



"In 2019, we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the 'large research infrastructures' funding instrument. Since 2009, the Czech Republic has become a respectable partner that operates excellent open access-based R&D facilities, and a reliable country, which participates in construction, operation and further development of state-of-the-art R&D laboratories in the European Research Area and around the world. These are achievements we shall be proud of."

Pavel Doleček

Pavel DOLEČEK, Ph.D.

Deputy Minister for Higher Education, Science and Research

Roadmap of Large Research Infrastructures of the Czech Republic – update 2019

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports released the **2019 update to Roadmap of Large Research Infrastructures of the Czech Republic for the years 2016–2022**. The Roadmap introduces to the agenda development from 2009 to 2019, with a view to 2029. Top-class open access-based R&D facilities listed in the Roadmap are characterised on individual basis and within a landscape analyses, placing them in the European and worldwide research infrastructures portfolio.

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4th National Day of Large Research Infrastructures was held in Prague

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, in close cooperation with the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University, organised the **4th National Day of Large Research Infrastructures of the Czech Republic on 19th November 2019**. Almost 150 attendees were hosted in the **LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ** premises and participated in a high-level strategy debate on socioeconomic impact of large research infrastructures and clustering of these R&D facilities.

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New supercomputer in the IT4Innovations e-infrastructure is called "Barbora"

An opening ceremony for the new supercomputer being put into the operations at the **IT4Innovations National Supercomputing Centre** at the VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava was held on 2nd October 2019. This new supercomputer, supplied by Atos IT Solutions and Services, has combined theoretical computational performance of 826 TFlop/s. It has expanded the family of supercomputers installed at the IT4Innovations centre, bearing the name **"Barbora"**.

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DARIAH-EU

Digital Research Infrastructure
for the Arts and Humanities

The Czech Republic has become a Member of the DARIAH ERIC consortium

On behalf of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has officially joined the **DARIAH ERIC** (*Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities*). The **LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ** (*Digital Research Infrastructure for Language Technologies, Arts and Humanities*), coordinated by the Charles University and facilitating the cooperation of 11 Czech research organisations, has become the Czech national node to the DARIAH ERIC activities.

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Euro-Biolmaging ERIC has been set up with the Czech Republic as a founding Member

At the end of October 2019, the European Commission founded the **Euro-Biolmaging ERIC** (*European Research Infrastructure for Imaging Technologies in Biological and Biomedical Sciences*), participated also by the Czech Republic, becoming its founding Member. The **Czech-Biolmaging** (*National Research Infrastructure for Biological and Medical Imaging*), coordinating 9 Czech research institutes, will serve as the Czech national node to the Euro-Biolmaging ERIC.

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The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports reinforced its contribution to the ESA

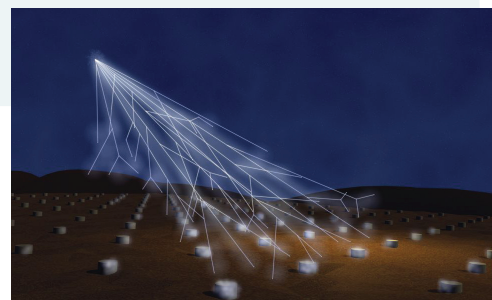
The Ministerial **ESA's** (*European Space Agency*) Council Meeting "**Space19+**", held in Seville, Spain, on 27th – 28th November 2019, confirmed the increased contribution of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) to ESA R&D programmes. The MEYS's financial share on the ESA's budget will reach up to 350 mil. CZK per year in 2022, to secure, among others, further participation of Czech researchers in the missions **ARIEL**, **ATHENA**, **Comet Interceptor**, **eXTP**, **JUICE**, **PLATO** or **Solar Orbiter**.

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The world's largest astrophysics array 20th anniversary

This year, the **Pierre Auger Observatory** in Argentina celebrates the 20th anniversary of signature of the statutory agreements. The Czech Republic has been one of the project-founding countries and an important contributor to design, development and supply of the observatory research infrastructure. The Czech involvement is currently ensured by the **AUGER-CZ** large research infrastructure project, financially supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

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ESFRI needs clear strategic orientation, agreed the workshop in La Palma

What should be the role of **ESFRI** (*European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures*) and research infrastructures within the new European Research Area? How will ESFRI implement the monitoring of European research infrastructures? How can ESFRI help the research infrastructures to expand their services to the scientific community? These were the main topics of a 3-day **workshop**, held by ESFRI on the La Palma Island, Spain, on 6th – 8th November 2019.

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2nd Edition of the "Big Science Business Forum" will be organised in 2020 in Spain

The "**Big Science Business Forum 2020**" will be held in Granada, Spain, on 6th – 9th October 2020. The conference will offer an excellent opportunity to learn about future investments and procurements of leading large research infrastructures in Europe, such as **CERN**, **EMBL**, **ESA**, **ESO**, **ESRF**, **ESS**, **European XFEL**, **ILL**, **SKA** and **ITER**. These organisations are called "Big Science", due to their budgets of € billions. **Registration** for the conference was opened on 2nd December 2019.

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