Czech Schools Without Borders and Czech diaspora

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT - STATE AND CIVIL APPROACHES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DIASPORA POLICIES 25 - 26 SEPTEMBER, 2013 BUDAPEST

LUCIE SLAVÍKOVÁ – BOUCHER

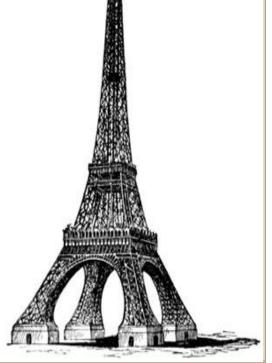
WWW.CSBH.CZ, CSBH@CSBH.CZ



- History of the organization
- Development (evolution) over time
- Actual situation
- Position of the CSWB regarding the state



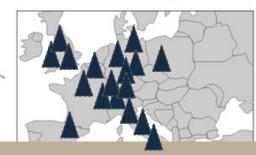
September 2013, 1st to 7th grade



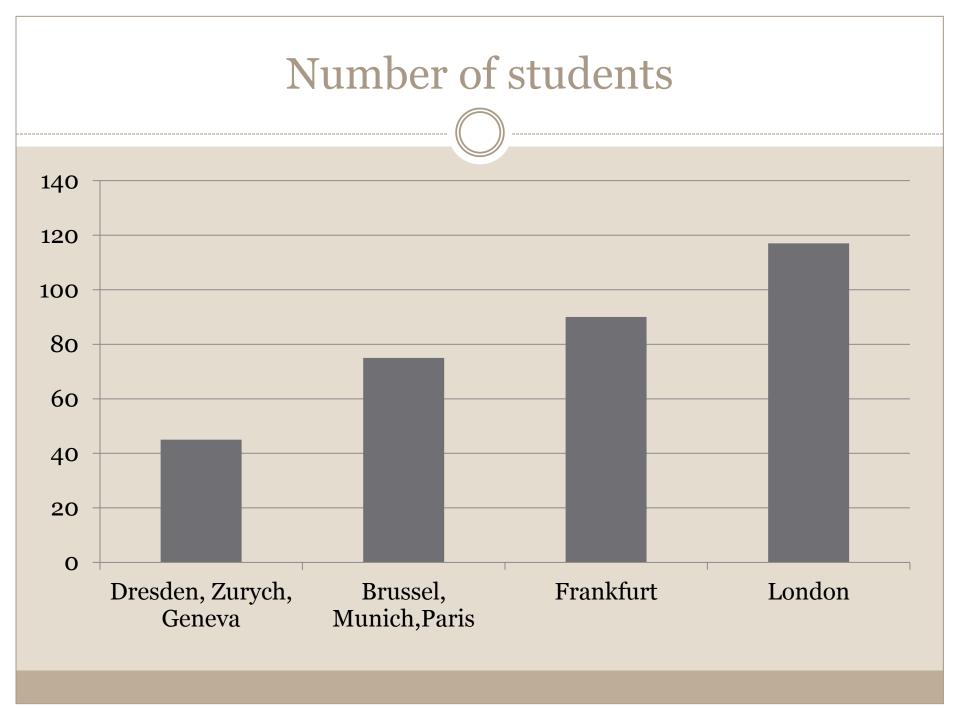
September 2013

1400 students around the world





Coordination by the NGO CSWB (Prague) Financial support (only grants)



Czech School Without Borders education

- Preschool age (from 1,5 to 6)
- School age (1st to 9th grade)
- Czech language and literature/Czech history/geography

New Czech diaspora

- From 1989 on
- Possibility of
 - Travelling
 - Voting
 - Keeping the citizenship
 - Owning properties in Czech Republic



• Majority – bilingual family (90 %)

- Czech
- Few grand parents

• Majority – Czech citizenship (up to 95%)

Parents' expectations

- Survey in June 2009
- 35 families from 4 countries and 5 cities
- Second "parallel" school x leisure activity: 79 % "parallel" school
- Equality with education in Czech Republic: 82 % YES
- Certification: 79 % YES (88 % in Czech Republic)

From the field to the law...

- 2010 CSWB educational program accepted as equivalent to the National program in Czech Republic
- **2010** Public hearing in the Senate of the Czech Republic: request to incorporate the CSWB into the law
- School year 2013 2014 agreement with the MECR CSWB certification valid in the Czech Republic
- When the regular financial support from the state?

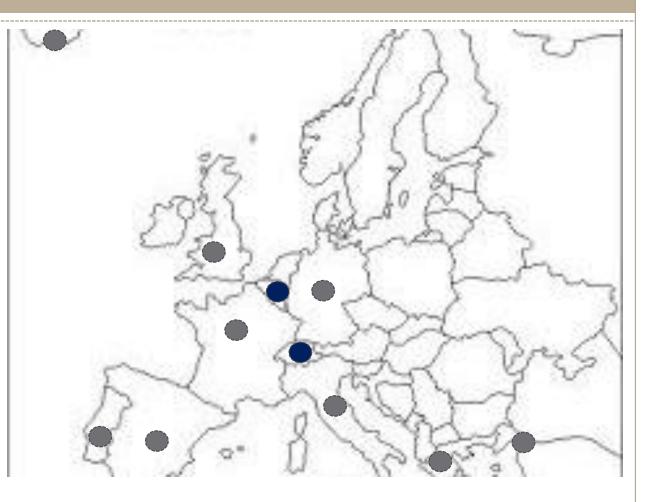
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Connection between the schools and the old and new Czechoslovakian organizations abroad

Switzerland: Sokol – Zurych and Geneva, Organisation "Homeland" Basel

Belgium: Beseda – Brussel

Germany, Great Britain, Grece, France, Italy, Spain, Turkey,



"Old" Czech(slovakian) organizations/ "new" organizations Texas – Sokol Dallas, Nebraska, Illinois – TG Masaryk Czech School

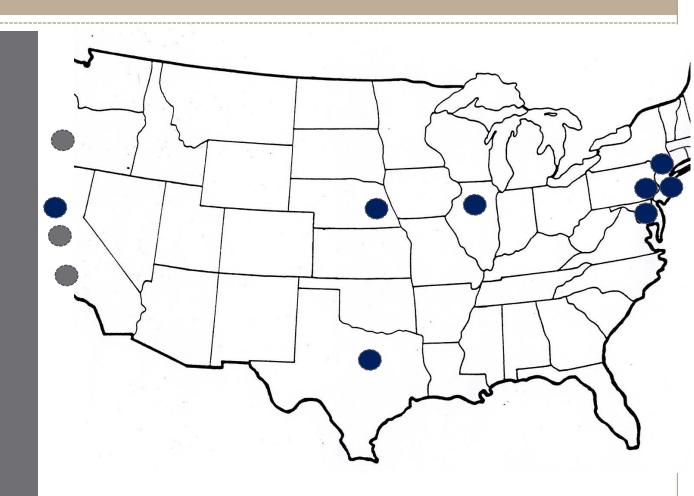
Maryland – Czech and Slovak Heritage Association

New York – Czech Benevolent Society of Astoria

Philadelphia

Czech NorthAmerican Chamber of Commerce and Culture: <u>www.czechevents.net</u>

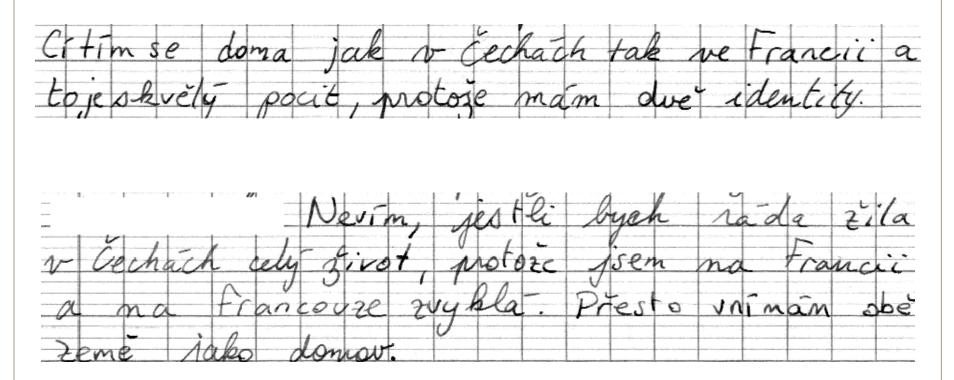
Kalifornie, Oregon



"Old" Czech(slovakian) organizations/ "new" organizations

- Czech Schools (not only) Without Borders good indicator of the evolution and the needs of the Czech diaspora nowadays
- Survey September 2013 Paris
 - Motivations for attending the school (36 families responded)
 - Preservation of the language cultural and family reasons 88%
 - Possibility of returning back to the country in case of a non planned event 28%
 - Plan of returning to the homeland ("short term" stay) 11%
 - Another language (economical reason) 25%
 - Possibility of studying at an university in CR 40%

"I feel home in Czech Republic and in France and it's great, because I have two identities."



"I don't know if I would like to live in Czech Republic for good, for I am used to France and French. But they are both my home."

Thank you for your inivitation.



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