



RESEARCH,
DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION
COUNCIL



Government Office
of the Czech Republic

Recent Developments in Science Policy in the Czech Republic

**Meeting of the International Advisory Body (ISAB)
and the Research, Development and Innovation
Council (RDIC)**

Prague

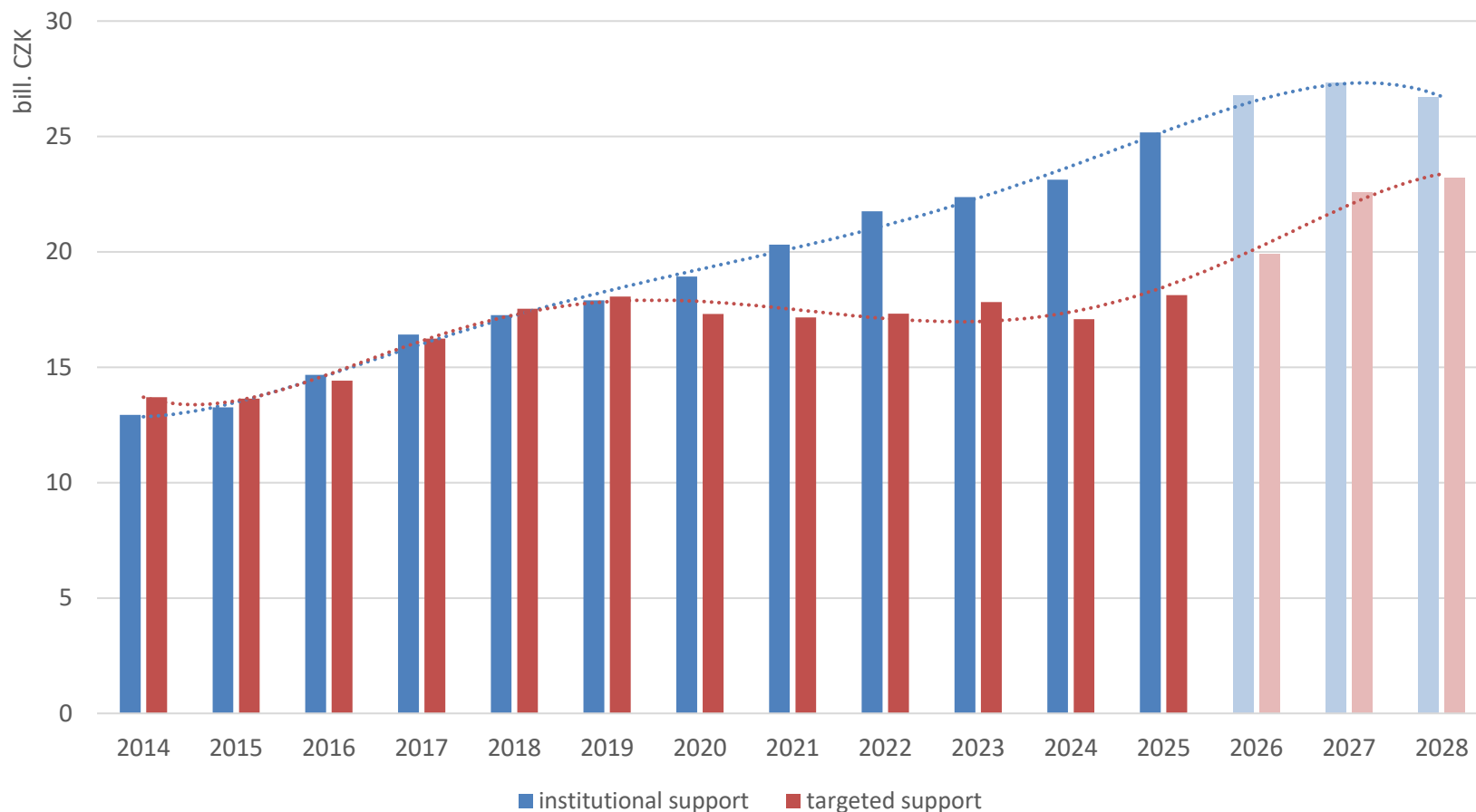
May 21, 2025

Outline

1. Governmental Budget for RDI 2024+
2. New Act on Research, Development, Innovation & Transfer of Knowledge
3. Amendment to the Act on Public Research Organizations
4. Working Group People in Science
5. Working Group Transfer of Technology and Knowledge
6. Methodology for Evaluating Research Organizations
7. National Priorities of Oriented (targeted) Research
8. New Programmes of Targeted Support

Evolution of the Governmental Budget for RDI

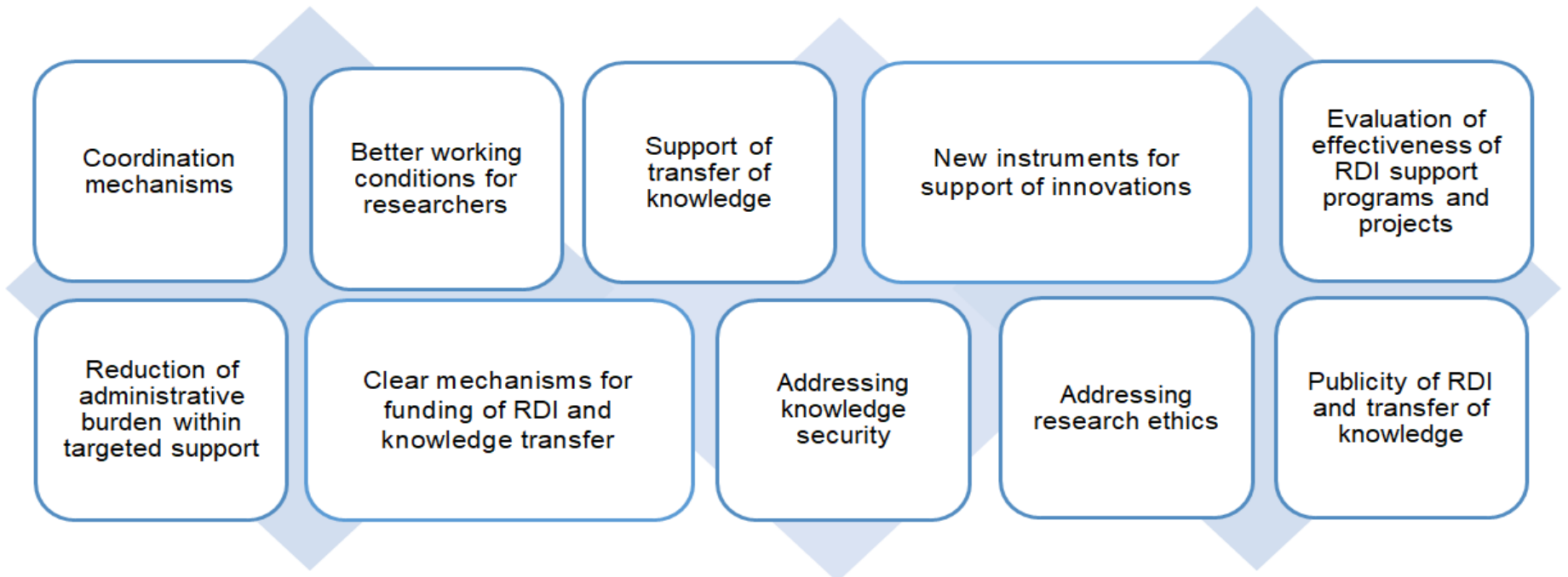
The RDI budget expressed in terms of **institutional and targeted research expenditures**



Source: State budget acts for 2014-2025 and state budget draft for 2026–2028

New Act on Research, Development, and Transfer of Knowledge

- Plan to reform Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on Support for Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from Public Funds debated with the key stakeholders.
- Bill prepared and approved by RDIC in July 2023; approved by the Government in December 2024; passed the second reading in the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament in April 2025.



Amendment to Act on Public Research Organizations

- The Act No. 341/2005 Coll., concerns a total of **71 research organizations** that have the legal status of “public research institutions”:
 - 54 research organizations of the Czech Academy of Sciences
 - 17 research organizations founded by Government departments
- The Act regulates
 - (i) the way of **establishment, formation, and operation** of a public research institution and
 - (ii) the **position and competence** of its founder and bodies.
- The aim of the amendment was to strengthen the role of research organizations in **addressing the needs of their founders** and the **needs of society**.
- Parliamentary amendment to Act (new):
 - the possibility for the founder to establish a public infrastructure institution for providing support activities in RDI.

Working Group People in Science

Mission:

- Recommendations to providers of RDI support and the management of research organizations.
- Recommendations to RDIC (e.g. legislation).
- Sharing examples of good practice, addressing the inputs from the research community.

R&D Personnel in the Czech Republic (2023)

- 85,500 FTE in R&D
- 123,000 individuals (HC) total in R&D
- 1.6% of total employment
- 15.9 R&D employees per 1,000 employed persons
- 28.8% women in R&D (among the lowest in EU27)
- 2,273 Ph.D. graduates

Working Group Technology Transfer

Mission:

- Provide inputs and recommendations for RDI legislation.
- Perform analytical studies, develop pilot models on financing technology transfer, etc.

Towards technology transfer reform:

- Focus on the knowledge valorization for commercial/non-commercial purposes and transfer of research outcomes to the public.
 - Definition of KPIs for collecting data on the commercialization of R&D
 - Definition of an ideal knowledge and technology transfer ecosystem
 - Strengthening the position and increasing the efficiency of KTOs within the knowledge and technology transfer ecosystem (PSF project supported by European Commission)

Key areas of the reform:

Legislative framework, entrepreneurial spirit (industrial doctorate program), ecosystem for the valorization of knowledge, public support, science-to-policy, and business orientation to R&D.

Research Assessment

- **Principles are in agreement with principles of international declarations on assessment** (San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) – 2013; Leiden Manifesto – 2015; **The Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment (ARRA) – 2022**)
- **Research organizations are classified into three segments** (universities; institutes of Czech Academy of Sciences; and public research organizations)
- **Expert panels** (OECD, Frascati Manual: Natural Sciences; Engineering and Technology; Medical and Health Sciences; Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences; Social Sciences; and Humanities and the Arts)
- **Three basic tools of evaluation** (bibliometric analysis, peer reviews, onsite visits)
- **Common framework for evaluating the quality of Research Organizations** (5 basic modules common for all: M1 – Quality of selected results; M2 – Commented statistics; M3 – Social relevance of RO; M4 – Management; and M5 – Strategy and policies)

Research Priorities

Overview of proposed research priorities

- Energy transformation and a sustainable future
- Adaptation to climate change and mitigation of its impacts on society
- Trust in democracy and social resilience in times of polycrisis
- Responses to demographic change and population aging, sustainable health care
- Technological and digital transformation of society
- Comprehensive response to internal and external security threats

Strengthening the competitiveness of the CR

- Emphasis on strategic technologies – AI, semiconductors, quantum technology

People in science

- improving the conditions of scientists in the Czech research area

New Programmes of Targeted Support

- Strategic support for the development of security research in the Czech Republic („IMPAKT2“)
- Programme to support applied research and innovation in the defence industry („PRODEF“)
- Support for the development of areas strengthening the Armed Forces as a defence pillar of NATO and the EU („Zdokonalení“)
- R&D&I Programme - Transfer, Research, Development and Innovation for Strategic Technologies („TWIST“)
- Restart Grants
- Proof-of-Concept Grants
 - *in the process of approval*
- Programme to support the creation and cultivation of systemic conditions for the development of excellence („EXCELLENCE“)
- Programme to support research and development for the development of selected strategic technologies („STRATE“)
 - *currently in preparation*

Thank you for your attention!