

CZECH HIGHER EDUCATION

SYSTEM
INSTITUTIONS
INTERNATIONALISATION
COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES



STUDYIN.CZ



Welcome to the Czech Republic



FACTS AND FIGURES



LANGUAGE:
Czech



AREA:
78,866 sq km



POPULATION:
10,6 million



POLITICAL SYSTEM:
parliamentary republic



EU MEMBER STATE SINCE:
2004



CURRENCY:
Czech crown / CZK



CAPITAL:
Praha (Prague)



CLIMATE:
seasonal variations (warm summers,
mild autumns and cold winters)



AVERAGE TEMPERATURES:
January -4 °C; July 24 °C



HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS:
26 public / 2 state / 33 private



TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS (2020):
299,415



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (2020):
50,121



**TUITION FEES FOR PROGRAMMES DELIVERED
IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES:**
0 - 22,350 USD / year



LIVING COSTS OF STUDENTS:
350 - 750 USD / month (food,
accommodation, transportation,
entertainment)

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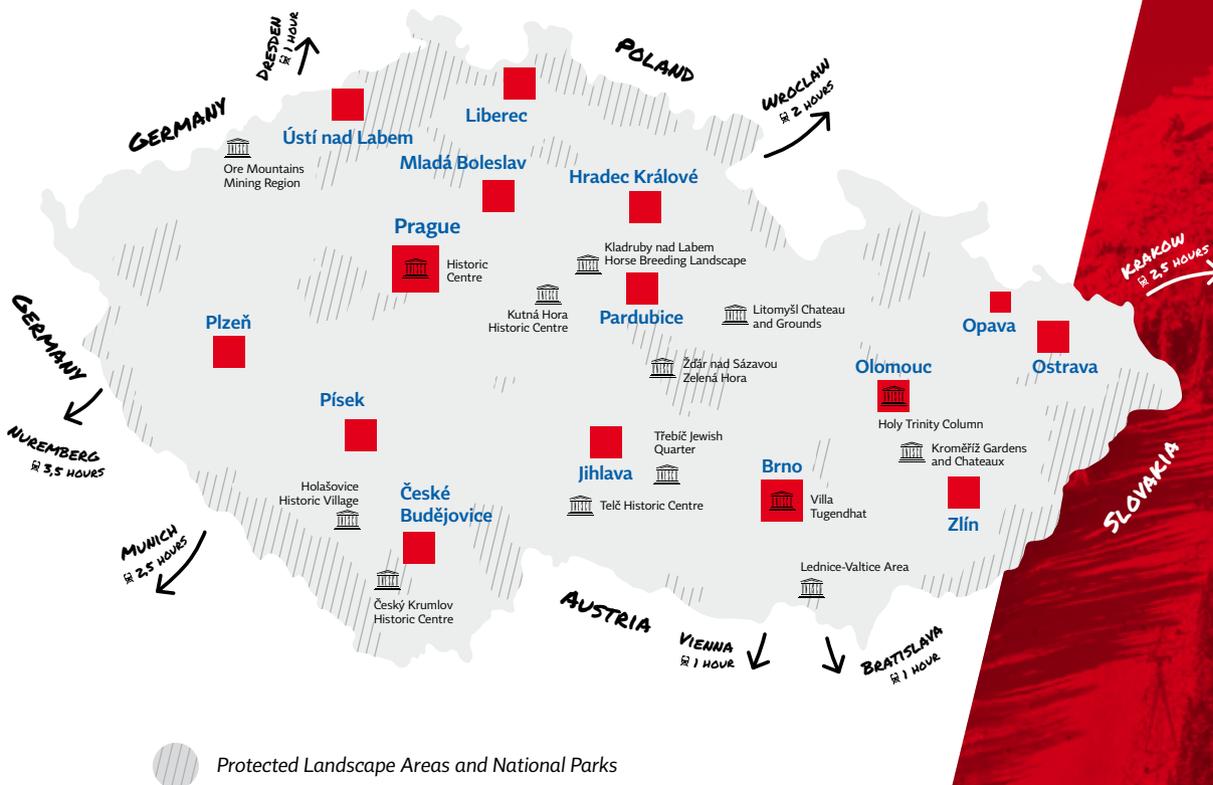
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Foreword

Recognized as one of the most beautiful countries in Europe, the Czech Republic holds a strategic position in the very heart of Europe, with its capital city Prague as the political, economic and cultural centre of the country. The country was established at the beginning of 1993 and was previously a former socialist state under the influence of the Soviet Union. It has since experienced a rapid development in recent decades.

There is a long tradition of higher education in the Czech Republic dating back to the 14th century, when Charles University was a key institution in what may be described as the 'medieval European higher education area'. Before World War II the former Czechoslovakia was among the most developed countries in the world, with a strong network of high-quality schools and universities. In recent years, the Czech higher education system has experienced a number of deep, dynamic changes and extensive development. From a strictly uniform, highly centralized and ideologically bound system under the communist regime, it has been changed into the much more diversified and decentralized system with full academic freedom and self-governing bodies, open to Europe and the world.

Ensuring quality, diversity and accessibility, internationalisation, important and relevant research, development and innovation are among the main priority areas of the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in the field of higher education. In line with this strategy, the countries higher education institutions are expanding the range of opportunities for international student mobility and academic cooperation.

This brochure is aimed to help professionals who are looking for partner universities in the Czech Republic for future cooperation. It provides a brief description of the Czech higher education system, its institutions and trends in internationalisation.

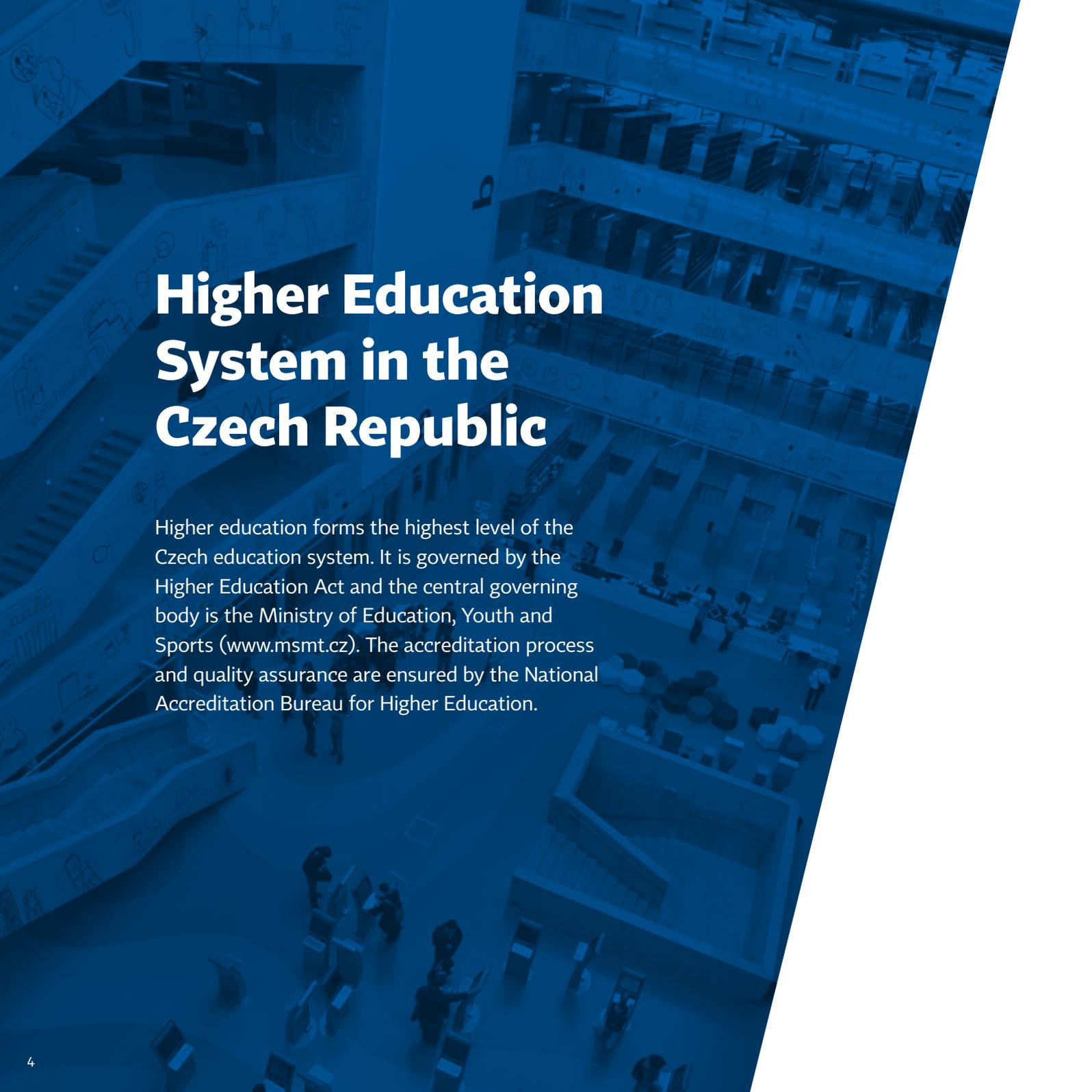




Czech National Agency for International Education and Research (DZS)

is a semi-budgetary organization, established by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, performing tasks involved with ensuring educational, training and other relations with foreign countries under the instructions of the ministry. The Czech National Agency for International Education and Research (DZS) is responsible for a number of international programmes and carries out activities relating to the promotion of education. DZS services are aimed at both individuals, students, teachers, directors of all types of schools and other professionals, as well as organizations and companies involved in education, local authorities and, last but not least, also the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport.

Study in the Czech Republic is a DZS initiative established by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic. It provides essential information about the higher education system, study opportunities and student life in the Czech Republic. It runs its own comprehensive webpage www.studyin.cz about studying and living in the Czech Republic and an interactive portal portal.studyin.cz with a list of Czech higher education institutions.



Higher Education System in the Czech Republic

Higher education forms the highest level of the Czech education system. It is governed by the Higher Education Act and the central governing body is the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (www.msmt.cz). The accreditation process and quality assurance are ensured by the National Accreditation Bureau for Higher Education.



HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

In terms of the form, higher education institutions can be **public, state** and **private**. The public and private higher education institutions come under the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, while state institutions (the University of Defence and the Police Academy) are legally established and under the control of the relevant ministries. In terms of the study programmes they offer, higher education institutions may be of a **non-university or university type**. Non-university institutions mainly offer bachelor's study programmes. They can also offer master's programmes, but not doctoral programmes. They are not divided into faculties. Universities may offer all types of study programmes and carry out associated activities in science and research, development and innovation as well as artistic or other creative activities.

DEGREE SYSTEM AND FORM OF STUDIES

Higher education is provided through accredited study programmes in accordance with the relevant curricula and forms of studies. Degree programmes can take the form of on-site courses, distance learning courses (very rare) or a combination of both (common form).

Higher education institutions provide education at 3 levels:

BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME (3 to 4 years) is the first cycle of higher education. The majority of programmes take 3 years. It is focused on preparing students for future employment or for continuation in master's degree programmes. Its completion is viewed as a full higher education degree.

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME following a bachelor's degree programme (1 to 3 years) and the long master's degree programme (4 to 6 years) are focused on theoretical knowledge, its application and on the development of creative skills. In artistic disciplines the focus is on the development of creativity and talents. Most master's degree programmes last 2 years. Usually, medicine, veterinary medicine and hygiene are 5-year programmes and, in the case of arts, 6-year programmes.

DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES (3 to 4 years for an on-site course) are designed for master's degree holders and focused on scientific research and independent creative activities in research and development and in artistic disciplines. The average duration of doctoral studies is longer; it varies on average between 5 to 6 years.

Most higher education institutions use the **ECTS CREDIT SYSTEM** (European Credit Transfer System), where each course is assessed using a number of credits which reflects its demands. This system allows credit transfer among universities and enables students to study and gather credits at various institutions.

SEE DIAGRAM ON NEXT PAGE →

LANGUAGE OF STUDY

The main language of study is Czech; however, the range of study programmes delivered in foreign languages (especially in English) is expanding in order to cater to international students. Currently, there are more than 1,000 degree programmes in English offered by Czech higher education institutions. Many Czech universities offer preparatory courses that can help students master the Czech language and prepare them for university studies.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic year is usually divided into two semesters – a winter semester, starting in October, and a summer semester, starting in February. A semester normally consists of 15 weeks of teaching followed by an examination period.

ADMISSION

Higher education is available to all applicants with a completed secondary education and the fulfilment of entry requirements set by the given higher education institution. Access to bachelor's and long master's studies is conditional upon completing secondary education with a school leaving certificate. In the case of follow-on master's degree programmes stemming from bachelor's degree programmes, only applicants who have completed the respective bachelor's degree courses or hold equivalent qualifications are considered. The prerequisite for admission to a doctoral degree programme is the completion of an appropriate master's degree programme or an equivalent qualification. Any further requirements as to the knowledge, abilities or talents, and educational achievement of applicants are the responsibility of the higher education institutions themselves.

HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY

Students who want to study a degree programme should first check the specific entry requirements on the website of the higher education institution of their choice and then apply to

the institution accordingly. The deadline for submitting applications is usually the end of February or March, but there may be some later deadlines as well. Applications normally include a completed electronic application form, copies of relevant diplomas and scores from a language proficiency test. Depending on the specific programme and university, applicants may also be required to take entrance examinations. These are mostly held between June and September or earlier for arts studies.

International students who wish to study in the Czech Republic as exchange students have a great number of possibilities from which to choose, including study stays within the framework of various European and non-European mobility programmes, tailored-made study-abroad programmes, cooperation arrangements between university networks, summer schools and so on.

RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN EDUCATION

Graduates of degree programmes at international universities wishing to obtain recognition in the Czech Republic are required to submit a written application. Recognition of a diploma, qualifications or parts of study programmes then depend on examination by a relevant public higher education institution providing a study programme similar in its contents. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will issue a certificate of recognition of education only if it was acquired in a state with which an agreement on the recognition of document equivalence has been concluded and the ministry is authorised by this agreement to recognise a document.

The Czech National Academic Recognition Information Centre (www.msmt.cz) provides information and consultations on the recognition of qualifications in the Czech Republic. Recognition of secondary education is carried out by regional authorities. Universities which have received institutional accreditation may also recognise foreign secondary education as part of their admission process. Such recognition is, however, only valid for the particular university and faculty.



TUITION FEES

Higher education at public and state institutions is free of charge for citizens of all nationalities, with the following exceptions:

- fees for the administration of admission proceedings
- fees for extending the duration of study beyond a set limit
- fees for study in a foreign language

At private institutions of higher education, all students are required to pay tuition. Tuition fees for study in a foreign language or at a private institution differ from 0–22,350 USD per academic year, and the amount depends on the relevant institution and study programme.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Higher education institutions offer scholarships under the same conditions as they do for Czech students, some also offer scholarships under Erasmus+ or bilateral university agreements. More details can be obtained from the international relations office of the relevant university.

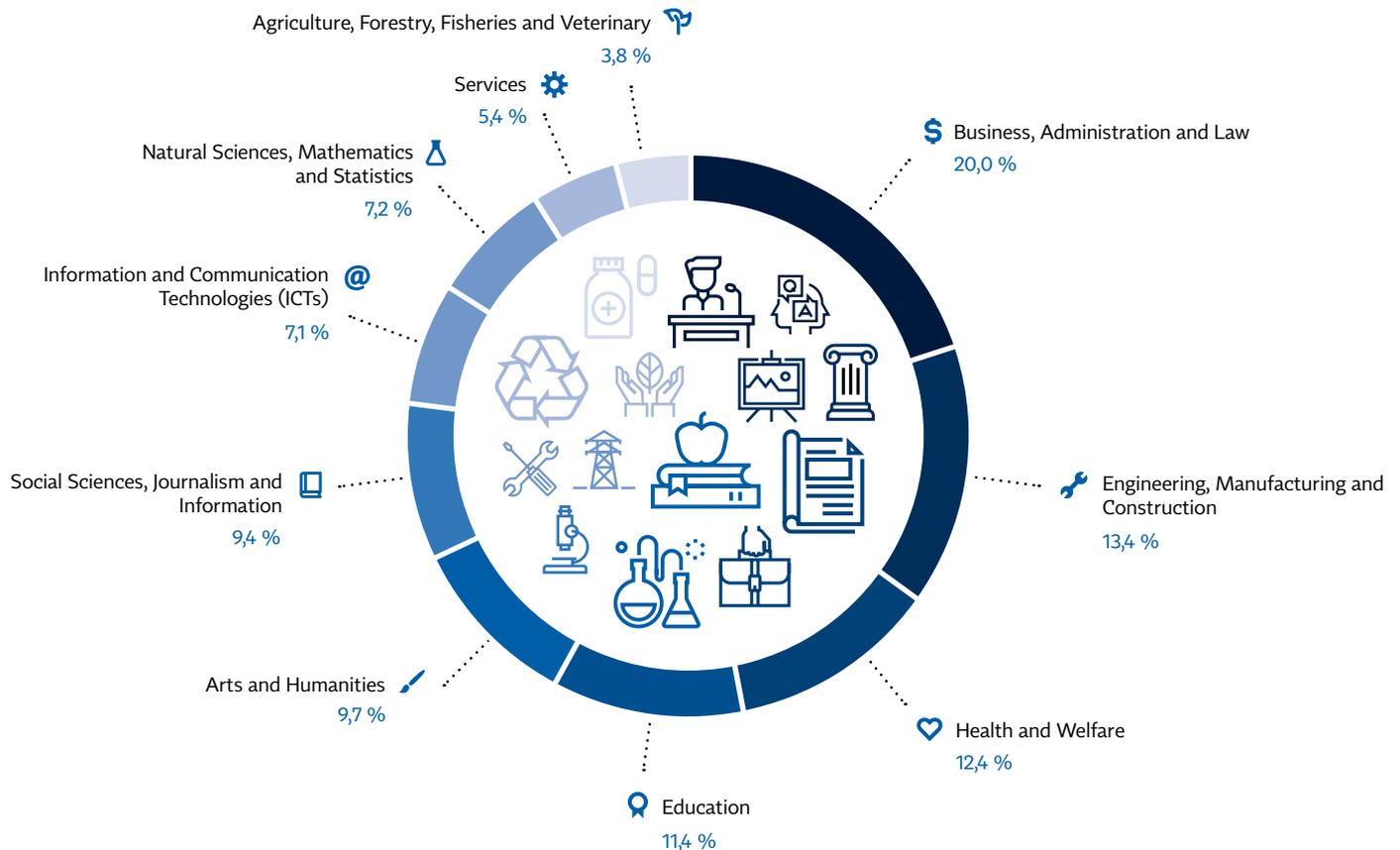
Government scholarships are offered to students from selected developing countries for full master's and doctoral degree programmes, both in the Czech and English language. Furthermore, on the basis of bilateral international treaties with 30 countries, international students can receive scholarships for short-term non-graduate studies, doctoral studies or research activities. Information about these scholarships is available at Czech diplomatic missions abroad.

Students can also take advantage of a number of mobility and scholarship programmes and funds (e.g. Aktion, CEEPUS, Visegrad Fund, Fulbright Program).

DIVISION OF STUDENTS – FIELDS OF STUDY

Currently, there are approximately 300,000 students at public, state and private higher education institutions. Roughly 90 % of them attend public higher education institutions. Over 50 % of students are enrolled in economic, technical, and social sciences and humanities study programmes. International degree students make up over 16 % of the student body.

DIVISION OF STUDENTS – FIELDS OF STUDY

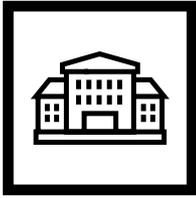


Source: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (2020)



Current Trends in Internationalisation

The Czech Republic is a destination with progressively increasing popularity for international studies at higher education institutions. Presently, over 50,000 international students are studying in the Czech Republic, and their interest is growing as the offer of study programmes and courses taught in foreign languages expands.

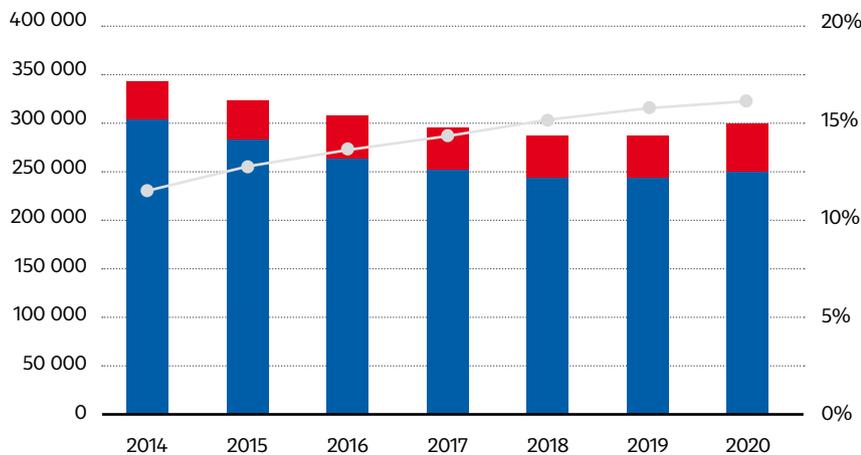


PROGRAMMES AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Czech higher education institutions have entered a new era in international cooperation and mobility. Universities strive to develop international collaboration within their activities, in both joint science projects and also, to a great extent, in the

support of international students and staff mobility. International degree students can choose from over 1,000 diverse accredited bachelor's, master's or doctoral programmes in English or other foreign languages. More than 100 offered programmes are joint or double degrees. The universities also offer many winter or summer schools as well as language and preparatory courses.

The high attractiveness of studying in the Czech Republic can also be attributed to its **unique location, well-esteemed universities**, affordable **tuition fees** and **living costs** and, last but not least, its vibrant and colourful **cultural life**.



INBOUND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY

- Domestic
- International
- Percent Int.

Source: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.



**Czech
Institutional
Involvement
in Erasmus+
Programme
2014-2020**

ERASMUS+

Czech institutions joined the Erasmus programme in 1998. The focus of the new Erasmus+ programme, reconceptualized in 2014, is to equip participants with new skills and improve their chances on the labour market. Higher education institutions (HEIs) and other organisations can take part in a wide range of projects, such as Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, highly integrated international study programmes provided by consortiums of universities, international strategic partnerships and other programmes aimed at developing initiatives, promoting innovation, exchanges of experience and know-how between different types of organizations in the field of education. During the period 2014 to 2020 a total of 66 institutions (all Czech public and state higher institutions, about a half of the private higher education institutions and part of tertiary professional schools) participated in student and staff mobility programmes within the EU, and 28 institutions were involved in the international credit mobility programme enabling student mobility with non-EU countries.

Mobility Programmes

**Number
of Czech HEIs**

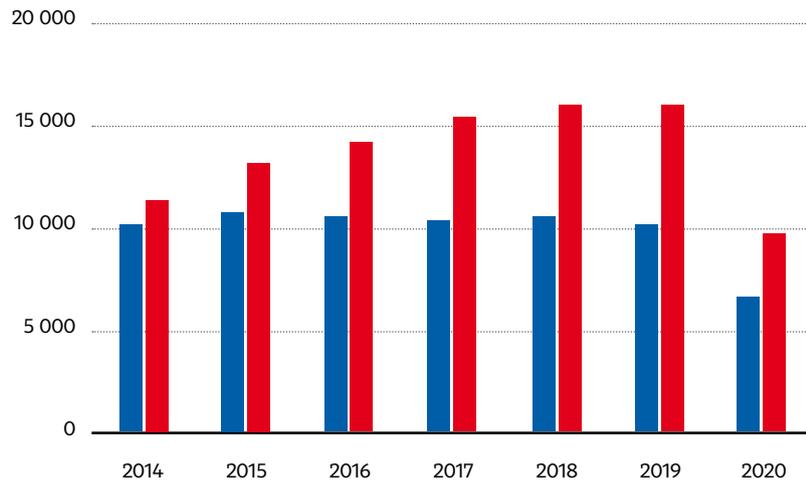
Mobility between Programme Countries (KA103)	66
Mobility between Programme and Partner Countries (KA107)	28

Cooperation Projects

**Number of Czech
coordinators' projects**

**Total number
of projects**

Strategic partnerships	74 (KA203, KA226)	212 (KA203)
Capacity Building in Higher Education	4	47
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees	4	31
Jean Monnet activities	15	21
European Universities	0	4
Knowledge Alliances	0	11



DATA ON OUTGOING/INCOMING STUDENT CREDIT MOBILITY

■ Outgoing
■ Incoming

Source: Ministry of Education,
Youth and Sports.

POPULAR DESTINATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



4th highest %
of international
students in the EU¹



Prague & Brno
among **TOP 10**
student cities
worldwide²



**61 higher
education**
institutions in more
than 20 towns



1,000 degree
programmes in
English and
a diverse offer
of short-term
programmes

¹ Source: EUROSTAT, 2018

² Source: QS Top Universities 2019 Student View

CEEPUS, AKTION AND INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENTS

Czech higher institutions also cooperate with foreign institutions on the basis of other regional or bilateral programmes. In 2020, 23 Czech universities participated in the Central European Exchange Program for University Studies (CEEPUS). A total of 29 Czech-Austrian projects were funded in 2020 by the AKTION Czech Republic-Austria programme, which, in addition to institutional cooperation projects, also supports student and staff mobility through scholarships.

Furthermore, universities independently negotiate a wide range of cooperation agreements with their foreign counterparts. Institutions from at least 121 countries have an agreement with Czech public higher education institutions.

Outside the scope of CEEPUS, Erasmus+ or other EU supported programmes, most Czech public higher education institutions choose to cooperate with institutions from the USA, Poland, Slovakia, Russia, China, Ukraine and Taiwan. The highest number of agreements exists between institutions from Russia, China, the USA, Germany, Poland and Ukraine.

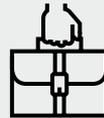
RICH LIFE IN THE HEART OF EUROPE



Strategic location
in the **centre of
Europe**



Cosy towns and
**vibrant student
life**

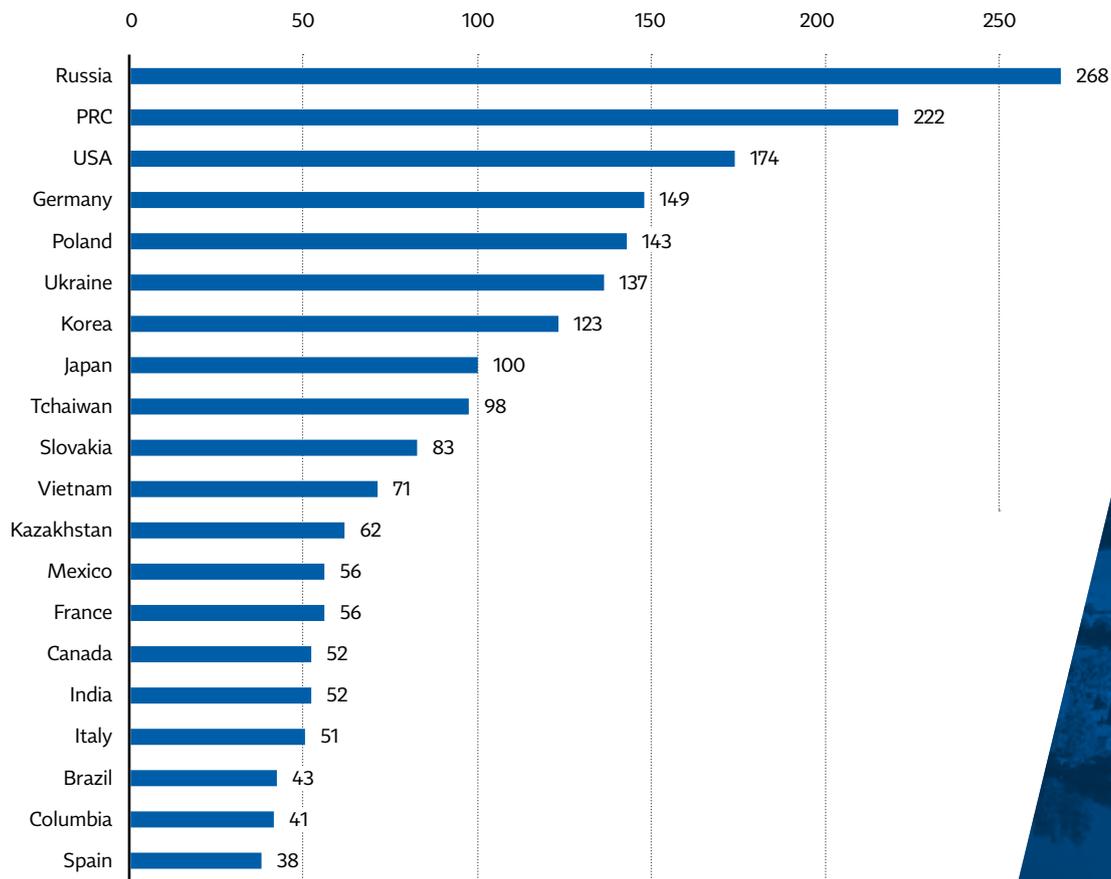


Regional
**headquarters for
many international
companies**



Large **expat
community** of
around **500,000**
foreigners

TOP 20 COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST NUMBER OF AGREEMENTS WITH CZECH PUBLIC HEIs



Source: Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (2020)

Note: Cooperation within research and development programmes supported by Erasmus+, CEEPUS and the EU are not included. Forms of cooperation at the faculty level or less formalized forms of cooperation can also be omitted (with companies or at the level of scientific projects).

A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE



7th most sustainable country¹



8th safest country²



2nd best place for working abroad³



5th most affordable place to live in Europe⁴

1 Source: Sustainable Development Report 2019, SDSN; 2 Source: 2020 Global Peace Index; 3 Source: Working Abroad Index 2019, InterNations; 4 Source: Expat Insider 2019, InterNations

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Public higher education institutions play an important role in research and development. Their success in this field can be seen, for example, in new treatments for cancer as well as haematological and urological diseases; the development of new construction technologies and advanced materials; and cooperation on international projects (e.g. in collaboration with CERN and the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna).

The Czech Republic has achieved international renown in areas ranging from Egyptology to high-tech fields such as non-woven nanofibers; the Nanospider, a unique manufactu-

ring facility, is now sold all over the world. European Union funds are also helping to further develop higher education research infrastructure, including the construction of centres of excellence in research focused on the development of laser systems, biomedical and materials science, energy research and complex mathematical modelling in the natural, medical and technical sciences.

RANKINGS

A total of 18 universities in the Czech Republic feature in the top 300 institutions and 2 universities in the top 10 of the QS EECA University Rankings 2021 – a dedicated ranking of top universities in Emerging Europe and Central Asia. 10 are included in the QS World University Rankings® 2021.



2 universities in TOP 10
18 universities in TOP 300



3 universities in TOP 500
10 universities in TOP 1,000



1 university in TOP 500
4 universities in TOP 1,000



1 university in TOP 300
7 universities in TOP 1,000

TOP-NOTCH EDUCATION & RESEARCH



Best ranked universities in Central Europe¹



8 European Centres of Excellence and **40 Regional Research Centres**



Strong **international orientation**

¹ Sources: QS, THE

Degree Programmes - Fields of Study

PUBLIC AND STATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

	Teacher Training and Education	Humanities and Arts	Social Sciences, Journalism and Information Business, Administration and Law	Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics	Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	Engineering, Manufacturing, Architecture and Construction	Agriculture and Veterinary	Health and Welfare	Services	Language/Preparatory Courses	Short Programmes, Summer and Winter Schools	Website
Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague		•				•						www.umprum.cz/web/en
Academy of Fine Arts in Prague		•										www.avu.cz/eng
Academy of Performing Arts in Prague		•								•		www.amu.cz/en
Brno University of Technology		•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	www.vutbr.cz/en
Charles University	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	www.cuni.cz/en
College of Polytechnics Jihlava				•	•	•		•	•		•	en.vspj.cz
Czech Technical University in Prague	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•		www.studyatctu.com
Czech University of Life Sciences Prague	•		•	•	•	•	•		•	•		www.czu.cz/en
Institute of Technology and Business in České Budějovice				•		•			•			www.vstecb.cz/en
Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			www.ujep.cz/en
Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts		•	•									www.jamu.cz/en
Masaryk University	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	www.muni.cz/en
Mendel University in Brno	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•		www.mendelu.cz/en
Palacký University Olomouc	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	www.upol.cz/en
Police Academy of the Czech Republic				•					•			www.polac.cz
Silesian University in Opava	•	•	•	•	•			•	•			www.slu.cz/slu/en
Technical University of Liberec	•	•	•	•	•	•		•			•	www.tul.cz/en
Tomas Bata University in Zlín	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	www.utb.cz/en
University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague	•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	www.vscht.cz/en
University of Defence					•	•	•	•	•			www.unob.cz/en
Prague University of Economics and Business		•	•	•	•					•	•	www.vse.cz/english
University of Hradec Králové	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•		www.uhk.cz/en
University of Ostrava	•	•	•		•	•		•	•		•	www.osu.eu/
University of Pardubice	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•			www.upce.cz/en
University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	www.jcu.cz/en
University of Veterinary Sciences Brno							•	•			•	www.vfu.cz/en
University of West Bohemia	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	www.zcu.cz/en
VŠB - Technical University of Ostrava			•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	www.vsb.cz/en

Degree Programmes - Fields of Study

PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

	Teacher Training and Education	Humanities and Arts	Social Sciences, Journalism and Information Business, Administration and Law	Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics	Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	Engineering, Manufacturing, Architecture and Construction	Agriculture and Veterinary	Health and Welfare	Services	Language/Preparatory Courses	Short Programmes, Summer and Winter Schools	Website
Academia Rerum Civiliū – School of Political and Social Sciences			•									www.vpspv.cz
Akademie HUSPOL, s.r.o. - Kunovice			•	•								www.akademie-huspol.cz
Akcent College	•											www.akcentcollege.cz/en/
Anglo-American University		•	•	•								www.aauni.edu
Architectural Institute in Prague						•						www.archip.eu
ART & DESIGN INSTITUT		•										www.adi.cz/en
CEVRO Institute		•	•	•					•		•	www.cevroinstitut.cz/en
College of Applied Psychology				•							•	www.vsaps.cz
College of Entrepreneurship and Law				•								www.vsppl.cz
College of European and Regional Studies				•					•			aj.vrsers.cz
College of Logistics					•	•			•			www.vslg.cz
College of Physical Education and Sport Palestra	•								•			vos.palestra.cz
College of Regional Development and Banking Institute - AMBIS				•					•			www.ambis.cz/en
College of Tourism and Hotel Management				•								www.hotkolabrnno.cz
Film Academy of Miroslav Ondříček in Písek		•										www.filmovka.cz/en
Institute of Hospitality Management in Prague 8				•					•			www.vsh.cz/en/
Jan Amos Komensky University, Prague	•	•	•	•					•			www.ujak.cz/en
Medical College in Prague								•				www.vszdrav.cz/en
Metropolitan University Prague		•	•	•	•				•	•		www.mup.cz/en/
Moravian College Olomouc				•	•							www.mvso.cz/en
NEWTON College, a.s. – Brno			•	•								www.newton-university.com
Prague College of Psychosocial Studies			•					•				www.pvpsps.cz/en
PRIGO University			•	•								www.vs-prigo.cz/en
Private College of Economic Studies				•								www.svse.cz
STING Academy, Brno				•								www.sting.cz/erasmus
ŠKODA AUTO University				•								en.savs.cz
Unicorn University			•	•	•						•	unicornuniversity.net/en
University College of Business in Prague			•	•					•		•	www.vso.cz/en

Degree Programmes - Fields of Study

PRIVATE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

	Teacher Training and Education	Humanities and Arts	Social Sciences, Journalism and Information Business, Administration and Law	Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics	Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)	Engineering, Manufacturing, Architecture and Construction	Agriculture and Veterinary	Health and Welfare	Services	Language/Preparatory Courses	Short Programmes, Summer and Winter Schools	Website
University College of International and Public Relations, Prague			•	•								www.vsmvv.cz/en
University of Creative Communication				•								www.vskk.cz/en
University of Economics and Management	•		•	•								en.vsem.cz
University of Finance and Administration			•	•	•							www.vfsf.cz/en
University of New York in Prague	•	•	•	•	•			•	•		•	www.unyp.cz

See details at



WWW.STUDYIN.CZ



PORTAL.STUDYIN.CZ

USEFUL LINKS

Czech National Agency for International Education and Research	www.dzs.cz/en
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	www.msmt.cz
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	www.mzv.cz/jnp/en
Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic	www.mvcr.cz/mvcren
Czech Rectors Conference	www.crc.muni.cz/en
Academy of Science of the Czech Republic	www.avcr.cz/en
Czech Centres	www.czechcentres.cz/en
About Czech Republic	www.czechtourism.cz
Czech Republic: The Country For The Future	www.countryforfuture.com/en



Study in the Czech Republic

www.studyin.cz

portal.studyin.cz



Facebook

www.facebook.com/studyincz



Instagram

www.instagram.com/studyintheczechrepublic



Youtube

www.youtube.com/StudyintheCzechRepublic

CZECH HIGHER EDUCATION

System | Institutions | Internationalisation | Cooperation Opportunities

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