

Scientologists rally against psychiatry in Prague

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Several hundred people took part in a Scientologist-organised demonstration against psychiatry.

Praha, Sept 20 (CTK) - Several hundred people took part in a march through Prague to the Congress Centre where the 14th world psychiatric congress started Saturday evening, in a Scientologist organised demonstration against psychiatry Saturday.

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The police put the number of participants at 500, including many foreigners.

The march was organised by the Human Rights Civic Commission that the Sientological church founded 40 years ago.

Scientologists do not believe in mental diseases and say psychiatry violates human rights.

The loud crowd equipped with loudspeakers and whistles stopped outside the Congress Centre and chanted in several languages slogans like "Psychiatrists, don't kill our children."

No disorders were registered during the two-hour march.

"The goal is to prevent children from taking hyperkinetic disorder pills because the side-effects of the medicine are terrible," organiser Zbynek Svadba said.

The Scientologists claim that the disorder known as ADHD does not exist at all.

The demonstrators wore T-shirts with Czech and English inscription saying that antidepressants arouse suicidal behaviour of children and youth.

They carried posters calling for psychiatrists in several languages to stop doping children with psychopharmaceuticals.

Some of them carried the flags of their countries, including Dutch, Italian, Hungarian, German, Austrian and Slovak.

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