

REGISTRATION FORM FOR CZECH SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION

1. Research institution data (name and address):

Faculty of Science
Charles University
Albertov 6
Praha 2, 120 00

2. Type of research institution: Public university (veřejná vysoká škola)

3. Head of the institution: prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D. – Rector

4. Contact information of designated person(s) for applicants:

Prof. RNDr. Jiří Blažek, PhD. – Head of Department of Social Geography and Regional Development
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Albertov 6
Praha 2, 120 00

5. Research discipline in which the strong international position of the institution ensures establishing a Dioscuri Centre:

Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences: *Individuals, institutions, markets* - economics, finance, management, demography, social and economic geography, urban studies

6. Description of important research achievements from the selected discipline from the last 5 years including a list of the most important publications, patents, or other results:

According to QS World University Rankings, Geography has been the only subject at Charles University that regularly scores among top 100 universities worldwide. Likewise, according to the recent international evaluation commissioned by the rector of Charles University, Social and Economic Geography was among few subjects that received the grade A. Economic Geography and Urban Studies are particularly strong subdisciplines at the Department of Social Geography and Regional Development.

List of 5 most important publications in the field of Economic Geography:

Blažek, J. Steen, M. (2022) Global production networks and regional innovation systems: contrasting or complementary policy implications? *European Planning Studies*, 1-20. (not cited yet)

Blažek, J., Květoň, V, Baumgartinger-Seiringer, S., Tripl, M. (2020) The dark side of regional industrial path development: towards a typology of trajectories of decline, *European Planning Studies* 28 (8), 1455-1473 (17 citations on WoS)

Květoň, V. , Horák, P. (2018) The effect of public R&D subsidies on firms' competitiveness: Regional and sectoral specifics in emerging innovation systems, *Applied Geography*, 94: 119-129. (28 citations on WoS).

Pavlínek, P. (2020) Restructuring and internationalization of the European automotive industry, *Journal of Economic Geography*, 20(2) 509-541. (19 citations on WoS)

Pavlínek, Petr (2018) Global production networks, foreign direct investment, and supplier linkages in the integrated peripheries of the automotive industry, *Economic Geography*, 2018, Vol. 94, No. 2. (32 citations on WoS).

7. List of no more than 3 important research projects in the selected discipline awarded in national and international calls to the institution in the last 5 years:

Comprehension of engagement of companies into global production networks: regional and sectorial analysis of companies operating in Czechia

PI Jiří Blažek

Czech Science Foundation

2,3 mil. CZK

Changes in the spatial division of labour in the European automotive industry

PI Petr Pavlínek

Czech Science Foundation

2,2 mil. CZK

The role of extra-regional knowledge and capital flows on regional industrial path development in different types of regions

PI Viktor Květoň

Czech Science Foundation

3,75 mil. CZK.

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8. Description of the available laboratory and office space for a Dioscuri Centre:

Charles University is in the process of expanding the Campus Albertov and currently, planning permission has been granted to both envisaged state-of-the-art buildings, i.e. to “Biocentrum” (financed by the National Recovery Fund; to be completed by 2026), and to “Globcentrum”, which should be built after the completion of “Biocentrum”. Expansion of the Albertov Campus of Charles University is aimed primarily at boosting research excellence and, especially, at hosting newly established international research activities. The new Dioscuri centre of scientific excellence would fit perfectly into this mission and is fully in line with the research strategy prepared for “Globcentrum”, where it should be hosted in the future. As a temporary solution, the Faculty has rented an additional office space at the Legerská street (Praha 2- about 15 min. walk from the Faculty of Science/Albertov), which is also used by some members of the Department. Thus, one office for up to 4-5 people at the Legerská building will be available for immediate use by the new Dioscuri Centre.

9. List of the available research equipment for a Dioscuri Centre:

The Institute of Geography at the Faculty of Science is located on the second and third floors of the Albertov 6 building, which is the main building of the Faculty of Science. All lecture and seminar rooms have been renovated. Most recently, the largest lecture hall of the Faculty of Science (with 250 seats) has been renovated in Autumn 2021. The Institute of Geography consists of four geography departments, including the largest Department of Social Geography and Regional Development. Since 2020, a new GIS Laboratory developed on the basis of a previous Spatial Data Infrastructure server was created.

Services and technology equipment of the GIS Lab are now available for all geography department users. It provides a data centre and adequate hardware and software equipment, from which the new Dioscuri Centre will benefit.

The Geography section has a unique Map Collection established in 1891 (originally called State Map Collection). The Collection is unique both in terms of number of maps, atlases and globes and in its content (one of the maps has been included on UNESCO World Heritage List). There are currently more than 60 thousand documents in the electronic catalog. Importantly, due to substantial effort and support via the TEMAP project (2011- 2015) maps and atlases are now available from the Digital University Repository. The uniqueness of the Map Collection lies in the long tradition of history of cartography at Charles University in conjunction with the founding of the collection.

10. List of the additional benefits (other than listed in the conditions for hosting a DC, see invitation) that the Institution declares to provide for a Dioscuri Centre (i.e.: additional funds, personal benefits, dual career options, relocation support or other):

The new Centre will be provided with additional and complementary administrative and professional guidance and support by professionals at Charles University. This will include training in professional skills development provided by the Charles University Centre for Life-long Learning in general and applying for research funding in Czechia as well as integrating into the University system and establishing cross-departmental links and synergies. The available funding will be allocated for additional assistance for new research initiatives such as pilot projects and administrative support especially in the initial phase of establishing the new institute. The head of the team, Prof. Blažek, as well as Prof. Petr Pavlínek, both having a significant international experience and the latter is also affiliated with the University of Nebraska, USA, will be committed to support and advise the Institute team in its management aspects. Importance will be placed on its recognition at the national and global scales particularly in the first 2 years. For example, they will ensure that the members of the Institute will be invited to participate in the University flagship initiatives and establish contacts with head of departments etc across the university. This will accelerate their integration in and engagement within Charles University in general and its academic activities in particular.

The Faculty of Science among others at Charles University are located at the Albertov campus, which is in proximity (a few minute walk) to a nice location under the centuriesold vineyard where a modern project called "Albertov Appartements" offering the state-of-the art appartements for a long-term rent has been built. These will be available for international visiting staff to the Dioscuri Institute and conference participants. The City Centre can be reached from this location by a tram in about 15 minutes.

11. Other information about the internationalization of the research institution, international researchers employed at the institution, the availability of English language seminars etc.:

The Department of Social Geography and Regional Development has strongly developed international links.

The most important international activities include:

Since 1994, the so-called American Term, which is based on the cooperation between Charles University and Dartmouth College (New Hampshire, USA, member of Ivy League), brings Dartmouth College geography students to study in the Department every spring semester. Faculty members from the Department lecture to Dartmouth students and organize geography field trips in Czechia. The cooperation also involves joint research and study visits of the best Czech PhD students to Dartmouth College.

Charles University is a member of The 4EU+ Alliance. The Alliance is a strategic partnership of six leading European universities: Heidelberg Universität, Sorbonne Université, University of Warsaw, University of Milan, University of Copenhagen and Charles University that has been selected as pilot „European University“ in June 2019 by EC. Members of the Department of Social Geography and Regional Development participated in the preparation of two joint programmes that are already running: Urban Health Case Challenge and Resilient Cities: Challenges, Risks and Response.

Faculty members at the Department are engaged in various formal and informal networks such as IMISCOE (the largest European network of scholars in the area of migration and integration) or Regional Innovation Policies (RIP) network. For example, in summer 2021, Jiří Blažek was the main organiser of the annual RIP conference, which was held – due to Covid -19 - on line. Likewise, In August 2022, the Department will organize Summer School on Migration and Development within the IMISCOE network.

Members of the Department are also engaged in various international research collaboration activities as can be indicated by a growing number of papers published jointly with international scholars.

Faculty members at the Department are members of Editorial boards of several journals including for example European Urban and Regional Studies.

Finally, members of the Department, jointly with professors from University College London, have developed and been running a master study programme in social epidemiology, which is unique within Czechia. Prof. D. Džúrová who leads the research team “Health, quality of life and life-style” at the Department of Social Geography and Regional Development serves as the graduate programme chair of this study programme.