

**Czech National Committee for DR
and Cooperation among DR
platforms in Central Europe (CEUDIP)**

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Czech National Committee for Disaster Reduction (Czech NC-DR) – statut NGO

- ❑ **Re-establishment:** in November 1997 after the 1997 catastrophic flood
- ❑ **Regional Committee:** since 1999 (Silesia and N. Moravia)
- ❑ **Membership:** ministries (environment, interior, agriculture, foreign affairs, health....)
- ❑ **Offices:** (State Office for Nuclear Safety, Office of the Government)
- ❑ **Institutes and universities:** (Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, State Health Institute, Charles University..)
- ❑ **Others:** (Red Cross, private sector, insurance companies)

Goals and Focus of Activities

- **Natural but also human-related disasters**
- **Improvement of early warning systems towards better co-ordination between governmental, non-governmental and private sector stake holders**
- **Improvement of crisis management**
- **Legislation problems**
- **Risk assessment**
- **Training and education in early warning and emergency situations in general**
- **International co-operation with ISDR**
- **International co-operation within CEUDIP (Central European Disaster Prevention Forum) and other platforms especially from EU countries**

Mission and objectives of CEUDIP

- **To strengthen regional cooperation in DR**
- **To improve early warning systems (EWS)**
 - ❑ **inventory of EWS at national levels and of agreements on their use at bilateral and sub-regional levels**
 - ❑ **to organize workshops on important issues at the CEUDIP meetings e.g.role of media, crisis management legislation**
- **To improve education and training towards increase of public awareness**
- **To meet once a year and exchange information about activities**
- **To prepare an integrated project by CEUDIP countries for improvement of disaster prevention and public awareness (financial support from EU or WMO)**

Meetings of CEUDIP

Members – national focal points from the Czech Republic, (Austria), Germany, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia

- **1999 Prague (Czech R.) establishment**
- **2000 Warsaw (Poland) role of media in disaster prevention**
- **2001 Bratislava (Slovakia) crisis and disaster management legislation**
- **2002 Bonn (Germany) World Summit on Sustainable Development, presentation of JRC**
- **2003 Balaton (Hungary) disasters caused by accidental pollution, project preparation**
- **2004 Prague (Czech R.) World Conf. Disaster Reduction cooperation in enlarged EU**

Problems of Disaster Reduction

- 1. Lack of coordination and networking between:**
 - **international organizations (ISDR, WMO, UNEP..)**
 - **regional organizations (EU, Central Europe, W. Europe..)**
 - **national organizations (DR platforms, governmental, NGOs...)**
- 2. Lack of collaboration among different bodies responsible for different parts of Early Warning and other parts of DR like meteorological and hydrological Services, River Basin Boards, Civil Defense, Firemen Rescue teams, Army, health emergency, national emergency suppliers**
- 3. Legislation, clear competencies and responsibilities**
- 4. Competition for leadership among main players e.g. Interior vers. Defense, Firemen vers. Civil Defense, regional governors etc.**
- 5. Overall fight for funding – duplicities x poor funding**

Emergency and Law System in CR

•New laws

- Crisis Management Law
- Integrated Rescue System Law
- related laws (Fire&Rescue Service) and also Water and Clean Air Acts

New features:

all aspects of crises including natural disasters are defined by these laws in a systematic way

Competencies of main “players” are defined e.g.

- government (creates Central Crisis Staff (CCS) etc.)
- ministry of interior (leads CCS), ministry of defense
- other ministries, Czech National Bank
- hydromet., health, veterinary services
- regional administration **Integrated Rescue System**
- community

Limitation of some “human” rights during crisis

NMHS should be included in the State Emergency System

Comparison between Floods 1997 and 2002 in the Czech Republic

feature	1997	2002
loss of lives	60	19
loss of properties	2.1 bil. USD	2.5 bil. USD
no. of people affected	2.9 mil.	3.2 mil.
no. of people evacuated	80 000	220 000
emergency legislation	poor	good (new law package)
involvement of media	poor	satisfactory
forecast + warning	reasonable	good
Warning dissemination	reasonable	very good
Communication	poor	good (crisis phones, Internet)