

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



GAČR

CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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DEAR READERS,



In many respects, 2024 was a year of intensive preparations at the Czech Science Foundation – preparations aimed at strengthening the Czech research funding system and helping it to better respond to the current needs of the scientific community.

Throughout the year, we focused primarily on preparing two completely new grant schemes to be announced for the first time in 2025. We successfully introduced Restart Grants this year, aiming to facilitate the return of scientists to research after a career break (e.g., parental leave).

We successfully launched the tender in February this year. The new tender attracted great interest and the evaluation of the submitted proposals is currently underway. The second new feature in the pipeline is the Proof of Concept scheme, which aims to fund the transfer of knowledge from basic research to the world of application, and thus bridge the notorious “valley of death” in which many good ideas die without the necessary funding.

In 2024, we also began work on a new generation of the GRIS information system. We also worked on a possible new EXPRO tender, a highly successful and selective scheme, and on expanding international partnerships, for example with the ISF agency of Israel.

However, our preparations covered more than tenders and the activities of the GACR – we also boosted our funding for scientists who are working on or preparing projects: we gave them training on the new, mandatory scientific data management, arranged meetings with representatives of universities in Prague and Brno, updated our video tutorials on submitting a project proposal, and much more.

In 2024, we managed to publish and evaluate all of our traditional tenders. In total as of January, GACR is funding more than 550 new scientific projects across various research areas.

May I take this opportunity to thank Prof. Petr Baldrián, who headed the Czech Science Foundation until January 2025. I am grateful for his contribution and appreciate the opportunity to continue the work we started together on the Presidium. Thanks for her work in the Presidium also go to Dr. Alice Valkárová, who also completed her second term in December 2024. I believe that their successors – doc. Hana Čížková and Dr. Patrik Španěl – will be no less successful on the Presidium and will bring new ideas for the further development of the Czech Science Foundation.

Wishing you many inspiring discoveries!

Prof. MUDr. Mgr. Milan Jirsa, CSc.

President, Czech Science Foundation

1. SUMMARY

In 2024, the Czech Science Foundation (GACR) successfully fulfilled its goal of funding basic research in the Czech Republic in all scientific fields.

Prof. RNDr. Petr Baldrian, Ph.D., continued in his role as President of GACR during his last term of office.

Prof. MUDr. Mgr. Milan Jirsa, CSc., was appointed as the new head of the Presidium on January 7, 2025.

The representative of Agricultural and Biological-Environmental Sciences on the Presidium of GACR has newly become **RNDr. Patrik Španěl, Dr. Rer. Nat.**

In 2024, after the completion of the second term of **RNDr. Alice Valkárová, DrSc., doc. RNDr. Hana Čížková, Ph.D.**, joined the Presidium, taking responsibility for the field of Physical Sciences.

The Czech Science Foundation managed a **budget of CZK 4.66 billion**, of which CZK 110 million (2.4%) was allocated for the operation of the institutional expenses and for the evaluation process of thousands of project proposals. CZK 4.5 billion, i.e. 97.6% of the total budget of the Czech Science Foundation, was earmarked for project funding, of which CZK 3 billion was allocated for funding existing projects and CZK 1.5 billion for newly launched projects.

In addition to the standard projects, international projects, JUNIOR STAR, and POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP, the EXPRO tender was reannounced after a one-year break.

In 2024, funding began for **441 new projects**. In the calls and tenders announced in 2024, **554 projects** were selected for funding, with a start date of 2025. In the multi-stage evaluation process involving both international and Czech experts, a total of **2,862 projects were assessed**, and an additional 237 international projects were evaluated by partner foreign agencies under the Lead Agency principle. Some of the international calls had not yet completed their evaluation by the foreign partner as of April 2025 - 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. 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. Of the 609 projects evaluated after their completion in 2024, only 16 were rated as failed, while **593 were accomplished of which 130 received an excellent rating**.

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 2024, **Prof. RNDr. Petr Baldrian, Ph.D.** served as President of GACR.
- On January 7, 2025, the Czech government appointed **Prof. MUDr. Mgr. Milan Jirsa, CSc.** as the President of GACR.
- Effective December 2024, **doc. RNDr. Hana Čížková, Ph.D.**, has been responsible for the field of physical sciences.
- The chair of the GACR Scientific Advisory Board was **doc. Dr. Phil. Rudolf Kučera, Ph.D.**
- The chair of the GACR Supervisory Board was **Prof. Ing. Jan Roda, CSc.**

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
- approve the evaluation of the Project Proposals, review the progress of projects, and grade the outcomes of completed projects

In December 2024, after the end of the second term of RNDr. **Alice Valkárová**, doc. RNDr. **Hana Čížková**, Ph.D., began serving on the Presidium. On January 7, 2025, Prof. MUDr. Mgr. **Milan Jirsa**, CSc., was appointed to head GACR, replacing Prof. RNDr. **Petr Baldrian**, Ph.D., who completed his second term. Since January 7, 2025, RNDr. **Patrik Španěl**, Dr. Rer. Nat., has been responsible for the field of agricultural and biological-environmental sciences.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDIUM AT 2024 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
doc. RNDr. **Hana Čížková**, Ph.D. (1st 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 2024.

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 the 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 of each panel's focus
- comment on the international cooperation of GACR and help its development

The SAB is composed of twelve members, appointed and removed by the Government from among experts on the proposal of the R&D Council. The term of office of the members of the SAB is four years, with the possibility of re-appointment for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

On November 29, 2024, the terms of two members of the Scientific Advisory Board ended. Effective November 30, 2024, the government appointed Prof. RNDr. Jitka Klimešová, CSc., and doc. Dr. Phil. Rudolf Kučera, Ph.D., who thus started his second term in the Scientific Advisory Board of the GACR, and was reappointed as its chair. Prof. Klimešová replaced Prof. RNDr. Michal Otyepka, Ph.D., on the Scientific Advisory Board.

MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD AT 2024 YEAR-END

doc. Dr. Phil. **Rudolf Kučera**, Ph.D., (President)
Prof. Ing. **František Štěpánek**, Ph.D. (Vice-President)
Prof. Dr. Ing. **Jan Černocký**
Prof. RNDr. **Petr Dubový**, CSc.
Univ.-Prof. Dr. **Anna Pospěch Durnová**, Ph.D.
Prof. RNDr. **Jan Hajič**, Dr.
Prof. Ing. **Michal Hocek**, CSc., DSc.
Prof. RNDr. **Josef Humlíček**, CSc.
Prof. RNDr. **Jitka Klimešová**, CSc.
Prof. PhDr. **Eva Semotanová**, DrSc.
Prof. MUDr. **Aleksi Šedo**, DrSc., FCMA

The SAB met four times in 2024, on March 5, June 11, October 1, and December 3. The meetings took place 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.

MEMBERS OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD AT 2024 YEAR-END

Prof. Ing. **Jan Roda**, CSc., (President)
 Prof. PhDr. **Jana Geršlová**, CSc., (Vice-President)
 PhDr. **Pavel Baran**, CSc.
 Prof. MUDr. **Pavel Boštík**, Ph.D.
 Prof. Ing. **František Hrdlička**, CSc., FEng.
 Prof. Ing. **Stanislava Hronová**, CSc., dr. h. c.
 Prof. PhDr. **Jiří Mikulec**, CSc.
 Prof. PhDr. **Zdeněk R. Nešpor**, Ph.D.
 Prof. Ing. **Valentine Provazník**, Ph.D.
 Prof. PhDr. **Ladislav Rabušic**, CSc.

Members of the SB attended meetings of individual panels and discipline committees, where they monitored the proceedings. In 2024, the Supervisory Board of the Czech Science Foundation addressed a total of six complaints regarding the evaluation of grant project proposals, and four complaints regarding the disqualification of grant project proposals from the tender.

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.

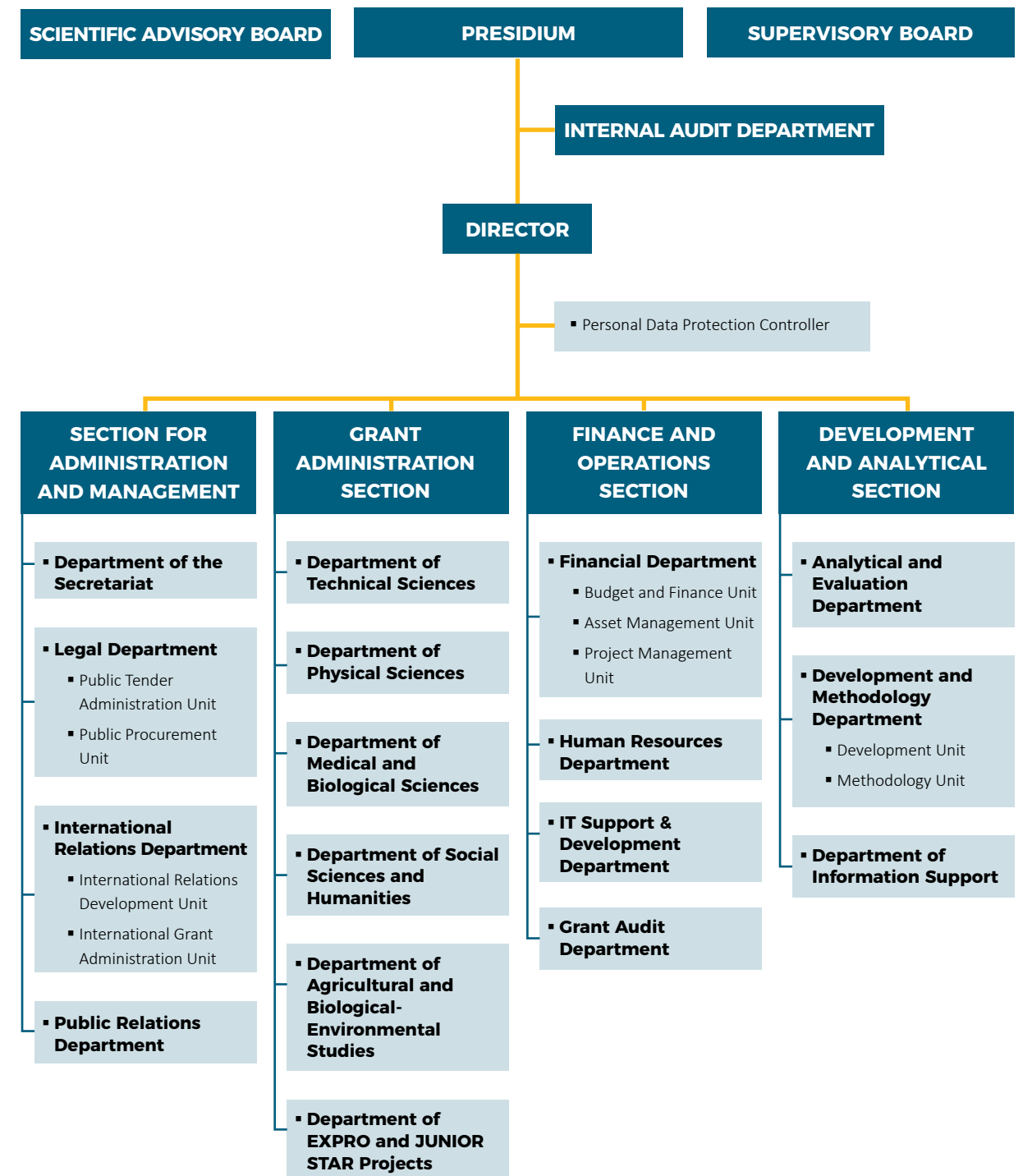
THE ROLE OF THE OFFICE

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 2024, 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 4.6 billion** for 2024.
- Only **2.4% of the costs were incurred as institutional expenses**.
- Almost **one third of the** targeted aid was earmarked **for new projects**.

For 2024, the total budget of the Czech Science Foundation was approved in the amount of CZK **4.6 billion**. The expenditures of the Czech Science Foundation are categorised into institutional expenditures to run its operations and activities, and the targeted aid for the researchers and investigators to run their projects.

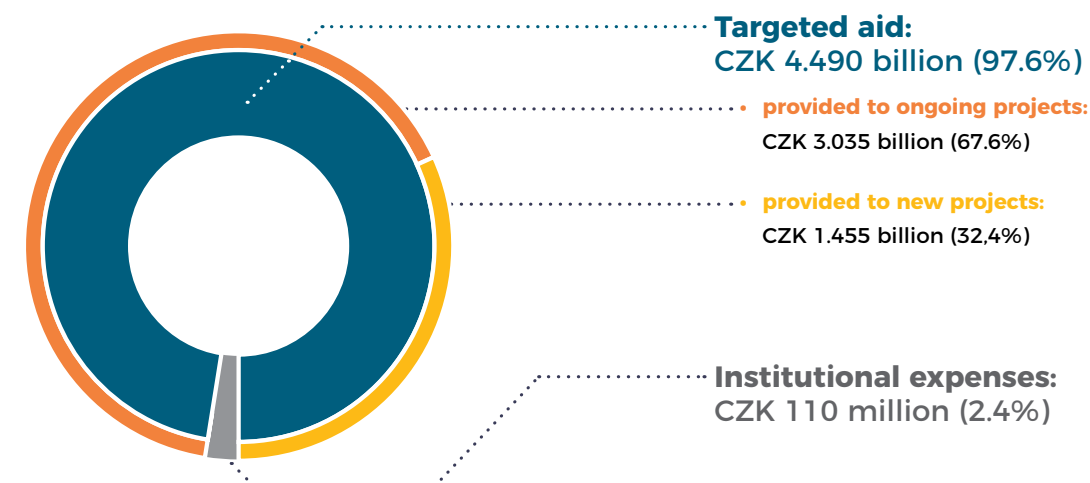
INSTITUTIONAL EXPENSES

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 2024 amounted to **CZK 109.842 million (2.4% 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 2024, the Czech Science Foundation was allocated funds for targeted aid under the Act on the State Budget totalling CZK **4.49 billion**. Out of that amount, a total of CZK 3.035 billion was necessary to fund the ongoing grant projects, i.e. 67.6% of the total amount of GACR's targeted aid. To launch new grant projects, the total targeted aid amounted to CZK 1.455 billion, i.e. 32.4% of the total targeted aid provided by GACR.

DISTRIBUTION OF GACR'S FUNDS



KEY FACTS

- In 2024, tenders were announced to fund **Standard Projects, EXPRO, JUNIOR STAR, POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP and International Projects**.
- **554 new projects** funded as of 2025

The Czech Science Foundation publishes several types of public tenders and calls every year. In 2024, the tenders were for **Standard Projects, EXPRO, 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 EXPRO competition is announced once every two years.

The calls and tenders were published on 8 February 2024. **Project proposals could be submitted until 3 April 2024**. 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 2025.

TENDERS AND CALLS LAUNCHED IN 2024

- **2 862** Project Proposals received by the Czech Science Foundation by the tender deadline and **237** LA projects received for evaluation by foreign agencies
- **10** Project Proposals were not accepted because they failed to meet the terms of the public tender
- **51** Project Proposals (i.e. 1.6%) were disqualified because they did not meet the requirements
- **18** Applicants/Organizations withdrew from the public tenders
- **554** Project Proposals selected for financing

5.1 Standard Projects

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

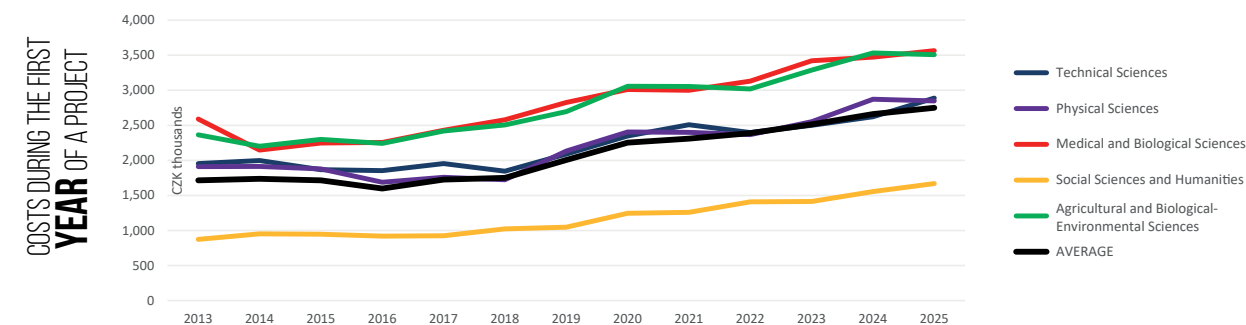
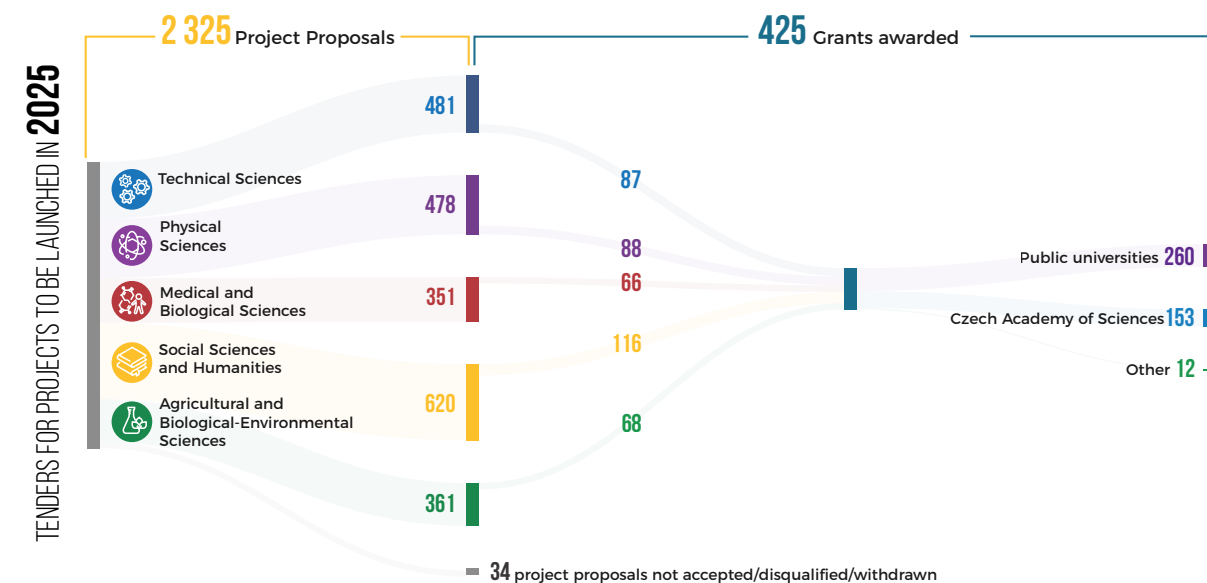
- project duration 2–3 years
- targeted at all researchers and teams
- published annually since 1993
- the most frequently applied grant tender scheme

 **CZK 17.8 BILLION**
in project proposals

 **CZK 3.3 BILLION**
in 1,346 funded projects in 2025

 **CZK 3.5 BILLION**
allocated to new projects

 **3 029 REVIEWS**
on project proposals from foreign experts



5.2 EX|PRO

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

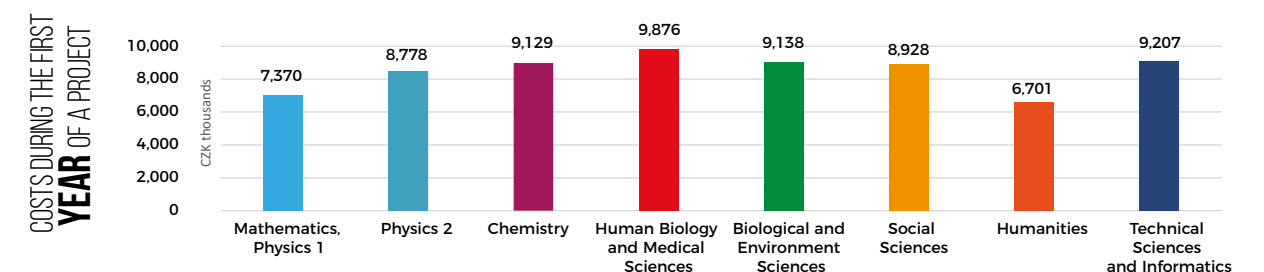
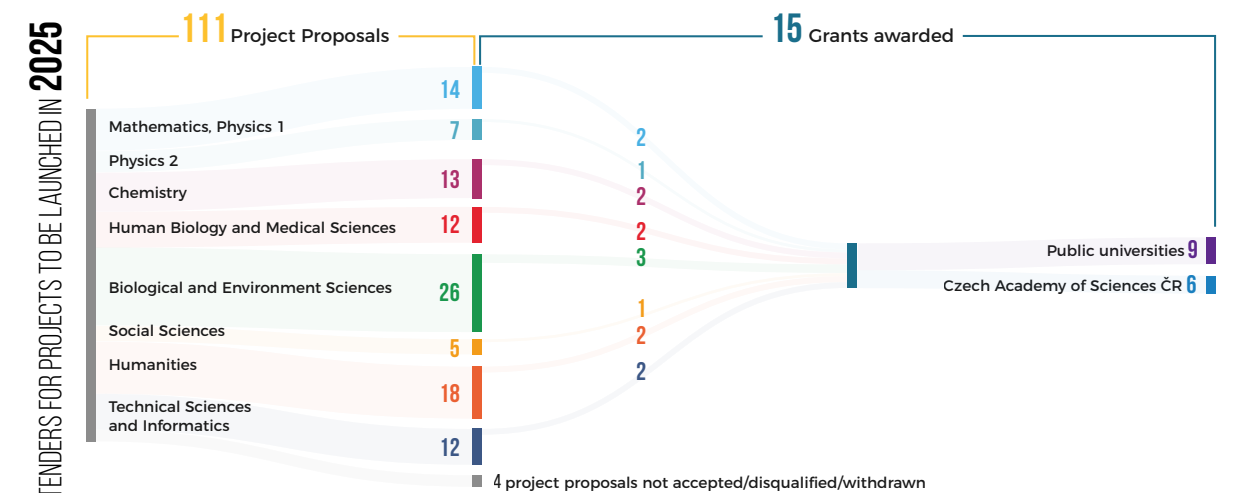
- the aim of the grants is to bring about a breakthrough in their field – these are so-called high-risk/high-gain projects
- highly selective and intended for excellent scientists. The first competition was announced in 2018
- projects last for 5 years
- up to CZK 50 million for the entire duration of the project
- projects are evaluated exclusively by foreign experts

 **CZK 4 885 MILLION**
in project proposals

 **CZK 380 MILLION**
in 47 funded projects in 2023

 **CZK 712 MILLION**
allocated to new projects

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



5.3 JUNIOR STAR

BASIC CHARACTERISTICS

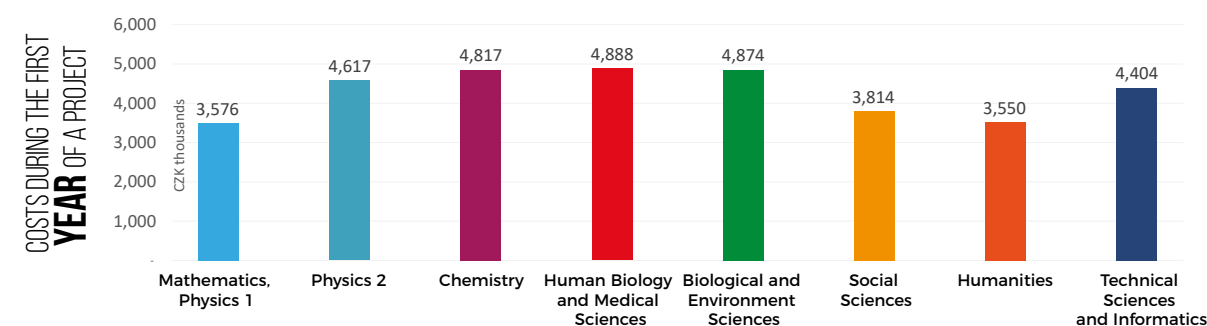
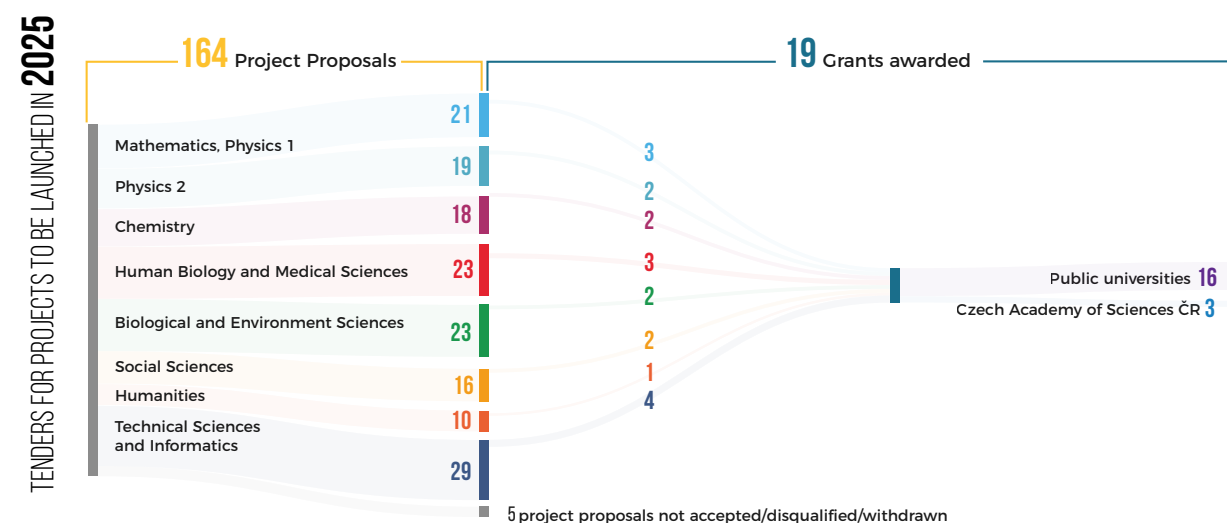
- highly selective grants for scientists in their early careers who get the opportunity to explore their own research topics
- for researchers who completed their Ph.D. degrees no more than 8 years ago, and who have already gained significant international experience and possibly establish a new team
- the first call was published in 2020
- up to CZK 25 million for the entire duration of the project
- projects are evaluated exclusively by foreign experts

 **CZK 3 250 MILLION**
in project proposals

 **CZK 350 MILLION**
in 79 funded projects in 2024

 **CZK 443 MILLION**
allocated to new projects

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



5.4 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

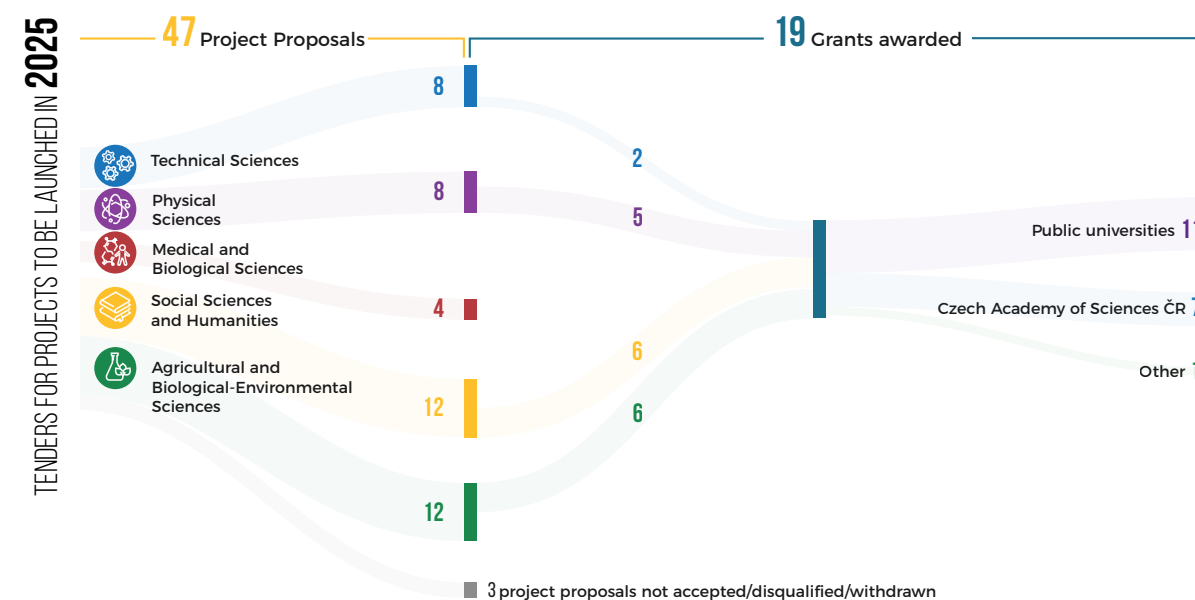
 **CZK 390 MILLION**
in project proposals

 **CZK 89 MILLION**
in 61 funded projects in 2024

 **CZK 144 MILLION**
allocated to new projects

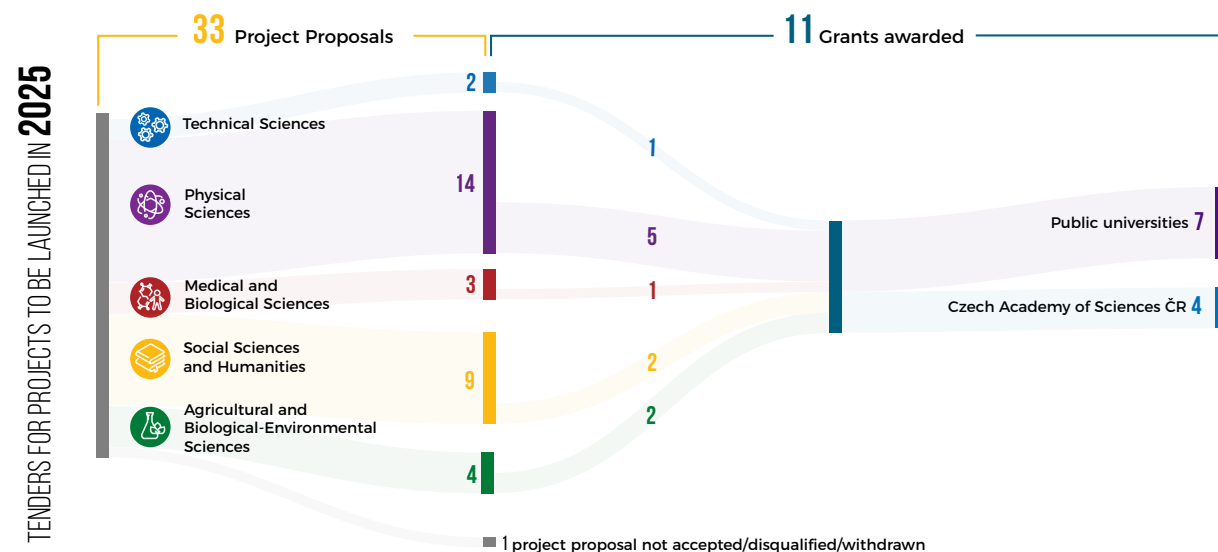
 **166 REVIEWS**
on project proposals from foreign experts

POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP OUTGOING



CZK 1.6 MILLION
average cost per year of the project

CZK 4.7 MILLION
average cost over the lifetime of the project



CZK 1.6 MILLION
average cost per year of the project

CZK 4.9 MILLION
average cost over the lifetime of the project

5.5 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)
2013		AUSTRIA - Fonds zur Förderung der Wissenschaftlichen Forschung (FWF)
2018		BRAZIL - São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP)
2019		POLAND - National Science Centre (NCN)
		SLOVENIA - Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (ARIS)
		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)

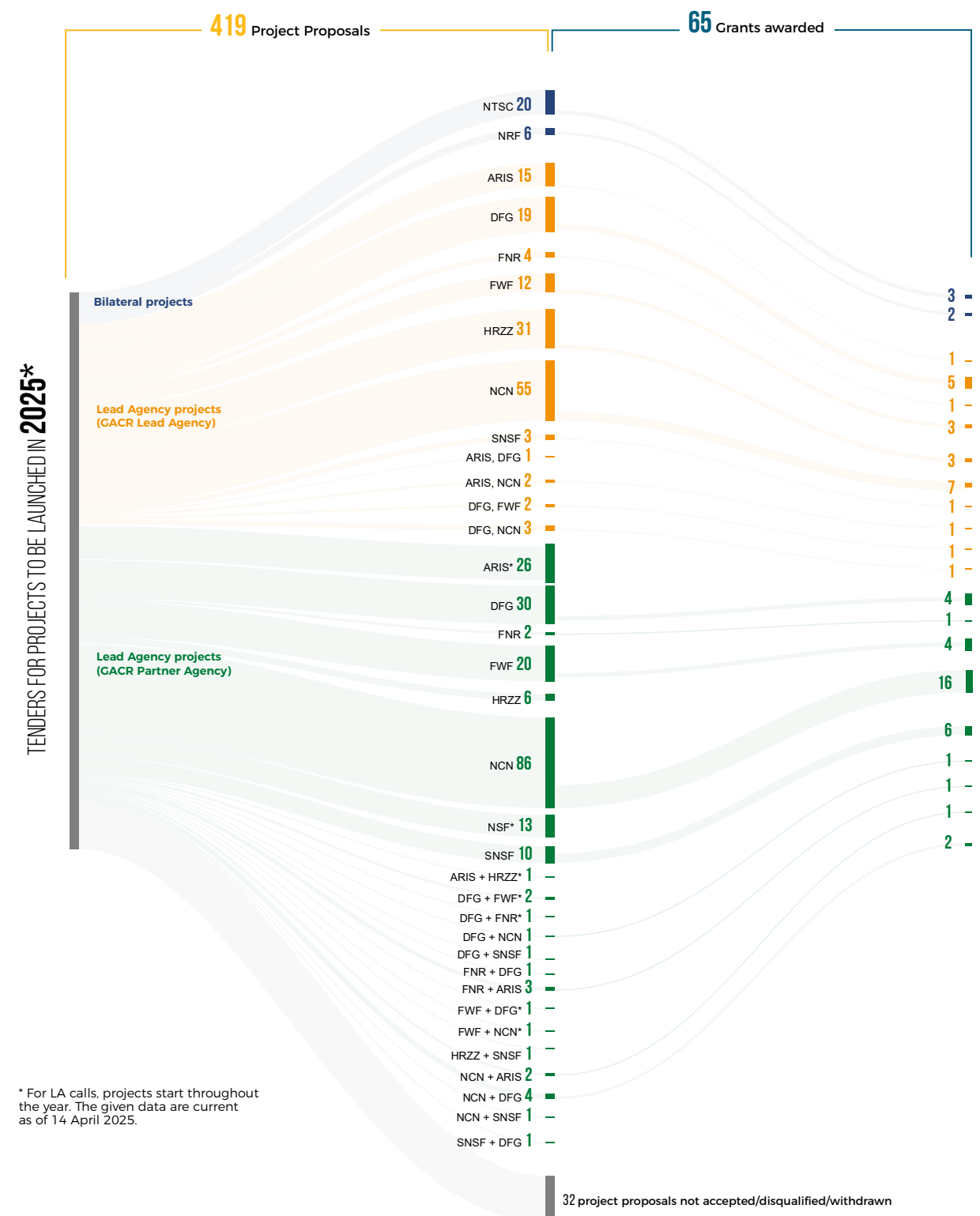
CZK 1 283 MILLION*
in project proposals

CZK 266 MILLION
in 129 funded projects in 2024

CZK 199 MILLION*
allocated to new projects

272 REVIEWS*
on project proposals from foreign experts

* Project proposals where GACR acts as the Partner Agency are not counted.



For some calls, the evaluation on the partner agency side has not been completed as of April 2025. 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 2.4 MILLION
average cost per year of the project

CZK 6.9 MILLION
average cost over the lifetime of the project

5.6 EVALUATION OF COMPLETED GRANT PROJECTS

In 2024, a **total of 609 grant projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation were evaluated**, while another 339 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 2024 are shown in the table below.

Project evaluations by Discipline Committee in 2024

	Excellent	Accomplished	Accomplished with reservation	Failed	Failed with sanction	Evaluation postponed
Technical Sciences	22	88	5	0	0	48
Physical Sciences	32	99	6	2	0	54
Medical and Biological Sciences	15	60	8	3	0	49
Social Sciences and Humanities	41	93	20	10	0	120
Agricultural and Biological-Environmental Sciences	20	75	9	1	0	68
Total	130	415	48	16	0	339

KEY FACTS

- All projects which received funding had been evaluated by at least **two international reviewers**.
- An average of **2.8 reviews per Project Proposal** in the second phase of project review were carried out **by international experts** in 2024.
- JUNIOR STAR and EXPRO prestigious projects are evaluated by **international experts only**.
- The evaluation system takes inspiration from the ERC evaluation system.

In 2024, the Czech Science Foundation evaluated almost 2.9 thousand Project Proposals in the various types of tenders. Almost half of them were recommended for the second round. **Almost 3.7 thousand evaluations from international reviewers** were carried out for these proposals, **i.e. an average of 2.8 evaluations per proposal**.

HOW DO WE AVOID CONFLICTS OF INTEREST?

GRIS

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.

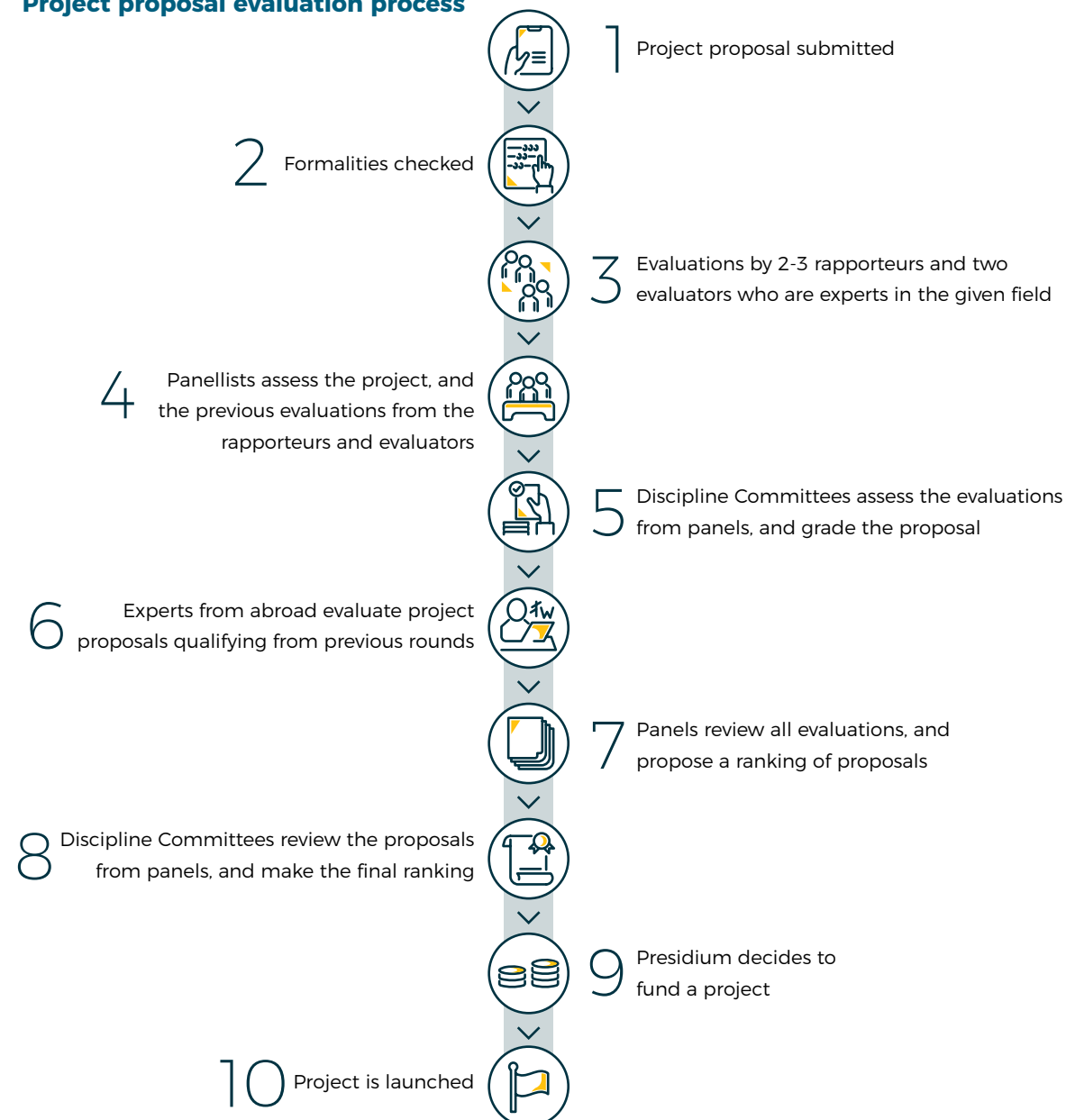
The review process is described in more detail at our website: <https://gacr.cz/en/evaluation-process-of-project-proposals/>

6.1 HOW STANDARD, INTERNATIONAL AND POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP 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



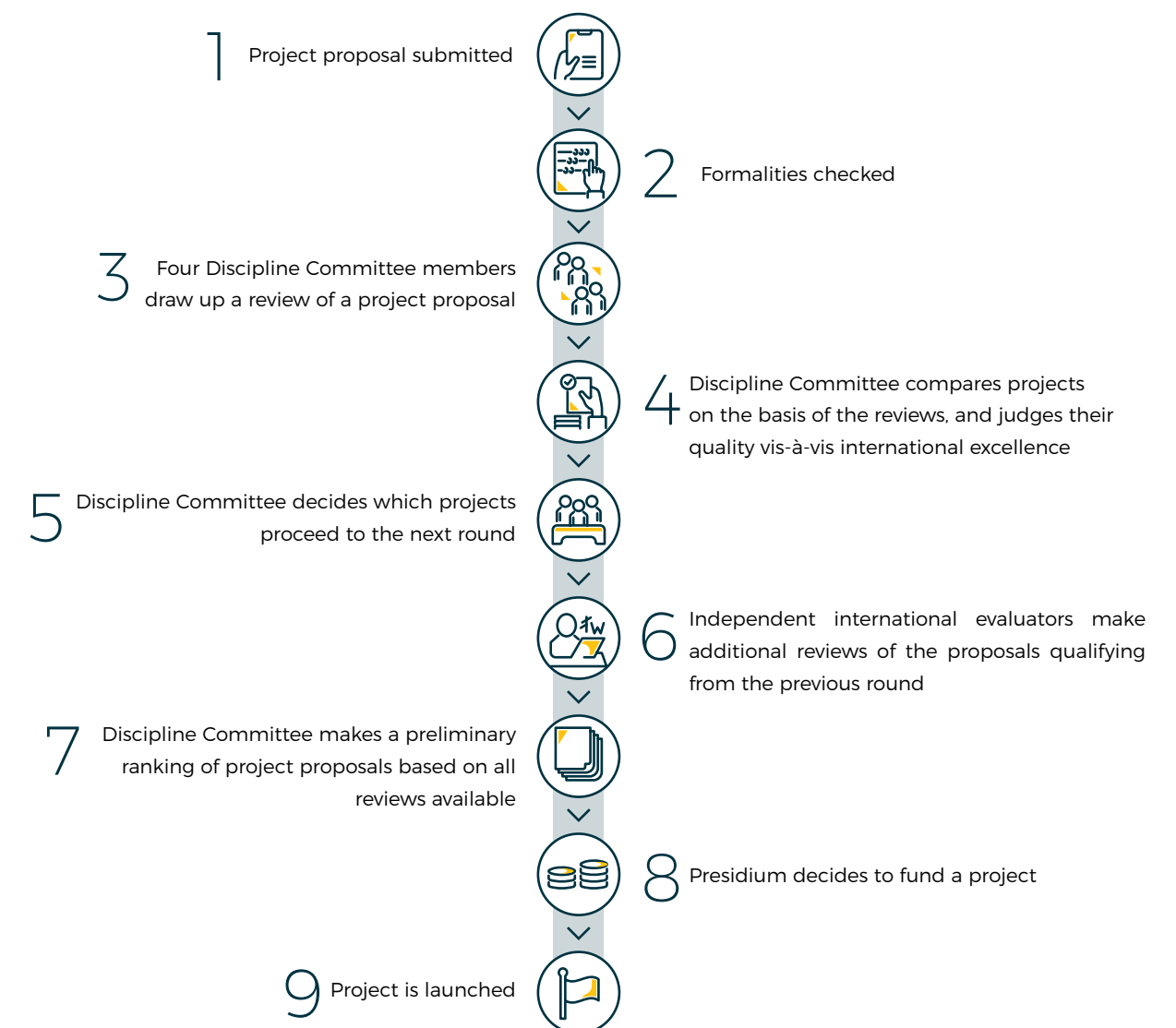
The process is also described in more detail at:
<https://gacr.cz/en/evaluation-process-of-project-proposals/>

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

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 11 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.

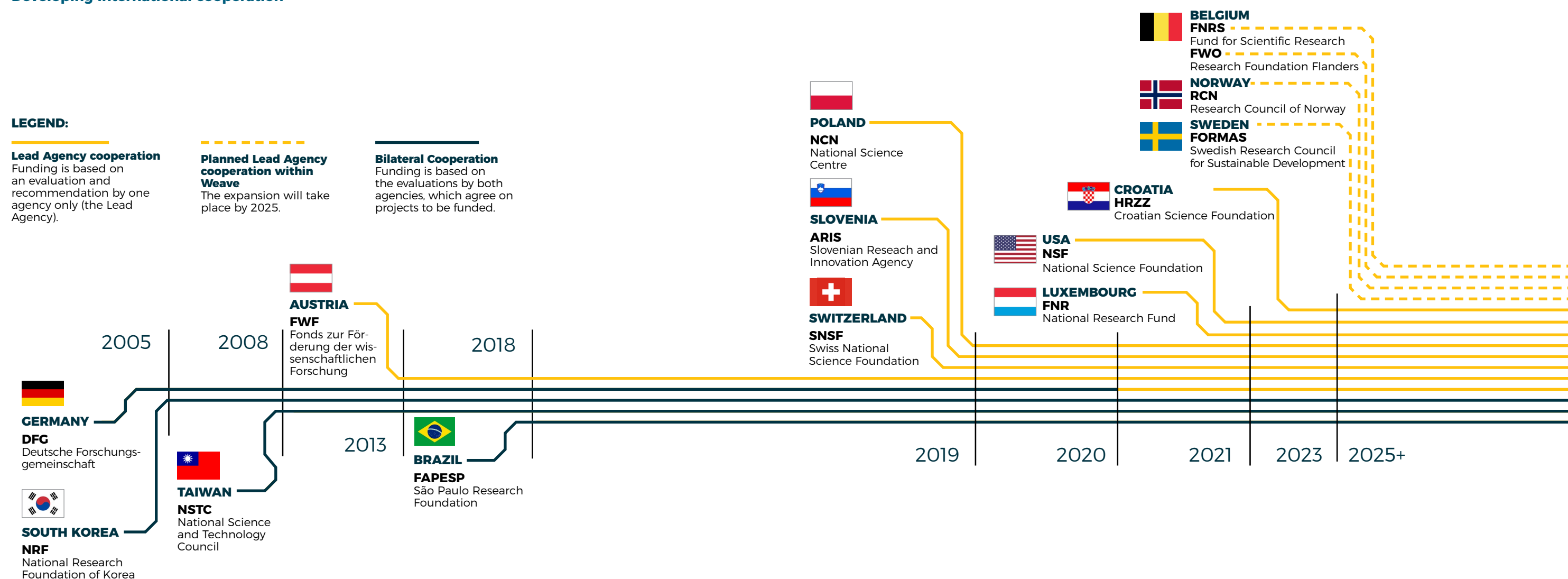
Developing international cooperation

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.



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. In 2024, GACR cooperated with seven agencies within this initiative and will establish cooperation with four more (two Belgian agencies, one Norwegian, and one Swedish) 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 2024, a possible expansion of cooperation to other hot topics was discussed.

Since mid-2024, negotiations have also been underway with the Israel Science Foundation. A memorandum of cooperation should be signed in 2025.

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.

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 2024, the Czech Science Foundation prepared a new group of grant projects - Restart 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 2024, 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

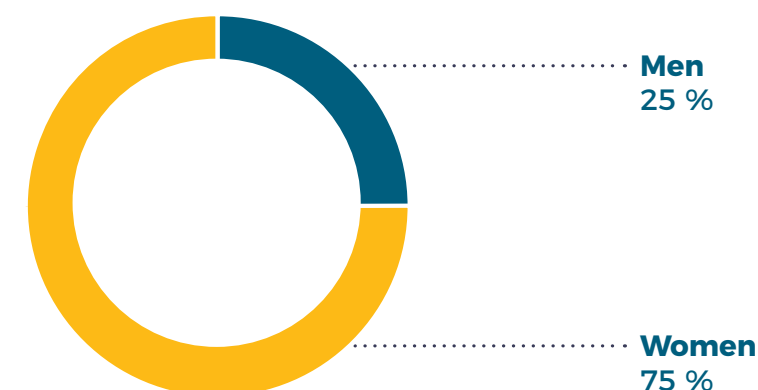
The proportion of women and men in the governing bodies of GACR

	Total	Number of women	Number of men	Representation of women
Presidium	5	2	3	40 %
Scientific advisory board	12	3	9	25 %
Supervisory board	10	3	7	30 %

OFFICE OF GACR

At the end of 2024, 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



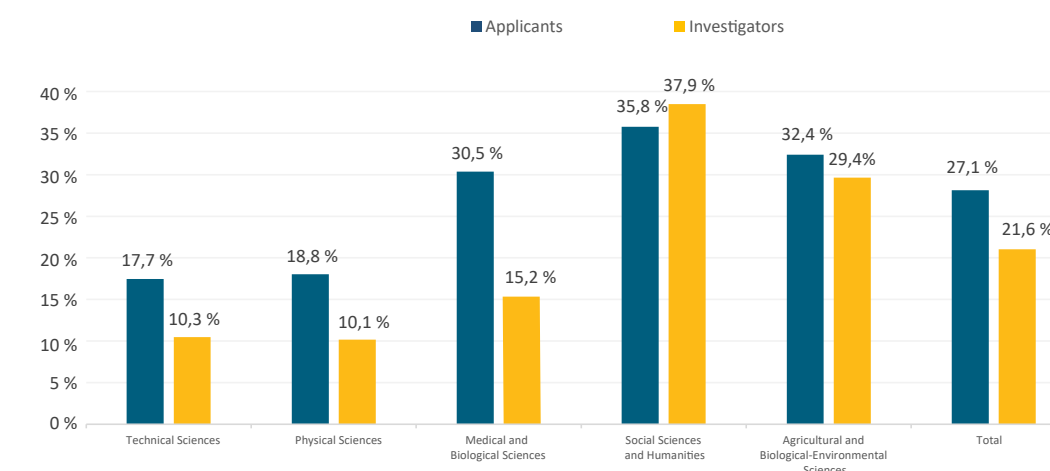
CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION PROJECTS

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.

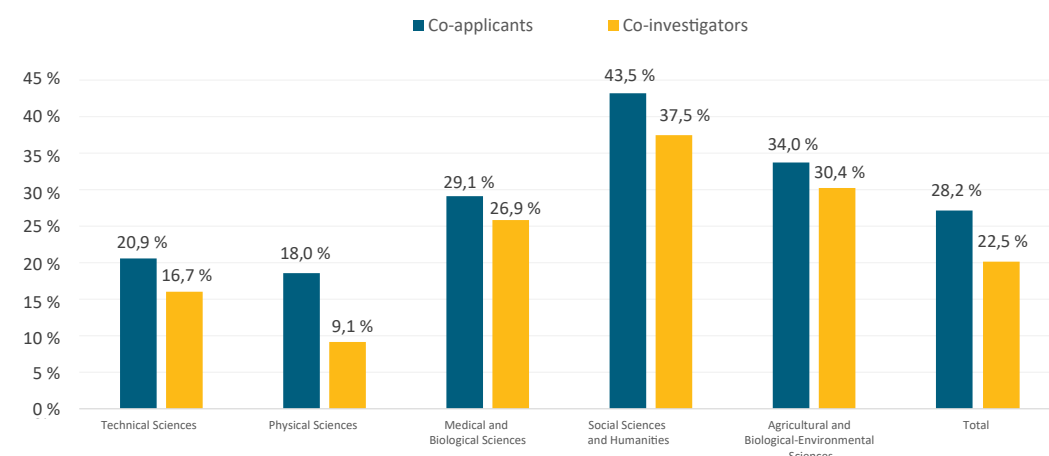
STANDARD PROJECTS

A total of 2,291 Project Proposals were evaluated in Standard Project tenders with an expected launch date in 2025. **A total of 621 Project Proposals (i.e. 27.1%) were submitted by women** as applicants, of which 92 received funding (i.e. 21.6%). There were 197 women in the role of co-applicants (i.e. 28.2%) and 29 women in the role of co-investigators (i.e. 22.5%).

Representation of women in the role of project applicant or investigator for standard projects with an expected launch date in 2025 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 2025 by Discipline Committees

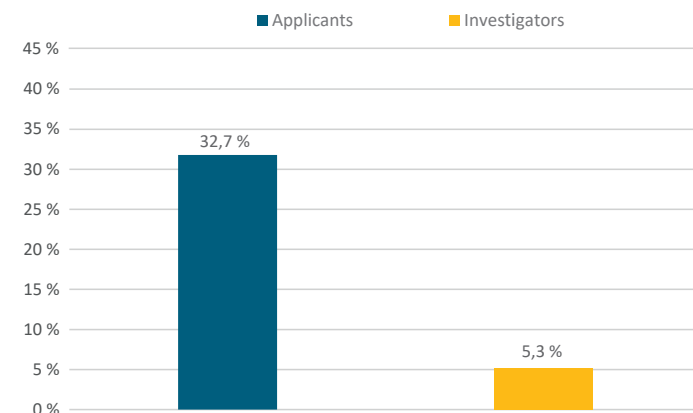


JUNIOR STAR

A total of 159 Project Proposals were evaluated in the JUNIOR STAR tender with an expected launch date in 2025.

A total of 52 Project Proposals (32.7%) were submitted by women, of which 1 project (5.3%) received funding.

Representation of women in the role of project applicants or investigators for JUNIOR STAR projects with an expected launch date in 2025



KEY FACTS

- Successful scientific projects are presented on GACR's website regularly, and a **series of articles on the new JUNIOR STAR** projects has continued.
- **Seminars were held with the President of GACR** in Prague and Brno, as well as other training sessions focused on special topics.
- A new tender, **Restart Grants**, was introduced.
- The hotline answered approximately **10,000 enquiries**.

The beginning of 2024 was marked by the completion of GACR's 30th anniversary celebrations, which began the previous year. 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.

GACR continued to develop activities aimed at familiarising the public with the agency's activities and supported projects. Over 30 popularization articles on projects funded by GACR and their outputs were published. The interested public could also get acquainted with new projects funded under the the highly selective JUNIOR STAR tender.

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.

Selected projects and activities of the Czech Science Foundation were also featured in public and commercial media. In 2024, the Foundation was 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.

A new scheme, Restart Grants, was presented to the professional public. It is tailored at researchers returning to science after a career break, especially due to maternity and parental leave. The tender will be published at the beginning of 2025.

Detailed **methodological and educational materials** were prepared and updated for applicants, researchers, and GACR panel members. Several training **sessions and webinars** were provided, including a **seminar with the President of GACR** in Prague and Brno, giving researchers the opportunity to ask GACR management questions, and to receive training on data management plans in collaboration with the **Data Stewardship Wizard**.

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 **HELPDESK section** of the Czech Science Foundation's website. In the past year, the operators of these communication channels received approximately 10,000 enquiries.

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 at the **Strahov Monastery**.

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.

Each laureate received a cash prize of CZK 100,000. The award ceremony took place on 8 October 2024 at the Strahov Monastery. Video messages of the awarded investigators are available on the GACR YouTube channel.



TECHNICAL SCIENCES

Advanced laser-ultrasonic characterization of structural transitions in metals - analysis beyond the homogeneity assumption

Prof. Ing. Hanuš Seiner, Ph.D., DSc., Institute of Thermomechanics of the CAS

Scientists have designed laser-ultrasonic methods to characterize newly developed generations of alloys, which often have complex microstructures and unusual elastic properties. These materials have a wide range of applications, for example in optical devices or joint implants. The project has also contributed to the discovery of several new alloys with unique properties.



PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Physical and dynamical properties of space mission target asteroids, and their evolutionary paths

Mgr. Petr Pravec, Dr., Astronomical Institute of the CAS

Scientists have analyzed the physical properties and parameters of asteroids based on changes in their luminous flux. This has been crucial for space missions to these objects and the subsequent interpretation of the obtained data. They were also involved in the US DART mission, which tested technology to deflect potentially dangerous asteroids by impacting the asteroid Dimorphos.



MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Characterization of kinase activity of cyclin-dependent kinase 11 (CDK11), an essential enzyme for the growth of cancer

Mgr. et Mgr. Dalibor Blažek, Ph.D., Masaryk University - CEITEC

Enzymes from the cyclin-dependent kinase (CDK) family control important functions in the cell. CDK-blocking substances are important in cancer research and treatment. Scientists have discovered that the overlooked enzyme CDK11 plays a key role in RNA editing. The substance OTS964, which has anti-cancer activity and blocks CDK11, prevents RNA editing in the cell. The research has revealed a new mechanism of RNA editing in the cell, providing new opportunities for cancer treatment research.



SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

Determinants of Pro-Social and Anti-Social Behavior: Field Experimental Evidence

doc. PhDr. Julie Chytilová, Ph.D., Economics Institute of the CAS

Research among Ugandan farmers shows that poverty and financial distress lead to impatient behavior – people prefer immediate consumption and do not want to wait for longer-term results. This can worsen their future situation and keep them in a 'vicious cycle of poverty'. Financial distress also increases the risk of unethical behavior. Research findings suggest that even short-term assistance can improve the decision-making and economic situation of the poor in the long term.



AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Why is there such high diversity of chemical defences: role of insect herbivory in promoting chemical diversity in willows

RNDr. Martin Volf, Ph.D., Biology Centre of the CAS

Plants produce hundreds of thousands of chemicals. They are able to tailor their production to survive in different environments. In harsh climates, they produce high concentrations of a narrow range of substances, while when insects attack, they produce a large number of chemicals, including those that attract the predators of the insects in question. Research has revealed how the chemical strategies of plants evolve and how the vast amounts of substances they produce are created.

KEY FACTS

- Standard, international and POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP projects were evaluated by **39 expert panels** organized into **five Discipline Committees**.
- In 2024, **418 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 Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee 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 2024, 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 51 members were newly appointed. The new experts started their first term in office on 1 April 2024. At the end of 2024, there were a total of **418 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 Šitek, 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. Dr-Ing. Jan Vrba, MSc. (vice-chair)

- Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Biomedical Engineering

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. Jiří Zach, Ph.D. (chair)

- Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Civil Engineering

doc. Ing. Martin Böhm, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

- Czech Technical University in Prague, 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)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Informatics

P203 NUCLEAR AND PARTICLE PHYSICS, ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS

RNDr. Michal Dovčiak, Ph.D. (chair)

– Astronomical Institute of the CAS

RNDr. Martina Boháčová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Physics of the CAS

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

Prof. Mgr. Jan Preisler, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Sciences

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

Ing. Jiří Brus, Dr. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry of the CAS

P209 ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES, HYDROLOGY, PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOPHYSICS

Prof. Ing. Martin Hanel, Ph.D. (chair)

– Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, Faculty of Environment

Mgr. Martin Margold, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Science

P210 GEOCHEMISTRY, GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY, HYDROGEOLOGY

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

– Charles University, Faculty of Science

RNDr. Zuzana Roxerová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Geophysics of the CAS



MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

P301 MOLECULAR AND STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY, GENETICS, GENOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS

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

– The Faculty of Food and Biochemical Technology of the University of Chemical Technology in Prague

Prof. Mgr. Richard Štefl, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC)

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)

– The University Hospital Brno

P303 CELL, DEVELOPMENTAL AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

Mgr. Jakub Rohlena, Ph.D. (chair)

– Institute of Biotechnology of CAS

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 Štrnad, DSc. (chair)

– Institute of Experimental Botany of the CAS

Prof. MUDr. Tomáš Stopka, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Charles University, First Faculty of Medicine

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

Ing. Miroslava Anděrová, CSc. (chair)

– Institute of Experimental Medicine of the CAS

Prof. MUDr. Jan Laczó, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Charles University, Second Faculty of Medicine

P306 PHARMACOLOGY, TOXICOLOGY, MEDICAL BIOCHEMISTRY, MEDICAL BIOPHYSICS

Prof. RNDr. Zdeněk Dvořák, DrSc., Ph.D. (chair)

– Palacký University in Olomouc, Faculty of Science

PharmDr. Helena Mertlíková Kaiserová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the CAS



SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

P401 PHILOSOPHY, THEOLOGY, RELIGIOUS STUDIES

doc. Mgr. Jakub Čapek, Ph.D. (chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Arts

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)

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

Mgr. Lukáš Vácha, Ph.D. (chair)

– Institute of Information Theory and Automation of the CAS

doc. Ing. Eduard Baumöhl, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Economics and Administration

P404 SOCIOLOGY, DEMOGRAPHY, SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY AND MEDIA STUDIES

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

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

Prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, 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

Prof. PhDr. Jana Mynářová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Charles University, Faculty of Arts

P406 LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE

Mgr. Magda Ševčíková, Ph.D. (chair)

– 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. (chair)

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

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

– Charles University, Faculty of Arts

P408 JURISPRUDENCE AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

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

– University of Hradec Králové, Philosophical Faculty

doc. JUDr. Pavel Koukal, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Faculty of Law

P409 ART SCIENCES

doc. PhDr. Hana Vihová-Wörner, Ph.D. (chair)

– Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS

PhDr. Alena Volrábová, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Philosophy of the CAS

P410 MODERN HISTORY (SINCE 1780) AND ETHNOLOGY

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

– 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

Helene Robert Boisivon, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Masaryk University, Central European Institute of Technology

P502 ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS, VETERINARY MEDICINE

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

– Institute of Animal Science

Mgr. Robert Hanus, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the CAS

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

doc. Ing. Jiří Bárta, Ph.D. (chair)

– University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Faculty of Science

doc. RNDr. Pavel Saska, Ph.D. (vice-chair)

– Czech Agrifood Research Centre

P505 ANIMAL AND PLANT ECOLOGY

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

– Institute of Botany of the CAS

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

– Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Faculty of Environmental Sciences

P506 BOTANY AND ZOOLOGY

Mgr. Karol Krak, Ph.D. (chair)

– Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Faculty of Environmental Sciences

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 panels**. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the DCs 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 2024, a total of 39 Chairs and 39 Vice-Chairs served on the panels.

DC1 TECHNICAL SCIENCES	
Mgr. Otakar Frank, Ph.D. (chair) J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry, CAS	Prof. Ing. Pavel Novák, Ph.D. (vice-chair) – University of Chemical Technology in Prague, Faculty of Chemical Technology
DC2 PHYSICAL SCIENCES	
doc. Ing. Pavel Izák, Ph.D., DSc. (chair) – Institute of Chemical Process Fundamentals of the CAS	Prof. Ing. Martin Hanel, Ph.D. (vice-chair) – Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Faculty of Environmental Sciences
DC3 MEDICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	
Prof. RNDr. Zdeněk Dvořák, DrSc., Ph.D. (chair) – Palacký University Olomouc, Faculty of Science	Prof. Ing. Vojtěch Spiwok, Ph.D. (vice-chair) – University of Chemical Technology in Prague ,Faculty of Food and Biochemical Technology
DC4 SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES	
doc. Mgr. Denisa Nečasová, Ph.D. (chair) – Masaryk University, Faculty of Arts	Mgr. Zuzana Štěrbová, Ph.D. (vice-chair) – Charles University, Faculty of Arts
DC5 AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL-ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	
Prof. RNDr. Luděk Bláha, Ph.D. (chair) – Masaryk University, Faculty of Science	RNDr. Kateřina Bišová, Ph.D. (vice-chair) – Institute of Microbiology of CAS

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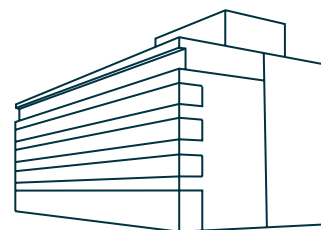
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