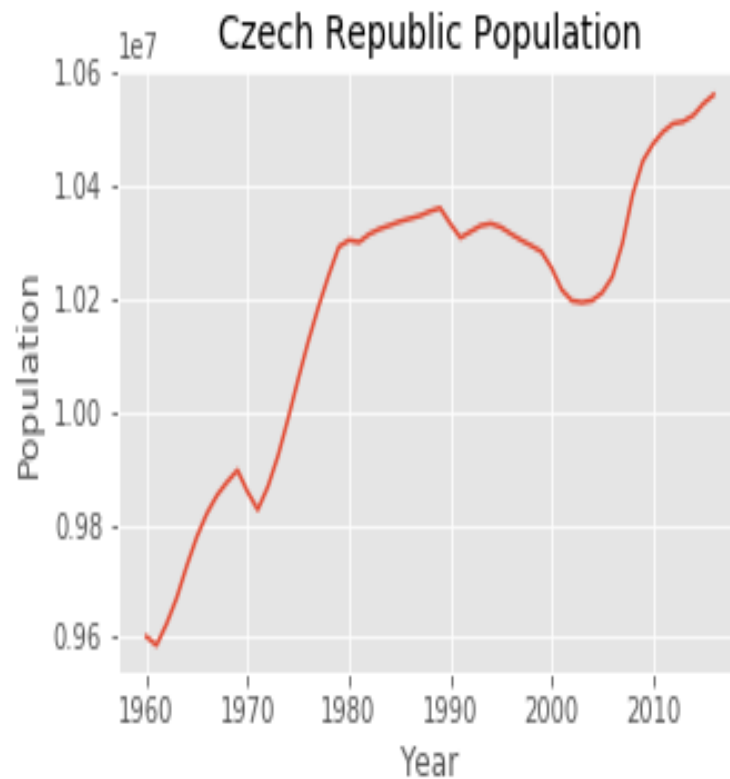


Czech Republic



– in Europe (green & dark grey) – in the European Union (green) – [Legend]

The Czech Republic (/tʃɛk rɪˈpʌblɪk/ (listen) Czech: Česká republika, Czech pronunciation: [tʃɛskaˈrɛpuˌblɪka] (listen)), also known as Czechia (/tʃɛki/ (listen); Czech: Česko, pronounced [tʃɛsko] (listen)), is a landlocked nation state in Central Europe bordered by Germany to the west, Austria to the south, Slovakia to the east and Poland to the northeast. The Czech Republic covers an area of 78,866 square kilometres (30,450 sq mi) with a mostly temperate continental climate and oceanic climate. It is a unitary parliamentary republic, has 10.6 million inhabitants and the capital and largest city is Prague, with over 1.2 million residents. The Czech Republic is a member of the European Union (EU), NATO, the OECD, the United Nations, the OSCE, and the Council of Europe. It is a developed country with an advanced, high income export-oriented social market economy based on services, manufacturing and innovation. The UNDP ranks the country 14th in inequality-adjusted human development. The Czech Republic is a welfare state with a "continental" European social model, a universal health care system and tuition-free university education. It ranks as the 6th safest or most peaceful country and is one of the most non-religious countries in the world, while achieving strong performance in democratic governance.