About Wikimedia Czech Republic

On January 1, 2014, Wikimedia Czech Republic association had 37 regular members, while on December 31, 2014 it had 41 regular members and two honorary members. We thank all our members and supporters. Selected important committees that led and coordinated the activities of our organization are summarized below:

Board

Jan Loužek
chair
Vojtěch Dostál
vice-chair
Jaroslav Zastoupil
Dominik Matus

Audit Committee

Michal Reiter
audit committee chair
Pavel Hrdlička
Jiří Sedláček
Jan Loužek
Jan Groh

Presentation & Outreach II Grant Committee

Jan Groh
Petr Novák
Michal Reiter
Pavel Hrdlička

Mediagrant Committee

Petr Brož
Vojtěch Dostál

Others

Milada Moudrá
grant administrator
Petr Novák
Web admin
Jaroslav Zastoupil
treasurer
2014 in Numbers

- 20,000 pictures taken in more than 1,500 Czech municipalities and 115 protected natural areas
- 70 Czech seniors attended new Wikipedia courses
- 250 kilobytes of text about the town of Přibyslav
- 900 photographs created during the WikiTown Přibyslav event
- 3,542 Czech encyclopedic articles created through the Czech-Slovak Wikipedia tool
- 120 participants at this year’s Wikiconference in Brno
- 41 members of Wikimedia Czech Republic
- 8,589 photographs uploaded by 249 participants of the Wiki Loves Monuments contest
- 650 pages of text contributed by university and high school students during the “Students Write Wikipedia” courses
Since September 2014: Prague’s seniors learn Wikipedia editing and become Wikipedians in the courses organized by Wikimedia Czech Republic.

The Senior Citizens Write Wikipedia (Senioři píši Wikipedii) program wants to bring more seniors into using and improving Wikipedia. This sort of Internet users is still underrepresented on Wikipedia. However, having many whole-life experiences and sufficient time, the seniors have great potential to enrich this 21st century online encyclopedia with much useful content.

In September 2014, regular week-by-week courses were launched in the senior Elpida Centrum in Prague and in the Municipal Library of Prague.

They were led by Wikimedia Czech Republic member Vojtěch Veselý and financed from the Individual Engagement Grant awarded by the Wikimedia Foundation.

Up to 70 seniors attended the courses from September till the end of the year, having written 18 new articles on Czech Wikipedia in autumn.

The writing speed grows gradually as the seniors become more experienced Wikipedians. So far, the program is the most effective way of recruiting new Wikipedians.

Many seniors who attended the courses continue editing Wikipedia and become individual Wikipedians.

The project attracted great interest, the national broadcaster Czech Television aired two reports about it and the project advanced to the final of the Eduina awards, organized by the Eduin association.

More at:
Grants:IEG/Senior Citizens Write Wikipedia/Midpoint
(http://tinyurl.com/seniori)
Throughout the 2014 year: More than 20,000 photographs were created to illustrate Czech Wikipedia articles.

Within our long-term “Mediagrant” program, we again offered travel costs reimbursement in 2014 to the people who take photographs for Wikipedia in their freetime.

The program’s principle is simple: The participants photograph so called objects of interests, e.g. Czech municipalities, Czech natural protected areas or important events – and after uploading the photos to Wikimedia Commons submit a request for reimbursement of their travel costs.

In 2014, 19 photographers participated in the program, including eight newcomers. Altogether, they uploaded unbelievable 21,648 files, which is about the same number as the total number uploaded during the 2010-2013 period.

1,500 municipalities and 115 protected areas were photographed. Mediagrant thus has a strong influence on the quality of Czech Wikipedia illustrations.


The development of the number of uploaded photographs during the respective years; the growth in 2014 is clearly noticeable.

Photography of the Czech Republic

Chateau Mnišek pod Brdy – the “Czech municipalities photos” topic

Jewish cemetery in Střítěž – the “Jewish monuments” topic

Cebiv village common – the “Czech municipalities photos” topic
May 9 to 12, 2014: Czech Wikipedians gathered in one city and during a weekend rapidly improved the related articles.

During this workshop, 12 photographers, encyclopedia writers and GLAM experts collaborated to improve the Czech Wikipedia content about the town of Přibyslav and related topics.

These 12 people, accompanied by two colleagues working remotely from their homes, created 64 articles about the town of Přibyslav during the weekend, made 860 edits to Wikipedia and added more than 250 kilobytes of text. 914 photographs were created in the city and its surroundings, and not only for fun - 203 of them are already used in the articles. That means there had already been a demand for them before.

Contacts with local institutions have been established. The event was organized thanks to cooperation with the mayor of the city, who patronaged it. We communicated with many institutions: the Municipal Library, the Elementary School, the Firefighters Museum and the Municipal Museum.

We borrowed valuable regional literature from the library, the Municipal Museum offered portraits of local personalities and the Firefighters Museum allowed us to photograph archived documents stored there.

One of the organizers, Vojtěch Dostál, wants to repeat this kind of event in the following years in other cities and create a new tradition of organizing the annual WikiTowns.

More at:
Blog WMCZ: Výsledek přibyslavské akce: 600 fotek, 250 kilobytů textu a 64 nových článků!
(http://tinyurl.com/pribyslav)
November 29, 2014: Traditional conference of the wiki-world took place in Brno for the first time, recording the highest ever number of participants.

The sixth Czech Wikiconference took place November 29, 2014. It has been for the first time ever that the event was organized outside of Prague, in the building of the Brno Observatory and Planetarium, with which the association established cooperative ties.

With its all-day format, the conference continued the tradition of the past years. The program was nevertheless targeted on newcomers and on introducing the individual Wikimedia projects. Among others, the founder of Czech Wikipedia Miroslav Malovec, Brno citizen himself, spoke at the beginning of the day. The projects Senior Citizens Write Wikipedia, WikiTown and Wikisofia, the Creative Commons

Czech Wikiconferences turnout. The number of attendees grows year by year

Interview with the founder of Czech Wikipedia, Miroslav Malovec (left)

Czech Republic association and in the end the Wiki Loves Monuments contest were also given the opportunity to present themselves.

The event was organized by the Brno community of Wikimedia Czech Republic members: Marek Blahuš, Martin Kotačka and Dominik Matus, in collaboration with the Alumni and Friends of Masaryk University association.

128 people attended the conference, a number that beat the previous conference in Prague (107 participants). Up to 70 % guests said they attended the conference for the first time. Same percentage said they would like to attend the Wikiconference next time.

Recordings of all presentations are available at: slideslive.com/wikipedia/wikikonference-2014


A group photograph of the participants
Students Write Wikipedia

Summer term 2013/14 and winter term 2014/15: University students added an equivalent of 650 bookpages of text to Wikipedia.

The Students Write Wikipedia projects serves as a platform for teachers as well as students who want to liven up the education at universities. Instead of traditional paper assignments, students can acquire credits for writing Wikipedia articles.

During the summer term of 2013/14, the students added 948,798 bytes of text to Wikipedia; during the winter term of 2014/15, it was even more: 985,345 bytes of text. If these students’ contributions were published in a book, it would be a book of 650 pages. 119 brand new articles were started thanks to the students.

The Students Write Wikipedia project was presented to the BarCamp of the Šrámkova Sobotka festival. The BarCamp is a meeting of teachers and other stakeholders in high school and university education. We also share our experience with the project with colleagues abroad – Vojtěch Dostál is one of 15 members of the Education Collaborative initiative, which aims to disseminate similar projects throughout the world.

More at:
Blog WMCZ: Studenti psali Wikipedii i v roce 2014, opět o něco více
(http://tinyurl.com/studentipw)

In January and May, when our students write the most, the number of active editors peaks.
Throughout 2014, the tool developed by our volunteer at the end of 2013 enabled fast and easy translation from Czech to Slovak and vice versa.

The tool Česko-slovenská Wikipedie (Czech-Slovak Wikipedia) has essentially sped up the creation of new articles. Developed by our member Marek Blahuš, it uses machine translation and returns the produced translation for revision by a human translator. The resulting article thus fulfills all the criteria imposed on encyclopaedic style and correct grammar in respective languages.

In 2014, an unbelievable total of 3,542 new articles were created on Czech Wikipedia by translation from Slovak language, which is 12.5% of all new articles written that year.

The range of topics of those articles is very colorful; Slovak topography and biographies of significant Slovak personalities are among the most frequent.

Meanwhile, Slovak Wikipedia has profitted from the tool as well, as it allows translating in both directions. 2,037 new articles appeared on Slovak Wikipedia throughout 2014, which means one in every four new articles.

Czech user Petr1888 was the most active among all the translators, creating 1,349 articles. Altogether, a hundred of editors joined the task, both Czech and Slovak ones.

Wiki Loves Monuments 2014

September 1 – 30, 2014: In this year’s edition of this popular photo contest, the participants uploaded a third more photographs than last year. It helped Wikipedia reach a 59% photographic coverage of all Czech monuments.

Wiki miluje památky (Wiki Loves Monuments) is the biggest photographic contest worldwide. It brings together dozens of countries that organize national competitions focused on photographing the local monuments. The photographs are entered into the competition as the users upload them to Wikimedia Commons. The contest thus fulfills two tasks: it improves the photographic content of Wikipedia and at the same time it raises awareness about Wikipedia.

The competitors uploaded 8,589 photographs, which is 33% more than last year. We managed to reverse the trend of the past editions, associated to the growing number of monuments already photographed. 249 competitors participated in the contest, most of them for the first time. Between September 1 and 30, the share of Czech monuments with photographs in Wikipedia grew from 51 to 59%, mostly thanks to our competitors.

The jury composed of photographers and representatives of our partners selected the winning photograph. It depicts the Kašperk castle and was taken by Jiří Strašek of Klatovy.

The whole competition was organized by a three-member team made up of our members, with the biggest contribution by the project coordinator Milada Moudrá. Her job was partially financed by the AVAST endowment fund.

More at:
Other events

Book fair
For the sixth time, we participated at the Autumn Book Fair in Havlíčkův Brod. At the event, annually attended by 15,000 people, we explained the principles of Wikipedia and organized micro-contests for T-shirts.

Senator photographs
We succeeded in negotiating a release of photographs of 13 newly elected members of the Senate of the Czech Republic. The pictures will illustrate the Czech Wikipedia articles.

Czech doctor’s archive
Thanks to the willingness of his heirs, the photographic archive of a leading Czech medical doctor and science popularizer Josef Reischig was released under a free license. It comprises 384 images of various scientific objects, mostly microscopic.

Videos about Wikipedia
We created four short videos explaining the background of Wikipedia, its community and the principles of encyclopedic notability. They were presented in the chapter’s events and on social networks.

Museum Night in Opava
During the Silesian Museum Night we opened a Wikipedia kiosk in Opava. We answered various questions of the attendees and handed out the a Wikipedia related memo game to pre-school attendants.

Exhibition of photographs of protected areas
An exhibition composed of photographs taken by Czech Wikipedians who document protected natural areas took place in the Czech Academy of Sciences building in Prague and in the visitors center in the park of Průhonice castle.

Documentaries of Czech cities
After negotiations with Wikimedia Czech Republic, movie director Jiří Pálka released his documentaries of Czech cities of Chomutov, Mladá Boleslav and Pilsen for Wikipedia. We are determined to cooperate further.

Wikipedians in Seifhennersdorf
The international meeting of Wikipedians, including two our members, took place at the Czech-German border and dealt with the documentation of the architecture in the region of Upper Lusatia.

Children’s day
During the Children’s Day celebrations at Prague’s Petřín hill, we prepared entertaining activities for children and we explained how Wikipedia works to their parents.

Edit-a-thon
In our office, we organized the first two edit-a-thons in the Czech Republic, where the content of Czech Wikipedia was being improved.
Media training

We organized a media training led by Czech Radio’s Ivo Spilka. We learnt how to communicate with journalists and how to effectively present Wikipedia in the media.

Wikipedians in motion

The relaxation program “Wikipedians in motion” organizes group sport activities - hikes or bike rides - for Wikipedia editors. It helps developing the Wikipedia community.

Strategy of digital education

We commented on the strategic vision of the Ministry of Education of the Czech Republic about digital education. We stressed the need of support for free educational resources.

Questions of public

We replied to 56 questions of the media, public institutions and individuals through our e-mail OTRS system in 2014.

Transparency

Wikimedia Czech Republic strives for maximum transparency in financial operations. It is important not only for preserving our good reputation, but also for Wikipedia that we represent in various talks in the Czech Republic. All our cashless operations are operated through transparent accounts. Their overview, including the links, is at: http://www.wikimedia.cz/web/Účty

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<td>Purpose-assigned money</td>
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<td>Mediagrant II grant</td>
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<td>Communities grant</td>
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# Financial Report

## Revenues

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Revenues (in CZK)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Member fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations by individuals</td>
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<td>Corporate gifts</td>
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<td>Currency exchange gains and interest</td>
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<td>Wikimedia Foundation grants</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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## Expenses

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Expenses (in CZK)</th>
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<td>Wage expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wiki Loves Monuments contest coordinator</td>
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<td>Grant administrator</td>
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<td>Travel costs (mostly the photography trips within Mediagrant)</td>
<td>178,784</td>
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<td>Wikiconference</td>
<td>42,038</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office running costs, overheads, presentation costs and related fees</td>
<td>22,442</td>
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<td>Economy and overhead services</td>
<td>30,888</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising and promotional gifts</td>
<td>34,337</td>
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<td>Other services than above</td>
<td>25,161</td>
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<td>Purchase of goods</td>
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<td>Other costs incl. taxes and currency exchange loss</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>406,096</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All expense items are archived and publicly accessible via the Tracker application at [http://tracker.wikimedia.cz](http://tracker.wikimedia.cz). They are subject to review by Wikimedia Foundation, who has access to full accounting documentation.
Association’s partners
Contact

Wikimedia Česká republika
Konopištěská 790/3
Praha 10
100 00

Web: http://wikimedia.cz
E-mail: wm-cz@wikimedia.org
Facebook: http://facebook.wikimedia.cz
Twitter: http://twitter.wikimedia.cz

Account number: 2600138934/2010 (Fio banka, a.s.)
IČO: 22680560
DIČ: CZ22680560

Further information:

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