

## Exclusive Survey by the SOLVO Institute: Only Half of Children Want to Live in the Czech Republic as Adults

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Press release

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**Czech children want to travel extensively as adults, but as they get older, the number who want to stay and live in the Czech Republic decreases. Among teenagers, it is as low as 54%. This is according to a survey by the SOLVO Institute, which focused on the quality of childhood in the Czech Republic from the perspective of emotional well-being, family relationships, and leisure activities. The study also revealed, among other things, that children have better relationships with their grandparents, coaches, or even activity leaders than with their fathers.**

The Solvo think tank presented the survey results at a public discussion featuring the Government Commissioner for Human Rights Klára Laurenčíková, senior executive Renata Mrázová, *Dobrý táta* project founder David Škrobánek, Chairman of the Council for Science, Research and Education at the Kybez Initiative Petr Chára, and Director of the National Pedagogical Institute Ivo Jupa.

The survey was conducted for Solvo by the SC&C agency and included responses from 900 children and 800 parents. “I have many children, and I have spent the last 35 years of my life raising them, so I naturally believe that the hope of any society lies precisely in its children. Generations that have a secure emotional and material background and access to education have a greater chance of reaching their full potential. And the entire economy of a country depends on that — which is especially important now, as Germany’s economic growth, to which the Czech economy is most closely tied, is declining, and we face a radical redrawing of Europe’s political map,” says Ivana Tykač, founder of the SOLVO Institute.

Czech children generally rated their relationships within the family and their immediate surroundings positively. Across all ages, the best relationships were reported with mothers, followed by grandparents, friends, and siblings. Conversely, the quality of relationships with fathers ranked as low as 7th place in some age groups — behind extracurricular group leaders, coaches, and even aunts and uncles. By far the worst-rated relationships were with teachers and the partners of divorced parents.

“We should communicate more with children and build relationships based on mutual trust so they are not afraid to confide in us. Fathers should be more involved in upbringing from an early age — and mothers should encourage them in this. We have an extremely low number of fathers on parental leave, so it’s no wonder that if a child barely sees their father, it’s hard to form a strong bond,” Tykač recommends.

“It is necessary to revise male role models that persist in some places and have a negative impact on children — whether it’s the fear of failure or the constant need to live up to the image of a decisive and strong man. These traits weaken the ability to form relationships both within the family and in the workplace. The time has come for men and women to share childcare equally, providing not only financial but also equal emotional support to their children,” confirms Škrobánek.



Additional findings concern the “Happy Childhood Index,” which is made up of several factors — from satisfaction with the place of residence to the evaluation of family relationships, school, and friends. The average index score is 71 out of 100, with the highest scores among children from intact families.

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*We are Solvo — the Institute for Unlocking Potential. Because we believe in the potential of Czech society. Unfortunately, it remains almost entirely untapped, costing us hundreds of billions of crowns. Let’s unlock it together — with top-tier data and unmatched analysis.*

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