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MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR  
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# Integration of Migrants as a Precondition for Building a Cohesive and Secure Society

## EMN Czech Republic National Conference

**Date:** 23 October 2025, 09:00 – 15:45

**Venue:** Grandium Hotel Prague

**Language:** CZ/EN

**Form:** in person

## RATIONALE AND AIMS

The EU is undergoing rapid developments in the area of migration and therefore, changes in approach are also taking place in the field of integration. Topics such as a sense of security, the need for a stronger coordination structure, the role of the host society, and integration not only as an option but also as a more firmly grasped objective are coming to the fore. In these turbulent times, the introduction of a basic conceptual material on integration in the Czech Republic is being considered. Within this framework, it will be necessary not only to reflect on the history of integration in the Czech Republic, which began a quarter of a century ago with the adoption of the first Concept for the Integration of Immigrants in 2000, but above all to define a new long-term vision and roles of actors. The conference, supported by exchange of international experience and views, should be a major contribution to this.

## DRAFT AGENDA (as of 26 June 2025)

Thursday, 23 October 2025	
<b>09:00 – 09:30</b>	<b>Registration of participants, morning coffee</b>
Moderator of the conference: Ms Kateřina Kopečná	
<b>09:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Welcoming remarks and opening of the conference</b> Mr Jan Paďourek, Director of the Section of Internal Security and Police Education of the Ministry of the Interior, Czech Republic

<b>10:00 – 10:30</b>	<p><b>Keynote speech</b></p> <p>Mr Vít Novotný, Senior Research Officer, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies</p>
<b>10:30 – 10:50</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>10:50 – 12:20</b>	<p><b>Approaches and forthcoming changes to integration policies in the EU</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr Tomáš Urubek, Ministry of the Interior, Czech Republic</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Martin Hofmann, Principal Advisor, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)</li> <li>• Ms Meghan Benton, Director of Global Programs, Migration Policy Institute (MPI)</li> <li>• Ms Minna Säävälä, Chief Specialist, Unit of Labour Migration and Integration, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, Finland</li> <li>• Ms Marianne Höhl, Head of Department for Integration Coordination, Federal Chancellery, Austria</li> <li>• Mr Vincent Catot, Directorate-General Migration &amp; Home Affairs, C2: Legal pathways and Integration, European Commission</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
<b>12:20 – 13:20</b>	<b>Lunch break</b>
<b>13:20 – 13:50</b>	<p><b>Integration policy of the Czech Republic - evaluation of current practice</b></p> <p>Ms Anna Lukešová, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Czech Republic</p>
<b>13:50 – 15:35</b>	<p><b>Integration of foreign nationals in the Czech Republic - directions, priorities, challenges</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Mr Jan Kepka, Ministry of the Interior, Czech Republic</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Jelena Silajdžić, Founder and Director of Slovo 21, Czech Republic</li> <li>• Ms Andrea Krchová, Director of Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organizations, Czech Republic</li> <li>• Mr Jiří Vesecký, Head of the Department of Centres for the Support of the Integration of Foreigners, Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of the Interior, Czech Republic</li> <li>• Ms Alena Krejčí, Director of the Centre for Foreigners of the South Moravian Region, Czech Republic</li> <li>• Mr Petr Syrový, Head of Unit, Department of Social Care, Unit for Prevention and Development of Social Services, Prague 13 City District Office, Czech Republic</li> <li>• Ms Pavla Novotná, Director of the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of the Interior, Czech Republic</li> </ul>

	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>15:35 – 15:45</b>	<b>Concluding remarks</b> Ms Pavla Novotná, Director of the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of the Interior, Czech Republic