CZECH REPUBLIC

Form for the compilation of good practises in the post adoption phase for the Seminar on post adoption
Art.9 c) Hague Convention

The Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption is in force in respect to the Czech Republic from June 1st, 2000. The Czech Republic is used as a country of origin. There was only one adoption from the year 2000 when family from the Czech Republic adopted the child from the Slovak republic. These answers are related to the adoption within the country.

Post-adoption services

1. Is the establishment of a trust relation with the adoptive family promoted during the contact with the family before the adoption and directed to its formation and preparation?

The accent is put on the phase before the adoption. The supportive organizations closely cooperate with the family before the adoption. The next – post adoption - cooperation is up to their own initiative.

2. Please indicate the possible types of services (counselling, groups of mutual aid, psychotherapy, scholastic support, family mediation…).

The involvement in consultations, groups of mutual aid, psychotherapy, scholastic support, family mediation are based on obtionality of each family.

3. Who is the subject that has the responsibility of the service?

Local authority – social and legal protection of children - directly works with family, under supervision of the state/government bodies.

4. Staff employed in the Service (number, professional characteristics, etc.).

It doesn’t exist (it has relation with a service of the competent authority.)

5. Duration of the Service (until when?, until the minor is 18 years old?)

If the parents or foster parents are interested officially till 18 years old, but practically it is limitless.
6. Is there collaboration and integration among the different public subjects involved (services, school, etc..) and between these and the private bodies in the carrying out of the service?

The state collaborates with non-governmental and non-profit bodies. (They are accredited by the state.)

7. Is there an evaluation system of the service? Are data on the use of the service by families available?

No.

8. Who elaborates the reports on the post-adoption phase required by the authorities of States of origin?

Office for international legal protection of children

9. Are there good practices in the country relating with the beginning of the relation with the adoptive family on the immediately subsequent period after the pronunciation of adoption?

Access to the origins

10. In the framework of the support services in the post-adoption phase, is there a service to support those who want to collect information about their origins? (Right to the access to the origins recognized also in the art. 7 (1) of the Convention on Rights of the Child).

The children are lead to know that they are adopted and are told about their origins

11. Are there limits and conditions for the access to the information about the origins (age, consent of the adoptive parents and/or biological parents)?

From age of 18.

12. Who is the competent subject to address the request (public services, the central authority, an administrative office, etc..)?

The birth register.

13. Are there centres and/or services specialized in the assistance in this sector?

There is a consulting service provided by non-governmental and non-profit bodies.
14. Does a central organ exist which has to collect and preserve the information on the origins?

The birth register.

15. What are the modalities of functioning and access to the service? What are the professional roles engaged in the support phase in the research on information on the origins?

Social workers or by non-governmental and non-profit bodies can mediate and support all process.

16. How long has the information on the origins to be preserved?

Forever.

17. Is it possible to check if and how the valorisation and the preservation of the links with the origins is promoted (cultural and social events with other adoptive parents group, travel opportunities to the country of origin with other adoptive family, etc..)? Is this kind of activity carried out by public or private bodies?

By the medium of international organisations, in our country it is The Office for International Legal Protection of Children.

18. Are there good practices in the country relating to the support to adopted adults who wish to collect information on their origins?

We have longstanding experience, information is provided as soon as possible in an adequate way.

Adoptive failures

19. Who is responsible of the child in case of an adoption failure?

The state.

20. Which kinds of support and accompaniment for the child and the adoptive family are realised in these hypotheses?

There is a cooperation with psychologists and with other specialists, they identify and analyse the causes of failures and they search for new solutions.

21. Are the authorities of the State of origin informed in the case of intercountry adoption?
22. What are the interventions for the minor protection carried out in case of revocation of the adoption? Is an immediate placing in a new family provided or is a first insertion in a welcome structure for children considered? There are commonly respected principles that child should be kept in neutral environment for some period.

23. Are there good practices in the country relating to the interventions of support to the adoptive families in difficulty and/or support in cases of removal of the child from the adoptive family? The cooperation of social workers, psychologists and other supporting specialists is realized by case conferences.