

# EVALUATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC 2025

## 1ST WORKSHOP FOR INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION PANELS

### 20 FEBRUARY 2025



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS

## PROGRAMME

- R&D&I in Czech Republic
  - Higher Education Institutions in Czech Republic
  - R&D&I Topics and Areas
  - Funding
- The evaluation of research organizations in Czech Republic
  - Modules of Evaluation
  - Results
- Evaluation of HEIs in the Czech Republic
  - Actors of evaluation
  - Methodology HEI2025+
  - Expert Advisory Committee
  - International Evaluations Panels
- National level of evaluations of R&D&I
- Timeline of workshops and harmonization of IEPs and EAC
- Harmonization Sessions



## R&D&I IN CZECH REPUBLIC

### ● Strategic governance

- Government
- Research, Development and Innovation Council (R&D&I Council)
- **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS)**, Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT)

### ● Research funding organizations

- Ministries (**MEYS**, HEALTH, INTERIOR, DEFENCE, MIT, CULTURE...)
- Agencies: Czech Science Foundation (GACR), Technology Agency of the CR (TA CR)
- Czech Academy of Science (CAS)
- Regional authorities (14 regions of the CR)

### ● Research performing organizations

- **Universities and colleges (HEIs)**, Czech Academy of Science Institutes, Sectoral Research Organizations, Private Research Organizations, Business Research Organizations, Others...

## HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC

- **Public universities**

- 26 universities, most common type of HEIs in CR, mostly multidisciplinary, always a combination of teaching and research universities, blended funding (institutional funding by MEYS, project funding, ESIF, contract research, private sources etc.), Charles University the oldest HEI (1348), *Act No. 111/1998 Coll., the Higher Education Act*.

- **State universities**

- 2 universities (State Police Academy of Czech Republic in Prague, University of Defence), blended funding, institutional funding by Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence

- **Private universities**

- currently 27 universities, focused mostly on business, finance, economics, law, or possibly technical fields, blended funding (mostly private but some may be eligible for state support)

- **Foreign universities**

- less than 20 HEIs, different types, private funding, specialized study programmes, focus on teaching

- **Types of HEI: University type HEI** (doctoral study programs) and **non-university type of HEI** (no doctoral study programs)

- Czech universities follows a three-tier system: bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels and use the ECTS credit system as part of the Bologna Process.
- In addition to their educational role Czech universities are also engaged in research activities.
- Czech higher education is characterized by a high degree of autonomy of individual university components, such as faculties, departments, and institutes.
- Sources of funding: Subsidy for educational and creative activities, Institutional support on LCDRO, Targeted support

## R&D&I TOPICS AND AREAS

- General advancement of knowledge across scientific disciplines

### ➤ Basic research

- Actors: HEIs and public research institutions, e.g. Czech Academy of Science
- Topics: natural sciences, engineering and technology, humanities and social sciences

### ➤ Applied research and experimental development

- Actors: HEIs, private business and companies, private national or foreign enterprises, public research organizations
  - Topics: industrial production, technology
- Main hubs are Prague, Brno, Central Bohemian Region
  - HEI and Innovation centres are distributed throughout the 14 regions of Czech Republic
  - Decentralized R&D&I system

## FUNDING OF R&D&I

- **General:**

- R&D&I funding in the Czech Republic comes from both private and public sources, direct and indirect funding
- Budget allocation for R&D&I from public sources reached CZK 49 billion (approx. 2 billion EURO) in 2023 (including foreign programs)
- 3 main types of public R&D&I funding:

- **Institutional Support:**

- independent execution of basic research, applied research, dissemination of these activities' results, and knowledge Institutional transfer.
- Institutional support is designated for the long-term conceptual development of research organizations (LCDRO), international cooperation in R&D&I, co-financing of EU operational programs, organizing public tenders in RDI, etc.
- Institutional support on LCDRO is provided by ministries (MEYS, MIT etc.) and CAS
- Support for universities is provided in two parts (stabilizing vs. motivational)

- **Targeted support:**

- typically provided through grants, projects, or R&D&I programs within the framework of public tenders, through public procurement, or as support for specific university research within master's and doctoral study programs.
- provided primarily by Czech Science Foundation (GACR) and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR).

- **European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)**

- Since 2007
- Jan Amos Komenský (2021–2027), MEYS as the national guarantor of the OP

# THE EVALUATION OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC

- Evaluation of research organizations in Czech republic is conducted according to **Methodology 17+** (*to Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations and Research, Development and Innovation Purpose-tied Aid Programmes*) > strategic national document for R&D&I assessment in the Czech Republic
- In 2025 Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) conducts the 2nd cycle of evaluation of higher education institutions (HEIs) > according to **Methodology HEI2025+** (Methodology for Evaluation of Research Organizations in the Higher Education Institutions Segment 2025+) > strategic document for HEIs assessment in the Czech Republic
- The evaluation of HEIs and the Methodology HEI2025+ concern the area of R&D&I, not teaching activities
- **Key principles:**
- Evaluation is divided between:
  - The National level (Annual)
    - MODULE 1 – Quality of Selected Results
    - MODULE 2 – Research Performance
  - The Providers' level (five-year cycle)
    - MODULE 3 – Social Relevance
    - MODULE 4 – Viability
    - MODULE 5 – Strategy and Policies
  - Research organization level
- Individual approach to various fields of R&D&I
- Focus on peer-review evaluation

## MODULES OF EVALUATION

- **MODULE 1 – Quality of Selected Results (2019–2023)**

- Peer-review the evaluation of R&D&I results in terms of quality, originality and relevance in comparison with the international level.

- **MODULE 2 – Research Performance (2019–2023)**

- Evaluation of the overall production of the results of the RO in individual fields and their quality in comparison with national, European and global production. The sources are international databases (especially SCOPUS and Web of Science).

- **MODULE 3 – Social Relevance (2019–2023)**

- Retrospective, information on the social relevance of the research, development and innovation of the evaluated HEI, in module 3 the relevant constituent parts of the HEI (ie. Faculties, Institutes etc.) are evaluated

- **MODULE 4 – Viability (2020–2024)**

- The current state of the research environment, the quality of the management and internal processes of the HEI is evaluated

- **MODULE 5 – Strategy and Policies (next five year period)**

- Prospective evaluation of the setting of long-term strategic goals for the development of the HEI as a research organization for the period of five years following the evaluation



## EVALUATION RESULTS

### USE OF EVALUATION RESULTS

- **Summative:**

- The results of the evaluation are one of the bases for RDIC for preparation of the proposal for R&D&I expenditure for individual providers.
- Furthermore, it is one of the bases on which the provider determines the amount of institutional support for Long-term conceptual development of the research organization (LCDRO) for the respective HEI for the next five-year period.

- **Formative:**

- Feedback for the providers, RDIC and other government stakeholders for management of R&D&I in Czech Republic
- The HEI uses the results of the evaluation to formulate, adopt and implement measures in the management of R&D&I processes.
- Measures should be reflected in the HEI's Strategic Plans for Educational and Creative Activities and Impact on the research and development objectives of the HEI

## EVALUATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC

- The 1st cycle of HEI's evaluation in Czech Republic > 2020, according to *Methodology HEI's 2020* (document subordinate to M17+)
- The 2nd cycle > 2025, according to the updated ***Methodology HEI's 2025*** > approved by the Czech Government on 2nd October 2024, a methodology resulting from the collaborative work with stakeholders (RDIC, HEI's representatives, other ministries, CAS etc.), based on fundamental principles of evaluation set by M17+
- Evaluation of HEIs in 2025:
  - 33 HEIs (26 public universities, 7 private universities)
  - Each HEI has nominated an ***International Evaluation Panel (IEP)*** – appointed by MEYS
  - IEPs conduct the evaluation process
  - MEYS oversees the process through the ***Expert Advisory Committee (EAC)*** and the provider's methodology (see below)

## ACTORS OF EVALUATION IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION SEGMENT

- **R&D&I Council**

- Garant of Evaluation of Research Organizations under the Methodology 17+
- Evaluation on the National level (Modules 1&2)

- **Providers**

- Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS), Ministry of Defence (MD) and Ministry of Interior (MI)
- Evaluation on the Providers level (Modules 3-5)

- **Expert Advisory Committee of the Provider (EAC)**

- Supervision
- Consultation
- Mediation

- **International Evaluation Panels**

- Evaluation of HEI in modules 3-5

- **HEIs**

## METHODOLOGY HEI2025+: the key document for HEIs 2025 evaluation

- The evaluation in Module 1 and 2 is conducted at the national level by R&D&I Council
- **Module 3, 4, and 5** will be assessed by the IEPs > these three modules are described by **Methodology HEI2025+ > this is the scope of the IEPs during the evaluation process**
- Methodology HEIs 2025+ updated in 2024 in order to optimize the evaluation process:
- **Key features of update:**
- Incorporation of the CoARA principles (emphasis on the qualitative criteria of evaluation)
- Reduction of indicators (45 > 25)
- Expert Advisory Committee (EAC) for evaluation in higher education institutions segment
- Harmonization of International Evaluation Panels (IEPs)
  - Discussion on research quality criteria and the relevance of the R&D&I results, common rules of procedure and benchmarks
  - 7 online meetings with EAC during March and April 2025

## EXPERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAC)

- An expert committee established by the Methodology HEI2025+
- Consists of domestic and foreign R&D&I experts (7 Czech experts, 7 foreign experts + chair)
- Each member represents specific field of R&D&I (FORD) according to the FRASCATI Manual: **1 - Natural sciences; 2 - Engineering and technology; 3 - Medical and health sciences; 4 - Agricultural and veterinary sciences; 5 - Social sciences; 6 - Humanities and the arts (and subFORD 6.4 – Arts).**
- The role of the EAC:
  - Supervision
  - Consultation
  - Mediation
  - No direct intervention in the evaluation of IEPs

## INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION PANELS

### ● Organization

- International Evaluation Panels (IEPs): min. 7 members, with a majority of foreign experts
- The IEP includes the Secretary of the HEI and the Provider's Methodologist, without the right to evaluate and vote
- The composition of the IEP corresponds to the disciplinary structure of the HEI being evaluated
- Evaluation by IEP begin by May 2025 and ends by October 2025

### ● Purpose

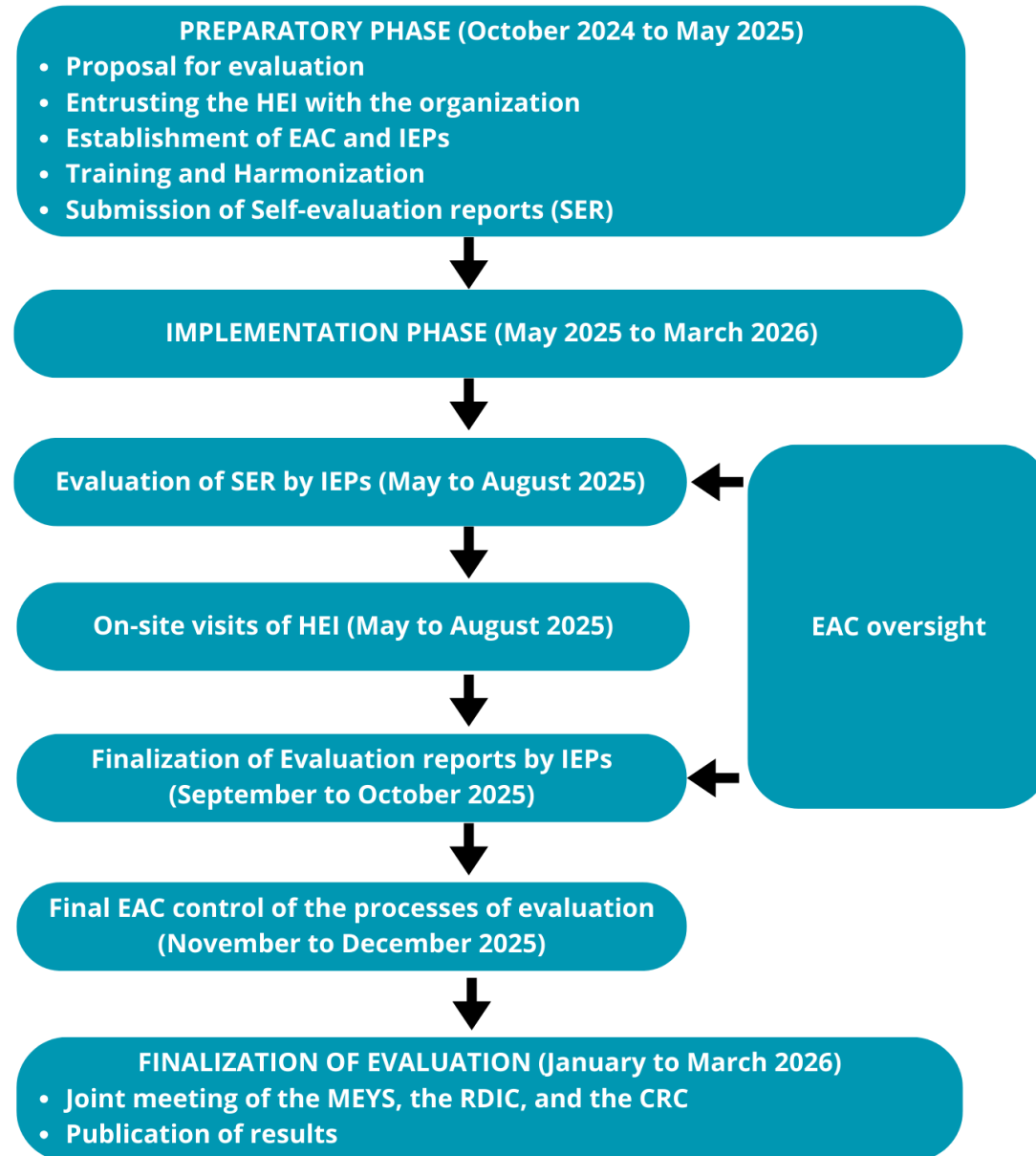
- Independent evaluation of higher education institution (HEI) as **research organizations** according Methodology HEI2025+

### ● Goals

- To provide HEI with formative feedback
- To provide the providers and other government stakeholders with feedback needed for management of R&D&I in Czech Republic

## TIMETABLE

Publication of Documentation by the Provider	until 16 October 2024
Submission of proposals for evaluation of the HEI by the Provider and submission of a proposal for the composition of the IEP	until 30 November 2024
Statement by the CER on the proposed IEP members	until 15 January 2025
Entrusting HEIs with the organisational arrangements for realization of evaluation	until 31.1.2025
Appointment of the MEP	until 31.1.2025
Appointment of the EAC	until 31.1.2025
Training for IEP and EAC members and joint IEP/EAC meetings to establish quality criteria	February-April 2025
Submission of evaluation Materials to the Provider	until 31 March 2025
Verification of Materials by the Provider	until 30 April 2025
IEP evaluation	May-August 2025
Finalisation of Evaluation Reports	September-October 2025
Rector's Statement on the Evaluation Report	November 2025
Final control of the evaluation by EAC	December 2025
Joint meeting of the Provider, the RDIC and the CRC	January-February 2026
Preparation and publication of protocols on evaluation of HEIs	February-March 2026





## THE EVALUATION OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC NATIONAL LEVEL - R&D&I COUNCIL

- Evaluation is performed by 6 expert panels corresponding to the OECD classification:

1. Natural Sciences
2. Engineering and Technology
3. Medical and Health Sciences
4. Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences
5. Social Sciences
6. Humanities and the Arts

- 42 FORDs research fields in total
- 2 experts for each FORD (e.g. 1.1 Mathematics, ...):
- peer reviews vs. bibliometrics
- More than 2000 active reviewers

## THE EVALUATION OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC NATIONAL LEVEL - R&D&I COUNCIL

- **Module 1 – Quality of Selected Outputs**
- Evaluation of R&D&I outputs in terms of quality, originality, and significance compared to the international level.
- The research organization submits the results of their own choice from the past five years (min. 10) generally depending on the size of the research organization (currently 1 result / 15 mil. CZK).
- **2 criteria of evaluation :**
  - Social relevance (mainly applied research)
  - Contribution to knowledge (mainly basic research)
- Each output is reviewed by external evaluators, discussed by expert panel and evaluated on 5 grade scale
- About 2000 outputs is evaluated each year
- Results of evaluation are publically available (Reports and Application <https://m17.rvvi.cz/en//>)

## THE EVALUATION OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS IN CZECH REPUBLIC NATIONAL LEVEL - R&D&I COUNCIL

- **Module 2 – Research Performance**
  - **FORD structure** of research areas
  - bibliometrics – results included in **WoS**
  - **quartile profile** based on AIS and JCR
  - **international benchmarks** (EU15, world)
  - **comments** on the relevance of bibliometric for particular research fields
  - **statistics** about results in the national database **RIV**

## TIMELINE OF WORKSHOPS AND HARMONIZATION OF IEPS AND EAC

Workshop	Date
R&D&I in CZ, Legislation (M17+), Higher Education Institutions	20. 2. 2025, 16:00
Self-evaluation report, Evaluation, On-site visit Evaluation report, Results evaluation of HEI	27. 2. 2025, 16:00

FORD	Date
Natural Sciences	6. 3. 2025, 16:00
Engineering and Technology	13. 3. 2025, 16:00
Medical and Health Sciences	18. 3. 2025, 16:00
Agriculture and Veterinary Science	27. 3. 2025, 16:00
Social Science	3. 4. 2025, 16:00
Humanities and Arts	10. 4. 2025, 16:00
General Panel (Chairs)	16. 4. 2025, 16:00

## HARMONIZATION SESSIONS

- Main goal: **To harmonize the approach of the different IEPs during the evaluation process in order to obtain fair, transparent and objective results (Harmonization Sessions EAC + IEPs)**
- Objectives:
  - To define criteria of **quality and relevance of R&D&I outcomes** and embed this definition among IEPs
  - To calibrate relevance of **indicators set by Methodology HEI2025+** within the individual FORDs
  - To agree on **how to use indicators** to ensure **fair assessment** across all IEPs/HEIs
- Expected outcomes of harmonization sessions:
  - To enhance the discussion between EAC and IEPs regarding:
  - Proposition of general FORD specific benchmarks of internationally competitive outcomes for each evaluated indicator in Module 3 (modul 4-5 if relevant).
  - Proposition of FORD specific approach to calibrate indicators set by Methodology HEI2025+
  - The implementation of the benchmarks and use indicators to ensure fair assessment across all IEPs/HEIs.

## WORKSHOP 27. 2. 2025 16:00

- Evaluation on the Provide's Level (Modules 3-5)
- Process of Evaluation
- Self-Evaluation Report
- On-site visit
- Preparation of Evaluation Report
- Results Evaluation of HEI
- Link for Workshop: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MWNlMjdhdZDltNjY5MC00NDQ5LWFjYzEtZTVhNWY5OTRIYTM4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22ec5f7ed7-e9d9-4a0c-9748-78ccdbe055f1%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22be697832-10ac-4248-9c01-6284a00ee829%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MWNlMjdhdZDltNjY5MC00NDQ5LWFjYzEtZTVhNWY5OTRIYTM4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22ec5f7ed7-e9d9-4a0c-9748-78ccdbe055f1%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22be697832-10ac-4248-9c01-6284a00ee829%22%7d)
- Website: <https://www.msmt.cz/research-and-development-1/hodnoceni-vyzkumnych-organizaci-v-segmentu-vs-2025>
- Contact e-mail: [hodnoceniVS2025@msmt.gov.cz](mailto:hodnoceniVS2025@msmt.gov.cz)



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
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# THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

## EVALUATION OF RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS TEAM

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