



# Open Source Observatory Policy Factsheet

## Czechia

### 1 General information

The use of OSS solutions in public administrations in Czechia has increased over the last years. Through the recent reorganisation of their digital administration, the government raises the coordination possibilities among the different initiatives on digital policy. There are diverse OSS initiatives and strategic players at all levels of administration in Czechia, some of their latest projects aim at enhancing collaboration with the objective of an increased efficiency.

### 2 Actors

#### POLICY MAKERS

The Digital and Information Agency (DIA) is the Czech central administrative authority for electronic identification, trust services and public administration information systems. It was established on 1 January 2023 and will take over full competence over the administration of the basic registers, the administration of CzechPoints and the Citizen's Web Portal from the Ministry of the Interior.

#### STRATEGIC PLAYER

Otevrena mesta (Open Cities) is an association of 20 municipalities and regions which cooperate on open source solutions in order to save municipal resources and tackle common problems that public administrations face. Otevrena mesta is also a strategic partner to the Ministry of the Interior in the development and promotion of the state code repository `code.gov.cz` in the public sector.

### 3 Policy and Legal Framework

#### RIGHT TO DIGITAL SERVICES ACT (LAW NR. Č. 12/2020 SB.)

Emphasizes the expansion of digitisation and eGovernment across the public sector. The government intends to integrate an open source element into the Czech government portal in the context of this law.

#### ACT NO. 261/2021

The act entered into force on 1 February 2022, amending over 160 legal regulations to facilitate and accelerate the digital transformation of national public administration.



### 4 Open Source Software Initiatives

#### BRNO DECLARATION

Four associations have published the Brno Open Source Declaration, which lays the path for the creation of the Czech National Open Source Programme Office (OSPO). Among others, the declaration plans cooperation at national and international level. It also paves the way for collaboration with the DIA towards the use of open source in public administrations.

#### CSGOV.CZ

This project aims to facilitate the creation of a website for small municipalities and organisations to launch a simple yet flexible platform that can be expanded according to their needs and at minimal cost. Their software is open source and based on Drupal. They also develop it for Slovak local governments.

#### CITYVIZOR

CityVizor is an online visualisation platform used by 18 Czech municipalities and some city districts in Prague. The platform enables municipalities to show citizens how their money has been invested in their locality. The platform was developed as an OSS application by employees of the Ministry of Finance, maintained by Česko Digital, and it is now operated by the Open Cities association.

#### RED HAT AND THE CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

In 2017, one of the leading provider of open source software solutions, Red Hat, opened an open source laboratory at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the Czech Technical University in Prague. Engineering students have the opportunity to work in collaboration with Red Hat's engineering teams on community-based OSS projects and research.