



ombudsman

Public Defender of Rights

**DOES THE CZECH
REPUBLIC RESPECT
THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES?**

SUMMARY OF THE
DEFENDER'S RESEARCH
2025



[Press release and
the complete research](#)



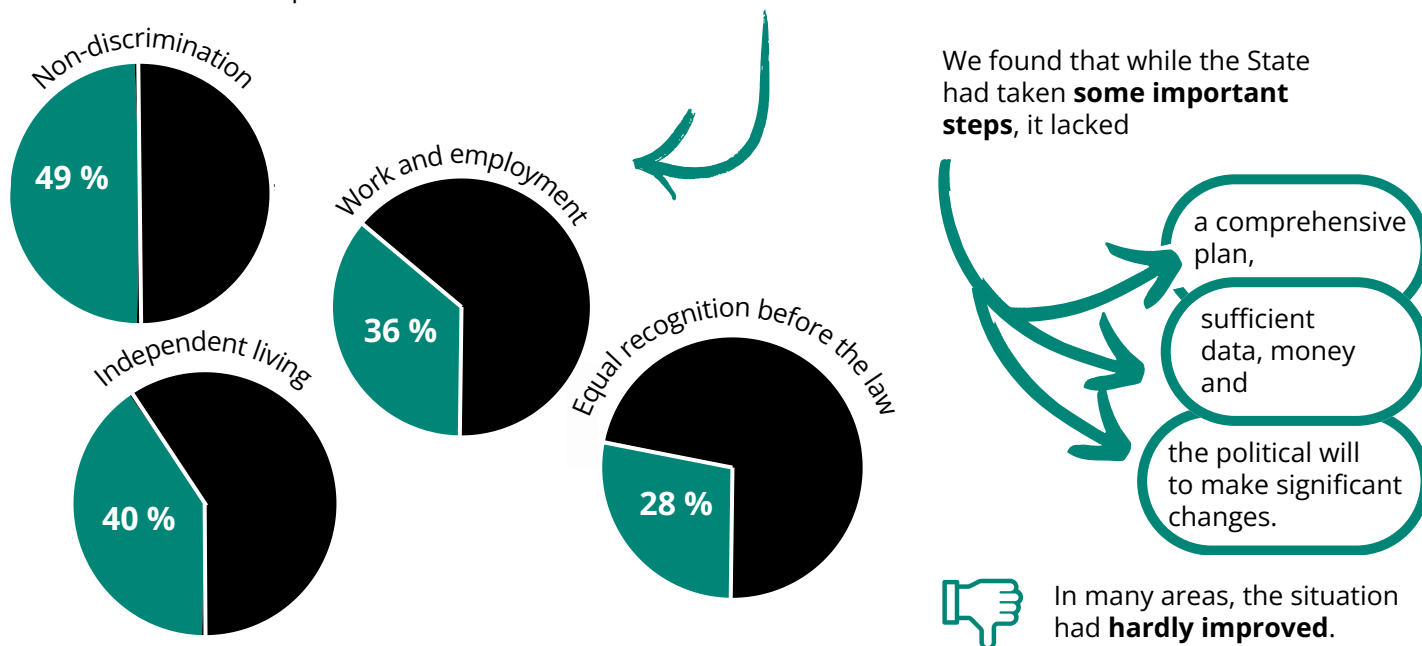
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What did we find out?

In none of the areas examined does the State reach even half of the possible score.

The overall average score attained by the State is only **38 %**.

The level of compliance with the Convention varies across different areas:



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What do we recommend to the State?

- Adopt an ambitious government strategy for the rights of people with disabilities for 2026-2030
- Ensure that no one is discriminated against due to disability
- Develop support measures (assistance, representation by a household member) instead of restricting legal capacity
- Provide support and care services in places where people with disabilities want to live (outside large institutions or hospitals)
- Better support the employment of people with disabilities on the regular labour market
- Collect and publish reliable data on the situation of people with disabilities

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What we examined and how?

The four areas identified above were selected as they are of fundamental importance to the lives of persons with disabilities.

Using **human rights indicators**, we scored each area as a percentage.

100 % means that the State fulfils all its obligations. The lower the number, the more room for improvement for the State and vice versa.

We asked specific questions in each area:

- What can we find in the Convention and Czech regulations?
- What do the State and its authorities really do?
- How does this affect the lives of people with disabilities?



Not sure what the individual articles of the Convention contain? No problem. Take a look at the Convention in the [English language](#).



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Why we did the research?

The Czech Republic adopted the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** in 2009. In doing so, it undertook to ensure that people with disabilities enjoy equal rights and that the State provides them with the conditions necessary for a life of dignity and freedom.

After more than 15 years, it is time to ask:

- Does the State fulfil these obligations?
- Has the situation of people with disabilities improved?

In 2018, we were tasked with monitoring the State's implementation of the Convention. To make such an evaluation fair and understandable, we used a method recommended by the UN and the European Union: **human rights indicators**.



What is a human rights indicator?

Specific data or information that helps to determine how **human rights are respected** in practice.

For example:

- Whether we have good laws to combat violence against people with disabilities;
- How many authorities are located in accessible buildings; and
- How many people with disabilities live outside the walls of residential institutions or psychiatric hospitals.

The indicators make it possible to monitor, over time, not only **achievements**, but also areas where **the protection of the rights** of individuals and groups needs to be **strengthened**.

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What next?

We **share** the results with the public, government institutions and international organisations, including the UN Committee, which oversees compliance with the Convention. The report shows that **changes benefitting the rights of people with disabilities are possible, but only if they are systematic, co-ordinated and made in the long term**.

Therefore, we will:

- **Regularly update** the evaluation of the State's performance, ideally once every 4–5 years;
- **Involve** people with disabilities and their organisations in the evaluation;
- **Extend** the use of human rights indicators **to other areas covered by the Convention** (adequate standard of living and social protection, education, accessibility of the environment and information).



We would like to hear your opinion

You can share your feedback on the research report in any way that suits you. We will use your suggestions when we carry out similar research in the future. In this way, you will contribute to strengthening the protection of human rights in the Czech Republic.

<https://www.ochrance.cz/en/kontakt/>

