and in terms of methodology, in the discipline of **Public and Social Policy** whereby the emphasis is on analytical precision, empirical evidence and practical relevance. By the engagement of our analysts as lecturers of MSc. and PhD. Public and Social Policy Programmes, we interconnect research and teaching.

By combining foreign and national theoretical findings and practical experience, we aim to support and promote the formulation of public policies and requirements of the Czech Republic. Quality of life, sustainable development and economic competitiveness are the yardsticks of our endeavours.

All we do has the following attributes:

- ▶ *rational* thought given to Czech Republic's problems and opportunities based on empirical evidence;