

Press Release

# RoboBraille launches free Czech document conversion service to help blind, partially sighted and dyslexic people

Prague – Following a year of development and localisation, the RoboBraille service becomes available to Czech users with a need to convert documents into digital Braille, audio books, digital large print and e-books. The service is freely available to all non-commercial users and is the result of a collaborative effort between RoboBraille Outreach and local Czech partners. Funding for the 3-year project is provided by the VELUX Foundations through a grant.

“RoboBraille aims to promote inclusion and self-sufficiency amongst people with disabilities in mainstream education and on the labour market,” says Tanja Stevns, a special education teacher with more than 25 years’ experience teaching blind and partially sighted children in her home country, Denmark. In the project, Ms Stevns is the project coordinator and liaison to local partners in the Czech Republic. “With RoboBraille, we can ensure that documents are available in suitable formats to people with disabilities whenever and wherever they are needed.”

Access to RoboBraille is provided through a web interface. Using a web form, users can upload documents and decide for themselves how they want these converted. The service can convert a wide range of document types into MP3 files, structured audio books, reflowable e-books and digital Braille documents. RoboBraille can also be used to convert otherwise inaccessible or tricky documents into formats that are easier to work with.

Originally developed to support children and youth in the Danish primary school system more than a decade ago, RoboBraille has since been rolled out across Europe, North America and Australia. With support for all major and many smaller European languages, American English, Latin American Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Chinese, Japanese and Korean, RoboBraille has been adopted by many academic institutions, rehabilitation centres and disability organisations to support inclusion and self-sufficiency. The service is freely available to all non-commercial users and users need not register to use RoboBraille.

The Czech RoboBraille project is managed by RoboBraille Outreach, a Danish NGO, in collaboration with schools, universities, disability organisations and rehabilitation centres throughout the Czech Republic. The 3-year project is funded through a grant from the VELUX Foundations and is a gift to the Czech people.

The launch of the Czech RoboBraille service has marked at an event at the Czech Ministry of Education, Karmelitská 7, 118 12, Prague 1 on June 8, 2018, at 11 am. Try RoboBraille at [www.robobraille.org](http://www.robobraille.org).

## More information

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