



"In 1996, CESNET embarked on a journey of introducing the internet in the Czech Republic. Today, twenty five years later, we're all proud of successes achieved by CESNET. The Association is operating state-of-the-art e-infrastructure to perform ground-breaking research and develop breakthrough innovations in the Czech Republic. The most sincere appreciation goes to Jan Gruntorád, long-time Director of CESNET, without whose enthusiasm and dedication none of this would have ever been possible. Thank you Mr Director!"

Pavel Doleček

Pavel DOLEČEK, Ph.D.

Deputy Minister for Higher Education, Science and Research
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

CESNET celebrated its 25th birthday with a virtual toast

CESNET, associating Czech universities and public research institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences, commemorates its 25th anniversary. Since 1996, CESNET has been developing and operating the Czech national e-infrastructure for education, R&D and innovation, thus providing students, researchers and innovators with top-class ICT resources to study and perform experiments in any scientific domain. As the leading member of the **e-INFRA CZ** consortium, CESNET connects the Czech science with the world.

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EUROPEAN OPEN
SCIENCE CLOUD

EOSC enters the year 2021 with a new leadership

The **EOSC Association**, implementing the **European Open Science Cloud** initiative, entered the year 2021 with a **new leadership**, elected at the inaugural General Assembly, held on 17th December 2020. **CESNET**, the Masaryk University as the host of the **CERIT – Scientific Cloud**, and the VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava operating the **IT4Innovations National Supercomputing Centre** have joined the EOSC Association from within the Czech research community.

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Radislav Sedláček elected the new Chair of IMPC

Assoc. Professor **Radislav Sedláček**, Director of **CCP** (*Czech Centre for Phenogenomics*), hosted by the Institute of Molecular Genetics of the Czech Academy of Sciences, has become the new Chair of **IMPC** (*International Mouse Phenotyping Consortium*). IMPC gathers 19 research institutions all around the world. Its mission is to identify the function of every protein-coding gene in the mouse genome, and create a comprehensive catalogue of the mammalian gene function freely available for researchers.

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Memorandum on cooperation on the Czech membership in ELI ERIC has been signed

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Czech Academy of Sciences, and the Institute of Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences signed the memorandum on cooperation on the Czech membership in ELI ERIC (*Extreme Light Infrastructure – European Research Infrastructure Consortium*). ELI ERIC, to be founded by the European Commission in April/May 2021, will operate the **ELI** research infrastructure pillars **ELI Beamlines** and **ELI ALPS**. The statutory headquarters will be hosted in Dolní Břežany near Prague.

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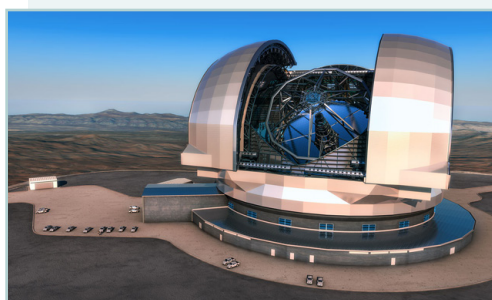




Czechia to become a Founding Member of AnaEE-ERIC

In January 2021, an official application to establish the AnaEE-ERIC consortium to manage the **AnaEE** (*Analysis and Experimentation on Ecosystems*) European research infrastructure was submitted to the European Commission, participated by France, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Belgium and the CIHEAM international organisation. The AnaEE-ERIC services will include also the **CzeCOS** experimental facilities, operated by the **Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences**.

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Assessment of benefits of the Czech memberships in international R&D organisations

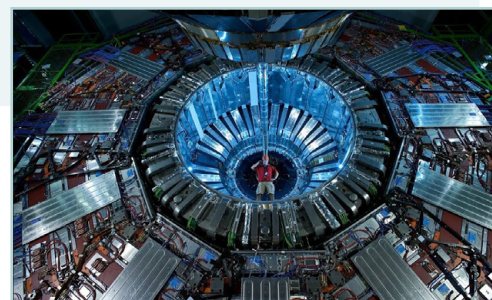
In the 2nd half of 2021, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will organise an international peer-review of benefits of the **Czech memberships in international R&D organisations** (CERN, EMBC, EMBL, ESA, ESO, JINR, VKI). The assessment will be held as a complementary monitoring exercise to the **international peer-review of large research infrastructures of Czechia**, held in the 1st half of 2021. The final review report will be available by the end of 2021.

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The Ministry continues to support Czech candidates for the CERN studentship programmes

Following this year's **call**, closed on 24th March, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports will select new candidates for the **Doctoral, Technical**, as well as **Administrative** student programmes organised by **CERN** (*European Organisation for Nuclear Research*), the leading particle physics laboratory all over the world. Bachelor, Master and Ph.D. students at Czech universities have this exclusive opportunity as of 2019. The allowance of 3300 CHF per month is granted to successful candidates.

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75th ESFRI Forum Plenary was enriched by the first Open Session

The **75th ESFRI Forum Plenary** was held virtually on 23rd and 24th March 2021. The first Open Session, organised as a part of the ESFRI meeting, brought together the ESFRI Delegates and representatives of the ESFRI Research Infrastructures to discuss the **response to the COVID-19 pandemic**. Introduction of the ESFRI Open Sessions is a measure to strengthen the ESFRI communication strategy, and facilitate both-ways exchanges of the ESFRI Delegates and representatives of the ESFRI Research Infrastructures.

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CZECRIN launched a new website for professionals to support the academic clinical research

The large research infrastructure **CZECRIN** (*Czech Clinical Research Infrastructure Network*) launched a new website for the clinical researchers to enhance marketing of the CZECRIN's resources, capacities and capabilities, which are operated on the open access policy basis. CZECRIN is the leading research infrastructure supporting the academic clinical research in the Czech Republic and also forms the Czech national node to the **ECRIN-ERIC** (*European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network*) consortium.

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