

## **Evaluation of the Research and Professional Activity of the Institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS) for the period 2010–2014**

### **Final Report on the Evaluation of the Institute**

**Name of the Institute: Institute of History of the CAS, v. v. i.**

**Fields, in which the Institute registered its teams:**

History and archaeology

Observer representing the Academy Council of the CAS: Pavel Baran

Observer representing the Institute: Martin Holý, substitute observer Eva Doležalová

**Commission No. 11: History and archaeology**

Chair: Prof. Dr. Marie-Elizabeth Ducreux

Date(s) of the visit of the Institute: October 19, 2015

Programme of the visit of the Institute: see attached Minutes from the visit

Evaluated research teams:

*No. 1 - Mediaeval History; No. 2 - Early Modern History; No. 3 - 19th Century History; No. 4 - 20th Century History; No. 5 - Biographical Studies*

## **A. Evaluation of the Institute as a whole**

### **1. Introduction**

-The Institute of History has the eldest tradition of all historical institutes of the CAS, since it was founded in 1952. Then it underwent a strong phase of renewal after 1989 and has redefined itself, taking in account the existence of new institutes of history within the CAS (first the Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS and later the Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS). However, it still continues the legacy of the former State Historical Editorial Institute (created 1921) and cultivates a sense of tradition maintenance, dealing systematically with the history of the Czech lands and Czechoslovakia. The Institute has about 58 researchers and 26 non-research employees (for technical and administrative workers the sum of full time equivalents is 5,19 and 18,99 in 2014). Its main location is in Prague with a local branch in Brno. It has also two joint workplaces, one with the Institute of History of the University of South-Bohemia at České Budějovice (the Centre of Early Modern History established in 2003 and dedicated to editorial work and publication of sources), and since 2007 the Centre of Historical-Legal Studies together with the Law Faculty of the Charles University, which is equally partially dedicated to the publications of sources. The Institute coordinates, or is part of a series of other smaller groups called “centres”, 3 of them gathering several researchers around a specific theme, period, or service (one of them being a GAČR Grant of Excellence); the last one, the Czech Historical Institute in Rome, provides Czech researchers assistance, accommodation for their research in Roman and Italian archives and libraries and publishes their findings in its own journal.

At the beginning of the 1990's, the thematic and chronological research boundaries between the Historical Institute and the new Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS were clearly established. It is not the case today. During the past 25 years, new challenges has emerged, and the frontiers of the researched topics have moved everywhere. On the other hand, a cooperation between the teams of the CAS may be needed for winning European or other international and national larger grants. The Institute of History has reacted positively to this changes. It maintains a valuable cooperation with other historical institutes or centre of the CAS, as well as with many universities at national and international level (despite that some contacts at this level seems perhaps more personal than institutional).

The Institute has six departments: Mediaeval History, Early Modern History, 19<sup>th</sup> Century History, 20<sup>th</sup> century History, Biographical Studies, and Bibliographical Studies. The Department of Historical Bibliographies and the smaller centres were not part of the evaluation in October, 2015.

-During the evaluated four-year period, research provided by each team was organised into 3 main directions: “The Czech historical space within European context (including historical geography and bio-bibliographical studies)”, “Selected issues connected with the Czech and Central-European historical processes”, “Sources and data, their publicizing, protection and research”.

### **2. Strengths and Opportunities**

--The Institute of History is unique within the CAS in providing research on all researched periods;

- Several outstanding outputs in historical geography and issues of the Czech history (for instance: Academic Atlas of Czech History winning 9 awards, the long-term series of the Atlases of the Czech towns, the recent cartographic representation case studies of Frontiers, Massacres and Resettlement of Populations articulated to a pioneering proposal in history of frontiers and migrations, new interpretations in Church History and Central European history of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, etc.).
- Attractiveness of some proposals at a broader international level (co-organization with Australia of two panels at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Historical Sciences in Jinan, China, in August 2015).
- Involvement of the Department of Mediaeval Studies in an international (German) project on Jewish history;
- Good cooperation with other centres and institutes of the CAS as well as with Czech universities;
- Valuable success in grant applications especially at the national level (GAČR, NAKI, Strategy AV 21, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Technology Agency of the Czech Republic, GA CAS, Ministry of Education, etc.).
- Large number of organized conferences with international participation, or in cooperation with international partners;
- Recent recruitments of younger researchers for a more balanced age structure
- Active pedagogical involvement in basic teaching of history and in the supervision of master and doctoral students at Charles University and at several other Czech universities
- Strong infrastructure of services and facilities, including an outstanding historical library;
- Large number of popularising actions of societal relevance: strong participation in the formation of secondary teachers, exhibitions, conferences in no-academic milieu, etc.
- A solid and active component of editorial work, either as publishing house printing the books of the Departments members and 6 periodicals, or as provider of useful bio-bibliographical databases;
- Implementation of Digital Humanities: the so-called “Digital Historical Institute”, with digital collections, funds, archives and databases (August Sedláček, digital proceedings of research results).

### **3. Weaknesses and Threats**

- The financial structure: the big part of service activities is sometimes conflicting with the need for further recruitments in research. Research activities supported by basic sustainment and grants. The amount of the budget remained the same since 2007.
- Despite efforts in this direction, structural difficulties for initiating and leading larger European projects. The institute has still difficulties to lead or to house such international programmes.
- Due to its long tradition and identity, the Institute of History covers all historical periods of the Czech History but is confronted with the need to select issues which depends of its scientific politics as well as of the specialisation of its researchers. Given this, and given the financial and other structural constraints of its activities, the Institute encounters limits: some addressed topics seem sometimes too compartmentalised (especially for mediaeval and early-modern history). There is perhaps a need for more cross-cutting and transversal objects of research within each department as well for the whole institute.

- Publishing seven journals is very demanding. It requires a heavy investment in term of times and employment;
- The Institute cannot invest financial support for translations into world languages (and especially English).
- Problematic application of the Open Access form among the research workers
- A limited office space after the reconstruction of the Prague building

#### **4. Recommendations**

- To keep in mind its special heritage in the field of Czech history as well as in services to historians;
  
- However, the Institute should perhaps try to rethink its peculiar place in the Czech landscape of “history-making” and to better prioritise its goals, in order to improve its leading position in some domains.
  
- The Institute of History experiments difficulties to initiate or to lead European projects. This is of course a common feature for many Institutes in humanities in the Czech Republic, which need to be logistically better helped in the setting-up and the management of these projects. But here is perhaps a specific difficulty, due to the specialisation of the Institute in Czech History. On one hand, Czech historians must research Czech history and must also try to be the leading specialists of this field worldwide. On the other hand, in order to gain better integration into international programmes, exchanges and communication with foreign colleagues are to be improved. However, most of foreign historians ignore Central European and Czech historical specificities, so to broaden collaborations outside the small milieu of specialists of Central Europe proves to be difficult. That might be an argument for setting more new approaches and cross-cutting themes, likely to bring closer and more integrative international cooperation. The commission is well aware of and appreciates the fact many that efforts in this direction were already undertaken (for instance in co-organising successful panels at the world congress of historians in China, the integrative role of historical geography, the involvement in project about Jewish history, etc.
- To make more clear which part of the research is carried out at the Historical Institute and which part is common to it and to the Centre for Mediaeval Studies of the CAS. (referring to the team of Mediaeval History)
  
- To better prioritise the research objectives in some departments, or to reinforce or restructure some research programs (especially for the Department of Mediaeval Studies and the Department of Early Modern History). As was pointed out by the scientific board, some of them seem to be carried out by only one or two workers.
  
- To clarify the borders of research competence with the Institute of Comparative History, the Department for Comenius studies and Intellectual History and the Centre of Mediaeval Studies of the Philosophical Institute.
  
- It might be useful to think about another and not so demanding model in the publishing politics. Some Commission members recommend to consider an association with leading non-academic publishers in the Czech Republic, or to think

about joint collections with foreign partners published abroad and in foreign languages.

-To strengthen the international visibility of the scientific production: To try to publish more papers in foreign languages, the research workers' valuable results being still presented mostly in Czech. The Institute has already started considering the opportunity of publishing at a new publication platform of the Comenius Journal (New York).

-To associate or to employ even more post-docs or doctoral fellows for broadening the covered research themes and for reinforcing some Departments –especially the Department of Early-Modern History- might be a worthy objective.

## 5. Detailed evaluations

### *Declaration on the quality of the results and share in their acquisition*

The Historical Institutes specializes programmatically in all themes and periods of Czech History, across diverse fields and methods of enquiry, open to a comparative dimension and stressing tradition, continuity and innovation in history. It covers also other topics and broader areas (for instance East-Central Europe or Church History based on research in Italian and Roman archives, etc.) As underlined by the Direction during the visit on-site, the researchers prioritise an approach based on the return to the primary archive sources in order to establish facts (motto: “ad fontes”).

-About 80 conferences, national and international, organised;

-30 grant and programme projects supported from public means in 2000-2014 (all funded with national sources)

-More than 600 publications (papers, monographs, conference proceedings etc.

-Out of the overall number of its publications, a part results from joint publications with researchers from other institutes of the CAS and from the universities, or are the output of its cooperation with foreign partners.

### *Declaration on the involvement of students in research*

The Institute cooperates with many universities in the Czech Republic for teaching and training of PhD students. Among its researchers, in 2010-2013, were 8 professors (9 in 2014) teaching basic historical courses and seminars and in 2010—2012 12 associate professors (15 in 2013-2014).

Its involvement in research training is high: potentially all its researchers were supervising students' dissertations in 2010-2014: 31 researchers have worked as supervisors of bachelor theses and 16 as co-supervisors (for a total number of defended theses: 131); 25 were supervisors of master theses and 16 co-supervisors (defended theses: 102); 15 have supervised and 12 have co-supervised doctoral theses (defended theses: 21).

### *Declaration on societal relevance*

-Memberships on the field councils of doctoral studies in 2010-2014: 18 or 19: memberships in scientific councils of universities: in 2010-2014: 9.

-More than hundred presentations of research results, lectures, interviews, popularising papers, interventions in TV and broadcast programmes, lectures at The Week of Science

and Technology, thematic lectures in the Academic Cafes in Prague and Brno Academia bookshops, Open House Days, etc.

-Redaction of textbooks for secondary schools and popularisation of research connected with educational purposes in general;

-Contributions to the maintenance and re-considering of the national cultural heritage: ceremonial meetings in the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic on some important anniversary occasions (commemoration of Cyril and Methodius 's mission, 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1939, commemoration of Jan Huss 's death etc.). Participation in important exhibitions, etc.

-As already stressed in the Declaration on the involvement of students in research: The Institute cooperates with many universities in the Czech Republic for teaching and training of PhD students. Among its researchers, in 2010-2013, were 8 professors (9 in 2014) teaching basic historical courses and seminars and in 2010—2012 12 associate professors (15 in 2013-2014).

-Production of digital collections: Map Collection, Sources collection, Photographic collection, August Sedláček Scholarly Estate, several bio-bibliographical databases.

#### *Declaration on the position in the international and national context*

-The Institute of History, as heir of the eldest academic research and service institutions of the former Czechoslovakia assumes responsibility for the continuation of Czech historical tradition, a charge including the maintenance of the quality of the eldest Czech historical journal, *Český časopis historický* (created in 1895).

-The Institute of History has many charges: it assumes the coordination or supports several smaller teams and centres including the Czech Historical Centre in Rome; it implements the world trend of digital humanities, and provides very useful biographic and bibliographic databases and archive collections, as well as outstanding historical atlases for all historians.

-Membership of numerous workers in foreign and national historical associations and scientific committees

-Organization and co-organization (with an Australian historian) of two panels at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Historical Science in Jinan, China, with successful publication outputs.

-Involvement in Strategy AV 21

-Active and good popularization strategy and involvement in the formation in students and teachers in secondary schools;

-Organisation or co-organisation of important exhibitions, lectures at the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic etc.

-Organization of more than 80 conferences with international partners or with international participation;

#### *Declaration on the vitality and sustainability*

-The Institute of History of the CAS employs ca. 58 researchers and 26 technical and administrative workers. Some teams have been reorganised during the past four-year period. As a result, the age structure rejuvenated and is more balanced now. (59 % younger than 50 years (15 between 40-45, 15 between 20 and 35). 41% of the employees are 50 and older (part of the women: 35%).

- A highly-qualified team: At the end of December, 2015, 13 research professors, 9 professors, 15 associate professors, 46 PhD.
- No permanent foreign employees, but for them short-term or long-term stays for delivering lectures and participating in conferences.
- Personnel policy based on the principle of Facility Management.
- Hiring principles for employees: to ensure the continuity of research programmes and of the infrastructure (permanent employment preferred here for research workers); attestation procedures, age-related replacement; flexible enlargement within grand projects.
- Researchers' evaluation based on yearly reports of activity; and non-scheduled attestations.
- Quality of the workplace buildings.
- Attractiveness demonstrated by the affluence of PhD students and Post-Doc at the job interviews organised by the Institute.

*Declaration on the strategy and plans for the future*

- The Institute will continue to prioritise the internal research programmes initiated in 2013. The materials for evaluation is specifying them in general formulations: 1° The Czech historical space within the European Context, as long-term selected research; 2) Selected issues connected with the Czech and Central European historical processes; 3) Sources of a material and intellectual character, their publicizing, protection and research, 4) Memory in digital age.
- Some selected topics will be supported by programmes from Strategy AV21.
- 2 applications have been submitted within the Horizon 2020 Programme in 2015, and 14 grant projects are running.
- The Institute takes part in the commemoration of the birth of Emperor Charles IV in 2016.
- Among other enumerated issues for the future, is intended a research on the circumstances of the 1917 revolution in Russia and its echoes in international reflection until 2017, as well as the World War I centenary.

## **B. Evaluation of the individual teams**

### **Evaluation of the Team No. 1: Mediaeval History**

#### **1. Introduction**

The Team No.1, led by Eva Doležalová, consists of 10 researchers in 2014 (in average aggregate FTE) (In 2010-2012: 8 researchers and 2 PhD students, in 2013: respectively 9 and 1), including the Director of the Institute of History, Eva Semotanová. It focuses on selected issues of Mediaeval History, edits sources and conducts research in historical geography. The main themes are political and administrative history, Church and Reformation history, cultural history and history of the court society culture, the history of the Jews in the Czech lands, history of towns and spatial history. The team carried out 8 grant projects. It has successfully organized a panel at the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Historical Sciences in Jinan, China, in August 2015. It cooperates with 3 German universities (Düsseldorf University, Munich University, Trier University) and has contacts with partners in Italy, France and Poland. It participates in a research project on the history of the Jews with the *Arye Maimon Institut für Geschichte der Juden* located at the Trier University, with conferences every second year in Czech Republic and Germany. 13 scientific conferences were organized in the 2010-2014 period.

#### **2. Strengths and Opportunities**

- The Team is involved in the edition and in the editorial boards of several mediaevalist reviews and journals;
- A recognized scientific quality of its workers
- Quality of the researchers' publications (8 evaluated outputs in the first quality group)
- Ability to organize international scientific events (Jinan, Trier)
- Outstanding outputs in interdisciplinary conceived historical geography
- involvement in teaching and in the supervision of BA, MA and PhD students at Czech universities
- 8 grant projects supported or carried out during the 2010-2014 period.

#### **3. Weaknesses and Threats**

- The small number of researchers for each addressed issue (excepting historical geography)
- As a consequence: the same applies for the number of supervisors of Doctoral theses (3 out of 10 researchers).
- The present lack of researcher for the High Middle-age (9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries).

#### **4. Recommendations**

- To make more clear which part of the research is carried out at the Historical Institute and which part is common to it and to the Centre for Mediaeval Studies of the CAS
- To try to employ more PhD students in the Team and improve the participation in the formation of PhD students.

-To reinforce the period of the High Middle-Age according to the real possibilities of hiring employees.

## 5. Detailed evaluations

### *Declaration on the quality of the results and share in their acquisition*

-Total number of outputs during the four-year period: 205, evaluated outputs during the Phase 1: 18, including 8 in Quality Group 1, 7 in quality Group 2, 3 in quality group 3, none in quality groups 4 and 5. Outputs for bibliometry: 1 (98 chapters in professional books, 27 professional books, 58 articles in journals without impact factor, 12 contributions to proceedings).

-Number of grant projects carried out by the team members: 7 (or 8, it sometimes varies, probably according to the duration of the project).

### *Declaration on the involvement of students in research*

In 2014, no PhD student was employed in the Team, but nearly all its members have been actively involved in teaching and the supervision of Bachelor and Master students; 3 (or 4? There is a contradiction here in the evaluation materials) of them in the supervision of PhD students:

-Number of defended BA theses: 32; of Master theses: 23; of PhD theses: 3.

-8 of the total of 10 members are teaching at various universities in the Czech Republic, most of them deliver optional lectures and seminars.

### *Declaration on societal relevance*

Pedagogical activities: nearly all its members have been actively involved in teaching and the supervision of Bachelor and Master students; 3 (or 4? There is a contradiction here in the evaluation materials) of them in the supervision of PhD students:

Impressive involvement in popularizing activities (in press, radio, TV, films, textbooks and pamphlets, lectures, exhibitions including important ones, academic cafes...).

Services for research: maps, databases, catalogues.

### *Declaration on the position in the international and national context*

- Active engagement in international collaboration (organization of one panel in the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Congress of Historical Sciences, organisation of joint conferences with the University of Düsseldorf and the Arye Maimon Institute in Trier, joint editions of sources on the life of the Jews in Mediaeval Bohemia with the same Institute etc).

-Membership in the International Commission for the History of Towns (for the series of Atlases of Towns of the Czech Republic);

-Unique position in Urban History and historical geography in the Czech Republic, publication of the series of Historical Atlases of Towns and of the Academic Atlas of Czech History (9 awards).

-Editions and publications of sources of national and international importance (*Regesta diplomatica Bohemiae and Moraviae*, etc.), modern critical editions of the Czech thinkers of Church Reform.

-The Team should better clarify its ties with the Centre of Mediaeval Studies

*Declaration on the vitality and sustainability*

- Age Structure of the Team: 1 between 30-35, 1 between 35-40, 4 between 40-50, and then 1 researcher in each age group until 70.
- All of the researchers with PhD or equivalent;
- 7 grants carried out in the past four-year period; 5 funded by GAČR (4 of standard type, one project of Excellence); 2 projects supported by the NAKI programme.
- The Team should better clarify its ties with the Centre of Medieval Studies
- Scientific importance of some of the organized conferences,
- Unique position in Urban History and historical geography in the Czech Republic

*Declaration on the strategy and plans for the future*

- The Department intends to strengthen the synergy with the other Departments of the Institute of History.
- It will continue its editorial activities and publications of important sources of the Czech and Central European History, as well as the Atlases of Towns of the Czech Republic.
- Development of Digital Humanities;
- Involvement in issues of significance for the construction of national memory (commemoration of Charles IV 's birth, Hussite Revolution outbreak).

## **Evaluation of the Team No. 2: Early Modern History**

### **1. Introduction**

Since the 1990's, the team specialises in the history of the Czech lands within the Habsburg Monarchy and in Central Europe. It is dealing with topics which were mostly neglected until 1989, viewed from broader contexts and through multilateral approaches from cultural, political, social and economic history. During the evaluated four-year period, the main topics of the Team for Early modern history were: ecclesiastical and religious history, the history of the Czech nobility, intellectual and educational history, bilateral and multilateral relations of the Czech state with other European countries, as well as preparation of early-modern sources editions (for instance the far-reaching project of editing the recently rediscovered archive of the last Bishop of the Czech Brethren, responsible for Prague and Mladá Boleslav until the White Mountain). In some specialised issues, as those concerning religious theatre or religious brotherhoods, its members are implementing interdisciplinary research and cooperate with other institutes of the CAS, especially the Institute for the Czech Literature, the Department of Classical Studies or the Institute of Ethnology.

The team was headed by Doc. (now Prof.) Mikulec until 2013, then by Doc. Martin Holý. It has 13 researchers -including one PhD student as 50% part-time employee in 2014-, but significantly less in average aggregate FTE numbers: Between 7,3 as minimum and 8,30 as maximum.

Although of lesser size, the team has produced 301 outputs during the four-year period, which is outstanding. There is some paradox in quality evaluation by phase I. Mostly all reviewed publications are ranking in category world leading or internationally excellent (15 of 16), but there is only one relevant citation in the figures, but 1 output ranked in the field structure Education & Educational Research.

The Department carried out 5 grant projects funded by the GAČR and the former GA AVČR.

The international cooperation concerned partners from nine countries. This team needs wider international cooperation and publications in foreign languages.

## **2. Strengths and Opportunities**

- A strong publication production, with some titles awarded in the last period;
- The institute benefits from the presence or collaboration of one world recognised and very productive Czech historian (Jaroslav Pánek), and some of its other members are among leading or promising historians in their field in the Czech Republic, introducing new paradigms in touch with some foreign leading trends (Symbolic History of culture and politics, communication history, religious history).
- Regular organisation or co-organisation of international conferences;
- Membership in some important International committees and scientific associations (for instance: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft, with co-organisation of conferences).
- Involvement of PhD students in the team projects.
- Ability for the publishing of new critical editions of sources or far-reaching rediscovered sources, as well as long-neglected ones with importance for World and European history (concerning the religious orders, correspondences of Nuncios, recently discovered part of the archive of the Czech Brethren, etc.).
- Production of unique databases (for instance: bio-bibliographical database of the religious orders, which offers an indispensable working tool for the broad community of historians in Europe, not only for those of the Czech lands).
- Religious history addressed outside confessional frames and traditions.
- The team publishes a journal ranked in ERIH database (cat. INT2);
- Opportunity: Organisation of conferences on Education and Intellectual History with the Department of Comenius Studies and Intellectual History of the Institute of Philosophy of the CAS.

## **3. Weaknesses and Threats**

- The size of the Department, the fact that many of its members are not employed full-time;
- The age structure now concentrates on the 40-45 years-old group, with only one member in the 25-30 years-old group, 1 in the 30-35 and 1 in the 35-40. (then 1 in the 45-50 group, one in the 50-55 group, 2 in the 65-70 group).
- The fact that its researchers address many different issues but are not sufficiently numerous enough in each topic sub-group for carrying out all of them. This is especially true for the research concerning the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the Enlightenment.

-A relatively less successful team in obtaining grant funding in 2010-2015 (5 grants carried out by 3 researchers).

#### **4. Recommendations**

-To continue the research on religious history produced by the “core group” of the Department for now many years.

-The Team is small and should be reinforced if the Institute decides to carry on in parallel critical work of editions of sources and production of new insights and interpretations concerning Czech society in the Early modern history

-The themes concerning European and World Enlightenment as well as the 18<sup>th</sup> century in general should be reinforced

--The researched issues are important, even of fundamental relevance for Czech history and Czech society, but given the small number of specialists dealing with each of them (some themes are researched only by a few or one researchers), it may lead to some excessive segmentation. In order to avoid this threat, it might perhaps be helpful to prioritise cross-cutting and transversal objects of research within the department.

-To continue to employ PhD students in the projects of the team and to increase the supervision or co-supervision of PhD theses.

#### **5. Detailed evaluations**

##### *Declaration on the quality of the results and share in their acquisition*

The team has produced 301 outputs during the four-year period (mainly articles in journals without impact factor and chapters in professional books, but also 32 professional books and 19 contributions to proceedings).

-Of this number: 16 evaluated publications, 7 ranked in the world leading category and 8 in the internationally excellent. 1 article in journal with impact factor; 1 output ranked in the field structure Education & Educational Research;

5 grant funded projects carried out between 2010-2014 –two going on until 2015 and 2016;

14 conferences organised and co-organised, out of them at least 6 in international cooperation.

##### *Declaration on the involvement of students in research*

-All members are teaching at 7 different Czech universities.

-Almost all of them worked as supervisors of BA, Master and PhD theses, mostly at BA level. 28 BA theses defended, 7 MA theses, 1 doctoral thesis.

##### *Declaration on societal relevance*

-One member involved in the “Research Design” of Charles University

-Teaching and mentoring of BA, MA and PhD students

-Teaching at the University of Third Age, lectures to gymnasium Teachers and students;

-Direct employment of one PhD in the team programmes;

- Popularization in media, lectures, Academic Cafés;
- Editing of key reviews in Early Modern History in the Czech Republic;
- Publication of several outstanding synthesis and monographs on Czech history;
- The team is very active in the sphere of popularization of the history of Early modern times by publishing books and preparing larger exhibitions on selected issues. Its activities contribute to the re-thinking of the Early modern time in the Czech society.
- Production of databases, atlases and collections of sources, both on paper and in digitalised form.

*Declaration on the position in the international and national context*

- The team is part of a broader trend involving other teams at Czech universities (especially České Budějovice, Pardubice, Brno) as well as in Germany, Austria, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia.
- A cooperation with the project *Culture of Knowledge* of the University of Oxford is mentioned, but not detailed. It might be an opportunity for cooperation with the Department of Comenius Studies and Intellectual History.
- Membership of many Department members in national and international scientific committees and associations;
- Co-organisation of conferences with numerous foreign partners (9)

*Declaration on the vitality and sustainability*

- The age structure now concentrated on the 40-45 years-old group, with only one member in the 25-30 years-old group, 1 in the 30-35 and 1 in the 35-40. (then 1 in the 45-50 group, one in the 50-55 group, 2 in the 65-70 group).
- Recruitment as in the Historical Institute, evaluation of the workers through attestations.
- One of the 5 funded grants is still running in 2015-2016.

*Declaration on the strategy and plans for the future*

- Involvement into Strategy AV 21
- One grant is still running (Research on the monastic orders); other applications are pending.
- A larger project on Education, intellectual networks and communication will involve further cooperation with several Czech universities, as well as with projects at the Oxford University and the University of Stuttgart.

## **Evaluation of the Team No. 3: 19th Century History**

### **1. Introduction**

-The Department for the 19<sup>th</sup> century History is one of the most innovative teams dealing with this period in the Czech and Central European historiography. Political history is still important, but a strong stress is put on transversal approaches, as the trend of the New Economic History or the so-called “agency” of the State, with the functioning of the administration and the formation of a civil society. Thus research is relocated in broader socio-economic and cultural contexts from an interdisciplinary perspective. The team scrutinizes the history of various social groups, the problematic of gender problematic, the processes of constructing pluralist identities,

etc., and has found its own way for understanding historical processes in touch with the present general trends in history: here lies its specific strength.

-Headed by Milan Hlavačka, it includes 11 researchers, the average aggregate having oscillated between 10, 60 in 2010 as well as in 2014, 9, 90 in 2011 and 2013, and 9, 20 in 2010. A PhD student has been employed as part-time (0, 70) worker in 2012.

-The team publishes two journals together with the Department for 20<sup>th</sup> century History: *Moderní dějiny* and *Slovanský přehled* (first published 1898) both registered in the ERIH database (*Slovanský přehled* as INT2).

## **2. Strengths and Opportunities**

- Intensive and fruitful international and interdisciplinary collaboration;
- Innovativeness in the researched themes and methodology, interdisciplinarity.

## **3. Weaknesses and Threats**

-The legal and structural difficulties in employing PhD students at the Humanities and Social Sciences Institutes of the CAS.

## **4. Recommendations**

-To try capitalizing on the intensive international cooperation for future participating in the European research programmes

- As in the general case in the Institute of History, the Team should perhaps think about publishing part of its results outside the internal publishing house of the Institute of History, in order to reach more readers and to get even more echoes in the society and abroad.

## **5. Detailed evaluations**

*Declaration on the quality of the results and share in their acquisition?*

-One of the most innovative teams in elaborating of the researched themes, not only within the Institute of History, but generally in the Czech and Central European historiography, the Department for the 19<sup>th</sup> century History is extending its research beyond the framework of national historiography and history and includes the broader area of Central, East and South-East Europe, and Russia.

-Evaluation by the phase I ranked 1 publication as world leading and 13 as internationally excellent, out of 20 evaluated outputs (for a total production of 232 publications). 3 were in group 3 (quality recognised internationally) and only 1 in group 4 (Quality recognised nationally). Outputs for bibliometry: 3.

-Out of the total of 232 outputs, 2 articles have been published in journals with impact factor and 67 in other journals; there were 28 professional books published and 113 chapters in professional books, as well as 22 contributions to proceedings.

-International cooperation as a salient feature of the team, taking various forms of collaboration: organisation of conferences attended by many international scholars or internationally co-organised on the one side, on the other side by visiting the important

international conferences by the team members. The amount of 17 conferences attended, organised and co-organised specified in the team report is only a selection.

-Outstanding number of grants obtained during the four-year period 2010-2015: 16 (not including a participation to the Centre of Excellence Grant Atlases of the Czech towns).

#### *Declaration on the involvement of students in research*

-The team had with the exception of the year 2012 no own PhD students as employees. However, there is a project of post-graduate study visits concerning 19<sup>th</sup> century history at the Brno Branch of the Institute of History.

-Post-graduate students are involved in solving the projects funded by the GAČR.

-Strong pedagogical activities of the team members (as detailed below in the *Declaration on societal relevance*), all being involved in teaching at the universities.

#### *Declaration on societal relevance*

-Societal relevance of the team resides first of all in the mediation of knowledge on the history of the Czech and Central European society to a broader public. From this point of view such works as *České země v 19. století. Proměny společnosti v moderní době* are very valuable.

-Popularization of the historical knowledge is one of the strongest features of the team. Publications of the team significantly participate on the forming of the historical consciousness of the Czech society and disseminate the knowledge about the Czech and Central European societies.

-As already underlined above, the team is actively involved in teaching at several Czech universities, more precisely at 3 faculties of the Charles University, 2 faculties of the Masaryk University in Brno, then at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Pardubice. 5 team members worked as supervisors or BA, MA and PhD theses.

-Post-graduates involved in grant solving as well as in special courses in Brno branch.

#### *Declaration on the position in the international and national context*

In its fields of competence, the team has a leading position in the Czech Republic and is well recognised in the international context too.

-Membership of the Steering committee of a project of the European Research Foundation.

-Participation in 1 EU Regional Programme (Czech Republic and Austria);

-Participation in a Central and Eastern European Research Network financed by the European Commission (project REVACERN coordinated by Szeged university).

-Participation of the director of the Team at the XXII<sup>th</sup> World Economic History Congress "Diversity in Development" in Kyoto, August 2015.

-Involvement in university "Research Design" at the FFUK.

#### *Declaration on the vitality and sustainability*

-The majority of the team belongs to the middle generation with some younger scholars which is very promising for the future. Detailed age structure: 1 in the 25-30 age category, 2 in the 35-40, 4 in the 40-45, 1 in 45-50, 1 in 50-55, then 4 in the 55-60 category. None over 60 years old.

-Attractiveness of the addressed themes for postgraduate young researchers.

*Declaration on the strategy and plans for the future*

-The proposed themes for the next years: Modernization of the state, collective identity and homogenization of the society, social relations and social issues: emergence of modern social conflicts, religion as a space for anchorage and memory and the Slavic world in context with the Czech history, are promising and in touch with the trends of the modern world historiography.

-This is equally true for a larger integrative project about the “Symbols of modern times; Genesis, formations, transformations”, whose characteristic are reflexivity and innovation, and which combines objects from the material world with spiritual and immaterial ones, social processes such as education, mechanization, formation of the landscape etc.

-Involvement into the Strategy AV21 (*Central Europe between barbarism and civilization. The State as a form of organisation of the society*).

## **Evaluation of the Team No. 4: 20th Century History**

### **1. Introduction**

-This team focuses on the History of the Czech lands and of Czechoslovakia until 1968 within a comparative perspective with other European countries. It publishes two journals together with the Department for 19<sup>th</sup> century History: *Moderní dějiny* and *Slovanský přehled* (first published in 1898) both registered in the ERIH database (*Slovanský přehled* ranked as INT2). It underwent a partial generational change during the past years and has nowadays 10 researchers and 2 part-time other workers (2 PhD students).

-The team deals mainly with 7 topics or tasks: 1) the history of massacres and resettlement of populations; 2) Czechoslovak and Czech society between democracy and totality; 3) The role of modern political parties in the Czech Lands and Czechoslovakia ; 4) Ecclesiastical and religious history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; 5) Ethnic minorities : Germans, Hungarians, Poles, Ruthenians; 6) Selected issues concerning the Nazi occupation and the domestic and foreign resistance; 7) The development of the social state in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; 7) Edition of sources and diplomatic documents, a long term work with 50 projected volumes chronologically dispatched into 2 series concerning the Interwar and the Second World War. 16 volumes are already published. Some of the covered topics are overlapping with those researched in the Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS.

-All Department members teach at Czech or Slovak universities and a majority supervises BA, MA and PhD theses

-Overall amount of publications in the four-year period: 238, evaluated outputs in Phase1: 19 (6 in quality group 1, 2 in quality group 2, 10 in quality group 3, 1 in quality group 4), output for bibliometry: 0

### **2. Strengths and Opportunities**

- A leading position in Czech and Czechoslovak history of international relations in the 20<sup>th</sup> century

-Success in grant applications (exact number of grants non specified for the four-year period);

- A recent improvement of the employee age structure
- Acknowledgement of the quality of published works (6 national awards between 2010 and 2014).
- Active involvement in the organisation or co-organisation of conferences, 46 papers delivered in Europe (especially in Germany), some of them overseas.
- An institutionalised cooperation with the Faculty of law of Charles University, in form of 1 joint workplace (Centre of Legal-Historical Studies)

### **3. Weaknesses and Threats**

- A small number of articles published in leading international historical journals

### **4. Recommendations**

- To strengthen the research in the field of social history; To get closer to the more actual currents in this field;
- To improve and reinforce the forms of international collaboration
- To employ more PhD students;
- To clarify the borders of the researched themes with the Institute for Contemporary History of the CAS;

### **5. Detailed evaluations**

#### *Declaration on the quality of the results and share in their acquisition*

The team is dealing with Czech and international history in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Most of the outputs are devoted to the political questions, political history and history of the international relations, as the fields in which the team has the strongest position in the national historiography. From a scientific point of view, the most important publications are large synthesizing works and the editions of diplomatic documents.

- Total number of outputs during the four-year period: 238, evaluated outputs during the Phase 1: 19, including 6 in Quality Group 1, 2 in quality Group 2, 10 in quality group 3, 1 in quality group 4, none in quality group 5. Outputs for bibliometry: 0.

#### *Declaration on the involvement of students in research*

- One PhD student as a part-time employee in 2014
- Supervision of 8 PhD theses (8 defended in 2010-2014)
- Supervision of 29 BA theses and 32 MA theses
- Teaching at several universities
- *Declaration on societal relevance*

- Involvement in large projects like Encyclopaedia of the Czech History, the Academic Atlas of Czech History or the Biographic Dictionary of the Czech Lands.

- Publication of several important syntheses and summary works on Czechoslovak history;
- Numerous contributions of the team members in the media
- Teaching at the universities and supervision of students' theses
- A joint workplace with the Faculty of Law of Charles University
- Co-production of atlases and databases of the Institute of History of the CAS
- Edition of diplomatic documents and primary sources concerning international relations.

*Declaration on the position in the international and national context*

- Membership of the team members in scientific commissions, councils, editorial boards mainly in the Czech Republic.
- Participation of some members in international scientific boards or committees
- Organisation of a specialised panel (Theme 10: *Frontiers, Massacres and Resettlement of Populations*) at the 22nd International Congress of Historical Sciences in Jinan, China in August 2015, with issuance of a series of publications (1 book and 1 atlas published in English).

*Declaration on the vitality and sustainability*

- A leading position in publishing syntheses on the history of Czechoslovakia as well as in editing diplomatic documents
- Attractiveness of the recent turn towards some extremely sensible themes in international context (Massacres, population displacements and resettlements)

*Declaration on the strategy and plans for the future*

- The team will continue to explore its main themes of research.
- An expansion of the chronological frontiers of the research until 1992 is announced
- Involvement with foreign partners in an international project within the framework of Horizon 2020 programme (Cultural opposition in the former socialist countries) (if the delivered application is granted)
- Continuation of the series of specialised publications on frontiers, massacres and resettlement of populations
- A new grant funded by the GAČR will be carried out (*Transnational policy and the ČSSR in the field of prosecution of Nazi war crimes in Central Europe between 1969 and 1990*).
- Edition of further diplomatic documents.
- The Department wants to increase the forms of its international cooperation with Slovak Historians by implementing a system of inter-academics projects on the model of the existing Czech-Hungarian cooperation.

## **Evaluation of the Team No. 5: Biographical Studies**

### **1. Introduction**

With 4 researchers and 3 other workers, this Department is the smallest of all in the Institute of History, but also the one which has continuously employed PhD students. The average aggregate FTE of the team members is even smaller: 3,30 researchers in 2010-2012, 2,30 in 2013, 4, 30 in 2014, 1 "other workers", 1 PhD student in 2010-2013 and only 0,50 in 2014). 1 of them is less than 25 years old, 2 of them in the 35-40 category, 3 in the 55-60 one, 1 in the 60-65 one. They are working in cooperation with the other Departments and a large group of external specialists and thus represents an integrative strength for the whole Institute of History. They have also

developed an internal collaboration based on reciprocal agreements with other European research centres with similar aims.

Since 1990, their task is to publish biographical and bibliographical databases and historical work tools, as detailed below.

## **2. Strengths and Opportunities**

- A unique position in the historiographical context of the Czech Republic;
- Importance of the societal relevance of the works
- Quantity and quality of the provided bibliographies and biographical works.

## **3. Weaknesses and Threats**

- The small number of workers and the age structure of the team members.

## **4. Recommendations**

- To continue with publishing important work tools of national and international relevance.
- To possibly strengthen the personal basis of the team.

## **5. Detailed evaluations**

*Declaration on the quality of the results and share in their acquisition.*

-The Department is providing valuable work tools for all historians in the Czech Republic and abroad. All of them are long-term activities:

-A bibliographical dictionary (*Biografický Slovník Českých Zemí, BSČZ*), with 5 volumes being published during the period 2010-2014, each of them including 250 to 280 entries. This work is the result of an international cooperation with Poland, Germany, Austria and Slovakia. This team is conducting a long term work, which is a typical task for an institute belonging to an academy, however with novelties such as digitalization of first printed volumes. It needs continuous financing.

-Biographies and selected biographical studies and monographs on Czech artists, politicians, engineers, as well as methodological works.

-Total number of outputs during the four-year period: 103, evaluated outputs during the Phase 1: 7, including 1 in Quality Group 1, 3 in quality Group 2, 2 in quality group 3, none in other quality groups. Outputs for bibliometry: 0.

*Declaration on the involvement of students in research*

-PhD students are between the team's employees.

*Declaration on societal relevance*

-All the activities of the Department for Biographical Studies are public services by nature.

-All are rooted in the need for the presentation of the Czech cultural heritage.

*Declaration on the position in the international and national context*

- Agreements of cooperation with European and other foreign institutions of bio-bibliographical publishings;
- Active participation of a group of external specialists as collaborators from the Czech Republic as well as from abroad.

*Declaration on the vitality and sustainability*

Involvement of PhD students, importance of the provided publications and service

*Declaration on the strategy and plans for the future*

Adequate strategy:

- Further volumes of the Biographical Dictionary of the Czech lands will be published as well as other biographical monographs.
- In its current composition, the team is able for providing only 1 volume per year.
- A new database of the basic list of entries will be fully activated; with implementation of a software platform universally usable, on the models of the German-language Biographie-Portal and Austrian Prosopographical/bibliographical Information System APIS.
- Participation in the Czech portal Encyclopedie české kultury

**Date:** December 26, 2015

**Signature of the Commission Chair:** Prof. Dr. Marie-Elizabeth Ducreux