

Czech Republic- An analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the field of ageing policy, an important input for the design of the goals and measures of the National Action Plan of Ageing.

Strengths • Persistent stable intergenerational cohesion among family members. • Increasing the net annual income of pensioner households and strengthening the financial stability of senior households. • The number of informal caregivers suggests an annual increase. • The number of care-service clients has seen a year-on-year increase. • The labour force participation rate of seniors increases significantly with the level of educational attainment. • Increasing proportion of the population active in sport. • Adoption of the definition of EAN by the Committee on the Rights of Older People of the Government Council for Human Rights. • Regulated interdisciplinary and inter-ministerial cooperation on the theme of ageing. • Flexible forms of work and part-time work are still in short supply.

Weaknesses • Uncertainty surrounding the retirement date. • A significant fertility decline in 2022 and uncertainty about future developments • Single- and two-person households made up the highest share of the total number of households in 2022 (32.1%), while in the case of households of pensioners, this was single-person households (an increase to 52.9%). • Watching television accounts for approximately 40% of the leisure time of seniors over 65, while spending time with family and friends accounts for about 10% of their total leisure time • The increasing number of solitary seniors due to family breakdowns.

Opportunities • Involving seniors in society and the community. • The heterogeneity of the elderly population. • The chance to apply long-term experience and knowledge to grow human capital in companies. • In 2022, life expectancy at birth was again 82.0 years for women and 76.1 years for men. • Improving the health of the elderly. • Creating the conditions for active life in the local community by adapting infrastructure. Civic engagement and volunteerism of seniors by the State. • Promoting fertility and family stability, e.g. through public services, strategic materials, etc. • The vast majority of people prefer to stay in their home environment as long as possible. • Increasing the accessibility of services also in rural and remote areas. • Learning from best practices both locally and internationally.

Threats • The increasing proportion of older people in the population - In 2022, more than 20% of the population was in the 65+ age group, while by 2025 this could reach 21.3% and by 2050 29% (almost one in three). • Ever-changing skills requirements. • Increasing uncertainties associated with new megatrends. • The changing age structure of society and its impact on its organisation and life in it (the shift and repetition of some phases). • The lack of resilience of young people to overcome common life obstacles such as underperformance, illness and other restrictions. The gap between the average pensions of men and women increased to about 18% in 2022. • The risk of poverty for people whose main source of income is an old-age pension increased to 16.7% in 2022. • The lack of suitable and affordable housing for the elderly. • Declining social and health spending - In 2019, social and health spending was about 18% of GDP, while in 2021 it was 13%.