# Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Policy monitor country profile 2025: CZECH REPUBLIC

The BIK Policy monitor country profiles summarise findings about the implementation of the BIK+ strategy's three pillars (protection, empowerment, participation) across each of the EU's Member States as well as Iceland and Norway. Download the full BIK Policy monitor report 2025 from the BIK Policy monitor on the new BIK Knowledge hub and access the Czech country profile online on the BIK Knowledge hub.

# **Introduction**

According to the State of the Digital Decade 2024 Czechia report, 69.1 % of the population has at least a basic level of digital skills, well above the EU average (55.6 %). Czech students benefit from the introduction of digital subjects in primary and secondary school curricula and the availability of digital tools in schools.

# **BIK** policies

# **Policy frameworks**

Policy frameworks describe the overarching approach for a better internet and establish the underlying goals, principles and guidelines that shape individual policies within this area.

 This topic is an important and emerging policy priority, with children's online protection, digital empowerment, and digital participation partially covered in national/regional laws, regulations and policies.



- There are separate, dedicated policies which address the topic of children and the digital environment (protection, empowerment, and participation).
- The BIK+ strategy is an important influence on policy development on children and the digital environment which informs and guides national policies even if they do not directly refer to BIK+.
- Children's rights in relation to the digital environment are an important an emerging policy priority with specific policies in development on this topic.

	High	Medium	Low	Not present
Coverage of BIK+ issues in national policies		X		
Integration of policy provision		X		
Influence of the BIK+ strategy		X		
Recognition of children's rights		Х		

Table 1: Topic summary - policy frameworks

## Key national policy frameworks are:

- The national strategic plan for digital education under the Digital Czechia
   Strategy lays out the newly established approach to digital education,
   including a strong focus on digital skills development, cybersecurity and safe
   internet use.
- The Long-term Plan for Education and the Development of the Education System of the Czech Republic 2023–2027 provides integrated measures to support digital well-being and cybersecurity in schools.
- In addition, the Strategy for the Education Policy of the Czech Republic up to 2030+ is a strategy to support reaching the target of 80% of the population with basic digital skills by 2030.





# **Policy design**

Policy design asks whether evidence and research support BIK-related policies and whether systems are in place for monitoring and evaluating those policies.

- Quantitative data on some aspects of children's digital activity is collected regularly as part of broader surveys.
- Surveys of children's experiences of risks, harms and digital well-being are undertaken on an ad-hoc and irregular basis.
- Information is regularly gathered to inform policies on children and the digital environment. However, this relies primarily on third-party sources, and there are limited opportunities to commission new data on children's digital activity.
- Regarding research funding, there are occasional special initiatives to gather evidence about children and the digital environment.
- Monitoring and evaluation of national policies on this topic is ad hoc, infrequent and not systematic.

	High	Medium	Low	Not present
Regular data collection		X		
Data on risks, harms and digital well-being			X	
Information systems		X		
National research fund			Х	
Monitoring and evaluation			X	

Table 2: Topic summary - policy design

#### Recent national research studies include:

 The majority of research on children's experiences online is undertaken by the project e-Bezpečí. Various studies on children's behaviour online have been produced including 'Czech pupils and the AI' from 2024.







- Perception of cybercrime among pupils at the second level of primary schools
   (2023) was carried out within the framework of the project 'Regions for a
   Safe Internet'. It was initially conducted in 2018 and has now been repeated
   five years later to compare the results. The status at the end of 2023 showed
   that pupils still have insufficient awareness of what they can or cannot do
   online or what behaviour is considered a cybercrime.
- The National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Addictions issues the annual Report on Digital Addictions in the Czech Republic, part of which is dedicated to children and adolescents. The report is included in the information package of annual reports on the situation of addiction in the Czech Republic.
- Regular surveys are also carried out by the Czech School Inspectorate on an infrequent basis. A report 'Secondary analysis of PISA 2018: Student wellbeing, classroom climate, ICT use and perceptions of the teacher's role' dates from 2021.

# **Policy governance**

Policy governance examines how policies are coordinated at the governmental level, whether other implementation bodies are involved in their delivery, and whether structured mechanisms are available to guide their implementation.

- Policy development sits across a range of ministries, and no lead is specifically assigned responsibility for developing government policies, guidelines, and programmes related to children and the digital environment.
- Coordination happens more informally across the different departments and entities contributing to government policies, guidelines, and programmes regarding children and the digital environment.
- Several ministries and agencies undertake supportive measures and activities; however, there is no cross-governmental action plan on children and the digital environment.





	High	Medium	Low	Not present
Lead ministry for policy development		Х		
National coordination body		Х		
National action plan or strategy				Х

Table 3: Topic summary - policy governance

Four governmental bodies share responsibilities across the three pillars of BIK+:

- The Office of the Government oversees European policies, including implementing the BIK+ strategy.
- The Ministry of Interior and Police is responsible for the safety and prevention of criminality, including criminality in cyberspace.
- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is in charge of digital skills and education of youth, while policies are often implemented by the National Pedagogical Institute. For instance, it currently implements two projects related to digital skills, cybersecurity and prevention online, and digital wellbeing.
- The National Cyber and Information Security Agency develops educational and preventive programs for children, youth and parents in the field of cybersecurity.

Furthermore, the Committee for Digital Education is responsible for the coordination of relevant stakeholders in the area of digital education under the Government Council for the Information Society. The Committee consists of representatives from several ministries, state institutions, the private sector, NGOs and other relevant stakeholders. Topics related to the BIK+ strategy, including well-being and cybersecurity in the context of digital skills development and efforts in relation to the national strategic plan for digital education under the Digital Czechia Strategy are the main focus areas of the Committee.

Another more informal coordinating platform is the Safer Internet Centre, which has developed a broad network of important and active stakeholders in the field.

#### **Stakeholder involvement**

Stakeholder involvement enquires about how different stakeholders can participate in the policy development process. Children's involvement in policy-making is one such key issue. Additionally, international knowledge exchange about children's digital participation is also relevant to this topic.

- Various ad hoc multistakeholder groups exist across different branches
  of government, in which stakeholders may contribute to policy deliberation
  and development.
- Members of the public are consulted on occasion in the course of the development of new policies. However, this is not always the case.
- Children are listened to directly in the policy development process (e.g., through hearings, consultations, specific surveys) but are not formally involved in decision-making.
- There are **occasional opportunities** for policymakers to participate in international knowledge exchange on digital policies for children.

	High	Medium	Low	Not present
Stakeholder forum		X		
Consulting the public on BIK topics		X		
Involvement of young people		Х		

Table 4: Topic summary - Stakeholder involvement

Various NGOs, companies, and universities work on prevention, intervention, and awareness in the area of children's use of the internet. Those organisations are coordinated by the Czech Safer Internet Centre, led by the association CZ-NIC. CZ-NIC's projects strive to improve awareness about the safety of children on the internet.

At the regional level, the Association of Regions (Asociace krajů) runs its own awareness and high-quality content project, Regions for Safer Internet, which







consists of e-learning courses for children, students, parents, teachers and other groups such as police officers and social workers.

Regarding stakeholder involvement, the Advisory Board (for adults) and Youth Panel (for children) within the Safer Internet Centre act as important opportunities for knowledge exchange. The Youth Panel is currently being restructured to make it more effective and responsive to the needs of children in the digital environment and the needs of the CZ with links to EU policies.

# **BIK+ actions**

# Pillar 1 – Safe digital experiences

Safe digital experiences refer to actions taken to protect children from harmful and illegal online content, conduct, contact, and risks as young consumers and to improve their well-being online through a safe, age-appropriate digital environment created in a way that respects children's best interests.

# Implementing EU laws

 The finalisation of the law implementing the Digital Services Act (DSA) is currently underway. The Czech Telecommunications Office has been designated as the Digital Services Coordinator in the Czech Republic, and the Office for Personal Data Protection will be designated as the competent authority for articles 26 and 28 of the Digital Services Act. No competent authority will be designated specifically for children's online safety.

#### Harmful online content

 There is no explicit legal definition of harmful online content in national legislation. Specific examples including hard pornography, animal pornography or child pornography are illegal and fulfil the elements of offences under Sections 191 and 192 of the Criminal Code. However, harmful content may also include videos shared with the potential to incite minors to self-harm.





 The Safer Internet Centre operates a 'STOP online' line where harmful/addictive content can be reported and which is further acted on by the Czech police.

#### Harmful online conduct

- Laws to protect children and young people from intimate image abuse, sometimes called 'revenge porn' or 'the non-consensual sharing of intimate images' are covered under the Criminal Code.
- Regarding cyberbullying, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has
  issued methodological recommendations for prevention. The Ministry, jointly
  with the National Cyber and Information Security Agency (NÚKIB), have
  created an e-learning resource for teachers.

## Age verification

- There are currently no specific national/regional laws, technical standards or policies regarding age verification mechanisms to restrict minors from accessing adult online content services.
- On March 26, 2025, a resolution was approved that instructs the Digital and Information Agency (DIA) to implement the European Digital Identity Wallet (EUDI) in the form of a concession.

#### Commercial content

 Regarding codes of conduct for commercial content, a self-regulatory body, the Platform of Professional Communication, has published an Influencers' Code of Conduct.

### Mental health and well-being

 The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) is actively involved in this topic in its strategic documents, such as Long-term education plan of the Czech Republic (document implementing the Strategy of education policy of the Czech Republic 2030+).





- Well-being, digital well-being and prevention of online risks are also part of the revised Framework Educational Programme for Primary education, which was issued in early 2025.
- The National Pedagogical Institute is currently carrying out a project focused on digital wellbeing, cybersecurity and prevention among others, aiming at providing support for teachers and schools regarding these topics.

	In place	In development	Other activity	Not in place
Codes of practice			X	
DSC implemented			X	
Definition of harmful content			X	
Bodies can order content removal	X			
Children's complaints mechanism	x			
Intimate image abuse laws	X			
Cyberbullying laws	x			
Age verification requirements		X		
Digital identity systems (EUDI)			х	
Consumer codes of practice	х			
Mental health measures	х			
Addressing unfair commercial practices			Х	

Table 5: Topic summary - pillar 1: safe digital experiences



# Pillar 2 – Digital empowerment

Digital empowerment incorporates actions so that all children, including those in vulnerable situations, acquire the necessary skills and competences to make sound choices and express themselves in the online environment safely and responsibly.

# Supports for online safety education

- A curriculum reform for primary and secondary education was introduced in 2021, with new classes focusing on digital skills development and ICT. This comprehensive plan is backed by various measures, including RRF funding for purchasing digital equipment and teaching aids for schools, with a particular focus on supporting disadvantaged students to ensure an inclusive digital transition. Stakeholders and scientists also give courses to introduce AI in schools, focusing on preventing its misuse. The topic of healthy and secure use of technologies and internet is emphasised in the revised curriculum. Source: State of the Digital Decade 2024 Czechia.
- Innovations in education in the context of digitalisation are implemented through the National Recovery Plan, which is implemented by the MEYS and the National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic. It provides support and learning opportunities for schools and its teachers regarding the development of digital competences and implementation of the new concept of informatics.
- The National Recovery Plan includes activities to train teachers in this area.
   The National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic has different projects, such as teacher training, webinars for educators, platforms for exchanging experiences between schools, and consultancy activities. The Institute also creates educational podcasts called kybcast. A current project, AIDIG, provides training and other support for schools regarding cybersecurity, online prevention and digital well-being among other topics.
- The Czech Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition's (Digikoalice) project has an online catalogue that provides children with a wide range of educational activities. Currently, more than 140 activities and courses created by different

entities and organisations are easily accessible to children, their parents, and their teachers.

- In 2022, Czechia's police launched an educational prevention initiative called "Your Journey Online." The first part focuses on educating children and young individuals on how to present themselves on social media and underlines the importance of securing their devices and personal accounts. The second part of the programme concentrates on navigating online information, stressing the need for fact-checking, especially amid widespread misinformation, and being aware of common cyber fraud tactics. Source: State of the Digital Decade 2024 Czechia.
- The 'First Mobile' guide is for parents who are about to get their children their first smartphone. It has been prepared by the Safer Internet Centre in cooperation with the Police of the Czech Republic, the O2 Foundation and mobile operators Vodafone and T-Mobile. The guide contains a number of recommendations on how to set up a smartphone correctly and introduces the most common risks children can face when using it.
- The Ministry of the Interior, together with Palacký University in Olomouc, has
  produced a methodological guide on the prevention of risky behaviour among
  children and youths online created for local authorities and police as well as
  for other target groups in the school environment ('Cyber Academy for
  municipal staff, municipal police and other target groups in the school
  environment').

# Digital literacy skills to empower young people

• In 2022, the Ministry of Industry and Trade launched the Mobile Technology Classroom project, aiming to spark students' interests in new technologies and technical areas. A converted truck goes around the country and serves as a mobile classroom where eighth and ninth graders can learn about new technologies, gaining practical knowledge, skills and competencies. Students can try 3D printing and augmented and virtual reality and receive career counselling. Source: State of the Digital Decade 2024 Czechia.





- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports cooperates with National Cyber and Information Security Agency on educational projects and activities for young people in related fields.
- Media education is part of the Comprehensive Education Programme and a cross-cutting area. The revision currently underway plans to emphasise and further develop this topic.

	In place	In development	Other activity	Not in place
Teaching online safety		X		
Online safety policies in schools			X	
Informal education about online safety	х			
Adequate teacher training	x			
Basic digital skills training	х			
Critical media literacy	х			
Creative digital skills	х			

Table 6: Topic summary - pillar 2: digital empowerment

#### Pillar 3 – Active participation, respecting children's rights

Active participation, respecting children's rights, refers to actions which give children and young people a say in the digital environment, with more child-led activities to foster innovative and creative safe digital experiences.

# Active participation

 In the Committee for Digital Education under the Government Council for Information Society under the Digital Czechia Strategy, the Czech Children and Youth Parliament represent the voices of children. They are encouraged to contribute to debate and discuss the policies in the field of digital education.





- There are no laws, regulations or policies in place that mandate youth participation in decision-making bodies at the national or regional level.
- There are limited activities to promote awareness of children's rights such as the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MoLSA) Amendment to the Act on Social and Legal Protection of Children, Convention on the Rights of the Child.

# Supporting children's rights

- In 2022, MoLSA continued participating in the Council of Europe's
   Participation of Children in Europe project, Strengthening National
   Frameworks and Activities for Child Participation. The project aimed to assess
   the level of child participation in the Czech Republic using the Council of
   Europe's Child Participation Indicator Toolkit and the new Child Participation
   in National Activities methodology.
- The Ombudsman's Office, as part of its Strengthening the Ombudsman's
   Activities in the Protection of Human Rights project, held its first Children's
   Conference in June and published the Convention on the Rights of the Child in
   a child-friendly text.

# Digital inclusion

- There is a regional activity to stimulate the production and visibility of
  positive digital content and services for children and parents called Regions
  for Safer Internet. Non-governmental actors as Czech Safer Internet Centre
  are also active in that area and have many supportive digital materials
  related to that topic.
- The National Recovery Plan Innovation in Education in the Context of
   Digitalisation also contains a funding programme focused on implementation
   of digital tools and support for schools to use digital tools and develop digital
   creativity and the use of digital technologies by children.
  - Since the Czech Republic's Presidency of the Council of the EU, a project called Czech Digital Week has been established to promote digitalisation and bring together stakeholders in the Czech Republic's digitalisation field.

	In place	In development	Other activity	Not in place
Promoting active participation and civic engagement		X		
Involvement in policymaking				Х
Awareness raising on children's rights				X
Child-friendly versions of policy documents				X
Addressing digital inequalities	Х			
Supports for marginalised groups	Х			
Positive digital content	х			

Table 7: Topic summary - pillar 3: active participation, respecting children's rights

# **Best practices**

#### AI ten

AI ten is a newly developed information leaflet highlighting the basic rules of working with Artificial Intelligence (AI), discussing potential risks for children and adult users. The leaflet was developed by the Ministry of the Interior together with experts from pgr.ai, a Czech group of academics from the Czech Technical University, Charles University, and the Czech Academy of Sciences, and CZ.NIC, the operator organisation of the Czech hotline node of the Czech Safer Internet Centre.

# 10 tips to stay safe online

10 tips to stay safe online is a booklet that provides guidance on staying safe online and includes 'the do's and don'ts' for using social media. Its included 'boomer version' is aimed at educators, parents, prevention officers, and anyone interested in actively supporting children's and young people's safety online. The Ministry of the Interior developed the booklet in cooperation with the National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic.





# Regions for a Safe Internet (KPBI)

Regions for a Safe Internet (KPBI), supported by the Ministry of the Interior for many years, brings together all regions of the country to coordinate work in the field more effectively. The KPBI facilitates a range of educational projects for children, parents, seniors and educators. Furthermore, KPBI organises an educational quiz competition annually, in which, most recently, 55.000 children and young people participated.

# Safe in Cyber!

Safe in Cyber! provides an extensive online course collection developed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) and the National Cyber and Information Security Agency in collaboration with experts and partners. The courses cover topics such as staying safe on social networks, sexting, cyber grooming, online gaming, and many more. A course in cybersecurity basics for teachers is also available.





# **BIK+ index 2025: Czech Republic**

The BIK+ index has been developed to provide an aggregated at-a-glance overview of the levels of implementation across the two dimensions, BIK policies and BIK+ actions, in Czech Republic compared to the EU27+2 average. Values are shown in per cent.



Figure 1: BIK+ index 2025: Czech Republic - EU27+2 average comparison

–Czechia CZ ——EU27+2 avg







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