

Onsemi Economist Josef Švejda Appointed to the Government Council

On 23 February 2024, a regular session of the Research, Development, and Innovation Council (the Council) was held at the Government's seat. The Council members discussed proposals for appointing new members to the Commission for the Evaluation of Research Organisations and Completed Programmes (the Evaluation Commission), the preparation of a joint meeting with the Council's International Advisory Body (International Council), and the activities of the Council for International Cooperation in Research, Development, and Innovation of the Czech Republic (INTER), established last year under the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports.

The Government Council began its meeting with a moment of silence to commemorate the victims of the two-year-long Russian invasion of Ukraine.

At the start of the meeting, Helena Langšádlová, the Minister for Science, Research, and Innovation and the Council Chair, handed the appointment decree to **the new Council member, Ing. Josef Švejda**. Economist Josef Švejda is the Managing Director of the Czech branch of onsemi – ON Semiconductor Czech Republic, s.r.o., where approximately 500 of the 2,300 employees are engaged in research and development.

"I am pleased to welcome another representative of corporate research to the ranks of experts serving on the Research, Development, and Innovation Council. I believe that Josef Švejda's participation will support our joint efforts and discussions on strengthening the research and innovation potential in the Czech Republic," stated Minister Langšádlová.

The Council, in connection with the end of the second term of five Evaluation Commission members, discussed the received nominations and elected [new members](#). **Reports from the annual national level evaluation** according to the Methodology 2017+ with the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, and the Ministry of Agriculture, known as tripartites, were also discussed and approved. All Council members agreed to organise a joint meeting with the Council's International Advisory Body (International Council), planned for 13 May 2024 in Prague.

At the end of the meeting, the Council members were informed about the activities of the **Council for International Cooperation in Research, Development, and Innovation of the Czech Republic (INTER)**, established in March 2023 to coordinate the activities of various stakeholders in science and research in the Czech Republic and as a consultative body to the Minister of Education, Youth, and Sports supporting international cooperation in research, development, and innovation. The Council and the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic are represented in INTER by the Deputy Minister for Science, Research, and Innovation Jana Havlíková and the 1st Vice-Chair of the Council prof. Jiří Homola.

The councillors were also briefed on the proceedings and results of the **annual conference on the Implementation of the Methodology 2017+**, organised by the Council after six years of evaluation. The Programme included the presentation of the upcoming update to the Methodology 2017+. The conference, held in cooperation with Charles University, took place on 14 February 2024 at the Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague.

Ing. Josef Švejda is a graduate of the University of Economics, Prague, and serves as Managing Director and Financial Director of the Czech branch of onsemi – ON Semiconductor Czech Republic, s.r.o., which employs 2,300 workers in the Czech Republic, approximately 500 of whom are engaged in research and development. Throughout his professional career, Josef Švejda has gained practical experience with public support in research and development at all stages, from project preparation to final management and subsequent control. Onsemi collaborates with various partners, including private companies of different sizes, universities, and research institutes, on project implementation.

ON Semiconductor Czech Republic, s.r.o., has received several awards for its successes in research and development, including an industrial award from CERN for sensors for the Atlas project at the Large Hadron Collider.

Source: R&D&I Council – Office of the Government of the Czech Republic | 23 February 2024