



## **Most effective instruments of family support policy in the Czech Republic**

International Forum “Time for Children! Towards a Family  
Friendly Society!”

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## Demographic situation in the Czech Republic

VARIABLE	VALUE
Fertility rate	1.63 (rising trend since 2011)
Average age of women at birth of first child	28.2
Share of live births outside marriage	48.6 % (rising trend)
Employment rate of women with children younger than 6	45.2 %
Households with 1 child (percentage of households with children)	49 %
Households with 2 children (percentage of households with children)	41 %
Households with 3 and more children (percentage of households with children)	10 %
Gender pay gap	21.8 %
Percentage of women working part-time	9.2 %

## Czech Family Policy in International Comparison

VARIABLE	CZ	COMPARISON
Spending on family policy	2.5 % GDP	Corresponds to the OECD average
Tax deductions	0.86 % GDP	Second highest among OECD countries
Cash benefits	1.1 % GDP	Corresponds to the OECD average
Services	0.55 % GDP	Below average of OECD (0.95 % GDP)

# Family policy instruments I.

- **Family Policy Strategy**
  - approved by government in September 2017
  - the previous is from 2008
  - family policy as a government priority since 2014
  - contains several concrete family support measures
  - the main idea is to allow parents to choose
- **Cash benefits**
  - **Adjustment of parental allowance**
    - since January 2018
    - total amount 9 500 € → possibility to draw faster in higher monthly amount (70 % of previous income)
    - encourage men to take parental leave and draw parental allowance → fear of losing family income is one of the biggest barriers
  - **The post-child-bearing parental care**
    - since February 2018
    - cash benefit for fathers - 1 week during the puerperium, 70 % of previous income

## Family policy instruments II.

- **Child care services**
  - **Children's groups**
    - law approved in 2014, nowadays over 750 with 10 000 places
    - 1 – 6 years, non-profit basis, 1 carer for 6 children
    - providers: municipalities, NGO's, universities, employers
    - easily founded and more flexible than Kindergarten
    - systemic project to support the providers
    - funding from ESF → preparation of national funding
    - 3 children's groups at our ministry
  - **Micro-nurseries**
    - pilot systemic project → preparation of law
    - 6 months – 4 years, 1 carer and max 4 children
    - providers: NGO's, municipalities
    - funding from ESF → preparation of national funding
  - **Kindergartens**
    - since September 2018 guaranteed places for all children older than 3
- **Tax deductions**
  - significant increase of tax deductions for children

# Plans and summary

- **Plans**
  - national funding of children's groups and micro-nurseries
  - job sharing
  - motivational bonus for alternating
  
- **Summary**
  - family policy as a government priority since 2014
  - Family Policy Strategy - to allow parents to choose
  - support and development of public services



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