

Czech Republic: Pardubice Region gets EIB support for infrastructure upgrade, including hospitals



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- CZK 2 billion loan (equivalent to €79.3 million) will improve Pardubice's infrastructure in transport, healthcare, education and culture and will improve energy efficiency in public buildings.
- The fourth EIB operation with this region included in cohesion programmes will bring EIB support for Pardubice to CZK 5.5 billion (approximately €202 million).

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is lending CZK 2 billion (some €79.3 million) to the Pardubice Region, located in Eastern Bohemia, to finance the implementation of its investment programme. Together with EU grants, the EIB loan will support investments amounting to €223 million, particularly in the transport (45% of the total), healthcare (37%), and culture (9%) sectors, and in the areas of education and energy efficiency (9%).

The investments will help to upgrade the quality and safety of regional roads, which have seen persistent under-investment over a number of years. They will also contribute to comprehensively renovating key public buildings (for health and social care, education, culture and administration), which suffer from either physical obsolescence, low energy efficiency standards or a lack of adequate equipment.

"The EU bank's support for intra-regional connectivity, road safety and healthcare in the region will contribute substantially to better living

standards and competitiveness", said **EIB Vice-President Lilyana Pavlova**. "In light of the COVID-19 crisis, we are pleased to be able to dedicate more than a third of the financing under this new operation with the Pardubice Region to a healthcare infrastructure upgrade. We also welcome plans to modernise public facilities for culture and education, which are in line with EU's regional development and cohesion policy priorities."

"We have been *de facto* advocating the adoption of a CZK 2 billion framework agreement with the EIB since 2016, regardless of the current coronavirus crisis. If we want to maintain investment activity in the future and thus help the Czech economy, then it is necessary to adopt this credit framework. The projects that will benefit from this loan include the construction of a central emergency reception pavillion in Pardubice hospital, the construction of a new building for the aftercare hospital in Moravská Třebová, the modernisation of Winternitz's automatic mills and projects for the reconstruction of lower class roads. In this case, it is not possible to use subsidies from the Integrated Regional Operational Programme or the State Fund for Transport Infrastructure," stated **Regional President Martin Netolický**.

The current loan is a continuation of the EIB's very fruitful long-term relationship with the Pardubice Region, which has been reconfirmed by this fourth operation. It brings the total amount of [EIB loans financing the upgrade of Pardubice's regional infrastructure](#) to almost CZK 5.5 billion (some €202 million) in 13 years.

Some examples of projects to be supported by the EIB loan:

Health sector

Pardubice Hospital, construction of a central emergency reception pavilion with centralisation of acute operations

Moravská Třebová aftercare hospital, construction of a new hospital building

Transport sector:

Modernisation of road II/337 Seč – Třemošnice (crossroad III/33741)

Modernisation of road II/315 Skuhrov – Lanškroun (traffic circle)

Culture:

Reconstruction of Winternitz automatic mills for the regional gallery and Pardubice Castle – use and reconstruction of chateau exteriors and interiors

Education:

Rainwater management of Agricultural High School and College Chrudim – and reconstruction of roofs of Grammar School Policka

Energy savings:

Upgrades of Higher Professional School of Education and Teacher´s Training School in Litomyšl and Secondary Medical School in Svitavy