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GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

# Czech Members of the European Parliament

2009 Guide

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BUDAPEST • VILNIUS • PRAGUE • BRATISLAVA • WARSAW • BUCHAREST • SOFIA • KIEV

## The 2009 European Elections in the Czech Republic

*By Václav Nekvapil and Jan Hladík*

The second Czech EP election has brought a very even result for both the right-wing coalition parties and the left-wing opposition ones. The political parties competed for 22 MEP seats, which is less by two in comparison to the number of the Czech Republic's representatives in the European Parliament in the previous term. The election took place two months after the opposition - in cooperation with a number of turncoats - had succeeded in a non-confidence vote for the centre-right government of PM Mirek Topolánek. Therefore, the sudden fall of the government was expected to reflect itself in the election in favour of the right-wing political parties as their constituency traditionally attends the EP elections in larger numbers. The EP election was also to be seen as a test of voters' sentiments ahead of the Czech early parliamentary election. The interim government of PM Fischer was to lead the country to this early election. The result of the EU parliamentary election proved the above-mentioned expectations, however, despite the Civic Democrats (ODS) won the election with 9 MEP seats, the Social Democrats (CSSD) achieved a very good result of 7 seats. In the overall outcome, the left-wing political parties - the CSSD and the Communist party (KSCM), which gained 4 mandates, have reached the even number of the parliamentary seats like the right-wing political spectrum of the ODS and the Christian Democrats (KDU-CSL) with 2 mandates.

The election campaign was characterized on one side by an aggressive style of the CSSD Head Jirí Paroubek, and on the other, by the frustration of right-wing voters over the fall of the government during the Czech EU Presidency. This frustration led to frequent assaults against CSSD's top representatives when egg throwing was involved during their pre-election rallies. The egg attacks and unprecedented aggression by supporters of the right-wing political parties against the leftists in general and CSSD Head Jirí Paroubek in particular have become the most characteristic features of the election campaign.

As to the themes of the pre-election discourse, the domestic political issues predominated. This occurred also due to the fact that the political parties considered the EU parliamentary election campaign as a preparation for the upcoming Czech early parliamentary election, which were to take place in 4 months (however, later postponed until 2010). At the time when the country began feeling the impacts of the economic crisis, when the export declined, the unemployment rate increased and the income to the state budget slumped, the economic themes came to the forefront of the interest of all the political parties.

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The discussion about the Lisbon Treaty returned mainly in connection with the controversial issue of the state sovereignty; accession to the eurozone and of course, the assessment of the performance during the Czech EU Presidency.

The election results led to the elimination of independents, liberals and other small political parties, which had not been well established on the Czech political scene. The liberal movement SNK-European Democrats, which was represented by Czech MEP and former Czech foreign minister Josef Zieleniec and diplomat Jana Hybášková has fallen short of their expectations in the election. Candidates of the populist, nationalistic and anti-German movement the Sovereignty led by Jana Bobošíková, who had been elected as a Czech MEP in the 2004 elections on the ticket of the movement of the Independents, neither won a single mandate. The Green party also ended up without a seat in the EP. Previously, the Green party had won in the Czech parliamentary election in 2006 for the first time and it became a member of the ruling coalition in the subsequent years of 2006 to 2009. Paradoxically, its participation in the government and compromises it had to accept, eventually led to a dilution of its electoral potential. It did not succeed in the election also despite its strongly pro-EU oriented constituency.

The EP elections in the Czech Republic are held in one election district, which is in favour of small parties or those that have a strong electoral base in a few regions only. This mechanism has been proved valid in the case of the Christian Democrats' (KDU-CSL) election success. The party traditionally has an over-proportional representation in the South Moravian, Olomouc, Pardubice and Zlín regions and despite a lower gain of 7.65 % of votes compared to 9.57 % of votes in the last election, the KDU-CSL has preserved two MEP seats. The Christian Democrats have undergone a reform period, in which they changed from a nation-wide party to a party for the religious Moravian and Eastern Bohemian regions. The trend was seen in its performance in the parliamentary election in 2010, when the party was replaced by the right-wing pro-reformist party TOP 09 in the Chamber of Deputies as a result of the secession of one part of the Christian Democratic party.

The EP election results marked the biggest gain of votes for the Social Democrats (CSSD), whose number of MEPs increased from original 2 to 7 mandates. In comparison to 2004, more than a double number of constituents supported the CSSD in the election (an increase from 204 000 to 528 000 of voters). This came despite traditional indifference of leftist voters towards the European affairs. The fact that in 2004 the CSSD had been a ruling party for a period of six years, whereas now, the Social Democrats are in the opposition played the key role. In addition, CSSD Head Paroubek succeeded in raising the election turnout by attracting otherwise indifferent voters of the leftist parties to participate in the election and thus express their disagreement with the right-wing politics.

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The Communists (KSCM) represent one of the parties that came out of the election with a loss of a significant number of votes in comparison with the last election. Unlike other European parties of the ultra-left-wing, the KSCM projects itself as a strongly nationalistic and EU-sceptic party emphasizing the anti-German sentiment. The party had lost almost a third of its constituents from the surprising 20.26 % of votes in 2004 down to the current 14.18 %, which corresponds with the gains of the KSCM on the national level. However, as the EU-sceptic discourse in the Czech environment has been legitimised in particular by President Václav Klaus and a part of the Civic Democrats (ODS) affected by president's opinions, the ODS succeeded in attracting constructively thinking voters, who feared the loss of the national sovereignty. Radical voters with a strong anti-German sentiment, who feared possible property and land reclaims by the so called Sudeten German Homeland Association (The Sudetendeutsche Landsmannschaft) voted in this election in favour of the Sovereignty party. However, with the result of 4.26 % of votes (election threshold in the Czech Republic is 5 %) the party did not gain any seats in the EP. (Association's Head Bernd Posselt is an MEP elected on the German CSU ticket.)

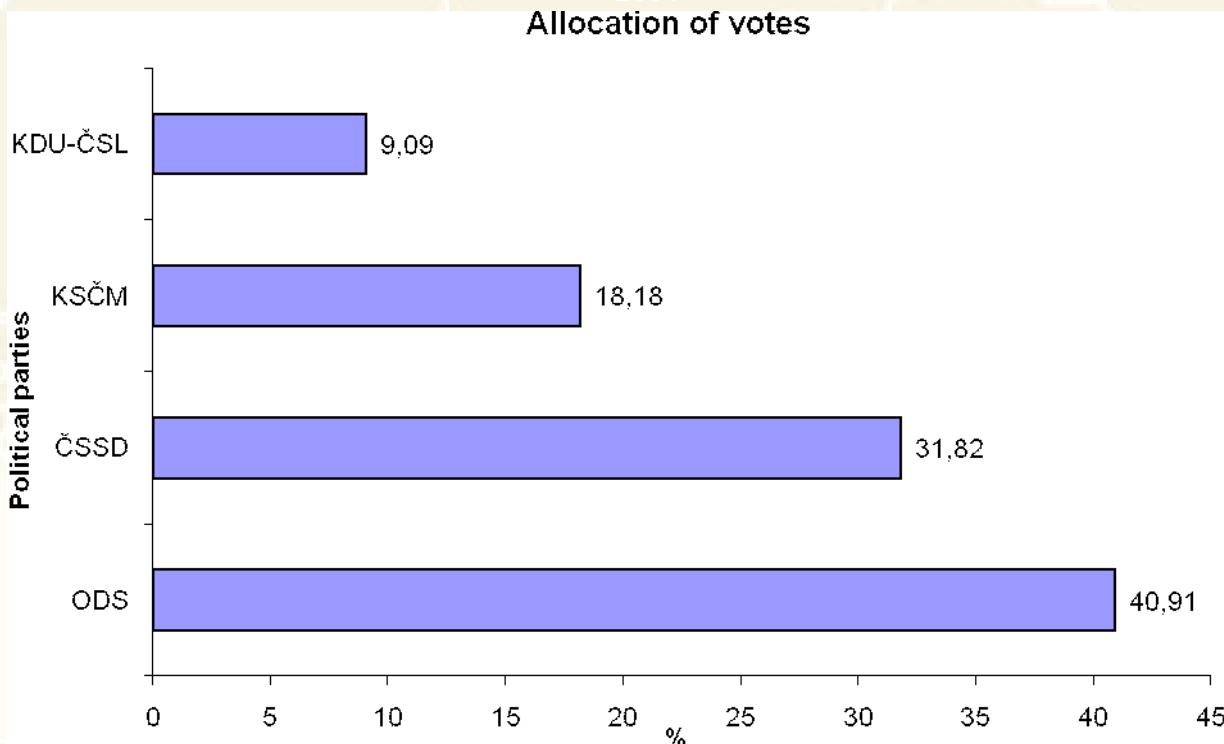
The ODS had announced already before the election that in the newly elected EP, it will abandon its existing position within the European People's Party – European Democrats (EPP-ED) as it considers the fraction to be too federalist. The ODS had further announced that it will establish a new fraction of the European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR) in cooperation with the UK Conservatives and the Polish Law and Justice Party (PiS). The new fraction was established in 2009 and joined by representatives of 9 other small parties. The ECR has become the fourth largest fraction of the EP with 56 members and it is currently led by Chairman and Czech MEP Jan Zahradil (he replaced Michal Kaminský from the PiS after his resignation). The establishment of the new fraction has met ODS' demands calling for more transparent political profiles of the parties within the EP. However, ODS' MEPs were no longer members of the strongest group in the EP and their possibilities and capacities to influence the decision-making processes have declined markedly.

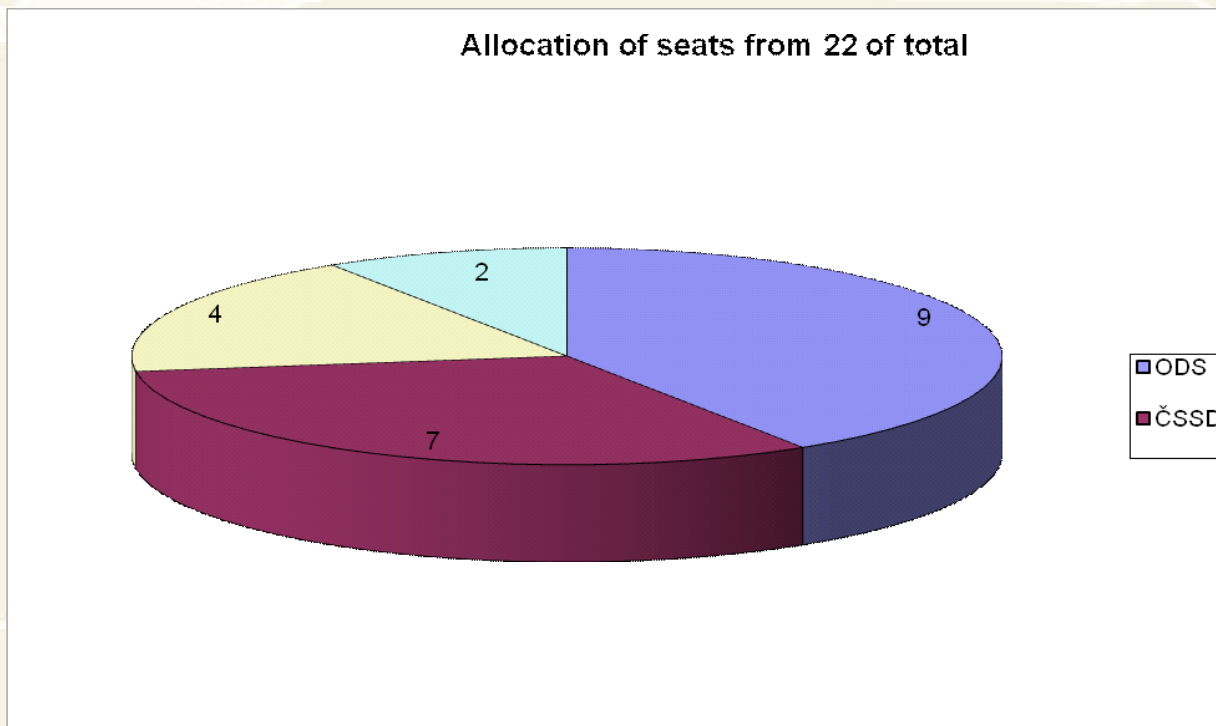
The political parties' internal disputes over the election had been ongoing since the beginning of 2009. The parties' members fought over the question of who will be nominated for the first two to six elective positions on their individual election tickets (according to the size of the parties) and what will be each party's approach to the central financing of the election campaign. It was obvious that not all of the 14 Czech regions will be able to elect its MEP due to the small number of seats available. Therefore some candidates in particular from the ODS (Cabrnock, Vlasák, Cešková, Kožušník) and from the KDU-CSL (Roithová, Brezina) opted for individual and financially and thematically independent election campaigns in the regions.

There were 14 incumbents out of 22 Czech MEPs, who had been re-elected. To a big extent, the Czech EP mandates went to successful municipal politicians (Evžen Tošenovský, Jan Brezina, Oldrich Vlasák), doctors (Milan Cabrnock, Zuzana Roithová, Miroslav Ouzký, Olga Sehnalová, Jirí Maštálka), former advisors and spokespersons of politicians and the Czech government (Ivo Strejcek, Libor Roucek), politicians acting as long-term committed ideologues of the parties (Hynek Fajmon, Richard Falbr, Edvard Kožušník, Miroslav Ransdorf, Jan Zahradil), but also for instance first Czechoslovak astronaut Vladimír Remek on the Communist party's ticket.

The election turnout of 28.22% indicated that the turnout did not drop surprisingly and it even increased in the absolute numbers compared to the previous election. However, the turnout of 2 371 009 voters in the election is evidently lower than the turnout of 5 263 822 of voters in the Czech parliamentary election in 2010. In comparison to 2004, the percentage of the so called "lost votes"- i.e. the votes for those political parties that did not reach the election threshold of 5 % – increased markedly from 12.5 % to 25 %. This fact is making the advantages of a single electoral district for small parties rather relative as these small political parties rely much more on being able to reach the low threshold and therefore they are not motivated to create coalitions. The votes are easier diluted among many small parties and none of those reach the 5 % threshold for entering the parliament.

2009  
2004  
**Allocation of votes**





ODS: 9; ČSSD: 7, KSCM: 4, KDU-CSL: 2  
Geographical Distribution of the Vote  
(source: <http://volny.idnes.cz>)



blue: ODS majority  
orange: ČSSD majority

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## Civic Democratic Party (ODS) MEPs



## Milan Cabrnach

**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Deputy Minister of Health (1998)*
- *Member of Kolín City Council (1998-2004, and since 2006)*
- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic for ODS (1998-2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Chairman of the Health Care Committee of the Central Bohemia Regional Council (2004-2008)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Interdepartmental Coordination Committee for promoting the implementation of Health in the Czech Republic*
- *Chairman of the Board of the IZIP project (internet access to patient healthcare information), co-author of the IZIP project*

**born:**

6. 8. 1962

Čáslav, CZ

**Profession:**

physician

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Paediatric Medicine, Charles University, Prague (1980-1986); first and second level postgraduate diplomas in paediatrics (1989, 1993)*



## Andrea Češková

**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Councillor, Prague 5 metropolitan district (1998-2009)*

**Education:**

- *Law faculty, Charles University, Prague*

**born:**

18. 10. 1981

Prague, CZ

**Profession:**

lawyer



## Hynek Fajmon



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Advisor for NATO affairs to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (1994-1995)*
- *Director of the Department of Security Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1995-1996)*
- *Advisor for NATO affairs to the Minister of Defence (1997-1998)*
- *Mayor of Lysá nad Labem (1998-2001)*
- *Member of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (2001-2004)*
- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Civic Democratic Party election manager (1991-1992)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague, Master in History (1986-1992); Diplomatic Academy Vienna, special courses for diplomats (1992-1993); London School of Economics, research student in the subject of Modern British Politics (1993-1994)*

**born:**

17. 5. 1968  
Nymburk, CZ

**Profession:**

Politician



## Edvard Kožušník



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Adviser of deputy chairman of the Czech Senate (2003 – 2004)*
- *Head of Cabinet of the Chairman of the Czech Senate Premysl Sobotka (2004 – 2010)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Marketing manager of export for CzechTrade*
- *Chairman of civil association eStat (platform for efficient state)*

**Education:**

- *High school*

**born:**

17. 5. 1968  
Nymburk, CZ

**Profession:**

Politician



## Miroslav Ouzký



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998-2004)*
- *Chairman of Ústí nad Labem's regional association of the ODS (Civic Democratic Party) (2000-2004)*
- *Head of the Permanent Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (2002-2004)*
- *Observer at the European Parliament (2003-2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Surgeon (1983-1990)*
- *Head physician, Department of Physiotherapy (1989-1991)*
- *Physician, private health care centre (since 2004)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Medicine, Charles University, Prague, 1983*



**born:**

18. 8. 1958  
Chlumec nad  
Cidlinou, CZ

**Profession:**

physician



## Ivo Strejcek



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Adviser to the Vice-Chair of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (2002-2004)*
- *Member of Žďár nad Sázavou City Council (1998-2009)*
- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Teacher of English (1986-1996, 2002-2004)*
- *Spokesperson of the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic (1996-1997)*
- *Owner of a small business (1998-2000)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Pedagogics, J.E. Purkyne University, Brno (1985); Faculty of Pedagogics, Masaryk University, Brno (1994)*



**born:**

11. 1. 1962  
Nové Mesto na  
Morave, CZ

**Profession:**

teacher



## Evžen Tošenovský



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Mayor of Ostrava (1993-2000)*
- *President of the Moravian-Silesian Region (2000-2008)*
- *President of the Association of Regions of the Czech Republic (2001-2008)*
- *Member of the Bureau of the Committee of the Regions (2003-2008)*
- *European Parliament member (since 2009)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Mathematical analyst (1975-1991)*
- *PIKE Electronic, mathematical analyst (1991-1993)*
- *Vítkovice, a.s., adviser to the CEO (2008-2009)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Economics, VSB-Technical University Ostrava, systems engineering (1981)*

**born:**

26. 2. 1956  
Ostrava, CZ

**Profession:**

teacher



## Oldrich Vlasák



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)*

**Political Career:**

- *Mayor of Hradec Králové (1998-2004)*
- *Vice-President of the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic, responsible for foreign cooperation (2000)*
- *President of the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic (since 2001)*
- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Volunteer member of the mountain rescue service (1980-1996)*
- *Researcher at the Food and Refrigeration Technology Research Institute and at Kovoprojekta Praha (to 1989)*
- *Managing Director of Bohemian Waste Management (1989-1993)*
- *Director of East Bohemian Airport (1993-1998)*

**Education:**

- *VSB-Technical University Ostrava (1980)*

**born:**

26. 11. 1955  
Hradec Králové,  
CZ

**Profession:**

engineer, publisher



## Jan Zahradil



**European Parliament Grouping:** *European Conservatives and Reformists (Chair)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly, foreign policy adviser to the Prime Minister (1990-1992)*
- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998-2004)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Committee for European Integration of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1999)*
- *Representative of the Czech Republic at the Convention on the Future of Europe (2002)*
- *Head of the Czech national delegation in the EPP-ED Group (2004-2009)*

**born:**

20. 3. 1963  
Praha, CZ

**Profession:**

politician

**Professional experiences:**

- *Research fellow (1988-1992)*

**Education:**

- *Institute of Chemical Technology, Prague (1987)*

## Social Democratic Party (CSSD) MEPs



## Zuzana Brzobohatá



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of Tišnov City Council (since 2002)*
- *Deputy Mayor of Tišnov (2006-2008)*
- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (2008- 2009)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Planner and programmer in the traffic management sector; maternity leave (1985-1990)*
- *IT specialist with Tišnov municipal authority (1990-1995)*
- *Teacher, Faculty of Civil Engineering VUT (1999)*
- *Head of office of the Minister of Finance (2002-2006)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Electrical Engineering, VUT (Brno University of Technology) - computer studies (1985); postgraduate study - computer networks - Mechanical Engineering Faculty, VUT (1996)*

**born:**

11. 7. 1962  
Brno, CZ

**Profession:**

IT specialist



S&amp;D

## Robert Dušek



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of city Council in Liberec (2002-2006)*
- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (2006 - 2009)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Diamo s.p., Stráž pod Ralskem – chief secretary of trade department (1999 – 2000)*
- *Elmarco s.r.o., Liberec – commercial manager (2000 – 2001)*
- *Brano-Ateso a.s., Jablonec n. Nis. – head of strategic buying (2001 -2002)*
- *Jablon s.r.o., Liberec – commercial director (2002 – 2003)*
- *Diamo s.p., Stráž pod Ralskem - manager – representative for EU funds (2004 – 2006)*

**Education:**

- *Economic grammar school, Jablonec nad Nisou (1985)*

**born:**

14. 3. 1967  
Lanškroun, CZ

**Profession:**

manager



S&amp;D

## Richard Falbr



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *Senator (1996-2004)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998-2002)*
- *Member of the Standing Senate Commission on the Constitution of the Czech Republic (2002-2004)*
- *Observer at the European Parliament (2003-2004)*
- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Chairman of the Czech-Moravian Confederation of the Trade Unions (1994-2002)*
- *Member of the administration of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (1992-2002)*
- *Member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (1993-2002)*
- *Member of the administration of the Trade Union European Confederation (1995-2002)*

**Education:**

- *Law Faculty of Charles University, Prague (1969)*

**born:**

29. 9. 1940  
Chester, GB

**Profession:**

lawyer



## Jirí Havel



**born:**  
20. 8. 1957  
Praha, CZ

**Profession:**  
economist

**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *Adviser to Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Prime Minister of the Czech Republic (1998-2006)*
- *Adviser to the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (since 2006)*
- *CSSD "Shadow Minister" of Education (since 2006)*
- *Member of the Bureau of the Party of European Socialists (since 2007)*
- *Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Economy (2006)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *University lecturer, Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Prague (since 1992)*
- *Vice-Chair of the Czech Economic Society (2001-2004)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Prague (Economics) (1997), Ph.D., University of Economics, Prague (1991);*



## Pavel Poc



**born:**  
26. 5. 1964  
Havlíčkův Brod,  
CZ

**Profession:**  
ecologist, scientist

**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *First Deputy Mayor of Mariánské Lázně (1998-2002)*
- *CSSD, Chairman of the Regional Committee of the Karlovy Vary Region (since 2005)*

**Professional experiences:**

*Mariánské Lázně municipal authority – municipal ecologist (1992); from 1993, head of the environmental department*

- *Member of the Board of Directors of CHEVAK a.s., member of the supervisory board of Parking Centrum a.s., Mariánské Lázně (1998-2002)*
- *Commercial director, executive director and partner, Zahradní a parková spol. s r.o. (2003-2009)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Science, Charles University, Prague - final state examination in general biology (1988); doctorate in natural science in the field of general biology (1988). Environmental law - Faculty of Law, Charles University, Prague (1994-1995). Master of Public Administration - University of Economics, Prague and EHSAL Management School Brussels (1996).*



## Libor Roucek

S&amp;D



**born:**

4. 9. 1954  
Kladno, CZ

**Profession:**

journalist,  
politician

**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (2002-2004)*
- *Vice-Chair of the Committee for European Integration; Vice-Chair of the Committee for Foreign Affairs; Vice-Chair of the CSSD fraction (2002-2004)*
- *Head of the CSSD delegation to the European Parliament (2004-2009)*
- *Chair of the Union of European Federalists in the Czech Republic (since 2005)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Editor with Voice of America in Washington (1988-1991)*
- *Researcher at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London (1991-1992)*
- *Czech Government spokesman (1998-2002)*

**Education:**

- *University of Vienna - political science and sociology (doctorate in international relations) (1978-1984); Intern at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington (1987)*



## Olga Sehnalová

S&amp;D



**born:**

25. 10. 1968  
Kromeríž, CZ

**Profession:**

physician

**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (PES)*

**Political Career:**

- *Deputy Mayor of Kromeríž (since 1998)*
- *Member of the EU communication strategy committee in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic (2000-2001)*
- *Chair of the National Network of Healthy Cities in the Czech Republic (2003-2004)*
- *Member of the Government Council for Sustainable Development (2003-2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Physician – anaesthesiology and intensive care department, Kromeríž Hospital (since 1995)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of Medicine, Masaryk University, Brno - general medicine (1987-1995); postgraduate diploma, 1st level, in anaesthesiology and intensive care (1998); specialised qualification in anaesthesiology and intensive care (2008). Brno Business School – Master of Business Administration (2003-2005).*



## Jaromír Kohlíček



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998-2004)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Subcommittee for the Presentation of the Czech Republic Abroad (1998)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Committee for European Affairs (2002-2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Glass-making engineer, factory manager, technical manager, head of commercial technical services (1976-1995)*
- *Manager of a steelworks (1995-1998)*

**Education:**

- *Master's degree (Institute of Chemical Technology, Prague, 1976); holder of the postgraduate qualification 'Candidate of Sciences' (ICT, Prague, 1989)*

**born:**

23. 2. 1953  
Teplice, CZ

**Profession:**

technical engineer



## Jirí Maštálka

**European Parliament Grouping:** *Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (1990-1992)*
- *Member of Plzen City Council (1994-1998)*
- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1996-2004)*
- *Observer at the European Parliament (2003-2004)*
- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

*physician (since 1981)*

**Education:**

- *Doctor of Medicine (General Medical Faculty, Kiev Medical Institute, 1979-1981); certificate of postgraduate study, grade one - internal medicine (1984); certificate of postgraduate study in cardiology (1989)*

**born:**

3. 1. 1956  
Sušice, CZ

**Profession:**

physician



## Miloslav Ransdorf



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (1990-1992)*
- *Member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1996-2004)*
- *Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998-2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Research assistant, assistant professor (1977-1984), Senior research fellow (1984-1990) in philosophy, Faculty of Arts, Charles University*

**Education:**

- *Doctor of Philosophy (Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague (1978). Holder of the postgraduate qualification 'Candidate of Sciences' (Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague (1982)*

**born:**

15. 2. 1953  
Rakovník, CZ

**Profession:**

politician,  
philosopher



## Vladimír Remek



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Cosmonaut (1978)*
- *Director of the Military Museum of Aviation and Astronautics, Prague (1990-1995)*
- *Commercial representative (1995-2002)*
- *Councillor of the Embassy of the Czech Republic in the Russian Federation (2002-2004)*

**Education:**

- *Master's degree, Military Aviation Academy (1976)*

**born:**

26. 9. 1948  
Ceské Budejovice, CZ

**Profession:**

astronaut,  
commercial  
representative

## Christian Democratic Party (KDU-CSL) MEPs

KDU-ČSL



## Jan Brezina



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) (EPP-ED)*

**Political Career:**

- *Deputy Mayor of Unicev (1995-1997)*
- *Chief Executive of Olomouc District Office (1997-2000)*
- *Member of the Regional Assembly of the Olomouc Region and President of the Olomouc Region (2000-2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Ostrava Mines company (since 1978)*

**Education:**

- *Master's degree in mining, Ostrava Mining Institute (1978)*

**born:**

14. 4. 1954  
Konice, CZ

**Profession:**

politician,  
engineer

KDU-ČSL



## Zuzana Roithová



**European Parliament Grouping:** *Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) (EPP-ED)*

**Political Career:**

- *Member of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (1998-2004)*
- *Vice-Chair of the Committee for Social Policy and Health Care (2000-2002)*
- *Minister of Health (1998)*
- *Member of the European Parliament (since 2004)*

**Professional experiences:**

- *Physician at Motol Faculty Hospital, Prague (1980-1985)*
- *Physician at Královské Vinohrady Faculty Hospital, Prague (1985-1990)*
- *Director of Královské Vinohrady Faculty Hospital (1990-1998)*

**Education:**

- *Faculty of General Medicine, Charles University, Prague (1972-1978); postgraduate diploma, second level - radiodiagnosis - M.D. (1985); Sheffield Hallam University - M.B.A (1992-1997)*

**born:**

30. 1. 1953  
Praha, CZ

**Profession:**

physician



## Czech Republic

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