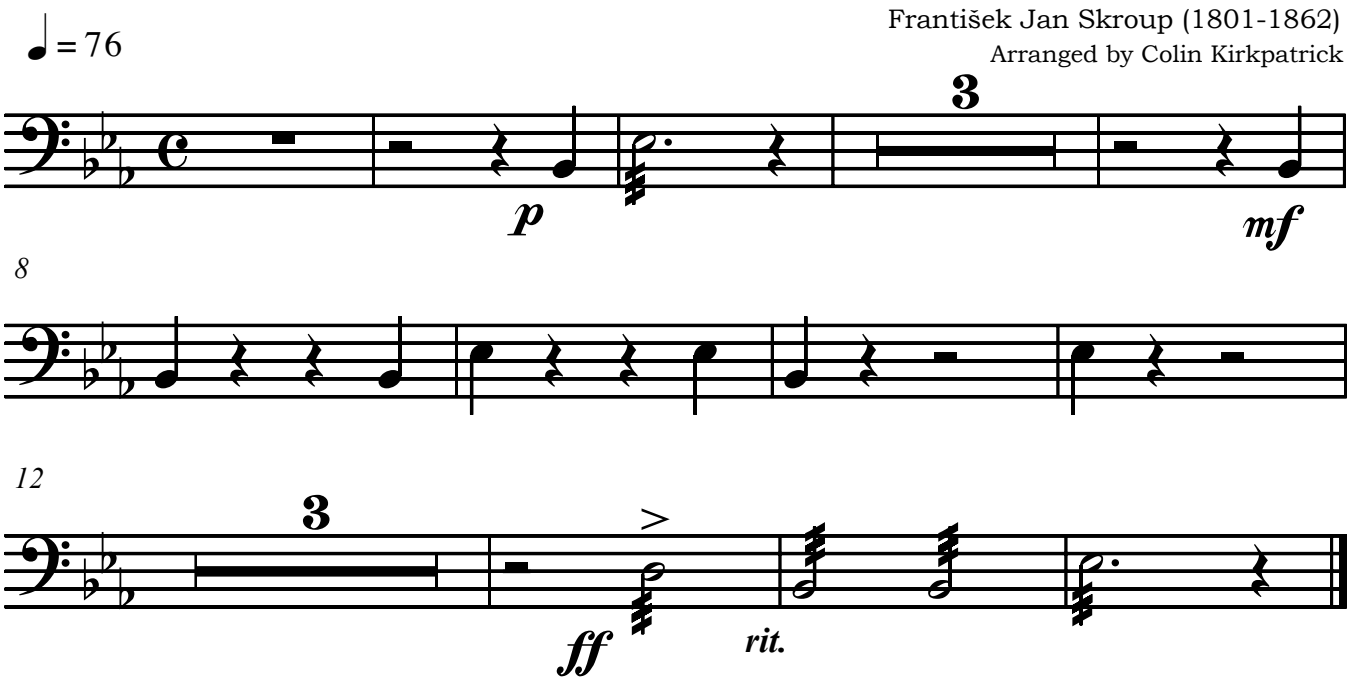
National Anthems Online

CZECH REPUBLIC: Kde domov mùj

The title means *Where is my homeland?* The composer, František Skroup, was the composer of the first Czech operas and an enthusiastic advocate of Czech national music. The anthem originally appeared as a song in the opening scene of *Fidlovacka*, a patriotic opera written by Josef Kajetan Tyl (the author of the anthem's words). It was written and performed in 1834, to a somewhat mixed reception in Prague. The 19th century was a time when the Czech nation was striving for recognition and Skroup's early operas marked the start of a Czech operatic tradition which would peak in the works of Dvorak, Smetana and Janacek.

Several other songs have been considered significant in Czech nationality but *Where is my homeland* eventually achieved the status of an officially recognized anthem. When Czechoslovakia split in 1992, the Czech Republic decided to retain it as the official national anthem.



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