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| Rada pro výzkum, vývoj a inovace |

**Minutes of the Online Meeting – International Advisory Body and the Council for Research, Development and Innovation of the Czech Government**

**Date:** 15 October 2025

Present:

**ISAB members**: chair Prof. Wilhelm Jan **Ansorge**, Dr.h.c.; Prof. Michele Aresta; Prof. Jannette **Carey**; Prof. Joseph **Hamill**; Ing. David **Kolman**, Ph.D.; Prof. Sebastian **Scholz**, Klára **Jelínková**, Ed.D.; Prof. Joachim **von Puttkamer**; Prof. Hynek **Wichterle**, Ph.D.; Prof. Wolfgang **Wahlster**

**RVVI members**: 1st Vice-Chair of the Council Prof. RNDr. Tomáš **Polívka**, Ph.D.; Vice-Chair of the Council and Rapporteur PhDr. Adéla **Gjuričová**, Ph.D.; Vice-Chair of the Council Prof. Ing. Vladimír **Mařík**, DrSc.; prof. RNDr. Václav **Matyáš**, M.Sc., Ph.D.; Prof. Ing. Martin **Fusek**, CSc.; Ing. Miloslav **Nič**, Ph.D.; Prof. RNDr. František **Vácha**, Ph.D.

**Guests**: Mgr. Jana **Havlíková** – Government Office of the Czech Republic

The meeting was opened by Prof. Ansorge, who welcomed participants and introduced the agenda. Dr. Gjuričová thanked the Advisory Board for their work on the recommendations related to the NPOV (National Priorities of Oriented Research) and outlined the timeline for finalizing the document.

Professor Ansorge than reviewed the ISAB´s comments on the draft of the NPOV, noting that while the document included a broad overview of scientific disciplines, it lacked specific goals and concrete solutions. This made it difficult to provide detailed feedback, and the group agreed to focus on general recommendations and areas not sufficiently addressed.

Professor Ansorge emphasized the importance of international collaboration, particularly in research programs that enhance Czech expertise. He highlighted the success of Czech scientists who had trained abroad through fellowships in the 1990s and early 2000s, returning with valuable experience that contributed to the country's scientific leadership. These individuals now lead research groups, publish in top journals, and collaborate internationally.

Energy strategy was identified as a key area, with Czech involvement in nuclear energy projects, including partnerships with Rolls-Royce and South Korean consortia. The group discussed developments in energy storage, such as molten salt technologies, and the need to specify efficiency targets for various energy sources. The importance of supporting innovation through startup companies was also stressed, with concern expressed over recent reductions in government support.

Artificial intelligence was another major topic. Participants noted the high energy demands of AI and Data Bank systems and proposed more efficient models, including small language models and hybrid systems. Research and Development of photonic chips (operating with photons instead of electrons) and micro-laser technologies, in potential collaboration of Czech teams with groups from Netherland and Switzerland, was seen as a promising approach to reduce significantly energy consumption. AI applications in biomedical research, diagnostics, and drug development were also discussed, along with the use of AI to optimize energy distribution.

Professor Aresta raised a linguistic concern regarding the use of “decarbonization” versus “defossilization,” suggesting that the latter term more accurately reflects the intended goals of reducing fossil fuel use while still utilizing biomass. This distinction was acknowledged for clarity in the final document.

The group emphasized the need to build on Czech Republic’s existing strengths rather than focusing solely on gaps. Areas such as material science, nanotechnology, biomedical research and AI were identified as fields where Czech institutions are already competitive on a global scale. The importance of academic freedom, free speech and discussion of different opinions, were also highlighted as a foundation for trust in science and democratic resilience.

For the second part of the meeting the ISAB were joined by members of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation (RVVI). Dr. Gjuričová introduced the joint segment and thanked the Advisory Board for their work. She explained that the final recommendation would be submitted to the Council within two weeks and later translated into Czech for official distribution.

Professor Ansorge summarized the Advisory Board’s approach, noting that they had avoided repeating points already present in the NPOV and instead focused on clarifying and expanding key areas. He reiterated the importance of evaluating the impact of major trends—such as AI, energy consumption, future technology and robotics, sustainable economy, demography factors—on Czech industry and society.

RVVI members expressed appreciation for the insights provided and discussed how the recommendations could contribute to the finalization of the NPOV. Professor Wahlster emphasized the opportunity for Czech Republic to lead in emerging technologies, such as agentive AI, and praised the country’s early adoption of Industry 4.0. Czech representatives confirmed their readiness to build on this momentum and integrate AI into industrial and biomedical applications.

The meeting concluded with mutual thanks and a call for participants to submit written summaries of their comments, indicating where they should be inserted in the final document.