



"The Presidency in the Council of the European Union will be held by Czechia in the second half of 2022, and research infrastructures shall become one of the top priorities of the research Presidency agenda. The ambition of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is to adopt the EU Council Conclusions to address challenges related to the advancement of the European research infrastructures ecosystem in post-2022. To that end, the International Conference on Research Infrastructures will be organised in Brno to provide a high-level platform for political and expert debates, feeding not only in the envisaged EU Council Conclusions, but also resulting in the so-called Brno Declaration on Research Infrastructures, setting out the objectives for the development of a fully integrated and interoperable global research infrastructure ecosystem as an essential component of the critical infrastructure and an instrument to address grand societal and economic challenges by facilitating knowledge-based solutions."

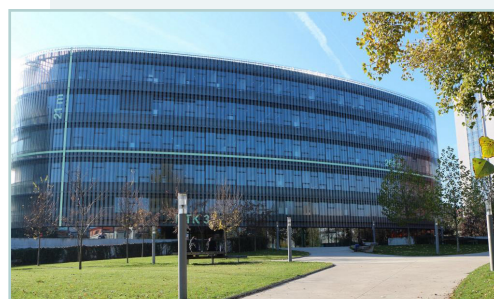

Dr. Jan HRUŠÁK

Special Envoy for Research Infrastructures
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Jan Gruntorád has been inducted in the Internet Hall of Fame

The first personality from the region of Central and Eastern Europe inducted in the prestigious **Internet Hall of Fame** is Jan Gruntorád, founder and until July 2021 Director of the CESNET Association. In early 1990s, he was leading a small team, which connected Czechoslovakia to the Internet. The Internet Hall of Fame is a project of a key international organisation, the **Internet Society**, that awards personalities, who made outstanding contribution to the internet's growth, outreach, security and scale.

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Research infrastructures to become a top priority of the Czech EU Council Presidency

On 3rd February 2022, a **Roundtable on the Presidency of Czechia in the Council of the EU** was held to present priorities, on which the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports shall focus the Presidency programme as of July 2022. Research infrastructures were introduced as a top priority of the **research agenda** with the ambition to endorse the EU Council Conclusions to set out goals for the advancement of the EU's research infrastructure ecosystem. To facilitate the debates, **ICRI 2022** will be held in Brno.

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Research stakeholders debated the future of large research infrastructures of Czechia

On 15th February 2022, the **5th National Day of Large Research Infrastructures of Czechia**, organised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in a close cooperation with the Masaryk University and the Central European Institute of Technology, provided a forum to debate pressing needs of the large research infrastructures agenda development in Czechia. Minister Petr Gazdík opened the conference programme by outlining his **proposal to finance large research infrastructures in 2023–2029**.

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

In late 2021, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports concluded another round of the international peer-review of benefits of the Czech membership in **CERN, EMBC, EMBL, ESA, ESO, JINR** and **VKIFD**. The Czech user communities are strongly engaged in scientific programmes, technology development, industrial procurement, education and training, though with persisting deficiencies in particular areas, identified by the review committee, which gave recommendations on how to exploit the full potential.

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