

Perception of environmental issues by Czechs

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Presented results stem from a research realized by the CVVM (Public Opinion Research Center) as a part of a project "Our society 2004" in March 2004, on the sample of 1056 respondents representing the population of the Czech Republic aged over 15. The research focused mainly on identification of people's contentment with the environment and some of its aspects. It further tried to specify public awareness of environmental issues, i.e. to find out, whether citizens abide by the environment-friendly approaches and participate actively in environmental protection. These findings are summed up in the second and third part of the article. Related data acquired from other researches of the mentioned project are processed in the first part.

1. Does the environment represent an issue?

Series of researches have proved that public recognizes the importance of environment as a sphere directly affecting the quality of human lifeⁱ. However, it's recognition in everyday life is – put in an euphemistic way - ambiguous and sometimes even opposite. Nevertheless, some trends in the life style, such as renaissance of cottaging or an effort of suburban town's citizens to move into the places worse accessible by car but closer to nature, indicate increasing preference of quality environment.

On the other hand, research data prove that people tend to undervalue environmental issues comparing to other social issues. This is evident from the table no. 1, presenting CVVM results from March 2004.ⁱⁱ (Červenka 2004). Environment ranks 14th place of 18 observed topics sorted by the perception of their urgency (respondent's answer "very urgent"). Although a large proportion of respondents (roughly a half) conclude that the environment is „quite“ an urgent issue and only few mentioned that it is not urgent at all, its overall position is not good.

ⁱ See e.g. results of an inquiry on life values realized by Public Opinion Research Institute in the 90's.

ⁱⁱ Question: „How urgent do you consider the following issues in the Czech Republic this year?“

Table no. 1: Evaluation of social issues according to the urgency to solve them (in %).

	Very urgent	Quite urgent	Not urgent	Don't know
Unemployment	84	12	3	1
Health service	70	25	3	2
Organized crime, mafia activity	65	28	4	3
Corruption	65	27	4	4
Social security	62	29	5	4
Citizens' safety - crime in general	59	36	4	1
Living standard	52	38	8	2
Economic reform	51	38	5	6
The development of functioning legal system	48	35	7	10
Reform of the pension system	48	32	9	11
Issue of flats and rents	47	37	8	8
Agriculture	44	35	9	12
Education system	41	40	11	8
Environment	31	53	13	3
Problems connected with refugees	24	42	19	15
Racism	20	42	28	10
Electoral system	9	25	50	16
Position and powers of the president	6	17	64	13

Source: CVVM, research "Our society 2004", investigation 04-01, n=1065.

The lesser importance of the environment among a number of other social areas and phenomena is documented in a time series of identical researches that started in April 2002 (see table 2). Its position shows a slight tendency to decline because it sank by 4 % in the course of the last three years.

We should raise the question, what are the problems that the public is concerned about? Traditionally these appear to be problems that have a direct effect on the citizens or problems, which represent a potential threat. In 2002 it was crime in all its forms that was of highest concern. In the last two years however citizens have felt more threatened by unemployment and at present it seems to be the situation in the health service, which is threatening. But this

reflects more the frequent media coverage of this issue than (so far ?) negative personal experienceⁱ.

Data analysis proves that the environmental issue doesn't evoke any inconsistent attitudes in the society, its importance being perceived very similarly in all analysed groups. But even then it is worth mentioning that it is accentuated slightly more by youngest respondents between 15 and 19 years of age, women and citizens from Prague. The reasons for this appear to be evident and will be explained further later in the text.

Table no.2: Problems perceived as pressing 2002 – 2004 (in %).

	IV/2002	III/2003	III/2004
Unemployment	67	74	84
Health service	58	59	70
Organised crime, mafia activity	70	72	65
Corruption	73	70	65
Social security	52	57	62
Crime in general	64	66	59
Living standard	51	46	52
Economic reform	47	33	51
The development of functioning legal system	50	60	48
Reform of the pension system	38	39	48
Issue of flats and rents	46	44	47
Agriculture	43	47	44
Education system	43	37	41
Environment	35	33	31
Problems connected with refugees	19	23	24
Racism	21	22	20
Electoral system	11	10	9
Position and powers of the president	11	7	6

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2003 - 2004. Note: The remaining percent in each field is constituted by other answers.

ⁱ Evidence of this is given in the relevant investigations of CVVM, dealing with the contentment of citizens with medical care.

The public view is further explained by its evaluation of development in the past ⁱ (Horáková 2004). Relevant data were obtained from the research in January, where respondents expressed their opinion about particular social areas and issues and stated if they felt that there were any qualitative changes in these areas in the course of last year. In this case the exceptional position of the environmental issue, which can be found at the top of the list, has been proved. A large proportion of citizens (half), has not (as in the field of culture or relations to foreign countries) observed any significant changes in this issue. But truly exceptional is the extent of conviction that the situation has got better, namely “rather better” (36 %).ⁱⁱ Only three percent of respondents are convinced that there has been a significant change. The percentage of critics doesn’t even reach ten percent.

Table no.3: The evaluation of development in particular areas in the Czech Republic (in %).

	Definitely improved	Rather improved	Hasn't changed	Rather worsened	Definitely worsened
Environment	3	36	50	7	1
Health service	0	2	20	45	31
Relations of the Czech Republic to foreign countries	3	30	51	6	1
Education system	1	8	43	35	8
Functioning of the economy	0	7	35	39	14
Security of citizens, so called general crime	0	7	36	39	17
Culture	4	23	56	8	2
Situation in the army	3	20	31	23	7
Functioning of authorities	1	10	49	26	10
Social security	0	4	24	46	23
Unemployment	0	1	7	44	46
Judiciary	0	4	40	28	14
Immigration	1	3	36	28	10
Corruption	0	2	34	34	20
White-collar crime	0	3	36	34	18
Agriculture	0	5	32	36	17
Political situation in the Czech Republic	0	5	52	29	9
The possibility of citizens to participate in decision making about public issues	1	8	56	20	9
Living standard	1	9	38	38	13

ⁱ The question: „Would you say that the situation in the Czech Republic in following areas has got better, worse or hasn't changed in the course of last year?”

ⁱⁱ The improvement of some indicators, like the emissions of carbon dioxide and other “greenhouse” gasses, is documented for example by the Statistical Yearbook of Environment. Last data are available only for the year 2002 and cannot therefore be compared to the data obtained by us. Even then it is not very likely that people mean statistically monitored factors. The question is then what changes have they meant.

Science and research	2	13	38	14	3
EU accession	9	31	36	6	2
Transport service	1	12	44	27	9
The offer of goods and services	15	43	35	3	2
Observance of human rights	2	12	58	12	4
Legal environment	1	6	50	20	8

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-01, n = 1065. Note: The remaining percentage in each line is constituted by the answer “I don’t know”.

The relatively positive impression that was created among the public about the development of the environment was ascertained two months later, when the respondents had to evaluate the care that has been taken of it last year. Among such areas as social policy, agricultural or foreign policy the environment was placed again as best, with a similar distribution of positive and negative evaluations: the situation got better according to 39 %, worse according to 10 % and hasn’t changed in the view of 47 % of respondents. Four percent didn’t venture evaluating the issue.

Also the small differences in opinion have been confirmed. Care of the environment is more appreciated by people with a high standard of living. Among the university educated respondents the impression of stagnation prevails (53 %). Finally more critical opinion has appeared among youngest respondents up to 19 years old. According to 13 % of them the situation has worsened.

The findings about opinions and evaluations are significant. With a certain degree of simplification it can be stated that our citizens perceive the environment as a non-problematic issue, or an issue relatively well managed by the state, with which they therefore don’t have to occupy themselves very much. This then is one of the grounds on the basis of which public attitudes and practical behaviour are created.

2. So are we satisfied with our environment?

Previous results, maybe creating an impression of an almost boringly non-problematic issue, can indicate a similar situation in other investigated aspects. Such expectations are fulfilled in cases, where respondents evaluate the environment in a place where they permanently reside. A whole three quarters of respondents declared that they are satisfied with it, even though it is not an unconditional satisfaction – which they have shown by choosing the option “rather satisfied” (67 %). Only about every tenth person (9 %) was “very satisfied” . Dissatisfaction ranged at the level of one fourth of respondents, out of which only four percent have expressed extreme criticism.

Comparing the different way in which the public perceives the issue of environment in the whole country, the proportion of dissatisfied came near to a half (46 %), even though only a very small part of respondents (6 %) chose the radical “very dissatisfied”. The proportion of satisfied then sank under fifty percent (47 %).

Table no.4: Satisfaction with the environment

	Satisfied		Dissatisfied		SATISFIED/DISSATISFIED
	rather	very	rather	very	
In the country	2	45	40	6	47/46
In a place of residence	9	67	19	4	76/23

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03. Note: The remaining percentage is constituted by the answer “I don’t know”.

The difference in opinion about an environment in a place of residence and in the country in general isn’t anything unusual, for it has been proved many times in researches of both CVVM and its predecessor IVVM. Behind this seeming contradiction is the fact that although the majority of citizens don’t live in extremely ecologically damaged areas and localities the information about their problems has come to public awareness. The perception of ecological situation in the country is then influenced by this prism. A critical approach of respondents reflects the knowledge of long-term ecological problems of the Czech Republic such as the decreasing biodiversity, soil pollution by industrial fertilizers, the decrease of green areas and so on.

The widespread satisfaction with local environment arises out of the already mentioned fact – that the majority of people don’t inhabit particularly ecologically damaged areas and localities, but use precisely those for comparison. Among other things it is necessary to take into account psychological factors, such as blending out of negative perceptions and inuring oneself to less favourable conditions.

Also the opinion tendencies of certain groups of respondents correspond to the outlined explanation, especially when divided according to region and size of the place of residence. Those respondents who’s satisfaction with the environment is above average live in the countryside, in particular in municipalities with up to 2000 inhabitants. These respondents also express a more critical view of the situation of the country as a whole, although not to such an extent as we can observe in the cities.

More satisfied are also citizens of retirement age. In accordance with the anticipations there is great discontent with the ecological situation in Prague and in the Moravian-Silesian region. It

also doesn't come as a surprise that above-average satisfaction with the environment of respondents with a good living standard is reflected in the view of the situation in the country. While there haven't been major differences among the public in the evaluation of a situation in a place of residence, in view of the overall situation in the Czech Republic an increased dissatisfaction was found among younger (20 – 24 years) and youngest (15 – 19 years) groups of respondents and furthermore a trend of its growth in due proportion to the achieved education. The more intensive relationship of these two groups to the issue of environment, suggested already by acknowledgment of this issue as a pressing problem of the society, has been proved here again.

The research in March made it possible to detect a relation between evaluation of the environment in general and opinion about the care that is taken of it by the state. The table no. 6 documents some of the expected relations. Those are for example the widely shared feeling of the group of respondents "very satisfied" with our environment, that the care for the environment has improved, and the feeling of a part of the "very dissatisfied" group, that it has worsened. Similarly logical appears to be the distribution of opinions of those who are "rather satisfied", who are partly convinced about improvement in care and partly about its stagnation.

The group of "rather dissatisfied" offers a more interesting view. Their frequent perception of improved environmental care can be interpreted as dissatisfaction with its insufficiency. In this way we can explain even better their impression that nothing has changed. Of course there is a possibility that they accredit the improvement of the environment to the impact of other influences and circumstances then the care of the state. Greater certainty might be obtained by other research.

Table no.5: Satisfaction with the environment in relation to the evaluation of the care taken of it (in %)

	Has improved	Hasn't changed	Has worsened	Doesn't know
Very satisfied	61	22	11	6
Rather satisfied	46	44	6	4
Rather dissatisfied	33	53	11	3
Very dissatisfied	21	37	39	3
Doesn't know	25	52	10	13

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03.

When we consult table no. 6, comparing the data obtained at present and in June last year, we can state that the evaluation of the situation in municipalities and towns practically hasn't

changed, but the criticism of the environment in the country as a whole has to a certain extent decreased. We can therefore conclude that the better position of the environment in the country this year is confirmed by both subjective evaluation made by research participants in March, and comparison of research data.

Table no.6: Satisfaction with the environment in years 2002 and 2004 (in %).

	SATISFIED		DISSATISFIED	
	IV/2002	III/2004	IV/2002	III/2004
In the country	40	47	53	46
In a place of residence	74	76	25	23

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03. Note: The remaining percentage in a line for every investigation is constituted by the answer “I don’t know”.

We could only anticipate the aspects that respondents considered when evaluating the environment in the Czech Republic. But in the case of opinions about local environment there are already some available data: the respondents were asked for evaluation of certain aspects of their imminent environment and had to express to what extent are they satisfied with themⁱ – see table no. 7.

Table no.7: Satisfaction in a place of residence (in %).

	Very satisfied	Rather satisfied	Rather dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	SATISFIED/ DISSATISFIED
With the accessibility of nature	30	56	11	3	86/14
With the cleanliness of surrounding nature	8	66	22	4	74/26
With the quality of drinking water	17	55	18	6	72/24
With air purity	15	53	26	6	68/32
With noise level	10	53	26	9	63/35
With surface water purity	8	43	31	7	51/38

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03. Note: The remaining percentage in each line is constituted by the answer “I don’t know”.

The obtained results can be perceived as favourable in the sense that a larger proportion of citizens are satisfied with particular aspects. The respondents highlighted the accessibility of nature, with which 86 % are satisfied and only 14 % who are missing it. The cleanliness of surrounding nature, the quality of drinking water, air purity and the situation with respect to

ⁱ Question: “To what extent are you satisfied or dissatisfied with a) the cleanliness of surrounding nature, b) with the accessibility of nature, c) with air purity, d) with surface water purity, e) with the quality of drinking water, f) with the noise level in your place of residence?”

noise level in their place of residence is positively evaluated by two thirds to three quarters of respondents. A more critical view appears when it comes to the purity of surface water, which is relatively well observable – dissatisfaction being expressed by around two fifths of respondents and satisfaction felt by only about a half.

When we note the amount of those dissatisfied, we cannot regard their proportion as negligible when we realise that, with the exception of the accessibility of nature, every third or fourth citizen above the age of fifteen feels that important constituents of the environment in his place of residence are of insufficient quality.

The analysis of sociodemographic differences has again proved the dominant influence of size, or type of respondent's place of residence. All indicators, without exception, were evaluated as being best in the countryside and worst in Prague. For example in Prague 60 % of citizens criticise the noise level, 52 % aren't satisfied with the air purity, the same percentage with cleanliness of streets and almost a half (48 %) with the surface water purity. However, Prague citizens express less pronounced criticism, even though above average, about the accessibility of nature as well as the quality of drinking water.

Worse environmental conditions in the Moravian - Silesian region are confirmed by increased dissatisfaction of its citizens with the air and surface water purity and cleanliness of nature. A more favourable situation is signalled by statements of respondents in the Liberec region, who evaluate positively the cleanliness of surrounding nature, surface water purity and quietness. The analysis then discovered only partial deviations, when for example in the Zlín and Hradec Králové region the cleanliness of nature was appreciated and in the Pardubice region the quietness.

Next to the influence of locality, an important evaluation criteria has proved to be the living standard of respondents in the form of a more or less pronounced tendency to increased satisfaction depending on the level of living standard. The interdependence is obvious: people with higher standard of living search for localities of better quality and are therefore more satisfied with them.

3. Can we do something for our environment?

Maintenance and improvement of the environment needs not only appropriate supervision and care by the state, but requires also at the same time maximum civil participation. Above all people should behave in an environmentally friendly way, helping to preserve nature and her resources both directly and indirectly, for example by choosing low energy goods with smaller demand for packaging, transportation costs and so on. The need for civic activity

becomes more important today, both with respect to frequent effort of the private sphere to avoid considering ecological aspects, and with respect to decision taking at the level of public authorities who often give in to these efforts.

The condition necessary to accomplish those two types of activities is the acknowledgement of serious ecological problems, together with the belief that it is possible to face these problems. The findings presented here so far have shown that the problem of the environment is perceived by the public to be marginal. However, other results cast doubt on this finding. These results have been obtained when confronting the respondents with certain theses, concerning the question of the importance of ecological problems and the role of science and citizens in their solvingⁱ - see table no. 8.

Table no.8: Opinions about the importance and need for the protection of environment (in %)

	Definitely yes	Rather yes	Rather no	Definitely no	<i>YES/NO</i>
The effort of an individual to do something for the environment can make a difference.	38	36	18	5	74/23
It is too economically demanding to deal with the environmental issue.	10	42	27	8	52/35
People have too little time today to concern themselves with the environment.	7	31	40	12	38/52
Science will find a solution to the problems of waste disposal and environmental pollution.	4	22	33	21	26/54
Environmental problems are being exaggerated.	5	18	43	25	23/69

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-0. Note: The remaining percentage in each line is constituted by the answer "I don't know".

So for example more than two thirds of respondents adopted a critical position in reaction to the statement that ecological problems are being exaggerated. The statement was accepted only by a small part that is hardly a quarter of the respondents (23 %).

Also the widespread conviction that such problems as waste disposal and environmental pollution cannot be solved by science is important: the doubts are shared by 54 % of respondents, while at least a fifth of them (21 %) entirely refuse this possibility. About a quarter of respondents remain optimistic, similarly to the previous case.

ⁱ Question: "Let's talk about environment now. Do you think that a) the effort of an individual to do something for the environment can make a difference. b) The environmental problems are being exaggerated. c) People have not enough time today to concern themselves with the environment. d) It is too economically demanding to deal with the environmental issue. e) Science will find a solution to the problems of waste disposal and environmental pollution."

Encouraging is the evaluation of the role of the individual – the biggest support was gained by the statement that the effort of an individual to do something for the environment can make a difference. Around three quarters of respondents declared their conviction about its relevance. Lack of conviction has in this case narrowed down to 23 %.

Different reactions were brought about by the theses concerning sensitive issues of money and time. The majority of respondents have expressed their conviction that dealing with the environmental issue is too economically demanding and time consuming (52 %). Such an attitude can to a certain extent lower the weight of what they said before, because it is precisely time and (therefore also) money that is needed for achieving desirable results in the field of ecology. Around two fifths of respondents (38 %) positioned themselves in opposition to the thesis about excessively demanding care for the environment.

From the above mentioned it is obvious that the public acknowledges ecological problems and considers the possibilities of science to be limited. The public appreciates the importance of help by individuals, but with a significant reservation. That is that the burden connected to it appears to be excessive.

When analysing the opinion differences of some sociodemographic groups of citizens, there has been employed the aspect of respondent's education and age. The achieved education divides the population into two relatively clear-cut groups: firstly there are the university educated citizens who accentuate the importance of ecological problems and the need to do something about them, with both financial resources and time. Secondly, there are groups with lower level of achieved education, which we could characterise as generally more indifferent and sceptical. Interesting is the attitude of university educated respondents towards the role of science in solving ecological problems. The majority is sceptical about the possibilities of science, but we find a larger proportion of optimists as well.

The youngest part of the population, up to nineteen years, can be regarded as an ecologically oriented group. Its attitudes are characterised by moderate but consistent emphasis on all aspects stressing the need to solve the environmental problems and the importance of individual activity. Roughly every fourth (26 %) admits doubts ("I don't know) when considering the possibilities of science in solving the ecological burden. The same applies for the oldest generation (over 60 years).

Another differentiation was of a less systematic nature. So for example women stressed the importance of individual activity; men tended to take the view that ecological problems are being exaggerated and relied more on science.

The analysis has here proved again the transmission of subjective experience into the view of general phenomena and conditions. People satisfied with their environment, who as we know, constitute a vast majority, inclined to the opinion about exaggeration of ecological problems. The question is, to what extent personal negative experience is necessary for a better understanding of problems and therefore also necessary for social activation.

Next to the questions concerning attitudes the respondents also had to answer questions about their practical behaviour – that is if they alone or their households behave in an environmentally friendly wayⁱ.

Table no.9: Exercise of environmentally friendly behaviour by households (in %).

	Always	Often	Rarely	Never
Recycles, sorts hazardous waste	35	34	17	9
Sorts ordinary household waste	32	35	20	12
Energy and water saving because of environment protection	12	30	30	24
When buying products (for example detergents) takes into account whether the products are environmentally friendly	4	22	36	25
Restricts the use of car because of environment protection	4	11	34	42

Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03. Note: The remaining percentage in each line is constituted by the answer “I don’t know”.

Around two thirds of respondents have declared that their households dispose of both ordinary and hazardous waste in a proper way, which means that they recycle it or give it to waste collection facilities. The question is why the rest, that is around a third of the respondents, don’t do the sameⁱⁱ.

The situation looks worse when it comes to energy and water saving because of environment protection or preference of generally environmentally friendly products, where more than half admitted they don’t take this moment into consideration when deciding about consumption.

Only a smaller part seeks more economical approaches, more often when water and energy are concerned.

The finding that only 15 % of households are willing to restrict car use because of environment protection reflects a strong habit of using this means of transport; we cannot therefore expect greater understanding in this respect in the future.

ⁱ Question: „When it comes to your household, do you recycle and sort hazardous waste ... Further see table no. 9.”

ⁱⁱ The proportion is in reality probably even higher because we cannot rule out the possibility of self-stylisation of respondents.

It is more often women, university educated people and people with a good standard of living who state that they exercise environmentally friendly approaches and strategies in their households. The youngest generation of respondents often admitted that it has no information about strategies used in their households. Especially high was their ignorance about purchasing environmentally friendly products (41 %). Next to their lack of knowledge the young also revealed more often the use of less environmentally friendly approaches in their households. This can reflect greater candour and therefore maybe more relevant statements. But at the same time it can reflect the fact that waste recycling is done by somebody else then the respondent (most often it is the mother) without the younger members of the households knowing it. That of course shows the absence of ecological education in Czech households. Finally the research has shown that more responsible approaches are linked to such factors like dissatisfaction with the environment in the country, conviction that ecological problems are not being exaggerated and more careful attitude about the possibilities of science in solving ecological problems.

The final part of March research was investigating the extent to which people participate in some ecologically oriented activities reaching behind their household, that is, how is their social involvement¹.

We can state that the results were the logical outcome of previous findings – the extent of civic participation has proved to be indeed minimal. When people do take part in environment protection, then it is mainly through voluntary work, temporary jobs and so on, in the proportion of around a third of the citizens during the past five years.

Table no.10: The activities of respondents in favour of the environment in the course of last five years (in %).

	Yes	No
Has participated in activities aimed at nature protection – voluntary work, green areas regeneration...	33	66
Has signed a petition concerning the environment	14	82
Has given money to support a group or movement engaged in environment protection	11	87
Has taken part in a protest or demonstration concerning the environment	5	95

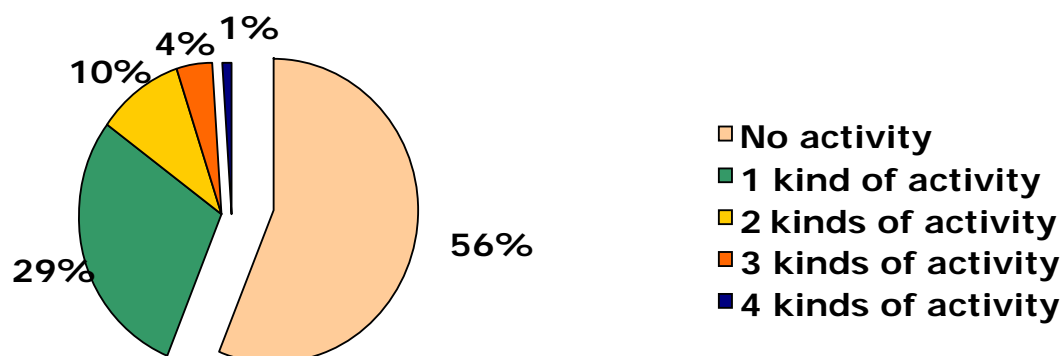
Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03. Note: The remaining percentage in each line is constituted by the answer “I don’t know”.

¹ The question: “Did you in the last five years: a) sign a petition concerning the environment, b) give money to support a group or movement that is engaged in environment protection, c) took part in a protest or demonstration concerning the environment, d) participated in activities for nature protection – for example voluntary work, green areas regeneration?”

Only a very small proportion of respondents stated that they took part in some qualitatively different events: the petition for environment protection was signed by 14 % of respondents over the last five years, 11 % donated money to an ecological group or organisation and 5 % took part in some protest event concerning the environment.

Further analysis has shown (see graph no. 1), that 56 % of citizens didn't take part in any of the observed activities during last five years. One third took part in one, most often in voluntary work aimed at nature protection. The least common way of support is in present financial contribution to a group or movement engaged in environment protection.

Graph no.1: The participation of citizens in ecological activities over last five years.



Source: CVVM, research Our Society 2004. Investigation 04-03 (Chludilová 8.4.2004).

According to expectations among the participants in particular activities we found above all young people. Behind this we have to see not only their higher interest in ecological issues but also bigger time and physical possibilities. Also a more sceptical opinion about the possibilities of science in solving ecological problems and a conviction that ecological problems are not being exaggerated lead to more activity.

Also the relation between evaluation of environment in a place of residence and in the country as a whole has been proved. Dissatisfaction generally leads to higher activity. The suppressing factor is the low standard of living and the conviction that the effort of an individual to do something for the environment cannot make a difference.

Conclusion

The relatively cursory glance at the given matter has outlined the existence of several inconsistencies in the relationship between the issue of ecology and environment persisting

among the public. The citizens don't perceive it as a social issue, although they reflect many of its problems. This conscience is not strong enough to mobilize a responsible relationship towards the environment, let alone its active protection and civic activity. Promising is the fact that we can observe positive trends among the youngest generation, university educated citizens and in a certain respect also among the people with a high standard of living. Other researches will show if such expectations can be fulfilled in the future.

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