The Czech Citizen Parliament's Resolutions about *Community Media*

A MeDeMAP Project

What are Community Media?

Community media "are media to which members of the community have access, for information, education, entertainment, when they want access. They are media in which the community participates, as planners, producers, performers. They are the means of expression of the community, rather than for the community (Frances J. Berrigan, in Community Communications: The Role of Community Media in Development, UNESCO Reports and Papers on Mass Communication no. 90, 1979, p. 8).

How did the Czech Citizen Parliament on Media and Democracy work?

Organized as part of the EU MeDeMAP Project

20 ordinary citizens from across the Czech Republic volunteered

4 meetings held in Prague, Brno, and Olomouc (March–May 2025)

Focused on three key areas: media systems, media representation, and media participation

Combined expert inputs and facilitated group discussions, concluded by voting resolutions

31 resolutions, addressing the media's role in strengthening Czech democracy, were accepted

Resolutions include a focus on strengthening media education and lifelong learning opportunities, as well as enhancing public engagement and awareness, but also on community media, pluralism, inclusivity, and better conditions for journalists

The Czech CP's Five Resolutions on Community Media

Make community media sustainable

- Provide subsidies for local, regional & community media (MP-R4)

- Create grant programmes to support media projects from regions, minority groups and people with insufficient representation in the media (MR-R4)

- Establish a legal framework for financing independent, regional & community media (MS-R3)

Protect community media from political influence

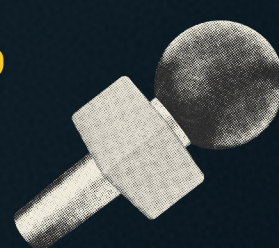- Prevent the use of advertising by local/regional government media to protect independent local media (MP-R6)

- Facilitate professional knowledge sharing in regional and community media (MP-R1)

Build skills in the community

Each code refers to one of the three focus areas of the Citizen Parliament: Media Systems (MS), Media Representation (MR), and Media Participation (MP). The number after each code (Rx) indicates the specific resolution within that area. The resolutions here are summarised — full versions can be accessed via the QR code below.

Which examples already exist in the Czech Republic? Who can we learn from?

Radio R (radio-r.cz) – Masaryk University's community radio in Brno, operating since 2008. Open to all volunteers and covering diverse topics.

Romea (romea.cz) – A Romani media outlet established in 2002, promoting human rights and combating racism to improve coexistence between Romani and Czech people.

Radio Punctum (radiopunctum.cz) – A DIY, ad-free community radio launched in 2015, supporting diverse local music and talk shows by enthusiasts and volunteers.

Romano Hangos (romano-hangos.cz) – A Romani print and online periodical founded in 1999, informing, educating, and giving voice to Czechia's largest minority.

Why do these resolutions matter?

The resolutions show the support for stronger, more diverse community media across the Czech Republic.

The resolutions also demonstrate that the Citizen Parliament advocates for financial support to generate a sustainable community media sector, and the creation of legal framework to protect this sector.

Read the full Resolutions Report

Read more about the Horizon Europe MeDeMAP project