

# The Research, Development and Innovation Council discussed the National Semiconductor Strategy

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**On Friday, 28 June 2024, Minister Marek Ženíšek chaired a regular meeting of the Research, Development and Innovation Council at the Straka Academy. The councillors discussed, among other things, proposals for the National Semiconductor Strategy, the Development Strategy for the Technology Agency CZ 2035, or the Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations in the Segment of Higher Education Institutions 2025+. They also talked about introducing the ORCID indicator as mandatory in the R&D&I Information System.**

In his opening speech, Minister Ženíšek informed members of the Research, Development and Innovation Council (the Council) about the proposal for state budget expenditure on research, development and innovation for 2025 and its outlook for 2026-2027, discussed by the government on 12 June 2024. The proposal was noted and the finance minister was ordered by a government resolution to increase expenditure on research and development for the years 2025 to 2027 against expenditure approved for 2024, i.e. above CZK 40.220 billion.

Minister Ženíšek is prepared to continue to promote the needed budget increase. *"In the present situation I am sure that the research budget will be raised against the last two years in which it stagnated. Moreover, by that we seek to fulfil the government statement of policy where we committed to stepping up the expenditure on research, development and innovation,"* said the minister.

Then the Council approved its opinion on the proposal for the **National Semiconductor Strategy**, submitted by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. That document, together with the National Artificial Intelligence Strategy and the upcoming National Quantum Strategy, forms the basis for developing selected strategic technologies in the Czech Republic.

The main goal of the National Semiconductor Strategy, following on from the EU Chips Act, is to triple the size of the semiconductor sector in the Czech Republic. *"The document was made in close cooperation with the office of the science, research and innovation minister, and so I am very glad that one of the five strategic areas the document proposes to develop is the area of research, development and innovation,"* Minister Ženíšek added.

The Council members also discussed the **Development Strategy for the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic 2035**. The strategy contains three long-term objectives: reflecting on the main purpose of the agency's existence, enhancing international cooperation in applied research and improving the quality of the services provided. Special attention is paid to digitisation, automation and introduction of artificial intelligence into TA CR processes.

Another important document deliberated at the Council meeting was the **Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations in the Segment of Higher Education Institutions 2025+**, concerning HEIs in the sectors of the

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Defence, and the Ministry of the Interior.

Approval was given to a call for registering selected results in Module 1 according to the previous Methodology 2017+, to be published at [vyzkum.gov.cz](http://vyzkum.gov.cz) together with the approved calls for nominations to supplement the Research Board of the Technology Agency, and the Scientific Advisory Board and the Presidium of the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic.

The Council then debated the issue of **using ORCID** (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) as a mandatory identifier of scientists in the Research, Development and Innovation Information System. Recommendations for research organisations and aid beneficiaries, covering the unique identifiers ROR and RAiD, will be published on the websites [vyzkum.gov.cz](http://vyzkum.gov.cz) and [isvavai.cz](http://isvavai.cz).

At the end of the meeting, the Council members were informed about the outputs of the meeting of the International Advisory Body (International Council) and the Council, held on 13 May 2024 at the Hrzánský Palace in Prague. The International Council recommended an early adoption of a new act on research, development and innovation and knowledge transfer, and commented on institutional evaluation or implementation of recommendations of the International Council on improving the functioning of the Grant Agency and the Health Research Agency of the Czech Republic.

Source: press release of the R&D&I Council - Office of the Government CZ  
| 28.06.2024