

R&D&I Council nominates cardiologist Zuzana Mořovská for the 2023 government award

On 1 September 2023, a regular meeting of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation (the Council) took place at the Government's seat, the Straka Academy, chaired by the Minister for Science, Research and Innovation Helena Langšádlová. In the first week of September, the members of the Council traditionally decide on nominations for the National Government Award called the "Czech Mind".

At the beginning of the meeting, the Council members discussed and voted on the nominations for the Česká hlava (Czech Mind) Award, deciding to suggest the Government to award this highest scientific award for 2023 to **prof. MUDr. Zuzana Mořovská, Ph.D., FESC**, for her outstanding contribution in the field of cardiology at the international level.

"The National Government Award is like a 'Czech Nobel Prize' awarded to personalities of Czech science for their lifelong success and leading expertise with international significance. I am glad that this year's nominations were once again of the highest calibre. Nevertheless, the 2023 candidate, Professor Zuzana Mořovská, was chosen unambiguously. This leading Czech cardiologist is the first woman to be nominated for this Government award," said Minister Helena Langšádlová.

The Council members also heard updates on the draft budget expenditure on science, research and innovation and discussed the progress in the preparation of national priorities for oriented research. A great debate ensued around the evaluation of the **Top Research** call, which was announced under the Jan Amos Komenský Operational Programme for research organisations and doctoral students to promote an increase in the number of cutting-edge, potentially applicable research results in the Czech Republic and to develop and support excellent research teams.

The Council also agreed to **publish the outputs of the sectoral reports and reports for research organisations of selected national evaluation results** in the 6th year of the evaluation according to the 2017+ Methodology. The outputs will be available at <https://hodnoceni.rvvi.cz/> ; research organisations will be able to provide any feedback on the published outputs within thirty days of the date of their availability.

In the next part of the meeting, the Council **discussed draft opinions on changes in the programmes of special purpose support**, specifically in the programme "Strategic support for the development of security research in the Czech Republic 2019-2025 (IMPACT 1)", the group of grant projects "Grant projects of excellence in basic research EXPRO" or "Grant projects JUNIOR STAR".

A great deal of attention was also paid to the material **Artificial Intelligence Research in the Czech Republic – Status and Perspectives**, prepared AICZECHIA, an umbrella association for artificial intelligence (AI) experts in the Czech Republic. The material highlights the dynamic development of AI and the need to establish long-term support for AI research and implement it as part of the National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence (NAIS) adopted by the Government in 2019. The Council encourages providers to include the field of AI in their competitions and other forms of support in line with the NAIS.

At the end of the meeting, the Council members discussed the main principles of the amendment to the **ERC CZ Programme** and participation in the preparation of the **National Strategy for Open Science**.

Prof. MUDr. Zuzana Mořovská, Ph.D., FESC

Zuzana Mořovská is a professor of internal medicine at Charles University. She heads the division of acute cardiology at the Cardiocentre of the 3rd Internal – Cardiology Clinic of the 3rd Faculty of Medicine of Charles University and the Královské Vinohrady University Hospital in Prague.

Prof. Mořovská is an internationally recognised expert in cardiovascular disease, coronary artery disease, atherothrombosis and atherothrombotic therapy. She is the author and principal investigator of multi-centre randomised trials influencing treatment recommendations for coronary artery disease worldwide (PRAGUE-8 and PRAGUE-18). The original results of academic research led by prof. Mořovská are presented every year at the world's most prestigious cardiology conferences. Prof. Mořovská has been awarded several times by the Czech Society of Cardiology for publications with the highest "Impact factor". She is a reviewer of prestigious international medical and cardiology journals.

Zuzana Mořovská also focuses on Female Health, specifically the influence of the female gender on cardiovascular diseases.

She is the Scientific Secretary of the Czech Society of Cardiology and a member of the Board of Directors of the Academic Senate of Charles University. The international status of the award nominee is well documented, among other achievements, by her membership in the Board of Directors of the European Society of Cardiology and her long-term participation in organising national and international educational events for experts and professionals. She collaborates extensively with the most prestigious research institutions in the world (Harvard Medical School, Mount Sinai Cardiovascular Center New York, Sorbonne University, Heidelberg University, etc.).

Source:

press release of the RDI Council – Office of the Government of the Czech Republic | 1 September 2023