

Government's Research, Development and Innovation Council discusses the Analysis of Czech RDI

On 16 December 2022, the 385th meeting of the Research, Development and Innovation Council (the Council) took place at the seat of the Czech Government with the participation of the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation and the Chair of the Council, Helena Langšádlová. The Council discussed, among other things, the Analysis of the State of Research, Development and Innovation in the Czech Republic and Comparison with the Situation Abroad in 2021.



Minister for Science, Research and Innovation Helena Langšádlová. Photo: Office of the Government of the CR

This Analysis is a document that is prepared annually by the Council and provides an overview of the most important aspects of RDI in the Czech Republic. **The State budget expenditure on research, development and innovation in 2021 amounted to CZK 37.5 billion.** Public sources from abroad are also important for supporting the Czech RDI system, especially the EU Structural Funds and Framework Programmes, which, according to the Czech Statistical Office, contributed CZK 8.4 billion in 2021.

The Czech Republic has a strong industrial and research background and modern research infrastructures, but the needs of business and research do not always align, which results in the persisting low level of cooperation between these two spheres. *“It is also extremely important for the RDI management system in the Czech Republic that indirect support instruments are set up to increase the involvement of private RDI spending and that the practical application of results is improved,”* said Minister Langšádlová.

In 2021, almost 85 000 people (full-time equivalents) worked in RDI in the Czech Republic. *“One of the persistent problems in this area is the low representation of women. Creating good conditions for both women and men scientists, reconciling family life with work in science, as well as a return policy for successful scientists who return to the Czech Republic after a career abroad, I consider these extremely important,”* emphasised the Minister and Council Chair Helena Langšádlová during the discussion on this document.

The document “Analysis of the State of Research, Development and Innovation in the Czech Republic and Comparison with the Situation Abroad in 2021” will be published on the Council website after it is approved by the Government.

The Council was also presented with a **timetable for the discussion of the draft RDI budget for 2024+**, according to which proposals to be discussed early in the year should be submitted by the budget chapter administrators by 20 January 2023. The timetable shows that these proposals will then be discussed by representatives of the Council and the providers in February 2023.

At its 385th meeting, the Council also discussed the **plans of the Scientific Council of the Czech Science Foundation (GA CR) and the Research Council of the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR) for 2023**. These plans were presented at the meeting by representatives of both organisations, prof. Petr Konvalinka and prof. Martin Fusek from the TA CR and doc. Petr Baldrian and prof. František Štěpánek from the GACR.

Marian Piecha, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, informed the Council about the **state of preparation and implementation of the OP EIC (OP PIC)**. The Council also took note of the progress of the tripartite meetings after the 5th implementation year of the 2017+ Methodology and approved the Framework Activity Plan of the Committee for the Evaluation of Research Organisations and Completed Programmes for 2023.

redacted

Source: Office of the Government of the Czech Republic | 16 December 2022