



Czech Republic

Identification and registration

Dogs

Permanent identification of **dogs** is compulsory. Identification must be by microchip and before the age of 12 weeks, or at transfer of ownership. Once microchipped, the dog must be registered on one of multiple publicly accessible databases.

Cats

It is neither nationally nor regionally compulsory for **cats** to be identified and registered, unless kept for breeding, but owners can voluntarily identify and register their cat on a number of databases.

There are several **approved** databases where dogs' and cats' microchips can be registered. Only Czech Pet Net is linked to the EU-wide database EuroPetNet.

Microchipping of dogs and cats is regulated insofar as only vets can perform the insertion.

Regulation of breeding

Dog breeders

Dog breeders with 3 or more breeding bitches must register with the State Veterinary Administration. It is not mandatory for other dog breeders to do so, and there is no system of licensing dog breeders.

Cat breeders

Cat breeders are not required to be registered or licensed.

A list of registered dog breeders is recorded on a **database**.

Inspections are carried out by the authorities in accordance with the Animal Protection Act. Inspections are most frequently carried out after complaints, or as follow-up inspections. Every year the results of these are published.

Legislation prohibits the **breeding** of dogs and cats where it can be foreseen that they or their descendants will suffer because of it, in particular in connection with **genetic anomalies**, and including extremes of malformation.

There is a compulsory **code of practice** for breeders which requires compliance with provisions of the Act on the Protection of Animals against Cruelty.

Sales and advertising

Dog and cat traders

The **minimum age** at which a puppy can be sold is 50 days. The minimum for a kitten is 84 days.

It is illegal to sell dogs or cats in **pet shops**, in **markets** or on **the street**.

All dog and cat **traders** must be **registered** and must give notice to the regional veterinary administration at least 30 days before trading. They must include information relating to the animals such as species, health and welfare data.

Surgical operations to modify the appearance of dogs and cats or for other non-curative purposes (e.g. tail docking, ear cropping, devocalisation, declawing) is prohibited. However, for puppies younger than 8 days it is permitted to dock their tail without anaesthesia.

There is no specific regulation of **online advertising** of dogs and cats for sale.

Legislation: Protection of dogs and cats in breeding practices; Protection of animals against cruelty