

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



FOREWORD	4
1. SUMMARY.....	5
2. ABOUT GACR.....	6
3. GOVERNANCE AND THE OFFICE OF GACR.....	7
4. BUDGET	12
5. PROJECTS OF GACR IN 2023.....	13
5.1 STANDARD PROJECTS	14
5.2 JUNIOR STAR.....	15
5.3 POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP.....	16
5.4 INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS.....	17
5.5 EVALUATION OF COMPLETED GRANT PROJECTS	20
6. HOW PROJECT PROPOSALS ARE EVALUATED.....	21
6.1 HOW STANDARD AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS ARE EVALUATED	22
6.2 HOW THE EXPRO AND JUNIOR STAR PROJECT PROPOSALS ARE EVALUATED.....	23
7. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES	24
8. GENDER ISSUES IN THE ACTIVITIES OF GACR.....	26
9. COMMUNICATION.....	29
10. GACR PRESIDENT'S AWARDS.....	30
11. EVALUATION PANELS AND DISCIPLINE COMMITTEES	32
CONTACT	40

DEAR COLLEAGUES,



The year 2023 was in the spirit of the 30th anniversary of the Czech Science Foundation. The idea of creating an independent grant agency to fund basic research in the Czech Republic was approved as early as the end of 1992. Less than a year later, we were already funding the first scientific projects.

The Czech Science Foundation was created, so to speak, on a green field - it did not follow any grant agency that had existed before. In many ways, it was inspired at its beginning by the work of the prestigious American agency National Science Foundation (which is now its partner agency) and later by the European Research Council (ERC).

In the following years, the importance of the agency for Czech science gradually grew, international cooperation was established, the evaluation system was improved and newly based on the principles of ERC evaluation, activities were automated thanks to the development of an own information system, and the integration of the Czech Science Foundation into the global research area began.

During these 30 years we have supported over 20,000 scientists in all areas of basic research. Projects worth more than CZK 71 billion were carried out at more than 300 institutions - almost 100% of them at universities and institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

How is the Czech Science Foundation doing now? In 2023, we allocated approximately CZK 4.5 billion to ongoing basic research projects - i.e. about 11% of the state budget for science and research. We are a trusted partner for thousands of scientists who send their projects to us for evaluation every year. Last year, we received over 2,700 of them, and more were received by partner foreign agencies with whom we co-finance international projects.

A great deal of gratitude goes to the scientists who evaluate these projects - over five hundred of them serve on 39 evaluation panels and 8 international disciplinary commissions in the Czech Science Foundation, while thousands of foreign experts provide external expertise. The quality of their work is reflected in the quality of the supported projects. Each year, our support generates almost 9,000 outputs - publications that generally present new discoveries, of which around 40% are published in the top quartile of journals. Among the Highly Cited Papers according to Web of Science, i.e. the articles that have had the greatest impact on world science, 58% of articles from Czech institutions are supported by the Czech Science Foundation.

The Czech Science Foundation has also long been striving to introduce new trends into Czech science: it supports various forms of Open Science, introduces measures to support the reconciliation of family and professional life or focuses on early-career scientists. It is currently preparing new types of grants for the return of parents caring for a child after parental leave back to science or to support the transfer of knowledge into practice.

Prof. RNDr. Petr Baldrian, Ph.D.

President, Czech Science Foundation

1. SUMMARY

In 2023, the Czech Science Foundation successfully fulfilled its goal of funding basic research in the Czech Republic in all scientific fields.

Prof. RNDr. Petr Baldrian, Ph.D., continued to act as GACR President.

The Czech Science Foundation managed **a budget of CZK 4.66 billion**, of which CZK 126 million (2.7%) was allocated for the operation of the institutional expenses and for the evaluation process of thousands of project proposals. CZK 4.53 billion, i.e. 97.3% of the total budget of the Czech Science Foundation, was earmarked for project funding, of which CZK 3.14 billion was allocated for funding existing projects and CZK 1.39 billion for newly launched projects.

Calls for Standard, International, JUNIOR STAR and POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP projects were announced. The EXPRO call, which is announced every two years, had a planned one-year break.

In the calls announced in 2023, **432 projects** were selected for funding, with a start date of 2024. Almost 3,000 projects were assessed in a multi-stage evaluation process involving both foreign and Czech experts. Some of the international calls had not yet completed their evaluation by the foreign partner as of June 2024 - they are thus not included in the number of awarded grants.

The Czech Science Foundation is working hard to expand international cooperation, both within the Weave initiative and beyond. A new cooperation with the Croatian agency Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ) has been established. In total, the Czech Science Foundation funds joint scientific projects with **11 institutions from all over the world**.

The high standard of the projects funded and the appropriately designed selection process are reflected in their results. Out of a total of **559 projects evaluated** after being completed in 2023, 89.1% projects were graded as completed or even excellent.

In October, five investigators of projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation in various areas of basic research received the traditional **GACR President's Award**.

GACR is a governmental agency funding basic research across all scientific disciplines in a targeted form, with a use of public funds only. **Since 1993, year after year, it has provided financial funds for scientific projects for both seasoned scientists and teams as well as young, early-career scientists**, within the framework of government-approved groups of grant projects, based on the results of public tenders in research and development. The Foundation also funds international scientific projects.

The activities of GACR are regulated by Act No. 130/2002 on Funding for Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds and on Amendments to Certain Related Acts, as amended (the "R&D Act"). GACR independently manages the targeted aid and institutional funds allocated directly from the state budget.

THE MISSION OF THE CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION IS TO:

- **Fund scientific projects** aimed at basic research of high international standards, through public tenders and calls for proposals in research and development.
- Promote and further develop **international scientific cooperation** in basic research.
- Contribute to the attractive conditions for the career of **young and early-career scientists**.
- Ensure that state funds are used as **efficiently as possible** for the benefit of Czech science.
- **Inform** the professional and broader public about its activities and intentions.

KEY FACTS

- In 2023, the GACR Presidium was composed of the **same members as in 2022**. **Prof. RNDr. Petr Baldrian, Ph.D.**, acted as the President.
- **Doc. Dr. Phil. Rudolf Kučera, Ph.D.**, acted as the President of the Scientific Advisory Board
- **Prof. Ing. Jan Roda, CSc.**, acted as the President of the Supervisory Board.

The governing bodies of the Czech Science Foundation consist of the President, the Presidium, the Scientific Advisory Board and the Supervisory Board. The organizational and administrative activities of GACR are performed by the Office of GACR.

PRESIDENT OF GACR

The President of GACR (hereinafter the "President") **represents GACR externally and acts on its behalf in all its affairs**. The main activities of the President include the management of the Presidium, which is the executive body of GACR.

The President regularly participates in the meetings of the Scientific Advisory Board of GACR and most of the meetings of the Supervisory Board of GACR. He or she also participates in the meetings of the Parliamentary Committee for Science, Education, Culture, Youth and Physical Education of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic defending the draft budget and the final National Accounts of the budget chapter of GACR.

PRESIDIUM OF GACR

The GACR Presidium (hereinafter the "Presidium") is the **executive body** of GACR, whose role and position are defined in the provisions of Section 36 (5) of the R&D Act.

THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDIUM

is, in particular, to:

- approve the publication of public tenders
- decide on the provision of targeted aid to grant projects
- submit the draft Charter of the Czech Science Foundation and its amendments to the Government for approval
- submit the draft budget of GACR
- coordinate the activities of the discipline committees - advisory bodies of GACR, which review and evaluate Project Proposals
- evaluate the Project Proposals, review the progress of projects, and grade the outcomes of completed projects

The Presidium is made up of five members including the President. The term in office of the members of the Presidium is four years with a possible re-appointment for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The members of the Presidium are appointed and removed by the Government upon the nominations of the Research, Development, and Innovation Council (hereinafter "R&D Council").

In October 2022, Prof. Ing. Martin Hartl, Ph.D., became vice-president of the Czech Science Foundation.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDIUM AT 2023 YEAR-END

Prof. RNDr. **Petr Baldrian**, Ph.D. (President, 2nd term) - Agricultural and Biological-Environmental Sciences
Prof. Ing. **Martin Hartl**, Ph.D. (Vice-President, 1st term) - Technical Sciences
RNDr. **Alice Valkárová**, DrSc. (2nd term) - Physical Sciences
Prof. MUDr. **Mgr. Milan Jirsa**, (1st term) - Medical and Biological Sciences
Doc. PhDr. **Martina Hřebíčková**, DSc. (1st term) - Social Sciences and Humanities

A total of 11 Presidium meetings were held in 2023.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD OF GACR

The Scientific Advisory Board of GACR (hereinafter the "SAB") is a **conceptual body of the Czech Science Foundation**. In its activities, it is governed by the provisions of Section 36 (3) and (6) of the R&D Act.

THE ROLE OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

is, in particular, to:

- propose the establishment and focus of Discipline Committees to the Presidium
- propose groups of grant projects and their focus
- evaluate the contribution of GACR to the development and quality of basic research in the Czech Republic
- discuss and propose solutions to problems related to the activities of GACR
- perform other tasks assigned by GACR Presidium
- give its opinion on other issues received from the President, the GACR Presidium, GACR Supervisory Board, or the R&D Council
- comment on the content each panel's focus
- comment on the international cooperation of GACR and help its development

The government has named eight members to serve on the SAB as part of its regular member change, effective as of December 2022. Five of these members are on the board for the first time. SAB member Doc. Dr. Phil. Rudof Kučera, Ph.d., was newly named President of the SAB. With effect from 15 February 2023, Univ. Prof. Dr. Anna Pospěch Durnová, Ph.D., was named the twelfth member of the SAB.

MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD AT 2023 YEAR-END

Doc. Dr. Phil. **Rudolf Kučera**, Ph.D., (President)
Prof. Dr. Ing. **Jan Černocký**
Prof. RNDr. **Petr Dubový**, CSc.
Prof. RNDr. **Jan Hajič**, Dr.
Prof. Ing. **Michal Hocek**, CSc., DSc.
Prof. RNDr. **Josef Humlíček**, CSc.
Prof. Ing. **Štěpán Jurajda**, Ph.D.
Prof. RNDr. **Michal Otyepka**, Ph.D.
Prof. PhDr. **Eva Semotanová**, DrSc.
Prof. MUDr. **Aleksi Šedo**, DrSc., FCMA
Prof. Ing. **František Štěpánek**, Ph.D.

The SAB met four times in 2023, on 28 February, 28 June, 14 September, and 12 December. The meetings took in hybrid form.

SUPERVISORY BOARD OF GACR

The Supervisory Board of GACR (hereinafter the "SB") is the **oversight body of the Czech Science Foundation**. In its activities, it is regulated by the provisions of Section 36 (7) of the R&D Act.

THE ROLE OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD

is, in particular, to:

- review the legitimacy and lawfulness of the distribution of GACR's financial resources
- supervise the management of the assets of the state which the Czech Science Foundation is in charge of managing
- handle complaints about the process of evaluating Project Proposals
- submit binding opinions to the Presidium of the Czech Science Foundation in important situations

The SB is made up of ten members appointed by the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic upon the nominations of entities engaged in research and development. The term in office of the members of the SB is four years with a possible re-appointment for a maximum of two consecutive terms. At the end of 2021, the SB had nine members.

MEMBERS OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD AT 2021 YEAR-END

Prof. Ing. **Stanislav Labík**, CSc., chair
 Prof. Ing. **Jan Roda**, CSc., vice-chair
 Prof. MUDr. **Pavel Boštík**, Ph.D.
 Prof. Ing. **František Hrdlička**, CSc.
 Prof. Ing. **Stanislava Hronová**, CSc., dr. h. c.
 Prof. Mgr. **Libor Jan**, Ph.D.
 Prof. PhDr. **Jiří Mikulec**, CSc.
 Prof. Ing. **Valentine Provazník**, Ph.D.
 Prof. Ing. **Vladimír Smejkal**, CSc., LL.M.
 Prof. PhDr. **Hana Vykopalová**, CSc.

The members of the SB attended the meetings of the individual panels and discipline committees, where they checked the progress of the meetings. In 2022, the SB heard a total of 4 complaints related to the evaluation of Project Proposals.

OFFICE OF GACR

The Office of GACR (hereinafter the "Office"), under the Charter of the Czech Science Foundation, **performs the professional, financial, supervisory, organizational and administrative tasks** resulting from the activities carried out by GACR. The activities of the Office follow organizational rules.

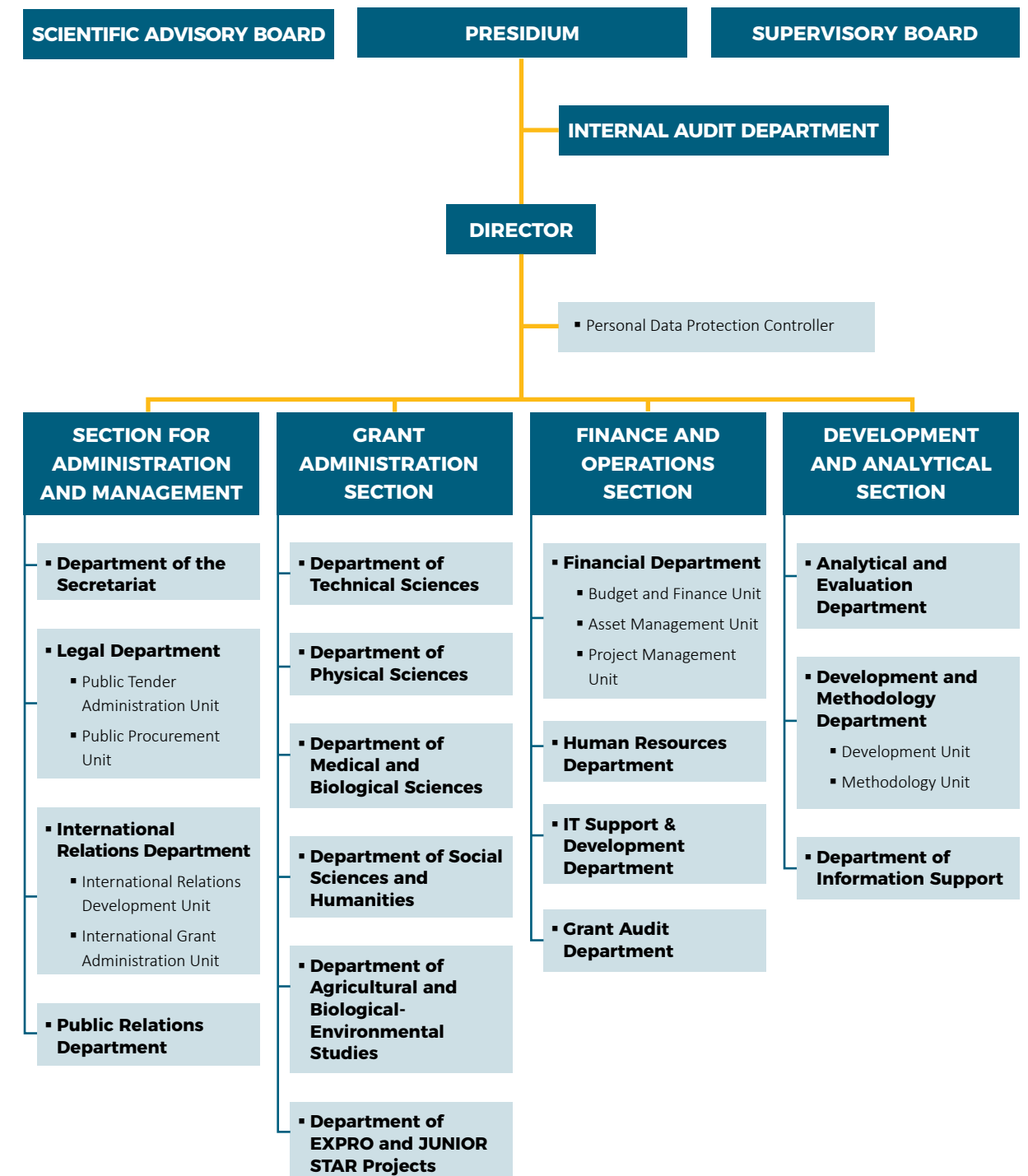
THE ROLE OF THE OFFICE

is, in particular, to:

- prepare documents for meetings
- draw up the draft budget of GACR
- manage the approved budget as instructed by the President
- collect grant Project Proposals
- create and manage the project and reviewer database
- organize the cooperation of GACR with partner organizations
- inform the public about the activities of GACR

The Office is headed by the Director, who is appointed and removed by the President. In 2022, the Office was headed by Ing. Lada Knetlova as its Director.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF GACR'S OFFICE



KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

- The Czech Science Foundation was assigned a **budget of CZK 4.66 billion** for 2023.
- Only **2.7% of the costs were incurred as institutional expenses**.
- Almost **one third of the** targeted aid was earmarked **for new projects**.

For 2023, the total budget of the Czech Science Foundation was approved in the amount of CZK **4.657,413 billion**. The expenditures of the Czech Science Foundation are categorised into institutional expenditures (overhead) to run its operations and activities, and the targeted aid for the researchers and investigators to run their projects.

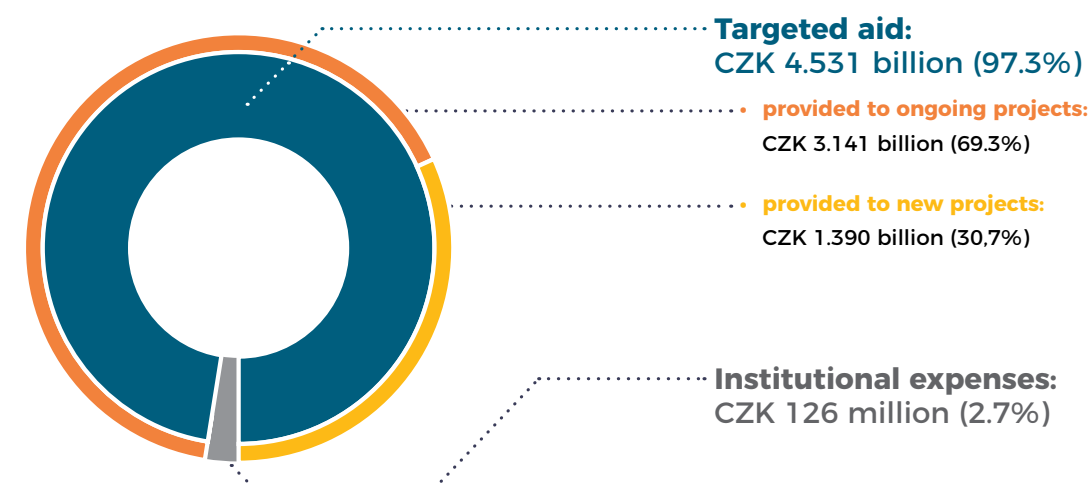
INSTITUTIONAL EXPENSES

Institutional funds are earmarked for the activities of the Czech Science Foundation, including the administration of public tenders, evaluation of Project Proposals, reviews of ongoing projects, and other related activities. Institutional expenses approved for 2023 amounted to **CZK 126.485 million (2.7% of total GACR funds)**. The use of institutional funds is very effective in comparison to partner institutions abroad, i.e. similar agencies.

TARGETED AID

In 2023, the Czech Science Foundation was allocated funds for targeted aid under the Act on the State Budget totalling CZK **4.53 billion**. Out of that amount, a total of CZK 3.204 billion was necessary to fund the ongoing grant projects, i.e. 69.3% of the total amount of GACR's targeted aid. To launch new grant projects, the total targeted aid amounted to CZK 1.389 billion, i.e. 30.7% of the total targeted aid provided by GACR.

DISTRIBUTION OF GACR'S FUNDS



KEY FACTS

- In 2023, tenders were announced to fund **Standard Projects, JUNIOR STAR projects, POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP and International Projects**.
- **432 new projects** funded as of 2024

The Czech Science Foundation publishes several types of public tenders and calls every year. In 2023, the tenders were for **Standard Projects, JUNIOR STAR, POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP (INCOMING and OUTGOING) and International Projects**. In addition to these calls and tenders, existing and new international calls were also issued. Scientists were invited to respond to all calls and tenders by submitting project proposals in all areas of basic research.

The calls and tenders were published on 12 February 2023. The calls were published earlier than in previous years - by doing so, the Czech Science Foundation extended the deadline for submitting project proposals. **Project proposals could be submitted till 4 April 2023**. For the international calls, the deadlines varied as agreed with the international partner agencies. The anticipated launch date for the projects recommended for funding based on these tenders, with the exception of the international ones, was 1 January 2024.

TENDERS AND CALLS LAUNCHED IN 2024

- **2,749** Project Proposals received by the Czech Science Foundation by the tender deadline and **238** LA projects received for evaluation by foreign agencies
- **13** Project Proposals were not accepted because they failed to meet the terms of the public tender
- **90** Project Proposals (i.e. 3%) were disqualified because they did not meet the requirements
- **21** Applicants/Organizations withdrew from the public tenders
- **432** Project Proposals selected for financing

5.1 Standard Projects

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

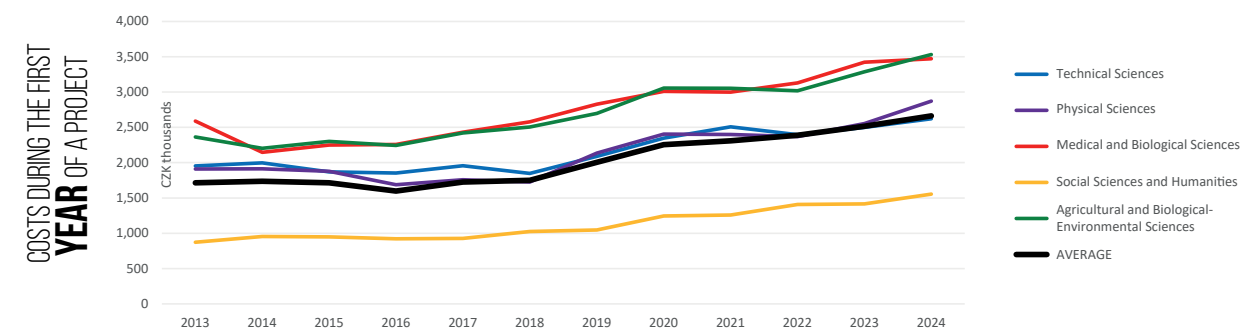
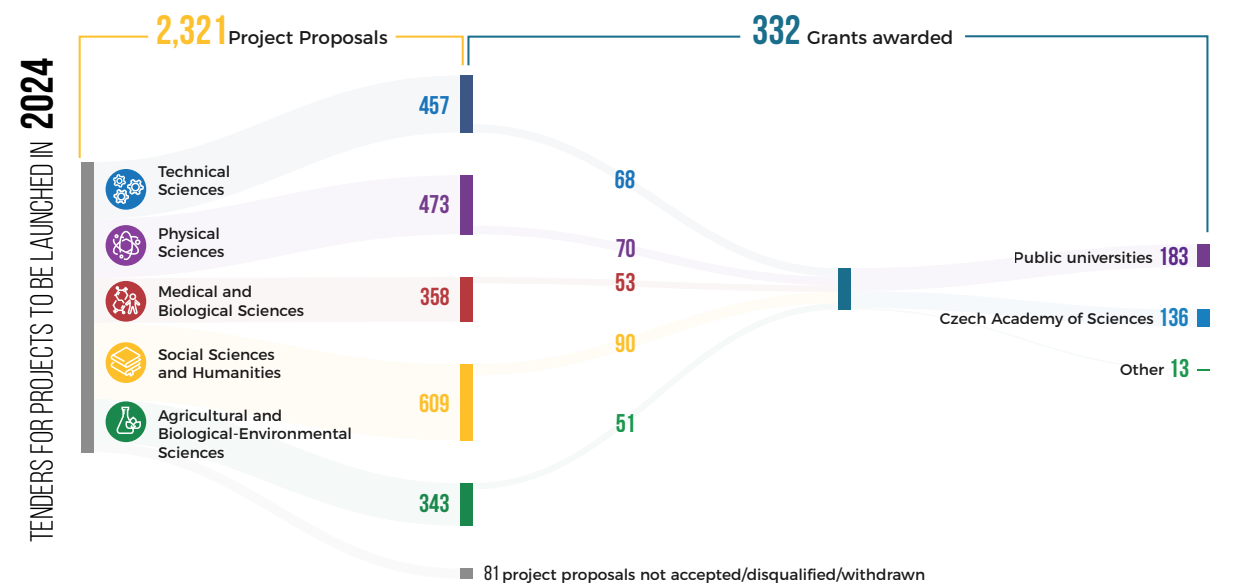
- project duration 2–3 years
- targeted at all researchers and teams
- published annually since 1993
- the most frequently applied grant tender scheme

 **CZK 17 BILION**
in project proposals

 **CZK 3.15 BILION**
in **1,304** funded projects in 2023

 **CZK 2.65 BILION**
allocated to new projects

 **2 888 REVIEWS**
on project proposals from foreign experts



5.2 JUNIOR STAR

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

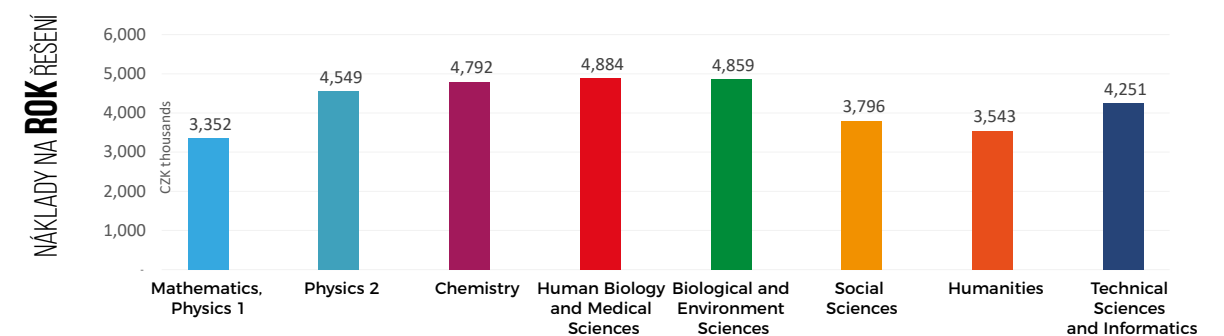
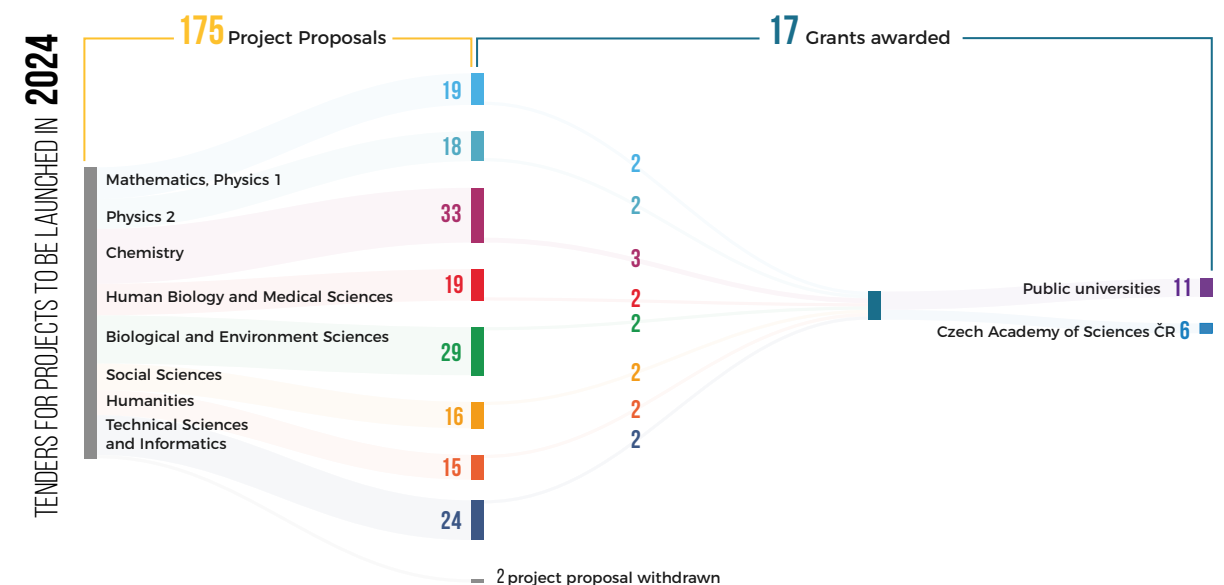
- highly selective grants for scientists in their early careers who get the opportunity to explore their own research topics
- for researchers who completed their Ph.D. degrees no more than 8 years ago, and who have already gained significant international experience
- the first call was published in 2020
- up to CZK 25 mil for the entire duration of the project

 **CZK 3 375 MILLION**
in project proposals

 **CZK 272 MILLION**
in **63** funded projects in 2023

 **CZK 391 MILLION**
allocated to new projects

 **133 REVIEWS**
on project proposals from foreign experts



5.3 POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

- division into outgoing grants POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP OUTGOING - PIF OUT (researchers will spend two years at the foreign site and then one year at the Czech site) and POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP INCOMING - PIF IN (researchers working abroad spend three years at the Czech site)
- for researchers within 4 years of obtaining their Ph.D.
- first call in 2021
- 3-year project duration

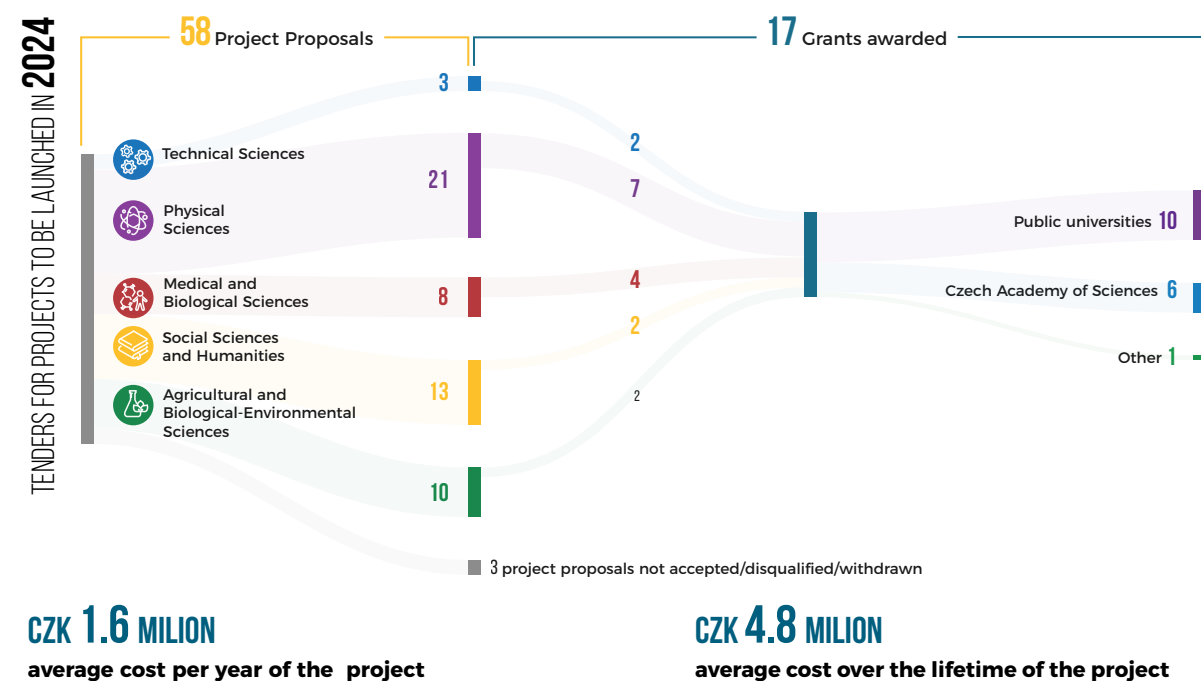
CZK 408 MILLION
in project proposals

CZK 52 MILLION
in 42 funded projects in 2023

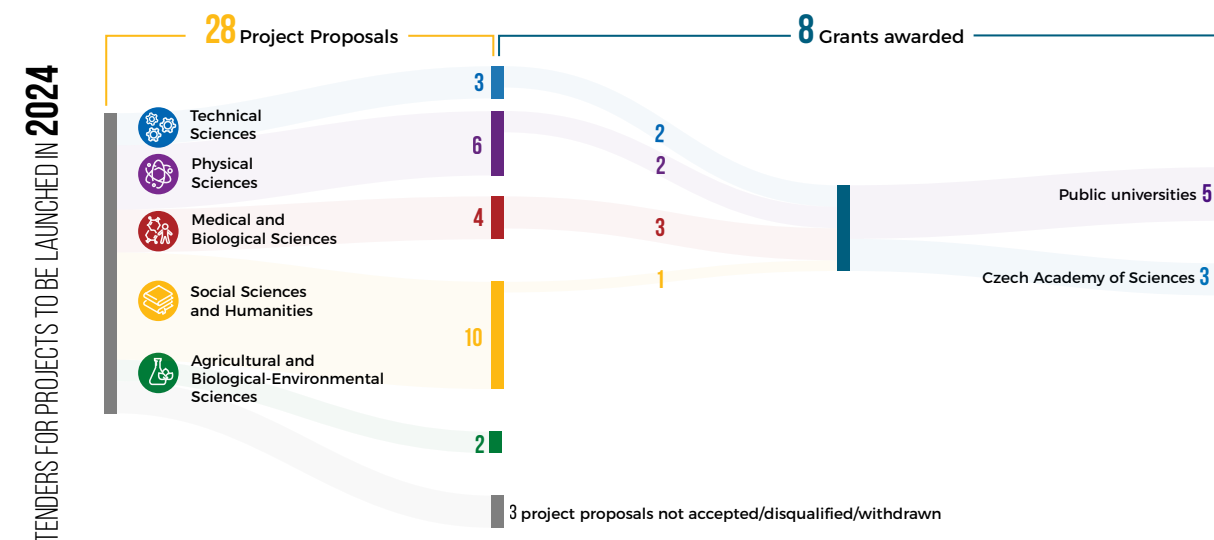
CZK 120 MILLION
allocated to new projects

148 REVIEWS
on project proposals from foreign experts

POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP OUTGOING



POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP INCOMING



5.4 International Projects

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

- GACR administers two types of international projects - bilateral projects (evaluated by GACR and the partner institution concurrently) and Lead Agency - LA projects (evaluated by one institution only)
- project duration is 2-3 years
- LA projects can be trilateral within the European Weave initiative
- the topic of the project is chosen by the Czech applicant in cooperation with the foreign applicant
- each national provider funds the activities related to the part of the project carried out in its country

PARTNERSHIPS

2005		GERMANY - Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
		SOUTH KOREA - National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)
2008		TAIWAN - National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), formerly the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
2013		AUSTRIA - Fonds zur Förderung der Wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF)
2018		BRAZIL - São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)
		RUSSIA - Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR)
2019		POLAND - National Science Centre (NCN)
		SLOVENIA - Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS)
		SWITZERLAND - Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
2021		LUXEMBOURG - National Research Fund (FNR)
		UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - National Science Foundation (NSF)
2023		CROATIA - Croatian Science Foundation (HRZZ)

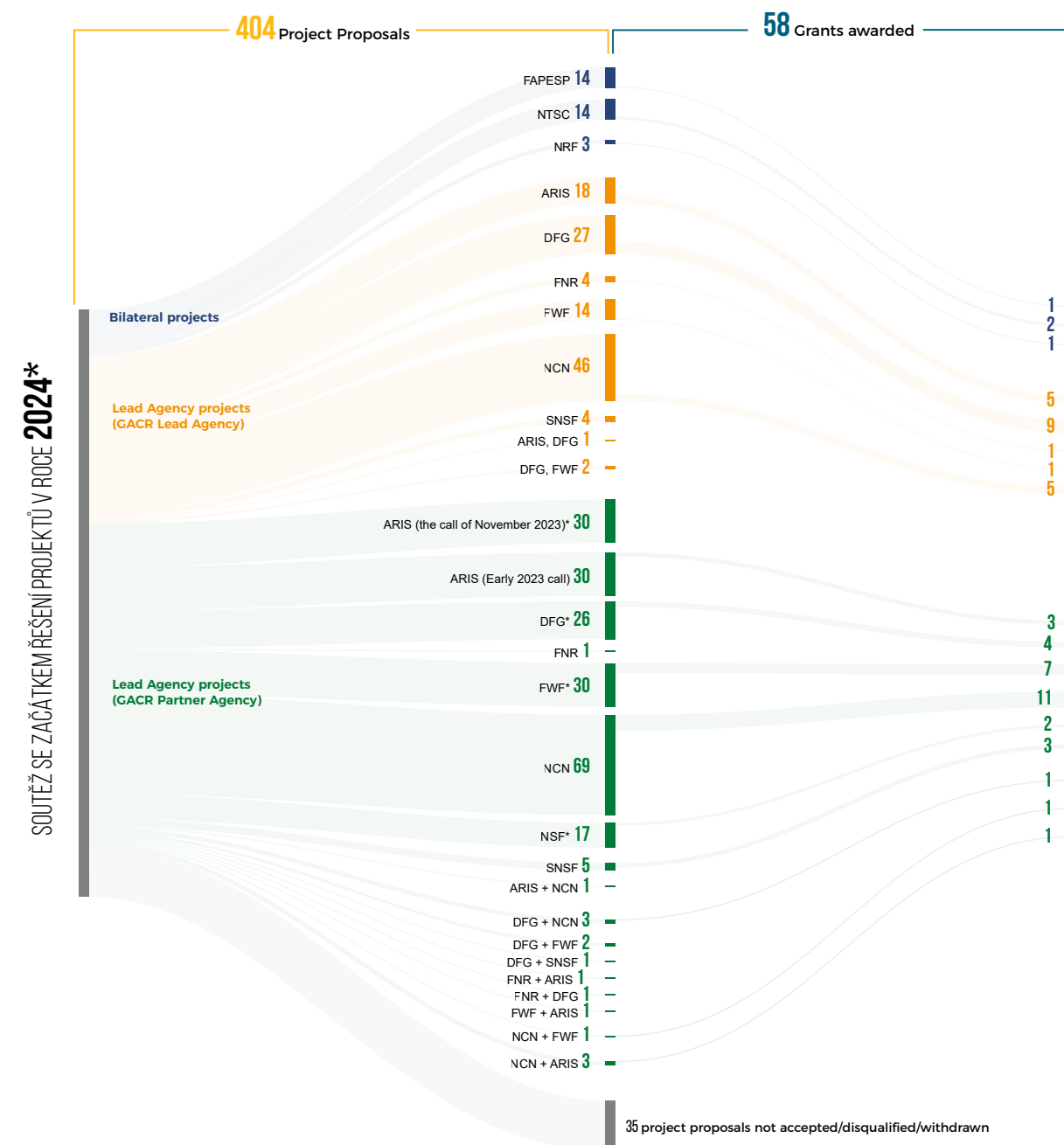
 **CZK 1 173 MILION***
v návrzích projektů

 **CZK 452 MILION**
na 222 financovných projektů v roce 2023

 **CZK 193 MILION***
přiděleno na nové projekty

 **255 REVIEWS***
na návrhy projektů od zahraničních odborníků

*Nejsou započítány návrhy projektů Lead Agency spolupráce – GA ČR partnerská agentura.



For some calls, the evaluation on the partner agency side has not been completed as of March 2023. GACR expects a higher number of number of proposals received and projects funded. This is mainly due to the year-round open calls of partner organisations, for which projects start throughout the year.

CZK 2,6 MILION
average cost per year of the project

CZK 7,7 MILION
average cost over the lifetime of the project

5.5 EVALUATION OF COMPLETED GRANT PROJECTS

In 2022, a **total of 530 grant projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation were evaluated**, while another 283 evaluations were postponed until the following year. The Evaluation Panels and, subsequently, the Discipline Committees assessed the outcomes of the grant projects using the predefined criteria, and proposed the final grades to the Presidium. The evaluations for 2022 are shown in the table below.

Project evaluations by Discipline Committee in 2022

	Excellent	Accomplished	Accomplished with reservation	Failed	Evaluation postponed
Technical Sciences	23	95	5	1	46
Physical Sciences	26	95	8	2	30
Medical and Biological Sciences	23	57	10		43
Social Sciences and Humanities	20	67	20	7	109
Agricultural and Biological-Environmental Sciences	23	45	3		55
Total	115	359	46	10	283

6. HOW PROJECT PROPOSALS ARE EVALUATED

KEY FACTS

- All projects which received funding had been evaluated by at least **two international reviewers**.
- An average of **3.2 reviews per Project Proposal** in the second phase of project review were carried out **by international experts** in 2022.
- JUNIOR STAR and EXPRO prestigious projects are evaluated by **international experts only**.
- The evaluation system takes inspiration from the ERC evaluation system.

In 2022, the Czech Science Foundation evaluated more than 3 thousand Project Proposals in the various types of tenders. Almost half of them were recommended for the second round. **Almost 4.5 thousand evaluations from international reviewers** were carried out for these proposals, **i.e. an average of 3.2 evaluations per proposal**. In 2022, two or more international evaluations were obtained for all of the proposals advancing to the second evaluation round.

HOW DO WE AVOID CONFLICTS OF INTEREST?



Monitored automatically by the GRIS project management system



No panelists participate in project discussions where they have a conflict of interest



GACR Code of Ethics applying to evaluators



Limiting the term of office of panellists to a maximum of 4 years

The Czech Science Foundation evaluates Project Proposals in **two ways depending on the type of the tender**. The evaluation period is eight months, and the project evaluation process is multi-stage. **Experts from abroad** are involved in all types of evaluation. The review process is inspired by that of the European Research Council.

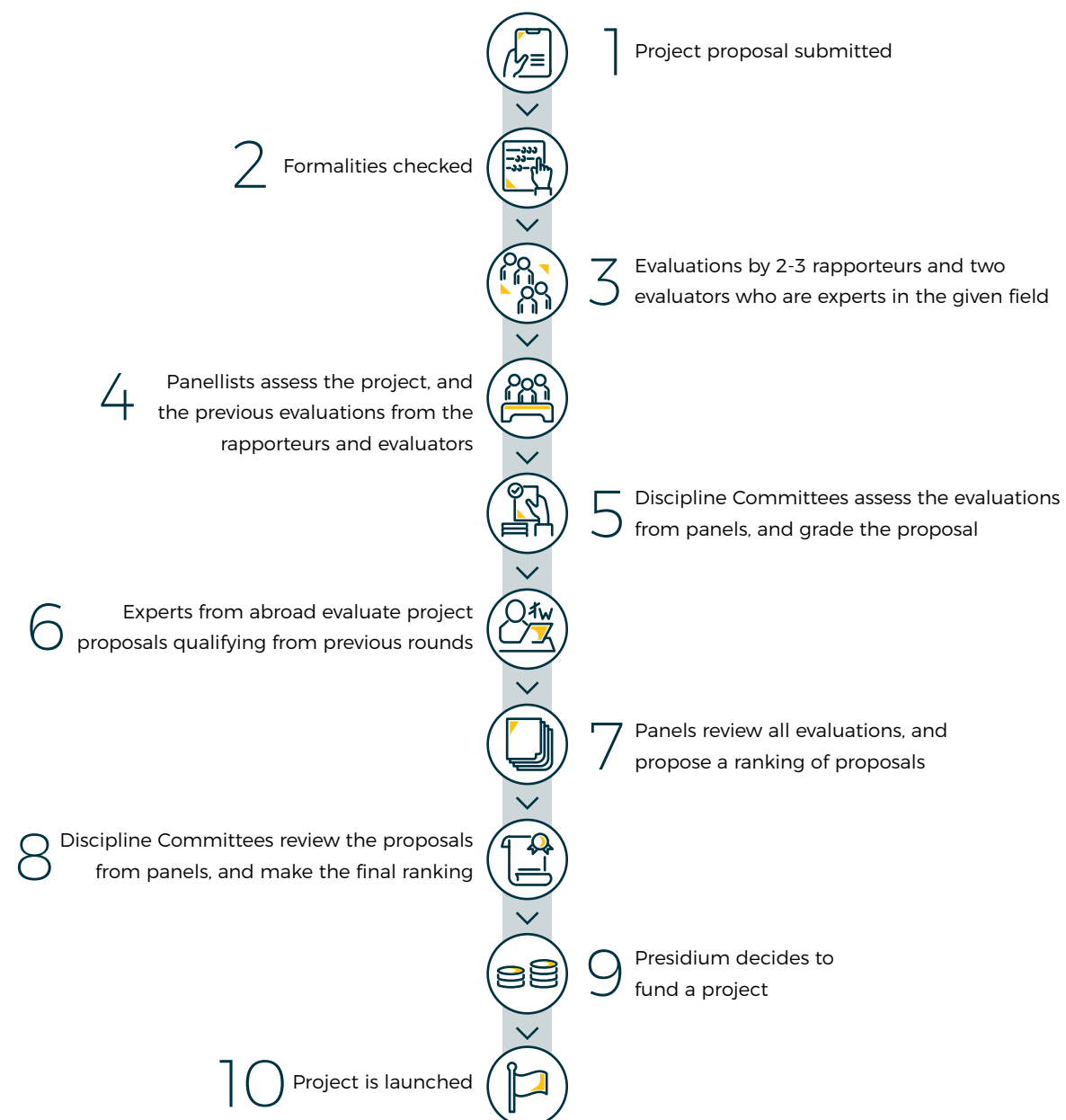
The review process is described in more detail at our website: <https://gacr.cz/en/evaluation-process-of-project-proposals/>

6.1 HOW STANDARD AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS ARE EVALUATED

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

- three-phase evaluation system (Evaluation Panels, Discipline Committees, Presidium)
- at least two independent reviews of each Project Proposal, and two further project evaluations
- at least one international review for projects advancing to the second phase of evaluation
- the Discipline Committees make a ranking of the Project Proposals from the individual panels
- the ranking is the basis for the Presidium's decision

Project proposal evaluation process



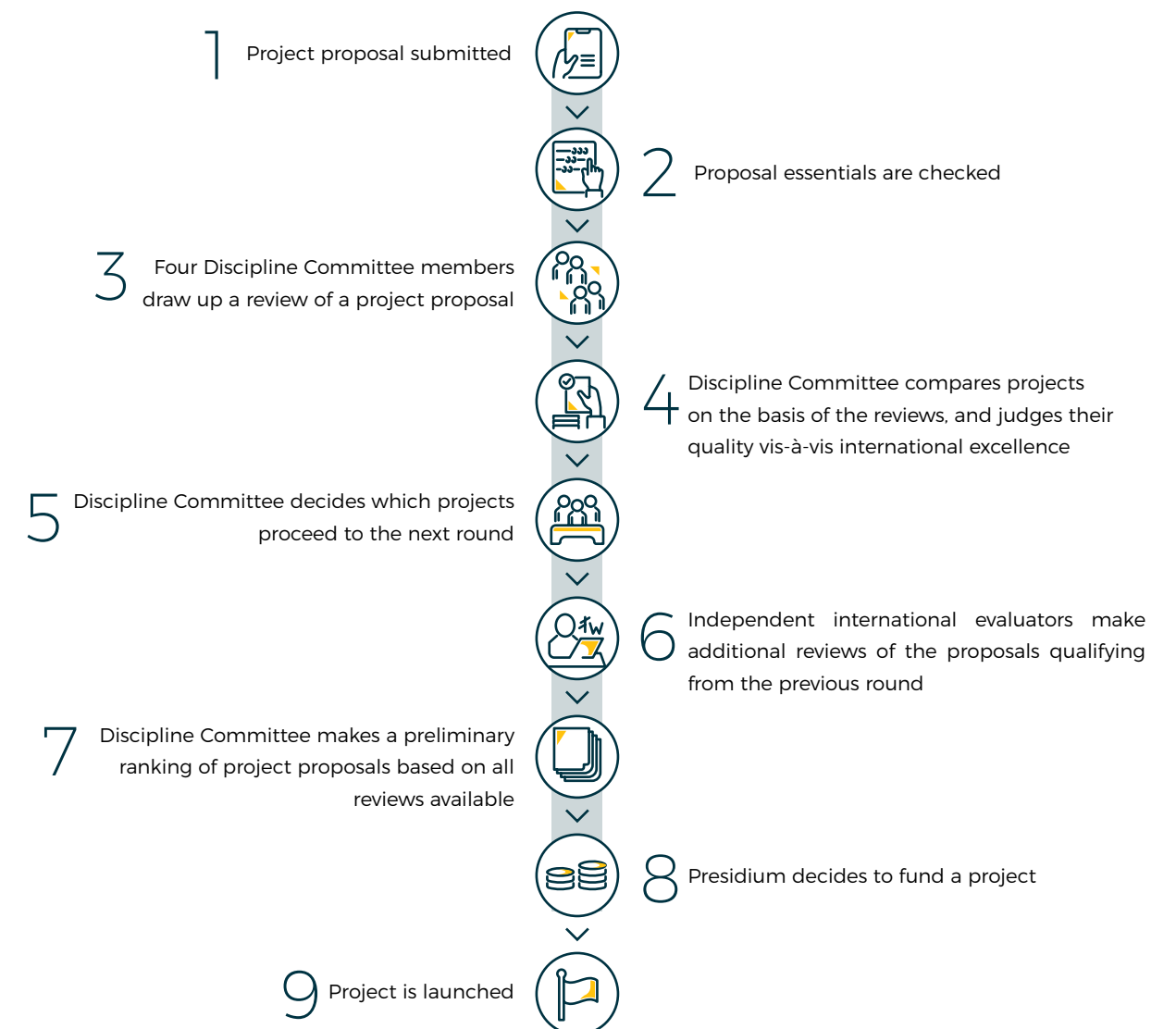
The process is also described in more detail at:
<https://gacr.cz/en/evaluation-process-of-project-proposals/>

6.2 HOW THE EXPRO AND JUNIOR STAR PROJECT PROPOSALS ARE EVALUATED

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

- two-stage evaluation system
- eight Discipline Committees recommend projects for funding to the Presidium
- four independent reviews of each Project Proposal
- if possible, two external reviews of the projects advancing to the second stage of the evaluation
- an external reviewer or member of the EXPRO Discipline Committee must not have a history of working at any institution in the Czech Republic in the last five years
- international experts are recommended by the Science Connect independent agency

Evaluation process for the EXPRO and JUNIOR STAR Project Proposals



The process is also described in more detail at:
<https://gacr.cz/en/evaluation-process-of-the-expro-project-proposals/>

KEY FACTS

- The Czech Science Foundation co-operates with 10 foreign agencies from all over the world, including the prestigious American agency National Science Foundation.
- GACR strives to **expand the number** of agencies it co-operates with through the Weave initiative.

Expanding and deepening the opportunities for international cooperation between and among scientists working in the field of basic research at Czech institutions is one of the priorities of the Czech Science Foundation. This form of cooperation has been supported since 2005 and in 2013 a partnership was also formed on the Lead Agency principle, where only one agency evaluates projects and the other agency takes over the results of its evaluation.

In 2019, the Czech Science Foundation - together with Austrian, Slovenian and Polish agencies - was a founding member of the Central European Science Partnership (CEUS), which was expanded to include the Hungarian

Academy of Sciences (MTA) in 2023. This initiative allowed scientists from the participating countries to apply not only for bilateral but also trilateral projects evaluated on the Lead Agency principle.

The CEUS was the basis for the Weave initiative, launched under Science Europe, an association of grant agencies and research organisations. Its aim is to connect 12 European agencies on the Lead Agency principle. Six of them had already been partnered by the Czech Science Foundation before 2023 (Austria, Germany, Slovenia, Poland, Switzerland and Luxembourg), one was partnered in 2023 (Croatia) and four others (two Belgian agencies, a Norwegian and a Swedish agency) will be partnered in the coming years.

Another important foreign partnership is the cooperation with the American agency National Science Foundation (NSF). As part of the largest Czech-American cooperation in basic research, projects in the fields of artificial intelligence, nanotechnology and plasma science are supported from 2021 and, from 2023, also in the field of cybersecurity and privacy protection.

In addition to partnerships with foreign agencies, the Czech Science Foundation is an active member of Science Europe, where it is involved in four working groups focused on the implementation of European trends in science and research, and the Global Research Council, a worldwide association of research funding organizations. The Czech Science Foundation also participates in the GENDERACTION+ project.

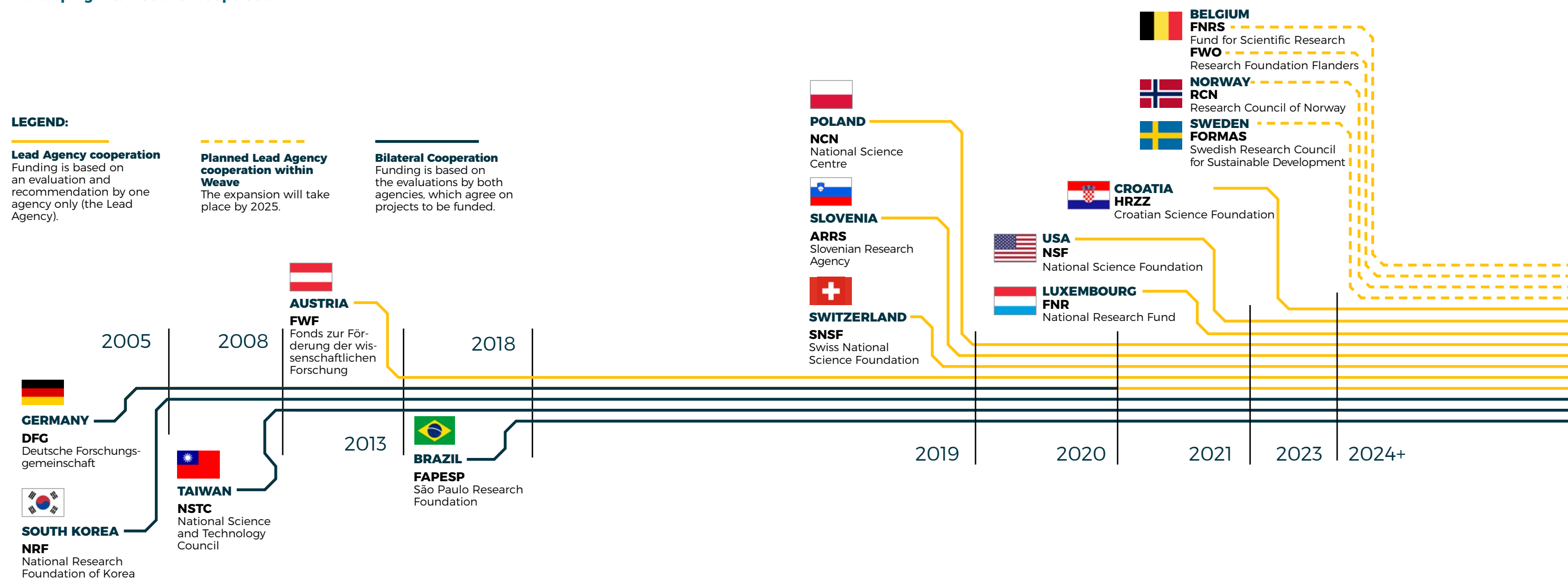
Developing international cooperation

LEGEND:

Lead Agency cooperation
Funding is based on an evaluation and recommendation by one agency only (the Lead Agency).

Planned Lead Agency cooperation within Weave
The expansion will take place by 2025.

Bilateral Cooperation
Funding is based on the evaluations by both agencies, which agree on projects to be funded.



KEY FACTS

- The Czech Science Foundation took part in the preparation for the **Implementation of the Strategy for the Equality of Women and Men 2021-2030**.
- A revised **Guide to Maternity and Parenthood** is available to scientists in the tender documents.
- **More than a quarter of the Standard Project proposals were submitted by women** last year.

The Czech Science Foundation strives to create an inclusive and fair environment for all scientists, thus contributing to the development of equality and diversity in research and development in the Czech Republic. Actively promoting gender equality in basic research is an integral part of the Czech Science Foundation's long-term policy. The strategic goals of the National R&D Strategy 2021+ are part of the internal GACR documents, which are updated on a regular basis. The subject of gender is taken into account in the tender documents of all announced groups of grant projects. When evaluating project proposals, emphasis is placed on equal opportunities for women and men in the scientific sphere. Support for reconciliation of work and family life for scientists is also an important component. The gender dimension in the research content is also taken into account at all stages of the evaluation process, making it possible to identify and address potential gender inequalities.

During the year 2023, the Czech Science Foundation prepared a new group of grant projects - Return Grants . This group of grant projects will be aimed at supporting scientists who return to research after parental leave or other career interruptions. The aim will be to minimise barriers and enable a smooth return to a scientific career, ensuring that talented scientists do not leave scientific careers due to parental responsibilities or caring for family members.

Even in 2023, the Czech Science Foundation actively participated in the implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy for 2021-2030 .

REPRESENTATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN THE GOVERNING BODIES AND PROJECTS OF GACR

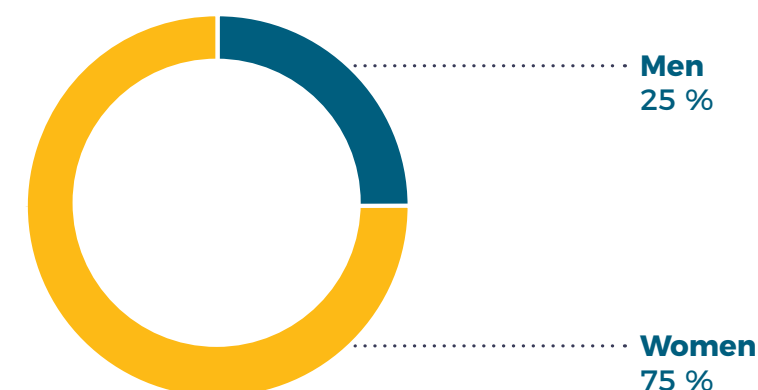
The proportion of women and men in the governing bodies of GACR

	Total	Number of women	Number of men	Representation of women
Presidium	5	2	3	40%
Scientific advisory board	12	2	10	17%
Supervisory board	8	3	5	38%

OFFICE OF GACR

At the end of 2023, a total of **60 employees** were working in the **Foundation's Office**, 45 of them women and 15 men.

The proportion of men and women employed at the Office of GACR



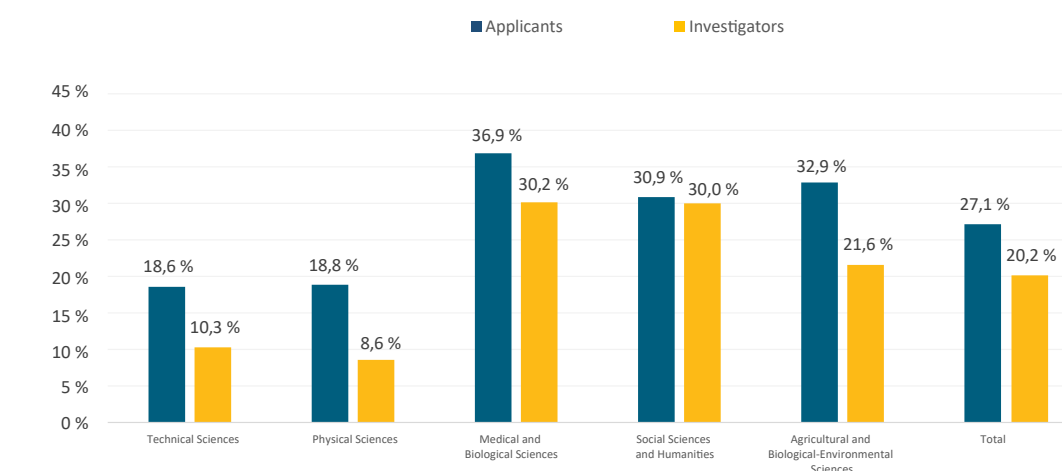
CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION PROJECTS

We provide information below on the representation of women and men among the applicants for Standard and JUNIOR STAR projects. Only those projects where it was possible to identify the gender of the applicant/investigator are listed.

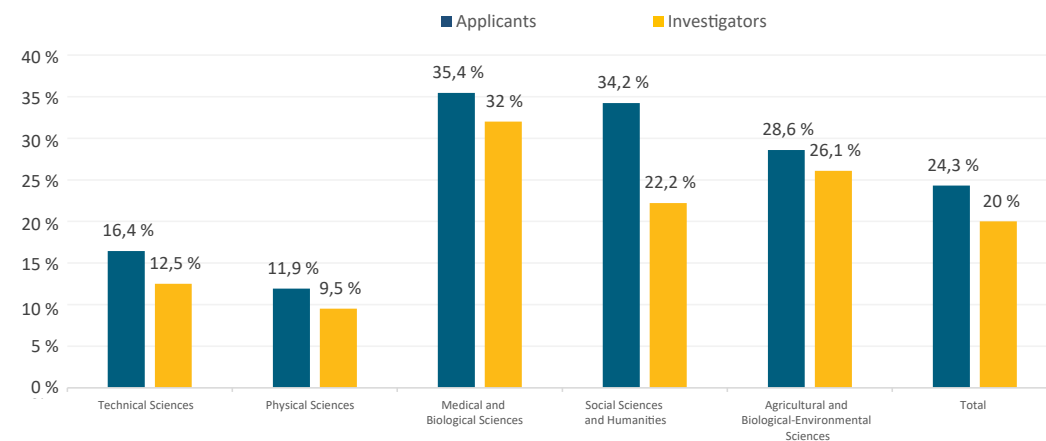
STANDARD PROJECTS

A total of 2,240 Project Proposals were evaluated in Standard Project tenders with an expected launch date in 2024. It was possible to determine whether the proposal was submitted by a male or a female with 2,412 of the proposals. **A total of 607 Project Proposals (i.e. 27.1%) were submitted by women** as applicants, of which 67 received funding (i.e. 20.2%). There were 193 women in the role of co-applicants (i.e. 24.3%) and 22 women in the role of co-investigators (i.e. 20%).

Representation of women in the role of project applicant or investigator for standard projects with an expected launch date in 2024 by Discipline Committees



Representation of women in the role of project co-applicant or co-investigator for standard projects with an expected launch date in 2024 by Discipline Committees

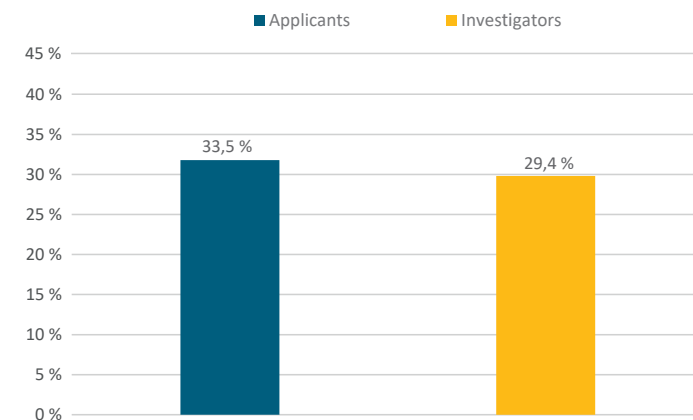


JUNIOR STAR

A total of 173 Project Proposals were evaluated in the JUNIOR STAR tender with an expected launch date in 2024.

A total of 58 Project Proposals (33.5%) were submitted by women, of which 5 projects (29.4%) received funding.

Representation of women in the role of JUNIOR STAR with an expected launch date in 2024



KEY FACTS

- The Czech Science Foundation **celebrated 30 years since the funding** of the first projects - on this occasion it prepared a number of activities and materials.
- Successful scientific projects are periodically presented on the website GAČR.cz. The **series of articles introducing JUNIOR STAR projects** continues to be published.
- In 2023, further **educational videos** were produced to show project applicants and investigators how to work with GRIS.
- The hotline answered approximately **10,000 enquiries**.

In 2023, the Czech Science Foundation marked **30 years since the funding of the first scientific projects**. On this occasion, the Czech Science Foundation updated its logo, prepared a 70-page publication **GACR: Pathway to Excellence in Basic Research**, published a special supplement in the journal Vesmír and prepared a series of congratulatory messages by important personalities for the social network Facebook, etc. The celebration of this anniversary was associated with the presentation of the GACR President's Awards, which took place on 12 October 2023 in the Martinický Palace.

An educational Guidebook for panellists was also prepared, which can be downloaded on the website of the Czech Science Foundation.

The website **www.gacr.cz** continues to be used for presenting successful basic research projects and informing about important events. This is where it is also possible to subscribe to newsletters. Newsletters are mailed out approximately once every 3 months.

Selected projects and activities of the Czech Science Foundation were also featured in public and commercial media. In 2022, the Foundation became a partner of the **Werner von Siemens Prize**. This prize is awarded every year to students, educators and scientists - including a separate category for the most significant outcome of basic research.

The Czech Science Foundation operates a **helpdesk service for scientists** and administrative staff. Anyone can contact the helpdesk by sending an e-mail to **info@gacr.cz**, calling +420 227 088 841, or filling in a web form. Answers to the most frequently asked questions are published in the **FAQ section** of the Czech Science Foundation's website. In the past year, the operators of these communication channels received approximately 10,000 enquiries. **The video tutorials for the GRIS** application are also used to help applicants create and submit proposals for Standard Projects.

KEY FACTS

- **Five project investigators from various areas of basic research received the award** along with a cash prize of CZK 100,000.
- The award ceremony took place on the occasion of the celebration of the **30th anniversary of the Czech Science Foundation in the Martinický Palace**.

The President's Awards are presented annually for **extraordinary outcomes accomplished in grant projects**. Last year's winners were selected on the basis of recommendations from hundreds of scientists who had participated in the evaluation of the projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation. Tens of outstanding projects from five areas of basic research were shortlisted. The final decision on the winning projects was made by the Presidium of the Czech Science Foundation.

The award ceremony took place on 12 October 2023 on the occasion of the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Czech Science Foundation in the Martinický Palace. Video messages of the awarded investigators are available on the GACR YouTube channel.



TECHNICAL SCIENCES

Investigation of Synovial Fluid Viscosupplementation and its Impact on Friction and Lubrication

prof. Ing. Martin Vrbka Ph.D. (Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering)

Viscosupplementation is a treatment for osteoarthritis that involves injecting a hyaluronic acid-based product between the cartilages of a joint. The award-winning project investigated whether this treatment could improve the mobility of joints. The project created a joint simulator that analysed the friction and lubrication film between the articular cartilage. The project has clarified the mechanism of viscosupplementation, and provided new insights to improve the treatment of osteoarthritis.



PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Testing Strong Gravity via Black Holes

Roman Konoplya Ph.D. (Silesian University in Opava, Institute of Physics)

The project has developed a new method for describing black holes in various theories of gravity, including those that differ from the prevailing Einstein theory. The differences between the theories are most apparent in the extremely strong gravity around black holes.

This new method makes it possible to study these differences and to combine theory with experiment to help understand gravity under extreme conditions. This way, the project contributes to a full understanding of gravity and its potential applications in energy and other areas of research.



MEDICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Respiration-Linked Metabolic Limitations of De Novo Pyrimidine Biosynthesis

Mgr. Jakub Rohlena, Ph.D. (Institute of Biotechnology, Czech Academy of Sciences)

The project investigated the metabolism of cancer cells, which influences their ability to form tumours and respond to treatment. The chain responsible for cellular respiration was found to have different functions in dividing and resting cells – the former promoting the production of organic compounds, the latter stress resistance. This difference has important implications for cancer treatment which can affect not only cancerous cells but also healthy ones. The project also discovered a new metabolic pathway that produces a key substance for cancer cell growth – aspartic acid. These findings may contribute to new innovative cancer treatments.



SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES

Contestation of Truth: Public Discourses on Migration in Central Europe in the Post-Truth Era

Mgr. Alena Kluknavská, Ph.D. (Masaryk University, Faculty of Economics and Administration)

The award-winning project dealt with the relativisation of truth in political communication, where facts give way to opinions. It created a theoretical framework and a tool for analysing the post-factual communication of politicians, especially in the context of polarising issues such as migration. By combining manual and automatic textual analysis, the researchers found that post-factual communication is close to both populism and disinformation. It manifests itself primarily through hostile anti-elitist accusations against opponents of creating and spreading false information and lies, and a focus on emotionality, negativity and incivility rather than facts and expertise.



AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Evolution of Brain Complexity and Processing Capacity in Amphibians and Reptiles: A Quantitative Approach to Understanding Tetrapod Brain Evolution

Mgr. Pavel Němec, Ph.D. (Charles University, Faculty of Science)

The brain and its neural capacity are crucial to the evolutionary success of species. However, even species with small brains can be intelligent because of the high density of neurons in the brain. The project researchers found that birds and mammals – unlike amphibians and reptiles – have experienced brain enlargement and an increase in the number of neurons during evolution, made possible by the increased metabolism of species with constant body temperature. Furthermore, a link between the number of neurons in the hindbrain and cerebellum and the innovativeness of birds in acquiring food has been demonstrated.

KEY FACTS

- Standard, international and POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP projects were evaluated by **39 expert panels** organized into **five Discipline Committees**.
- In 2023, 416 experts served as panel members.
- EXPRO and JUNIOR STAR projects are reviewed **solely by evaluators abroad** in eight Discipline Committees.

The evaluation of Standard, International and POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP projects is a **multi-stage process** - it starts with the drafting of a review and an evaluation by the selected panelists, then it is discussed at the panel meeting and forwarded to the relevant Discipline Committee made up of the chair and vice-chair of the panel. For projects proceeding to the next stage, **further reviews are prepared abroad**, to be discussed by the panellists again, leading to a recommendation to the panel. The panel then recommends the Project Proposals for funding to the Presidium. Details of the evaluation process can be found in the relevant chapter.

The evaluation of JUNIOR STAR and EXPRO Projects is similar, but with several modifications: the system does not include evaluation panels, but rather eight Discipline Committees which review the project proposal. In the first phase, four evaluations of each Project Proposal are written, with each Proposal being evaluated only by experts abroad. The evaluation process is described in more detail in the relevant chapter.

EVALUATION PANELS

The Evaluation Panels are **expert bodies of the Discipline Committees**. The Czech Science Foundation Presidium invites individuals and entities from the Czech scientific community to nominate panel members. The selection of members for each panel is then carried out by working groups made up of a representative of the CRDI, a member of the Czech Science Foundation Presidium, and a representative of the Czech Science Foundation Scientific Advisory Board.

In the year 2023, there were multiple replacements of the panel members following the Charter and the Rules of Procedure of the Discipline Committees and Evaluation Panels of the Czech Science Foundation. A total of 191 members were newly appointed. The new experts started their first term in office on 1 April 2023. At the end of 2023, there were a total of **416 experts** serving on 39 panels.

The members of the panels are selected with regard to the following criteria:

- high professional standard, assessed primarily on the basis of publications and other achievements
- willingness and ability to be able to evaluate a broader section of the field within the panel
- the ability to evaluate solely on the basis of professional considerations
- disciplinary balance of the panel
- gender balance of the panel
- regional balance of the panel
- representation of panellists from various institutions

CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF EVALUATION PANELS



TECHNICAL SCIENCES

P101 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

doc. Ing. Michal Hajžman, Ph.D. (chair)

– University of West Bohemia, Faculty of Applied Sciences

prof. Libor Sitek, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Geonics of the CAS

P102 ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

prof. Ing. Jaroslav Koton, Ph.D. (chair)

– Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Communication Technology

Prof. Ing. Radimír Vrba, CSc. (vice-chair)

– Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Communication

P103 CYBERNETICS, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION PROCESSING

prof. RNDr. Jiří Barnat, Ph.D. (chair)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Informatics

prof. RNDr. Tomáš Skopal, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

P104 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING SCIENCE

Prof. Ing. Eva Vejmelková, Ph.D. (chair)

– Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Civil Engineering

prof. Ing. Jiří Zach, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Civil Engineering

P105 STRUCTURAL MECHANICS AND CONSTRUCTION, FLUID MECHANICS AND GEOTECHNICS

prof. Ing. Stanislav Pospíšil, Ph.D. (chair)

– Institute of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics of the CAS

doc. Ing. Jan Vorel, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Civil Engineering

P106 TECHNICAL CHEMISTRY

RNDr. Petr Chytil, Ph.D. (chair)

– Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry of the CAS

RNDr. Jan Demel, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Inorganic Chemistry of the CAS

P107 METALLIC MATERIALS - PREPARATION AND PROPERTIES

prof. Ing. Pavel Novák, Ph.D. (chair)

– University of Chemical Technology in Prague, Faculty of Chemical Technology

prof. Ing. Ivo Dlouhý, CSc. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Physics of Materials of the CAS

P108 MATERIALS SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

Mgr. Otakar Frank, Ph.D. (chair)

– J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry, CAS

Ing. Petra Ecorchard, Ph.D (vice-chair)

– Institute of Inorganic Chemistry of the CAS



PHYSICAL SCIENCES

P202 MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Doc. Mgr. Vítězslav Kala, Ph.D. (chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

prof. RNDr. Dr.rer.nat. Jan Křetínský, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Technical University of Munich

P203 NUCLEAR AND PARTICLE PHYSICS, ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS

doc. RNDr. Marek Wolf, CSc. (chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

RNDr. Karel Šafařík, CSc. (vice-chair)

– Czech Technical University in Prague,
Faculty of Nuclear and Physical Engineering

P204 CONDENSED MATTER AND MATERIAL PHYSICS, PLASMA PHYSICS AND LOW TEMPERATURE PHYSICS

doc. RNDr. Petr Kužel, Ph.D. (chair)

– Institute of Physics of the CAS

Mgr. Zdeněk Bonaventura, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Science

P205 BIOPHYSICS, MACROMOLECULAR PHYSICS AND OPTICS

doc. RNDr. Robert Vácha, Ph.D. (chair)

– Masaryk University, Central European Institute of
Technology

Mgr. Oto Brzobohatý, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Instrumentation of the CAS

P206 ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY - CHEMICAL AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF ATOMIC, MOLECULAR AND (BIO) MOLECULAR SYSTEMS

prof. Ing. Michal Holčápek, Ph.D. (chair)

– University of Pardubice, Faculty of Chemical Technology

doc. RNDr. Miroslav Fojta, CSc. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Biophysics of the CAS

P207 CHEMICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL TRANSFORMATIONS

prof. RNDr. Petr Štěpnička, Ph.D. (chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Science

prof. Ing. Vladimír Křen, DrSc. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Microbiology of the CAS

P208 CHEMICAL PHYSICS AND PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

doc. Ing. Pavel Izák, Ph.D., DSc. (chair)

– Institute of Chemical Processes of the CAS

RNDr. Drahomír Hnyk, CSc., DSc. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Inorganic Chemistry of the CAS

P209 ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES, HYDROLOGY, PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOPHYSICS

doc. RNDr. Hana Čížková, Ph.D. (předsedkyně)

– Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

prof. Ing. Martin Hanel, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Czech University of Agriculture in Prague,
Faculty of Environment

P210 GEOCHEMISTRY, GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY, HYDROGEOLOGY

prof. RNDr. Martin Mihaljevič, CSc. (chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Science

doc. RNDr. Jiří Kvaček, CSc. (vice-chair)

– National Museum of the Czech Republic



MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

P301 MOLECULAR AND STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY, GENETICS, GENOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS

Doc. Ing. Václav Veverka, Ph.D. (chair)

– Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of
the CAS

doc. Ing. Vojtěch Spiwok, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Molecular Genetics of the CAS

P302 MICROBIOLOGY, PARASITOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

prof. RNDr. Václav Hořejší, CSc. (chair)

– Institute of Molecular Genetics of the CAS

doc. RNDr. Lenka Zdražilová Dubská, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics of the CAS

P303 CELL, DEVELOPMENTAL AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

doc. RNDr. Marcela Buchtová, Ph.D. (předsedkyně)

– University Hospital Brno

prof. Mgr. Marek Eliáš, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– University of Ostrava, Faculty of Science

P304 TUMOR BIOLOGY, EXPERIMENTAL ONCOLOGY, MORPHOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES AND PATHOLOGY

prof. Ing. Miroslav Strnad, DSc. (chair)

– Institute of Experimental Botany of the CAS

doc. MUDr. Mgr. Marek Mráz, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Central European Institute of
Technology

P305 MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE, DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPY, TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

doc. MVDr. Aleš Hampl, CSc. (chair)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Medicine

doc. PharmDr. Jan Korábečný, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– University of Defence in Brno, Faculty of Military
Medicine in Hradec Králové

P306 PHARMACOLOGY, TOXICOLOGY, MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTRY, MEDICAL BIOPHYSICS

Prof. RNDr. Pavel Anzenbacher, DrSc. (chair)

– Palacký University Olomouc, Faculty of Medicine and
Dentistry

prof. MUDr. Ondřej Slanař, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Charles University, 1st Faculty of Medicine



SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

P401 PHILOSOPHY, THEOLOGY, RELIGIOUS STUDIES

doc. Mgr. Jakub Čapek, Ph.D. (chair)

- Charles University, Faculty of Philosophy

doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Jana Plátová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Palacký University in Olomouc, Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology

P402 ECONOMIC SCIENCES, MACROECONOMICS, MICROECONOMICS, ECONOMETRICS (EXCEPT FINANCIAL ECONOMETRICS), QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN ECONOMICS (EXCEPT OPERATIONAL RESEARCH)

Prof. Ing. Martin Macháček, Ph.D. et Ph.D. (chair)

doc. Ing. Rostislav Staněk, Ph.D. (chair)
- Masaryk University, Faculty of Economics and Administration

doc. Ing. Josef Montag, Ph. D. (vice-chair)

- Charles University, Faculty of Law

P403 BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCE, FINANCIAL ECONOMETRICS AND OPERATIONAL RESEARCH

Ing. Martin Srholec, Ph.D. (chair)

- Institute of National Economy of the CAS; Centre for Economic Research and Doctoral Studies (CERGE-EI)

prof. RNDr. Ing. Michal Černý, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- University of Economics in Prague, Faculty of Informatics and Statistics

P404 SOCIOLOGY, DEMOGRAPHY, SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY AND MEDIA STUDIES

Mgr. Ing. Petr Mazouch, Ph.D. (chair)

- University of Economics in Prague, Faculty of Informatics and Statistics

prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- University of Ostrava, Faculty of Social Studies

P405 ARCHAEOLOGY AND PRE-MODERN HISTORY (UNTIL 1780)

Prof. Dr. Phil. Mgr. Pavel Himl (chair)

- Charles University, Faculty of Humanities

doc. Mgr. Ondřej Chvojka, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Institute of Archaeology of the CAS, Brno

P406 LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE

Mgr. Magda Ševčíková, Ph.D. (předsedkyně)

- Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Markéta Kulhánková, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Masaryk University, Faculty of Arts; Institute of Slavonic Studies of the CAS

P407 PSYCHOLOGY, EDUCATION

doc. PhDr. Dana Kasperová, Ph.D. (předsedkyně)

- Technical University of Liberec, Faculty of Science, Humanities and Pedagogy

Mgr. Zuzana Štěrbová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Charles University, Philosophical Faculty

P408 JURISPRUDENCE AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

doc. Mgr. Karel Kouba, M.A., Ph.D. (chair)

- University of Hradec Králové, Philosophical faculty

Mgr. Alžběta Solarczyk Krausová, LL.M., Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Ústav státu a práva AV ČR, v. v. i.

P409 ART SCIENCES

prof. Ivan Foletti, M.A., Docteur es Lettres (chair)

- Masaryk University, Faculty of Philosophy

PhDr. Alena Volrábová, Ph.D. (místopředsedkyně)

- Institute of Philosophy of the CAS

P410 MODERN HISTORY (SINCE 1780) AND ETHNOLOGY

doc. Mgr. Denisa Nečasová, Ph.D. (předsedkyně)

- University of Ostrava, Faculty of Arts

doc. PhDr. Jan Mervart, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Institute of Philosophy of the CAS



AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

P501 PLANT PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS, PLANT MEDICINE

RNDr. Kateřina Bišová, Ph.D. (chair)

- Institute of Microbiology of the CAS

Mgr. Zdeněk Kubát, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Institute of Biophysics of the CAS

P502 ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS, VETERINARY MEDICINE

Prof. Ing. Jaroslav Petr, DrSc. (chair)

- Institute of Animal Science

Mgr. Darina Čejková, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Communication Technologies

P503 FOOD TECHNOLOGY, ECOTOXICOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY

Prof. RNDr. Luděk Bláha, Ph.D. (chair)

- Masaryk University, Faculty of Science

Mgr. Jiří Grúz, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Palacký University in Olomouc, Faculty of Science

P504 LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, FORESTRY AND SOIL BIOLOGY, ECOSYSTEM ECOLOGY

Ing. David Janík, Ph.D. (chair)

- Silva Tarouca Research Institute for Landscape and Ornamental Horticulture

RNDr. Alena Ševců, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Technical University of Liberec, Institute for Nanomaterials, Advanced Technologies and Innovations

P505 ANIMAL AND PLANT ECOLOGY

Prof. Ing. Pavel Kozák, Ph.D. (chair)

- University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Mgr. Martina Janoušková, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Botanical Institute of the CAS

P506 BOTANY AND ZOOLOGY

prof. Mgr. Lukáš Kratochvíl, Ph.D. (chair)

- Charles University, Faculty of Science

doc. Mgr. Natália Martínková, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Institute of Vertebrate Biology of the CAS

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEES

The Discipline Committees (hereinafter "DCs") are **expert advisory bodies** in charge of evaluating Grant Project Proposals, and their Interim and Final Reports. They are made up of 12 to 20 members, all of whom are experts in their respective scientific fields. Each of the DCs **is made up of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the panel**. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Panel are appointed by the Presidium for a two-year term, from among individuals nominated by the members of the relevant Panel in a secret ballot.

CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF DISCIPLINE COMMITTEES

In 2023, a total of 39 Chairs and 39 Vice-Chairs served on the panels.

DC1 TECHNICAL SCIENCES

Mgr. Otakar Frank, Ph.D. (chair)	prof. Ing. Pavel Novák, Ph.D. (vice-chair)
J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry, CAS	– University of Chemical Technology in Prague, Faculty of Chemical Technology

DC2 PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Doc. RNDr. Hana Čížková, Ph.D. (chair)	doc. Ing. Pavel Izák, Ph.D., DSc. (vice-chair)
– Charles University, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics	– Ústav chemických procesů AV ČR, v. v. i.

DC3 MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Doc. Ing. Václav Veverka, Ph.D. (chair)	prof. Ing. Miroslav Strnad, DSc. (vice-chair)
– Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the CAS	– Ústav experimentální botaniky AV ČR, v. v. i.

DC4 SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

doc. Mgr. Denisa Nečasová, Ph.D. (předsedkyně)	Mgr. Zuzana Štěrbová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)
– Masaryk University, Faculty of Philosophy	– Charles University, Faculty of Philosophy

DC5 AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

prof. RNDr. Luděk Bláha, Ph.D. (chair)	RNDr. Kateřina Bišová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)
– Masaryk University, Faculty of Science	– Institute of Microbiology of CAS

EXPRO AND JUNIOR STAR (OK EX) DISCIPLINE COMMITTEES

The Discipline Committees for the review of projects in the EXPRO and JUNIOR STAR grant project groups are established as international under the Charter of the Czech Science Foundation. Each Discipline Committee is made up of 10-15 renowned foreign experts chosen to approximately cover the given scientific field. The term of office for EXPRO and JUNIOR STAR Discipline Committee members is 5 years.

CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS OF DISCIPLINE COMMITTEES EXPRO AND JUNIOR STAR

OK EX1 - MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS 1

Prof. Jordi Jose (chair)	Prof. Donald Dingwell (vice-chair)
– Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain	– Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany

DC EX2 - PHYSICS 2

Prof. Jeff De Hosson (chair)	Dr. Olivier Krebs (vice-chair)
– University of Groningen, Netherlands	– Paris Saclay University, France

DC EX3 - CHEMISTRY

Prof. Wolfgang Linert (chair)	Dr. John Tsibouklis (vice-chair)
– Vienna University of Technology, Austria	– University of Portsmouth, United Kingdom

DC EX4 - HUMAN BIOLOGY AND MEDICAL SCIENCES

Prof. William Cushley (chair)	Prof. Dr. Soares, Cláudio Manuel Simões Loureiro Nunes (vice-chair)
– University of Glasgow, United Kingdom	– Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal

DC EX5 - BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT SCIENCES

Prof. Olivier Honnay (chair)	Dr. Dominique Massotte (vice-chair)
– KU Leuven, Belgium	– French National Centre for Scientific Research, France

DC EX6 - SOCIAL SCIENCES

Prof. Claire Denise Wallace (chair)	Prof. Juncal Cuñado (vice-chair)
– University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom	– Universidad de Navarra, Spain

DC EX7 - HUMANITIES

Prof. Elizabeth Lanza (chair)	Prof. William Bowden (vice-chair)
– University of Oslo, Norway	– University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

DC EX8 - TECHNICAL SCIENCES AND INFORMATICS

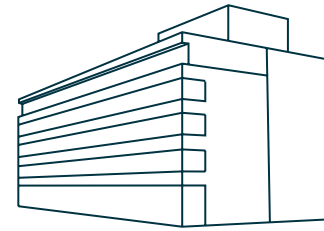
Prof. Wolfgang Kröger (chair)	Prof. Daniel Kressner (vice-chair)
– ETH Zürich, Switzerland	– École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland



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