

Prague, 1 July 2022

Dear Colleagues,

On 1 July 2022 the Czech Republic takes over its historically second Presidency of the Council of the European Union. It is our great pleasure and privilege to take on this role and guide work of the EUPAN network for the following six months.

First of all, we would like to express our appreciation for the effort and work done by our French colleagues and colleagues from previous presidencies, especially in view of the challenging circumstances arising from the COVID-19 crisis and the Russian invasion of Ukraine which marked the last presidencies. Despite these difficulties they have managed, with great benefit to us all, cover vast number of important topics, issues and challenges faced by our administrations.

We wish to build on achievements of previous presidencies and invite you for a discussion and sharing of ideas on the following priority themes of Czech Presidency: 1) transparent and professional civil service (relation of top public managers to political leadership), 2) development of ethical culture and values in civil service, 3) support of innovation using Big Data. We would also like to carry out follow up activities on the international exchange programme for civil servants. Our work will be guided by two important documents adopted during the French presidency, namely the EUPAN Strategy Paper for a period July 2022 – June 2025 and the Strasbourg Declaration on the Common values and challenges of European Public Administrations approved by the ministerial conference in Strasbourg in March 2022.

Should you require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact my colleagues Michal Czudek (<u>michal.czudek@mvcr.cz</u>) and Jáchym Skála (<u>jachym.skala@mvcr.cz</u>) who will help you with your questions.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Prague in Autumn and to continue our fruitful cooperation in the EUPAN network.

Your sincerely,

Petr Hurka
Deputy Minister of the Interior
and Director General for Civil Service



Calendar of events

Secretariat WL: 5. September (videoconference)

EUPAN WL: 26. – 27. September in Prague

Secretariat DG: 24. October (videoconference)

EUPAN DG: 24. – 25. November in Prague

CAF National Correspondents: 29. September (videoconference)

CAF Users Conference: 19. October in Prague