#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

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## Charles University in Prague

Charles University, founded in 1348, is the oldest university in Central Europe



## System of education

- historically two-track system, now multi-track system
- right to basic education free of charge



#### Act on Education

- content of education must comply with
  The Frame Educational Programmes
- The Frame Educational Programme for Basic Education = national document (both mainstream and special education), basis for compiling the "school curricula"

#### Basic schools

- nine years of compulsory education, which is divided into two levels:
- 1. First level (year 1-5) corresponds to the primary level
- 2. Second level (year 6-9) corresponds to the

lower secondary level



## Upper secondary education

- students attending upper secondary schools are generally aged 15 to 19 years
- starting age of study is set by the completion of compulsory education

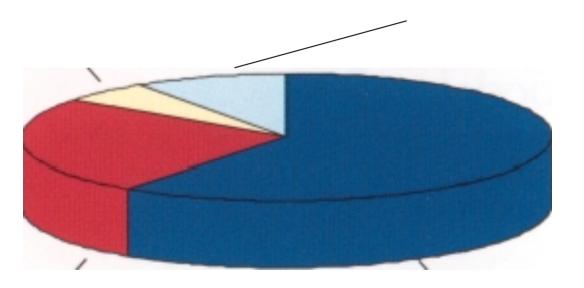
#### Secondary schools

- Secondary Grammar/ General Schools
- Secondary Specialized/ Technical Schools
- Secondary Vocational Schools

## Participation rates for 15-19 year-olds in upper secondary education

Special secondary education - 5 %

Do not continue – 9 %



Secondary education without a "school leaving exam" - 25%

Secondary education with a "school leaving exam" – 61%

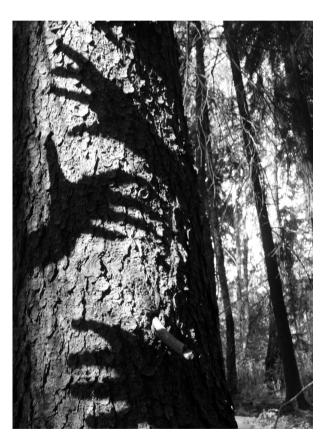
#### **Higher Specialized Schools**

- □ 3 or 4 years of study
- provide a specialized qualification for performing medium-level and higher-level functions in workplaces
- do not provide its graduates with Bachelor's degrees

#### **TERTIARY EDUCATION after 1989**

- revival of academic freedoms
- the introduction of two grades of tertiary study:
  - the lower grade towards a Bachelor's degree
  - the higher grade towards a Master's degree

#### Main barriers for inclusive education



- the belief of mainstream teachers that including children with special needs into a mainstream class will cause a distraction to other students
- lack of systematic in-service training for teaching pupils with special and diverse needs
- prejudice of participants of educational process (school management, parents, counselling professionals, teachers) towards heterogeneity in the classrooms

# Main opportunities for inclusive education

- The main priorities are: social cohesion, life skills, multicultural diversity, school for all, curricula adaptation, mainstream education of Roma pupils.
- The National Action Plan of Inclusive Education has been approved by the Czech government in March 2010.