

Regions of the Czech Republic

Questions asked to the head governmental officers of the Regions:

- 1.
How would you characterize the positive and the negative sides of the development in the cultural sphere?**
- 2.
What is in your opinion the main function of the regions in the cultural sphere?**
- 3.
What do you consider a priority or the hottest issue requiring urgent solution?**

1. South Bohemian region

Mgr. Jiří Zimola

South Bohemia hetman

1.

Pros:

- A multi-source financing and economic support in culture by means of grants, funds and subsidies from the region, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and the European funds;
- A thick network of cultural organizations of a various character (state, non-state non-profit and private), a wide spectrum of activities in the cultural sphere;
- Use of information and communication technologies for the subjects active in the cultural sphere as well as experts and the wide public (improving the availability of culture);
- Existing educational institutions.

Cons:

- Lack of finances for culture (despite the existing multi-source financing in culture there is still an excessive lack of financial means in the sphere of culture);
- General lack of interest in culture, a low cultural knowledge in different areas, underestimating culture and its importance for an individual and the overall human society;
- A lack of financial evaluation of employees in all cultural fields.

2.

- To support development of cultural and social activities;
- To support investments into renewal and reconstructions of cultural-historical monuments including necessary additional infrastructures;
- To support reconstructions and restoration of small village architecture;
- To support reconstructions and restoration of technical monuments;
- To ensure partnership support of public, private and non-profit sector and their enterprise activities while organizing different social and cultural-historical events;
- To support utilization of museums and galleries and organization of cultural and historical events;
- To utilize local traditions, customs and festivities for the development of the local tourism;
- To support new trends for exhibitions in the museums and galleries to raise quality promotion and regional image (active participation of the visitors for exhibits presentation etc.);
- To create conditions for festivals that will widen an offer of cultural events in the region and on a state level.

3.

The action development plan of the South Bohemia region is one of the priorities of cultural development and development of tourism, concretely a utilization of the cultural and natural heritage and development of cultural activities, that is:

- To utilize local potential for protection and use of cultural and natural heritage to enhance the feeling of regional communal belonging to the region and the state development in the South Bohemia region;
- To connect activities of the private and public sector while reconstructing and protecting the cultural and natural heritage;
- To maintain a sustainable use of cultural and natural heritage for tourism a culture and development of community life;
- To support use of and enlistment of monuments into programs and products in the Czech Republic;
- To utilize cultural facilities (theatres, museums, galleries) for cultural development of regional activities;
- To enhance the role of museums and galleries to promote attractions in the South Bohemia region, maintaining and development of the local and regional traditions;
- To create new traditions;
- To support folklore traditions and festivities.

2. South Moravia region

Mgr. Michal Ha-ek
South Moravia hetman

1.

An important contribution to the cultural sphere development was its centralization due to the Czech public administration reform and an implementation of the regional system in 2001. It has been proven that there is a direct proportionality between the level of administration and the amount of priorities and support; that is the lower the level of cultural administration the higher the priorities and support.

Financial means designated for cultural development, re-distributed to the regions according to decentralization, were unfortunately insufficient. That shows in many areas but mostly in financing of monuments and professional theatre a music companies. So far the reform of the monumental care has not been implemented.

2.

The regions directly influence the cultural activities in the territory by means of established organizations and the financial support of cultural activities. With respect of their size the regions are able to reflect cultural requirements more with complexity and efficacy and they are also more flexible in reacting at current situation and the hottest issues. They are an important partner for other subjects active in the cultural sphere in the territory, help facilitate cooperation on regional and above the regional level and can bring impulses towards the government and ministries. With respect to realized international partnership they play a significant role in partnership participation with different regions in abroad.

The development in the cultural sphere is more closely bound to other areas of regional policies which manifestates at accepting conceptual program documents and targets as well as during a daily decisive process and praxis.

3.

It is necessary to ensure a higher level of participation of institutions that preserve and develop cultural and spiritual values with the public life of the community, with the educational system and tourism and efficiently support their development. It is important also to strengthen connectivity of the regional cultural offer and the tourism. It is important to ensure the development of various activities of the cultural life and to support selected activities with a wide spectrum as well as their facilities.

In the field of monumental care the priority is to modernize the legislative regarding the state monumental care and to implement the reform of the National Heritage Institute.

3. Karlovy Vary region

Josef Novotný

Karlovy Vary region hetman

1.

Intangible culture:

The positive part is a rich cultural program offer for all the local inhabitants and the visitors of the region especially in summer season. The cultural events organized in historical objects contribute to the citizens' regional kinship.

What is specific for the culture in the region is that the tourists and spa guests raise the attendance rate of all cultural events a lot. Further enhancement of the cultural offer can positively influence the utilization of the region potential and attract other visitors who would then help economic development in the region.

In 2009 a multifunctional sports, cultural and congress centre was finished; it has a capacity of over 6 000 visitors and serves the needs of the whole region. In 2006 a regional library was built with a significant funding provided by the European Union.

The negative part is the obvious lack of finances in respect of reconstruction of old and ruined buildings such as the National House and Spa I. in Karlovy Vary, also the technical equipment of the current cultural facilities is not sufficient. Despite the existing concept and intentions to use these buildings, so far there is no way to finance their restoration even through the structural funds of the European Union. Activities of the cultural subjects are directly threatened by the lack of financing, many of them face a transformation or a complete closure, for example the Karlovy Vary Symphonic Orchestra or the West Bohemia Symphonic Orchestra, some important subjects already ceased to exist (there is no permanent theatre company in Karlovy Vary any more). The distribution of the cultural offer is also a negative especially for the local inhabitants of the region. Another con is a minimum awareness of the citizens regarding the regional cultural offer and an insufficient connection with the tourism sphere in town presentation as spa and a cultural centre of the region.

These failures altogether could soon cause a closure of both private and state cultural subjects and a cancellation of internationally renowned cultural events or their moving out of the region followed by the decrease of regional attractions, loss of touristic and spa clientele and also a loss of important financial sources of income.

Tangible culture:

Protection of the tangible part of the cultural heritage, the biggest part of which is created cultural monuments, is undoubtedly a matter of public interest. On the state part the protection of a public interest is declared by appropriate legislative regulations and creating a structure of organizational bodies in the area of monumental care, that issue decisions to protect, renew and preserve a large fund of cultural monuments. An attitude of the regions is expressed either directly in the concept of state monumental care support or conceptual documents such as the State Cultural policy. The concept of monumental care in Karlovy Vary region was created in 2006 and called "The Monuments of the Karlovy Vary Region" by Karel Kuřava and Lubomír Zeman.

Pros:

- Increasing interest of municipalities to preserve and use the tangible cultural heritage. The nature of interest varies and depends on the municipalities attitude and is limited by their individual possibilities; nevertheless it does exist which is crucial for a further development of cultural heritage care. The municipalities themselves have a direct influence on its inhabitants and they can influence the attitude of their governing bodies.
- Increasing number of activities of civic societies dealing with the renewal and utilization of a single monument. These societies are usually successful at gaining a financial support for reconstruction of an object and their activity also has an awareness impact on other individuals and groups.
- Improving cooperation in cultural monumental care in line: monument owners – municipality – region – state including multi-source financing of monument restoration, even though the situation improved in recent years. At least in Karlovy Vary region the distribution of financial means is well communicated between the region and the National Heritage Institute that administers some programs issued by the Ministry of Culture. Also communication and information flow improved in the perspective of the owners of the historical monuments.

Cons:

- Insufficient volume of financial means detached from the state budget to aid the owners of historical monuments to reconstruct cultural monuments, and especially those that are not owned by the state.
- A decrease of system activities of the state monumental care – the state monumental care bodies and organizations are not able to sufficiently fulfil all their duties as they are expected to do. This situation is certainly connected to a low prestige of the area; generally an attitude of even some political representatives is such that the cultural sphere slows down any economic progress. An analysis of the reasons behind the current situation and taking subsequent steps towards changing it lie mainly on part of the state as a major system guarantee.
- A major con with the biggest impact directly on the owners of the cultural monuments is the issue of providing the financial means for cultural monuments renewal. According to the state monumental care the state or municipalities are not obliged to contribute to reconstruction of the cultural monuments. It all depends on the budget amount of the Ministry of Culture and the municipality approach. We face the situation where the financial subsidies from state budget can only be requested in the framework of running programs announced by the Ministry of Culture, that unfortunately do not cover (and never did in past) the need of all cultural monuments or their wide spectrum. The owners of those cultural monuments that are outside

historical preservation zones and the value of which does not go beyond the region can request funding from two sources (the Emergency program and the Restoration Support of Cultural Monuments program administered through municipalities with enlarged field of action), the amount of located financial means nevertheless remains insufficient. The regions regularly allocate financial means for reconstruction of historical monuments, but their volume does not cover the requirements. With respect of economic crisis there will be a further decrease of the total amount of financial means addressed to preservation and renewal of cultural monuments on the state, regional and communal level. The situation contributed towards deepening a negative attitude towards monumental care on part of the wide public.

- There is an insufficient awareness activity that would lead to popularization of monumental care and its importance. Still there is an insufficient awareness on part of local inhabitants that the cultural heritage care is our common task and its loss is definite and irreplaceable. Without acknowledging this fact monumental care will remain in hands of their owners and a few other subjects. It is necessary to awake a real interest in cultural heritage and its care on part of the wide public but mainly on part of the municipalities.

2.

Tangible culture:

The main function of the regions in our opinion is their active role in care for tangible cultural heritage. This role manifests firstly in a direct financial support and restoration of cultural monuments. The regions ought to mediate cooperation between the owners of the monuments, municipalities, regions and state. They have a large potential to become a facilitator between the municipalities on one part and the state and monuments owners on the other. The regions also realize the importance of cultural monuments found in their territory. This tangible cultural heritage is not only an important part of the European cultural heritage, but also an undisputable predicament of touristic development in the region and a way towards better identification of local inhabitants with the region. Such opinions are reflected upon the attitude of the regions towards cultural monuments, monuments owners and basic program documents that the region integrates in the framework of its separate sphere of action (Regional Development Program, Concept of the Tourism Development in Karlovy Vary region). In 2004 - 2009 the Karlovy Vary region provided 53.94 million crowns from its budget for reconstruction, preservation and utilization of cultural monuments and objects with a historical value in its territory. Regularly once every three months a meeting with the owners (about 25 subjects) of the most important cultural monuments is organized. Since 2002 the Karlovy Vary region has been building so called information system ó planting a navigation touristic marks and information boards in monumental preservations and zones nearby the cultural monuments. A promotion of cultural heritage is of a big importance including publication of promotion materials and organization of regular events drawing attention to the importance of cultural heritage (in Karlovy Vary region on the occasion of the European Cultural Heritage Days every September).

Regions play an important role informing on the possibilities of resourcing financial means from EU funds, they are receivers of selected projects (in Karlovy Vary region for example a project of reconstruction of cultural monuments of Becher villa and its utilization as interactive gallery), but it is also an initiator of operation of all necessary projects. Since 2004 the role of regions as a mediator and coordinator of different targets and projects was enhanced (the Karlovy Vary region represents the towns of Karlovy Vary, Mariánské Lázn and Franti-kovy Lázn in a process of enlisting West Bohemian spa triangle on the UNESCO

World Heritage List, participates in similar activities in Czech-Saxony Ore mountains and other projects such as the Czech-Bavarian geological park).

3.

Intangible culture:

The priority is to keep and raise the cultural level of inhabitants of the regions and a preservation of cultural continuation of the national cultural heritage. To improve cultural education it is important to pay great attention to children and youth and positively influence their creating a relation towards culture. Also creating a system of regular school visits will enable the students to attend theatre and concert performances and also an exposition of museums and galleries in the region. Cultural education of local inhabitants and continual raising quality of cultural offer for local inhabitant and visitors of the regions create an alternative of a weak cultural level of commercial television programs, but it is also a prerequisite of the regional image as traditional spa and cultural centre of the republic. This perception is necessary for further regional development and conditions letter utilization of the potential of spa region visitors (see point 4.1).

Tangible culture:

The priority is to solve the drawbacks mentioned under point 4.1 and to begin social discussion on the issue whether cultural heritage care is really a public interest of the state, regions, municipalities and the wide public or just a declared public interest of several subject group and whether the cultural heritage care is not just a statement on its importance but will effectively influence in every life of each individual's active life. Also it is necessary to work on a new Act on state monumental care that should follow the principles of the current act, updated them and remove the drawbacks, clearly define terms and add the missing aspects so that the new act becomes a comprehensible and effective tool of cultural heritage care.

4. Hradec Králové region

Lubomír Franc

Hradec Králové region hetman

1.

The question is best answered by an abstract of the SWOT cultural analysis conducted in Hradec Králové region:

Pros:

- A strong and living tradition of a cultural life in municipalities, a revived community life;
- The town of Hradec Králové is a regional and republic cultural centre,
- A working network of professional cultural facilities established by municipalities in the region;
- A high number of active citizen associations aiming at the development of cultural interests;
- Professional associations of theatre workers, photographers, film makers, makers of traditional crafts etc.;

- A high number of departmental exposition including interest (competition) art activities;
- Important cultural festivals of professional art and art interest activities;
- A functional system of grant support of regions and municipalities;
- Modernized theatre halls, cinemas etc;
- A working network of general libraries, a large number of small museums and monuments;
- A large number of cultural monuments.

Cons:

- Insufficient involvement of the towns in operation of cultural facilities established by regions;
- Insufficient public financial support of some specialized museums established by the private sector, and especially the citizen associations;
- Insufficient space for cultural activity in small towns and villages, for example a cancellation of culture houses attached to local restaurants and pubs;
- Insufficient level of state financial support for reconstruction of cultural monuments with respect to increase of monumental zones in the region in 2003 ó 2004;
- Insufficient level of state financial support of professional theatres and orchestras.

2.

Culture support is undoubtedly one of the main priorities in every region. Firstly that shows in establishing own grant supported or other organizations, which are literally "flagships" in some subject spheres. Financial means of the regions are an important part of multi-source financing of professional and nonprofessional cultural activities. The part of finances that the region devotes to reconstruction of cultural monuments can not be omitted. A proper promotion of all cultural values is obvious because they are valuables that can be used also for tourism.

3.

A very urgent issue is the need for the new Act on state monumental care and an increase of state financial subsidies for operation of professional theatres and orchestras.

5. Liberec region

Stanislav Eichler

Liberec region hetman

1.

Pros:

There is a wide offer of cultural services in the region and an easier attitude of the wide public to information due to new information technologies.

Rich traditions and continuity of community activities and interest activities (choir singing, amateur theatre, folklore etc.) that can be followed; a rich cultural heritage, which can be

presented in the framework of the state and abroad; a creative impulse of the upcoming artist generation.

There is a general inhabitants' interest in the public affairs.

The performance of regional functions of the professional expert organizations (on part of small municipalities are very appreciated for example in regional function of libraries).

Management of cultural institutions can to certain extent solve an unfavourable budget development and that is not only by the organization's own income but also by a successful fundraising of the financial means from the subsidy programs, state, foundations and EU funds; the use of EU funds to support cultural projects.

Cons:

Generally the importance of culture is not valued and appreciated enough and neither are its social and economic aspects.

An allocation of financial means for the culture sphere in the framework of forming public budgets is still far away from the centre of interest of the state and self-government. To provide cultural services is not perceived an essential issue, hence there are insufficient financial means for an operation of cultural institutions and their investment action. Organizations' operational problems are then dealt with at the expense of acquisition. Objects where the cultural institutions are resident are often inappropriate for the purpose they ought to serve, that is providing services or the comfort requirements of the users of the cultural services.

Often legislative amendments rather complicate experts' works in culture. To name at least one, there is the last amendment of the Act no. 250/2000 Coll. and the Act on Accounting. Expert workers of libraries and museums should stay authorized to accept material gifts. Adding collections into accounting will effectively make the administration quite difficult.

2.

Regions dispose of plenty of information on the territory. They can precisely target the support into a specific part of territory of concrete activities knowing their hottest issues or with respect to a more complex solution. In the cultural sphere what is needed most is support, either financial or methodical to institutions and activities of regional importance and such that are beyond the regional borders so that the continuity is preserved and so is the structure of providing public cultural services and their standards. Regions also establish and finance grant funded organizations from their budgets and ensure expert regional activity, they establish grant programs to support cultural activities; they are the applicants, recipients and partners in projects financed from EU funds; they have the chance to coordinate fund raising from the EU in the framework of NUTS. One of the main priorities of the region until 2013 should aim at gaining a maximum financial means from EU programs.

3.

- Correspondent financial means for operation of regional cultural grant supported organizations to ensure their further development. These organizations are a guarantee of providing quality cultural services locally and regionally.
- A stable incorporation of financing the performance of regional libraries from the budgets. This is a very significant and appreciated aid to municipalities where the libraries are often the only cultural point.

- Initiating a legislative change of the amended Act on Accounting in regard of including museum collection into bookkeeping. Other related problems of the museum activities are notorious and frequently discussed at different levels.
- There is a necessity to solve the inappropriate archiving of museum collections. Many objects do not fulfil quality nor quantity requirements on collection preservation. Dated technical equipment does not allow for providing the services at a desired level.

6. Moravian-Silesian region

Jaroslav Palas

Moravian-Silesian region hetman

1.

In 2005 the regional government agreed on a new strategy of economic development of the Moravian-Silesian region. The document called „A way ahead“ followed the former development strategies and set future visions in the areas of economic development, environment, transport, education, health security, social services and culture. The region’s main goal is to develop the cultural values through quality grant system and declared its support to the traditional important cultural events such as music and theatre festivals, art symposiums and exhibitions. Since 2005 the region realizes two grant programs from its own budget aimed at a support of cultural activities and a renewal of cultural monuments and preserved historical monuments. From the regional budget there are regular subsidies for operation of five town theatres, a single philharmonic orchestra and an establishment of operation of fifteen regional libraries.

In past years there was a large attention devoted to the support of the development of grant supported organizations established by the region in the cultural sphere. Lately the operational and investment means for such institutions were raised. Even larger projects were realized. In 2003-2006 after years of decay the church of St. Joseph at the Capuchin cloister in Fulnek has been completely reconstructed. A project restoration of the cultural monument was co-financed from the European Union funds and today a museum in Nový Jiřín serves the wide public as exhibition area and a concert and lecture hall. In Frenštát pod Radhořtem a branch of Nový Jiřín museum was open in 2007 after being reconstructed and added new expositions on national history, customs and natural treasures. A reconstruction of the museum building and an installation of new expositions were co-financed from the EU funds. At the end of 2009 a new documentation and administrative centre of the Fine Art Gallery in Ostrava was opened. There is a research centre open to public with an expert library containing a specialized fine art fund. To support museums development the region annually realizes the Development Program of museum keeping in Moravian-Silesian region.

There is a wide variety of cultural institutions in the region. Museum network covers the whole region territory. In Opava, Nový Jiřín, Frýdek-Místek, Bruntál and Český Těšín there are regional museums and other museums that operate in big towns and on a local level. The founders and operators of these museums are the state, region, municipalities, enterprises and physical entities. The theatre scene is represented by six town theatres, four of which are directly active in Ostrava that is also the residence of the single philharmonic orchestra, the Janáček philharmonic. In the regional metropolis there is the Fine Art Gallery, the most

important institution of its kind in the region that presents fine art collections since the nineteenth century. The Moravian-Silesian Science Library in Ostrava disposes of a rich librarian fund and operates as a coordinating centre for the regional library network.

On the local level there are a large number of especially citizen associations that deal with activities in the cultural sphere. These are the organizations that support regional culture by organizing different events, but also folklore, dance, choir companies, music groups and amateur theatres.

The positive part is the cultural development in the region is undoubtedly a large amount of annual cultural events the importance of which goes beyond the regional borders. These are mostly music festivals with a long tradition such as Janá k v Máj or Janá kovy Hukvaldy. As for the more recent events there is the popular multi genre festival Colours of Ostrava, Svatováclavský Music Festival and lately also the Shakespearean Theatre Festival that takes part on the Silesian-Ostrava castle. An important place in the cultural sphere take folklore festivals ó regional folk art of local traditions are presented at international meetings of folklore companies mainly on the Czech-Polish-Slovak border. Amongst the most highly attended events are Silesian Days in Dolní Lomná and Gorolski Swieto in Jablunkovsko. As for the smaller events there are Socha´s folklore festival in Frýdek-Místek and Festival Pood í Franti-ka Lýska.

In respect of the monumental fond care the region welcomed establishing state subsidy program Restoration Support of Cultural Monuments through municipalities with enlarged scope of activities. There is a general lack of financial means for restoration of historical buildings and due to the program more of them can be reconstructed.

The past of our region was strongly connected to industrial production and the fact influenced the character of the tangible cultural heritage. In our region there are many intangible technical cultural monuments ó former mines and smelters. The buildings often ruin and decay therefore new ways to preserve and utilize them to become part of the social life again are sought. Their potential lies not only in tourism but also in culture and education. Some monuments already found their new purpose such as D l Michal in Ostrava that serves as industrial skansen where the visitors can see the last working day down in the mine.

Recently lots of effort has been put into preservation and utilization of the industrial area Dolní oblast Vítkovice that is a national cultural heritage. The monumental preserved area (Hlubina mine, coke-oven plant and blast furnace Vítkovické ťelezářny) are the unique proof of the technological process of iron making preserved in a single place in Europe and it was enlisted as the European Cultural Heritage and there is a continuing effort to get it enlisted on the UNESCO monument list. In purpose to prepare and realize a project of modification of the unique collection of industrial monuments in Ostrava a new interest group of legal entities called Dolní oblast Vítkovice was founded. Amongst the members of the association is also VÍTKOVICE HOLDING, a. s., the corporate town of Ostrava and the Moravian-Silesian region. The first realized project ought to be the revitalization of a large building of a gas container as a congress, cultural and educational centre.

The corporate town of Ostrava is currently preparing a project for the European Cultural Capital 2015. The project represents a great chance to enhance and raise the quality of the cultural offer, to promote the town worldwide and enrich the life of the inhabitants of the whole region. The region itself also participates at preparing the candidate lists amongst other

institutions based on a partnership and cooperation contract between the region and the town of Ostrava.

Since 2004 in the field of the support of equal opportunities for citizens with a physical handicap there is an annual Award of the region hetman for authors of literary, journalistic, newspaper and other works that contribute towards the awareness of life of handicapped people and support the idea of their integration into society. Annually a grant funded regional organization in the cultural sphere organizes an exhibition on the issue.

2.

The region establishes grant funded organizations active in the cultural sphere, the mission of which is to satisfy cultural and educational needs of the wide public. There are regional expositions in four regional museums: in Bruntál, eský T ěín, Frýdek-Místek, Nový Ji ín and many other branches. The expositions and exhibitions are dedicated mainly to local history, traditions and customs, folklore, nature and other collections. Another institution established by the region are The Gallery of Fine Arts in Ostrava, that realizes exhibitions of its own collections, presents current production and the development of architecture and also offers a rich cultural and educational accompanying program. The region also establishes the theatre in eský T ěín, which is unique for its Czech and Polish scene recently enlarged by the children marionette company Bajka. Moravian-Silesian Science Library in Ostrava is also a regional institution and contains a large librarian fund collection and it is a methodical centre of all regional librarian services.

The region owns important cultural monuments that belong amongst touristic attractions. There is a baroque castle in Bruntál, medieval castles of Sovinec and Hukvaldy and the House of Culture in Ostrava, a proof of modern architecture development in between the wars period. In the near future the region takes over an industrial monument, a former mine Hlubina in Dolní oblast Vítkovice, from the state enterprise Diamo.

Already for six years running there are two grant programs to support culture in our region. Support Program of Cultural Activities and Restoration Program of Cultural Monuments. These programs are announced by the regional council and in the framework the grants are provided to support various cultural activities and a renewal of cultural monuments. Apart from that the regional budget also covers individual applications for similar activities. Thanks to the grants a number of quality cultural events such as the International Music Festival Janá k v máj, Colours of Ostrava festival and Shakespearean Theatre Festival was realized. Due to the financial support from the region there are annual music and folklore festivals in towns and municipalities and plenty of publications on important regional celebrities, regional history or interesting places. From the regional budget finances a large number of ruined cultural monuments were reconstructed.

The region annually contributes to an operation of five town theatre scenes and Ostrava philharmonic orchestra and also finances the performance of fifteen regional libraries. In the framework of the Program of Museum Development in Moravian-Silesian region the museum events are funded to enhance the quality of provided services; especially exhibition projects, collection object purchase or restoration of art works.

Conceptual activity of essential importance began in 2005, when the first Concept of Monumental Care Support in Moravian-Silesian region was elaborated. The main support objectives were established in the following order: protection and restoration of cultural heritage based on expert knowledge and evaluation of art work qualities through grant

program, establishing an appropriate utilization of cultural monuments and better awareness on monumental fund and its service offer for the wide public and strengthening legal security of cultural monuments owners. The individual regulations were fulfilled in 2006 - 2008.

Now it is necessary to update the concept for the future. A similar strategic material for the cultural policy sphere is still missing in the region. The Moravian-Silesian region governing bodies are aware of the necessity of elaboration of such material and in the program statement for 2008-2012 an objective to prepare the Concept of Support and Development of Monumental Care and culture, preservation and revitalization of national and industrial heritage in Moravian-Silesian region in 2009-2013. The region is aiming at supporting cultural activities of all kinds as well as adequate increase of expenses for culture in regional budget and grant programs, and it will try to enhance general awareness on important regional celebrities to promote the character of its rich cultural heritage.

3.

In the cultural sphere the Moravian-Silesian region considers a priority to start a new building of the Moravian-Silesian Science Library in Ostrava that operates already more than half the century in unsuitable spaces. Another priority is the reconstruction and finalizing the building of Fine Art Gallery in Ostrava to establish adequate space for cultural heritage of European importance that the gallery presents and the realization will change the organization in a modern representative cultural institution of the 21st century.

There is considerable lack of financial means for support of cultural activities and renewal of cultural monuments in the region. The means devoted for realization of fund programs in the regional budget will serve the needs of only a third of applications for cultural event grants and a half of request for financial subsidies to repair cultural monuments. The regional government is looking for new ways to raise the total amount of grants.

7. Olomouc region

Martin Tesařík

Olomouc region hetman

1.

The strong points of current culture in my opinion are the following:

- Freedom of creative activity;
- A sufficient amount of artists producing valuable art works;
- An existence of institutional cultural base, which can display and promote these values to the wide public;
- Current variability of different art and cultural genres;
- Development of local traditions;
- Interest of the wide public in culture;
- An aim to create a system of support programs for development of various spheres of culture, including the "European finance";
- Increasing the frequency of cultural exchange between the subjects active on the Czech territory and other European countries on both regional and local levels and professional as well as interest subjects;

- Activity of citizen associations and other groups that focus their activities into the sphere of culture.

Less favourable facts in the current cultural situation are the following:

- deepening commercializing in the cultural sphere;
- an absence of understanding of the importance of culture in humans and society life;
- insufficient legislative;
- the state of current monumental care (completely insufficient legislative, ponderous organizational structure of the National Monumental Institute, a lack of real concept, detachment from reality, a wrong perception of culture by the wide public);
- coordination of cultural events;
- Impact of the current economic crisis on the sphere of culture.

2.

There are several main functions. One of them is to directly influence the utilization of regional cultural offer cultural through region established cultural organizations; further directly aim activities in certain fields of culture within legal limits; to maintain the state administration performance; indirectly influence cultural activities and regional processes through systematic activities and in form of financial support of desired cultural activities.

3.

The cultural development is influenced by a number of factors. Currently the most important are the limiting impacts of economic factors. Not only there is less finances for organizing cultural events, fewer monuments are reconstructed and the realized events have lower attendance rate but also the fact that the necessity of culture is often measured only from the economic point of view. In defence of culture often the existence of so called "cultural industry" is highlighted and the sphere of culture is rarely defended as a phenomenon with the right to exist primarily to cultivate and enhance human creative potential and represents one of the basic forms of investment into the development of a human factor and the society on whole. In my personal opinion the key issue is to overcome current short-sighted economizing opinion on culture and to change an understanding of this sphere, which will take several years to achieve.

8. Pardubice region

Radko Martínek

Pardubice region hetman

1.

Pros:

- an establishment of many new legal subjects in the cultural sphere (especially citizen associations) and their participation in cultural affairs; either separately or in cooperation with other subjects the subjects organize a large number of cultural events;

- maintenance and support of traditional cultural events;
- cultural event offer extending into small municipalities in the region;
- an enhancement of cultural support on part of autonomous areas (regions, municipalities);
- a transfer of cultural subjects to regions;
- a development and support of regional function of libraries.

Cons:

- gradual change of cultural offer (theatres, TV, radio etc.) that adjusts to the dropping cultural level of general audience; the light entertaining genres prevail;
- an influence of media, especially commerce television and radio stations (some kinds of culture and art completely disappeared ó classical music, folklore, spoken word etc.);
- a number of quality programs aiming at children and youth decreases; an offer of quality films, books and theatre performance are missing;
- total volume of financial means for the cultural sphere is stagnating and the grants from the Ministry of Culture slowly decrease;
- an increasing commercializing culture (lack of financial means influences cultural offer so that starts to target a larger audience);
- Insufficient cooperation of regional cultural facilities with foreign subjects.

2.

- To establish the most important cultural organizations;
- To participate in co financing other important cultural organizations in the region;
- To support regional projects financially and in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture also the project of beyond regional and international character that sufficiently represent cultural activity in the region;
- To support systematically different forms of monumental fond care and cultural monuments.

3.

Closer connection of culture and tourism and better utilization of cultural monuments.

9. Pilsner

Milada Emmerová
Pilsner region hetman

1.

If the question aims at the period 1994-2009, there are several positives of the cultural development:

- A transfer of many cultural organizations administration from the state level to municipalities, towns and regions. Despite the beginning apprehension it proved that

individual administration levels appreciate culture, take care of it and can sufficiently support it financially;

- The developing cultural activity in municipalities, towns and the regions (festivals, performances and various other cultural activities),
- Creation and diversification of cultural subjects (associations, societies, generally beneficial (profitable) society and individuals),
- Creation of grant programs on levels of municipalities and regions due to which it is possible to support selected non-profit subjects and cultural activity in individual locations;
- In several towns and regions including the Ministry of Culture a systematic approach towards culture is promoted; there are new conceptual or strategic documents regarding administration and financing in the cultural sphere;
- Possibilities of financing cultural activities from European Union funds;
- Establishing contact with abroad, cooperation between the subjects of different states that are active in the field of culture and their mutually beneficial exchange;
- Creation of several laws (though not always perfect) regarding culture ó Act on Libraries, Act on Collection Activities, Act on generally beneficial societies, Act on Copyright and others;
- A reconstruction of many objects serving to cultural and educational purposes;
- A relatively stable interest in culture on part of the wide public.

There are also several negative factors in the cultural development:

- General continuing lack of understanding that investing into culture is similarly as investing into education both future investments. There is a presumption that the area is unprofitable, that it is so called šcherry on the top of the cakeō. Therefore on the state level the culture is perceived as peripheral area.
- Therefore the 1 % of financial means from the state budget for culture, the amount of which was declared by the government in the conceptual documents of the Ministry of Culture, is impossible to reach at the moment; the position of the Ministry of Culture and its definition is still slightly blurry though and the future of the cultural policy ought to be in hands of towns and regions, in other words it would be appropriate to decentralize the cultural administration because the regions, towns and municipalities know best where the financial support is most needed.
- Non-existence of additional resources to finance culture on a state level is covered under the statement on malfunction of the State cultural fund.
- A legislative regulation on motivation of private sponsors to enhance the support of culture and an option for tax depreciation is missing;
- Petrification from the current system that prefers a system of grant supported organizations where most of its public budget financial means is directed, many times at the expense of much livelier and more flexible non-governmental associations. Nevertheless here it is necessary to differentiate between organizations representing a live culture (theatres, music companies etc. that face competition environment) and the organizations that are continually and essentially linked to the public budget (museums, libraries ó protection of cultural heritage and education). On the other side the fact is that till now when the legislative definition of the space for so called publically-legal institutions is still missing there is an unclear relation between the organizer and the grant funded organization.
- Prevailing so called departmentalism; on the level of public administration the sphere of culture is only little connected with other spheres such as education, social area and

tourism. The cultural potential in connection with other sphere is yet not sufficiently utilized.

2.

Regional competence in the cultural sphere was defined at the moment of their establishment by the transfer of organizer's functions from the state to the grant funded organizations such as museums, regional galleries and science libraries. To start with the region was given especially the sphere of educational protection and an administration of cultural heritage ó care for history and regional memory and that is their primer mission; to enhance the relation of the inhabitants of the region to the location also through culture. Apart from that individual regions can support its cultural activities by the system of grant or support programs in cooperation with towns and municipalities but also the state itself in the framework of so called cooperative financing.

3.

Generally it can be stated that the main issue is the lack of financial means especially at the current economic crisis. On the regional level the museums ought to be changed into modern institutions of the 21st century which requires a large investment and operational financial means (depository, new and modern expositions, reconstruction or exhibition of new buildings etc. including correspondent salaries of expert employees with a university degree. That is one of the most important tasks of the regions. But even more important than the lack of financial means I consider the systematic approach towards the cultural sphere, defining priorities and drafting a future strategy plan. The culture is a sphere where the finances will always be lacking. Therefore it is necessary to know what we want to achieve in the near future and take individual steps towards the set objective; from there other indicators and standards according to which the activity of individual organizations will be evaluated. In other words, it is essential to think in a long term and to have a vision that will enable us to use the resources in an economic and purposeful way.

10. Prague

Pavel Bém

Major of the capital city

1.

The capital of Prague, its grant funded organizations and subjects receiving subsidies or in form of co-organizing (partnership) have so far successfully represented the city, its culture and the monuments in abroad and also provided space for presentation of other foreign towns, artistic companies as well as individual artists in Prague. One of the most important and a very successful presentation events of the capital in abroad were the Prague Days in Brussels in 2004 organized at the occasion of the Czech Republic accession to the European Union, and in 2005 the Prague Days in Berlin; further the Prague Days in Chicago, the Prague Days in Moscow and a participation of Prague in Thames Festival in London in 2007. In 2008 the Prague theatre season in Sankt Petersburg and the Budapest Days in Prague were organized prezentací zahrani ní culture v Praze se úsp –nými akcemi staly in 2005 Dny Bruselu v Praze, in 2006 Cultural dny Moskvvy v Praze in the framework of Ruské season in the Czech

Republic a cultural presentation *Kjóta v Praze*. In 2007 Prague hosted the Petersburg Theatre Season and in 2008 the Moscow Days were organized in Prague.

The capital of Prague presented in abroad in form of smaller cultural projects and participated in international competitions and festivals for example in Rome, Athens, Dusseldorf, Istanbul, Patras, Láhair, Nuremberg, Luxemburg, Omsk or Riga. Reciprocally Riga, Omsk and Nuremberg presented themselves in Prague.

The preparation and realization of events in the field of foreign cultural policy is continual. In January 2009 there were very successful Prague Days in Bratislava, in May there was the cultural presentation of Prague in Helsinki. In September 2009 there were the Soul Days in Prague and reciprocally in 2010 or 2011 the Prague Days in Souls are scheduled.

The list of financing grant supported organizations established by the capital of Prague is in the following table.

List of subsidies for the grant funded organizations in the cultural sphere in 2004 - 2008

	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	Investment in CZK	Non- investment in CZK								
THEATRE	18045700	363635000	4050000	361536400	31750000	360887000	83568000	377412000	27550000	361333000
MUSIC	14500000	71729800	0	72482000	0	74937000	0	75215000	1500000	77551000
LITERATURE AND LIBRARIES	7391000	197417100	8770000	205178000	4994300	209890000	13238700	214743800	19642700	212155000
FINE ARTS	206400	62504200	105000	58310000	5400000	57620000	2833000	62845000	22020000	58605000
OTHERS (Museum, PIS, Observatory, Vy-ehrad)	48170190	121990500	79306600	113077700	56305700	130449000	140023800	320713700	78472200	134019000
ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN	x)	x)							41151900	110 760600
BOTANIC GARDEN	x)	x)							14 871000	64 450000

x) included in sphere of action of the Department of Culture since 2008

3.

The essential issues of the Prague cultural events are mainly the following:

- Continually decreasing amount of state subsidies for culture increases the demand for subsidies provided by the municipality;
- Permanently growing number of artistic subjects and projects puts more and more requirements on their financing;
- Multi-source financing has not been insured in the long term.

In accordance with the Concept of cultural policy of the capital of Prague the main priority apart from the subsidy policy is the transformation of grant supported organizations.

One of the main objectives of the Advisory Council of the Prague major was to draft a plan of the second phase of the transformation of grant supported organizations. In autumn 2009 the major suggested a financing system, part of which is a direct financing and subsidies provided based on a free competition that is in form of grants.

The position of the capital of Prague as the direct organizer and operator of the cultural subjects ought to weaken and in opposition the supporters of independent cultural subjects ought to strengthen. A natural competition environment can only exist provided that there are self-reliable and self-sufficient economic subjects. Therefore the main objective of the capital is to continue with the transformation of grant supported organizations in Prague.

According to recommendations of the Advisory Council the Prague the culture system, which constitute the organizations directly established and financed by the capital ought to follow these criteria and objectives:

- To represent Prague culture and to confirm an essential Prague cultural identity;
- To basically cover individual artistic areas;
- To continually care for the development of cultural and historical heritage and contemporary production and their preservation;
- To create and operate financially demanding projects of various artistic genres and to ensure cultural and social requirements of Prague inhabitants and visitors that cannot be provided by the non-profit organizations and the private sector in full range and quality. That ought to correspond with an exclusive economic and creative environment of the core institutions.
- To make art works and cultural services available to the most consumers, the Prague citizens and its visitors under economically, socially and technically available conditions, and appropriate for children and youth, socially and physically handicapped and social minorities.
- Financial subsidies for operation of the organizations should still be provided according to Act No. 250/2000 Coll. on Budgetary Rules of area budgets (in future possibly in a different way) directly from the capital budget in accordance with strictly defined objectives and functions of each organization in the foundation charter and according to strict evaluation rules and conditions. This is a key characteristic that distinguishes the core institutions from other types of cultural institutions.

In connection with the set criteria according to the Advisory Council the core system of the organizations directly established and financed by the city ought to be formed by the following subjects:

1. Vinohrady Theatre (repertoire drama theatre)
2. Prague Symphonic Orchestra FOK (music)
3. Prague galleries (fine arts)
4. Music theatre in Karlín
5. City library in Prague (literature)
6. The Prague Museum (collection institution of an educational and scientific character with a historical aspect)
7. National cultural monument of Vyšehrad (exhibition institution and cultural-historical monument)
8. Observatory and planetarium of the Prague (popularizing and scientific institution)

Other current grant funded organizations in Prague that are not listed in the category are advised to be transformed by the Prague Advisory Council.

If the subject becomes one of the organizations directly established and financed by the capital, there is still an option of its shifting into a lower category and consecutive transformation but these are such organizations where a transformation will apparently be difficult by the property relations (there is a large property owned by the capital of Prague that the organizations take care of). Also it is yet to be defined an appropriate form of organization for the transformation.

Note: The Prague Zoological Garden and The Prague Botanic Garden are not administered by the Cultural Department of the Prague municipality; hence the Advisory Council did not deal with them in the material. In the framework the budgetary chapter šthe Cultureö there are also the Prague Funeral Institution and the Administration of Prague Graveyards established and directly financed by the capital. These organizations do not belong into the sphere of action of OKP MHMP and the Advisory Council did not further deal with them.

Currently a draft of a štransformationö of Prague Information Services into a stock option company with a holding arrangement where the only share holder is the capital city of Prague.

11. Central Bohemia region

David Rath

Central Bohemia region hetman

1.

Central Bohemia region has a specific position amongst other regions given primarily but by its geographic location. This also manifestates in the cultural sphere because the region creates a ring around Prague that naturally concentrates the richest cultural offer. Even despite that Central Bohemia itself has a lot to offer in the cultural sphere. To give an example the Thálie Award is repeatedly given to the actors performing in P íbram theatre of Antonín Dvo ák. The cultural life of the Central Bohemia region can be simply characterized as rich

and various. There are many different professional or amateur subjects in various areas of the cultural sphere. The region supports the projects with a regional character promoting not only the traditional Central Bohemia events but also other experimental projects. The main negative influence on further development of cultural activities is the lack of financial means.

2.

From the regional point of view there are two cultural levels. Firstly the cultural life develops through the organizations established by the region, mainly the museums and galleries, which annually organize hundreds of cultural events. The attendance rate of the museums and galleries established by the Central Bohemian region reaches over 600 000 visitors per year. Yet equally important part of the cultural life supported by the region is granting subsidies to subjects active in the cultural sphere. The region also helps promoting cultural events by providing information to the wide public. The Central Bohemia region awards important celebrities from the cultural sphere by a badge or plaque of the Central Bohemia region.

3.

The main issue is the amount of finances devoted to the support of culture in general. Currently the budget of the Ministry of Culture does not reach declared 1 % HDP in a long term; on the contrary the total financial support of individual grants is decreasing.

12. Ústí nad Labem region

Jana Vaňhová

Ústí nad Labem region hetman

1.

Culture significantly influences lives of all inhabitants, contributes to cultivation, education, bears deep social and value-creating aspect and contributes to overall creativity potential. Culture is an essential and irreplaceable part of the society life.

Cultural heritage is a proof of the development level of a nation and society and has to be preserved, promoted and passed on to our descendants.

Several tendencies of speeding the cultural development establish a serious phenomenon. The older generation confronted with the younger generation now lack an identification aspect and usually the youngsters stand against the older group in antagonistic position. The transfer of most traditions, not solely in the sphere of culture, is becoming very difficult and gap between the interests of both generations is constantly growing.

The problems that significantly influence culture have obviously deeper roots. The society adjusts to the market and culture requirements. The products of so called mass culture supply quality with quantity; they are growingly superficial and influence each individual with presenting patterns and algorithms of behaviour and understanding of the world.

An increasing speed of life and heavy workload is becoming an issue, which have big effect on every man and makes a man consider lifestyle modification and ultimately negatively influences an approach to culture. Too many times the situation becomes almost pathological and leads to the state of passivity and simple survival.

The current globalized world brings about certain problems regarding the meeting of different cultures as a result of ethnic migration. Certain elements of multicultural education can help overcoming conflicts and tension between majority society and immigrants. The support of cultural traditions of these ethnical groups is very desirable same as the requirements to assimilate the basic elements of hosting country culture.

Culture adapts and reacts to new conditions. Family and schools play an irreplaceable role in cultural reproduction. The public administration ought to influence primarily these institutions to maintain handing over the traditional values and behavioural patterns. Culture should be, it is and will always be a public matter. The municipality, region and state bear the responsibility for its development. The investments and efforts will return back manifold not only in the new cultural values but also in the behaviour and actions of the society members.

2.

The region is a separate territorial community of citizens that cares for general development of the area and the requirements of the citizens. In order to fulfil the operation, the region establishes legal entities. Amongst other region-established institutions there are cultural institution, museums, galleries, libraries, observatories and other cultural facilities (theatres, cultural houses, open air museums etc.). The local government and regional council also decide on support of different regional cultural programs and programs supporting preservation of historical monumental by specific grants.

The region is responsible for the level of culture and its development in the given territory therefore the investment into culture decides on the quality of citizens' life and the whole society.

Culture is an inseparable part of the regional character; it helps to develop tourism and becomes an important economic field. Of course the sphere of culture is not economically independent and able to completely finance itself therefore the region devotes a considerable amount from its budget to subsidise its support.

The region also cares for an optimal distribution of cultural institutions throughout the territory, helps the development of natural cultural centres and supports even those cultural institution that are not directly under its operation. The region supports interest organizations of a non-profit sector, which participate in cultural activities.

There is a large network of museums that administer and enlarge their high quality collections and due to regional investments the museums obtain all the necessary space for proper execution of their functions (new depositories, reconstructed buildings and exhibition spaces). Gradually the communication between the public, museums and galleries is improving along with an efficient use of new information technologies, more quality work with children and youth etc. The region supports financial activity of the libraries and methodically guides library employees in the region.

The region helps making culture available to all its inhabitants by organizing trips from small towns and villages to city theatres, operating regional libraries, subsidising entrance fee, providing free entry to selected events etc.).

Culture is an important development element that positively influences cultural potential of the citizens. Last but not least it has a highly positive influence at decreasing the number of socially pathological behaviour especially amongst children and youth and could play an important role at integrating national minorities including Roma living in the region.

3.

The priority issue is to maintain inhabitants' interest in regional cultural activity and to prepare cultural programs that would face the tendencies already mentioned in the first point; further to face mass culture manifestations and globalization, to suppress consumers' behaviour and to make even more inhabitants participate in cultural activities in the region. We presume new technology could positively influence the activities of museums and galleries, modern exhibitions and presentations as well as digitalization and modernization of spaces used for cultural purposes.

To achieve this objective there are two large projects that ought to serve and popularize the region. The region in cooperation with German partners operates two projects in order to get them enlisted as the UNESCO cultural heritage in future: Kru-noho í region ó Montan region Erzgebirge and Czech Saxony Switzerland.

Despite the tense situation in regional financing we plan to present the municipal government programs of cultural activities support and monument renewal and will try to keep the financing of regional cultural institutions on a feasible level.

Obviously we continue to preserve and renew historical monuments that amount up to six thousand in the region and a considerable part of the owners requires financial aid in order to maintain their preservation.

The region must work on solving issues in relation to Roma ethnical group and also offer the minority group quality cultural activities to maintain their cultural traditions and in order to make Czech population better understand the Roma culture.

12. Vyso ína region

Ji í B hounek

Vyso ína region hetman

1.

The Vyso ína region is the region with an important cultural historical heritage, folk culture and various cultural activities of institutions established by the state, region and municipalities, a number of citizen associations. In its territory there is a thick network of museums, galleries, memory halls, libraries and a large amount of cultural monuments, three of which are on the UNESCO world cultural and natural heritage list.

The basic document, based on which the set objectives of development of culture and preservation of the cultural heritage and traditions in Vyso ína region are realized, is the Development Program for the Vyso ína Region.

Pros of the development in the cultural sphere and monumental care:

The Vyso ína region created its own wide grant and subsidy system an objective of which is to support modernization of the museum, gallery and library system, to support the development of cultural activities and improve the quality of public services provided in the cultural sphere, increase the level cultural heritage care and improve technical status of cultural monuments.

Apart from the mentioned Development Program for the Vysočina region in 2008 the Vysočina Regional Council agreed another conceptual material – the Concept of public library system and operation of the Vysočina region.

During 2004–2009 there was a major improvement in material, space and technical conditions in respect of the activities of grant supported organizations. Objects of residence of the grant funded organizations undergone or are undergoing building reconstructions; in case of rented objects this is done in cooperation with the building owners.

A major objective that the Vysočina region is gradually solving is to ensure the necessary depository space for the established collection institutions. Part of the organizations already secured its depository requirements and others are a subject to negotiations. At the end of 2009 a new modern depository for the Vysočina Třebíč museum is completed.

The Vysočina region regards documenting and reproduction of national, regional and local identity in the area of traditional folk culture as very important and it is expressed by creating a special department for traditional culture in Vysočina Třebíč museum. To ensure the quality of care for archaeological findings those are legally the property of the Vysočina region there is a specialized expert archaeology department in Vysočina Jihlava museum.

Collection organizations established by the Vysočina region in 2004–2009 enlarged its visitor offer by opening several permanent expositions. For example in the framework of INTERREG IIIA program the Vysočina Jihlava Museum realized an exposition called Jihlava Throughout Centuries and the regional Vysočina gallery in Jihlava realized a unique exposition of Touch Art, which received the Czech ICOM Committee Award in the framework of the National Museum Competition Gloria Musaealis 2008.

Aiming at enlarging the cultural and educational development of citizens and decreasing economic barriers for the wide public entry to museums and galleries since 1st September 2008 a project Common Entry Ticket, that offers advantageous entry to four museums, their four branches and three galleries established by the Vysočina region.

The Vysočina region pays attention to cooperation development with the foreign partners in the area of cultural heritage presentation, an example of which is the organization of Lower Austria municipal exhibition, a part of which is located in Telč. There is a traditional annual participation of the Vysočina Třebíč Museum presenting Bethlehem manufacturing as part of the 100th Bethlehem exhibition in Rome.

Regional contribution towards the cultural development of the wide amateur and expert public is the organization of a support of regional and republic events such as the Czech State Museum Fair (14th anniversary in 2009) or the Autumn Book Fair in Havlíčkův Brod (19th anniversary in October 2009) and expert conference such as the Silver Jihlava, Between Jihlava and Vienna 1700–1900, Agrology Conference on the Bronze Age, Archaeology Seminar for Museums and Monumental Care Institutions or the State Conference on Monumental Preservation Care under the sponsorship of the Czech Regional Association.

The region expresses its support of cultural development by presenting plenty of awards. To name the main ones, there is the Award of Vysočina region for the best cultural project of the year called The Golden Rowan, which has two categories since 2005; the Cultural activities and the Cultural heritage care. In the framework of Autumn Book Fair in Havlíčkův Brod

Vysoina region presents the Vysoina Region Award for the best non-fiction book. In the framework of The International Documentary Film Festival in Jihlava the region subsidises the Best Documentary Film Award since 2006.

The region supports new exposition projects that are extraordinary in their value, scope and participation of subjects on the state level. In 2009 there was an open exposition 'Baroque Art in National Gallery Collection in Prague' that was placed in the castle of 'Ánad Sázavou, which was granted the auspices of the Czech UNESCO Commission.

Vysoina region also supports the promotion and appreciation of cultural celebrities in relation with the territory; it also participates at organizing anniversary celebrations of a music composer Gustav Mahler; it financially supported the realization of the monument dedicated to Gustav Mahler by professor Jan Koblasa and it produced the five part collection of Mahler's compositions performed by renowned music orchestras in the region. It cooperated at organization of the international conference called Jaroslav Hašek - a part of the world thought context and technical modernization of Jaroslav Hašek memorial in Lipnice nad Sázavou.

Vysoina region also utilizes financial means devoted to the development of culture and tourism in the framework of the Southeast regional operation program. The biggest project is the 'Tebí castle - castle modernization and opening new expositions'; other projects are 'Museums and galleries in Vysoina on-line' and 'Cultural and natural heritage in Vysoina' that focus on promotion of regional cultural heritage.

Support also aims at significant editorial and exhibition projects such as the project of an artistic agency Foibos 'Famous villas', that maps villa architecture all throughout the Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia from the second half of 19th century. The activities resulted in a book publishing and realized expositions on famous villas in separate regions. In October 2008 a publication devoted to villa architecture in Vysoina named 'Famous villa regions in Vysoina' was realized and later followed by the exhibition project.

The region supported a project 'The building development of Jewish ghetto in Tebí', an objective of which was to map and thoroughly present the building development of the Jewish ghetto in Tebí; the monument that was enlisted on the UNESCO world heritage list in 2003. The project was made available to the wide public in autumn 2008 through the web pages of Vysoina region.

An important contribution to the development of monumental care in the region was the establishment of expert organization of the state monumental care - the National Monumental Institute, regional specialized station resident in Telč since 1st January 2008.

The cons of the development in the cultural sphere and monumental care

Despite general improvement the financial means to support cultural activities citizens and organizations are still insufficient. Especially in connection with the economic crisis there was a large reduction of financial resources devoted for the area of culture and monumental care including grant programs.

The realization of exhibition project of the new residence of the Vysoina library remains an issue; the project documentation is prepared and the realization is connected to obtaining external financial resources to cover part of the investment costs.

There is continuing deficit in coordination and interconnection of cultural activities and service offer. Also there are gaps in functional interconnection of museum and gallery programs for schools and their harmonization with framework educational programs; similarly there is insufficient feedback from the cultural organizations (evaluation activities and setting the requirements and impulses on part of the wide public).

There is a large potential in technical equipment, insufficient room for some collection organizations and a financial enhancement of undervalued conditions for reaching and maintaining quality expert staff of organizations active in the cultural sphere.

The Concept of Collection Organizations Development in Vyso ína region and the Concept of Traditional Folk Culture in Vyso ína region have not yet been realized. The elaboration of the Concept of State Monumental Care Support in Vyso ína region depends on an approval of the new Concept of State Monumental Care in the Czech Republic.

2.

The main regional function in the cultural sphere can be primarily seen in creating the financial, conceptual, legislative and to a certain extent also institutional and organizational pre requisitions for the development of cultural and monumental care in the territory.

The region fulfils its tasks based on its function as the organizer of museums, galleries, libraries and theatres and it is a partner to the non-regional subjects in respect of obtaining financial means from the EU structural funds such as in case of cooperation of Vyso ína region and the town of T ebí regarding the projects of reconstruction of the castle and surrounding area in T ebí .

The region has an important advisory function and methodical activity provided to municipalities and organizations active in the cultural sphere and the area of monumental care.

The realization of grant programs financed by the Vyso ína region through Vyso ína Fund and grant titles maintains a system role.

In the field of tangible cultural heritage the region represents the state monumental care administrative body.

3.

Priorities:

- To build the new regional Vyso ína library, which has so far been resident in rented spaces, an extent of which does not suffice the requirements of regional libraries in a long term;
- To find a solution of an issue of insufficient depository spaces to preserve collections of several museums and galleries established by the Vyso ína region;
- To produce a new legislative amendment in the monumental care area.

Problems:

- insufficient stimulation of the owners in respect of preservation and renewal of cultural heritage;
- a lack of awareness of inhabitants on the importance of cultural heritage;
- unclear ownership relations of several important cultural monuments in Vysočina region.

14. Zlín region

Stanislav Mišák
Zlín region hetman

1.

Pros in the area of monumental care:

- Increasing interest of municipalities and individuals not only in preservation, but mainly in utilization of tangible cultural heritage;
- Large number of town initiatives of towns and municipalities engaged in Associating of historical seats of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia into the Regeneration program of town monumental preservations and zones in the framework of cultural heritage preservation;
- Opening the market with more quality materials and their special offer for reconstruction of monuments; creating competition environment and companies specialized in reconstruction of monuments ó a new way of more quality monumental renewal opened;
- Supplying current anonymous and non-direct responsibility for the state ownership with individual and clearly defined responsibility of concrete monument owners. As a result the number of unpreserved ruined monuments that would otherwise be annihilated, significantly decreased;
- Manifold increase of the volume of maintenance and restoration as a manifestation of more rational and effective administration of individual ownership;
- Higher professional level of building and craft works;
- A high professional level of methods and the results in the area of conservation and restoration of cultural monuments that are the works of fine arts or craft works;
- An enlistment of a specific cultural monument on the UNESCO list and appreciation of many other monuments as national cultural monuments;
- Providing financial means for renewal of cultural monuments (intangible and tangible) and the monuments of local importance from the regional budget;
- Creation of citizen initiatives and associations as a result of democratization of the society, that initiate and support their municipalities and members of parliament to support the preservation of endangered and unused cultural monuments, or even point out the investment plans that would endanger the historical and urban integrity of historical seats;
- Gradual improvement of objects with high concentration of tangible cultural monuments;
- Good potential of the objects open to the wide public and notoriety of several Czech castles at home and in abroad.

Pros in the cultural sphere

- Conceptual activity and agreed documents: Concept of development of the local culture and Concept of development of cultural facilities of Zlín region (2009), harmonograms and financial plans for both concepts (2009);
- Production and realization of projects (Open gates, Family passes etc.);
- Projects of trans border cooperation (Museum of folk distilleries on Morava-Slovakia border, West Carpathians ó common border, Skies on your palm, Exhibition for cooperation and knowledge, Astronomic travel, Universe gate);
- EEA/Norway ó Big Morava memorial with modern multimedia exposition; History under the town paving ó archaeological and historical exposition;
- Advisory activity in both directions that is the region ó grant funded organizations a grant funded organizations and other subjects;
- Cooperation with departmental, citizen and public subjects;
- Presentation also outside the Czech Republic;
- Strong professional personnel;
- Quality work with children and youth;
- Technical evaluation of objects;
- Orientation on tourism;
- Own marketing;
- Methodical aid in the field of local culture;
- Financial support of activity and restoration of cultural monuments (Zlín region culture fund);
- Preservation of šliveõ folklore and traditions in the area;
- Organization of conferences and congresses;
- Co-organization of important events folklore, music and theatre in the region;
- Activity of the Centre for traditional folk culture care in Zlín region in the Slovak museum;
- PRO AMICIS MUSAE awards for the contributions in the cultural sphere organized y Zlín region since 2005;
- Since 2008 the region gives a title the Folk building of the year to exemplary reconstructions and modifications of folk architecture;
- Appreciation of grant supported organizations activities in the region;
- Honorary award for an extraordinary project for development in the area organized by Czech ethnic society; The regional library by Franti-ek Barto– for the re-edition of the works of Franti-ek Barto–; the Slovak museum was awarded by the Ministry of Culture in 2004 and the Czech national society in 2004ó2008.

Cons the monumental care

- In many cases the unresolved ownership relations are blocking the started reconstruction or it is even not possible to start it, which helps deconstruction of several monumental objects and zones;
- Unresolved church restitution and financing threaten to a large amount of tangible and intangible monuments;
- Insufficient maintenance in the past years, ruining and emergency state of many monuments of a different type; utilization of different ownership (inner encumbrance) block the economic potential of the monuments. Without dealing with the issues there is no positive economic influence of the monumental fund;

- So far the negative impacts of ownership deformation during socialism were not overcome, when in a long term a regular maintenance and restoration of a large part of the monumental fund was neglected;
- Large part of continuing devastation is also caused by financial speculations with tangible heritage and using it as security. The technical state of historical monuments is generally very poor;
- Lower number of building modifications and reconstructions of historical preserved objects and houses in the town and village monumental zones in the region reflects mainly lack of financial means, but also to a large extent the impossibility of further use of the monuments;
- Continuing insufficient promotion and presentation of cultural monuments, promotion incoherence, one-way oriented interest of the visitors, insufficient traffic and touristic marking;
- General awareness of inhabitants on monuments, national cultural heritage, UNESCO monuments or other important monuments and regional places of interest is not very good;
- Still the awareness that cultural heritage care is a common matter of all inhabitants and any loss is definitive and irreplaceable remains insufficient;
- Cultural monument owners are often surprised by their ownership rather than proud of it. Cooperation with expert organizations in the area of monumental care is rather bothering and delaying them and their relation with the institutions that ought to help then decide on the proper way of reconstruction of the monuments, is often not very good;
- Small sacral buildings are not centrally listed and regional places of interest are not systematically traced and mapped;
- In areas of increased economic activities, especially in historical town centres, the pressure to increase demolition and replacing historical buildings with larger new buildings or their extensions, reconstructions and insensitive modernization;
- Enormous increase of land value especially in historical town centres that is very often part of monumental preservation zone leads demand on vertical building conflicting with historical character of the location;
- Character of individual monuments and monumental companies is negatively changing by commercial advertisement, a lack of historical detail and inappropriate architectonic additions;
- Increase of criminality leads to many thefts, vandalism and damaging statues, monuments and house facades; preventive steps in respect of sacral object thefts remains insufficient;
- Import of materials and goods from abroad bring products and technologies already overcome and unsalable in country of origin with often negative long term effects in the framework of out monumental fund;
- Absence or incorrect evaluation of urban and architectonic heritage often destroy its essential values;
- Experience of connection regional monumental potential with economic projects (lack of understanding and consensus in issues of restoration and the concept of further utilization with application of multiplication effect ó the need to establish special methods);
- Inflexibility and non-transparency of state monumental care system;
- Absence of regular cooperation system in cultural monument care in line of monument owners-municipality-region-state;

- Insufficient legal enforceability of sanctions in relation to non-observance of the Act on state monumental care;
- Purposeful negligence or breaking of generally binding legal regulations that manage the performance of state administration in the area of monumental care;
- Absence of state monumental care commissions, conservators and news providers;
- Insufficient expert education of employees in the area of monumental care;
- Omitting especially technical monuments in respect of documentation and their own preservation;
- Insufficient use of potential of certain intangible cultural monuments;
- Lack of additional services of certain publically available intangible cultural monuments;
- Adding monumental protection into the intangible heritage cadastre;
- Inappropriate commercial utilization of monumental objects and areas;
- Loss of identity tangible cultural heritage and genius loci;
- Depopulation of rural areas and villages;
- Inappropriate subsidy allocation.

Cons in the cultural sphere

- Complicated Act no. 563/1991 Sb., on accounting, §25 par.1, letter K) regarding accounting book keeping of collection objects;
- Grant funded organizations established in the cultural sphere in Zlín region repeatedly address the state, regional and private institutions that based on a licence granted by the Czech Academy of Sciences provide archaeological research in the regional territory to request handing over archaeological findings from their research and their preservation in our depositories; ambiguity of interpretation of Act no. 20/1987 Coll., on state monumental care, § 23a Ownership of tangible archaeological findings;
- Lack of financial means for organization of events, equipment of companies and evaluation of the head quarter employees;
- Lack of financial means for monumental reconstruction;
- Minimum finances for technical evaluation of objects.

2.

The main function of Zlín region lies in its active care for tangible cultural heritage ó renewal and preservation of monumental fund and its revitalization. The role manifest itself not only in direct financial support of restoration of cultural monuments, but also the region acts as coordinator of cooperation between the monument owners, municipalities and state. It has the best pre requisitions for facilitation between municipalities on one part and the state and monument owners on the other. Zlín region understands its main function in the cultural sphere in the framework of separate sphere of action as a unique public service to regional inhabitants, its systematic and conceptual work in the cultural sphere, in advisory and methodical activities for the towns and municipalities, in finding concrete strategies, setting priority support from the point of their importance for the region following the state cultural policy through its development programs. Regions can also effectively participate in getting monumental care closer to citizensø interests.

In a long term Zlín region cares for:

- Ensuring technical and space conditions for operation and development of grant supported organizations of Zlín region;

- Ensuring personal and financial conditions for operation and development of grant supported organizations Zlín region;
- Support of profilation and ensuring variability and quality activities realized by the grant funded organizations in Zlín region;
- Ensuring conditions for mutually active relation with the wide public;
- Optimizing of expanses and their increase in local culture financing;
- Increasing persons involved in local cultural events into tourism;
- Increasing support of persons involved in local culture;
- Improving interlinking activities of schools and persons involved in local culture.

3.

In light of activity and operation of grant supported organizations:

- Objectionable Act no. 563/1991 Coll. on accounting, §25 par.1 letter K) with respect of evaluation of collection objects;
- Act no. 20/1987 Coll. on state monumental care, § 23a Ownership of tangible archaeological findings;
- Lack of financial means for monument reconstruction;
- Minimal finances for technical evaluation of objects.

In light of local culture:

- Lack of financial means for organization of events, equipment of companies and possible evaluation of top managers.

In light of monumental care:

- To maintain and present monumental fund;
- To continue caring for architectonic heritage in Zlín region;
- To continue improving the use of monumental fund and more quality promotion;
- To enhance owners pride for their monument;
- To secure consequent supervision and regular follow-up of monumental restoration;
- To maintain an intensive support of participation of unused and ruined monuments in social life and their appropriate utilization and presentation;
- To monitor and coordinate monumental fund care in Zlín region;
- To supervise regular preventive care for monumental fund;
- To use all means including economic ones to stimulate and prefer maintenance for fierce reconstructions;
- To help creating a thorough map of regional places of interest;
- To utilize the support of European Union programs in the framework of monumental care;
- To balance the support in the area of non-tangible and tangible heritage;
- To support formerly neglected technical monuments;
- To support presentation of buildings and other smaller parts that apart from their own architectonic and historical values are also important as part of a collection creating complete historical environment;
- To pay better attention to important solitaire monuments or places of interest in locations of increased inhabitants or visitors movement;
- To make the wide public aware also with less available and promoted monuments;

- To enhance information communication level and the level of awareness in relation to monumental care support in Zlín region;
- To strengthen of attractiveness of the monumental fund in Zlín region;
- To present monumental fund made available to the wide public;
- To present historically valuable and attractive locations that are omitted from the point of insufficient awareness;
- To enhance operational use of financial means from existing grants in the area of monumental care for preservation, appropriate functional utilization and presentation of unused and endangered monuments;
- To cooperate with citizens and citizen initiatives within the system of monumental fund system;
- To solve the state of public finances;
- To solve current problems in the legislative area.