# **Czech Republic**

Digital Heart of Europe

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC Candidate for the ITU Council 2023–2026 (Region C)

## **Czech Republic – The Country for the Future**



#### The Czech Republic has proved its longstanding and strong commitment to the ITU.

The Czech Republic has been a member of the International Telecommunication Union since 1920 (as a part of Czechoslovakia) and the ITU Council Member State for the Region C since 1998.

The Czech Republic continues to see the mission of the ITU as an expert-based multilateral body prepared to tackle the most urgent issues in the fast-developing sector of information technologies and communications, among which the specific attention needs to be paid to:

### Sharing experience, expertise and capacity building

Based on its experience of last three decades, the Czech Republic cannot overstate the importance of co-operation and sharing experience be it with

respect to economic or digital transformation, developing industry based on innovative businesses with high added value or digitization of public sector.

### The Czech Republic offers:

- experience with massive transformation of the whole economy and the electronic communications sector towards an open market, accompanied by fair competition and attractiveness for investment.
- experience of a stable economy with predictable regulation of the electronic communications market,
- focus on innovation, digitalization and industrial research.

### **Bridging digital divide:**

Connectivity and accessibility of internet services is one of the pre-requisites of the development of nations. The Czech Republic continues to be strongly committed to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, namely SDG 9, target 9.c aiming to significantly increase access to ICTs and provide universal and affordable access to the Internet. Discriminatory barriers to access ICT benefits need to be eliminated.

### Human-centric approach and cyber security:

The Czech Republic strongly believes technologies should be developed in the context of high ethical tightly coupled with high security standards. In the field of cybersecurity, we strongly support coordination and working cooperation between international organizations.

We will support the culture of responsibility in the field of new technologies and data processing in the standardization work of ITU, and will try and broaden the involvement of business representatives in the activities of ITU.