

Report on the health care situation in the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic's early parliamentary election scheduled for October 2009 was called off by the Supreme Court. Therefore the vote will be held in due course on May 28-29, 2010. The mandate of the caretaker government was extended until then.

Czech health care is at a crossroads again: continue under the European convention (if the Czech Social Democratic Party (CSSD) wins the election), or the efforts to privatize hospitals and insurance companies will continue, which is the program that we, thanks to the fall of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS) government, managed to stop in the meantime.

Recently the most important occurrence is the growing number of Czech doctors leaving to work abroad, including graduates - just this year left nearly 10% of them. The new government (Ministry of Health) will have to stop this alarming development. The sole means of Stabilization is to increase substantially the salaries of hospital doctors to the normal levels in EU countries (Problem with leaving doctors applies only to the hospital segment).

We will inform you at the next FEMS meeting of further developments.

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