



"The outcomes of this year's international peer-review of Czech large research infrastructures have to be viewed as a great success of Czech research stakeholders. Most of the large research infrastructures subject to the evaluation exercise proved their top-quality and considerable positioning in the European and global research infrastructure landscape. The conclusions reached by the international assessment committee confirm the achievements of the Czech Republic's research infrastructure policy-making. On the top of that, they also reaffirm the successful implementation of the EU cohesion policy in the areas of R&D in Czechia as the investment costs of Czech large research infrastructures have been covered in the past decade mostly by using the European Structural and Investment Funds."

Pavel Doleček
Pavel DOLEČEK, Ph.D.

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

International peer-review assessment of large research infrastructures of Czechia in 2021

In 2021, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports organised an international peer-review of Czech large research infrastructures to obtain an expert advice to adopt an informed political decision on the public funding of the large research infrastructure projects in post-2022. A comprehensive information brief on the methodology approach, monitoring criteria, composition of the international assessment committee, evaluation and results was presented to the Czech Government on 6th December 2021.

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National day of Czech large research infrastructures to be held on 15th February 2022 in Brno

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in a close collaboration with the Masaryk University and the Central European Institute of Technology invite Czech research stakeholders to participate in the **5th edition of the National Day of Large Research Infrastructures of Czechia** that will be organised on 15th February 2022 in Brno. The registration is due to Friday, 28th January 2022 using the **registration form**. In the event of any queries, organisers may be contacted at **5thLRIsNationalDay@msmt.cz**.

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ESFRI Roadmap Update 2021 has been officially launched

The **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)** released the 2021 Strategy Report on European Research Infrastructures on the occasion of the **ESFRI Roadmap 2021 Launch Event** that was held under the auspices of the Slovenian EU Council Presidency on 7th December 2021. The **ESFRI Roadmap** now includes 41 European research Infrastructures, which have already been implemented and reached the status of an ESFRI Landmark, and 22 ESFRI Projects that are in their preparatory phase.

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Jan Hrušák handed the ESFRI Presidency over to Jana Kolar

On 6th December 2021, the 78th plenary of the **European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI)** took place. For the last time, it was chaired by Jan Hrušák, thus closing his three years' ESFRI Chair mission in 2019–2021. Inter alia, ESFRI has outlined the contribution of research infrastructures to fulfilling ambitions set out in the **Council Recommendation on a Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe** and the **Council Conclusions on the Future Governance of the European Research Area**.

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ELI ERIC General Assembly held its second meeting in Dolní Břežany

The 2nd meeting of the General Assembly of **ELI ERIC** (*Extreme Light Infrastructure European Research Infrastructure Consortium*) was held on 13th and 14th October 2021 at **ELI Beamlines** in Dolní Břežany, and concluded with key decisions made on the ELI ERIC essential policies, in addition to appointments made of Chair and Vice-Chairs for both advisory committees of ELI ERIC – the International Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (ISTAC), and the Administrative and Finance Committee (AFC).

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Application to establish ACTRIS ERIC has been submitted to the European Commission

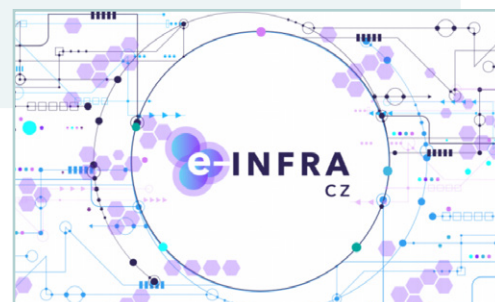
The application to establish the ACTRIS ERIC consortium was submitted by Finland, as the designated host country of the statutory seat of the future ACTRIS ERIC, to the European Commission. The mission of ACTRIS ERIC will be to operate the **ACTRIS** (*Aerosol, Clouds and Trace Gases Research Infrastructure*) European research infrastructure. Czechia, operating the **ACTRIS-CZ** large research infrastructure, has joined the application as one of 13 European countries to become the ACTRIS ERIC Founding Members.

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Preparatory works for the implementation of the EOSC initiative in Czechia have been intensified

Following the **workshop** on the implementation of the **European Open Science Cloud** (EOSC) initiative in Czechia, held on 23rd September 2021, **working groups** have been established to deal with expert issues related to the development of the Czech national data infrastructure, its architecture and the provision of related e-services. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has also assigned a high-level **Coordination Committee** associating Czech research stakeholders to advice on EOSC regularly.

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Vladimír Matolín elected Vice-Chair of the CERIC-ERIC General Assembly

On 26th November 2021, **CERIC-ERIC** (*Central European Research Infrastructure Consortium*) General Assembly unanimously elected as its new Vice-Chair delegate of Czechia, Professor Vladimír Matolín, who also serves as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors. Czechia participates in CERIC-ERIC through the **SPL-MSB** large research infrastructure, operating the Material Science Beamline Laboratory at the **Elettra Synchrotron** in Trieste and the Surface Physics Laboratory at the Charles University in Prague.

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European Alliance of Medical Research Infrastructures

Capacities of **BBMRI-ERIC** (*Bio-banking and Bio-molecular Resources Research Infrastructure*), **EATRIS-ERIC** (*European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine*) and **ECRIN-ERIC** (*European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network*), including the Czech national nodes **BBMRI-CZ**, **EATRIS-CZ** and **CZECRIN**, have been newly clustered in the **European Alliance of Medical Research Infrastructures (EU-AMRI)** to offer a comprehensive set of biomedical research services to academia, businesses and industries in Europe.

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