

The History We Live: A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century



Picture 1

Czech Republic

Chapter 6

Major Historical Events



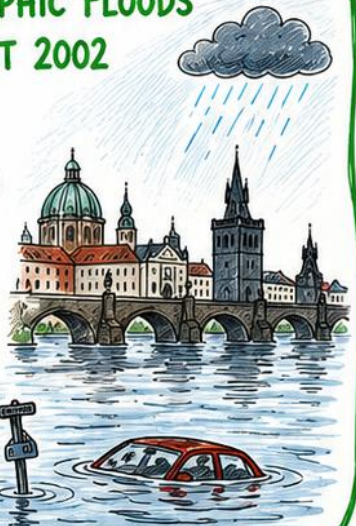
1 CZECH REPUBLIC'S ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION (2004)

It fundamentally changed the Czech Republic's position in Europe, opened access to the single labor market, and brought billions of crowns from European funds.



2 CATASTROPHIC FLOODS OF AUGUST 2002

The most devastating natural disaster in the modern history of the Czech Republic, affecting Prague and many other cities.



3 RATIFICATION OF THE LISBON TREATY (2009)

It confirmed the Czech Republic's deeper integration into the structures of the European Union and changed the functioning of the EU.



MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS IN CZECHIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY



4 GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS (2008-2009)

It caused an economic downturn, rising unemployment, and long-term economic consequences.



5 FIRST DIRECT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN CZECH HISTORY (2013)

For the first time, citizens could elect the President of the Czech Republic directly in a nationwide vote, strengthening democracy and public engagement.



Picture 2



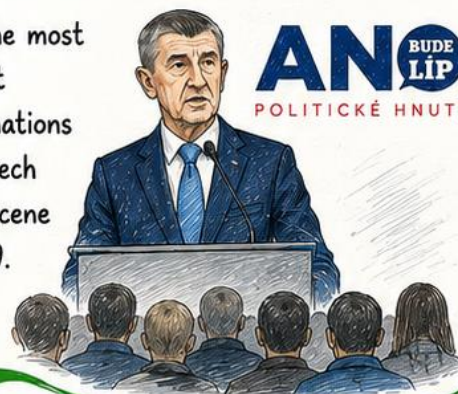
6 EUROPEAN MIGRATION CRISIS (2015–2016)

It had a strong impact on Czech politics, public debate, and the Czech population's attitude toward the EU.



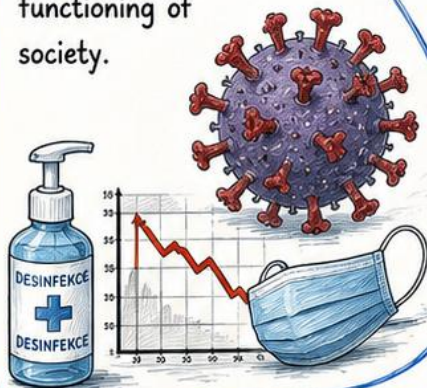
7 RISE OF THE ANO MOVEMENT AND ANDREJ BABIŠ'S RISE TO POWER (2013–2017)

One of the most significant transformations of the Czech political scene since 1989.



8 COVID-19 PANDEMIC (2020–2022)

It led to lockdowns, travel restrictions, economic problems, and changes in the functioning of society.



MAJOR HISTORICAL EVENTS IN CZECHIA IN THE 21ST CENTURY



9 RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE (2022)

It changed the security situation in Europe, led to an energy crisis, and resulted in the arrival of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian refugees in the Czech Republic.



10 ELECTION OF PETR PAVEL AS PRESIDENT (2023)

It symbolized a significant change in the political atmosphere after the two presidential terms of Miloš Zeman.



Picture 3



Message to future students

What did we learn?

We learned the importance of collaboration, critical thinking, and understanding how historical events, technology, and human decisions shape our world.

What surprised us?

We were surprised by the Czech Republic's success in sports, the rapid development of technology, and how much we have in common with students from other countries.

What was difficult?

Verifying sources, checking the accuracy of information, and selecting the most relevant facts from a large amount of data.

What did we enjoy?

We enjoyed teamwork, discussing and sharing ideas, discovering interesting facts about other countries, and creating our own international textbook.

What should future students remember?

History is not only about the past. It helps us understand the present and make better decisions for the future. Work together, stay curious, think critically, and learn from past mistakes.



Picture 4



Discuss!



1. Do you think the Czech Republic has benefited from joining the European Union? Why or why not?
2. How can countries better prepare for natural disasters such as floods?
3. Should countries give up some decision-making power in order to be part of international organizations like the EU?
4. How do economic crises affect the daily lives of ordinary people?
5. Do you think direct presidential elections are better than elections conducted by parliament? Why?
6. How should European countries respond to large migration waves and refugee crises?
7. Why do new political movements become popular, and what can they offer that traditional parties cannot?
8. What was the biggest lesson society learned from the COVID-19 pandemic?
9. How has the war in Ukraine changed Europe and the lives of people in neighboring countries?
10. What qualities should a president have in the 21st century?

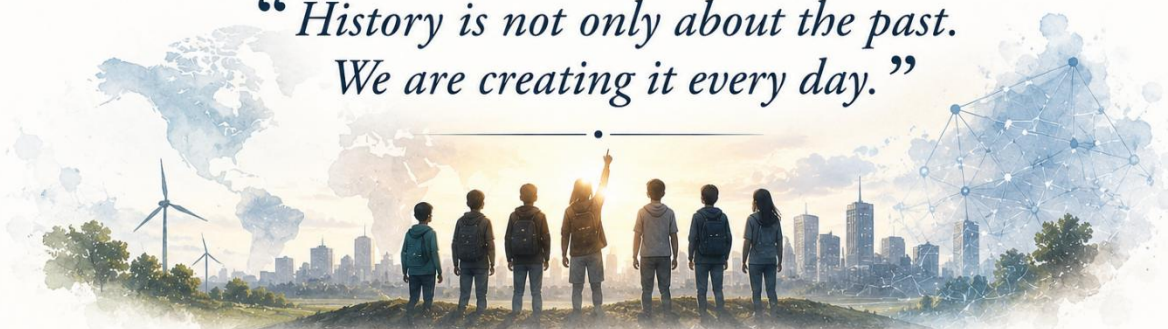


It's Video Time!¹



THE HISTORY WE LIVE

*“History is not only about the past.
We are creating it every day.”*



This project explored the world through the eyes of students living in the 21st century.
We examined history, politics, technology, culture, sports, society, and the challenges that shape our lives today.

The future will be written by the next generation.



SPORT



TECHNOLOGY



CULTURE



ENVIRONMENT



DEMOCRACY



EDUCATION

Picture 5





Picture 6



Studenti IT1: Informační technologie – správa sítí a programování, školní rok 2025/2026
 Vyšší odborná škola, Střední škola, Centrum odborné přípravy, Sezimovo Ústí, Budějovická 421, Budějovická 421, 391 02 Sezimovo Ústí

Resources

Pictures

Picture 1: Introductory illustration based on the main themes and content of this chapter. The concept was developed from topics identified and discussed by students within the project *The History We Live – A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century*. Graphic design created using generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, authors' own work, 2026.

Picture 2: Mind map presenting the most significant historical events in Czechia in the 21st century. The selection, evaluation, and organisation of events were carried out by students through research, collaborative discussion, and critical reflection within the project *The History We Live – A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century*. Graphic design created using generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, authors' own work, 2026.

Picture 3: Mind map presenting the most significant historical events in Czechia in the 21st century. The selection, evaluation, and organisation of events were carried out by students through research, collaborative discussion, and critical reflection within the project *The History We Live – A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century*. Graphic design created using generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, authors' own work, 2026.

Picture 4: Photograph of students participating in the project *The History We Live – A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century*. The photograph was taken by the students themselves and documents their active involvement in the research, discussion, and creation of the publication. Own source, 2026.

Picture 5: The History We Live. Illustrative graphic summarising the main themes of the project, including sport, technology, culture, environment, democracy, and education. Created using generative artificial intelligence tools, own processing, 2026.

Picture 6: Timeline presenting the most significant historical events in Czechia in the 21st century. The selection, evaluation, and organisation of events were carried out by students through research, collaborative discussion, and critical reflection within the project *The History We Live – A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century*. Graphic design created using generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, authors' own work, 2026.

Links:

¹YouTube, Student-created video produced within the project *The History We Live – A Student's Perspective on the 21st Century*. Created by students of IT1 – Information Technology: Network Administration and Programming, Higher Vocational School, Secondary School and Centre of Vocational Training Sezimovo Ústí, school year 2025/2026. Published on YouTube, 2026.

