

Contents

Foreword (Jacques Rupnik)	11
Introduction: the Social Report	15
<i>Part One: Resources of Economic Change</i>	
1 Labor market and human resources	21
1.1 Transition from a command to market economy	23
1.2 Flows and shifts on the labor market	26
1.3 Development and structure of unemployment after 1990	30
1.4 Strategies of the unemployed and the problem of marginalization	38
1.5 Conclusion	41
2 School system and educational development	44
2.1 Education and life success	45
2.2 Quantitative and institutional changes in the school system	48
2.3 Reforms of the content and quality of education	54
2.4 Access to education in the Czech Republic and in the world	59
2.5 Conclusion	68
3 Capitalist renewal: privatization and business	70
3.1 Privatization process and the participation of citizens	71
3.2 Beliefs about privatization and its evaluation	77
3.3 Managers and entrepreneurs: the capitalist expansion and its hindrances	83
3.4 Attitudes towards job: security or independence?	87
3.5 Conclusion	91

4 The Czech family, the marriage market, and the reproductive climate	94
4.1 Deformation of the age structure	95
4.2 Marriage squeeze	97
4.3 The return of the Czech family to Europe	101
4.4 Increasing costs of family start and the housing market	105
4.5 Transformation in the reproductive climate as component of cultural change	108
4.6 Conclusion	111

Part Two: Economic and Social Inequalities

5 Inequalities in earnings, incomes, and household wealth	115
5.1 System change: from equality in need to market performance	116
5.2 Earnings: strengthening of skill disparities	118
5.3 Household incomes: from reproduction to the market model	123
5.4 Wealth: old and new sources of inequalities	129
5.5 Legitimacy of new inequalities	132
5.6 Conclusion	135

6 Income redistribution through taxes and social benefits	137
6.1 Income equality or economic efficiency?	138
6.2 Redistribution in a comparative perspective	141
6.3 Trends in distribution of taxes and social benefits	144
6.4 Position of the middle class and tax awareness	150
6.5 Conclusion	155

7 Social mobility and changes in perceived life-chances	157
7.1 Changes in the employment rate: outflows from the labor force	159
7.2 Intragenerational mobility: the start and limits of the transformation	162
7.3 Mobility structure: the role of education and entrepreneurial activity	165
7.4 Perception of changes in life-chances	169
7.5 The role of human and political capital	175
7.6 Conclusion	179

8 The role of the market and government in the eyes of the public	183
8.1 Dilemmas of economic policy in the opinions of Europeans	185
8.2 Order and public goods, or social redistribution?	189
8.3 Economic freedom and opinions of the Czech population	193
8.4 Alternatives of social policy in expectations of citizens	198
8.5 Conclusion	203

Part Three: Social and Political Structures

9 The renewal of the middle class and its political circumstances	207
9.1 Objective approach: economic and human capital	208
9.2 Subjective approach: self-identification and shared values	210
9.3 Changes in the social composition of the middle class	215
9.4 Political orientation and electoral preferences	220
9.5 Conclusion	225
10 Social stratification and voting behavior	228
10.1 Changes after 1989: from non-standard to standard elections	230
10.2 Three views on the 1992 and 1996 elections: left, government coalition and extremist parties	232
10.3 From fall 1996 to spring 1998: the shift to the left	239
10.4 The 1998 elections: balancing the political left and right	244
10.5 Conclusion	247
11 The crystallization of political attitudes and orientations	251
11.1 Stable declared orientations, varying preferences	253
11.2 Values and opinions shift to the left	256
11.3 Political orientation as result of choice	260
11.4 The left-right axis: the most important political dimension	264
11.5 Conclusion	270
12 The development of political parties and the party system	273
12.1 Establishing the foundations: November 1989 – June 1990	274
12.2 Formation of the system: June 1990 – June 1992	277
12.3 Stabilization of the system: June 1992 – June 1996	285
12.4 Balancing of powers in the system: after the May 1996 elections	290
12.5 Conclusion	292
Conclusion: the challenges and pitfalls of the transformation	295
Appendices	
Main political events in the Czech Republic after 1989	304
A. Demographic development in Central and Eastern Europe	305
B. Economic development in Central and Eastern Europe	311
C. Selected political and social indicators	320
D. International Social Survey Programme (ISSP)	329
E. Other surveys used	342
F. Sociological Data Archive	344
G. The project Social Trends	347
H. Definitions of social classes and index of socio-economic status	351
List of abbreviations	354
References	357
Contact addresses	367