

## Introduction

The analysis of “Tendencies and Factors of Macroeconomic Development in the Czech Republic in 2009“ deals with the most important features in the developments of the Czech Republic in the economy, including selected social and environmental characteristics. It builds on the chosen scheme, which is – in terms of scope – largely composed of standard analysis parts (external environment, performance of the economy, sources of economic growth, macroeconomic balances, labour market and price development). Furthermore to these characteristics, the analysis is complemented with certain additional topics, which in this paper include chapters on the demographic development and environment (here the analysis ends with the year 2008).

The method applied consists primarily in comparing the development during that year with long-term trends and in determining the position of the Czech Republic in international comparison. As a result of the extraordinary development of the Czech economy in 2009, a decision was made to dedicate a separate chapter to macroeconomic indicators monitored in national accounts on the basis of quarterly data. The national accounts statistics make use of CZ-NACE, rev. 1.1. (BCEA – Branch Classification of Economic Activities) for sector breakdown; other statistics already work with the new CZ-NACE, rev. 2. Overall, the analysis is based on the data compiled by CZSO and other Czech and international institutions; the respective sources are identified in the tables, graphs and in the text, as appropriate. The analysis works with information available as per April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010.