

MUSEUM DOCUMENTATION LEGISLATION IN CZECH REPUBLIC

In 2000, Act No. 122 on the Protection of Collections of Museum Character was adopted. Its full version in English translation is available at http://www.cz-icom.cz/ceicom/CZ_zakon_1.html.

This Act establishes the Central Registry of Museum-type Collection (CES) which is maintained by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. Museum-type Collection is defined as a collection which is in its entirety significant for prehistory, history, art, literature, technique, art or human sciences.

The Act provides that:

- In the Central Registry of Museum-type Collection are registered collections owned by the state of Czech Republic or by a territorial self-administration unit. Collections belonging to other owner may be registered on the basis of a decision issued by the Ministry upon the application of the owner.
- Collection must be present on the area of Czech Republic and to contain at least 5 objects.
- Into the Central Registry of Museum-type Collection is recorded:
 - the name of the collection;
 - collection description and characterization, including information on the field and time period which it documents, the territory from which are objects mostly collected, brief history of the collection, characteristic of object and materials represented in the collection and enumeration of characteristic objects types;
 - list of collection object on the date of collection registration;
 - place of collection storage;
 - information about the owner of the collection;
 - information about the collection manager;
 - evidence number and the date of the subscription to the registry.
- The owner must inform the Ministry about any changes.
- After requesting for the registration until receiving the Ministry's decision the owner of the collection must not do any acts which might influence the character of the collection.