**Drug prevention policy**

**National drug policy**

The development of the national drug policy is the responsibility of the Government of the Czech Republic. Its advisory and coordination body is the Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination with its system of committees and working groups.

In Czech Republic drugs are divided into two groups:

* Legal drugs: Alcohol, tobacco, medicines, volatiles (toluene, benzene, gasoline etc.).
* Illegal drugs: Narcotic and psychotropic substances, poisons, precursors:
  + Hallucinogens (Hallucinogenic mushrooms, Psilocybe)
  + Opiates (Heroin)
  + Cannabis
  + Stimulants (Methamphetamine, cocaine)
  + Dance drugs (Ecstasy, GHB)

Criminal law regulates drug crimes specified in Sections 283-287 of Act No. 40/2009 Coll., Penal Code (the Penal Code). Production and distribution of narcotic and psychotropic substances, poisons ant other precursors is serious crime under Czech law punished usually by prison sentence. However possession for personal use of narcotic and psychotropic substances, any preparations containing such substances and poisons is also forbidden pursuant to the Penal Code in quantities greater than small. The notion “quantities greater than small” was unified by judicial practice. The Criminal Division of the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic adopted a standpoint expressing that “quantities greater than small” should generally be deemed to be such a quantity of a narcotic or psychotropic substance or poison in personal possession as is in manifold excess – determined by the threat to people’s lives and health given by the potential harm posed by the individual substances – of a normal dose of a typical consumer. The Supreme Court also stated that the drug user’s possession of only one dose before using it is not illegal possession, but mere “consumer’s holding. An annex of this standpoint is table with recommended values. For example the THC level for marijuana was lowered to 1 g and a proportionate reduction in the “greaterthan-small” threshold quantity to 10 g of dry matter. Growing of cannabis is also crime according to sec. 285 of the Penal Code. The most often sentences for drug law offences are unsuspended imprisonment, suspended imprisonment, community service or fine.

**Legal drugs**

In Czech Republic is illegal to provide alcohol and tobacco to minors. The legal drinking age is 18 years. Even legal drugs could be connected with offences. Alcohol users most typically commit the offence of endangerment under the influence of an addictive substance according to sec. 274 of the Penal Code. This offence can be committed during working hours or the most typically during driving. Drivers are obligatory tested for alcohol by Police of Czech Republic during every roadside check. The most often sentences for the offence of endangerment under the influence of an addictive substance is prohibition of activity, community service or suspended imprisonment.

**Faculty of medicine, Masaryk University**

Faculty of Medicine adopted its own Disciplinary Code, which defines disciplinary offences and disciplinary procedure. The disciplinary offence according to article 1 of Disciplinary Code is to be under the influence of alcohol or other addictive substances during courses on campus of Masaryk University. The sentence for committing this Disciplinary Offence could be exclusion, suspended exclusion or reprimand.

Masaryk University also provided online Psychological Counselling for students who need help, for example in case of addiction on addictive substances. The Psychological Counselling is operated by students and graduates of study programme Psychology and Psychotherapy. The Counselling is provided free and anonymous through online questions and answers.

Students in troubles can also visit personally the Counseling Centre of Masaryk University, residing in Komenského náměstí 2, Brno, providing individual consultations about study or psychological issues.