

# Czech approach to Regulatory Impact Assessment

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# Overview of topics

- I. Milestones of RIA process in the Czech Republic
- II. Activities in RIA
- III. New model of RIA in the Czech Republic
- IV. Further steps for improvements of regulation in the Czech Republic

# Milestones of RIA in the CR

- 2000 – OECD recommendations on improvement of regulation
  - Government started to analyze ways for reduction of regulatory burden
  - Start of reform efforts
- 2004 – Government project on Regulatory Reform approved
- 2005 – Better Regulation Conference – Edinburgh
  - Further impulse for introduction of RIA to Czech legislation
  - EU RIA communication, Commission IA Guidelines
  - April 2005 – RIA approved as a part of legislative process – a pilot phase launched
- 2006 – Elaboration of principles of RIA – UK, EU inspired
- 1.11.2007 – RIA officially anchored into the legislative process
  - Practical implementation of RIA on new regulation
  - Improvements of methodology incl. administrative costs
  - Committee on review of RIA quality established at the Ministry of Interior

# Milestones of RIA in the Czech Republic

- 2008 – Evaluation of the RIA process
  - Pros and cons of the RIA process
  - Need to upgrade the RIA methods (reflecting IA evaluation in EU)
- 2011 – RIA reformed and became integral part of Government Competitiveness Strategy of the Czech Republic
  - RIA shifted from the Ministry of Interior to the Office of the Government under the Government Legislative Council Section
  - Process of RIA reformed and improved:
    - RIAB established composed of independent experts
    - Evaluation of elaborated RIA reports
    - Part of the Government Legislative Council

# Activities in RIA

- Elaboration of RIA methodology/guidelines
  - Inspired by (EU?) IA
  - First version prepared in 2005 by RIA team in the Office of the Government (later the Ministry of Interior) in collaboration with external experts incl. prof. Mejstřík
  - Second version of formal RIA rules prepared in autumn 2011 by the RIA team in the Office of the Government
- RIA tutorials
  - Over 400 state officials underwent RIA tutorials
  - 3-day course
    - 1st day principles of RIA, IA, RIA benchmark, 2nd day CBA, multicriteria and evaluation methods, 3rd day homework evaluation

# Activities in RIA

- RIA research and updates according to IA
  - Jan 2008 Conference of RIA practitioners and academic experts
  - May 2008 International conference on EU IA, reduction of administrative burden and potential implementation of new methods to Czech practice; signature of Prague Declaration on cooperation in Better Regulation and Better Business Environment
  - Research and development in RIA and IA
- Evaluation of the impacts of RIA implementation in the Czech Republic
  - Various/Numerous? rather formal RIA reports since 2007
  - Need to enhance the RIA quality review mechanisms
  - Update of evaluation methodology

# Reformed? model of RIA in the Czech Republic: 2011

- RIA shifted to the Office of the Government
  - Putting the RIA process more in the centre of the Government as such (better than in case of Ministry of Interior)
  - Better coordination throughout the legislative process as governed by the Government Legislative Council
- Application of RIA
  - To each new or amended regulation a basic „Overview of impacts“ (in the form of a template) must be submitted: In case of sizeable impacts of the proposed regulation, RIAB will ask for RIA elaboration
  - The new model decreased substantially a previous high number of exceptions from RIA elaboration: i.e. newly obligatory to all so-called „substantial intents“ of laws (1<sup>st</sup> degree Government decision about the future content of newly intended regulation)
  - Without overview of impacts and statement of the RIAB the draft regulation cannot proceed further in the legislative process and no submission to the Government approval

# New model of RIA in the Czech Republic

- RIAB
  - Established as part of the Government Legislative Council in 2011, consists of independent experts
  - Provides statements to RIA reports regarding their form, adherence to the RIA methodology and reasoning included
  - Supported by the RIA team of the Office of the Government
- International cooperation
  - Collection of best practice cases of RIA
  - Both Czech as well as foreign and EU experience
  - International cooperation with other RIA bodies and with EU IA quality review and advisory bodies



# Further steps in improvements of regulation in the Czech Republic

- Strengthening RIA education/training
  - Structured presentation of RIA on web
  - E-learning and other modern methods of education
  - Conferences and other events of experience and information sharing
- Tools and standards for impact evaluation
  - Update of RIA methodology
  - Standard and innovative evaluation tools
  - Pre-packaged assessment models
- **Corruption Impact Assessment (CIA)**
  - Introduction of tools for evaluation of risks related to corruption in legislation
- Ex post RIA

# Thank you for your attention!

## Questions? Comments?

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