

**SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR EVALUATION OF
RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SEGMENT OF HIGHER
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN YEAR 2025**

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION NAME: University of Ostrava

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER (CRN): 61988987

THE LIST OF EVALUATION UNITS IN MODULE 3: Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling; Faculty of Science; Faculty of Medicine; Faculty of Social Studies; Faculty of Arts; Faculty of Education; Faculty of Fine Arts and Music

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION

a) Faculties

- Faculty of Social Studies (FSS UO)
- Faculty of Fine Arts and Music (FFAM UO)
- Faculty of Arts (FA UO)
- Faculty of Medicine (FM UO)
- Faculty of Education (FE UO)
- Faculty of Science (FS UO)

b) University Institutes

- Centre of Excellence IT4Innovations, Division of UO, Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling (IRAFM UO)

c) Other units

- University Library
- Centre for Information Technologies

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION WEBSITE (HTML LINK): <https://www.osu.eu/>

THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION CONTACT PERSON

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Signature (Rector), stamp

Introductory information about the evaluated higher education institution

The HEI briefly introduces itself. The organizational chart, the position of the HEI within the research, development and innovation system and the system of HEIs in the Czech Republic may be commented on, the mission and vision, the size of the HEI, the number and focus of the units evaluated will be briefly presented.

Maximum 500 words.

Description:

University of Ostrava and its size

The University of Ostrava (UO) consists of 6 faculties and a single institute. Based on the number of students, it belongs to the lower middle-sized universities in the Czech ecosystem (approximately five times smaller than Charles University in Prague), with 9,922 students as of October 2023 and 10,211 students as of October 2024, both figures including Erasmus students. This positions UO at 3.2% in terms of size among Czech public universities, while its budgetary size for educational activities (the so-called indicator A) is only 2.8%. This discrepancy was caused by fixing the percentage for budget part A in 2016; however, while many universities decreased their size due to demographic trends, UO maintained its attractiveness and managed to increase its size, which was not reflected in the budget percentage. Other parts of the budget are determined based on various quality aspects. The percentage of indicator K (which measures graduates, their employment ratio, graduation rate, mobilities, research, external incomes, studies in foreign languages, and the ratio of foreign academics and researchers) that UO receives increased from 2.2% in 2017 to 2.6% in 2024, confirming even quality growth. The third major part of the budget is institutional support for RDI (LCDRO); however, it adjusted budgetary changes based on results only once before becoming fixed again. Consequently, the very good score of UO (B) from 2020 had no impact on increasing its share of this budget part, which remains at 1.6%. Thus, depending on different perspectives, UO size varies from 1.6% to 3.2% within the system. However, it faces pressure in funding its “basal metabolism”, as it has the third-lowest amount of money per student in the Czech Republic.

UO and its Mission

The mission of the UO stems from its revolutionary importance for the development of a structurally affected region (a post-coal region with heavy industry and the missing component of education in humanities, social sciences, and science) to deliver education to the region and increase its innovative potential in order to overcome the structural problems. This explains the tremendous demand for opening new studies, the attractiveness of UO among other HEIs, and also its close cooperation with municipalities and regional stakeholders. The same can be said about the opening of the first Faculty of Medicine (2010) in the Czech Republic since 1953. Again, in response to regional needs, the opening of the new study program in Stomatology occurred without a single budgetary contribution from the state, thanks to the close relationships and tremendous support from the Statutory City of Ostrava and the Moravian-Silesian Region. UO became an indispensable cornerstone in the educational and research infrastructure in the 4th largest region in the country in terms of population (1.2 million). Its 7 units provide a knowledge basis for Science – FORD1 (Faculty of Science, IRAFM), Medical and Health Sciences – FORD3 (Faculty of Medicine), Social Sciences – FORD5 (Faculty of Education, Faculty of Social Studies, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science), and Humanities and the Arts – FORD6 (Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts and Music)

UO and its evaluation

The 2020 evaluation brought a very good score (B) and lots of recommendations. The final Protocol from the Ministry stated: the committee finds the evaluation by IEP too critical compared to the case of other universities, yet factually relevant.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths: • Established institutional research-management mechanisms • Interdisciplinary research growth • Applied research growth • Transparent and advanced HR management • Strong anchoring in the region • Established strategic partnerships with regional stakeholders • Key research directions established • Growing project successes in the majority of units	Weaknesses: • Low EU project involvement • Lower use of cotutelle and joint degrees for PhD programmes • Slowly growing central infrastructures • A field structure that does not allow a structural jump in transfer activities • Lower chances to establish a strategic partnership with commercial partners compared to FORD2 • Budgetary insufficiencies in the institutional funds • Huge dependence (addiction) on project/grant sources
Opportunities: • Establishing wider research support • Strategic membership in the NEOLAiA alliance • The Faculty of Medicine as a potential center for applied research and technology transfer • Strong push on the formative nature of all system tools • Positive development as a good practice experience from the past	Threats: • Too high dependence on key research leaders with the potential to gain projects • Too high dependence on local projects (low capacity of leaders to apply for EU funds) • Budgetary pressure on suppressing the growth of the internal system support • Low budgetary flexibility in light of insufficiencies of some units

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling

FORD: 1. Natural Sciences

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.¹ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

Centre of Excellence IT4Innovations, division of UO, Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling (abbreviation: [IRAFM](#)) is a research institute belonging to the University of Ostrava (UO). Founded in 1996, it evolved into an internationally renowned institute performing theoretical as well as application-oriented research in mathematics and computer science.

IRAFM's long-term mission is to **excel in theoretical research** with significant **international impact** and **application potential**, to **nurture young scientists** through mentorship and academic activities at UO ([Educational Activities](#)), fostering experts who drive **innovation** in the **Moravian-Silesian Region (MS Region), the Czech Republic, and beyond**, to **promote international collaboration** through co-authored publications and scholar exchanges ([Foreign Visitors](#)), to **strengthen its global recognition** through awards, invited lectures, international competitions, and editorial board memberships (see Part 3.2 and [Awards, Plenary and Invited Talks, Memberships in Editorial Boards](#)) — contributing to the international prestige of **UO, Ostrava, and the MS Region** — to **advance applied research and development** with a lasting impact on both industry and society, at the regional and global levels (Parts 3.3–3.5), and to **disseminate the research and application results through various outreach initiatives**, particularly by delivering lectures at public events and engaging in popularization activities (see Part 3.6 and [Public Lectures](#)).

IRAFM underwent a strategic transformation from a primarily theoretical focus to a broader scope, incorporating application-oriented research, particularly in computer science. This shift began during the 2014–2018 period, but intensified between 2019 and 2023, driven by the acquisition of several major projects in collaboration with regional companies (Varroc Lighting Systems and MEPAC CZ). The IRAFM's traditional research areas, such as **fuzzy logic, fuzzy modeling** or **soft computing**, have been

¹ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

expanded to include research and development in fields like **dynamical systems, data analysis, data fusion, image and video processing, machine learning, and neural networks**. Given current IRAFM's research focus, **its R&D&I capacity inherently aligns with FORD 1, supported by a diverse team composition – 60% specializing in Mathematics**, primarily in basic research, and **40% in Computer Science**, balancing both basic and applied research. In addition to standard outputs such as papers in prestigious journals and presentations at international conferences, we have diversified our portfolio to include open-source and licensed software, patents, and feasibility studies tailored for stakeholders (e.g., [Development of Open-Source Software](#)). **The transformation significantly reinforced the IRAFM's position in securing national research and applied (interdisciplinary) projects while enhancing its attractiveness to stakeholders, opening the door to commercial contracts. At the same time, it paved the way for participation in international consortia and projects, which is our long-term goal.** The success of the transformation is evidenced by IRAFM's participation in **five predominantly application-oriented (interdisciplinary) projects from Operational Programs (OPs)**, conducted in collaboration with several commercial partners and faculties from UO, and its acquisition of **five projects on basic research from the Czech Science Foundation (GACR)** during the evaluation period (see Part 3.3). Currently, IRAFM is involved in eight OP projects and two GACR projects, including an international collaboration with Germany, most of which were prepared in or before 2023 ([Projects and International Cooperation](#)). Unfortunately, we have yet to secure success in obtaining European projects (Horizon projects), despite participating in several applications. Our efforts remain strong, with two submitted Horizon projects and two planned AI-focused proposals this year. The transformation has also strengthened collaboration with regional companies, leveraging our expertise in data analysis, image and video processing, and AI methods (see Part 3.5 and [Knowledge & Technology transfer](#)).

The IRAFM's basic structure comprises four theoretically oriented **research groups** ([Research Groups](#)) along with three application-driven **laboratories** ([Research Laboratories](#)), which align with the institute's primary research and development focus areas. This division is not rigid, allowing researchers to collaborate freely based on their scientific interests and project needs. During the 2019–2023 period, **the number of academic and R&D&I staff varied between 34.0 FTEs in 2019 and 29.7 FTEs in 2023 with an average of 32.2 FTEs, with women accounting for approximately 30% of the total FTEs**, see Table 3.1.1. The decline in FTE numbers at the end of the 2019–2023 period was primarily caused by the concurrent completion of several major projects in May 2023, which led to the termination of multiple project contracts. However, following the successful acquisition of national projects in the latter half of 2023 and during 2024, the number of FTEs began to recover, marking a positive upward trend (currently, 37.35 FTEs). The number of professors remained stable, **with a slight increase in the number of associate professors** (two new associate professors). The age structure of employees was centered around 40 years. **IRAFM actively supported early-career researchers**, with a strong emphasis on gender diversity. Notably, women represented 25% (3 of 12) of these researchers in 2019 and 50% (3 of 6) in 2023 (see Tables 3.1.2–3.1.3). Additionally, **Ph.D. students supervised at IRAFM had the opportunity to be engaged in research projects**, particularly, in 17 internal grant projects (SGS), with some serving as principal investigators, as well as participating in external projects (such as GACR grants or OP projects). **IRAFM actively collaborates with the Faculty of Science, the Faculty of Social Studies, and the Faculty of Arts in educational activities**, particularly by teaching courses and supervising students at all study levels ([Educational Activities](#)). This engagement fosters a valuable connection to young students and aspiring researchers. To further strengthen its role in education, **IRAFM became an official partner in the accreditation process for the Ph.D. program in Applied Informatics and the bachelor program in Data Science**. Both programs, developed in cooperation with the Faculty of Science, have been successfully approved. The commitment to collaborating on study programs including those outside of UO is our long-term goal. **During the 2019–2023 period, seven Ph.D. students** (including three women) **supervised by IRAFM members** successfully defended their Ph.D. theses ([Defended Ph.D. Theses](#)).

Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE²

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	4.20/1.00	4.20/1.00	4.21/1.01	4.20/1.00	4.20/1.00	4.20/1.00
Associate Professor	5.00/0.00	5.00/0.00	7.00/1.00	7.00/1.00	6.84/1.00	6.17/0.60
Assistant Professor						
Assistant						
R&D Personnel ³						
Researchers in other categories ⁴	20.20/6.00	19.15/4.00	16.14/2.33	17.34/3.50	14.72/4.49	17.51/4.06
Technical and economic staff ⁵	4.58/3.98	5.00/4.40	4.08/3.48	4.10/3.50	3.90/3.50	4.33/3.77
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	22.90/4.00	22.55/4.00	21.83/4.01	21.26/4.00	22.01/4.99	22.11/4.20
Early career researchers ⁶	8.54/2.90	7.37/1.75	6.05/1.17	7.25/2.00	5.78/3.00	7.00/2.16
Total⁷	33.98/10.98	33.35/9.40	31.43/7.82	32.64/9.00	29.69/9.99	32.21/9.43

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)⁸

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					1				4	1		
Associate Professor			2		3							

² The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

³ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

⁴ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

⁵ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

⁶ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

⁷ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

⁸ The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Assistant Professor												
Assistant												
R&D Personnel ⁹												
Researchers in other categories ¹⁰	3		16	4	6	2						
Technical and economic staff ¹¹			2	1	3	3	1	1				
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	1		12	1	10	2			4	1		
Early career researcher ¹²			12	3								
Total¹³	3		20	5	13	5	1	1	4	1		

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹⁴

Academic/ professional position	under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					1						4	1
Associate Professor			1		5	1	2					
Assistant Professor												
Assistant												
R&D Personnel ¹⁵												
Researchers in other categories ¹⁶			10	1	10	4	1					

⁹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁰ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹¹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹² See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹³ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁴ The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

¹⁵ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁶ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

Technical and economic staff ¹⁷					2	2	2	2				
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities			7	1	14	3	3				4	1
Early career researcher ¹⁸			4	1	2	2						
Total¹⁹			11	1	18	7	5	2			4	1

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate												
Master's ²⁰												
Doctoral												
Lifelong Learning Courses												
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ²¹ / Of which professional study programmes											
	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
Undergraduate												
Master's												
Doctoral												
Lifelong Learning courses												
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

¹⁷ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁸ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

²⁰ All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

²¹ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	60	Basic research	100
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	40	Balanced basic and applied research	
	1.3 Physical sciences		Zvolte položku.	
	1.4 Chemical sciences		Zvolte položku.	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences		Zvolte položku.	
	1.6 Biological sciences		Zvolte položku.	
	1.7 Other natural sciences		Zvolte položku.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.4 Chemical engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.5 Materials engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.6 Medical engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.7 Environmental engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies		Zvolte položku.	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine		Zvolte položku.	
	3.2 Clinical medicine		Zvolte položku.	
	3.3 Health sciences		Zvolte položku.	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries		Zvolte položku.	
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science		Zvolte položku.	
	4.3 Veterinary science		Zvolte položku.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences		Zvolte položku.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences		Zvolte položku.	
	5.2 Economics and Business		Zvolte položku.	
	5.3 Education		Zvolte položku.	
	5.4 Sociology		Zvolte položku.	
	5.5 Law		Zvolte položku.	
	5.6 Political science		Zvolte položku.	
	5.7 Social and economic geography		Zvolte položku.	
	5.8 Media and communications		Zvolte položku.	
	5.9 Other social sciences		Zvolte položku.	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology		Zvolte položku.	
	6.2 Languages and Literature		Zvolte položku.	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion		Zvolte položku.	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)		Zvolte položku.	

	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts		Zvolte položku.	
	Total	100 %	-	100 %

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

IRAFM actively supports its members in enhancing the institute's global research reputation through participation in international conferences, research visits to universities, involvement in competitions, organizing conferences and serving on conference committees, journal editorial boards, and expert panels. During the evaluation period, **IRAFM members have received numerous outstanding R&D&I awards and honors, underscoring their exceptional contributions to the fields of fuzzy modeling, dynamical systems, deep learning, neural networks, computer vision, and related research areas.** Particularly, our scientists received over **13 prestigious research awards** (see Table 3.2.1 and [Awards](#)). Among the most notable recognitions are:

- **2nd place (out of 803 entries)** in the Signate international competition, co-organized with the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, focused on the precise determination of coastlines using satellite data in 2020, Japan (achieved by doc. Petr Hurtík and Marek Vajgl, Ph.D.).
- **Victory** in the Kornia Hackathon 2019 at the Computer Vision Center in Barcelona (secured by Jan Hůla, Ph.D.).
- Dr. Jan Hůla was awarded a **Fulbright Foundation scholarship** for a research stay at Harvard University in Cambridge, USA, from August to November 2023.

IRAFM academics have delivered a broad range of invited lectures at conferences and universities worldwide, including over 50 plenary talks (see Table 3.2.3 and [Plenary Talks](#)), e.g., **at conferences:** EUSFLAT 2023, INFUS 2023, FUZZ-IEEE 2023, MMA 2023, STDC 2022, GLRMC Seminar 2021, and **at universities:** University of Bicocca, University of Vienna (School of Advanced Science), Vellore Institute of Technology (India, Chisinau), KTH Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, University of Maribor, Institute of Mathematics Polish Academy of Science, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Sejong University.

The members of the institute serve on the editorial boards of nearly 20 international scientific journals. Among the most notable journals belong **IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems** (Impact Factor 10.7, D1), **Granular Computing** (Impact Factor 8.34, D1) or **Fuzzy Sets and Systems** (Impact Factor 3.2, Q1). They hold key positions such as area editors, associate editors or members of editorial boards (see Table 3.2.2 and [Membership in Editorial Boards](#)). In addition, **members of IRAFM also participated in evaluation or were members of the evaluation boards/panels of national and international projects SASPRO, APPV, INTER EXCELLENCE, VEGA** (see Table 3.2.5).

The institute played a key role in organizing four major international conferences, which are widely regarded as premier events in the fields of computational intelligence, fuzzy logic, fuzzy systems, soft computing, and related areas. These include EUSFLAT 2019 (European Society for Fuzzy Logic and Technology, 2019, Prague, Czech Republic), [IFSA-EUSFLAT 2021](#) (International Fuzzy Systems Association – European Society for Fuzzy Logic and Technology, 2021, Bratislava, Slovakia), and [FSTA 2020](#) as well as [FSTA 2022](#) (Fuzzy Set Theory and Applications, Liptovský Ján, Slovakia). Furthermore, we are actively involved in co-organizing the [ISCAMI](#) (International Student Conference on Applied Mathematics and Informatics) series, as well as the Czech-Japan Seminar on Data Analysis and Decision Making under Uncertainty series.

IRAFM maintains an open-door policy for visitors from universities and scientific institutions abroad, actively fostering international collaboration and enhancing the institute's recognition within the global research community. During the evaluated period, **the institute welcomed nearly 20 foreign visitors, who delivered over 15 presentations** (as detailed in Table 3.2.4 and [Foreign Visitors](#)).

Lastly, key members of our institute play a vital role in advancing scientific research and representing our institution on the global stage.

- **Prof. Vilém Novák** has been, and continues to serve as, **the vice-president of the International Fuzzy Systems Association (IFSA)**. He is recognized as one of the leading scholars in Computer Science, particularly in the field of fuzzy logic ([Novák-Research](#)).
- **Doc. Martin Štěpnička** served as **the president of the European Society for Fuzzy Logic and Technology (EUSFLAT)** from 2019 to 2021 ([Eusflat boards](#)). Under his leadership, collaboration among European institutions specializing in fuzzy logic and technology significantly deepened.
- **Prof. Radko Mesiar** is among the most distinguished scholars in Mathematics, particularly in the field of data fusion ([Mesiar-Research](#)).

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
Mgr. Petr Hyner and Jan Hůla, Ph.D.	Best student paper at the 15 th International Conference on Neural Computation Theory and Applications (NCTA/IJCCI)	SCITEPRESS, Italy, 2023
Vojtěch Molek, Ph.D.	Best doctoral dissertation of Progres 3 Consortium in category of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering	Progres 3 , VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, 2021
Jernej Činč, Ph.D.	The best paper published in this journal in 2020.	The Journal of Difference Equations and Applications
Martina Daňková, Ph.D.	Best Paper Award at the 12 th International Conference on Fuzzy Computation Theory and Applications	FCTA/IJCC 2020
doc. Petr Hurtík and Marek Vajgl, Ph.D.	2nd place (out of 304 competitors) in the worldwide Signate competition (The 3rd AI Edge Contest , 2020)	Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
doc. Petr Hurtík and Marek Vajgl, Ph.D.	2nd place (out of 803 competitors) in the worldwide Signate competition (The 4th Tellus Satellite Challenge: Coastline Detection , 2020)	Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
prof. Irina Perfilieva	The title of Doctor Honoris Causa	University of Latvia. Riga, Latvia, 2019
doc. Petr Hurtík	The Rector's Award for extraordinary scientific and research activities of researchers up to 35 years	University of Ostrava, 2020

prof. Irina Perfilieva and prof. Jiří Močkoř	Best Paper Award at the conference	IFSA-NAFIPS 2019, USA
Jan Hůla, Ph.D.	Win the Kornia hackathon 2019 at the Computer Vision Center	University of Barcelona, Spain

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
Prof. Irina Perfilieva	Fuzzy Sets and Systems 0165-0114, IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems 1063-6706, Iranian Journal of Fuzzy Systems 1735-0654, International Journal of Computational Intelligence Systems 1875-6883, Journal of Fuzzy Information and Engineering 1616-8658, Soft Computing 1433-7479
Prof. Vilém Novák	Journal of Applied Non-Classical Logics 1166-3081, Soft Computing 1433-7479, International Journal of Fuzzy Logic and Intelligent Systems 1598-2645, Fuzzy Sets and Systems 0165-0114
Prof. Jiří Močkoř	Soft Computing 1433-7479
Prof. Radko Mesiar	Information Sciences 0020-0255, Fuzzy Sets and Systems 0165-0114, International Journal of General Systems 0308-1079, Iranian Journal of Fuzzy Systems 1735-0654, Kybernetika 1805-949X, Granular Computing 2364-4974, Journal of Advances in Mathematics and Computer Sciences 2456-9968, Sahand Communications in Mathematical Analysis 2456-9968, Journal of Mahani Mathematical Research Centre 2645-4505, Axioms 2075-1680, Journal of Advanced Computing 2165-7823, Mathware & Soft Computing Magazine 1134-5632, IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems 1063-6706
doc. Michal Holčapek	Fuzzy Sets and Systems 0165-0114
doc. Martin Štěpnička	Fuzzy Sets and Systems 0165-0114, International Journal of Computational Intelligence Systems 1875-6891, Kybernetika 1805-949X
doc. Petra Murinová	Soft Computing 1433-7479
Zahra Alijani, Ph.D.	Soft Computing 1433-7479
Martina Daňková, Ph.D.	Soft Computing 1433-7479

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
doc. Jan Boroński	The pruning front conjecture, wandering domains and a classification of Hénon maps in the presence of strange attractors	Institute of Mathematics Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland	2023
doc. Jan Boroński	The pruning front conjecture and a classification of Hénon maps	KTH Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, Sweden	2023
Mgr. Andrea Zemánková, Ph.D.	Construction and representation of associative functions	EUSFLAT 2023	2023
doc. Martin Štěpnička	Fuzzy relational compositions as powerful, comprehensible, and easy-to-construct models for distinct purposes	EUSFLAT 2023	2023
prof. Vilém Novák	Data-driven Fuzzy Modeling Methods: Processing of Time Series (Part 1)	FUZZ-IEEE 2023	2023
prof. Irina Perfilieva	Fuzzy Transformation and Its Applications	FUZZ-IEEE 2023	2023
doc. Jan Boroński	A classification of Lozi maps	University of Vienna, Austria	2022
Jernej Činč, Ph.D.	From one dimensional Lebesgue measure-preserving maps to the pseudo-arc	55th Spring Topology and Dynamical Systems Conference	2022
doc. Petra Murinová	Graded structures of opposition in fuzzy natural logic	University of Bicocca, Italy	2021

Adria Torrens Urrutia, Ph.D.	Evaluative expressions: What are they? How to describe them?	University of Rovira i Virgili, Tarragona, Spain	2021
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Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year
prof. Agnieszka Niemczynowicz	University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland	New approach to motivation of Generation Z: An Exploratory Factor Analysis and empirical verification	2023
prof. Wiesław Kubis	Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Poland	Universal monoid actions	2023
prof. Zach Weber	University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand	On decidability in paraconsistent arithmetic	2022
prof. Guillermo Badia	University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia	A parametrised axiomatization for a large number of restricted second-order logics	2022
prof. Andrew Tedder	Ruhr University Bochum, Germany	Relevant logics as topic sensitive	2022
prof. Domingo López Rodríguez	University of Malaga, Spain	fcaR, Formal Concept Analysis with the R language	2022
prof. Manuel Ojeda Aciego	University of Malaga, Spain	Recent results on the f-index of inclusion	2022
prof. Francisco Pérez-Gámez	University of Malaga, Spain	Partial formal contexts: a way to work with unknown information	2022
prof. Manuel Ojeda Hernández	University of Malaga, Spain	Fuzzy closure systems: motivation, definition and properties	2022
Zahra Alijani, Ph. D.	University of Tartu, Estonia	Fractional concepts in neural networks: differential equations soft computing	2021

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the project/programme call	Name of the contracting of the authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year
doc. Martin Štěpnička	SASPRO 2	EU Program for the Research and Innovation Horizon 2020 Marie Curie Skłodowski	2022, 2023
doc. Martin Štěpnička	Evaluator of the project APPV	MŠMT, Slovak Republic	2020
doc. Martin Štěpnička	Member of the board of the project INTER-EXCELLENCE	MŠMT, Czech Republic	2022
prof. Radko Mesiar	Evaluator of the Slovak national grant agency VEGA	MŠMT, Slovak Republic	2019–2023
Andrea Zemánková, Ph.D.	Evaluator of the Slovak national grant agency VEGA	MŠMT, Slovak Republic	2020–2023
Libor Běhounek, Ph.D.	Member of the Evaluation Panel P401, "Philosophy, Theology, Religious Studies" of the Czech Science Foundation	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2022–2023

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research²²) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023²³. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1-3.3.2)²⁴, regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

IRAFM has traditionally focused on high-quality fundamental research in mathematics and computer science. Beyond its core research project, *IT4Innovations Excellence in Science* (a national sustainability program completed in 2020), IRAFM primarily pursued national projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation (GACR). **Between 2019 and 2023, the institute expanded its scope, placing greater emphasis on interdisciplinary collaborations and applied/industrial research.** This shift, as outlined in Part 3.1, was part of a strategic transformation aimed at leveraging the institute's expertise for real-world applications.

In addition to five prestigious GACR projects, **collaborations with new partners led to the successful implementation of four projects under operational programs (OP):** one with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (*OP RDE*) and three with the Ministry of Industry and Trade (*2× OP PIK*, *1× OP TAK*). **The institute's interdisciplinary approach is evident in its partnership with the Faculty of Social Studies UO, contributing to 3×TACR** (Technology Agency of the Czech Republic) **and 2×GACR projects.** Additionally, the institute has been preparing four major strategic projects for 2024–2028, including *REFRESH (OP ST)*, launched in September 2023. Efforts have also been made to strengthen international research collaborations. Two **HORIZON** projects (CHIST-ERA) proposals were submitted, along with two **Lead Agency** projects (GACR) in partnership with the **University of Vienna (Austria)** and **Jagiellonian University Kraków (Poland)**. While these applications have not yet been successful, they reflect the institute's commitment to expanding its global research network.

In addition to research projects, **IRAFM also focused on contract research, collaborating with nine regional stakeholders**, including eago systems spol. s.r.o., 24Vision a.s., and NAM System a.s., see Table 3.3.2. Notably, the latter two have become future project partners.

A summary of the projects is provided in Table 3.3.1, where the line “*MEYS – Other Projects*” aggregates several local development projects provided by UO. These projects support activities such as establishing new postdoc positions, supporting young researchers and establishing new research teams in the prospective research directions (novel at UO); however, these projects are not classified as standard research projects.

²² For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

²³ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

²⁴ The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

1) **AI-Met4AI: Center for the development of Artificial Intelligence Methods for the Automotive Industry of the region** (OP RDE, 12/2018–5/2023)

Partner: Varroc Lighting Systems (now OP Mobility) — a leading supplier of automotive lighting technology for major car manufacturers, including premium brands. The company specialized in the research, development, and production of advanced lighting systems, such as front headlamps, rear lamps, and electronic control units.

Objective & Scope: The project aimed to establish the AI-Met4AI, an R&D center serving as a joint platform for IRAFM and Varroc. The center focused on developing and implementing specialized AI methods addressing critical challenges in the rapidly evolving automotive industry, with particular focus on creating novel fuzzy modeling techniques capable of processing uncertain data and expert knowledge. The developed methods have demonstrated potential in solving key automotive tasks, particularly in light flux modeling for lighting systems and replacing traditional goniophotometer measurements with AI-driven solutions. This theory-to-application project was able to develop technologies up to TRL 3 (proof-of-concept).

IRAFM's Contribution: Basic research and development of modern image analysis and processing methods with applications in computer vision, and innovative approaches to data and expert knowledge processing employing fuzzy modeling techniques.

Key Results and Applications: Establishment of **R&D center**, publication of **40 peer-reviewed papers** in WOS-indexed journals (primarily Q1-Q2), among them *Methodological innovations: Poly-YOLO*: higher speed, more precise detection and instance segmentation for YOLOv3 (see Part 3.4), **Data Preprocessing Technique for Neural Networks Based on Image Represented by a Fuzzy Function, Applications (TRL 3)—AI-powered goniophotometer**: traditional hardware measurement replaced with neural network-based image processing (see Part 3.4).

Mission Alignment: Pioneered applied AI research, bridging academia-industry gaps, established partnership focusing on the finalization of our AI-powered goniophotometry solution, demonstrating successful translation of theoretical research into practice.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Fuzzy modeling (Mathematics) + computer vision (Computer Science) + industrial automation (Engineering).

2) **New approaches to financial time series modelling based on soft computing** (GACR No. 18-13951S, 1/2018–12/2020)

Partner: VSB – Technical University of Ostrava

Objective & Scope: The project focused on analyzing financial time series and developing specialized methods that integrate fuzzy transform and fuzzy natural logic. Key objectives included developing new forecasting approaches for financial time series, particularly for trend-cycle and seasonal components, as well as creating methods to generate linguistic descriptions of financial data using natural language. Additionally, the project explored techniques for extracting insights from time series. Theoretical research was applied to practical financial modeling challenges, including cost calculation, investment portfolio management (both real and financial assets), and risk assessment.

IRAFM's Contribution: Involvement in fundamental research and method development leveraging fuzzy transform and fuzzy natural logic, introducing novel forecasting approaches, linguistic description generation techniques, and advanced time series data mining methods.

Key Results and Applications: published **20 peer-reviewed papers** (6 in WOS-indexed journals), *Applications*—enhancement of **software tools for time series prediction** using novel methods and **for generating linguistic descriptions** from financial data (LFL-Forecaster).

Mission Alignment: Securing a highly competitive basic research project (with a success rate below 15%) highlights the institute's excellence and reinforces IRAFM's theoretical foundations in soft computing. Additionally, it strengthened the partnership with VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, leading to ongoing joint GACR project (project no. 8 below).

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Soft computing and fuzzy modeling (Mathematics) + investment portfolio management and risk assessment (Economics, Finances).

3) New approaches to aggregation operators in analysis and processing of data (GACR No. 18-06915S, 1/2018–12/2020)

Partner: Palacký university in Olomouc and Masaryk university in Brno

Objective & Scope: The project focused on the theory of aggregation through the lens of various applications in data analysis. A key objective was the extension of aggregation methods to the domains of lattices and posets. Three interconnected research directions were explored: the generation of broad classes of aggregation functions, the analysis of specific classes represented by Sugeno-type integrals, and the development of multivariate aggregation functions using direct F-transforms. These advancements contributed to the theoretical foundations of data analysis, information fusion, and efficient data processing methods, pushing the boundaries of existing approaches and overcoming the limitations of classical theories.

IRAFM's Contribution: Development of fuzzy transform theory and related methods for data, signal, and image processing, including a lattice variant Sugeno-type fuzzy integrals for lattice-valued functions and ordinal sums of aggregation operators for addressing various problems inspired by manufacturing.

Key Results and Applications: published more than 90 **peer-reviewed papers** (60 in WOS-indexed journals, with the majority published in Q1-Q2), results encompass **clones of aggregation functions, various versions of fuzzy transforms, constructions of ordinal sums of t-norms, a new methodology based on category theory** that provides elegant and efficient solutions to problems arising in manufacturing, *Applications* — **software for image compression** based on a new FzT+JPEG format.

Mission Alignment: Securing a highly competitive basic research project (with a success rate below 15%) highlights the institute's excellence and reinforces IRAFM's theoretical foundations in fuzzy transform theory and aggregation theory on lattices. Additionally, it reinforced partnerships with Palacký University in Olomouc and Masaryk University in Brno — two of the leading research institutions in the Czech Republic — promoting joint collaborations and scientific presentations.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Aggregation operators (Mathematics, Computer Science).

4) Fuzzy relational structures in approximate reasoning (GACR No. 20-07851S, 1/2020–12/2022)

Partner: Single-investigator project (UO).

Objective & Scope: This project aimed to advance both theoretical and applied aspects of fuzzy relational structures by (1) generalizing fuzzy relational compositions and analyzing their mathematical properties while investigating fuzzy inference systems, and (2) applying these theoretical developments to enhance practical methods in data classification, approximate reasoning, and control systems, with broad applicability across expert systems, decision-making, data mining, and image processing domains.

Key Results and Applications: Published **25 peer-reviewed papers** (8 in WOS-indexed journals), *Applications* — **lfl: An R Package for Linguistic Fuzzy Logic** (open-source software), **EVKA**: computer system for the support of community workers (see Part 3.4).

Mission Alignment: Securing a highly competitive basic research project (with a success rate below 15%) highlights the institute's excellence and reinforces IRAFM's theoretical foundations in fuzzy relational structures and their application. In addition, the project strengthened its interdisciplinary collaboration with the Faculty of Social Sciences at UO.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Fuzzy relational structures (Mathematics) + computer systems (Informatics) + community work (Social Sciences).

5) AI-Met4Laser: Consortium for industrial research and development of new applications of laser technologies using artificial intelligence methods (OP PIK, 10/2020–6/2023)

Partner: MEPAC CZ, a company specializing in precision engineering and offering services and products in plastic molding, 3D scanning, laser welding, automation, and robotics.

Objective & Scope: The project aimed to develop two innovative functional prototypes of laser systems — one for laser engraving and another for laser cladding — distinguished by their unique integration of AI to significantly enhance functionality and user-friendliness. The AI implementation combines deep neural networks with advanced theoretical approaches, including fuzzy transforms and other image simplification methods, to optimize system performance and processing of visual data. This commercial project advanced technologies to TRL 5.

IRAFM's Contribution: Research and development of methods based on AI for fast and reliable object identification in image files. Development of a set of software tools for practical applications in laser engraving and cladding technologies.

Key Results and Applications: AI-driven methods for fast and reliable object identification in image files, *Applications* (TRL 5) — two functional prototypes were developed: **a laser engraving system** (key components are **protected by a utility model patent**) and **a laser cladding system**.

Mission Alignment: The applied AI research project, conducted in collaboration with MEPAC CZ, successfully demonstrated the institute's ability to develop functional prototypes with commercial potential. It also validated the effectiveness of the strategic transformation, which included financially participative product development. The AI-enhanced engraving system prototype was showcased at the **2022 International Engineering Fair in Brno**, earning a nomination for the Best Exhibit Award — reinforcing the institute's visibility and credibility among commercial partners.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: AI-driven image processing and computer vision methods (Computer Science) + development of specialized software tools (Software Engineering) + application in industrial laser engraving and cladding systems (Engineering, Laser Technologies).

6) Artificial intelligence methods for automated medical images analysis (OP PIK, 7/2021–5/2023)

Partner: software company TESCO SW, Faculty of Medicine (University of Ostrava)

Objective & Scope: This application-oriented project aimed to develop an advanced AI system leveraging deep learning for the automatic detection and evaluation of selected brain regions in MRI, CT, and transcranial sonography images using neural networks.

IRAFM's Contribution: Development of advanced functionality utilizing neural networks to delineate specific brain structures, perform image analysis, and evaluate their intensity, density, and echogenicity.

Key Results and Applications: Software library based on novel methods for preprocessing of medical images allowing faster segmentation of selected brain regions.

Mission Alignment: The project significantly enhanced collaboration between IRAFM and the Faculty of Medicine UO, establishing a foundation for ongoing interdisciplinary research. Discussions are currently underway to further expand the software functionalities.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: AI-driven functionality (Computer Science) + medical diagnosis prediction (Medicine)

7) Metamathematics of substructural modal logics (GACR No. 22-01137S, 1/2022–12/2024)

Partner: Institute of Computer Science of the Czech Academy of Sciences

Objective & Scope: The project investigated logical systems for reasoning in contexts that involve modalities (modal logics) and require restrictions on argumentation rules due to relevance, uncertainty, or computational resources (substructural logics). The goal of the project was to advance three underdeveloped areas of the metamathematics of substructural modal logics by developing (1) general theories of algebra-valued frames, (2) logics with layered syntax, and (3) quantified substructural modal logics.

IRAFM's Contribution: Development of free quantification in bilattice-valued logics, quantified fuzzy probability logic, and relevance-based consequence relations.

Key Results and Applications: 3 peer-reviewed WoS/Scopus-indexed journal and proceedings articles, 5 presentations at national and international conferences, and co-organization of a contributed workshop at the CLMPST 2023 congress.

Mission Alignment: Securing a highly competitive basic research project (with a success rate below 20%) highlights the institute's excellence and reinforces IRAFM's theoretical foundations in non-classical logics. In addition, the project strengthened the long-term collaboration between the logic groups at IRAFM and at the Institute of Computer Science of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Formal models of reasoning (Mathematics, Computer Science, Philosophy) + uncertainty modeling (Mathematics, Statistics, Philosophy, Economy).

8) New approaches to forecasting of financial time series within fuzzy-probabilistic setting (GACR No. 23-06280S, 1/2023–12/2025)

Partner: VSB – Technical University of Ostrava

Objective & Scope: This ongoing basic research project focuses on developing new, transparent models of financial time series that integrate fuzzy transform theory, fuzzy GUHA methods, fuzzy natural logic, and probability theory. The key objectives include: (1) advancing fuzzy transform theory for stochastic processes, (2) developing fuzzy systems using fuzzy GUHA, (3) constructing new methods based on fuzzy-probabilistic systems for forecasting financial time series, and (4) applying these innovations to corporate finance and market analysis.

IRAFM's Contribution: Development of advanced fuzzy transform theory for stochastic processes, (fuzzy) GUHA based fuzzy systems, fuzzy-probabilistic systems for analysis and forecasting financial time series.

Key Results and Applications: To date, published **5 peer-review papers** (4 in WOS-indexed journals), *Application* — software in the program Mathematica for analysis and forecasting of time series.

Mission Alignment: Securing a highly competitive basic research project (with a success rate below 15%) highlights the institute's excellence and reinforces IRAFM's theoretical foundations in fuzzy-

probabilistic approaches to time series analysis and forecasting. Additionally, it strengthened the long-term partnership with VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, providing the potential for further cooperation.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Fuzzy-probabilistic modeling (Mathematics, Statistics) + financial time series analysis and forecasting (Economics, Finances).

9) Complex service for optimizing municipal waste collection based on heuristic methods (OP TAK, 10/2023–9/2026)

Partner: NAM System, a company providing clever solutions in areas like asset monitoring, vehicle monitoring, monitoring of technologies, personal tracking and monitoring.

Objective & Scope: This ongoing project focuses on the industrial research and experimental development aimed at creating a smart waste collection optimization service for real-world urban environments. The main objectives are: (1) developing a functional prototype of the BINSCAN device, designed for automatic route identification, waste container location tracking, and inputting constraints for collection vehicles, and (2) implementing a pilot version of a comprehensive waste collection optimization service, utilizing heuristic methods to enhance efficiency. This commercial project advances technologies to TRL 5.

IRAFM's Contribution: Development of efficient algorithms designed to optimize waste collection routes in real-world urban environments, characterized by traffic restrictions and technological constraints, including flexible fleet synchronization and real-time adaptive response to changes. Preparation of a pilot software core incorporating these efficient algorithms for optimization.

Key Results and Applications: To date, **pilot algorithms** for optimizing route planning for the waste collection fleet have been developed.

Mission Alignment: This application-oriented project builds on our successful collaboration with NAM System (see Part 3.5), following a strategy of transitioning from commercial contracts to full commercial projects. This approach not only strengthens the partnership for future contracts and projects but also yields greater financial rewards for the institute — creating a win-win situation for both parties.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: Graph optimization problem solving (Mathematics, Computer Science, Logistics & Operations Research) + waste collection optimization service (Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering).

10) REFRESH – Research Excellence for REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries (Just Transition Fund, 9/2023–12/2027)

Partners: VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, numerous partners from the public and commercial sector and three faculties of UO (Faculty of Science, Faculty of Arts, and Faculty of Social Sciences)

Objective & Scope: The ongoing interdisciplinary project aims to establish a unique European infrastructure for research and technology transfer in key areas such as sustainable energy, industrial digitalization, automation in transportation, environmental technologies, and smart materials, with a strong socio-economic impact.

IRAFM's Contribution: The IRAFM team serves as a mathematical and computer science lab dedicated to developing data analytics methods and applying them in collaboration with other research labs and work packages.

Key Results and Applications: To date, the ongoing preparation of peer-reviewed publications in WOS-indexed journals and the development of software are in progress.

Mission Alignment: IRAFM's participation in this large-scale interdisciplinary project reflects its successful transformation into a recognized hub for applied AI research, bridging fundamental science with real-world challenges. As a key contributor across the University of Ostrava, IRAFM provides expertise in computer vision, machine learning, and neural networks — enabling innovative solutions that align with institutional goals of knowledge transfer, interdisciplinary collaboration, and societal impact.

Interdisciplinary Aspects: image/video analysis (Computer science, Computer vision) + text analysis (Computer Science, Large language models) + community work (Social Science) + linguistic analysis of court judgments (Forensic Linguistics, Computational Linguistic).

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary						
Provider ²⁵	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ²⁶				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MEYS (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)	AI-Met4AI: Center for the development of Artificial Intelligence Methods for the Automotive Industry of the region No. CZ.02.1.01/0.0/0.0/17_049/0008414	4,608/ 181,755	5,336/ 210,493	6,830/ 269,428	7,553/ 297,949	599/ 23,629
MEYS – other projects	Support of young researchers (SGS), postdoc researches and perspective research directions (IRP)	7,069/ 278,856	4,046/ 159,605	1,394/ 54,990	128/ 5,049	
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Grant of GA ČR No. 20-07851S Fuzzy relational structures in approximate reasoning		1,545/ 60,947	1,771/ 69,862	1,833/ 72,308	
GACR	Grant GACR No. 23-06280S New approaches to forecasting of financial time series within fuzzy-probabilistic setting					763/ 30,099
Total		11,677/ 460,611	10,927/ 431,045	9,995/ 394,280	9,514/ 375,306	1,362/ 53,728
In the role of another participant						
Provider ²⁷	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MIT (Ministry of Industry and Trade)	AI-Met4Laser: Consortium for industrial research and development of new applications of laser technologies using artificial intelligence methods CZ.01.1.02/0.0/0.0/17_147/0020575		377/ 1,872	2,675/ 105,523	3,315/ 130,769	1,255/ 49,507
MIT	Artificial intelligence methods for automated medical images analysis CZ.01.1.02/0.0/0.0/21_374/0026654			42/ 1,657	1,521/ 60,000	693/ 27,337

²⁵ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

²⁶ Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

²⁷ Ibid.

MIT	Complex service for optimizing municipal waste collection based on heuristic methods CZ.01.01.01/01/22_002/0000787					498/ 19,645
ME (Ministry of Environment)	REFRESH - Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries CZ.10.03.01/00/22_003/0000048					542/ 21,381
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Grant of GA ČR No. 18-13951S New approaches to financial time series modelling based on soft computing	952/ 37,554	952/ 37,554			
GACR	Grant of GA ČR No 18-06915S New approaches to aggregation operators in analysis and processing of data	797/ 31,440	797/ 31,440			
GACR	Grant GA ČR No. 22-01137S Metamathematics of substructural modal logics				512/ 20,197	512/ 20,197
Total		1,749/ 68,994	2,126/ 83,866	2,717/ 107,180	5,348/ 210,966	3,500/ 138,067

Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ²⁸	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jan Ležatka	Intelligent System for Planning and Management		70/ 2,761			
Slamka Consulting	Intelligent System in R, Implementation in C++, and Demo App in Shiny/R		161/ 6,351		48/ 1,893	
24Vision a.s.	Feasibility Study – Paint Defect Detection			43/ 1,696	48/ 1,893	53/ 2,091
First IS	AI-ISCP: AI-Enhanced Information System for Construction Production Management				140/ 5,523	953/ 37,594
NAM system, a.s.	Feasibility Study – Modeling of a Traffic Waste Collection System					540/ 21,302
eago systems spol. s.r.o.	Feasibility Study for a System for Pattern, Rule, and Anomaly Analytics					360/ 14,201
Total			231/ 9,112	43/ 1,696	236/ 9,309	1,906/ 75,188

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts²⁹, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The

²⁸ If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

²⁹ See Terms definition.

evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

1) eago systems – Contract on Provision of Consulting Services

Linked Project: Provision of Consulting Services conducted for eago systems (for partner details, see Part 3.5).

Description: We are engaged in a highly sensitive commercial cooperation with eago systems, a trusted supplier of advanced, classified technologies designed for state security forces. Due to the nature of this collaboration, all details are protected under strict Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) and require the highest level of confidentiality.

Output Type: Mathematical models/algorithms

Application & Impact: The cooperation with eago systems holds significant societal importance; however, specific details remain confidential under NDA.

2) EVKA: Evaluation of Community Activities System

Linked Project: Fuzzy relational structures in approximate reasoning (GACR No. 20-07851S, 1/2020–12/2022)

Description: EVKA is a dynamic evaluation software designed to support community work by facilitating social change through mobilization cycles. It integrates fuzzy modeling, data analysis, and linguistic IF-THEN rules to optimize community engagement strategies.

Output Type: Free software for community work ([EVKA](#)).

Application & Impact: EVKA evaluates the suitability of topics for mobilization cycles and tracks community empowerment over time. In the Action Plan for the implementation of Social Inclusion 2021–2030 (Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs), **EVKA is identified as one of the tools for mitigating the mentioned risk.** It is actively used by organizations across the Czech Republic, e.g., Bunkr o.p.s Třinec, JARO 2023 z.s., Eurotopia Opava, Centrum Inkluze, MAS Podchlumí, to enhance data-driven decision-making in community work, improving the quality of life for disadvantaged individuals.

Relevance & Users: Primarily utilized by community work implementers and organizations aiming to professionalize and optimize social interventions. It is also integrated into education programs accredited by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in the field of community work.

Gender Dimension: Consideration of diverse community needs, including gender perspectives, in evaluation processes.

Sustainability Impact: Supports long-term community resilience by enhancing participatory decision-making and social sustainability.

3) Poly-YOLO: Higher Speed, More Precise Detection and Instance Segmentation for YOLOv3

Linked Project: AI-Met4AI: Center for the development of Artificial Intelligence Methods for the Automotive Industry of the region (OP RDE, 12/2018–5/2023)

Description: Poly-YOLO is an advanced extension of YOLO (You Only Look Once), a family of deep learning object detection architectures, specifically built upon YOLOv3. Poly-YOLO introduced the ability to predict object segmentation masks in the form of bounding polygons instead of rectangular

boxes, approaching more to the instance segmentation while maintaining YOLOv3's speed and efficiency (see [Poly-YOLO-paper](#) for details). Unlike other approaches, Poly-YOLO enhanced precision without compromising performance, making the entire algorithm both faster and more accurate.

Output Type: Object detection architecture – enhanced version of the YOLOv3.

Application & Impact: Poly-YOLO has influenced multiple novel methods and research papers from leading technology companies, such as DPPD method with resampling of polygon vertices (NVIDIA), OmniDet method that uses fish-eyed cameras (Valeo), or out-of distribution monitoring with Poly-YOLO as an object detector (Audi). Poly-YOLO has been also used in other fields than car driving (e.g., detecting pest-infected crops).

Relevance & Users: Researchers, automotive and defense industries, AI and machine learning communities.

Gender Dimension: Not explicitly considered.

Sustainability Impact: Supports technological advancements in AI-driven automation, contributing to efficiency and resource optimization.

4) Yolo4detection

Linked Project: Contract research conducted for 24Vision (for partner details, see Part 3.5)

Description: The Yolo4detection software is broadly designed as a universal functionality, based on the latest advancements in deep neural networks. This software is based on YOLO functionality, modified to meet the needs of real-time automated detection of defined defects in manufacturing.

Output Type: Software (license restricted to automotive industry)

Application & Impact: This software significantly enhances the applicability and configurability of automated production lines equipped with camera systems for real-time defect detection and quality control. This solution is not limited to the automotive industry and can be applied in various other sectors.

Relevance & Users: 24Vision in automotive industry, manufacturers.

Gender Dimension: Not explicitly considered.

Sustainability Impact: Enhancing the competitiveness of regional companies in the highly competitive automotive market.

5) AI-Driven Goniophotometry: An AI-Powered Method for Light Distribution Profile

Linked Project: AI-Met4AI: Center for the development of Artificial Intelligence Methods for the Automotive Industry of the region (OP RDE, 12/2018–5/2023)

Description: A novel AI-driven approach that replaces traditional goniophotometry measurements, a critical method for developing modern LED and laser headlights. This innovative approach replaces the traditional hardware measurement, which is expensive and very time consuming, with neural network-based image processing. The method consists of two key stages: (1) capturing the emitted light using multiple high-dynamic-range (HDR) luminance camera images, and (2) analyzing the images with specialized software that employs advanced machine learning and artificial intelligence algorithms to reconstruct the light distribution profile.

Output Type: A proposal of a custom architecture of a neural network designed for the aforementioned task, along with a basic implementation for training and prediction, software license (after the end of the project).

Application & Impact: This method significantly reduces both testing costs and time in automotive lighting analysis. Currently at the prototype stage through ongoing collaboration with OPMobility, it holds strong potential for widespread industry adoption.

Relevance & Users: Automotive lighting manufacturers, engineers, and regulatory bodies.

Gender Dimension: Not explicitly considered.

Sustainability Impact: Contributes to energy-saving and cost-effective production processes, reducing resource consumption in lighting development.

6) SPRAA: A System for Pattern, Rules, and Anomaly Analytics

Linked Project: Contract research conducted for eago systems (for partner details, see Part 3.5)

Description: SPRAA is a data analysis system designed for identifying patterns, rules, and anomalies in large datasets, aiding in security and law enforcement applications. The system uses an algorithm to identify frequent conditions well-represented in the data. These conditions enable the discovery of valuable insights, such as strong conditional probabilities, implications, significant attribute differences, anomalies, and trend deviations.

Output Type: Feasibility study, function library for the statistical environment R (later published at CRAN as [nuggets package](#)) to verify conclusions within the feasibility study.

Application & Impact: Following a feasibility study, SPRAA has been deployed as prototype software for the Czech Immigration Police and is currently being tested on immigration data (licence 2024). The system has the potential to enhance security monitoring and threat detection in immigration control. Due to the function library (nuggets package), SPRAA can be adapted into a closed module in C++, making it integrable into any commercial system designed to search for patterns, rules, and anomalies in large datasets.

Relevance & Users: Law enforcement agencies, security analysts, immigration control authorities.

Gender Dimension: Not explicitly considered.

Sustainability Impact: Enhances security and crime prevention by enabling data-driven decision-making in law enforcement operations.

7) AI-ISCP: AI-Enhanced Information System for Construction Production Management

Linked Project: Contract research conducted for First Information Systems (for partner details, see Part 3.5)

Description: AI-ISCP utilizes artificial intelligence and neural networks to convert construction budget data from various structures into the standardized format of First IS construction management information system.

Output Type: software (licence agreement)

Application & Impact: This software automates the conversion of construction budget data into a standardized format, replacing manual processing and minimizing human error.

Relevance & Users: First Information Systems and their clients.

Gender Dimension: Not explicitly considered.

Sustainability Impact: Optimize construction budget data processing, reduce the need for manual labor, and minimize human errors. By streamlining workflows, the system enhances efficiency, leading to cost savings and reduced resource consumption.

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ³⁰	Year of application	Name
Mathematical models/algorithms	2021	protected by a non-disclosure agreement
Free software	2022	EVKA: Evaluation of Community Activities System
Software license	2022	Yolo4detection
Object detection model	2023	Poly-YOLO: Higher Speed, More Precise Detection and Instance Segmentation for YOLOv3
Software license	2023	AI-Driven Goniophotometry
Feasibility study	2023	SPRAA: A System for Pattern, Rules, and Anomaly Analytics
Software license	2023	AI-ISCP: AI-Enhanced Information System for Construction Production Management

Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples).

It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)³¹, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).³²

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

Self-assessment:

Since 2019, IRAFM has strategically expanded its technology transfer efforts, particularly through roundtable discussions organized by the University of Ostrava's Knowledge and Technology

³⁰ Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

³¹ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

³² If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

Transfer Centre (KTTC UO). This initiative leveraged the expertise of three high-performing research teams:

1. [Computer Vision Lab](#) – Focused on image, and video processing applications.
2. [Machine Learning and Neural Networks Lab](#) – Focused on deep learning and large language models
3. [Data Analysis Lab](#) – Specializing in statistical and data analysis.

IRAFM deepened its collaborations with existing partners, such as **eago systems** and **Varroc Lighting Systems** (now **OPMobility**), while proactively establishing new connections with **PROWORK**, **24VISION**, **MEDIN**, **Tesco SW**, **FirstIS**, **NAM**, and **MEPAC**.

Strategy of Knowledge & Technology Transfer

IRAFM tailors its approach based on the specific needs of each partner:

- **Feasibility study** – Initial assessment of technical and financial feasibility (e.g., eago systems, NAM system).
- **Consultation** – Expert guidance on industry challenges (e.g., eago systems).
- **Licence** – Technology transfer through software licenses (e.g., 24VISION).
- **Project-based Collaboration** – Strong research partnerships through applied projects (e.g., MEPAC, Varroc Lightning Systems/OPMobility).
- **Contract-to-Project** – Small-scale initial cooperation evolving into larger projects (e.g., NAM systems, 24VISION).
- **Project-to-Contract** – Research projects leading to commercial implementation as prototype-to-product transitions (e.g., OPMobility).

This individualized approach has proven highly effective, though its full impact materializes over time. We should emphasize that **IRAFM prioritizes long-term collaborations, as they have proven to be the most effective in terms of time and cost efficiency, while continuously seeking new partners.**

Summary of key achievements

Only PROWORK and MEDIN faced challenges that hindered their goals. Meanwhile, project-based collaborations were established with Varroc Lighting Systems, MEPAC, and Tesco SW (2x OP PIK, 1x OP RDE) by 2023, and joint projects with 24VISION, MEPAC, and NAM System were prepared for the next evaluation period.

Key users, commercialization examples, and types of transfer achieved

1) eago systems: eago systems is an established company, providing digital and information systems and solutions to biggest partners in the Czech Republic, e.g., to Police of the Czech Republic, Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic, Vienna Insurance Group. The first commercial cooperation with eago system was highly sensitive and protected under NDAs, the second cooperation led to development of a data analysis system designed for identifying patterns, rules, and anomalies in large datasets, aiding in security and law enforcement applications, see SPRAA in Part 3.4. **(Consultation, Feasibility Study)**

2) Slamka Consulting: Slamka Consulting is a research company specializing in applied research and development in the natural and social sciences. They sought consultation and problem-solving support for processing signals from continuous measurements of human skin conductivity. To address this, an algorithm was developed to merge results from multiple parallel measurements, smooth the data, and recover for the loss of individual measurement signals. This algorithm was

then implemented in C as part of the firmware for a hardware device—a computer mouse capable of measuring skin conductivity. **(Consultation)**

3) 24VISION: 24VISION is a small startup company focused primarily on real-time AI-based quality control systems for the automotive sector. 24VISION is a Czechinvest Startup Challenge 2020 winner and has got the 3rd place at the 2020 Startup World Cup & Summit. Its systems are used by the largest players in the Czech market. The required solution involved developing a smart (AI-based) functionality that would be fast, accurate, and versatile. After the necessary research, the task was to implement an algorithm from the YOLO family into a suitable container and prepare it for subsequent deployment, see Yolo4detection in Part 3.4. In addition, collaboration has been extended through an industrial project in 2024. **(License, Consultation, Contract-to-Project)**

4) Varroc Lighting Systems (now OPMobility): Varroc Lighting Systems was a leading supplier of automotive lighting technology for major car manufacturers, including premium brands. The company specialized in the research, development, and production of advanced lighting systems, such as front headlamps, rear lamps, and electronic control units. A goniophotometer is a physical device used to measure the light distribution, luminous intensity, and other photometric properties of light sources. The proposed solution involved designing and implementing a software replacement for the goniophotometer, significantly accelerating the development of lighting solutions, see AI-Driven Goniophotometry in Part 3.4. **(Project-based collaboration, Project-to-Contract, Licence)**

5) First Information System: First IS is an established company, focused on development and implementation of building and economical software. The goal of the collaboration was to develop smart functionality for construction software that enables the understanding and conversion of textual documents from various suppliers into a unified format, see AI-ISCP in Part 3.4. **(Licence agreement, Consultations)**

Commercialization and Revenue from Non-Public, Non-Grant Sources (2019–2023)

IRAFM commercializes its research through software licensing, consulting, and contract research, with a focus on AI and data-driven solutions (details in Table 3.3.2 and Table 3.5.1). Revenue sources include:

- **Software licenses** for AI-based applications (2x licences sold* – **total revenue 17.752 thousand EUR**).
- **Consulting services** in machine learning, image and video processing, and data science (7x Consulting services – **total revenue 133.176 thousand EUR**).
- **Contract research agreements** with industry partners (6x agreements – **total revenue 95.305 thousand EUR**).

Between **2019 and 2023**, IRAFM significantly increased its revenue from these activities compared to the previous evaluation period **2014–2018**:

- Software licenses: **1.3 thousand EUR => 17.752 thousand EUR**
- Consulting services: **37.8 thousand EUR** => 133.176 thousand EUR**
- Contract research agreements: **44.4 thousand EUR => 95.305 thousand EUR**

By integrating research excellence with industry-driven applications, IRAFM effectively bridges the gap between academia and practice, solidifying its role as a key partner in innovation.

* We have an additional software license agreement with First IS under contract research, but it is not listed here as its price is not explicitly stated in the contract.

****Services for conference organization (in 2014–2018).**

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Burda — Statistical data analysis	8/ 316				
PHP Functionality for Data Collected in R (Connexia Electric s.r.o.)	22/ 868				
Statistical Analysis of Galvanic Skin Response Measurements (Connexia Electric, s.r.o.)	155/ 6,114				
Award: two competitions organized by Signate and the Japanese ministry in 2020 – Hurtík, Vajgl		151/ 5,957			
Provision of Consulting Services (eago systems spol. s.r.o.)	1,126/ 44,418	1,115/ 43,984	759/ 29,941		
Consultations and Testing of the GAM Method for Analyzing the Effects of Air Quality (Zdravotní ústav se sídlem v Ostravě)	24/ 947	24/ 947	45/ 1,775		
Functionality for Social Workers' Planning (MPSV Sociální bydlení)			80/ 3,156		
Photographing Traumatological Product Samples and Verifying Camera System Accuracy (MEDIN, a.s.)					18/ 710
Software license – Yolo4detection (24Vision)			250/ 9,862		
Software license – AI-Driven Goniophotometry (Varroc Lighting Systems/OPMobility)			200/ 7,890		
Total	1,335/ 52,663	1,290/ 50,888	1,334/ 52,624		18/ 710

Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

During the period 2019–2023, IRAFM actively promoted research, development, and innovation (R&D&I) through various initiatives designed to enhance public understanding of scientific advancements — particularly in artificial intelligence and its applications, whose attractiveness and popularity have been rapidly growing among audiences, especially compared to the more abstract field of mathematics, where we have room for improvement in popularization. Our efforts focused primarily on public lectures, but we also showcased our results at the International Engineering Fair in Brno, participated in an interview at an international music festival, and created an educational YouTube series on artificial intelligence.

- Dr. Vojtěch Molek delivered a lecture on **The Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease** (Využití umělé inteligence v diagnostice Parkinsonovy nemoci) as part of **Brain Week** (Týden mozku 2023) at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ostrava, see an invitation in the [University of Ostrava's online magazine](#) (in Czech).

- At the same event, which is supported by the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Dr. Jan Hůla in 2021 delivered a presentation titled **From atom to civilization** (Od atomu k civilizaci), see youtube recording [Jan Hůla | Od atomu k civilizaci | Týden mozku](#) (in Czech).
- The Institute's scientists also took part in the nationwide event **Four Weeks, Four Cities, and Artificial Intelligence** as part of **AI Days 2023**. During the festival, our team contributed with four lectures (see [event program](#) for details — in Czech):
 - doc. Petr Hurtík – **Data is food for AI. What ingredients to use for the AI to enjoy?** (Data jsou pro AI jídlo. Jaké suroviny použít, ať si AI pochutná?)
 - Ing. Petr Dvořáček – **How can AI deceive us and how can we repay it?** (Jak nás může AI oklamat a jak jí to můžeme vrátit?)
 - Dr. Vojtěch Molek – **AI as a businessman** (AI jako obchodník)
 - Mgr. David Adamczyk – **Practical real-time demonstrations** (Praktické real-time ukázky).
- The lecture "**When AI Sees**" by doc. Petr Hurtík, accompanied by a live demonstration of object detection technology in images (in collaboration with eago systems), was presented at the **Future Forces Forum** fair, held from October 19–22, 2022.
- Doc. Petr Hurtík and Dr. Vojtěch Molek, in collaboration with Mepac, presented the **Mepac Melai laser engraving device with the help of artificial intelligence** at the International Engineering Fair in Brno, held from October 10–13, 2022. **The presented product earned a nomination for the Best Exhibit Award.** A report on the event is available on YouTube ([Report on YouTube.com](#) — in Czech).
- Interview with doc. Petr Hurtík on the topic "**Artificial Intelligence. Should we be afraid?**" during the [Meltingpot](#), the largest multidisciplinary forum in Europe, which was a part of the International Music Festival **Colours of Ostrava 2022** ([Invitation to the interview](#) — in Czech).
- Doc. Petr Hurtík published an educational YouTube Series "**Umělá inteligence s Petrem**" ("Artificial Intelligence with Peter") featuring 46 videos and accumulating 5,616 views ([YouTube playlist](#) — in Czech).
- Doc. Petr Hurtík and Dr. Marek Vajgl appeared on the TV Polar program **Today's Guest** (Host dne) to discuss their second-place achievement in the international Signate competition, co-organized with the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, see Part 3.2 or watch the [TV interview](#) — in Czech.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

Below is a summary of the key remarks and observations from the International Evaluation Panel (IEP) in 2020:

1. IEP recommended a slight increase in the applied research activity (in the general sense).
2. IEP encouraged participation in EU funded projects.
3. Patents, creation of spin-offs and other forms of commercialisation should be considered as possible outcomes of research at IRAFM.
4. IEP recommended to widen recognition of obtained results to near communities, e.g., knowledge representation and reasoning subarea of AI.

5. As a weakness was mentioned a relatively small budget in most of the applied research projects.

Our response to these remarks and observations:

1. We have continued to shift our focus toward applied research, particularly in the fields of image processing, machine learning, and data analysis, during the evaluated period. This shift was the key driver of our **strategic transformation**, moving from a primarily theoretical focus to a broader, more application-oriented scope. The success of this strategic step can be seen from:
 - a. The expanded portfolio of applied research areas significantly enhanced the publication activities of the institute's members, resulting in contributions to respected international journals focused on cutting-edge AI research, such as *Pattern Recognition Letters*, *Neural Computing and Applications*, and others. This not only broadened our presence in new academic fields but also strengthened the institute's reputation beyond the fuzzy sets and systems community.
 - b. Applied research has strengthened our collaboration with academic partners at UO and, more significantly, with commercial partners, aligning with the strategic shift driven by the recommendation. Between **2019 and 2023**, IRAFM **significantly expanded its applied research activities, with a stronger focus on commercial partners** compared to the previous period (2014–2018):
 - i. the number of **commercial partners**: 5 => 11,
 - ii. the number of **publicly funded projects with commercial partners**: 1 => 5,
 - iii. the number of **commercial contracts** (including contract research activities, consulting services, licenses sold): 6 => 15,
 - iv. the number of **licenses sold**: 1 => 3.
2. Although we actively pursued participation in EU-funded projects, as demonstrated by our two Horizon (CHIST-ERA) applications — *Open Science for Recognition of Cognitive Dysfunctions in Cardiovascular Patients* with partners from Poland and Turkey, and *Explainable AI-based Health Recommendation Systems for the Optimization of Medical Decisions* with partners from Switzerland, Spain, and Ecuador — our applications were not successful during the evaluated period. However, the experience gained has proven valuable, aiding our ongoing and expanding efforts to secure EU funding, particularly through Horizon projects. This is reflected in the submission of three additional Horizon applications after 2023.
3. We have definitely explored all possibilities for patents and spin-offs:
 - **Patents:** The majority of our research results in the field of mathematics in principle cannot be patented. In computer science, the typical outcome is software, which cannot be patented in the EU but protected through licensing. We have successfully **licensed our three software research outcomes** (see Tables 3.4.1 and 3.5.1). Additionally, we **developed two prototypes** (key components of one prototype are protected by a utility model patent) as part of the application-oriented AI-Met4Laser project in collaboration with MEPAC CZ (see Part 3.3). Prototypes are the more commonly expected outcomes of our collaborations with commercial partners and are typically subject to elements of intellectual protection rather than patents.
 - **Spin-offs:** After careful analysis, we did not find any of our research outputs or solutions suitable for spin-off creation. Additionally, due to the heavy workload of our applied research staff, we faced challenges in ensuring adequate staffing to support a spin-off. Nonetheless, we are constantly exploring the potential for spin-off creation and all forms of commercialization throughout our applied research. We have also been successful in

obtaining contractual research and related commercialization opportunities, as detailed in our first response. In pure commercialization, we may observe a significant increase in income, as detailed in Part 3.5, confirming the strategic shift implemented following the recommendation.

4. As mentioned in response 1a, our expanded focus on applied research has strengthened our presence in academic fields such as *image processing*, *deep learning*, and *neural networks*. Researchers from the [Computer Vision](#) and [Machine Learning and Neural Networks](#) Labs have actively and successfully participated in high-profile conferences within these disciplines, including the *Meetings of the Association for Computational Linguistics* (ACL), the *International Conference on Machine Learning* (ICML), and the *International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management* (CIKM). Additionally, Dr. Hůla received a *Fulbright Foundation Scholarship* for a research stay at Harvard University in Cambridge, where he collaborated with leading experts in neural networks. Furthermore, doc. Hurtík and Dr. Vajgl secured second place twice in the global Signate competition. These achievements, along with numerous other awards in the aforementioned research fields (see Part 3.2), serve as strong evidence of the institute's growing recognition within broader scientific communities.
5. During the evaluated period, we successfully secured application-oriented projects with commercial partners as well as commercial contracts. These efforts led to a total revenue from applied research projects that significantly exceeded that of the previous period, as evidenced by the comparison between the evaluated periods 2014–2018 and 2019–2023:
 - a. **applied research projects: 20.8 thousand EUR => 1.414 million EUR,**
 - b. **applied research projects limited to commercial partner involvement: 8 thousand EUR => 1.392 million EUR,**
 - c. **contract research: 84 thousand EUR => 246.2 thousand EUR.**

We secured five publicly funded **application projects with a total budget that far exceeded the previous period's budget**, which was primarily secured through small TACR projects — rightfully identified as the weakness by the previous panel. This shift clearly demonstrates the success of the implemented strategy following the recommendation. A similar budget difference in projects involving commercial partners strongly supports our strategic goal of **translating our research into practical, commercial outcomes**. This not only enhances IRAFM's **financial stability but also diversified revenue streams** that were underutilized in the previous period. The revenue comparison for contract research, including consultations and licenses involving R&D activities, highlights the IRAFM's success and its active contribution to knowledge and technology transfer. This growing income contributes to our **financial sustainability through direct commercial partnerships** — a key element of our strategic plan.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
IRAFM (main webpage)	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/
Foreign Visitors	3.1, 3.2	https://ifm.osu.eu/visitors/
Awards	3.1, 3.2	https://ifm.osu.eu/awards/
Plenary Talks	3.1, 3.2	https://ifm.osu.eu/plenary-and-invited-talks/
Memberships in Editorial Boards	3.1, 3.2	https://ifm.osu.eu/membership-in-editorial-boards/
Development of Open-Source Software	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/da/development-of-open-source-software/

Projects and International Cooperation	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/projects-and-international-cooperation/
Knowledge & Technology Transfer	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/knowledge-and-technology-transfer/
Public Lectures	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/public-lectures/
Research Groups	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/research-groups/
Research Labs	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/research-laboratories/
Educational Activities	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/educational-activities/
Defended Ph.D. Theses	3.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/defended-phd-theses/
IFSA-EUSFLAT 2021 (conference webpage)	3.2	https://www.ifsa-eusflat2021.eu/index.html
FSTA 2020 (conference webpage)	3.2	https://fsta.sk/2020/index.html
FSTA 2022 (conference webpage)	3.2	https://fsta.sk/2022/index.html
ISCAMI (conference webpage)	3.2	https://irafm.osu.cz/iscami/Text/home-page37ce.php
Novák-Research	3.2	https://research.com/u/vilem-novak
Eusflat Boards	3.2	https://www.eusflat.org/society-board-history.html
Mesiar-Research	3.2	https://research.com/u/radko-mesiar
Progres 3 (consortium of universities)	3.2	https://progres3.vsb.cz/en/
The 3rd AI Edge Contest	3.2	https://signate.jp/competitions/256
The 4th Tellus Satellite Challenge: Coastline Detection	3.2	https://signate.jp/competitions/284
EVKA (Evaluation of Community Activities System) Software	3.4	https://en.evka.osu.cz/home
Poly-YOLO paper	3.4	https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00521-021-05978-9
nuggets (R package)	3.4	https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/nuggets/index.html
Computer Vision Lab	3.5, 3.7	https://ifm.osu.eu/pv/
Machine Learning and Neural Networks Lab	3.5, 3.7	https://ifm.osu.eu/suns/
Data Analysis Lab	3.5	https://ifm.osu.eu/da/
Invitation to Dr. Molek's lecture at Brain Week 2023	3.6	https://alive.osu.cz/umela-inteligence-pomaha-pri-preveni-a-dagnostice-parkinsonovy-nemoci/
Recording of Dr. Hůla's lecture at Brain Week 2021	3.6	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2l6-cm9wGo
Event program of AI Days 2023	3.6	https://alive.osu.cz/ctyri-tydny-ctyri-mesta-a-umela-inteligence-interaktivni-festival-zpestri-i-program-na-ostavske-univerzite/
Dr. Molek's presentation of AI engraving at Engineering Fair in Brno, 2022	3.6	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0GCWtJ_Cb4
Webpage of Meltingpot, the largest multidisciplinary forum in Europe	3.6	https://www.meltingpotforum.com/
Invitation to an interview with doc. Hurtík at Meltingpot 2022	3.6	https://irafm.osu.cz/f/Hurtik_meltingpot_2022.jpg
Youtube playlist of doc. Hurtík's series of lectures on AI	3.6	https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLJ-63o72JNwptv0-3CjaHC4ISLbU50237
TV interview with doc. Hurtík and Dr. Vajgl on their achievement in the Signate competition	3.6	https://polar.cz/hoste/701/petr-hurtik-a-marek-vajgl

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Faculty of Science

FORD: 1 - Natural sciences

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.³³ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

The Faculty of Science of the University of Ostrava (FS UO; <https://prf.osu.eu/>) carries out research at 7 departments focused on basic and applied research in the fields of FORD1 Natural Sciences (mathematics, physics, computer science, biology, chemistry and physical geography) and FORD5 Social Sciences (social, economic, political and cultural geography, field didactics):

- Department of Biology and Ecology (KBE)
- Department of Physical Geography and Geoecology (KFGG)
- Department of Physics (KFY)
- Department of Chemistry (KCH)
- Department of Informatics and Computers (KIP)
- Department of Mathematics (KMA)
- Department of Human Geography and Regional Development (KSGRR)

Although the development of scientific activities in all departments of the Faculty is still not fully comparable, it can be stated that in the past period 2019–2023 there was a significant shift. For example, the increase of scientific articles indexed in the WoS database in FORD5 and in computer science (compared to the previous period where publications in collections of contributions dominated at the department). During that period, there were also fundamental changes in the strategy of research management and the evaluation system, which also influenced the Faculty's approach to supporting outputs with social benefits. A number of external and internal factors initiated the changes:

- Change to the evaluation methodology at the national level. While the strategic plan 2016–2020 mainly emphasised the increasing the number of publications of the individual departments, the new system of evaluation of research organizations in the Czech Republic (Methodology

³³ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

17+) directed the Faculty to more intensive evaluation of the quality of publications, support for grant activities and to actively seek cooperation with the application sphere.

- The redistribution of funding and evaluation of the faculties at the university level had a similar effect, reflecting the disciplinary specifics of evaluating quality outputs and at the same time creating a system of formative evaluation that set clear goals for the Faculty in the area of research achievements. The Faculty has been actively involved in setting up this system and its implementation. This system provoked a discussion at the Faculty and modifications were made to the evaluation system including both parameters of publication activities with emphasis on the quality of publications and parameters including the outputs of applied research. The evaluation parameter based on the results of Module 1 M17+ has also been included and the "old system of the distribution" of author shares for publications in excellent journals with high citation rates has been reduced. The proposal was submitted by the management in 2023, the final change in the methodology was accepted last year and has been implemented since the preparation of the 2025 budget. However, it must be stressed that the ongoing discussion about the changes had been influencing the publishing strategy long before the actual implementation.
- Cooperation with the university-wide Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Ostrava (KTTC UO), which was established in 2017, led to a systemic support for the administration of applied research (see 3.5), and thus to an increase in contract research and the preparation of several patents. The strengthening of administrative support has also enabled the connection to the state and public administration and the strategic plans of the region, strategic documents for ministries (nature conservation, water management) and local governments (culture, family policy, urban development).
- Implementation and preparation of large projects from the EU operational programmes. In the past period, the FS UO participated in the implementation of the OP Research, Development, Education (OP RDE) projects: Long-term intersectoral cooperation for the ITI "SMART Technology for Improving the Quality of Life in Cities and Regions" (see below) and the Centre for Research of Pathogenicity and Virulence of Parasites. The experience from the preparation and implementation of the projects was then used in the preparation of other successful project applications focused mainly on the development of interdisciplinary research (LERCO, REFRESH, five MeS OP JAK projects, INTERFER, etc.), in which the Faculty made a commitment to recruit new staff in the fields of natural sciences and social sciences and to increase production of outputs produced in collaboration with the application sphere.
- Preparation for the reform of the doctoral studies. The intense debate on the academic failure of students in doctoral programmes has led to a detailed monitoring of the doctoral studies and measures to increase student competences. An analysis of the success rate of PhD students at the FS UO was carried out as early as 2023 and the preparation of measures to reduce the failure rate in selected study programmes was initiated. Our PhD students make up a high percentage of participants in the UO Doctoral School and the VIA PhD mobility programme.

The response to these changes is largely incorporated into the strategic plan of the Faculty of Science for 2021–2025, or the implementation plan of the strategic plan. The main objective is to motivate academic staff to produce excellent outputs, international cooperation (including intra-university internationalisation), and to acquire funds for research not only through grant activities, but also through cooperation with partners from the application sphere.

In terms of standard publication outputs, the total volume of publications in WoS-indexed journals has increased slightly, but the quality of publication outputs has changed completely. While in 2019 the proportion of publication outputs in Q1 and Q2 was around 60%, it is now almost 90%. There is also a rapid decline in publishing activity in publishing houses, where the questionable quality of review procedures is discussed. On average, over the past period, the staff published in 25 journals

in the top decile (according to WoS), with 35 publications in 2023. In addition, the publications mentioned are distributed among the individual departments (Earth and Planetary Science Letters, Earth-Science Reviews 3x, Current Biology 5x, Nature 3x, PNAS, Molecular Biology and Evolution, Briefings in Bioinformatics 2x, Nucleic Acids Research, Progress in Lipid Research, Applied Mathematics and Computation, Cities 2x, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems), which means that although the performance of the departments is not yet comparable, there is a significant shift from the previous evaluation.

The situation in applied research has also changed dramatically. While in 2019, the Faculty of Science's research commercialisation income accounted for 31% of the total research commercialisation income at the UO, in 2023 it was already 47%, with the total volume tripling.

The strengths of the Faculty also include systematic support for the popularisation of scientific activities and communication with the public. The implementation of programmes of lectures and excursions for primary and secondary schools, the "College Student on Trial" programme for talented secondary school students, which has already produced several high-quality impacted scientific publications co-authored by secondary school students are worth noting. The Faculty of Science also participates in the organization of competitions (in the past period, for example, the national round of the Biological Olympiad, the Vojtěch Jarník International Mathematical Competition), the academics regularly participate in professional discussions in the media, and there is cooperation with the cultural and social centre Pant and the organizers of the Melting Pot discussion forum at the Colours of Ostrava festival.

 Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE³⁴

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	8.00/1.55	7.30/0.80	8.07/0.80	9.38/1.63	10.35/1.80	8.62/1.32
Associate Professor	25.47/4.94	28.05/4.45	27.85/4.20	26.88/2.67	28.03/2.30	27.26/3.71
Assistant Professor	61.27/17.67	55.20/16.47	59.21/18.15	62.26/21.06	67.39/22.53	61.07/19.18
Assistant	1.21/0.48	4.28/1.83	3.58/1.00	0.55/0.08	0.97/0.00	2.12/0.68
R&D Personnel ³⁵	36.87/11.97	29.10/8.91	26.51/10.28	35.97/17.37	24.64/10.68	30.62/11.84
Researchers in other categories ³⁶						
Technical and economic staff ³⁷	58.18/44.50	58.27/44.11	55.03/43.19	52.71/41.41	49.25/38.82	54.70/42.42

³⁴ The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

³⁵ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

³⁶ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

³⁷ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	97.02/25.38	97.26/24.05	101.28/24.42	102.48/26.97	111.37/30	101.89/26.17
Early career researchers ³⁸	2.44/1.50	11.85/5.72	13.24/5.88	15.69/8.73	13.07/7.66	11.26/5.89
Total³⁹	191/81.11	182.2/76.57	180.25/77.62	187.75/84.22	180.63/76.13	184.39/79.15

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)⁴⁰

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					1				7	1		
Associate Professor			5	1	9		10	2	7	2	1	
Assistant Professor	3	2	27	2	23	10	5		2	2		
Assistant	1		2	1	2	1						
R&D Personnel ⁴¹	16	10	10	3	4	1	4	2	1		3	
Researchers in other categories ⁴²												
Technical and economic staff ⁴³	7	5	15	12	19	14	8	7	7	5	1	1
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	4	2	35	4	36	12	15	2	16	5	1	
Early career researcher ⁴⁴			13	8	1	1						

³⁸ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

³⁹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

⁴⁰ The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

⁴¹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

⁴² The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

⁴³ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

⁴⁴ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

Total⁴⁵	27	17	59	19	58	26	27	11	24	10	5	1
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Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)⁴⁶

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					3		1		4	1	3	1
Associate Professor			3	1	10		13		3	2	2	
Assistant Professor			35	10	26	7	11	6	4	2		
Assistant			1									
R&D Personnel ⁴⁷	24	13	11	6	9	2	1	1			1	
Researchers in other categories ⁴⁸												
Technical and economic staff ⁴⁹	2	2	13	11	18	14	13	10	7	5		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities			43	14	41	9	26	6	11	5	5	1
Early career researcher ⁵⁰	2	1	14	8	1	1	1	1				
Total⁵¹	26	15	63	28	66	23	39	17	18	10	6	1

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

⁴⁵ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

⁴⁶ The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

⁴⁷ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

⁴⁸ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

⁴⁹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

⁵⁰ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

⁵¹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate	1,056	499	997	468	966	441	1,045	485	1,143	591	3,039	1,492
Master's ⁵²	271	158	275	165	270	162	295	157	308	166	822	469
Doctoral	127	54	122	66	125	68	113	53	110	49	226	103
Lifelong Learning Courses	101	51	71	36	84	53	76	43	116	75	398	226
Total	1,555	762	1,465	735	1,445	724	1,529	738	1,677	881	4,485	2,290

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ⁵³ / Of which professional study programmes											
	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
Undergraduate	28/1		26/1		25/1		23/1		20/1		28/1	
Master's	16		17/1		19/1		16/1		15/1		21	
Doctoral	10		12		14		14		15	1	16	1
Lifelong Learning courses	9		7		10		7		7		12	
Total	55	0	61	0	63	0	57	0	53	1	76	1

Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	6.3	Basic Research	80.1
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	9.8	Basic Research	
	1.3 Physical sciences	4.0	Basic Research	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	11.5	Basic Research	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	11.5	Basic Research	
	1.6 Biological sciences	37.0	Basic Research	
	1.7 Other natural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.4 Chemical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.5 Materials engineering	0.0	Select an item.	

⁵² All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

⁵³ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

	2.6 Medical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.7 Environmental engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.0	Select an item.	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	0.0	Select an item.	
	3.2 Clinical medicine	0.0	Select an item.	
	3.3 Health sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.3 Veterinary science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	0.0	Select an item.	19.9
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.3 Education	5.5	Basic Research	
	5.4 Sociology	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.5 Law	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.6 Political science	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	14.4	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.8 Media and communications	0.0	Select an item.	
6. Humanities and the Arts	5.9 Other social sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.1 History and Archaeology	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.2 Languages and Literature	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.0	Select an item.	
Total		100%	-	100%

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

In the past period, a relatively large number of strategic projects and intensive internationalisation led to a significant shift in the position of the Faculty of Science both at the national and international level. First, the award of Prof. Marek Eliáš by the Czech Learned Society Award (2013),

then the Neuron Award (2017), and also the Chairman's Award of the Czech Science Foundation (2021) in the evaluated period were among the major awards by the scientific community. The Neuron Award was also awarded to Michal Šimíček (2019) who currently works at the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Medicine. At the UO, our staff also regularly receive the highest award - the UO Rector's Award - for their contribution to science (both students and academics). A number of the academics served in the following positions and honorary positions during the period under review:

- Scientific councils of other faculties and universities: V. Špunda (Faculty of Science, Palacký University Olomouc), J. Hradecký (Faculty of Science, Palacký University Olomouc, Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia), P. Drozd (Faculty of Education, UO, and Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters, University of South Bohemia);
- Management of domestic scientific societies: Czech Chemical Society (V. Slovák, Chair), Czech Society for Ecology (P. Drozd, Chair, 2019–2022), Czech Association of Contemporary Asian Studies (L. Laš, Associate Chair), Czech Geographical Society (T. Siwek, extraordinary membership), Czech Speleological Society (J. Lenárt, Chair, 2021), Czech Association of Geomorphologists and Czech Geographical Society (V. Kapustová, committee member since 2014), Czech Odonatological Society (A. Dolný, Chair);
- International companies: European Women in Mathematics (O. Rossi, representative of the Czech Republic, 2019), Pseudokarst Commission UIS (J. Lenárt, member of the committee since 2023);
- Membership in professional and supervisory boards: Supervisory Board of the Institute of Geonics of the Czech Academy of Sciences (J. Hradecký, 2017–2022), Council of the Agency for Nature and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic (J. Hradecký, since 09/2022), Supervisory Board of the Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre (P. Drozd, 2015–2023, O. Slach, since 2023), Scientific Council of the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic (J. Hradecký, since 2022).

Significant awards in the field of science or popularization of science were also won by our students. Mgr. Eva Bílková won the Věševě Prize (2022) and under the guidance of Dr. František Karlický (KFY) from our Faculty, Šimon Černý, a student of the Wichterle Grammar School in Ostrava, won the Prize of the Learned Society of the Czech Republic for his study "Electrical and Optical Properties of Modifications of Molybdenum Carbide and their Isomers."

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
Marek Eliáš, prof. (KBE)	GACR Chairman's Award 2021	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)
Michal Šimíček, doc. (KBE)	Neuron for Young Promising Scientists 2019	Neuron Foundation
Tomáš Galia, doc. (KFGG)	Rector's Award for Outstanding Scientific, Research or Artistic Activity of Academic and Scientific Staff of the University of Ostrava under 35 (2019)	University of Ostrava
Petr Pyszko, dr. (KBE)	Rector's Award for Outstanding Scientific, Research or Artistic Activity of Academic and Scientific Staff of the University of Ostrava under 35 (2023)	University of Ostrava
Martin Bartas, Ph.D. (KBE)	Rector's Award for Outstanding Scientific Research Result or Scientific Research Activity of the Students of the University of Ostrava (2019)	University of Ostrava

Adriana Volná, Ph.D. (KFY)	Rector's Award for Outstanding Scientific Research Result or Scientific Research Activity of the Students of the University of Ostrava (2021)	University of Ostrava
Tadeusz Siwek, prof. (KSGRR)	Elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic (2022)	Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic
O. Rossi (KMA)	Adjunct professor, honorary position (2019)	La Trobe University (Melbourne, Australia)

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
Tadeusz Siwek, prof. (KSGRR)	Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (since 2012) ISSN: 2192-5372 (Advisory Group Member)
Jan Ženka, prof. (KSGRR)	AUC Geographica (since 2020), Karolinum, ISSN: 0300-5402 (editorial board)
Jan Hradecký, doc. (KFGG)	AUC Geographica (since 2020), Karolinum, ISSN: 0300-5402 (editorial board)
Gyöző Garab, Dr. DSc. (KFY)	Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology B: Biology, ISSN 1011-1344 (editor) Photosynthetica, ISSN 0300-3604 (editor)
Vincenc Kopeček, doc. (KSGRR)	Czech Journal of International Relations (since 2012), Institute of International Relations, ISSN 2788-2993
Vyacheslav Yurchenko, prof. (KBE)	BMC Genomics (since 2016) BMC Genomic Data (since 2023) Current Research in Parasitology & Vector-Borne Diseases (since 2021) Experimental Parasitology (since 2022) PLoS One (since 2015)
Petr Kočárek, doc. (KBE)	Journal of Insect Biodiversity (associate editor since 2013)
Aleš Dolný, prof. (KBE)	Odonatologica (Editorial Board Member since 2014)
Karel Šilhán, prof. (KFGG)	Earth Surface Processes and Landforms (IF) - Member of editorial advisory board (since 2022)
Tomáš Pánek, prof. (KFGG)	Scientific Reports (IF) - Member of the Editorial Board (2022–2023)

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
Marek Eliáš, prof. (KBE)	Comparative Genomics of Unicellular Eukaryotes: Interactions and Symbioses	EMBO Workshop, Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain	2022
Marek Eliáš, prof. (KBE)	Towards a Comprehensive Phylogeny and Classification of the Ochrophyta	8th European Phycological Congress, Brest, France	2023
Vyacheslav Yurchenko, prof. (KBE)	Evolution of Leishmaniviruses with a Focus on LRV-2	British Society for Parasitology, BSP meeting, York, UK	2022
František Karlický, Ph.D. (KFY)	Semiconducting MXenes: What We Can Learn About Excitons, Electronic, and Optical Properties from Many-Body Methods	Nanomaterials: Applications & Properties (IEEE NAP 2023), Bratislava, Slovakia	2023
Gyöző Garab, DSc. (KFY)	Rate-Limiting Steps and Light-Induced Reversible Conformational Changes in Closed Photosystem II Reaction Centers	Gordon Research Conference, From the Biophysics of Natural and Artificial Photosynthesis to	2019

		Bioenergy Conversion, Newry, Maine, USA	
Vladimír Baar, prof. (KSGRR)	Geopolitics in the 21 st Century	Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland	2022
Vincenc Kopeček, doc. (KSGRR)	Resilience of Mountain Communities in Georgia in the Context of EU Policies	European Union Institute for Security Studies, Brussels, Belgium	2024
Tomáš Zelenka, Ph.D. (KCH)	Gas Physisorption for Porosity Characterization - Some Examples of Misinterpretations	EMN meeting, Dubrovnik, Croatia	2019
Jaroslav Hančí, prof. (KMA)	Expression of Real Numbers	Aarhus University, N3 Days	2023
Tomáš Pánek, prof. (KFGG)	Large Landslides and Ice Sheets: The Patagonian Lesson	7th International Geological Belgica Meeting, Tervuren, Belgium	2021

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year
Dr. Gábor Szalkai	Eotvos Lorand University in Budapest	Symbolic Places - Ethnic Conflicts - Tourism - Local Developments in the Carpathians	2021
Dr. Camila Berglund	Orebro University	Forests, Livelihoods and Society-Entanglements and Disruptions	2022
Prof. Gert-Jan Hospers	Radboud University	Placemaking in Applied Scientific Research	2023
Prof. Vlad Mykhnenko	University of Oxford	Universities and Local Economic Development	2023
Prof. Ernan Rustiadi	Institut Pertanian Bogor, IPB	Understanding Industrial Land Development on Rural-Urban Land Transformation of Jakarta's Megacity's Outer Suburb	2023
Dr. Michael Bukrinsky	The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.	Insights into Pathogenesis of Diseases Accompanying Suppressed HIV-1 Infection	2023
Dr. Kamil S. Jaroň	Institute of Evolutionary Biology, School of Biological Sciences, University of Edinburgh	Genomic Consequences of Non-Mendelian Reproduction	2021
Dr. Nikolas Gunkel	Cancer Drug Development Group, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany	Concepts in Drug Discovery with a Focus on Target Validation"	2023
Dr. Éva Olga Hideg	University of Pécs, Hungary	How do Plants Cope with Living in the Spotlight? Pro- and Antioxidants Promoting UV-Tolerance	2023
Dr. Sitangshu Bhattacharya	Indian Institute of Information Technology, India	Ab-Initio Spectroscopy: Beyond the Density Functional Theory	2023

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the research project/programme call	Name of the contracting authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year
Ondřej Slach, Ph.D.	External reviewer / Member (head) of the expert panel, social sciences and humanities; External reviewer for the TRANSPORT 2020+ and Environment Programme	Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	since 2018

Jaroslav Hančl, prof.	Member of the Mathematics panel	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2017-2020
Marek Eliáš, prof.	Member of the Panel, (since 2024 Vice-Chairman) Cell, Developmental and Evolutionary Biology, Regeneration and Reproduction (P303)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	since 2019
Vyacheslav Yurchenko, prof.	Evaluation Panel Member P302 (Microbiology, Parasitology, Immunology and Biotechnology)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2019–2023
Karel Janko, Ph.D.	Evaluation Panel Member P506 (Botany and Zoology)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2018–2021
Kateřina Malachová, prof.	Member of the INTER- EXCELENCE Opposition Board	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	2020
Karel Šilhán, prof.	Evaluation Panel Member (P209)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2017–2019
Tomáš Pánek, prof.	Evaluation Panel Member (P209)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	since 2023
Doc. RNDr. Vladimír Špunda, CSc.	GACR: Panel Member P501, Discipline Committee Member 5 Agricultural Sciences	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2019–2020
Mgr. František Karlický, Ph.D.	China-NSFC-DFG 2020	Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation)	2020

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research⁵⁴) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023⁵⁵. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1-3.3.2)⁵⁶, regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

First of all, two strategic projects focusing on research and building interdisciplinary infrastructures and research teams should be mentioned. These are the projects that already in 2023 after the launch had a major impact on the staffing of research teams at the UO by new top scientists and postdoctoral fellows:

⁵⁴ For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

⁵⁵ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

⁵⁶ The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

- **LERCO – Life Environment Research Center Ostrava** (OP Just Transition, 2021–2027). The EUR 70 million project whose investigator is the UO (Faculty of Science, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Education) and partner institutions the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava and the University Hospital Ostrava, is a newly built scientific research hub which, as one of the tools, enables a significant shift in research at the University of Ostrava and partner institutions and helps transform the Moravian-Silesian Region from a "coal" to a "healthier and smarter" region. As part of the project, both state-of-the-art facilities have been built and, in terms of human resources, strengthening 9 excellent research teams carrying out activities in a broad and unique interdisciplinary focus in biomedical, natural and behavioural fields, from basic research through experimental development to applied research, across collaborating institutions and other scientific and commercial entities from practice in the Czech Republic and abroad. The aim of the project is to comprehensively support the development of the innovative R&D potential of the Moravian-Silesian Region in non-technical fields with impact on: the health of the population, the development of R&D cooperation with the business sphere (support for the creation of spin-off companies), support for employment in the region, the increase of the attractiveness of the region in R&D, education and municipality by providing innovative tools.
- **REFRESH – Research Excellence for Region Sustainability and High-tech Industries** (OP Just Transition, 2022–2027). The REFRESH project of almost EUR 10 million (for the UO) focuses on research and development of new technologies in the field of Industry 4.0, energy, materials research and environmental technology with an emphasis on aspects of the circular economy and green industry. The principal investigator is the VSB – Technical University and the University of Ostrava (Faculty of Science, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Social Studies, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Arts and Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling), the Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre (MSIC) and the Fraunhofer Society (Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft) are also involved in the project. The main objective of the project is to create a strong innovation ecosystem of the Moravian-Silesian Region (MSK) in four domains of specialization: new energy, automation and robotics in production and transport, digitalization, new materials and environmental technology including their socio-economic dimension. The challenge for the scientists of the Faculty of Science and their colleagues will be to monitor changes in the region through the lens of the social sciences and humanities in the so-called Social Lab. Among other things, they will be interested in the situation in traditional industries in the Ostrava region and create social and organizational models in the field of new competencies and technologies with an emphasis on their applicability.

Other projects carried out in the period under review:

- **Centre for Research of Pathogenicity and Virulence of Parasites** (OP R&D 2018–2020). The project in cooperation with Charles University, University of South Bohemia and the University of Ostrava was focused on research of important parasites of humans and livestock. The subsidy for the UO amounted to CZK 39 million (EUR 1.538 million), thanks to the grant, the capacities of the Life Science Research Centre could be increased and the Faculty of Science was able to build a cutting-edge workplace focused mainly on parasitic protists. The Centre consistently generates excellent outputs in renowned journals and receives national and international grants.
- **Untangling the Web of Population Mixing: Phylogeny-Informed Methods to Overcome the Data Analysis Crisis in Archaeogenetics** (ERC CZ, 2021–2023, investigator). The project was successful in both rounds of the ERC evaluation and is supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports within the ERC CZ call. The project developed a new algorithm for automatic inference of population history models and detected a number of problems with the inference of the so-called mixing graphs in archaeogenetics. The results of the research were published in prestigious journals and are followed up by the new project LL2404 Improving the Robustness of

Archaeogenetic Studies of Highly Mixed Human Populations in the Late Holocene of Eurasia (ERC CZ, 2024–2026). It focuses on the robustness of archaeogenetic studies in situations where complex migration networks exist in the landscape, by applying network graphs of distant relatives (based on autosomal haplotypes) as the primary method for visualizing population structure.

- **Future of Rural Areas in the Czech Republic: Challenges, Visions, Development Scenarios and Adaptation Strategies** (Programme ÉTA, TACR, 2018–2020). The project was focused on the issues of economic development and the possibilities of its public support (employment and business opportunities, basic amenities) in the Czech countryside. The aim was to analyse the problems, development opportunities and investment needs of rural areas, to identify key factors, processes and challenges affecting their future, to propose scenarios for future rural development, to specify adaptation strategies to manage future challenges (opportunities and threats) and, last but not least, to formulate, together with application guarantors and the other involved, the principles of the new rural development policy for the Czech Republic after 2021. The main outputs of the project include an interactive atlas of rural development and a related book for the professional public (especially from the state and public administration or local governments) with the aim of influencing rural development policy in the Czech Republic.
- **Intelligent Neuro-Rehabilitation System for Patients with Acquired Brain Damage in Early Stages of Treatment** (Programme ÉTA, TACR, 2019–2022). The project was aimed to systematise and increase the efficiency of care for patients with acquired brain damage from the acute stages of treatment to the first six months. The Department of Informatics and Computers was involved in the project. The main goal was to develop a neurorehabilitation system "IS Eddie" that uses artificial intelligence to select neurorehabilitation procedures and monitor the results in order to provide targeted and effective neurorehabilitation for each patient individually. The main idea was to use a simple ACE-R screening tool and to use artificial intelligence methods to systematically and comprehensively target individually tailored neurorehabilitation care for each patient through transfer to an intelligent CHC model. The system represents a novel approach to personalized neurorehabilitation. The system of neurorehabilitation care for patients in the early stages of treatment is already fully functional at the University Hospital Ostrava and is now being tested in clinical practice and, most importantly, this care is systematically provided at all clinics to all patients suffering from cognitive disorders. The whole concept of the neurorehabilitation system is anchored in the methodology certified by the Ministry of Health in 2024 entitled "Cognitive Rehabilitation for Patients with Acquired Brain Disabilities from the Acute Stages of Treatment". In addition to the methodology and the course, a certified prototype device has been created, a utility model has been granted and a patent is pending, underlining the innovative nature of the project and its potential for widespread clinical application.
- **Implementation of Walkability as a Tool to Support Sustainable Mobility in Czech Cities** (TACR Programme TRANSPORT 2020+, 2023–6/2024). The main objective of the project was to increase the amount of walking in Czech cities, which is one of the ways to increase the sustainability of transport in urban space. From the beginning, the whole research project was conceived as an applied one, its outputs were immediately implemented into planning practice. The scope of the project was to develop the walkability methodology: a tool for promoting sustainable mobility in Czech cities as a guide for improving the conditions of foot traffic in Czech cities. Within the project, an Urban Walkability Evidence Tool (UWET) for mapping and evaluating pedestrian conditions was developed. The project included the creation of 2 specialized maps that served as analytical documents (together with other documents, including workshops) for the creation of the Concepts of Walkability of the Statutory Cities of Ostrava and Most. Due to its overlapping scope until 2024, the project does not show its outputs in this report, however,

for completeness we can state that the output is, among others, a specialised map and 2 walkability concepts (for the cities of Most and Ostrava).

- Management Optimisation of the Elbe Lower Reach with Respect to the Presence of 3270 Biotope and Improvement of the Hydromorphological State as Based on an Interdisciplinary Study** (TACR Programme Environment for Life, 2021–2023). On the basis of this project, the sustainable concept of the Lower Elbe is being addressed in terms of the impacts of water transport on valuable habitats and the river ecosystem. It is an essential basis for the Ministry of the Environment in discussions with the Ministry of Transport regarding the preparation of the Děčín Navigation Stage. It is a basis for the Administrations of the České Švýcarsko National Park, Labské pískovce Protected Landscape Area and České středohoří Protected Landscape Area for the concept of sediment deposition during the maintenance of the fairway, management of Natura 2000 biotopes and the concept of revitalization measures in the section of the Elbe Střekov – the border with Germany. The output of the project is a certified methodology of the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic: "Methodology for the Development of Optimal Hydromorphological Management of Lower Sections of Watercourses in the Czech Republic in Relation to the M6 Mudflat Biotope" (see results with a significant impact).
- Risks Identification and Possibility of Support of Landscape Natural Functions in Landscape Protected Areas Influenced by Climate Change** (TACR EPSILON 2, 2017–2019). The outputs of the project serve as a basic conceptual material for addressing the impacts of global climate change on landscape functions of large protected areas. The pilot project is focused on the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area and is a basis for the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area Administration in the management and preparation of maintenance plans. The output of the project is a certified methodology of the Ministry of Environment: "Methodology for the Identification of Risks and Vulnerability in the Area in Relation to the Impacts of Climate Change in Large Specially Protected Areas." The methodology was subsequently adapted to the needs of small SPAs managed by the Moravian-Silesian Region: "Methodology of the Procedure for Determining Risks and Vulnerability in Small SPAs in Relation to the Impacts of Climate Change on the Protection (for the Procurement Documentation for the Preparation of Management Plans in the Administration of the Moravian-Silesian Region)" (2022)
- Unbound Rivers for Future Generations** (Active Citizen Fund administered by the Open Society Fund, 2022–2023). It is an application project with a significant impact on society, which was solved together with the Arnika civil association. The objectives of the project were related to the planned construction of the Danube-Oder-Elbe Canal and focused on the preparation of the technical documents for the negotiations about the construction and the provision of public information. The outputs were seminars for mayors, public administration and citizens, a handbook for sustainable development of the abolished D-O-E territorial reserve and a web application providing an overview of the D-O-E territorial reserves.

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary						
Provider ⁵⁷	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ⁵⁸				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023

⁵⁷ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

⁵⁸ Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

OP RDE	SMART Technologies for Improving Life in Cities and Regions (2018–23)	8,037/ 317,054	8,537/ 336,778	8,537/ 336,778	8,537/ 336,778	4,500/ 177,515
OP Just Transition	Life Environment Research Center Ostrava (2023–27)					75,186/ 2,965,911
ERC CZ	Unwinding the admixture web: phylogeny-aware methods for overcoming the data analysis crisis in archaeogenetics (2021–24)			1,582/ 62,406	5,834/ 230,138	4,077/ 160,828
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Biogeomorphic interactions in meandering rivers across different spatiotemporal scales (2022–24)				1,263/ 49,822	1,209/ 47,692
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Telomere biology of trypanosomatids: contrasting features point to diverse strategies (2023–25)					2,313/ 91,243
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Dynamic changes in plant photoprotective mechanisms under elevated CO2 concentration and higher temperature (2018–20)	1,385/ 54,635	1,235/ 48,718			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	RNA editing in non-model flagellates (2022–2024)				1,989/ 78,462	1,989/ 78,462
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	The eustigmatophyte endosphere: intracellular bacteria and viruses in the life and evolution of a model group of algae (2020–22)		2,073/ 81,775	2,173/ 85,720	2,173/ 85,720	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Evolution of angel insects (Zoraptera): from fossils and comparative morphology to cytogenetics and transcriptomes (2022–24)				1,125/ 44,379	1,057/ 41,696
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Fixed-node diffusion Monte Carlo as a benchmark method for large noncovalent systems (2018–20)	1,941/ 76,568	1,881/ 74,201			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Functional genomics of Leishmania virulence (2017–2019)	1,438/ 56,726				
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Genomic formation of Indo-Europeans: new approaches to genetic admixture modelling guided by simulated data (2020–22)		1,641/ 64,734	1,803/ 71,124	1,801/ 71,045	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Identification and characterization of structural entities associated with different lipid phases of plant thylakoid membranes (2023–25)					2,818/ 111,164
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Catalase: to be or not to be in two hosts (2021–23)			1,874/ 73,925	1,874/ 73,925	1,874/ 73,925
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Leishmaniaviruses in trypanosomatids (2020–22)		3,575/ 141,026	3,575/ 141,026	3,575/ 141,026	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Tree-ring microscopic anatomy as a chronological data source for optimization of landslide hazard assessment (2022–24)				1,118/ 44,103	1,182/ 46,627

Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Molecular Mechanisms and evolution of RNA polyadenylation in euglenophyte plastids (2021–23)			1,724/ 68,008	1,724/ 68,008	1,724/ 68,008
	MXenes - Materials for Future-Generation Technology Applications (2021–23)			1,814/ 71,558	1,821/ 71,834	1,821/ 71,834
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Deciphering the largest rock spread on Earth: why in arid Patagonia? (2023–25)					2,390/ 94,280
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Non-standard genetic codes in protists and their evolution (2018–20)	1,359/ 53,609	1,252/ 49,389			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Giant landslides in glacier foreland: missing story in the evolution of Patagonian Ice Sheet and related glacial lakes (2019–21)	1,381/ 54,477	1,525/ 60,158	1,426/ 56,252		
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Organelle translation as an evolutionary playground (2023–25)					2,524/ 99,566
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Sackung in non-glaciated landscapes: spatial and temporal behavior of deep-seated gravitational slope deformations in Outer Western Carpathians (2017–19)	1,200/ 47,337				
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Light-induced protection mechanisms based on low-molecular-weight metabolites and their role in plant cross-tolerance to high temperature and drought (2020–22)		1,801/ 71,045	1,763/ 69,546	1,809/ 71,361	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	The dark side of plastid biology: evolution and function of leucoplasts in algae (2017–19)	1,230/ 48,521				
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Trypanosomatids with in-frame sense stop codons: dissecting molecular mechanisms behind the unique ambiguity of the genetic code (2018–20)	1,218/ 48,047	1,218/ 48,047			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Properties of number sequences and their applications (2017–19)	978/ 38,580				
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Roles of non-bilayer lipids and non-lamellar lipid phases in the structure, dynamics and function of plant thylakoid membranes (2019–21)	2,348/ 92,623	2,348/ 92,623	2,267/ 89,428		
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Computational Materials Science of Two Dimensional Crystals and van der Waals Heterostructures (2018–20)	1,906/ 75,187	1,955/ 77,120			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Paths development in traditional industries in old industrial regions in Czechia: governance, actors, institutions and leadership (2018–20)	737/ 29,073	787/ 31,045			

Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Where have all the natsmen gone? Ethnic Minorities in the Post-Soviet Area (2022–24)				586/ 23,116	711/ 28,047
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Intelligent neuro-rehabilitation system for patients with acquired brain damage in early stages of treatment (2019–21)	841/ 33,171	869/ 34,298	878/ 34,630		
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Management optimisation of the Elbe lower reach with respect to the presence of 3270 biotope and improvement of the hydromorphological state as based on an interdisciplinary study (2021–23)			147/ 5,807	139/ 5,488	178/ 7,041
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Risks identification and possibility of support of landscape natural functions in landscape protected areas influenced by climate change (2017–19)	781/ 30,813				
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	The development of the methodology for the incubation of the selected salmon species and the innovation of the fish egg incubation boxes (2019–21)	488/ 19,235	405/ 15,980	227/ 8,969		
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Implementation of walkability as a support tool for sustainable mobility of Czech cities (2023–24)					2,115/ 83,426
LT – INTER-EXCELLENCE	Ab-initio linear and non-linear ultrafast spectroscopy in two-dimensional nitrogen based binary buckled group V semiconductors (2020–22)		1,491/ 58,817	1,583/ 62,446	1,433/ 56,529	
LT – INTER-EXCELLENCE	Archaeogenetic Study of Human Populations in Mainland Southeast Asia (2019–21)	1,012/ 39,921	1,163/ 45,878	1,126/ 44,418		
LU – INTER-EXCELLENCE II	Biochemistry of trypanosomatids: Biochemistry of Trypanosomatids: A Perspective from Overlooked Species (2022–25)				276/ 10,883	1,250/ 49,300
LU – INTER-EXCELLENCE II	Monolithic, hierarchically porous MOF-carbon composites for environmental applications (2022–25)				515/ 20,321	966/ 38,121
Norwegian Funds	Innovation and application of the methodology of incubation of protected fish species and lampreys (2022–24)				1,186/ 46,782	601/ 23,705
SSH CENTRE	Comparative Analysis of Environmental Impacts: Electric vs. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Buses in Ostrava (2023–24)					25/ 1,000
Aktion CZ-AU	A survey of Pyrrhocoris apterus parasites in Austria with a focus on					65/ 2,564

	monoxenous trypanosomatids (2023)					
Aktion CZ-AU	A survey of Pyrrhocoris apterus parasites in Austria with a focus on monoxenous trypanosomatids (2022)				136/ 5,350	
British Ecological Society	TimeCapsule – studying rapid evolution of selfing syndrome in plants using resurrection ecology (2022–24)					130/ 5,137
EMBO	The role alternative oxidases in Trypanosomatidae (2023–24)					482/ 19,001
Internal UO grant	Prospective Research Directions (IRP)	4,111/ 162,170	4,111/ 162,170			
Internal UO grant	IRP Postdoc Internal Competition	225/ 8,869	193/ 7,612			
Internal UO grant	SGS – Student Grant Competition	5,559/ 219,290	5,877/ 231,826	8,765/ 345,769	9,483/ 374,074	8,324/ 328,371
Internal UO grant	DGC – Doctoral Grant Competition (PhD students)			3,402/ 134,203	3,402/ 134,203	3,402/ 134,203
Total		38,175/ 1,505,907	40,496/ 1,597,460	44,543/ 1,757,122	51,755/ 2,041,610	126,524/ 4,991,073
In the role of another participant						
Provider ⁵⁹	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
OP Just Transition	Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries (2023–27)					26,395/ 1,041,230
OP RDE	Centre for Research on Pathogenicity and Virulence of Parasites (2018–22)	7,030/ 277,315	7,030/ 277,315	7,030/ 277,315	7,030/ 277,315	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Evolution and Fate of Endosymbiotic Organelles of Stramenopiles (2018–20)	1,016/ 40,079	966/ 38,107			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Is the Formation of the Insect Herbivore Gut Microbiome a Process of Stochastic Influences or Deterministic Interactions? (2022–24)				2,228/ 87,890	1,928/ 76,055
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Microbiota of Herbivore Insect Symbionts: A Key to Understanding Host Specialization? (2018–20)	1,361/ 53,688	1,398/ 55,148			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Unusual Strategies to Regulate Light Absorbed by Photosystem II in Norway Spruce (2018–20)	558/ 22,012	558/ 22,012			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Unraveling the Relationships between Ragweed Baylemites and their Symbionts: An					2,258/ 89,073

⁵⁹ Ibid.

	Overlooked Model for the Evolution of Fungal Farming (2023–25)					
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Parasitic Protozoa Blastocrithidia and Trypanosoma as Optimal Models for Testing the Emergence and Properties of Alternative Genetic Codes (2022–24)				871/ 34,359	871/ 34,359
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Pushing the Boundaries of Plastid Biology by Studying Secondary Non-Photosynthetic Protists (2023–25)					1,213/ 47,850
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Selective Effect of Pond Management on Freshwater Communities (2018–20)	780/ 30,769	742/ 29,270			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Salivary Proteins of Phlebotome Sergentomyia Schwetzi (2017–19)	795/ 31,361				
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Old Landslides: Really Inactive? (2019–21)	727/ 28,679	765/ 30,178	765/ 30,178		
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Studying a Newly Discovered Cellular System Fundamental to Understanding the Origin and Early Evolution of Mitochondria (2022–24)				1,069/ 42,170	1,436/ 56,647
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Trypanosomatids Are Much More than Just Trypanosomes: Insights through Anomalies (2020–22)		1,483/ 58,501	1,483/ 58,501	1,483/ 58,501	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Exploring Genome Evolution in Eukaryotes: Lessons from Non-Model Euglenozoans (2023–25)					1,358/ 53,570
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Future of Rural Areas in the Czech Republic: Challenges, Visions, Development Scenarios and Adaptation Strategies (2018–20)	1,079/ 42,561	1,025/ 40,431			
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Resilience of Smart Cities and Municipalities of the Moravian-Silesian Region (2023–25)					141/ 5,562
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Network of Experts for Analysis of Strategic Global Trends (2023–25)					134/ 5,278
NATO SPS	Prevention of Geo-Threats to Azerbaijan's Energy Independence (2022–25)				131/ 5,168	262/ 10,332
LIFE	Osmoderma eremita species conservation in SCI Poodří (2018–23)	467/ 18,425	467/ 18,425	467/ 18,425	467/ 18,425	311/ 12,284
Ministry of Agriculture	Mechanism of Insecticide Resistance in Canola Pests, their Initial Susceptibility to New Insecticides and the Impact of			333/ 13,146	333/ 13,146	333/ 13,146

	Insecticide Applications on the Development of Pest Larvae and their Natural Enemies (2021–25)					
Ministry of Agriculture	Optimization of Treatment Technology of Sludge from Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants with Regard to its Chemical and Microbial Composition and Water Retention Capacity with the Aim of its Safe Use on Agricultural and Forest Land (2021–24)			782/ 30,849	782/ 30,849	782/ 30,849
Ministry of Agriculture	The Use of Genomics and Transcriptomics Techniques to Generate Gene Sources and Starting Materials for Poppy with Specific Properties (2018–22)	1,606/ 63,353	1,606/ 63,353	1,518/ 59,882	1,175/ 46,351	
Action COST	Raising Public Budget Revenues from the Rising Value of Real Estate, Land and Areas in Czech Cities (2018–21)*					
Active Citizen Fund	Uncontrolled Rivers for Next Generations (2022–24)				237/ 9,346	316/ 12,461
Total		15,419/ 608,242	16,040/ 632,739	12,378/ 488,295	15,806/ 623,519	37,738/ 1,488,696

* specific type of funding, not at UO account

Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ⁶⁰	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
ADM Olomouc s.r.o.	Spontaneous ignition test			19/ 750		
AGRI NOSTRA, z. s.	Animal monitoring					28/ 1,105
Beleco, z.s.	Determination of flow losses					15/ 592
Bochemie a.s.	DLS analysis and measurement of particle distribution		5/ 197		3/ 118	
BONATRANS GROUP a.s.	Analysis processing				38/ 1,499	
Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic	Biological survey	165/ 6,520		228/ 8,994	48/ 1,904	40/ 1,578
DIAMO, státní podnik	Assessment of samples		76/ 2,998	195/ 7,692		
DMK Baby GmbH c/ o DMK Deutsches Milchkontor GmbH	Data analysis					17/ 685
ENVICONS s.r.o.	Optimisation of sediment management	221/ 8,718	221/ 8,718	221/ 8,718		
H2 WORLD HEALTH & BEAUTY COMPANY s.r.o.	Magnesium powder effect analysis			15/ 596		

⁶⁰ If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

Harvard Medical School (US)	Bioinformatics and DNA sample analysis			566/ 22,345	820/ 32,333	1,646/ 64,914
Heimstaden Czech s.r.o.	Preparation of a study of family policy in Karviná			550/ 21,696		
Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Czech, s.r.o.	Monitoring, biodiversity studies	50/ 1,972	44/ 1,736	44/ 1,736	44/ 1,736	33/ 1,282
IHAS, s.r.o.	Laboratory tests (thermal analysis)			6/ 237		38/ 1,499
Ing. Květa SOVÍKOVÁ	Creation of a recommender system and prototype				60/ 2,367	80/ 3,156
JUDr. Rostislav Doleček	Assessment of landfill stability				96/ 3,787	
Regional Authority of the Moravian-Silesian Region	Monitoring				54/ 2,150	106/ 4,174
Regional Authority of the Moravian-Silesian Region	Development of a methodology					100/ 3,939
M+H, Míča a Harašta s.r.o.	Water analysis					15/ 592
Masaryk University	Measurement and qualification of substances		15/ 587			
MDP GEO, s.r.o.	Surface runoff analysis	49/ 1,933				
Městský ateliér prostorového plánování (Urban Spatial Planning Studio)	Creation of comments on data analyses of the city of Ostrava and MAPPA					50/ 1,972
Ministry of Culture	Methodology of national mapping of economic and social contribution of cultural and creative industries					220/ 8,679
Museum für Naturkunde - Leibnitz Inst. (GE)	DNA sampling		49/ 1,930			323/ 12,753
Naturkundemuseum Postdam (GE)	Molecular analysis of samples	246/ 9,712	281/ 11,073			
Municipality of Šilheřovice	Creation of 3D models					219/ 8,623
OKD, HBZS, a.s.	Determination of the spontaneous ignition susceptibility category				30/ 1,183	
Silesian Museum	Anthropological analysis		17/ 652			
Silesian Museum	Molecular analysis of samples		16/ 613	17/ 681	26/ 1,043	32/ 1,271
Administration of the Krkonoše National Park in Vrchlabí	Estimation of a population size and biological research		31/ 1,237	47/ 1,854	56/ 2,197	
Administration of the České Švýcarsko National Park	Fluvial-Geomorphological Study of the Development of the Elbe River Bed Embankments	165/ 6,503	98/ 3,866			
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Study and Evaluation of the Concept of a Family Policy of the Statutory City of Ostrava	60/ 2,347			95/ 3,728	93/ 3,649
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Methodology of the survey on the needs of families in Ostrava	74/ 2,899				

the Statutory City of Ostrava	Survey of the needs of Ostrava families		30/ 1,183			
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Survey for the preparation of the OP city district strategic plan			100/ 3,945		
the Statutory City of Ostrava	School mobility plan				78/ 3,093	
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Preparation and evaluation of the cultural development concept	278/ 10,947	593/ 23,373			289/ 11,411
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Preparation of the "fineOVA Centre" study				331/ 13,041	621/ 24,515
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Extension of the strategic plan "fajnOVA CENTRE" - RESOLVE+ project				289/ 11,411	
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Optimisation of the management method			177/ 6,992	116/ 4,581	118/ 4,666
Université de Paris (FR)	Bioinformatic analysis of proteins			249/ 9,807		
Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry of the CAS	Zeta potential measurement				40/ 1,578	
Vyncke s.r.o.	Analysis of biomass and fuel samples			9/ 355	5/ 178	
VSB – Technical University of Ostrava	Chemical analysis of samples		5/ 197	101/ 3,998	8/ 316	2/ 65
VSB – Technical University of Ostrava	Ecotoxicological assessments					19/ 750
Brno University of Technology	Chemical analysis of samples				8/ 296	
Total		1,307/ 51,552	1,479/ 58,360	2,545/ 100,394	2,244/ 88,536	4,103/ 161,868

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts⁶¹, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

In the past period, a total of 35 results registered in RIV were produced in the basic and contract researches at the Faculty of Science, many of which have or are expected to have an impact on society. These include 6 certified methodologies, 1 patent (2 more were registered in 2024), 6 provider-implemented results, 4 software, 2 technically implemented results, 12 research reports and 2 technical maps. The most important are the following:

⁶¹ See Terms definition.

- The results of contract research are of a significant social relevance at the Department of Human Geography and Regional Development that has fundamentally profiled itself in the area of social relevance and commercialization of research, especially in the planning area in the form of preparation of various strategic and conceptual documents, such as the *Concept of Cultural Development of the Statutory City of Ostrava #KULTURA 2030* or the Concept of Family Policy of the Statutory City of Ostrava 2030. Another important output is the *Strategic Plan of fajnOVA CENTRE*, including its three extensions, which fundamentally influences the development of Ostrava's city centre, and the Concept for the Development of Culture in the Poruba district. Other economic activities of the department include a number of studies not only for local governments, but also for the private sector (Study of the Regeneration of the City of Karviná for Heimstaden, s.r.o.) or the state sector (Comparative Analysis of Planning and Impacts of the Construction of Large Production Plants for Electromobility in Europe) for Státní investiční a rozvojová společnost a.s., or ministries of the Czech Republic (Mapping and Development of a Strategy for Cultural and Creative Industries in the Moravian-Silesian Region, Methodology of National Mapping of Economic and Social Benefits of Cultural and Creative Industries). All of these outcomes are based on evidence-based principles and influence the shaping of development policies and projects from local, municipal, regional to national levels. The department also has a strong profile in the field of Evaluation of strategic and conceptual documents (Evaluation of the SMO Culture and Family Policy Concept).
- Patent 309811 B6: Škrlová, K., Plachá, D., Malachová, K. and Rybková, Z., 2023: *Degradable Polymer Composite Material, Especially with Antimicrobial Properties*. In cooperation between the Department of Biology and Ecology and the Nanotechnology Centre of the TUO, a patent for a composite material that maintains a long-term antimicrobial environment that prevents the formation and growth of biofilms was created. The matrix is suitable for the preparation of implantable medical devices or surgical devices, or antibacterial fillers, anti-adhesion partitions, membranes, pockets or packaging, or filaments for 3D printing.
- Certified methodology of the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic: "*Methodology for the Development of Optimal Hydromorphological Management of Lower Sections of Watercourses in the Czech Republic in Relation to the M6 Mudflat Biotope*" was developed in the TACR Environment for Life project call (see projects, 2021–2023). The methodology became a key element of the negotiations between the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Transport and influenced the results of the preparation of the important structure – the Děčín Navigation Stage. It also serves as a basis for the Administrations of the České Švýcarsko National Park, Labské pískovce Protected Landscape Area and České středohoří Protected Landscape Area to deal with sediment deposition during the maintenance of the fairway. It also plays an important role in the management of Natura 2000 biotopes and the concept of revitalisation measures in the Elbe Střekov section.
- Certified methodology for the Ministry of Environment: "*Methodology for the Identification of Risks and Vulnerability in the Area in Relation to the Impacts of Climate Change in Large Specially Protected Areas*." The original outputs of the project serve as a basic conceptual material for addressing the impacts of global climate change on landscape functions of large protected areas (primarily for the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area) and is a basis for the Administration of the Beskydy Protected Landscape Area in management and preparation of maintenance plans. The methodology was subsequently adapted to the needs of small SPAs managed by the Moravian-Silesian Region: "Methodology of the Procedure for Determining Risks and Vulnerability in Small SPAs in Relation to the Impacts of Climate Change on the Protection (for the Procurement Documentation for the Preparation of Management Plans in the Administration of the Moravian-Silesian Region)" (2022)
- Files of maps and certified methodology from the final reports of the TACR projects (Optimization of Sediment Management). In collaboration with Masaryk University and

Envicons (2019–2021), an engineering and consulting company providing services in the field of water management, two methodologies were developed (client: Lesy ČR, s.p.): a) for watercourse administrators "*Work Procedure for Assessing the Risk of the Sediment Regime of Small Watercourses*", b) for designers "*Work Procedure for the Assessment of Sediments of Small Watercourses for the Purpose of Design Work*".

- From the point of view of the impact on the general public, we also consider the outputs of the Uncontrolled Rivers for Next Generations project, i.e., the web application providing an overview of the D-O-E territorial reserves and the *Handbook for Sustainable Development of the Abolished D-O-E Territorial Reserve* (Danube-Odra-Elbe), which served to provide information to the public (for mayors of the municipalities concerned, state administration and citizens) to be essential.
- Certified methodology of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic "*Cognitive Rehabilitation for Patients with Acquired Brain Disability from the Acute Stages of Treatment*". Although the methodology was not officially published until 2024, its basis was developed as part of the TACR project during the period under review. It includes the developed **neurorehabilitation system "IS Eddie"**, which uses artificial intelligence to select rehabilitation procedures and monitor results for enhanced and effective neurorehabilitation for each patient individually. The system represents a novel approach to personalized neurorehabilitation. The system of neurorehabilitation care for patients in the early stages of treatment is already fully functional at the University Hospital Ostrava and is now being tested in clinical practice and, most importantly, this care is systematically provided at all clinics to all patients suffering from cognitive disorders. In addition, a certified prototype device has been created, a utility model has been granted and a patent is pending, underlining the innovative nature of the project and its potential for widespread clinical application.
- The results of the contract research of the Department of Human Geography and Regional Development, which are smaller in scale (in terms of funding) or carried out "pro bono", can also be classified as socially relevant. Among these contract researches of a smaller scale, we can include, for example, the Study of the Needs of Ostrava Families, which investigated the state of various aspects of family life in Ostrava (searching for answers to demographic decline), Creation of Comments on the Data Analysis of the City of Ostrava and MAPPA (analysis of the results of GIS data of mobile operators), Survey of residents and visitors in the preparation of the strategic plan of the city district of Moravská Ostrava and Přívoz or School Mobility Plans – a pilot project of the City of Ostrava. Pro bono activities include, for example, the creation of studies for the winning sites of the participatory project Our District (Moravská Ostrava and Přívoz municipality district). These surveys are demand-driven and thus respond to the needs of local governments.
- During 2022, the staff of the Department of Chemistry began to work on two patents that were registered the following year. These outputs are: a) Patent 309811 B6: Slovák, V. & Kořená, L. 2024: A Method of Preparing an Activated Mesoporous Biomass Carbon Monolith and an Activated Mesoporous Biomass Carbon Monolith. Registered in 2024, however, based on activities in previous years. Thanks to its porous properties and its monolithic form (with the possibility of choosing the final shape), this new material can find application, for example, in decontamination processes used in the field of environmental protection. In addition, its production method brings simplification, and consequently economic efficiency, compared to the standard process of production of activated carbon, which is commonly used in the mentioned field of environmental protection at present. b) Patent 310226: Zelenková, G., Zelenka, T., Slovák, V., Kapkowski, M. & Wiczorek, K., 2024: A method for the Synthesis of 1,3-dioxolane Derivatives Using Surface Modified Carbonaceous Materials. The invention provides for two methods for the synthesis of 1,3-dioxolane derivatives. This innovative method enables efficient, economically viable and more environmentally friendly production of these

substances without the need for aggressive acids or organic solvents. Carbon catalysts with specific functional groups ensure high reaction selectivity and allow reuse, thus reducing production costs. The patent contributes to the development of sustainable chemistry and is used in industrial applications such as fuel additives, fertilisers, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics.

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ⁶²	Year of application	Name
patent (P)	2023	Degradable Polymer Composite Material, Especially with Antimicrobial Properties.
Certified methodologies and procedures (N)	2019	Methods for Measuring the Bottom Morphology of Surface Water Bodies
Certified methodologies and procedures (N)	2020	Methodology for the Identification of Risks and Vulnerability in the Area in Relation to the Impacts of Climate Change in Large Protected Areas
Certified methodologies and procedures (N)	2019	Map of the Spatial Distribution of Risks Arising from Predicted Climate Change in the Area and Identification of Hot Spots
Certified methodologies and procedures (N)	2022	Hydrogeomorphology of the Studied Sections of the Lower Elbe
Certified methodologies and procedures (N)	2021	Methodology of Incubation of Eggs of Selected Salmonid Fish Species under Parent Stream Conditions
Certified methodologies and procedures (N)	2021	Aggregate Index of Socio-Economic Development of Rural Regions of the Czech Republic at the Level of Rural Municipalities and Municipalities with Extended Powers
other (O) - maps	2020	Map of the Czech Republic Showing the Area Suitable for the Application of the Method of Incubation of Selected Fish Species in Parent Streams
other (O) - maps	2020	Map of Potential Risks to Salmonid Egg Incubation in Selected Streams in the Czech Republic
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2021	Survey of the Needs of Ostrava Families - final report
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2022	Survey of Residents and Visitors to MOaP in Preparation of the Strategic Plan for fajnova CENTRUM
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2022	Survey of the Needs of Ostrava Families - Results for MOaP
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2022	Strategic Plan of the fajnova CENTRUM
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2023	Strategic Plan of the fajnova CENTRUM - Extension of the Historic Core
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2021	Concept of Cultural Development of the Statutory City of Ostrava #2030
Provider-implemented results (H), outputs for policy-making	2023	Methodology for National Mapping of the Economic and Social Contribution of Cultural and Creative Industries
software (R)	2020	Lovec rovnokřídých CZ/Orthoptera Hunter CZ
software (R)	2020	Lovec vážek CZ/Dragonfly Hunter CZ
software (R)	2020	Lovec obojživelníků a plazů CZ/Herpeto-hunter CZ
software (R)	2023	Neurorehabilitation System for Patients with Acquired Brain Injury in the Early Stages of Treatment (acronym: IS Eddie)
technically realized results (G)	2020	Prototype of a Bottom Incubation Box for Salmonid Eggs
technically realized results (G)	2020	Prototype of a Floating Incubation Box for Salmonid Eggs

⁶² Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

research report (V)	2022	Optimisation of the Management of the Lower Elbe River Section with regard to the Presence of the 3270 Biotope and Improvement of the Hydromorphological Status Based on an Interdisciplinary Study.
research report (V)	2022	Study of the Effects of the construction of a High-Speed Rail in the Section that Passes through Wet Meadows in the Jistebnické mokřady National Natural Reserve on the Biota and Objects of Protection of a Protected Landscape Area, Special Protection Area (Birds Directive), European Areas of Conservation and the Possibility of their Compensation
research report (V)	2023	Experimental verification: Augmented Reality as a Participatory Tool for Urban Development
research report (V)	2023	Experimental verification: Improving the Quality of Life in Central Parts of Cities
research report (V)	2022	School Mobility Plan - Pilot Project of the City of Ostrava
research report (V)	2021	Summary Final Report of the Research Innovation and Application of Incubation Method for Eggs of Endangered Fish and Lamprey Species in the Parent Streams
research report (V)	2023	Experimental verification: Dashboard
research report (V)	2023	Experimental verification: SMARTART as a Tool for Revitalising Public Space and Strengthening Cultural Participation
research report (V)	2021	Study of the Regeneration of the City of Karviná - Analytical Part
research report (V)	2023	Experimental verification: Improving Permeability and Mobility in Cities (Smart Walking Plan)
research report (V)	2022	Methodology for Researching Empty Space
research report (V)	2022	Experimental verification: Empty space

Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples). It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)⁶³, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).⁶⁴

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

⁶³ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

⁶⁴ If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

Self-assessment:

As already mentioned, cooperation with companies has changed significantly, especially in connection with the establishment of the Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre (KTTC UO), which has ensured some administrative processes. The centre has been in the pipeline since 2016 and was mentioned in the previous IEP's report, however this activity was not assessed as it has not been significantly reflected until 2019. The Centre ensured a number of previously fragmented activities, which had made the Faculty unable to effectively transfer the results to the application sphere. These include:

- Training of the Faculty staff (in addition to standard training, electronic study materials were also created);
- Consulting and advisory services in the field of contract research, licensing and copyright;
- Streamlining the administration (contract templates, NDA contracts, assistance with patent application preparation, catalogue of services on the UO website, etc.)
- Searching for potential partners (in the form of round tables, negotiations with regional transfer centres, in cooperation with other MU transfer centres) and presentation on the web;
- Implementation of incentives in the form of internal grants (Proof of Concept support and Corporate Vouchers) which motivated teams to cooperate with the commercial sector.

Also, the UO Commercialization Council (established in 2019), whose members are representatives of the major entities in the region, enables better evaluation and effective dissemination of potential transferable results, as it not only provides feedback on commercial activities, but the members can mediate contact with potential partners.

All of these changes and incentives have led to an increase in applied research, so the amount of funding raised (already EUR 164 thousand in 2024) has increased. Due to the nature of the Faculty focused mainly on basic research, most of this income is generated by economic contracts (i.e., contract research) with commercial entities and the state administration (funding from the donations category is minimal). Profits from spin-offs and licensing are therefore not the main priority. On the other hand, a huge potential for the Department of Human Geography and Regional Development can be seen in the area of social relevance and the activities of the Department of Human Geography and Regional Development (strategic planning consultancy, etc.) should be a priority in the case of the possibility to support spin-offs.

Currently, therefore, most of the revenue from non-public sources is generated by contract research (see previous tables, or consultancy services that are not contract research). For the time being, the FS UO does not have any revenues from licenses and patents (1 patent 2023 and 2 patents 2024), however, in cooperation with the KTTC UO and other partners, it is looking for potential partners for their commercial exploitation. For example, in the case of the 2023 patent, which was created in cooperation with the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava the search for potential customers is coordinated mainly by the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, which as a technical university has more experience with these activities. Only a small part of the income is made up of donations (for the last period, apart from contributions to conferences from the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority or the Statutory City of Ostrava, it is only the Robotic Pipetting Station for the Laboratory of Experimental Biology (donated by Vítkovice Steel a.s.).

Commercial activities in the field of research are also being built up with foreign institutions. For the period, the total amount from foreign institutions is 164 thous. EUR. The most common commercial activities include analyses/testing of samples (KBE, KFY, KCH), consulting services and preparation of reports (or studies).

The most common partners are:

- State administration (namely the Statutory City of Ostrava, the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority, the Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic, national park administrations), which uses our services especially in the field of expert opinions and methodologies in the field of strategic planning, public opinion surveys, and environmental assessments.
- Research institutions (universities, museums, research institutes). The cooperation with these entities consists mostly in the collection and processing of samples or in expert analyses. The main participants are the KCH, KFY, KFGG and KBE. Recently, a very good example of successful collaboration is the collaboration between the genetic anthropology team (KBE) and the team of David Reich (Harvard University, USA). The cooperation consists mainly in the processing of anthropological samples (DNA reconstruction, sequencing) and besides the financial benefit for the Faculty of Science (see Table 3.3.2), several excellent publications have been produced in cooperation with the foreign team.
- Last but not least, we also cooperate with private entities to conduct research in the social sciences (see Heimstaden contract research) as well as in the natural sciences (risk assessment, ecotoxicology, etc.). The safety of substances and wastes in terms of their self-heating/self-ignition ability and stability in a given environment (KCH) was addressed with a number of companies (Diamo, a.s., ADM Olomouc, OKD OKK, HBZS, Ostravská těžební, IHAS s.r.o.). In 2019–2020, the KCH collaborated with Bochemie on the development of nanofibrous ZnO. It provided a determination of particle size distribution and zeta potential values. In 2023, the sorption properties of a material called Phosphororb were evaluated for Vodnář which deals with the removal of impurities from natural and artificial water sources.

Specific examples of consulting services included in Table 3.5.1 are:

- Ostravská těžební – A consultation and preparation of an opinion on an expert report on the susceptibility of materials to spontaneous combustion (KCH).
- OVA!!!CLOUD.net – The main activities of the expert (KIP) are co-development and approval of the long-term strategy for the development of IT systems, consultation on the creation of a medium-term investment budget for the development of software and hardware for the IT system of the City of Ostrava, consultation on the design of the high availability project of the application layer based on two datacentres, design of logging of internal and external network communication and cooperation in the implementation of device management at the level of both the network layer and end stations and mobile devices.

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Consultation	60/2,367	60/2,367	75/2,959	60/2,367	60/2,367
Donation (pipetting station)		130/5 128			
Total	60/2,367	190/7,495	75/2,959	60/2,367	60/2,367

Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

Revisions of the departmental and Faculty websites were initiated as part of PR during the period under review. These modifications were motivated mainly by an effort to emphasize the activities and scientific focus of the Faculty and to provide answers to basic questions that both members of the lay and professional public may have. The aim was also to offer a more comprehensive picture of the personalities and research.

Following this, and supported by the Statutory City of Ostrava, the faculty launched "science trailers" – short videos to complement written communication on the web and social media. These help to reach broader audiences and demonstrate the Faculty's leadership in science communication at the University of Ostrava. The city also supported the establishment of the University for Schools initiative, hosted by the Faculty, which brings science to students at all educational levels via lectures and workshops (33 in 2021, 69 in 2022, 112 in 2023).

Even before the podcast boom, the Faculty podcast *Předení* was created, which offered several pilot episodes and showed that we could reach an audience that had not heard of us before. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the soft skills of the staff were expanded in the areas of graphic design, photo editing, video processing, animation, etc.

To enhance the visibility of scientific outputs, the Faculty created a network of PR coordinators from departments. Their role includes providing updates on departmental activities and highlighting key publications, especially those under embargo or pre-announced in high-impact journals.

With the addition of a new team member with a science background, the Faculty implemented a three-stage output model. This person liaises with researchers, drafts initial content, and collaborates with the PR lead to finalize outputs for media use. This model improves accuracy, shortens turnaround times, and attracts journalistic attention to lesser-covered topics.

New mechanisms were introduced to support research teams in communicating their work. A dedicated graphic designer, photographer, and videographer are now available to assist with media preparation, significantly easing the stress of public presentations.

The PR office also handled hundreds of expert requests during the review period, with consistent media interest in biologists, environmental and social geographers. Notably, media exposure now includes both leading and emerging Faculty scientists.

Finally, the PR and popularization teams have played vital roles in organizing flagship events such as the National Finals of the Biology Olympiad, Vojtěch Jarník International Math Competition, European Researchers' Night, and various scientific conferences and roundtables (e.g., DMS Smart). The PR unit's broad capacity allows the Faculty to manage most outreach activities internally, without relying on external contractors or extra funding.

- **The National Final of the Biology Olympiad: Inspiration for young talents**

In 2019, the FS UO became the proud host of the national final of the 53rd Biology Olympiad, a prestigious competition that annually involves over 20,000 students from all over the Czech Republic. The 36 best secondary school students from the regional rounds came to Ostrava to measure their knowledge and skills in laboratory and field tasks.

The role of the UO in this important event was crucial not only as the organizer, but also as an inspiring environment that introduced young talents to biology in its entirety – from the

challenging exploration of 50 natural objects to practical tasks in modern laboratories. The Faculty showed its top-notch facilities and professional capacities, which made the competitors and the public aware of what study and research at the university can look like.

The final was in the spirit not only of competition, but also of discovering the region – the students visited the Lower Vítkovice area, the Ostrava Zoo or the Botanical Garden in Štramberk. The importance of the event was highlighted by the support of the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority and the Statutory City of Ostrava, as well as the participation of the local government representatives.

- **Students of the University of Ostrava Monitor Birds in the Urban Landscape**

In 2019, the FS UO has been involved in a project aimed at monitoring the nesting of birds in urban environments and analysing the amount of heavy metals in their populations. The students of the Department of Biology and Ecology installed birdhouses in Ostrava, where they monitored the behaviour of the birds by means of regular monitoring and endoscopic cameras. The project has provided valuable data on the impact of urban development on bird populations and the quality of their environment.

An important overlap of the project is its practical use and long-term cooperation with the Statutory City of Ostrava. Based on the findings, more than 200 birdhouses of the optimal type have been placed throughout the city to promote bird biodiversity and increase the supply of nesting sites. The data obtained also laid the foundations for a long-term collaboration between the biologists of the FS UO and the Statutory City of Ostrava aimed at optimizing the management of the suburban forest in Ostrava-Plesná, which is going to run until 2029. This result shows how scientific research can provide specific solutions with a positive impact on the urban environment and environmental planning.

- **Vojtěch Jarník International Mathematical Competition: Ostrava as a Centre of Mathematical Talents**

The FS UO is a regular host of the Vojtěch Jarník International Mathematical Competition, the oldest mathematical competition for university students in the European Union. The competition, which the Faculty organised (within the period under review) in 2019 and 2022, brings dozens of competitors from Central and Eastern Europe and other parts of the world to Ostrava every year. The involvement of the students from Ostrava secondary schools underlines the effort to connect academia with young talents and support their further development.

An important aspect of this competition is its popularizing character. The event is not only about solving challenging mathematical problems, but also about spreading interest in mathematics. The accompanying programme with expert lectures and meetings with the leading mathematicians offers participants and visitors inspiration and a glimpse into the world of the cutting-edge science. The competition not only promotes international cooperation and the development of mathematical skills, but also introduces mathematics as an interesting and creative discipline.

- **FS UO at the Meltingpot: Popularisation of Science at the Heart of the Colours of Ostrava Festival**

Between 2019 and 2023, representatives of the FS UO regularly participated in the Meltingpot discussion forum, part of the prestigious Colours of Ostrava festival. This platform enabled the Faculty to engage the general public through lectures, discussions, and interactive workshops, making natural sciences more accessible.

Faculty experts moderated debates and introduced festival visitors to topics in biology, geography, ecology, and related fields. A highlight was Dean Jan Hradecký's 2019 presentation on landscape changes in the Czech Republic and Ostrava over the past 30 years. Beyond lectures,

practical workshops offered hands-on experiences with simple experiments, modern research methods, and natural samples, sparking curiosity and learning.

This long-term involvement strengthened the connection between science and society, demonstrating how complex topics can be communicated in an engaging way. The Faculty's participation contributed to public discourse on climate change, nature conservation, and sustainable development, while enhancing the visibility and relevance of natural sciences in everyday life.

- Discovery of Prehistoric Insects: Biologists from the FS UO in the Spotlight (2020)**

Jan Ševčík and Petr Kočárek, the biologists from the FS UO, have described a new species of insect in Burmese amber that is 100 million years old. Their findings expand knowledge of insect evolution and reveal previously unknown details about the prehistoric ecosystems.

Petr Kočárek discovered the *Ellca nevelka* species which has brought a new hypothesis about the function of the outgrowths on the legs – instead of swimming, they could have been used to control flight. Jan Ševčík described *Adamacrocera adami*, whose unique features may lead to the creation of a new family of two-winged insects.

The discovery aroused the interest of the wider media, which reported not only on the fossils but also on the research and facilities of the Faculty. Thanks to the media outputs, it was possible to spread the awareness of the importance of entomology and the scientific activities of the FS UO, thus the Faculty has once again strengthened its popularization role in the public space.

- A New Genus of Algae Ostravamonas: A Discovery by the FS UO is Named after Ostrava (2020)**

A scientific discovery with a direct link to Ostrava – Dovilė Barcytė, a young scientist from the Department of Biology and Ecology at the FS UO, has described a new genus of algae *Ostravamonas*, which refers to the place of her discovery, Ostrava (or Heřmanická Heap).

The alga *Ostravamonas chlorostellata* was isolated in the extreme acidic conditions of the heap, confirming that industrial sites can be a valuable source of biodiversity. The new genus includes three species of algae that were previously classified in the genus *Chlamydomonas*, but through molecular analyses, the scientists have discovered differences that have led to their reclassification.

The discovery aroused an international interest, as evidenced by the fact that independently of the Ostrava team, the Japanese scientists described the same phylogenetic lineage, but due to the priority of the publication, the name *Ostravamonas* was officially adopted. This discovery not only expands the knowledge of algal evolution, but also contributes to the promotion of the research activities of the Faculty of Science in the international scientific community.

- Czech Vševěd (Polymath) 2022: Eva Bílková Brings Science Closer to the Public**

Eva Bílková, a Ph.D. student at the Department of Biology and Ecology of the FS UO, has been awarded the title of Czech Vševěd 2022, a prestigious award for popularizers of science. She won thanks to her original science slam about the fascinating world of dragonflies, which captivated the jury and the audience.

The success in the competition became a springboard for further popularization activities – Eva subsequently presented scientific topics not only in the media, but also at schools, public events and meetings with pupils and students. Thanks to it, the science and research at the Faculty of Science have got closer to the general public and inspired the young generation to take an interest in nature and scientific knowledge.

- FactumOU: University of Ostrava against Misinformation and for Public Education**

The FS UO participated in a series of online discussions called FactumOU, aiming to provide the public with expert information on the current social issues. In 2019–2023, these programmes featured experts from various fields, including the academics from the Faculty of Science.

An important topic was, for example, the issue of vaccination, where Marek Eliáš, a biologist, informed about the operation and safety of vaccination and vaccines, and together with other experts there was also a live broadcast of responses to questions from the public. Similarly, Vladimír Baar, a political geographer, took part in discussions on the Russian aggression in Ukraine, where he presented the historical and geopolitical context of the conflict. Jan Hradecký, a geoecologist, discussed the impacts of the planned Danube-Oder-Elbe canal, pointing out the risks to the landscape and river ecosystems.

The interactive format of FactumOU allowed the general public not only to follow the expert debates, but also to ask questions and get answers directly from the scientists. In doing so, the UO has helped to combat misinformation, increase public awareness and strengthen its role in popularising science and professional topics that resonate in society.

- Scientific Promo Spots of the FS UO: Introducing Research Teams to the General Public and Prospective Students**

Since 2022, the FS UO has been systematically creating scientific promo spots that introduce the research teams working at the Faculty and their main focus to the general public and professional and educational institutions. The videos, which have bilingual subtitles (Czech/English), allow us to reach not only Czech secondary school students and those interested in science, but also foreign audiences and potential academic partners.

The spots introduce scientific groups in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, geography, computer science or mathematics, showing their contribution to society and the opportunities for pupils or students to get involved. Overall, they have reached tens of thousands of views and, based on the feedback received, they have also influenced the decision of applicants to study at the Faculty of Science.

This initiative strengthens the popularization role of the Faculty, connects the academic sphere with the public and promotes awareness of the scientific activities of the University of Ostrava not only at the national, but also potentially international level.

- Computer Scientists Help the Town of Šilheřovice with Digital Models of Monuments**

In 2023, the computer scientists of the FS UO have joined the project "Following the Trail of the Rothschild family", which aims to make cultural and natural heritage accessible to the wider public. In cooperation with the municipality council of Šilheřovice, they created 3D models of selected monuments, which helped to find a more affordable alternative to commercial solutions whose costs would have exceeded the project budget.

The research team made use of the commonly available technology, including a drone with a 4K camera and a mobile phone with a LIDAR scanner, which allowed to combine photogrammetry and laser scanning. The mapping and modelling process itself was carried out by the students of the Department of Informatics and Computer Management, which gave them valuable practical experience in the digitisation of monuments.

The resulting 3D models are available online and in the tourist centre, offering the public a more detailed view of the historic buildings. This result not only promotes the popularisation of science and modern technologies, but also shows how academia can make a practical contribution to the preservation of cultural heritage and the development of the region.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

The IEP's main recommendations for the individual items in Module 3 for the Faculty were as follows:

1. To ensure a system of support for the transfer and commercialisation of results and build strategic measures to support applied research and commercialisation of outputs (IEP recommends to address this mainly at the university level).
2. Given the time-consuming nature of applied research, the committee recommended focusing on projects related to knowledge transfer and expertise, or complex projects with a high impact on society and more intensive cooperation with end users (while noting that many of these measures require support at the university level).
3. Targeted search for talented young scientists and to create an environment that will enable them to further develop their potential.
4. To increase activities in the field of applied research in the departments of physics, chemistry and computer science.
5. For the Department of Social Geography and Regional Development, closer cooperation with the EU Research Institute for Social Work was recommended.

ad 1) One of the major changes affecting the results of the evaluation of Module 3 for the FS UO was the establishment of the aforementioned Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Ostrava. Parallel to the activities of the Centre, a new instrument was created at the university level to motivate the faculties to cooperate with commercial partners. This was a change in the evaluation system, which until 2019 included only the redistribution of funding based on RIV results, while the revised system also included social relevance (faculty ratings in Module 3 and the amount of economic contracts) in the evaluation parameters. Subsequently, discussions around the newly implemented system of research commercialisation evaluation led to a modification of the intra-faculty system (taking into account economic contracts and patents when evaluating employees and reallocating the Long-Term Development Concept of the Research Organisation) at the Faculty of Science from 2023. The system has been already implemented. These activities have been reflected in the Faculty's income from contract research and other income from non-public sources, so that in 2023 it already reached EUR 150 thousand, i.e., more than three times higher than in the previous period.

ad 2) Although many of the activities related to the commercialisation of research are still not concentrated in large projects, there has been an increase in complex strategic projects in the past period, where outputs with application potential have been or are still being produced. These are mainly projects of intersectoral cooperation (DMS Smart Cities) and projects within the operational programmes of OP JAK (Programme Johannes Amos Comenius) (LERCO and REFRESH).

ad 3) Targeted search and involvement of young researchers was made possible by the already mentioned strategic projects of the OP Research, Development, Education (Centre for Research of Pathogenicity and Virulence of Parasites) and newly OP JAK (LERCO and REFRESH), but also by projects in cooperation with the local government. These are in particular the calls announced in cooperation with the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority and the Statutory City of Ostrava called Global Experts (2 staff recruited) and subsequently Global Postdocs (prepared in the previous period but announced only this year). The Faculty of Science has also prepared internal mechanisms to

enable the arrival of new prospective staff (the Science Support Fund), thanks to which 10 new arrivals were funded in the past period.

ad 4) Commercial activities of the Department of Informatics increased to five times the value of 2019, the Department of Chemistry registered two patents (one in cooperation with the Silesian University in Katowice, the patent registration is in 2024, however, work on the preparation was ongoing in the period under review). The two-year internship of Prof. Sonja Zulfiqar within the Global Experts project (with the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority), which specifically targets the field of applied chemistry (new materials and technologies for sustainable development), also played a crucial role in the development of the Department of Chemistry. The Department of Physics is also active in the area of research commercialization, however, the main increase in the potential of the Department in this direction lies in the development of theoretical physics of nanostructures (supported as prospective research by the internal development project 2018–20 and the Science Support Fund of the FS UO). The Department of Physics has two relatively strong research teams which are involved together with the teams of the Department of Biology and Ecology and the Department of Chemistry in the implementation of a complex interdisciplinary project LERCO, which is expected to be intensively focused on the application of results into practice (among the evaluated indicators to be fulfilled is also cooperation with the application sphere).

ad 5) The Commission's recommendation that the Department of Human Geography and Regional Development work with the ERIS team is being implemented through the DMS Smart Cities, REFRESH and STENEO projects, which are also expected to have high societal relevance with a direct impact on the region.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
Faculty of Science web page	3.1	https://prf.osu.eu/
Structure of the Faculty	3.1	https://prf.osu.eu/departments-and-centres/
Project REFRESH	3.3	https://www.smaragdova.cz/en/refresh/
fajnOVA CENTRUM (including the aforementioned extensions to the historic core and the Přívoz area)	3.4	https://fajnovacentrum.cz/strategicky-plan/
Family Policy Concept of the Statutory City of Ostrava 2030 (Only in Czech)	3.4	https://fajnarodina.cz/rodinna-politika/dokumenty/
Concept of Cultural Development of the Statutory City of Ostrava #KULTURA 2030 (only in Czech)	3.4	https://kulturova.cz/strategie-kultury/koncepcie-kultury-2030/
Concept of Cultural Development of the Poruba Municipal District (only in Czech)	3.4.	https://fajnovaporuba.cz/strategicke-planovani
TACR Future of Rural Areas in the Czech Republic Challenges, Visions, Development Scenarios and Adaptation Strategies (only in Czech)	3.3	https://atlasvenkova.osu.cz
Implementation of Walkability as a Tool to Support Sustainable Mobility in Czech Cities (only in Czech)	3.3	https://walkability.osu.cz
DMS project "SMART Technology for Improving the Quality of Life in Cities and Regions" (only in Czech)	3.3, 3.6	https://smart-x.cz/o-nas/dokumenty/
Project The future of a rural area in the Czech Republic: Challenges, visions, development scenarios and adaptation strategies	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL01000110
Participatory Budget of the Moravská Ostrava and Přívoz Municipal District "Our District" (only in Czech)	3.4	https://participace.mobilnirozhlas.cz/nasobvod/ https://zpravodaj.municipolis.cz/moap/studie-jilova/

Patent 309811 B6 (only in Czech)	3.4	https://isdv.upv.gov.cz/doc/FullFiles/Applications/2021/PPVCZ2021_0151A3.pdf
Outcomes of the project Unbound rivers for future generations	3.3, 3.4	https://arnika.org/prirucka-pro-trvale-udrzitelny-rozvoj-zrusene-uzemni-rezervy-dol https://kfgg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/93cc9a6d082b46afb753a14a908606d2
Dragonfly Hunter (application for mobile phones)	3.4	https://apps.apple.com/us/app/dragonfly-hunter-cz/id1462046911?l=cs
Vojtech Jarník mathematical competition	3.6	https://vjimc.osu.cz/
Main round of the 53 rd Biological Olympiad (only in Czech)	3.6	https://biologickaolympiada.czu.cz/cs/r-11868-fotogalerie/ustredni-kolo-53-rocniku-bio-ou-ostrava-2019.html
Discovery of <i>Ostravamonas</i>	3.6	https://prf.osu.eu/24909/scientist-discovered-new-algae-and-named-it-after-ostrava/
FactumOU and Youtube channel of UO (only in Czech)	3.6	https://www.youtube.com/c/ostravsk%C3%A1univerzita
UO at Melting Pot and Colours of Ostrava (only in Czech)	3.6	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8wzyMhJH28&ab_channel=Ostravsk%C3%A1univerzita

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Faculty of Medicine

FORD: 3 - Medical and health sciences

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.⁶⁵ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

Mission and vision: The Faculty of Medicine (FM UO; <https://lf.osu.eu/>), founded in 2010 as the youngest of the eight medical faculties in the country, has a clear mission to contribute to the health of society through excellence in education, research and innovation in the medical and health sciences. The vision of the Faculty is to become a respected institution on a national and international scale, providing top-quality education, implementing high-quality scientific research with significant social impact and developing intensive cooperation with the application sphere. In the years 2020–2024, the FM UO was developing as a modern and dynamic institution, and significantly strengthened its position especially in the field of biomedical research, teaching and practical training of health professionals.

The societal contribution of the research activities of the FM UO focuses primarily on improving health care and the quality of life of the population, with an emphasis on the specifics of the Moravian-Silesian Region. The Faculty systematically addresses topics that reflect regional health challenges, such as environmental determinants of health, civilization diseases, and innovative diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.

The long-term goal is to strengthen the position of the Faculty of Medicine as a regional centre of excellence in the field of biomedical research with international overlap and to create a platform for effective knowledge transfer into clinical practice. A key strategic project is LERCO (Life Environment Research Center Ostrava), which creates a stimulating scientific environment with modern instrumentation, opportunities for international collaboration and transparent career development for researchers.

⁶⁵ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

The research activities of the FM UO include a complex spectrum from basic through applied to contract research:

Basic research (40%) – mainly in the fields of molecular biology, cell biology and physiology, focused on the study of disease pathogenesis and identification of new biomarkers.

Applied research (45%) – focused on the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, including cell therapies, validation of the effectiveness of therapeutic interventions and optimization of treatment protocols.

Contract research (15%) – carried out in collaboration with commercial partners, including clinical trials, testing of medical devices and development of new technological solutions.

Organisational structure and staffing

The FM UO is organised into 18 institutes and clinics, which provide teaching and scientific research activities. Specialized centres play a key role in the scientific performance of the faculty:

- Centre for Obesityology
- Centre for Surgical Research
- Centre for Clinical Neuroscience
- Blood Cancer Research Group
- Centre for Nursing Research

Based on the data from Table 3.1.1, the faculty staffing in 2023 included, in terms of FTE (full-time equivalent), 13.4 professors, 27.3 associate professors, 53.6 assistant professors, 11.3 assistants, and 7 researchers and research staff. A total of 133 employees were involved in teaching activities. The gender distribution is relatively balanced, with a higher representation of women in the categories of assistants and assistant professors. The age structure of employees (Table 3.1.3) shows that staff are represented across all age groups, with the largest proportion (49%) in the 30–49 age range.

Students and study programmes

The data in Table 3.1.4 show that in 2023, a total of 2,085 students studied at the FM UO, of whom 1,152 studied in bachelor's programmes, 677 in master's programmes and 138 in doctoral programmes. The Faculty also implemented lifelong learning courses for 118 participants. The increasing trend in the number of doctoral students is significant – from 85 in 2019 to 138 in 2023, which reflects the strengthening of the Faculty's scientific research capacity.

According to Table 3.1.5, in 2023 the Faculty had a total of 54 study programmes, of which 20 are bachelor's, 14 master's and 14 doctoral programmes. Following the internationalisation, the Faculty offers 3 study programmes in English. In the period under evaluation, the range of study programmes was significantly expanded, especially with the opening of a new Dentistry programme in 2023.

The Faculty has modern teaching facilities on an area of 8,500 m², including a state-of-the-art Simulation Centre (SIMLEK Training Hospital), which celebrated its one-year anniversary of operation in 2023. In 2023, the Faculty started the reconstruction of the new Dean's Office and the construction of the LERCO scientific centre of excellence on the Faculty campus. Investments in technological equipment and devices (e.g., 3D simulator for ORL, ultrasound simulator) have further improved the material base for teaching, research and innovation.

International cooperation includes 66 Erasmus+ bilateral agreements with institutions in 24 European countries. In 2023, 16 students went abroad for study stays and 10 for work placements, while the Faculty accepted 25 foreign students for study stays and 13 for work placements. The

pedagogical cooperation with partners in Switzerland and Italy is also significant, with a total of 298 students studying in the *Fisioterapia* programme in 2023.

Self-reflection and future perspective

The FM UO is aware of its potential as a regional centre of excellence in biomedical research and education of health professionals. Although it is the youngest medical faculty in the Czech Republic, during its existence it has already made significant progress in building research infrastructure, developing human resources and establishing strategic partnerships.

As a challenge for the future, the Faculty identifies the need to further strengthen the internationalization of research, more intensive involvement in European research networks and the development of commercialization activities. Despite the positive trend in the volume of external research funding, diversification of funding sources and strengthening of the share of international projects remains a priority.

The construction of the LERCO science centre opens a new chapter in the research direction of the Faculty, which will focus on environmental determinants of health and translational medicine, reflecting both regional specificities and global health challenges.

Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE⁶⁶

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	9.75/1.73	10.19/1.78	14.64/2.57	14.69/2.60	13.39/2.31	12.53/2.20
Associate Professor	19.41/4.34	20.91/4.16	24.61/6.34	27.38/7.50	27.30/7.02	23.93/5.87
Assistant Professor	66.13/34.52	45.85/23.31	49.59/24.69	50.37/25.32	53.58/29.69	53.10/27.51
Assistant	3.30/1.35	13.26/5.78	13.46/7.31	13.24/7.04	11.27/6.41	10.90/5.58
R&D Personnel ⁶⁷	16.96/7.51	14.56/5.55	11.40/3.27	10.29/2.39	5.30/2.61	11.70/4.27
Researchers in other categories ⁶⁸						
Technical and economic staff ⁶⁹	67.42/59.92	82.10/68.76	84.93/68.36	90.50/71.22	76.02/65.07	80.19/66.65
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	103.84/45.41	111.2/49.34	124.56/56.38	129.42/58.83	132.97/64.39	120.39/54.87

⁶⁶ The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

⁶⁷ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

⁶⁸ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

⁶⁹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

Early career researchers ⁷⁰	0.70/0.19	2.02/0.38	2.32/0.85	3.55/2.50	1.67/1.57	2.05/1.10
Total⁷¹	182.97/109.37	186.87/109.34	198.63/112.54	206.47/116.07	186.86/113.11	192.35/112.08

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)⁷²

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor							4	1	7	1	13	1
Associate Professor					9	2	12	4	14	1	4	
Assistant Professor			28	6	58	26	31	12	24	8	3	
Assistant	5	3	24	8	22	12	16	3	5	1	1	
R&D Personnel ⁷³	8	5	8	3	8	2	7	2	1	1	2	
Researchers in other categories ⁷⁴												
Technical and economic staff ⁷⁵	17	16	18	14	30	29	15	14	10	7	1	1
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	14	10	85	32	110	51	78	29	57	20	24	2
Early career researcher ⁷⁶			3	1								
Total⁷⁷	30	24	78	31	127	71	85	36	61	19	24	2

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one

⁷⁰ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

⁷¹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

⁷² The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

⁷³ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

⁷⁴ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

⁷⁵ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

⁷⁶ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

⁷⁷ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)⁷⁸

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					2		9		7	2	8	1
Associate Professor			3		15	6	19	3	15	5	8	
Assistant Professor	1	1	26	13	71	30	52	18	22	10	6	2
Assistant	8	6	14	8	18	11	10	3	7	2		
R&D Personnel ⁷⁹	1	1	8	6			4	1	1		1	
Researchers in other categories ⁸⁰												
Technical and economic staff ⁸¹	7	7	23	18	28	25	25	24	6	4	3	2
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	18	14	89	45	147	69	107	36	59	21	25	4
Early career researcher ⁸²			1	1	1	1						
Total⁸³	17	15	74	45	134	72	119	49	58	23	26	5

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate	930	620	934	672	1,048	728	1,041	723	1,152	772	2,652	1,808

⁷⁸ The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

⁷⁹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

⁸⁰ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

⁸¹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

⁸² See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

⁸³ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

Master's ⁸⁴	776	592	677	539	773	587	764	570	677	490	1,629	1,228
Doctoral	85	57	91	57	113	68	111	66	138	82	230	141
Lifelong Learning Courses	255	181	188	173	157	144	160	151	118	104	805	671
Total	2,046	1,450	1,890	1,441	2,091	1,527	2,076	1,510	2,085	1,448	5,316	3,848

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ⁸⁵ / Of which professional study programmes											
	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
Undergraduate	14/1	14/1	27	27	25/2	25/2	24/2	24/2	20/2	20/2	25/2	25/2
Master's	8/1	7	12/1	11	13/1	12	11/1	10	14/1	12	14/1	12
Doctoral	8		10		12		10		14		14	
Lifelong Learning courses	11	11	9	9	5	5	5	5	6	6	11	11
Total	41/2	32/1	58/1	47	55/3	42/2	50/2	39/2	54/3	38/2	64/3	48/2

Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	0.0	Select an item.	3.5
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.6 Biological sciences	3.5	Basic Research	
	1.7 Other natural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering	0.0	Select an item.	1.7
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.4 Chemical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.5 Materials engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	1.7	Basic Research	
	2.7 Environmental engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.0	Select an item.	

⁸⁴ All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

⁸⁵ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	12.5	Basic Research	94.8
	3.2 Clinical medicine	52.7	Applied Research	
	3.3 Health sciences	29.6	Applied Research	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.3 Veterinary science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.3 Education	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.4 Sociology	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.5 Law	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.6 Political science	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.8 Media and communications	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.9 Other social sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.2 Languages and Literature	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.0	Select an item.	
Total		100%	-	100%

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

The FM UO has established a prominent position in the research community, as evidenced by numerous individual awards and the active involvement of its academic staff in international structures. The inclusion of Professor Roman Hájek (Blood Cancer Research Group) and Professor Michal Bar (Department of Clinical Neurosciences) in the prestigious Forbes magazine ranking of the 50 best medical doctors in the Czech Republic is considered a success. Prof. Pavel Ševčík also received exceptional recognition, being awarded the prestigious Gottinger Prize of CSARIM in 2024 and the František Celestýn Opitz Medal in 2022, which underlines his exceptional contribution to the field of anaesthesiology and intensive care medicine.

In the field of neurology, doc. Ondřej Volný, Ph.D., the winner of the Henner Prize 2021 for the best publication by an author under 35 years of age awarded by the Czech Society of Neurology of the Czech Medical Association of J.E. Purkyně (ČLS JEP), achieved a significant success. His outstanding scientific work and results in the international field were also awarded the Rector's Prize of the University of Ostrava for outstanding scientific and research activities of academic and scientific staff under 35 years of age in 2022.

An exceptional success was achieved by doc. Radka Bužgová, who in 2024 won the Chairman's Award of the Agency for Health Research for the project "Neuropalliative and Rehabilitation Approach for Maintaining the Quality of Life of Patients in the Advanced Stage of Selected Neurological Diseases". This project has been evaluated as one of the most successful in the history of the Agency for Health Research, which evidences the high quality of research in the field of palliative care at the FM UO.

Academic staff in the field of otorhinolaryngology also received important awards. Prof. Karol Zeleník and Prof. Pavel Komínek were awarded the Kutvirt Prize for 2022 in the monograph category for the publication "Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery", which subsequently won the 2nd place in the ČLS JEP Prize. Prof. Zeleník was also awarded the Kutvirt Prize in the category of publications over 35 years of age for his article published in JAMA Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery (IF=8.961).

Academic staff of the FM UO are active members of editorial boards of international journals. Prof. Roman Hájek serves on the editorial board of the European Journal of Haematology. Prof. David Školoudík is a member of the Advisory Board of the prestigious journal Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology. Prof. Darja Jarošová holds an important position of Editor-in-Chief in the Central European Journal of Nursing and Midwifery and is also a member of the Editorial Board of the journal Nurse Education in Practice. Prof. Petr Dítě is a member of the International Editorial Board of the Journal of Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases, a member of the Editorial Board of the Middle East Journal of Digestive Diseases and a member of the Advisory Board of the journal Advances in Medical Sciences. This wide range of editorial positions demonstrates the international recognition of the expert competence of the academic staff of the FM UO.

In the context of international recognition of the scientific and research activities of the Faculty of Medicine, it is necessary to highlight the regular participation of our academic staff in prestigious international educational platforms. Doc. Ondřej Volný, Ph.D. from the Department of Clinical Neurosciences was invited as a lecturer in the international EXMINT (European Course in Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy) course every year in the period 2019–2023; the course represents one of the key European platforms for education in the field of interventional neurology. Professional reputation of doc. Volný was further affirmed by being invited to and participating at the CIRSE Academy, organized by the Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe, in 2022 and 2023. He is also a member of the scientific panel of the European Academy of Neurology (Neuroimaging and Stroke panels) and a member of the EYMINT Research and Survey Committee.

Prof. Roman Hájek has been invited to present "CAR-T Therapy in CEE Region of Europe" at the 5th European CAR T-cell Meeting in the Netherlands (2023), "RWE: Modern Triplets in RRMM" at the conference "Multiple Myeloma and Related Malignancies - Sixth Edition" in Italy (2022) and "Management of Challenging Cases" at the 17th International Myeloma Workshop in Boston (2019). Prof. Jan Václavík was invited to the 31st European Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Prevention in Athens (2022) where he gave a lecture titled "Clues for Detecting Non-Adherence in the Clinic". Prof. Karol Zeleník was invited to present a lecture "Management of Laryngopharyngeal Reflux Disease in 2022" at the 6th Congress of European ENT-HNS and to lead a "Roundtable Session" at the 30th Congress of the Union of European Phoniaticians in Turkey (2020).

An important indicator of professional recognition is the elected positions of our academics at the head of professional societies. Doc. Volný holds the prestigious position of the President of the Czech Society for Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovative Technologies in Medicine of the Czech Medical Association of J.E. Purkyně (ČLS JEP), which documents the strong position of the FM UO in the field of implementation of advanced digital technologies in clinical practice.

Prof. Michal Bar serves as a member of the Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Czech Neurological Society of ČLS JEP for Education, where he actively engages in shaping educational standards in the field. Prof. Filip Růžička, Ph.D. serves as President of the Czechoslovak Society of Microbiology and as a member of the main committee of the Society for Medical Microbiology. MUDr. Michal Hájek, Ph.D. has been a member of the Executive Committee (Excom) of the European Underwater and Baromedical Society (EUBS) since 2023.

Academic staff of the FM UO have made significant contributions to the evaluation of scientific research projects, serving as panel members or Chairs. They have participated in the evaluation of projects within the Research, Development and Innovation Council of the Government Office of the Czech Republic, the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR), the Czech Science Foundation (GACR), and the Ministry of Health (Czech Health Research Council AZV – National Health Programme). This involvement in evaluation panels highlights their recognized expertise and experience in managing scientific research activities.

These achievements confirm the growing prestige of the FM UO in the national and international arena and document the systematic building of a high-quality scientific research base that attracts talented researchers at various stages of their scientific careers.

The FM UO recognizes the lack of foreign scientists or notable guests for R&D lectures during the observed period as an opportunity to strengthen international collaboration. Plans include establishing a visiting professor program with short-term expert lectures, organizing international conferences with foreign speakers, forming partnerships with prestigious institutions, utilizing online platforms for virtual events, and actively participating in international research projects. The strategy will be implemented gradually, starting with identifying key experts and formalizing the visiting professor program, ensuring FM UO's integration into the global scientific community.

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
Roman Hájek, prof., MUDr., CSc. Michal Bar, prof., MUDr., Ph.D.	the 50 best medical doctors in the Czech Republic	Forbes
MUDr. Juraj Timkovič, Ph.D.	Medis International Award for the best publication in the field of ophthalmology for 2024, https://www.nature.com/articles/s41597-024-03409-7	https://www.medis-awards.com/en/
Pavel Ševčík, prof. MUDr., CSc.	Gottingerova cena ČSARIM, 2024	Czech Society of Anaesthesiology Resuscitation and Intensive Medicine (CSARIM), Czech Medical Association of Jan Evangelista Purkyně (ČLS JEP)
Pavel Ševčík, prof. MUDr., CSc.	Medal of František Celestýn Opitz, 2022	Czech Society of Anaesthesiology Resuscitation and Intensive Medicine (CSARIM) ČLS JEP

Ondřej Volný, doc., MUDr., Ph.D.	Henner Prize 2021 – best publication by an author under 35, https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32989100/	Czech Neurological Society ČLS JEP
Bužgová Radka, doc. PhDr., Ph.D.	The Chairman's Award of the Agency for Health Research for the project Neuropalliative and Rehabilitation Approach for Maintaining the Quality of Life of Patients in the Advanced Stage of Selected Neurological Diseases. The project was rated as one of the most successful projects in the history of the Czech Health Research Council (AZV), 2024	Czech Health Research Council (AZV) of the Czech Republic
Ondřej Volný, doc., MUDr., Ph.D.	Rector's Award for Outstanding Scientific Research or Artistic Activities of Academic and Scientific Staff of the University of Ostrava under 35, 2022	University of Ostrava
Němčanský Jan, MUDr., Ph.D. et al.	Josef Hlávka Prize for Scientific Literature in the Field of Medicine, 2024	Foundation of the Czech Literary Fund and Josef, Marie and Zdenka Hlávka Endowment
Zeleník Karol, prof., MUDr., Ph.D.	Kutvirt Prize 2022 in the category of publications by authors over 35 years of age https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35771544/	Czech Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, ČLS JEP
Zeleník Karol, prof., MUDr., Ph.D. Komínek Pavel, prof., MUDr., Ph.D.	Kutvirt Prize 2022 – monograph category <i>Chrobok, Komínek, Plzák, Čelakovský, Zeleník: Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery. TOBIAS, 2022, P. 572 ISBN 978-80-7311-205-9</i>	Czech Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, ČLS JEP

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
Roman Hájek, prof., MUDr., CSc.	European Journal of Haematology (Print ISSN:0902-4441)
David Školoudík, prof., MUDr., Ph.D.	Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology – a member of Advisory Board, ISSN: 0301-5629
Jarošová Darja, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	Central European Journal of Nursing and Midwifery – Editor-in-Chief, ISSN: 2336-3517
Jarošová Darja, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	Nurse Education in Practice, a member of Editorial Board, ISSN: 1471-5953
Bužgová Radka, doc. PhDr., Ph.D.	Central European Journal of Nursing and Midwifery – Editor, ISSN: 2336-3517
Zeleníková Renáta, doc. PhDr., Ph.D.	Central European Journal of Nursing and Midwifery – Editor, ISSN: 2336-3517
Dítě Petr, prof. MUDr., DrSc.	Journal of Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases – a member of International Editorial Board, ISSN: 1841-8724
Dítě Petr, prof. MUDr., DrSc.	Advances in Medical Sciences – a member of Advisory Board, ISSN: 1896-1126
Hrdinka Matouš, RNDr., Ph.D.	International Journal of Medical Students – a member of Editorial Board, ISSN: 2076-6327
Ondřej Volný, doc., MUDr., Ph.D.	A member of scientific panelu European Academy of Neurology – panel: Neuroimaging, panel: Stroke

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
Jan Václavík, prof. MUDr., Ph.D., FESC, FEFIM, MHA	Clues for detecting non-adherence in the clinic	31st European Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Prevention, Athény,	2022
Roman Hájek, prof., MUDr., CSc.	CAR-T therapy in CEE region of Europe	the 5th European CAR T-cell Meeting, Netherlands	2023
Roman Hájek, prof., MUDr., CSc.	Management of Challenging Cases	17th International Myeloma Workshop. Boston	2019
Roman Hájek, prof., MUDr., CSc.	RWE: modern triplets in RRMM	Multiple Myeloma and Related Malignancies" – Sixth Edition, Italy	2022
Ondřej Volný, doc. MUDr., Ph.D.	international EXMINT course	ESMINT, https://www.esmint.eu/society/	2019–2021
Ondřej Volný, doc. MUDr., Ph.D.	International CIRSE Academy	CIRSE, https://www.cirse.org/	2022, 2023
Michal Hájek, MUDr., PhD.	Current European guidelines for hyperbaric oxygen treatment.	CEEM 2019 - Central European Emergency Medicine. Jelenia Gora	2019
Zeleník Karol, prof., MUDr., Ph.D.	Management of laryngopharyngeal reflux disease in 2022	6th Congress of European ORL-HNS	2022
Zeleník Karol, prof., MUDr., Ph.D.	Roundtable session	30th Congress of Union of the European Phoniaticians, Turkey	2020

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the research project/programme call	Name of the contracting authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year
Prof. Čestmír Neoral, M.D., Ph.D.	Member of the Grant Committee of the Czech Health Research Agency	AZV (Czech Health Research Council)	2020–2024
Assoc. Prof. Michal Šimíček, Ph.D.	Member of the Evaluation Panel (P301) of the Czech Science Foundation Vice-Chairman of the Evaluation Panel (P301) of the Czech Science Foundation	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	since 2023 since 2024
Prof. Michal Bar, M.D., Ph.D.	Member of Panel 04 – Neuroscience of the Czech Health Research Agency	AZV (Czech Health Research Council)	2019–2024
Hana Šlachťová, M.Sc., Ph.D.	Public Competition of the ÉTA Program, Technology Agency of the Czech Republic	TACR (Technology Agency of the Czech Republic)	2021, 2022
Assoc. Prof. Radka Bužgová, Ph.D.	Vice-Chairwoman of the Panel of the Czech Health Research Agency P09: Public Health and Nursing	AZV (Czech Health Research Council)	since 2020

Prof. Darja Jarošová, Ph.D.	Member of the Panel of the Czech Health Research Agency P09: Public Health and Nursing	AZV (Czech Health Research Council)	2016–2020
Prof. Roman Hájek, M.D., Ph.D.	Member of the Evaluation Panel P304 of Czech Science Foundation	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2019–2021
Assoc. Prof. Jakub Cvek, M.D., Ph.D., MBA	Research, Development and Innovation Council of the Government Office of the Czech Republic (Support for Expert Panels), regular evaluation of results	SKV-POPR application	2023–2025
Assoc. Prof. Ondřej Volný, M.D., Ph.D.	Research, Development and Innovation Council of the Government Office of the Czech Republic (Support for Expert Panels), regular evaluation of results	SKV-POPR application	2023–2025
Prof. Roman Hájek, M.D., Ph.D.	Member of Panel 03 of the Czech Health Research Agency	AZV (Czech Health Research Council)	2021–2023

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research⁸⁶) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023⁸⁷. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1–3.3.2)⁸⁸, regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

In the period under evaluation, the Faculty of Medicine implemented a series of **strategic research projects** that significantly strengthened its position in national and international biomedical research. Key results include:

- In the field of environmental medicine (HAIE project), new biomarkers of air pollution have been identified and predictive models of health risks have been developed and applied in regional health policies.
- In haematooncology (Cell Coolab, New Directions in Biomedical Research projects), innovative protocols for GMP-compliant cell therapies were developed and the biomarker OTUD1 was identified for diagnosis and monitoring of treatment response.
- In the field of neurodegenerative diseases (project Using AI Methods for Medical Image Analysis), deep learning algorithms have been developed.
- For cardio-oncology (project Differential Diagnosis of Cardiomyopathies and Cardiotoxicity) a diagnostic kit was validated to allow stratification of patients according to the risk of cardiotoxicity before starting anticancer treatment.

⁸⁶ For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

⁸⁷ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

⁸⁸ The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

- In acute neurology (project The Importance of Multimodal CT Scanning), the diagnosis of stroke is optimised by combining perfusion CT and CT angiography and using a certified AI tool (collaboration between the research team and the start-up sector, Brainomix Ltd., UK).
- In infectious medicine (project Early Diagnosis of Invasive Pulmonary Aspergillosis), a non-invasive method for rapid detection of aspergillosis in immunocompromised patients combining biomarkers and mass spectrometry is being developed.

Most of the projects have/had strong translational potential, which led to the implementation of the research results into clinical practice. The implementation of these projects has significantly strengthened the Faculty's research infrastructure, deepened interdisciplinary collaboration and contributed to building an excellent research environment attractive to talented scientists at various stages of their careers.

Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (HAIE), 2019–2023, OP RDE (<https://haie.osu.cz/>)

The HAIE project, coordinated by the University of Ostrava, has produced groundbreaking findings on the impact of air pollution on ageing processes and population health in industrialised regions. The research team integrated epidemiological approaches, environmental medicine and modern methods of biology of ageing. Thanks to cooperation with the Ostrava University Hospital and foreign partners, new biomarkers of environmental burden have been identified and correlations between air quality and the incidence of chronic diseases have been established. The main outputs include the development of predictive models for assessing health risks from environmental exposures and the design of preventive measures for at-risk population groups. The results of the project have found direct application in the updated regional health policies and have contributed to better protection of the population in industrial areas.

Cell Coolab Ostrava – Research and Development Center for Cell Therapy in Hematology and Oncology, 2018–2022, OP RDE

The Research and Development Centre for Cell Therapy in Haematology and Oncology (Cell Coolab), under the lead of the University of Ostrava, has made significant progress in the development of innovative cell therapies for the treatment of haematological malignancies. New protocols for the isolation, cultivation and modification of therapeutic cells were developed through intersectoral collaboration with PrimeCell Advanced Therapy, SPADIA LAB, Ostrava University Hospital and the Centre for Cell Therapy and Diagnostics. The project has led to the introduction of advanced methods for monitoring the efficacy of cell preparations and optimization of production procedures that meet GMP standards. The project outputs supported the transfer of basic research into clinical practice and significantly strengthened the position of the FM UO as a leader in the field of translational medicine. The built infrastructure continues to be used for the development of personalized therapies in oncology.

Molecular, Cellular and Clinical Approach to Healthy Ageing, 2017–2022, OP RDE

Within this large-scale project coordinated by FNUSA-ICRC, the team of the FM UO focused on the research of age-related haematological diseases, especially amyloidosis. By combining genetic, molecular biological and clinical approaches, new biomarkers for early diagnosis and monitoring of disease progression have been identified. In collaboration with the Olomouc University Hospital, Palacký University and Masaryk Cancer Institute, innovative diagnostic procedures were developed, significantly shortening the time needed for diagnosis and enabling more accurate patient stratification. The developed laboratory methods were subsequently implemented into routine diagnostic practice. The results have contributed to a better understanding of the pathogenesis of amyloidosis and opened new perspectives for targeted therapy.

New Directions of Biomedical Research in the Ostrava Region, 2019–2022, OP RDE

The project, coordinated by the University of Ostrava, strengthened excellence in the field of haematooncology and cell therapies. Key outcomes include the identification and characterization of the biomarker OTUD1, which has potential for diagnosis and monitoring of treatment response in haematological malignancies. The built vivarium allowed bridging the gap between in vitro experiments and clinical studies, which accelerated the development of new therapeutic approaches. International collaboration with the University of Oxford has led to the implementation of advanced genomic methods. The results of the project supported the development of personalised medicine and strengthened the competitiveness of regional biomedical research.

Innovative Therapeutic Methods for Musculoskeletal Apparatus in Traumatic Surgery, 2019–2022, OP RDE

Within the project coordinated by VSB - Technical University of Ostrava, the Faculty of Medicine of the UO and the Institute of Disaster Medicine participated in the development and testing of new osteosynthetic fixation and navigation methods in traumatology. An interdisciplinary approach combining medical, engineering and materials expertise has led to the development of a new generation of implants with improved biomechanical properties and biocompatibility. In cooperation with the Ostrava University Hospital, MEDIN and FM Orthopaedic Prosthetics, the developed implants were tested in clinical practice, which led to a significant reduction of postoperative complications and shortened recovery time. The project strengthened the region's innovation potential in medical technology and created a platform for long-term cooperation between academia and commerce.

Genetically modified donor T cells as a universal cell source for the immunotherapy of tumors using T lymphocytes equipped with a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR), 2019–2022, TRIO MIT

The team of the FM UO focused on genetic modifications of T lymphocytes and preclinical testing of their efficacy against cancer cells in a project coordinated by PrimeCell Advanced Therapy. Protocols for gene transfer and expansion of modified T cells under GMP conditions were optimized. Preclinical tests have demonstrated high specificity of the modified cells against tumour antigens while maintaining a safety profile. The results of the project laid the foundation for the initiation of clinical trials using adoptive immunotherapy in patients with refractory haematological malignancies. The project has significantly contributed to the strengthening of the University's biomedical know-how and created the prerequisites for the development of personalized cellular immunotherapy in the region.

Artificial intelligence methods for automated medical images analysis, 2021–2023, OP BIC

In this project coordinated by TESCO SW a.s., the team of the FM UO developed advanced deep learning algorithms and a detailed 3D brain model that enables automatic detection and classification of neurodegenerative changes from various imaging modalities (MRI, CT, ultrasound). The developed algorithms achieve accuracy comparable to that of experienced radiologists, while significantly reducing the time required for analysis. The implementation of these tools in clinical practice has the potential to streamline the diagnostic process and contribute to earlier identification of neurodegenerative diseases, which opens up opportunities for earlier therapeutic interventions and better prognosis of patients.

Differential Diagnosis of Cardiomyopathy and Cardiotoxicity in Oncologic Patients Based on Innovative Molecular-Diagnostic Platforms, 2021–2024, TACR TREND

Within the project coordinated by BioVendor, the team of the FM UO focused on the development of molecular diagnostic methods for early detection of cardiotoxicity induced by anticancer treatment. Specific microRNAs and genetic variants (SNPs) have been identified that may serve as

predictive biomarkers of increased risk of developing cardiotoxicity. In collaboration with the Ostrava University Hospital, a diagnostic kit was validated to stratify patients according to the risk of cardiotoxicity before starting anticancer treatment. This innovation has the potential to significantly contribute to the safety of cancer therapy and enable a personalised approach to monitoring cardiovascular complications in cancer patients.

The Importance of Multimodal CT Examination in Stroke Mimics Diagnosis, 2023–2026, Czech Health Research Council (AZV)

The ongoing project in collaboration with the Ostrava University Hospital focuses on improving the diagnosis of stroke using multimodal CT. Preliminary results show that the combination of perfusion CT and CT angiography significantly increases the specificity of diagnosis and helps to distinguish true ischemic events from so-called "stroke mimics". Implementation of these advanced imaging protocols has the potential to reduce the risk of inappropriate thrombolytic therapy in patients with a clinical picture mimicking stroke. The project contributes to the optimization of triage algorithms and the streamlining of the use of medical resources in the acute care of neurological patients.

Early Diagnosis of Invasive Lung Aspergillosis of Next Generation, 2023–2026, Czech Health Research Council (AZV)

The research team of the FM UO in collaboration with the Ostrava University Hospital is developing non-invasive diagnostic methods for rapid detection of invasive pulmonary aspergillosis in immunocompromised patients. The combination of biomarkers and mass spectrometry allows the identification of specific molecular signatures of Aspergillus infection in the early stages of the disease. Preliminary results show that the developed diagnostic panel achieves high sensitivity and specificity with minimal invasiveness for the patient. Early and accurate diagnosis will allow the initiation of targeted antifungal therapy at the optimal time, which has the potential to significantly reduce the mortality of this serious infection in high-risk patient groups, especially after transplantation and during anticancer treatment.

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary						
Provider ⁸⁹	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ⁹⁰				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Czech Health Research Council (AZV)	Rationing of nursing care as one of indicators of the occurrence of nosocomial infections and other adverse effects in hospitalized patients			4,334/ 170,966		
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	The impact of autonomic nervous system (dys)function on cognition and cognitive decline: a longitudinal assessment	1,772/ 69,901				
Interreg V-A Slovakia-Czech Republic	Online educational platform for students of medical and non-medical fields with a focus on hyperbaric medicine (HYMON)					4,235/ 167,066

⁸⁹ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

⁹⁰ Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

INTER-COST	Nursing care rationing as related to nurses' perceptions of professional practice environment		1,066/ 42,051			
MPO TRIO	Genetically modified donor T cells as a universal cell source for the immunotherapy of tumors using T lymphocytes equipped with a chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)				7,003/ 276,286	
Moravian-Silesian Region	Projects to support science in the Moravian-Silesian Region	375/ 14,972	350/ 13,806	350/ 13,806	2,327/ 91,794	718/ 28,323
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	Other projects	348/ 13,759	9,403/ 370,927	45/ 1,775	600/ 23,668	360/ 14,201
OP RDE	Accreditation of new doctoral program Neurosciences				4,009/ 158,148	
OP RDE	Cell Coolab Ostrava - Research and Development Center for Cell Therapy in Hematology and Oncology				45,116/ 1,779,794	
OP RDE	Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment				132,585/ 5,230,192	
OP RDE	Securing of Infrastructural of New Doctoral Program Neuroscience Faculty of Medicine OU				37,410/1, 475,752	
OP RDE	New directions of biomedical research in the Ostrava region				17,188/ 678,051	
OP RDE	Simulation Center "Training Hospital"				208,759/ 8,235,085	
OP RDE	Simulation - Innovation - Practice = modern way of education at the Faculty of Medicine					29,247/ 1,153,760
Ministry of Health (IGA MZD)	Aberrant plasma cells clonal diversification in immunoglobulin light chain amyloidosis	8,582/ 338,549				
GP Ministry of Health	Genetics and Epidemiology of Mild Cognitive Impairment	8,397/ 331,242				
GP Ministry of Health	Genetics and Epidemiology of Alzheimer's disease	7,771/ 306,548				
GP Ministry of Health	Neuropalliative rehabilitation approach to preserve the quality of life in patients with an advanced stage of selected neurological diseases		3,892/ 153,530			
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	Specific university research (SGS)	2,263/ 89,282	3,276/ 129,253	3,625/ 143,007	3,282 / 129,491	4,286/ 169,093
Statutory City of Ostrava	Projects of the Statutory City of Ostrava	4,550/ 179,487				
Technology Agency of the Czech	Improving the quality of life by early detection of hearing loss using high-frequency audiometry		933/ 36,804	1,473/ 58,106	802/ 32,080	

Republic (TACR)						
Total		34,565/ 1,363,515	18,921/ 746,390	10,013/ 394,990	459,282/ 18,117,633	38,847/ 1,532,444
In the role of another participant						
Provider ⁹¹	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Czech Health Research Council (AZV)	Impact of covid, postcovid/longcovid in rehabilitation					545/ 21,499
Czech Health Research Council (AZV)	Influence of covid-19 pandemic on oncosurgical treatment of patients with colorectal cancer, breast cancer and lung cancer					371/ 14,635
COST	Rationing Missed Nursing care: An international and multidimensional problem			335/ 13,223		
Erasmus+	Providing a teaching and learning open and innovative toolkit for evidence-based practice to nursing European curriculum			578/ 22,812		
Erasmus+	University-Industry Educational Centre in Advanced Biomedical and Medical Informatics (CEBMI)				727/ 28,686	
Erasmus+	ehealth Literacy Learning skills among Nurses working with older people eLily2-RN				816/ 32,214	
Horizon 2020	Effect of Allopurinol in addition to hypothermia for hypoxic-ischemic Brain Injury on Neurocognitive Outcome		3,515/ 138,682			
Interreg V-A Czech Republic - Poland	The Impact of Air Pollution on the Health of the Population in the Czech-Polish Border Region (HEALTHAIR)		1,215/ 47,928			
MIT - OP BIC	Monitoring of the Musculoskeletal System Using Telemedicine Applications in Trauma Surgery				11,156/ 440,080	
MIT - OP BIC	Artificial intelligence methods for automated medical images analysis					8,078/ 318,661
MIT - OP BIC	Research and development of food supplement CAPIRAX					1,876/ 74,013
OP RDE	Innovative therapeutic methods of musculoskeletal apparatus in traumatic surgery				24,824/ 979,279	
OP RDE	Molecular, cellular and clinical approach to healthy ageing				23,644/ 932,739	

⁹¹ Ibid.

Ministry of Health (MZD)	Comparison of treatment of patients with colorectal cancer and synchronous liver metastases by primary first-liver first approach in randomized trial		2,089/ 82,406			
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Development of new laboratory tests for the diagnosis of inflammation, sepsis and cardiovascular diseases based on chemiluminescence analysis on automated platforms		807/ 31,834	933/ 36,804	901/ 35,542	884/ 34,871
Total			7,676/ 302,800	1,846/ 72,820	38,437/ 1,516,252	35,398/ 1,396,407

Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ⁹²	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MEDIN	MEDIN-clinical studies within PMCF			75/ 2,959		
Veterinary Research Institute	Sample analyses				119/ 4,704	93/ 3,669
Stimvia s.r.o.	Collection of biological samples - Donepezil level					441/ 17,393
Vivia Biotech, S.L.	ViBi Madrid - Biomedical Research					47 / 1,854
Total				75/ 2,959	119/ 4,704	581/ 22,916

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts⁹³, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

The FM UO systematically develops research activities with a significant social impact that goes beyond the boundaries of the academic environment. This strategy manifests itself in the implementation of projects whose results are directed towards solving specific societal challenges and bring measurable benefits to different groups of people.

⁹² If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

⁹³ See Terms definition.

The HAIE (Healthy Ageing in Industrial Environments) project provided concrete tools for health risk assessment in industrially burdened areas. The developed predictive models and identified biomarkers of environmental burden are actively used by regional health stations for setting targeted preventive measures. The beneficiaries of these outcomes are approximately 1.2 million inhabitants of the Moravian-Silesian Region, for whom the results mean reduced exposure to risk factors. The research also took into account the gender dimension by analysing the different impacts of pollution on male and female populations, including the specific vulnerability of women of reproductive age and senior citizens.

In the field of oncology and haematology, the Faculty implemented projects with a direct impact on the quality and availability of treatment. Cell CooLab Ostrava has developed protocols for cell therapies implemented in the Ostrava University Hospital and Olomouc University Hospital, which lead to prolonged survival of patients with haematological malignancies. The follow-up project focused on genetically modified T lymphocytes brings revolutionary treatment options for 600–800 patients per year in the Czech Republic with refractory malignancies. A significant social benefit is that up to 40% of patients successfully treated with these methods can return to work. From an economic point of view, these therapies represent a sustainable alternative to conventional repeated chemotherapy and reduce hospitalisation costs.

The project focused on differential diagnosis of cardiotoxicity has a direct positive impact on approximately 15,000 cancer patients per year in the Czech Republic who undergo potentially cardiotoxic treatment. The implementation of predictive biomarkers allows to reduce the incidence of severe heart failure by 40–50%, which represents a saving of CZK 180–220 million per year. Research has taken the gender dimension into account by showing that women have up to a 1.5–2-fold higher risk of cardiotoxicity at the same doses of some cytostatics, and thus contributed to closing the gender gap in cancer treatment safety.

All research projects were carried out with an emphasis on their long-term sustainability. The implemented diagnostic and therapeutic procedures are environmentally and economically sustainable, reduce the ecological footprint of healthcare and create conditions for efficient use of resources in healthcare. Another important aspect of sustainability is the potential for national self-sufficiency in the production of advanced therapies, which reduces dependence on foreign suppliers of expensive treatments.

This comprehensive approach to solving societal challenges confirms the growing importance of the research activities of the FM UO for the regional and national health system and documents its ability to effectively link excellent basic research with specific applications having a direct positive impact on the quality of life of the population.

- **A model for in vitro Development of Plasma Cells Producing Pro-Amyloidogenic Protein (2019) – Molecular, Cellular and Clinical Approaches to Healthy Aging**
This model contributes to the study of amyloidosis and other neurodegenerative diseases, which could support the development of new therapeutic approaches, for example for Alzheimer's disease. Its use in basic research and the pharmaceutical industry can facilitate the testing of drugs targeting pathological protein aggregation. The gender dimension could help to reveal differences in the progression of neurodegenerative diseases between men and women. The model is sustainable in that it reduces the need for animal experimentation, which could lead to more ethical and environmentally friendly research.
- **International Patent Application – Degradable Polymer Composite Material with Antimicrobial Effects (2022) – Innovative Treatment Methods for Musculoskeletal System in Trauma Surgery**
The new material could reduce the risk of post-operative infections and promote faster wound healing, which might theoretically lead to shorter hospital stays and fewer health complications.

Its use in healthcare could contribute to improving the quality of care. Testing for differences in wound healing between men and women would allow to apply the gender dimension. The sustainability of the material lies in the reduction of antibiotic consumption and minimisation of medical waste if it were to be widely adopted in clinical practice.

- **Epidemiological Study on the Impact of Living Conditions on Healthy Population Development (2023) – Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (HAIE)**

The study could help in the formulation of preventive public health measures, especially in regions with increased environmental burdens. The results could support targeted interventions aimed at eliminating environmental health risks. The gender dimension makes it possible to track differences in health impacts between men and women. The research could contribute to informing policy measures to reduce health inequalities and promote long-term population health development.

- **Semi-Operational – Allogeneic Genetically Modified T Lymphocytes (2023) – Genetically Modified T Lymphocytes for Cancer Immunotherapy**

The development of allogeneic CAR-T therapy could increase the availability of cellular immunotherapy for patients with haematological malignancies. In theory, this could reduce the cost of producing and distributing this therapy, which could lead to its wider use. Clinical trials could reveal differences in treatment effectiveness between men and women, allowing for a more personalised approach. The sustainable benefit lies in the expansion of personalised medicine and reducing the need for traditional transplants.

- **Functional Sample – CAR Expressing Universal T Lymphocyte Cell Line (2023) – Genetically Modified T Lymphocytes for Cancer Immunotherapy**

This technology could facilitate the development of advanced immunotherapies and improve the effectiveness of treatments for leukaemia and lymphomas. In the future, it could support an individual approach to treating patients according to their immune profile. Possible differences in immune responses between men and women could be the subject of further investigation. The sustainable benefit lies in reducing the need for allogeneic transplants and optimising the production of cell therapies.

- **Functional Sample – Universal T Lymphocytes (UNiTs) Cell Line (2023) – Genetically Modified T Lymphocytes for Cancer Immunotherapy**

Universal cell lines could accelerate preclinical testing of immunotherapeutic approaches and speed up the introduction of innovations into clinical practice. They could reduce production costs and the time needed to develop new therapies. The gender dimension could bring a better understanding of differences in immune responses between the sexes. The sustainability of this outcome could lie in a more efficient use of available biological materials and a reduction in the need for individually tailored therapies.

- **Patent Application – Method for Producing Proteins in Host Cells (2023) – Research and Development Centre for Cell Therapy in Haematology and Oncology**

This patent could encourage more efficient and environmentally friendly production of therapeutic proteins. In the future, it could reduce production costs and increase the availability of biologic medicines for patients. The gender dimension may be reflected in the development of drugs optimised for the different metabolic processes of men and women. The sustainable impact could be to reduce waste production in the production of biotherapeutics and to optimise the energy intensity of the production process.

- **CEREB B-Mode Assist Software for AI-Assisted Medical Image Analysis (2023) – Using AI Methods for Medical Image Analysis**

In the future, this software could improve the diagnosis of neurological diseases and contribute to the efficiency of healthcare. It could potentially reduce the workload of radiologists and improve diagnostic accuracy. The gender dimension could contribute to a better recognition of differences in neurological symptoms between men and women. Sustainability lies in reducing diagnostic errors and optimising the use of healthcare capacity.

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ⁹⁴	Year of application	Name
Model	2019	A model for in vitro development of plasma cells producing pro-amyloidogenic protein
International patent application	2022	Degradable polymer composite material, especially with antimicrobial properties
Epidemiological study	2023	An epidemiological study of the effects of living conditions in two environmentally distinct regions on healthy population development with respect to the incidence of epidemiologically significant diseases.
Semi-operation	2023	Allogeneic genetically modified T lymphocytes
Functional sample	2023	CAR expressing universal T lymphocytes cell line
Functional sample	2023	Universal T lymphocytes (UNITs) cell line
Patent application	2023	Method for producing proteins in host cells
Software	2023	CEREB B-Mode Assist for AI-assisted medical image analysis (2023) – Using AI methods for medical image analysis

Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples).

It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)⁹⁵, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).⁹⁶

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

⁹⁴ Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

⁹⁵ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

⁹⁶ If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

Self-assessment:

The FM UO systematically develops the transfer of research results into practice through cooperation with the Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the UO (KTTC UO), which provides support in the field of intellectual property protection and commercialization. The process is supported by the specialised research centres of the Faculty of Education UO, which serve as contact points for potential partners. The Faculty identifies results with application potential through regular consultations with KTTC UO and co-develops strategies for their implementation.

Users of FM UO results:

- **Ostrava University Hospital** – primary clinical-research partner implementing new certified diagnostic procedures tested at the Faculty of Medicine (e.g., AI tool e-Stroke used for evaluation of native CT, CT angiography and CT perfusion in patients with suspected stroke (CMP) – established research cooperation with **Brainomix Ltd.** (UK, Oxford, <https://www.brainomix.com/>).
- **PrimeCell Advanced Therapy a.s.** – a partner in the field of cell therapies, with which the FM UO optimized protocols for isolation, cultivation and modification of therapeutic cells in the field of haematological malignancies.
- **BioVendor – Laboratorní medicína a.s.** – partner for the development of diagnostic methods focused on biomarkers of cardiotoxicity.
- **Regional Hygiene Station of the Moravian-Silesian Region** – a national institution applying the results of the FM UO environmental research to regional health policies (e.g., predictive models of health risk assessment from the HAIE project).
- **TESCO SW a.s.** – a partner in the field of AI in medicine, with whom the FM UO participates in the development of CEREB B-Mode Assist software for medical image analysis.

Search for new users of the results:

Networking at professional conferences

The FM UO actively presents research results at international forums, which enables the identification of potential partners. A good example is the establishment of a research collaboration with the British company (start-up) Brainomix Ltd. after the presentation of research by the Centre for Clinical Neuroscience team at the European Stroke Organization (ESO) Conference. The established cooperation led to the pilot implementation of the e-ASPECTS tool for the assessment of early ischemic changes in patients with stroke at the Ostrava University Hospital and subsequently in more than 20 ict centres in the Czech Republic, as part of the pilot testing of this decision-support AI diagnostic tool. The tool now serves as a second reading in acute CMP and improves the decision-making process. The collaboration of the FM UO and Ostrava University Hospital team with the development team of Brainomix Ltd. continues.

Targeted analysis of market needs

In cooperation with KTTC UO, the Faculty conducts an analysis of the need in the field of health care. For example, Stimvia s.r.o. was identified as a potential partner for research in the field of neurostimulation.

Commercialisation of R&D&I results

The FM UO evaluates results through contract research and expert services. In the period under evaluation, the volume of consulting activities increased from CZK 0.9 thousand (2019) to CZK 3.9 thousand (2023). In 2023, the first licence agreement was made (CZK 0.1 thousand). The Faculty is involved in the project "Strengthening of Technology Transfer Activities" from the GAMA 2 programme of the TACR, which creates conditions for the development of commercialization

activities. The volume of funding from non-public, non-grant sources is showing a positive trend, which demonstrates the strengthening of links with the application sphere.

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Licence					3.6/ 143
Consulting activities	24/ 928	30/ 1,175	56/ 2,187	71/ 2,801	98/ 3,875
Donations	200/ 7,889		100/ 3,945	530/ 20,907	
Total	224/ 8,817	30/ 1,175	156/ 6,132	601/ 23,708	102/ 4,018

Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

The FM UO actively participates in the popularization of science and research and systematically strives to bring professional knowledge to the general public. Since 2015, the Faculty has been involved in the national event **Night of Scientists**, which offers the public an inspiring insight into the world of medicine and biomedical research. During this event, visitors can experience popularization lectures, interactive workshops and practical experiments at the faculty. Since 2022, an important part of the programme is the **SIMLEK** simulation centre, which gives the public an insight into modern methods of teaching future medical doctors through advanced simulation technologies.

The **MedTalks** initiative under the auspices of the Czechoslovak Association of Medics also plays an important role in popularisation - this non-profit student organisation operating at the FM UO regularly publishes interviews with inspiring personalities in the field of healthcare, which are freely available on YouTube and Spotify.

Our academics regularly appear in local and national media, most recently on the topic of artificial intelligence in medicine (doc. MUDr. Ondřej Volný, Ph.D.).

Since 2022, the Faculty has been actively involved in the **Brain Week**, a prestigious festival organized by the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, which brings to the public lectures focused on the latest discoveries and trends in brain research and neuroscience. During this festival, representatives of the FM UO presented the following professional topics:

- 3/2022 – prof. David Školoudík: "Digital Image Analysis in the Diagnosis of Neurodegenerative Diseases"
- 3/2023 – prof. David Školoudík and Mgr. Vojtěch Molek, Ph.D.: "The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Early Diagnosis of Parkinson's Disease and Possibilities of Prevention of the Disease"
- 2024 – doc. Ondřej Volný: "Use of Artificial Intelligence in Stroke Diagnostics"

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

In the period 2019–2023, the FM UO was systematically implementing the recommendations of the International Evaluation Panel (IEP) from the previous evaluation.

Strengthening research infrastructure and excellence

In the previous evaluation, the International Evaluation Panel described the Faculty of Medicine of the UO as a "young" faculty with "enormous potential" and positive development. In response to this, the Faculty was systematically building research infrastructure in the following period, which resulted in the launch of the construction of the LERCO Science Centre (<https://lerco.osu.eu/>), which significantly strengthens biomedical research, in cooperation with the Ostrava University Hospital and the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava. This centre creates a stimulating scientific environment with modern instrumentation and opportunities for further international collaboration.

Improving applied research with economic impact

In the previous evaluation, the International Evaluation Panel noted the mediocre level of applied research results with economic impact and recommended strengthening intellectual property protection with an emphasis on international patent protection. The FM UO responded by implementing projects with application potential, such as the Cell Coolab or the development of "Genetically Modified T Lymphocytes for Cancer Immunotherapy", which aim to develop technologies that reduce dependence on foreign providers/suppliers of expensive therapies.

Reinforcing results with non-economic impact

The International Evaluation Panel rated the non-economic impact outcomes as good, but recommended specifying more precisely the type and expected impact of the outcomes. In response to this recommendation, the Faculty further developed projects with defined societal impact, such as the HAIE (Healthy Ageing in Industrial Environments) project, which, among other things, brought predictive models and biomarkers of environmental burden in the Moravian-Silesian Region, which was a region burdened by industrial production and heavy industry in the past.

Expanding cooperation with the non-academic sphere

Interactions with the non-academic sphere were rated as very good in the previous evaluation. On this basis, the FM UO has further expanded its cooperation with commercial partners, as evidenced by the implementation of contract research with companies such as MEDIN, Stimvia, Vivia Biotech, Monlycke and others. It has also strengthened cross-sector collaboration in projects such as Cell Coolab, where it collaborates with PrimeCell Advanced Therapy, SPADIA LAB and others.

Development of the technology transfer system

The International Evaluation Panel rated the technology transfer system very highly, but recommended reviewing the constraints leading to the absence of international patents. In response to this recommendation, the Faculty intensified its cooperation with the KTTC UO, which is reflected in a gradual increase in consulting activities from CZK 0.9 thousand in 2019 to CZK 3.9 thousand in 2023.

Spin-off strategy

In the area of strategy for spin-off companies, the Faculty received an average rating in the previous evaluation. The International Evaluation Panel recommended reviewing the strategy and operational plan and assessing the reasons for the absence of spin-off companies. In the following period, the Faculty implemented projects with potential for future commercialization and in connection with the strategic project LERCO, the first spin-off of the FM UO is planned to be established soon.

International recognition by the research community

The FM UO received a very good rating in the previous evaluation for recognition by the international research community. This was followed by further strengthening of national and international recognition, as evidenced by the inclusion of Professors Roman Hájek and Michal Bar in the ranking of the 50 best medical doctors in the Czech Republic, the award of the prestigious Gottinger Prize to Professor Pavel Ševčík, and other important awards – see above. In 2023, the top 30 under 30 included a graduate and Ph.D. student of the FM UO, MUDr. Martin Palička.

Popularisation of R&D&I

There has been a significant development of outreach activities including annual participation in the Night of Scientists, involvement in the Brain Week from 2022, and support for student initiatives such as MedTalks. A significant extension of the popularisation possibilities is also the opening of the SIMLEK simulation centre to the public from 2022.

Summary of the implementation of the recommendations

The FM UO implemented a number of recommendations from the previous evaluation. It sought to systematically strengthen its research infrastructure, develop applied research with defined social and economic impact, strengthen cooperation with the commercial sphere, intensify its knowledge transfer activities, strengthen its national and international recognition and expand its popularisation activities.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
FM UO website	3.1	https://lf.osu.eu/
Life Environment Research Center Ostrava	3.1, 3.7	https://lerco.osu.eu/
Winning publication	3.2.1	https://www.nature.com/articles/s41597-024-03409-7
Winning publication	3.2.1	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32989100/
Winning publication	3.2.1	https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35771544/
The European Society of Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy	3.2.3	https://www.esmint.eu/society/
Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe	3.2.3	https://www.cirse.org/
Brainomix Ltd.	3.5	https://www.brainomix.com/
Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment	3.3	https://haie.osu.cz/

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Faculty of Social Studies

FORD: 5 - Social sciences

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.⁹⁷ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

Faculty of Social Studies (FSS UO; <https://fss.osu.eu/>) is an educational and scientific research unit contributing to a sustainable and socially cohesive society.

Its activities align with the UO Strategic Plan for 2021–2025 (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf>) and the FSS Strategic Plan for 2021–2025 (<https://fss.osu.eu/mission-and-vision/>). The faculty bases its activities on core values: human dignity, social justice, solidarity, professionalism, and academic openness. The Faculty aims to be:

- an open academic community with a shared internal culture based on these values and the ability to reach a consensus,
- an educational institution preparing professionals who act professionally and ethically,
- a partner especially for representatives of other educational and research institutions, public administration entities, local governments, non-profit non-governmental organizations, health organizations,
- an active participant in the development of strategies and solutions to social issues, including those of the region.

The FSS UO focuses on knowledge development in social sciences, and health- social care.. It offers Bachelor's, Master's and Ph.D. programmes in Social Work and Health-Social Care. The follow-up Master's specialization in Social Work and Criminology is unique in the central Europe. The joint degree in Social Work and Entrepreneurship implemented with the universities of Vienna (AU) and Trnava (SK) results from a long-term cooperation in the international SOWOSEC network (<https://fss.osu.eu/21902/sowosec-social-work-and-social-economy-programme-cooperation-of-european-social-work-universities/>). The Ph.D. programme in Social Work is available in both Czech

⁹⁷ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

and English. The FSS UO prides itself on the quality and internalization of teaching, which was supported through Erasmus+ projects. 2022-1-CZ01-KA220-HED-000086282 *Structural Embedding of Knowledge by Experience in Higher Education through Processes of Co-Creation* (partners: Belgium, Italy, Norway); Erasmus+ project K2 OSU20-3151 *ECO³ Sustainability Management and Green Controlling* (HR – FH Campus Vienna, partners: FSS OU, 2x DE, RO and AU), <https://fss.osu.cz/eco3/>

Degree structures: Bc. – 61%, NMgr. – 35%, and Ph.D. – 4%. Women make up about 90% of the students. There has been some increase in Social Work enrolments. The study programmes are characterised by a steady interest of applicants and employers. (Table 3.1.4) The FSS is one of the UO workplaces with a high number of students per academic staff member.

Number of academic staff on average (FTE/women) 35.44/27.97 (Tab. 3.1.1). There is a strong qualification structure, and the number of academics aged 30–39 has risen. (Tab. 3.1.3 and 3.1.4) Two visiting foreign professors from Finland and Great Britain worked at the FSS UO. The European Research Institute for Social Work (see more <https://eris.osu.eu/>) as, a team of internationally renowned experts, contributes to internalisation.

Since 2011, the FSS has held the right to conduct habilitation and professorial appointment procedures in Social Work, making it one of only two Czech universities with this capacity.

The FSS UO research activities follow the University strategic priorities (<https://www.osu.eu/research-initiatives/>), particularly addressing *Groups of Population at Risk of Social Exclusion* (<https://fss.osu.eu/research/>). Between 2023–2027, the faculty established interdisciplinary research teams: Service and Care in the 21st Century; Social Innovation and New Technology in Social Work; Co-Creation as a Source of Knowledge and Action in Social Work; Reflexive Approaches in Social Work; History of Social Work; Social Harm of Residents of Socially Excluded Localities. These teams promote doctoral involvement and address regional and broader social issues.

The research is aligned with key funding sources: 3 basic research projects supported by the Czech Science Foundation (GACR), 7 applied research projects supported by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR), and many other research projects of the Operational Programmes (e.g., REFRESH – CZ.10.03.01/00/22_003/0000048) or under contract orders (<https://fss.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/>).

The research impact has improved and strengthened. According to the Web of Science 2023, the FSS UO achieved the highest citation impact in FORD 50403 Social Topics (Women's and Gender Studies; Social Issues; Family Studies; Social Work) among Czech universities.

The Faculty emphasises basic, applied and contract research aimed to improve the quality of human life and maximizing individual and community potential. The commissioners and partners include ministries (Labour and Social Affairs, Regional Development), the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority (MSK), the Statutory City of Ostrava (SMO), NGOs, organizations providing social services and health organizations. The outputs (methodologies, software, cost-benefit analyses, etc.) have notable social economic impact. The first spin-off was established at the UO and the first social science spin-off in the Czech Republic, thanks to the efforts of FSS employees, promoting commercialisation of its activities.

Future development (the UO Strategic Plan 2026–2030 and the FSS Strategic Plan 2026–2030) focuses on strengthening R&D, and obtaining international EC grants. The Faculty aims to enhance its national and international recognition through projects like: OP REFRESH – CZ.10.03.01/00/22_003/0000048, DigiWELL – OP JAK Top Research CZ.02.01.01/00/22_008/0004583, OP JAK HUMSOC Biography of Fake News with a Touch of AI: Dangerous Phenomenon through the Prism of Modern Human Sciences

CZ.02.01.01/00/23_025/0008724, etc.), and membership in the COST – European Cooperation in Science and Technology project, or under contract orders (<https://fss.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/>). Additionally, proposals have been submitted for 2024–2025 (awaiting the results of the evaluation): 3x COST Action, 1x HORIZON Marie Skłodowska Curie Action, 1x THCS.

The faculty vision is to maintain its leading position in social work research and education, with an emphasis on international cooperation, practical application, and social relevance.

Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE⁹⁸

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	1.48	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.93/0.93	2.08/0.19
Associate Professor	4.83/4.83	4.60/4.60	4.73/4.73	5.43/5.43	4.97/4.97	4.91/4.91
Assistant Professor	14.65/10.67	15.66/11.42	15.98/11.88	15.16/10.92	15.97/11.97	15.48/11.37
Assistant	1.00/0.67	0.39/0.39	0.07/0.07	0.50/0.50	0.50/0.50	0.49/0.43
R&D Personnel ⁹⁹	3.39/3.35	2.80/2.38	3.19/2.58	3.44/2.76	1.28/0.82	2.82/2.37
Researchers in other categories ¹⁰⁰						
Technical and economic staff ¹⁰¹	9.01/8.44	9.04/8.37	9.84/8.78	10.35/8.95	10.06/8.95	9.66/8.70
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	22.14/16.35	23.64/17.40	23.68/17.51	23.22/16.85	24.37/18.37	23.40/17.30
Early career researchers ¹⁰²	0.18/0.18	0.63/0.63	0.58/0.58	0.83/0.83	0.62/0.49	0.57/0.54
Total¹⁰³	34.36/27.96	34.49/27.16	35.81/28.04	36.88/28.56	35.71/28.14	35.44/27.97

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹⁰⁴

⁹⁸ The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

⁹⁹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁰⁰ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁰¹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁰² See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁰³ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁰⁴ The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor									1		1	
Associate Professor					3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Assistant Professor			6	3	10	10	2		1			
Assistant			1	1								
R&D Personnel ¹⁰⁵	1	1	1		2	2						
Researchers in other categories ¹⁰⁶												
Technical and economic staff ¹⁰⁷	1		1	1	4	4	2	2	1	1		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities			8	5	14	14	3	1	3	1	2	1
Early career researcher ¹⁰⁸			8	5	5	5	2	0				
Total¹⁰⁹	2	1	9	5	19	19	5	3	4	2	2	1

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹¹⁰

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor							1	1	1		1	
Associate Professor			1	1			3	3	1	1		
Assistant Professor			7	5	9	6	2	1				

¹⁰⁵ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁰⁶ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁰⁷ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁰⁸ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁰⁹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹¹⁰ The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Assistant			1	1								
R&D Personnel ¹¹¹			2	1	1	1	1	1				
Researchers in other categories ¹¹²												
Technical and economic staff ¹¹³			3	2	4	4	2	2	1	1		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities			9	7	9	6	6	5	2	1	1	
Early career researcher ¹¹⁴			12	8	4	3	3	2				
Total¹¹⁵			14	10	14	11	9	8	3	2	1	

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate	381	349	428	386	443	393	433	383	409	364	1039	934
Master's ¹¹⁶	219	200	264	245	273	256	270	245	301	276	789	723
Doctoral	16	13	17	12	23	17	19	15	19	13	43	33
Lifelong Learning Courses												
Total	616	562	709	643	739	666	722	643	729	653	1871	1690

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ¹¹⁷ / Of which professional study programmes											
	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
Undergraduate	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1

¹¹¹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹¹² The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹¹³ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹¹⁴ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹¹⁵ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹¹⁶ All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

¹¹⁷ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

Master's	3		5		5		8		9		8	
Doctoral	2/1		2/1		2/1		2		2/1		2/1	
Lifelong Learning courses												
Total	8/1	1	10/1	1	10/1	1	13	1	14/1	1	13/1	1

Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	2.8	Applied Research	4.9
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	1.4	Applied Research	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	0.7	Applied Research	
	1.6 Biological sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.7 Other natural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.4 Chemical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.5 Materials engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.7 Environmental engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.0	Select an item.	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	0.0	Select an item.	4.9
	3.2 Clinical medicine	0.7	Balanced basic and applied research	
	3.3 Health sciences	4.2	Balanced basic and applied research	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.3 Veterinary science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	3.7	Balanced basic and applied research	89.7
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.0	Select an item.	

	5.3 Education	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.4 Sociology	70.6	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.5 Law	2.3	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.6 Political science	1.8	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	0.9	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.8 Media and communications	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.9 Other social sciences	10.4	Balanced basic and applied research	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	0.0	Select an item.	0.5
	6.2 Languages and Literature	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.5	Basic Research	
Total		100%	-	100%

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

The international recognition of the FSS UO activities is evidenced by the fact that in 2023 the activities of the ERIS – European Research Institute of Social Work (<https://eris.osu.eu/>, founded in 2007 on the initiative of the UO and seven members from leading European universities) had 16 partner and associate member universities from Austria, Germany, Finland, France, Poland, Slovakia and UK. The main objective of the Institute is to carry out research and publication activities contributing to European and international developments in social work.

An important manifestation of the international recognition of the FSS UO experts is the award of Doctor honoris causa /Dr.h.c. to Prof. Oldřich Chytil by the University of Trnava, Slovakia (Tab. 3.2.1), as well as the participation of the HJ academic staff in:

- Research panels of foreign research councils: research panelist, The Research Council of Norway <https://www.forskningsradet.no/en>, FWO – Research Foundation Flanders, Belgium; Advisory Board Social Research Center for Welfare Technology – Finland <https://sites.uef.fi/weltech/advisory-board/> (Tab 3.2.5),

- Editorial boards of international scientific journals published by prestigious publishing houses (e.g., Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group), EU professional scientific communities (European Social Work Research Association – ESWRA) and foreign universities. The most important international journals on whose editorial boards the academics serve include: *Nordic Social Work Research*, *European Social Work Research Journal*, *European Journal of Homelessness*, and *Social Work/Social Work (ERIS Journal)* (Tab. 3.2.2),
- Evaluation of research plans of international grant agencies and foreign projects submitted within the international cooperation, e.g., GACR – Czech Science Foundation, TACR – Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (Tab. 3.2.5),
- Reviewing activities for prestigious international periodicals included in the Web of Science/Clarivate Analytics and Scopus databases.
- Scientific research network FORUM: International Research Network which is researching the experiences of people who have fled Ukraine and are seeking refuge in the European countries (<https://www.dezim-institut.de/aktuelles/network-forum/>).

The FSS UO is a popular place for Fulbright scholars: **Andrea Nesmith** – University of St. Thomas, St. Louis, MN, USA. Mobility period: 16 Sep 2018 – 16 Mar 2019. **Salvatore Alaimo** – Grand Valley State University, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA. Mobility period: 12 Sep 2022 – 12 Mar 2023. Final lecture: *Context meets practice: Recommendations for Effective Research*.

During the period under review, a number of the FSS UO academics were invited as key-speakers at international conferences or other professional events (Tab. 3.2.3). The academics from the assessed unit are regularly invited to give lectures at ERIS participating universities. These activities were limited due to the COVID19+ pandemic.

Lectures of foreign researchers and scholars at the FSS UO take place mainly within the *International Spring Schools of Social Work* (<https://eris.osu.eu/spring-school/>) organized by ERIS (e.g., Prof. **Caitlin Cahill** from Pratt Institute, New York, USA; Prof. **Can Aybek** from Hochschule Bremen, DE; Prof. **Gunter Grasshof** from Stiftung Universität Hildesheim, DE; Prof. **Reima Ana Maglajlic** from the University of Sussex, UK; Prof. **Brian Littlechild** from the University of Hertfordshire, UK) or other project activities (Operational Programme Research, Development, Education – OP RDE), Visegrad Fund: Prof. **Sara Banks** from Durham University, UK) etc. (Tab. 3.2.4)

Confirmation of recognition by the national research community is the fact that the FSS UO academic staff are members of editorial boards of journals published in the Czech Republic and included in world databases (Tab. 3.2.2), they are evaluators of the national research agencies GACR and TACR and also evaluators of excellent science and research outputs in the categories "Contribution to Knowledge" and "Social Relevance" of research organisations in the Czech Republic in Module 1 (this is an annual evaluation carried out by the Government Council for Science, Research and Innovation of the Czech Republic), Tab. 3.2.5. The profiling of the FSS UO applied research activities is helped by the fact that the academics are members of the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, two expert working groups of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (for the preparation of the law on social workers and for the revision of the quality standards of social services), heads of the expert committee of the Association of Educators in Social Work (ASVSP, <https://www.asvsp.org/english/>) focused on the issue of deinstitutionalization of social services (Tab. 3.2.5).

Some of the academics were awarded the UO Rector's Award for outstanding performance in science and research at the university level (Tab. 3.2.1).

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
prof. PaedDr. Oldřich Chytil, Ph.D. Dr.h.c.	Doctor honoris causa	University of Trnava, Slovakia
doc. PhDr. Alice Gojová, Ph.D.	Rector's Award for Outstanding Long-Term Scientific and Research Activities of the UO Academic and Research Staff	University of Ostrava
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová (nee. Glumbíková), Ph.D.	Rector's Award for Outstanding Scientific and Research Activities of Academic Staff under the Age of 35	University of Ostrava
Mgr. Eliška Černá, Ph.D.	Rector's Award for Outstanding Long-Term Scientific Research, Artistic Activity or Activity for Civil Society of Academic and Scientific staff of the UO	University of Ostrava

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
prof. PaedDr. Oldřich Chytil, Ph.D. Dr.h.c.	Nordic Social Work Research (member of the editorial board), Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group. ISSN 2156-857X
prof. PaedDr. Oldřich Chytil, Ph.D. Dr.h.c.	Nauki o Wychowaniu. Studia Interdyscyplinarne (NOWIS), ISSN 2450-4491,
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová (nee. Glumbíková), Ph.D.	Member of the Consultative Committee, European Journal of Homelessness, ISSN: 2030-3106. European Observatory on Homelessness.
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová (nee. Glumbíková), Ph.D.	Member of the Journal International Advisory Board, European Social Work Research Association (ESWRA), European Social Work Research Journal, ISSN: 2755-1768, Bristol University Press
prof. PaedDr. Oldřich Chytil, Ph.D. Dr.h.c.	Social Work (Member of the editorial board), Association of Educators in Social Work, Brno and European Social Work Research Institute, Ostrava, Czech Republic. ISSN 1213-6204. Scopus database
doc. PhDr. Alice Gojová, CSc.	Social Work (Member of the editorial board), Association of Educators in Social Work, Brno and European Social Work Research Institute, Ostrava, Czech Republic. ISSN 1213-6204. Scopus database
prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	Social Education (Member of the editorial board), Tomas Bata University in Zlín and Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. ISSN 1805-8825
prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	Forum of Social Work (Member of the editorial board), Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic. ISSN 2336-6664
doc. PhDr. Jelena Petrucijová, CSc.	Philosophica Critica International Scientific Journal of Philosophy (Member of the editorial board), University of Nitra, Slovakia. ISSN 1339-8970. Scopus database.
doc. PhDr. Jelena Petrucijová, CSc.	Annales Scientia Politica (Member of the editorial board), University of Prešov, Slovakia. ISSN 1339-0732.

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
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prof. PaedDr. Oldřich Chytil, Ph.D. Dr.h.c.	Is the current conception of the objectives of social work an adequate response to the changes in society?	Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Košice, Slovakia.	2023
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Barbora Gřundělová, DiS. Ph.D.	Invisible Fathers in Services for Families with Children	A Child at Risk "DIVERSITY - EQUALITY - INCLUSION, University of Trnava, Slovakia.	2023
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová, Ph.D.	Vulnerable Children in the Czechia in the Context of Homelessness.	University of Eastern Finland, FIN	2023
Mgr. Racko Veronika Mia, Ph.D.	Green Controlling in Social Work	Campus Wien, Austria.	2023
Prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	The Professional Education Focused on Digital Social Work and the Use of New Technologies in Social Work and Social Services in the Czech Republic.	University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio (FIN),	2022
prof. PaedDr. Oldřich Chytil, Ph.D., Dr.h.c.	Changes in Society and their Reflection in the Theory and Practice of Social Work in the Czech Republic	Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, Košice. Slovakia.	2022
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová, Ph.D.	Reflexivity and Strategies of Emotions (Re)construction in Social Work with Families in the Czech Republic	ECSWR (European Conference for Social Work Research). Online.	2021
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová, Ph.D.	Using the European Structural and Investment Funds to Tackle Homelessness 2021–2027: Importance of Evaluation	Feantsa Policy Conference, Feantsa. Porto, Portugal.	2019
doc. PhDr. Jelena Petrucijová, CSc.	The relationship between morality and politics in the context of transition to democratic society (experience of the Velvet Revolution of 1989 in Czechoslovakia).	Confrence State and Democracy. Istanbul: Beykent University Istanbul, Turkey.	2019

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year
prof. Can Aybek	Hochschule Bremen, DE	Evaluation Research in Social Work: Challenges from a Methodological Perspective	2019
prof. Gunter Grasshof	Stiftung Universität Hildesheim, DE	Service user in social services: subject or object of research? Some ideas of participation in research	2021
Prof. Mariusz Granosik	University of Lodz, PL	Research in social work – narrative Grounded theory	2021
prof. Caitlin Cahill	Pratt Institute, New York, USA	Critical PAR, growing up policed, and the future of NYC	2021
prof. Reima Ana Maglajlic	University of Sussex, UK	Madness' after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina – challenging dominant understandings of distress caused by political conflict through research co-production	2022
prof. Sara Banks	Durham University, UK	Practising ethically in challenging times: doing social work during Covid-19	2022
Prof. Dr. hab Ewa Kantowicz	University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, PL	Historical Perspective in Social Work Research	2022 On-line
prof. Dr. Brian Littlechild, BA, MA, Dr.h.c.	University of Hertfordshire, UK	Social Work and Social Work Research: How well do our Research Questions, Methods and Findings Contribute to Improvements in Policies and Practices - and who Judges these Things, how?	2023

dr. Salvatore Alaimo	Grand Valley State University, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA	Context meets practice: Recommendations for Effective Research	2023
prof. Dr. Juha Erkki Antero Hämäläinen, Dr.h.c.	University of Eastern Finland: Kuopio, FI	Social work as a science-based professional activity	2023

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the research project/programme call	Name of the contracting authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year
prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	member of Advisory Board Social Research Center for Welfare Technology, Finsko	https://sites.uef.fi/weltech/advisory-board/	Since 2021
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová (nee. Glumbíková), Ph.D.	research panelist	The Research Council of Norway: https://www.forskningsradet.no/en	Since 2023
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Mikulcová (nee. Glumbíková), Ph.D.	research panelist G&M4POSTDOC	FWO (Research Foundation Flanders): https://www.fwo.be/en/	Since 2023
prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	Evaluator of VEGA projects: a science grant agency, Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR) and Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV)	Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR) and Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV)	Since 2016 so far
doc. PhDr. Jelena Petrucijová, CSc.	Evaluator of VEGA projects: science grant agency Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR) and Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV)	Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR) and Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV)	Since 2015 so far
prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	Head of the Association of Educators in Social Work (ASVSP) expert committee focused on the issue of deinstitutionalization of social services	Association of Educators in Social Work (ASVSP) https://www.asvsp.org/english/	Since 2021:
prof. Mgr. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová, Ph.D.	Member of the evaluation panel P404 Sociology, Demography, Social Geography, Media Studies, Social Work of the Czech Science Foundation, since 2023 vice-chair of the panel P404	Czech Science Foundation (GACR) https://gacr.cz/en/panels/	Since 2021
doc. PhDr. Alice Gojová, Ph.D.	Member of the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs https://www.mpsv.cz/en/	Since 2019
doc. PhDr. Jelena Petrucijová, CSc.	Evaluator of the Expert Body of Evaluators of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation - RVVI, evaluation of Module 1 results	Research Development and Innovation council https://vyzkum.gov.cz/Default.aspx?lang=en	Since 2017 so far
doc. PhDr. Alice Gojová, Ph.D.	Evaluator of VEGA projects: a science grant agency, Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR) and Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV)	Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic (MŠVVaM SR) and Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV)	Since 2016 so far

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research¹¹⁸) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023¹¹⁹. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1-3.3.2)¹²⁰, regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

The FSS UO strengthened its position in advanced research at the national level. It has constantly succeeded in gaining both basic and applied research projects, even amidst strong competition. Notably, the success rate of project proposals in the field of Social Sciences (FORD 5) submitted to GACR (Czech Science foundation) and TACR (Technology Agency of the Czech Republic) is only 10–17%. The number of basic and applied research projects (11 projects) is higher than in the period 2014–2018 (3 projects). Although the application for 1x HORIZON, 1x GACR WEAVWE – with PL National Science Centre were not successful, the FSS was successful in other international contexts. One example is a project supported by the international agency Visegrad Fund (CZ, SK, PL, HU). In addition, foreign researchers from Ireland, UK and Finland contributed to the project REFRESH – *Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries* (<https://www.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/?g=6718>), supported by the Operational Programme Just Transformation. In 2023, a project under the Operational programme (OP JAK) *Excellence in research* call entitled DigiWELL – Research of Excellence on Digital Technologies and Wellbeing was also prepared (<https://www.digiwell-opjak.cz/en/home/>). The project aims to, among other things, to strengthen the internationalisation of research and promote recruitment of foreign experts, and to respond to the acceleration of the digitalization of social services. The project was approved.

The Faculty academics are also actively engaged in international networks. Faculty members have contributed to global research initiative, such as the Global self-Care Initiative: Exploring the Self-care practices of Social Workers, led by Prof. Jay Miller from University of Kentucky, USA (<https://www.dezim-institut.de/aktuelles/network-forum/>). Research efforts at FSS UO focus on addressing the needs of socially excluded populations, such as the elderly, minors, people with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged families. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, research activities were expanded to address the challenges faced by social work students and refugee communities. The Faculty's R&D&I outcomes (methodologies, software, and cost-benefit analyses) have demonstrated significant social relevance and contributed to building an inclusive and cohesive society.

In the role of a beneficiary:

<https://fss.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/>

¹¹⁸ For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

¹¹⁹ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

¹²⁰ The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

- **TL02000050 Research and Development of Support Networks and Information Systems for Informal Carers for Persons after Stroke** (implementation 01/2019–12/2021).

Interdisciplinary applied research – OECD Frascati: 50403 Social Topics; 30312 Substance Abuse - Health Care, Medical Informatics. Another participant involved in the project was the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava. The aim of the project was to develop information systems (IS) for informal carers for people after stroke (NPC) using modern information technology that will enable users to obtain relevant, timely and connected information about support networks to prevent their possible social isolation and exclusion, physical and mental exhaustion, health disorders and other risk factors related to their challenging life situation. These are systems contributing to improve awareness of NPC support systems not only for informal carers but also for other long-term care actors, especially public administration, GPs, etc. Within the project, a pilot model of an IS-NPC in the Moravian-Silesian Region was created and tested, which is permanently available in open-access mode for any institution interested in using the IS, i.e., the IS can be subsequently applied in other regions and/or to other target groups of informal care.
- **TL02000071 Community-Based Participatory Planning in Urban Areas** (implementation 01/2019–12/2021) <https://www.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/?g=5199>

The interdisciplinary applied research project was classified according to the OECD Frascati Manual under the following categories: 50403 Social Topics, 50702 Urban Studies, 20103 Architecture Engineering, and 60402 Architectural Design. It was conducted in cooperation with the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava.

The main objective was to develop a participatory planning methodology within the framework of participatory action research. The methodology aimed to: a) involve citizens in defining their living environment; b) engage target groups traditionally excluded from planning processes; c) apply a broad spectrum of participatory methods enhancing social inclusion and cohesion; d) reinforce citizen–local government interaction and support evidence-based public policy making. The project innovatively linked non-technical expertise from the FSS UO with the technical knowledge of architects from the Faculty of Civil Engineering of VSB-TUO. Contributions from foreign experts (USA, Netherlands, Slovakia) further enriched the project with international best practices.

Key outputs included: a) a Czech–Slovak–English monograph documenting participatory experiences and their real-world application; b) a tested methodology of participatory techniques fostering civic engagement; c) a design assignment comprising architectural documentation based on participatory outcomes for Hlavní třída in Ostrava-Poruba. The results have been actively utilized by the Ostrava Poruba Municipal District, the Statutory City of Ostrava, Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority, and MAPPA (Municipal Studio for Spatial Planning), and are publicly accessible online. The City of Ostrava incorporated the findings into its Strategic Development Plan for 2024–2030, involving over 13,000 residents in participatory activities.
- **TJ04000152 Development of Tools to Support the Involvement of Fathers in Social Activation Services for Families with Children and their Pilot Verification in Practice** (08/2020–07/2022) <https://www.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/?g=5599>

The applied research project, classified under OECD Frascati 5.4 – 50403 Social Topics, focused on developing practical tools to enhance the involvement of fathers in addressing long-term adverse social situations within Social Activation Services (SAS) for families with children.

Based on research examining the conditions influencing father involvement in cooperation with social services, two tools were developed: a methodological guide and a training course for social workers. The tools were co-created with practitioners from five organizations (EUROTOPIA, Ratolest, Host, IQ Roma servis, DCHOO) and the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority, serving as project guarantors.

The pilot course for female SAS workers included supervision and evaluation. The resulting **methodological guide** is publicly available (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/fss/projekty/zapojeni-otcu/metodika-zapojovani-otcu.pdf>) and has been distributed to all SAS listed in the official Register of Social Service Providers. Additional outputs include a **summary research report** (https://dokumenty.osu.cz/fss/projekty/zapojeni-otcu/podminky-zapojovani-otcu-souhrnna_vyzkumna_zprava-2022.pdf), and peer-reviewed articles published in journals indexed in Scopus (<https://socialnipace.cz/en/article/factors-that-have-an-influence-on-fathers-involvement-in-the-family-social-work/>, <https://socialnipace.cz/en/article/the-involvement-of-fathers-in-social-activation-services-for-families-with-children-in-the-czech-republic/>) and WoS (<https://ubp.uni-bamberg.de/jfr/index.php/jfr/article/view/796/696>). These materials are incorporated into teaching at the FSS OU, within the course *Gender Sensitive Approaches in Social Work with Families*.

The developed tools support reflection on practitioners' attitudes, enhance skills in engaging fathers, and promote gender-inclusive practice. IQ Roma servis has further implemented this theme in its own follow-up project, as evidenced in its **2022 Annual Report** (<https://iqrs.cz/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Zprava-o-cinnosti-2022-2.pdf>, pp. 20, 22). Holistic family involvement contributes to improved outcomes for all family members.

- **TL01000351 Development of Software for Responsive Evaluation and Planning of Community Work as a Tool for Developing Efficient and Effective Practice in the Area of Social Inclusion (04/2018–09/2020)**

This interdisciplinary applied research project, classified under OECD Frascati 5.4 – 50403 Social Topics, 1.2 – 10201 Computer Sciences, and 10102 Applied Mathematics, focused on developing the EVKA software — a tool for responsive evaluation of community work aimed at preventing social and spatial exclusion. EVKA enables effective management of community projects by tracking tasks, deadlines, indicators, and providing analytical data on progress and goal achievement. The software addresses the need to professionalise community work and to enhance the legitimacy of process quality evaluation. The project was implemented through collaboration between FSS OU and the IRAFM OU, in partnership with application guarantors: the Ministry for Regional Development and three non-profit organizations. Typical users include local governments, NGOs, the Agency for Social Inclusion, and the Ministry itself. The strategic relevance of EVKA is confirmed by its inclusion in the Action Plan for the Strategy 2021–2023 as a tool to address data gaps in measuring service effectiveness. EVKA was also defined as a key indicator in the Inclusion Strategy 2021. Under the Operational Programme Employment+, use of EVKA for tracking indicators and conducting final evaluations is mandatory. The Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority recommended EVKA in its 2020 methodological material. EVKA is used by organisations such as Bunkr o.p.s., Eurotopia Opava, and MAS Podchlumí. It is also part of accredited training by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, implemented by Rostaem s.r.o., with 56 graduates to date across three training sessions.

- **GACR 18-10233S Social Adjustment of Homeless Children with the Experience of Domestic Violence in the City of Ostrava (implementation 01/2018–12/2020)**

<https://www.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/?g=4838>

This interdisciplinary basic research project, classified under OECD Frascati 5.4 – 50403 Social Topics, 50100 Psychology and Cognitive Science, and 10102 Applied Mathematics, was carried out in collaboration with the IRAFM OU and the University of Eastern Finland, represented by Prof. Ritta Vornanen. The research focused on the social adjustment of homeless minors with experience of domestic violence residing in shelters and lodging houses in Ostrava, the city with the highest number of individuals, including children, excluded from housing in the Czech Republic. The project scientifically examined the determinants and conditions influencing social adjustment in specific social contexts, based on the hypothesis that homeless children display

deficits in this area, either as a cause or consequence of adverse development. The research clarified the interrelationship between social adjustment, homelessness, and domestic violence, and contributed to understanding the mechanisms of adjustment in relation to children's mental health and behaviour. An Open Access monograph was published and made freely available to professionals, particularly social workers in child protection (SPOD) and social activation services. The publication includes: a) a tool for measuring social adjustment in children aged 8–15, completed by caregivers; b) a comic version of the tool for children; c) a methodological guide for social and educational workers. This is the first Czech-developed inventory for measuring social adjustment, providing a practical instrument for individualised service planning in social work.

- **GACR 20-12790S Participation of Children in Child Custody Proceedings (01/2020–12/2022)**
This interdisciplinary basic research project was classified under OECD Frascati categories 5.5 – Law and 5.4 – Social Topics. Its aim was to examine the level and forms of participation of minor children (aged 12 and above) in court proceedings related to parental disputes regarding custody and child support. Prior to this project, no empirical data existed in the Czech Republic on how children's opinions were actually elicited and whether their views were genuinely reflected in judicial decisions affecting their lives. Yet, respecting the child's right to be heard is an essential element of upholding the principle of the best interests of the child, which must be the primary consideration in such proceedings. The research was unique in the Czech context, as it used a statistically significant sample to empirically assess how children's opinions were obtained in court and to what extent they influenced final rulings. Each year, thousands of children are involved in such proceedings, making the study highly relevant to both judicial practice and potential legislative reform. The project's outcomes are significant for improving guardianship justice and contributed to the expert positioning of the FSS UO in the field of family-oriented social work. Moreover, it fostered multidisciplinary collaboration in child protection and guardianship law.
- **GACR 22-00941S Sibling Relationships in Homeless Children and their Connection with Resilience (2022–2024)**
This interdisciplinary basic research project, classified under OECD Frascati 5.4 – 50403 Social Topics and 5.1 – Psychologies and Cognitive Sciences, focused on exploring the relationship between sibling relationships and resilience in homeless children — an area previously under-researched in terms of its dynamics, determinants, and the specificity of living conditions. Resilience, understood as the capacity to maintain, regain, or improve mental health, was examined in the context of sibling interactions as a unique and influential factor in children's adaptation to adversity. The project was based on the premise that sibling relationships dynamically interact with a child's life situation and significantly influence the development of resilience. The research combined qualitative methods (in-depth analysis of homelessness) and quantitative approaches (comparative data from homeless and non-homeless children in the Czech Republic) to build a model explaining how sibling dynamics affect resilience alongside other life context factors. Findings contribute to the improvement of quality of life for homeless children and provide a knowledge base for professionals and practitioners in social work. The outcomes raise awareness of the topic and offer recommendations for practice, particularly in interventions focused on family and peer dynamics. The project also laid the groundwork for a follow-up initiative, *BuddyUp* (TACR, TQ03000519), which connects social work students with children from disadvantaged backgrounds, aiming to enhance leisure time quality and support **desegregation and destigmatisation** of the target group.

In the role of another participant:

- **CZ.10.03.01/00/22_003/0000048 REFRESH (Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries)**

This interdisciplinary project, with high application potential, is led by the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, with key partners including the University of Ostrava (five faculties), the Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre Ostrava, and a German partner (DEU). The project aims to establish a unique European infrastructure for research and technology transfer in areas such as sustainable energy, digitalised industrial production, transport automation, environmental technologies, and smart materials, all with significant socio-economic implications.

FSS UO participates through the *Social Lab*, focusing on the social dimension of regional transformation. The energy transition—while opening opportunities—may negatively affect vulnerable populations (e.g., families in poverty, elderly persons dependent on care, users of social services) and influence the structure and development of crime. The FSS UO team applies findings from criminological, victimological, and social work action research to support key actors in the Moravian-Silesian Region (MSK)—including policymakers and criminal justice authorities—in developing strategies for crime prevention and mitigation of social exclusion. The evidence-based outputs will inform urban and community planning, situational and social prevention, and social work interventions with offenders and victims. Particular attention is given to work with juvenile offenders, risky substance users, inmates, and ex-offenders. By addressing the needs of marginalised groups, the project contributes to the creation of a safer, more cohesive, and socially just region.

Contract research activities:

- **Possibilities of the Establishment and Operation of a Social Housing Cooperative in the Locality of Bedřiška** (Implementation 08/2021–01/2022, contracting authority the Statutory City of Ostrava)

This OECD Frascati interdisciplinary contract research project was classified under 5.5 – Law and 5.4 – Social Topics. It focused on analysing the legal, financial, and community aspects of establishing a social housing cooperative (SBDB) in the Bedřiška locality in Ostrava, an area marked by residential segregation and social exclusion, particularly affecting the Roma minority. In response to ongoing gentrification pressures and in an effort to preserve the local community, the Statutory City of Ostrava commissioned a study to explore housing solutions enabling shared responsibility between residents and the city. The goal was to assess the feasibility of founding a social housing cooperative as a sustainable alternative to existing housing models. An interdisciplinary team—comprising a lawyer, social workers, and an economist—developed a legal analysis, a model statute for the cooperative, a proposal for community service activities, and a financial analysis covering the cooperative's formation and operations. The final report served as a key input for the city's strategic planning and was presented to local stakeholders, including politicians and residents. While the full implementation was limited due to a shift in political leadership, elements of the proposal were adopted. The analysis has transferable value, with interest expressed by the City of Brno, and has been covered by the media. Its broader impact lies in its potential to inform national housing policy, particularly in promoting affordable, desegregated housing—a pressing issue highlighted by criticism from the European Committee on Social Rights.

- **MPSV – Final evaluation of the project "Social Housing – Methodological and Information Support in the Field of Social Agendas"** (implementation 01/2022–02/2022, contracting authority the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs)

The aim of the project was to establish and develop a social housing system in the Czech Republic through international cooperation, research activities, methodological documents and the establishment of a Contact Centre whose staff would participate in the piloting of the social housing system according to the Concept of Social Housing of the Czech Republic 2015–2025 and provide methodological support. The project was aimed at strengthening the competence in the

provision of social housing and accompanying services, especially in the field of social work on the part of key actors. The aim of the final evaluation of the system project was: a) to evaluate the results achieved by the municipalities cooperating with the MPSV for the clients supported within the project; b) to evaluate the support of the systemic project by the MPSV and to formulate recommendations for the MPSV or other state authorities for further provision of support to municipalities and other entities in the creation and implementation of social housing through system projects. The evaluation was specifically focused on assessing the impacts, processes and limits of local social housing systems in municipalities cooperating with the MPSV and in a comparative sample of municipalities and their subsequent comparison; formulating recommendations for further implementation of the state policy of support and development of social housing. The resulting evaluation reports evaluated the impacts of the piloting of the local social housing concept at the level of fourteen municipalities and two city districts. The results of the evaluation and the identification of the specific recommendations contributed to the improvement of the quality and sustainability of the system of social services, services for families and children and other related services supporting social inclusion.

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary						
Provider ¹²¹	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ¹²²				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	18-10233S Social Adjustment of Homeless Children with the Experience of Domestic Violence in the City of Ostrava	632/ 24,936	683/ 26,940			
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	20-12790S Participation of Children in Child Custody Proceedings		376/ 14,832	659/ 25,998	647/ 25,510	
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	22-00941S Sibling Relationships in Homeless Children and their Connection with Resilience				784/ 30,927	963/ 37,994
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TL02000050 Research and Development of Support Networks and Information Systems for Informal Carers for Persons after Stroke	1,158/ 45,684	835/ 32,921	955/ 37,690		
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TL02000071 Community-Based Participatory Planning in Urban Areas	882/ 34,788	1,069/ 42,186	1,157/ 45,656		
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TJ04000152 Development of Tools to Support the Involvement of Fathers in Social Activation Services for Families with Children and their Pilot Verification in Practice		461/ 18,168	1,432/ 56,491	627/ 24,721	
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TL01000351 Development of Software for Responsive Evaluation and Planning of Community Work as a Tool for Developing Efficient and Effective Practice in the Area of Social Inclusion	1,383/ 54,541	855/ 33,731			

¹²¹ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

¹²² Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TL03000005 Optimization of Community Planning of Social Services at Municipal Level		1,134/ 44,718	1,518/ 59,886	1,279/ 50,469	
International Visegrad Fund	21930161 Values Building in Social Work Education		17/ 668	233/ 9,196		
Total		4,055/ 159,949	5,429/ 214,165	5,955/ 234,918	3,337/ 131,627	963/ 37,994
In the role of another participant						
Provider ¹²³	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
OP Just Transition	CZ.10.03.01/00/22_003/0000048 REFRESH – Research Excellence For Region Sustainability and High-tech Industries					53/ 2,095
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TL05000144 Quality and Sustainability of Body Parts Donation Programs in the Czech Republic			120/ 4,749	145/ 5,734	207/ 8,169
EEA and Norway Grants	LP-HROVA1A-004 Roma Leaders – the Drivers of Change			54/ 2,128	313/ 12,353	2/ 75
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	TIRSMPSV127 Children and Domestic Violence – Research into the Need for Services Specialized in Helping Children at Risk of Domestic Violence and Proposal of Minimum Parameters for these Services				18/ 702	391/ 15,407
Total				174/ 6,877	476/ 18,789	652/ 25,746

Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ¹²⁴	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
BEC Cooperative - Business and Employment Co-operative	BEC Cooperative - Expert Consultations - Good Neighbours	84/ 3,314				
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Final evaluation of the project "Social Housing - Methodological and Information Support in the Field of Social Agendas"		281/ 11,075	86/ 3,385		
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Social Housing - Evaluation	132/ 5,214				
PORTAVITA Association	Evaluation of the "PORTAVITA-HOUSING FIRST" project				15/ 575	
PORTAVITA Association	Evaluation of the PORTAVITA housing policy			218/ 8,596		
PORTAVITA Association	Evaluation for the Portavita Association project					99/ 3,913

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

SPOLU PRO RODINU, z.s.	External formative evaluation of key activities of the project "Conditions for Change" investigated by SPOLU PRO RODINU, z.s.		13/ 493	45/ 1,775	19/ 730	
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Possibilities of the establishment and operation of a social housing cooperative in the locality of Bedřiška			119/ 4,710	99/ 3,906	
the Statutory City of Ostrava	Strengthening crime prevention in Ostrava	48/ 1,893				
Leisure centre Korunka, Ostrava-Mariánské Hory, a public-benefit corporation.	Elaboration of research of needs of persons aged 15 to 30 in the city of Ostrava			66/ 2,608		
Total		264/ 10,421	293/ 11,568	534/ 21,074	132/ 5,211	99/ 3,913

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts¹²⁵, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

The FSS UO carries out research activities that are characterized by a high degree of social relevance because they respond to pressing social problems of the contemporary society, especially the problems of socially disadvantaged and disadvantaged in health or vulnerable groups, such as poverty, exclusion of individuals and communities, homelessness, etc. The Faculty extends its research activities to other target groups, such as refugee and immigrant families. In addressing new social challenges, the Faculty shares its experience with international partners, e.g., through participation in the international network FEANTSA – the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless or FORUM: International Research Network <https://www.dezim-institut.de/aktuelles/network-forum/> which explores the experiences of people who have fled Ukraine and are seeking refuge in European countries. The gender dimension is taken into account not only in the creation of research teams, but also in relation to the target groups of social work (gender aspects of work with the family, gender aspects of excluded populations exposed to ethno-cultural discrimination, promotion of gender equality at the level of local policies, etc.). Research is commissioned not only by the national R&D agencies, but also by the line ministries (Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry for Regional Development, Ministry of Environment), regional and municipal authorities and organisations providing (health and) social services. The results in the form of a system of knowledge, (certified by the Ministry) methodological materials, software, evaluation tools, recommendations for the creation and modification of regional and local policies lead to changes in the life situations of the supported people, to the streamlining of community work, to the optimization of community planning, to the involvement of

¹²⁵ See Terms definition.

disadvantaged groups in the processes of social change at the individual, local (excluded locality, municipality district, etc.) and institutional level. A number of project activities are aimed at improving the quality of social work, both at the level of organisational/institutional changes as results of responsive evaluations, as well as further training of practitioners or changes in the curriculum for the training of future social workers. The significance of the outputs of the research activities is not limited to the period of project implementation, the implemented outputs have a long-term effect.

The high social relevance and benefit of the research results (3x software, methodologies, educational workshops, etc.) are evidenced by the fact that they are used not only by the original commissioners and customers. They are also being used by other institutions. The first social and scientific spin-off in the Czech Republic, Rosteam, s.r.o., established at the UO in 2022, is also a tool for implementing the Faculty's research results. It is also the first spin-off of the UO (see section 3.5).

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ¹²⁶	Year of application	Name
Software (R)	2021	Šaloun, P., Andrešič, D., Krhutová, L. and Paulíček, M. Stroke-Counselor-Classifer of Texts / CMP-Rádce-klasifikátor textů. 2021. Output of project TL02000050 Research and Development of Support Networks and Information Systems for Informal Carers for Persons after Stroke Functional running information system created for the needs of the application guarantor of TACR-VISNEP and the main recipient of the SW result, ie the Association for Rehabilitation of People after Stroke comprehensively supporting informal carers of loved ones after stroke (S) in the context of their low-threshold information support. The software develops a text classifier that analyzes the documents available within the S Advisor server (CMP-R) and classifies them according to the categories for the needs of questioner's navigation. Thanks to its principle, the algorithm itself is also able to handle languages other than Czech in the future, which opens the way for other language mutations. The software as part of the information systems contributes to the improvement of the awareness of NPC support systems not only among informal carers but also across other long-term care actors, particularly public administration, GPs etc. The IS-NPC software is permanently available in open-access mode to any institution interested in using an IS. The software can be used in other regions and/or for other target groups of informal care.
Software (R)	2020	Gojová, A., Vajgl, M., Štěpnička, M., Burda, M., Stanková, Z., Grundělová, B. and Malina, M. EVKA_Software for Resposnsive Evaluation and Planning of Community Work / EVKA Software pro responzivní evaluaci a plánování komunitní práce jako nástroje pro rozvoj účinné a efektivní praxe v oblasti sociálního začleňování. 2020. Output of project TL01000351 Development of Software for Responsive Evaluation and Planning of Community Work as a Tool for Developing Effective and Efficient Practice in the Area of Social Inclusion The EVKA software for responsive evaluation and planning of community work is based on a conceptualisation of community work as a method for promoting social inclusion through mobilisation cycles that foster community empowerment and capacity building. The success of these processes depends on selecting appropriate topics for cooperation and ensuring high levels of participation across all stages. EVKA enables users to evaluate the suitability of topics for mobilisation cycles and to monitor the level and development of community empowerment over time. The software was developed in response to the need to professionalise community work and to legitimise the emphasis on process quality. Its typical users include non-profit organisations, local and regional governments, and the Ministry for Regional Development. The social relevance of the research is confirmed by EVKA's designation in the Action Plan for the Strategy 2021–2023 as a key tool

¹²⁶ Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

		to address the lack of data for evaluating service effectiveness. Its piloting and application were also defined as indicators for implementing the Inclusion Strategy 2021. For community work projects under the Operational Programme Employment+, continuous data collection and final evaluations are conducted using EVKA. The Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority recommended its use in its 2020 methodological guidelines. EVKA is used by organisations such as Bunkr o.p.s. Třinec, JARO 2023 z.s., Eurotopia Opava, Centrum Inkluze, and MAS Podchlumí. It is also incorporated into accredited training by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, provided by Rostaem s.r.o., with 56 participants having completed three training sessions to date.
Research report (V)	2023	Klusáček, J., Pašek, O. a Kalenda, S. Energy poverty and its solution / Energetická chudoba a její řešení. 2023. See https://dokumenty.osu.cz/fss/publikace/energeticka-chudoba-a-jeji-reseni.pdf See video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFH42VCehuc The Energy Poverty Study presents findings based on data from the 2021 Living Conditions Survey, conducted by the Czech Statistical Office. This annual survey, covering nearly 8,700 households, is the most extensive of its kind in the Czech Republic. Given its timing, the study captures the situation of households already experiencing energy poverty prior to the energy price surge in autumn 2021. These households represent a particularly vulnerable group that should be prioritised in public policy responses. Their situation requires attention regardless of future energy price developments, as they faced energy poverty even before the current crisis. The study aims to: • Identify those at risk of or already in energy poverty; • Analyse the energy intensity of housing where these individuals reside, its broader context, and its impact; • Quantify the effectiveness of different measures to mitigate energy poverty; • Recommend policy actions targeting the structural causes, notably through increased support for energy-efficient renovations of homes and flats. The findings are intended for government authorities, especially the Ministry for Regional Development and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, as well as other interministerial bodies, local governments, and non-governmental organisations advocating for the right to housing. This study builds upon the 2023 Energy Poverty report, developed for the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs by the Platform for Social Housing in collaboration with the FSS UO. – see https://socialnibydeni.mpsv.cz/download/dokumenty/124-ech_2023_dpi250-2.pdf
Research report (V)	2022	Gřundělová, B. Evaluation Report of the Project Support for the Transformation of Facilities for Children under Three Years of Age in the Moravian-Silesian Region / Evaluační zpráva projektu Podpora transformace zařízení pro děti do tří let v Moravskoslezském kraji. 2022. The evaluation report is mainly based on the evaluation plan, project documentation, collection of empirical data and the Methodology for the evaluation of non-competitive projects of the OP Employment 2014–2020. The evaluation design is primarily based on the so-called theories of guided evaluation. A qualitative design with elements of a quantitative strategy was mainly used to evaluate the project. Various data collection techniques were applied (desk research, interviews, questionnaires). The project was launched on 1 June 2020 and ended on 30 June 2022. The aim of the project was to contribute to the change of institutions where children under the age of three live so that the life of children in these institutions would be more similar to life in ordinary families. The project fulfilled its purpose with its activities, supported the transformation of children's institutional care, improved the quality and developed services, which then more closely corresponded to the needs of families with children, and at the same time reflected transformation trends. Written documents were created that can be used in practice. The project supported the development of managers in the field of care for children at risk in MSK through its field trips and their mutual cooperation, and through its educational activities, the project developed the professional and personal growth of the staff of individual institutions. The target group was mainly providers and contractors of social services, services for families and children and other services to support social inclusion, providers and contractors of health services, social workers, and public administration employees who deal with social, family or health issues.
Research report (V)	2021	Glumbíková, K., Mikulec, M., Kowaliková, I., Caletková, L., Zegzulková, V. M., Wilamová, K., Jaglařová, D., Bartoncová, A., Ovčářiová, L., Boháčiková, M., Škrobánková, T. and Petrucijová,

		J. Foundational analysis for the creation of a community plan for social services / Podkladová analýza pro tvorbu komunitního plánu sociálních služeb. 2021. Output of project TL03000005 – Optimization of Community Planning of Social Services at Municipal Level The background analysis for the development of a community plan for social services was developed using innovative and participatory methods in the field of community planning. The analysis was carried out in intensive collaboration with 417 informants. Within the implementation of the Future Scenarios with 181 actors of the community planning of social services in Ostrava, 130 interviews with the clients of social services in Ostrava and 106 questionnaires from the public, we found out a number of needs specific to the individual target groups and also 11 (common) cross-cutting needs (e.g., inclusion, exclusion from education, exclusion from housing, information and anti-discrimination). The text of the analysis is divided according to the target groups with which the background analysis was prepared (e.g., children and family, citizens at risk of social exclusion and socially excluded, seniors, etc.). The text provides a comprehensive view of the needs of the target groups of social services in Ostrava through a triad of involvement: citizens, clients and social service actors. The background analysis was actually used for the creation of the Community Plan for Social Services in the City of Ostrava (https://socialniveci.ostrava.cz/strategicke-dokumenty/6-komunitni-plan-socialnich-sluzeb-a-souvisejicich-aktivit-ve-meste-ostrava-na-obdobi-2023-2026/) and therefore for setting the financing, availability and basic parameters of social services in the city of Ostrava for a period of 4 years. The output is available here: https://dokumenty.osu.cz/fss/projekty/optimko/podkladova-analyza.pdf
Research report (V)	2021	Glumbíková, K., Rusnok, P., Poláková, R., Mikulec, M., Wilamová, K. and Gojová, A. Research report A: Evaluation of the Results Achieved by the Municipalities Cooperating with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs for the Supported Clients within the Project / Výzkumná zpráva A: Vyhodnocení výsledků dosažených obcemi spolupracujícími s MPSV u podpořených klientů v rámci projektu. 2021. Contracting authority: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic (MPSV) – contract research. The main objective of the evaluation report was to assess the impact of social housing and social work on the life situation of their users. The sub-objectives of the evaluation were set in accordance with the tender documents in the form of an evaluation of the results achieved by the municipality councils cooperating with the MPSV for the supported clients within the project, in particular to evaluate: changes in the social and economic situation of the supported households; changes in the family situation of social housing users; the impact of social housing on the change in the living situation of children living in the households of social housing users; changes in the housing situation; and changes in the health situation and life strategies. The data was collected from 147 households and analyzed using 10 data viewing options. The evaluation report directly supported the establishment of local social housing concepts in 14 municipalities and 2 municipal districts. Potentially, it has also influenced the activities of the Contact Centre for Social Housing which provides advice on setting up social housing systems at the level of the Czech Republic (more than 50 municipalities in the Czech Republic are now implementing social housing systems). The research report is available here: https://socialnibydleni.mpsv.cz/download/dokumenty/31-2021_evaluace2_vzkumn_zprva_a_dopady_sb_na_klienty_final.pdf
Research report (V)	2020	Kalenda, S., Dořičáková, Š., Kočvarová, I. a Pospíšilová, P. Research Report from the Survey Implemented in the Framework of Mapping the Implementation of Active Aging Policy in the Municipalities of the Moravian-Silesian Region) / Výzkumná zpráva z šetření realizovaného v rámci mapování implementace politiky aktivního stárnutí v obcích Moravskoslezského kraje. 2020. Contracting authority: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic (MPSV) – contract research. This report was prepared within the project Implementation of Ageing Policy at the Regional Level (CZ.03.2.63/0.0./0.0./15_017/0006207), funded by the European Union from the European Social Fund under the Operational Programme Employment and the state budget. It is the result of collaboration among members of the Moravian-Silesian Region Platform established through the project. Unlike previous research primarily focusing on seniors as recipients of social services or their informal caregivers, this study aimed to map the activities implemented by municipalities in

		the Moravian-Silesian Region in support of active ageing policy. It also sought to identify and describe examples of good practice. A total of 300 municipalities and 23 municipal districts of the Statutory City of Ostrava were approached, with 124 municipalities and districts ultimately participating—representing 38% of the total contacted entities. The collected data serve as a resource for enhancing and planning active ageing initiatives across municipalities. The outputs are intended for municipalities and towns both within and beyond the region. They also provide a knowledge base for the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in the implementation of positive ageing policies at regional and national levels. Furthermore, examples of good practice may serve as guidance for NGOs and local associations engaged in community-based support for senior citizens.
Chapter in a scholarly book (C)	2022	Špiláčková, M., Zegzulková, V. M., Glumbíková, K., Rabasová, P. a Tichá, I. Performance of Volunteering and Work Duties during the Pandemic of Covid-19 in the Czech Republic: Lived Experience of Social Work Students. In: Rajendra Baikady, Sajid S. M., Varoshini Nadesan, M. Rezaul Islam (eds). <i>The Routledge Handbook of Field Work Education in Social Work</i>. London, New York, New Delhi: Routledge, 2022. s. 552-563. ISBN 978-1-032-12607-4. The Covid-19 pandemic posed unprecedented challenges to social work in 2020, particularly regarding volunteering and the mandated work obligation imposed on students of helping professions. This study focused on analysing the experiences of social work students at the FSS UO during the first wave of the pandemic, with the aim of formulating recommendations for social work education. The research applied a qualitative strategy, mapping the lived experience of 33 students and analysing data using constructivist approaches. Four motivational positions emerged: instrumental, professional, solidarity-based, and holistic. Findings indicate that effective educational response during crisis periods depends not only on institutional readiness but also on systemic support at national and international levels. Key recommendations include the integration of crisis management measures in educational institutions, development of methodological guidelines for work obligations, and greater flexibility in study plans to accommodate emergency scenarios. Suggested strategies involve introducing specific skills-based courses, ensuring cross-curricular coherence, and employing simulation centres, training flats, or virtual reality for practice-based learning. Recognising volunteering or mandated work as valid professional experience—despite partial deviation from standard competence frameworks—is also advised. These insights contribute to strengthening students' professional identity and preparedness for demanding situations, and are further developed in the TACR project <i>BuddyUP!</i> (TQ03000519), supporting the inclusion of vulnerable children in segregated settings.
Peer-reviewed article (Jimp)	2023	Gřundělová, B., Černý, J., Gojová, A., Stanková, Z., & Lisník, J. (2023). The shadow fathers: Barriers to whole family approach in social work? <i>Journal of Family Research</i>, 35, 85–102. https://doi.org/10.20377/jfr-796. – WoS Q1 The study aims to explore the barriers to father involvement in family social work at the personal, cultural, and structural levels, and their interconnectedness to answer the main research question of how gendered constructions of mothers and fathers in social work affect the involvement of fathers in interventions. Background: This paper contributes to debates about fathers in social work by examining gendered constructions of fathers in social services for families with children in the Czech Republic. The problem is viewed from the perspective of social constructionism, anti-oppressive practice, and the whole family approach. Method: To meet the objective, we used a qualitative research strategy. 44 in-depth interviews with social workers, mothers, and fathers were carried out. After that, three focus groups with 21 social workers were formed. Results: The results show that mothers and fathers are treated differently in social work, and femininity and masculinity are perceived as dichotomous opposites. This hinders fathers' involvement in family services and puts responsibility for solving family problems to mothers. Conclusion: Most of these barriers at the micro- and mezzo-levels are in some way related to system barriers at the macro-level, which are often shaped by gender discourses. The study contributes to the introduction of a gender-sensitive approach within a whole-family approach. Its recommendations have been implemented in the training curricula for future social workers and in the continuing education course for social work practitioners.
Peer-reviewed article (Jimp)	2019	Černá, E., Ripka, Š. a Kubala, P. The Financial Instability of Housing First Families in the City of Brno - the Risk of the Recurrence of Homelessness. <i>Critical Housing Analysis</i>. 2019, 6(2), s. 24-32. ISSN 2336-2839. The publication was evaluated in Module M1, criterion "social relevance" and received a rating of 2 – excellent.

		This article presents the partial research findings on financial instability as a risk factor for the recurrence of homelessness among families enrolled in a Housing First project in the City of Brno (Czech Republic). The project represents an evidence-based social innovation focused on ending families' homelessness. The research was designed as a Randomised Controlled Trial study accompanied by a qualitative evaluation. The data were collected through questionnaires, individual interviews, and focus groups. In the results section we follow the logic of a financial stability model and conclude that research results on financial stability overall did not prove to be statistically significant on a short-term scale. In the discussion, we state that prolonged material poverty combined with the nature of the Czech housing benefit system and the experience of residential alienation could increase the risk of the recurrence of homelessness for families. A crisis financial fund was established in an effort to prevent this. Until 2022 the Crisis fund helped maintain housing for 16 rehoused householders.
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Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples).

It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)¹²⁷, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).¹²⁸

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

Self-assessment:

The system of transferring research results with high social relevance into practice is rooted in the FSS UO mission and comprises the following components: a) monitoring strategic calls for funding and collaboration opportunities (project department and FSS UO management); b) maintaining regular contact with sponsors and research users (FSS UO management and project investigators); c) promoting professional services, including applied contract research, joint grant projects, and professional training (<https://fss.osu.cz/pro-firmy-a-organizace/>); d) establishing contracts with public institutions and social service providers (management of the UO and FSS UO); e) receiving methodological support from the KTTC UO; f) disseminating successful knowledge transfer outcomes via conferences, workshops, project websites, and social media (project teams, PR coordinators of FSS UO and the UO); g) evaluating the success of these activities (project teams, FSS UO management); h) encouraging individual academic staff initiatives.

The journal *Sociální práce / Sociálna práca / Czech and Slovak Social Work*, ISSN 1213-6204, eISSN 1805-885X, is also used for dissemination of scientific results. It is a journal of the Association of

¹²⁷ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

¹²⁸ If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

Educators in Social Work of the Czech Republic, the FSS UO and the Association of Educators in Social Work of Slovakia.

Long-term users and partners are the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Government Office – Agency for Social Inclusion (MK since 2016), the Regional Office of the Moravian-Silesian Region (MK since 2015), the Statutory City of Ostrava, the Ostrava-Poruba Municipal District, the Association of Asylums of the Czech Republic, various social service providers (e.g., Together for the Family, Zahrada 2000, Diocesan Charity of Ostrava-Opava), business and worker cooperatives and urban communities (e.g., platforms of Roma leaders in the Moravian-Silesian and Olomouc regions).

New users are sought through existing partner contacts, contacts with practice institutions, research during data collection in institutions, dissemination of outputs of the already implemented projects, educational activities for practitioners, etc. The membership of the Faculty members in two expert working groups of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in the expert committee of the Association of Educators in Social Work (ASVSP), social service planning groups of the MSRegion Authorities, and the Local Partnership Platform for social inclusion of the Ministry for Regional Development, representatives of the Statutory City of Ostrava and local actors, has also had an impact on the acquisition of new partners and those interested in applied or contractual research and its results. In the reviewed period, FSS UO generated CZK 515,830 (EUR 20,348) in contract research income. Lower income levels were influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, the recent establishment of the spin-off company Rosteam, Ltd. (2022), funding stagnation in the social field, and the diversion of resources due to the war in Ukraine. Despite this, contract research activities were carried out annually.

The transfer of results into practice is evaluated each year through the FSS Annual Report. Overall, the Faculty has solidified its role in the knowledge and technology transfer landscape. The evaluation (possible commercialisation) of R&D&I results is illustrated by the selected examples, see below.

- **TL02000071 Komunitně založené participativní plánování v městském prostoru (01/2019-12/2021) Community-Based Participatory Planning in Urban Areas** <https://www.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/?g=5199> The outputs are used by the project's application guarantors which are the Ostrava Poruba Municipal District Council, the Statutory City of Ostrava, the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority, councils of other municipal districts of Ostrava, the MAPPA Municipal Spatial Planning Studio, and the professional public as an example of civic participation in urban space Extension into Practice is ensured by online access via the project website <https://kopr.osu.cz/texty-a-publikace/>. The Statutory City of Ostrava implemented the results in the creation of the Strategic Development Plan of the City of Ostrava for the period 2024-2030, in which 13,000 people were involved through various participatory activities.
- **TL01000351 EVCA_Software for responsive evaluation and planning of community work.** The social relevance of the research is evidenced by the fact that EVKA was identified in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for 2021–2023 as a tool for eliminating the insufficient data base for measuring the effectiveness of services and their impact, and the piloting and use of the EVKA software was identified as an important indicator for the implementation of the Inclusion Strategy for 2021. For community work projects supported by the Operational Programme Employment+, continuous recording of selected indicators is mandatory and the final evaluation is based on the EVKA software. The use of EVKA as an evaluation tool is also recommended by the methodological material of the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority of 2020. The EVKA software is used for example by Bunkr o.p.s Třinec, JARO 2023 z.s., Eurotopia Opava, Centrum Inkluze, MAS Podchlumí. Work with EVKA is part of the training accredited by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in the field of community work,

which is implemented by Rostaem s.r.o. So far, 3 sessions of the training have been implemented with 56 graduates.

- **Research report A: Evaluation of the Results Achieved by the Municipalities Cooperating with the MPSV for the Clients Supported by the Project. 2021.** The evaluation report directly supported the establishment of local social housing concepts in 14 municipalities and 2 municipal districts. Potentially, it has also influenced the activities of the Contact Centre for Social Housing which provides advice on setting up social housing systems at the level of the Czech Republic (more than 50 municipalities in the Czech Republic are now implementing social housing systems).
- It has been two years since the **first ever spin-off of the University of Ostrava – Rosteam, s.r.o.** was established. (Comp. Id. No.: 14274540, Established on 21 February 2022). The creation of the spin-off was inspired by the IEP feedback during the 2019 evaluation. It is a company established for the purpose of developing the intellectual property of the scientists of the University of Ostrava. The share of the University of Ostrava is 16%. Rosteam s.r.o. offers educational, methodological and development activities, participates in research and analytical activities (e.g., educational activities - courses including those accredited by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, facilitation, evaluation, internships, analyses). Typical customers of the services are: ministries, municipality councils, regional authorities, non-governmental non-profit organizations, local action groups, registered associations, community services organizations, etc. In two years of its operation, a total of 18 courses were held, including: (1) four 60-hour courses on Community Work Method, (2) five 24-hour courses on Foundations of Community Work, (3) four 8-hour courses on Community Worker Competencies, (4) three 16-hour courses on Facilitation in Social Work, and (5) an 8-hour course on Nonviolent Communication and Leadership.
- **Grada – license to publish a work.** In 2020, the FSS UO entered into a contract for cooperation in the publication of a work with Grada Publishing, a.s., for a non-periodical monograph entitled "Reflexivity in Social Work with Families, a collective of authors led by Mgr. et Mgr. Kateřina Glumbíková, Ph.D. (now Mikulcová). The monograph is an output of the The Use of the Transdisciplinary Synergy of Data Science and Fuzzy Modelling and Social Work Tools project: Multidimensional Evidence Informed Practice (IRP201821). The FSS UO as the client has granted a limited licence to acquire permanent copies of the monograph, to publish them and to sell them.

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Spin-off					
Expert consultations (BEC Cooperative)	105/ 4,142				
Evaluation of the "PORTAVITA-HOUSING FIRST" project				15/ 575	
Evaluation of the PORTAVITA housing policy			218/ 8,596		
Evaluation for the Portavita Association project					99/ 3,913
External formative evaluation of key activities of the project "Conditions for Change" investigated by SPOLU PRO RODINU, z.s.		13/ 193	45/ 1,775	19/ 730	

Grada – licence to publish a work		1/ 39	1/ 43		1/ 32
Total	105/ 4,142	14/ 232	264/ 10,414	33/ 1,305	100/ 3,945

Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

In the field of popularization of science and communication with the public, the Faculty regularly participates in events that have a national dimension and also university-wide events (e.g., *Night of Scientists* or a professional programme at the *Colours of Ostrava* music festival), organises or co-organises national and international professional conferences, seminars, workshops and the international Spring School of Social Work (<https://eris.osu.eu/spring-school/>). The most important activities include: *Days against Poverty*; a discussion on the topic *Man and Robot* during the *Night of Scientists*; the final conference of the *Desirable Future and Related Factors of Change as a Tool for Applying the Recovery Concept to Individual Planning for Residents of Shelters* project; the conference *Awareness of Informal Carers for the Loved Ones after Stroke*; the international conference and workshop *Values Building and Social Work Education*. In addition, the FSS UO has participated in public events: the celebration of *World Social Work Day*; the *International Day of Women and Girls in Science*; and the discussion programmes at the Pant Center (Threats and Hopes for Civil Society in the United States and Czech Republic). The academics actively popularized the results of R&D&I in the mass media (special attention was paid to the use of new social media and networks), drew attention to socially sensitive topics, e.g., the representatives of the FSS UO signed an open letter to the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs in the matter of deinstitutionalization on 6 May 2020. The academic staff of the FSS UO were members of many working groups and advisory bodies (e.g., the Steering Committee for Cooperation with the Agency for Social Inclusion of the Statutory City of Ostrava, the Scientific Council of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Platform of the Moravian-Silesian Regional Authority for the Implementation of the Positive Ageing Policy). The evaluated unit is a member of the Platform for Social Housing (representing actors dealing with social housing and homelessness), the Association of Shelters of the Czech Republic (an organisation dealing with people without shelter or at risk of losing their housing) and the Association of Educators in Social Work. The FSS UO academics also communicated with the international public through involvement in the activities of FEANTSA the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless, and International Research network FORUM focused on study of Ukrainian refugees and immigrants influenced by the war in the Ukraine – [International Research Network FORUMdezim-institut.de](https://www.forumdezim-institut.de/).

During the COVID19+ pandemic, the competence of the academics in the use of IT technologies and new social media and networks was expanded and started to be used not only in teaching but also in the popularisation of science and dissemination of its results, see examples below.

Night of Scientists (national event):

- 2020 – theme Man and Robot. Prof. Jan Keller, CSc. spoke on the topic of *Revolution 4.0. A Promise or a Threat?* The discussion was a nice example of how media and political campaigns work. Prof. Keller focused on how certain fashionable trends in public discourse emerge and disappear. As for Revolution 4.0, it was originally an initiative of several German companies with a high degree of automation and robotization, mostly in the automotive and chemical industries. Shortly after 2010, the representatives of these companies raised the topic of universal robotization and digitalization not only of industry, but also of other economic and social areas. The not-so-typical experience of these companies started to be then presented as a decisive trend in current developments. This fashionable wave of reflection peaked about five to seven years later, after which it was displaced by other topics (immigration, ecology, geopolitical change) and, except for a small circle of those who specialized in this discourse and drew grants for it, fell into oblivion.
- 2023 – Czech Vševěd (Polymath) – a popularization competition of the Night of Scientists. Kateřina Mikulcová from the FSS UO made it to the final. One of the greatest challenges of the contemporary society is helping the homeless. Homeless people are not only someone who lives directly on the street, but also people who are housed in shelters or commercial hostels. Their lives are linked to the lack of space, privacy, income poverty and social exclusion. In her research, Kateřina Mikulcová focuses on the most vulnerable of this target group, homeless children. It is suggested that homelessness has impacts on their family relationships, access to quality education, and serious consequences in terms of mental wellbeing and health.

Colours of Ostrava (national event):

- 2022 – doc. Mikulcová presented the topic "Not All Refugees Are the Same" – the topic of immigration of refugees from Ukraine and their reception in the Czech Republic. During the performance, she asked questions and together in discussion the answers were sought. The Russian invasion of Ukraine has caused millions of Ukrainians to immigrate to Europe. Have they met with a friendly reception in the Czech Republic? What about refugees from other countries? Where does a certain distrust of refugees begin, and why does it come only after the first wave of aid? Why do we first become enthusiastic about helping others and why do our efforts fade away with time? The role of an individual, society, the state and international organisations. Integration of refugees into normal life in a foreign country.

Czech Television:

- 2022 – Therapeutic Robot. Ivana Kowaliková from the Department of Social Work introduced the new Faculty member, the PARO robot, in the Good Morning broadcast on the Czech Television. The PARO robot is used at the UO in teaching and research in social work with the elderly. Courses in modern technology for future social workers have not been common in the current higher education of social workers so far. The FSS UO staff respond to two "megatrends", i.e., the ageing population and advances in modern technology. They conduct research where the PARO robot is the main actor and investigate the level of acceptance of this robot among seniors in homes for the elderly, social workers and other home staff, as well as social work students. Social workers should be educated to understand the role of modern technology in social work and be able to use its potential. The broadcast also presented the Gerontooblek ('gerontological clothes') which is also used at the FSS UO in teaching. Students have the possibility to "experience" old age through a gerontooblek that can simulate some of the physical difficulties associated with old age and reflect on the consequences of these difficulties on the everyday life of the elderly.

- 2022 – The FSS UO is committed to social changes in society, including by making education more accessible to students with socio-economic disadvantages or by involving experts with experience of disadvantage in teaching. Why it is important to focus on these topics and how we do it at the FSS UO was presented in a news story on the Czech Television in the programme Události with Dr. Eliška Černá and the Dean of the Faculty, doc. Alice Gojová on 31 October 2022. The news story uses the example of a student with specific needs to show how the FSS UO works with disadvantaged students and the barriers that people from socially disadvantaged backgrounds face in accessing higher education. Furthermore, an international Erasmus+ project is presented, which focuses on the exchange of experiences among Belgium, Italy, Norway and the Czech Republic in integrating lived experience of social and health disadvantage into the teaching of Social Work.

National Print and Online Media:

- 1 March 2021, Eliška Černá: an article in the *MF Dnes* newspaper "Thousands of People are Homeless in Ostrava" The article is conceived as an interview and discusses the Night Out campaign, which raises the awareness of street homelessness in the Czech Republic. It also focuses on the models of supported housing - Housing after Preparation and Housing First, which target the most vulnerable groups of homeless people and integrate them into standard rental housing with social work support without any requirements for preparation. It reveals who is affected by homelessness and the extent to which homelessness occurs in the Czech Republic.

Popularisation of the Results of Project Activities:

- In November 2021, a public workshop "Participation in Practice" was held as part of the final meeting of the project funded by the TACR reg. no. TL02000071 entitled *Community-Based Participatory Planning in Urban Space*. Participants had the opportunity to take part in a panel discussion with architects on the topic of the Future of Participation, to see an exhibition of artworks by the students of the Department of Architecture of the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the VSB-TUO on the topic of how they imagine the end or continuation of the Hlavní třída street in Ostrava Poruba and to experience and play an urban game as one of the participatory techniques. The urban game gave the workshop participants the opportunity to step into the role and try out a different perception of the place being addressed. Through the game, they became hypothetical people with a relationship to the place being addressed and were tasked to articulate their priorities. The game resulted in a series of individual suggestions that were discussed and prioritized among the participants.

FSS UO on Facebook, OU@live:

- In December 2023, a presentation of the book "Prisoner on the Run" and a discussion with its authors, Mgr. Lukáš Dirga, Ph.D. and Mgr. Tomáš Kubín. The discussion was with the comments and experiences of Mgr. Lenka Kujevská from the FSS UO and at the same a prison therapist in Heřmanice Prison. The issue of prisons is a complex problem that is avoided or simplified in discussions in society. The phenomenon of prison escapes is probably not often and intensively thought about, as few people are directly affected by this topic. Yet it offers a wealth of interesting facts, untruths and profound human stories. The participants of the discussion, both students and people with lived experience of imprisonment, stimulated a discussion not only about the topic of the book, but about imprisonment in general. The topic was a useful addition for the FSS UO students in their Social Work and Criminology follow-up master's degree follow-up master's degree programme, which has been taught at the Faculty for three years. At the same time, the discussion supported the long-term intensive cooperation with the Heřmanice Prison, which operates under a memorandum. Student internships and research are carried out

there, and the prison staff are involved in teaching subjects related to the treatment of offenders. The students had the opportunity to get a glimpse of a *life behind bars*.

- 2022 – Dr. Mikulcová and Dr. Kupka discussed the questions "To what extent does social background influence children's future? And what effect do sibling relationships have on the psychological resilience of children?" – they answered the questions from the audience, the debate was live streamed on their Facebook profile and Youtube channel. How important is it to link education and social work? And how can a university help? To what extent does the social background of children affect their future? And what effect do sibling relationships have on children's psychological resilience? Could school thefts be motivated other than economically? The answers to these and many other questions were sought by the experts from the University of Ostrava on Tuesday 18 January at 6 pm.
- 2022 – The students of the FSS UO decided to organize an exhibition reminding of the importance and prestige of the field of social work called "I Work in Social Services and I Am Proud of It" as part of the professional course of the Development and Management in Social Work follow-up master's degree programme. The exhibition of the authentic stories of Silesian Diakonia workers was on display during November 2022 in the FSS UO building. The exhibition was intended for the workers and students in the field of study as well as for the general public who could become more familiar with what the field of social work encompasses. The exhibition presented the stories of ten Silesian Diakonia workers who were interviewed by the students about their motivation for their profession or their perception of pride in their profession. The interviews were complemented with cartoons and photographs of individual workers at work.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

Recommendation 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4: *Compete for EU-funded projects, which facilitate the comparison of best practices in different contexts. Present a project on the digitisation of social services that makes it possible to obtain a return on the results of research projects. In this respect, the University could offer research and social intervention services to public entities based on research results (software) in order to obtain research contracts. Offer a strategy consulting service to NGOs and private entities in order to secure more resources.*

RE: During the reviewed period, the FSS UO made several efforts to secure prestigious international grants, though without success. These included the submission of a Horizon Europe project on Sustainable Primary Prevention of Cancer (2022) and a bilateral project under the WEAVE initiative (GACR and the Polish National Science Centre, 2023). Despite this, international funding was successfully obtained through the Visegrad Fund and the Operational Programme Just Transformation for the REFRESH – Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries project, involving researchers from Ireland, the UK, and Finland. In addition, the Faculty has initiated and implemented research and technological innovation in social services, primarily through the REFRESH and DigiWELL projects (see below). Outputs from applied and contract research, including software applications, are actively utilized by public authorities, social service providers, and private companies (see sections 3.3–3.5). Through advisory and methodological services, the Faculty supports both public and private stakeholders (sections 3.4–3.5).

Recommendation 3.5 and 3.6: *Extend projects to other groups at risk, with the aim of achieving greater economic and social impact. Increase the number of individuals included in the Good Neighbours Also Exist in the Blanensko Region project.*

RE: The Faculty responded to major societal challenges such as the COVID-19+ pandemic and the Ukraine war-induced immigration crisis, expanding its focus to vulnerable groups, including at-risk youth, refugees, and isolated individuals including students. These activities, both voluntary and research-based, led to impactful publications and methodological materials, fulfilling the institution's mission for societal impact. The *Good Neighbours Exist* project in Blansko exemplifies this extended outreach (sections 3.3–3.4).

Recommendation 3.7, 3.8 and 3.9: *Increase the number of non-academic institutions with which the Faculty of Social Studies collaborates. Improve evaluation tools and strengthen the digital transition of the institutions with which the Faculty of Social Studies collaborates. Establish collaboration and coordination mechanisms with different institutions. Prepare an annual strategic report on methodology, best practices, and transfer to present to different institutions and companies with the aim of disseminating the results to obtain new projects. Offer the possibility to create a spin-off company linked to the digitalisation of social services.*

RE: The Faculty continued to build partnerships with non-academic institutions, including those funding or commissioning applied research (sections 3.3–3.5). However, the intensity of cooperation was affected by external economic factors—namely, the COVID-19 pandemic, energy crisis, and the war in Ukraine. To address this, FSS UO developed a comprehensive system for institutional cooperation and knowledge transfer (section 3.5). The effectiveness of this system is assessed annually via the FSS UO Annual Report and in alignment with the 2021–2025 Strategic Plan. Despite limitations, the system proved functional, evidenced by:

- Development of methodologies for ministries and public agencies.
- Delivery of educational workshops.
- Creation of three software tools.
- Conducting cost-benefit analyses for private sector use.
- Establishment of the spin-off company Rosteam, s.r.o.

Recommendation 3.10 and 3.11: *Join the ESWRA and IASSW committees. Increase the number of universities participating in ERIS. Coordinate special issues on the results of research projects (e.g., a special issue on technology and social work; software applications for the coordination of social work projects with communities).*

RE: Several the FSS UO staff are members of ESWRA. Doc. Kateřina Mikulcová (nee. Glumbíková) is a member of the International Advisory Board of the European Social Work Research Journal. The Faculty plays a key role in *ERIS*, which in 2023 included 16 universities from Austria, Germany, Finland, France, Poland, Slovakia, and the UK. *ERIS* fosters research cooperation, including joint projects, and coordinates monothematic issues in the *Social Work (ERIS Journal)* through its editorial participation (<https://socialniprace.cz/en/about-journal/>).

Recommendation 3.12: *Launch a series of podcasts and vodcasts by researchers from the evaluated unit, which would facilitate greater dissemination of the results on the Internet. For example: www.podsocs.com Launch web seminars to facilitate greater dissemination of the results For example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4mQDXzeiXU&t=207s>*

RE: The Faculty advanced the use of new technologies in both education and external communication, including online teaching during COVID-19+ and dissemination via podcasts,

media, and social networks (section 3.6). Further development in R&D results transfer via digital tools is planned.

General qualitative assessment (summary): *The overall result of our assessment is very positive. It is important to remember the number of professors who comprise the departments involved. In relation to this, we believe that the results obtained are socially relevant. The major strengths are as follows: international relations via the ERIS network; links with local and regional bodies; specialisation in assessment and monitoring (in an environment of rapid digitalisation), and a focus on certain groups at risk of social exclusion. The main weaknesses are associated with human resources: more researchers are needed, and researchers need greater internationalisation. Perhaps it would be beneficial for the University to set up a programme to increase the current number of high-profile visiting researchers and increase participation in European projects.*

RE: The number of the FSS UO academic and research staff was affected by the state of the budget, see the increase in the operating costs caused by the energy crisis.

In the field of R&D, the FSS UO aims to be a top internationally recognized institute, to strive to obtain international EC grants. Efforts to obtain top international EC grants were not successful despite preparation and submission: 2023 – cooperation on the preparation of the project in the Horizon Europe *Sustainable Primary Prevention of Cancer* programme as a partner; 2023 – preparation of a bilateral basic research project within the framework of the ERIS activities within the WEAVE initiative at the Czech Science Foundation and the Polish National Science Centre. However, in the period under review, the international research project *Values Building in Social Work Education* supported by the international agency Visegrad Fund (CZ, SK, PL, HU) and the project with international participation of foreign researchers from Ireland, Great Britain and Finland *REFRESH – Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries* supported by the Operational Programme Just Transition were implemented. The Faculty also participated in the implementation of the international research *Exploring the Self-Care Practices of Social Workers: An International Examination* within the Global Self-Care Initiative, the principal investigator was Jay Miller, University of Kentucky, USA).

In 2023, the project *DigiWELL – Excellence in Research on Digital Technologies and Wellbeing* was prepared within the framework of the OP JAC Excellence in Research call, which aims, among other things, to strengthen the internationalisation of research and the employment of foreign experts. The Faculty also responded to the acceleration of the digitalization of social services (the project was approved and has been implemented since 2024). In the period under review, the project OP JAC HUMSOC CZ.02.01.01/00/23_025/0008724 *Biography of Fake News with a Touch of AI* was also prepared: *Dangerous Phenomenon through the Prism of Modern Human Sciences*, which also aims to strengthen the internationalisation of research and the employment of foreign experts. The project was approved and has been implemented since 2025. The financial support of the FSS UO obtained in the projects of the Operational Programmes at the time of their implementation will amount to CZK 82,946 thousand (EUR 3.272 milion).

A number of the Faculty members are involved in international research initiatives and research, e.g., Forum: International Research Network (<https://www.dezim-institut.de/aktuelles/network-forum/>), an individual membership in the COST – European Cooperation in Science and Technology project, or under contract orders (<https://fss.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/>). Projects have been submitted for 2024–2025 (awaiting the results of the evaluation):

2024 – COST Action:

- Resilient bonds: Neighborhoods Uniting for a Sustainable Future (OC-2024-1-27124),
- Responsible Artificial Intelligence, Data Governance and Literacy (OC-2024-1-27115),
- Connecting Ukraine Research in Europe (OC-2024-1-27800).

- 2024 – HORIZON Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (FSS UO as a partner)
- 3-CHEERS: *Community, Healthcare rEvolution and social Engagement Research for older adults* (101227200).
- 2025 – Third Transnational Partnership Call on THCS (Transforming Health and Care Systems)
- Fostering social participation through a life course health development approach (THCS2025-554).

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
FSS UO website	3.1	https://fss.osu.eu/
Strategic Plan of the University of Ostrava 2021–2025	3.1	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf
Erasmus+ project K2 OSU20-3151 ECO ³ Sustainability Management and Green Controlling	3.1	https://fss.osu.cz/eco3/
SOWOSEC	3.1	https://fss.osu.eu/21902/sowosec-social-work-and-social-economy-programme-cooperation-of-european-social-work-universities/
ERIS European Research Institut for Social Work	3.1	https://eris.osu.eu/
Main Directions of Research Activities at the UO	3.1	https://www.osu.eu/research-initiatives/
Projects and Grants at the FSS OU	3.1, 3.3, 3.7	https://fss.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/
The Research Council of Norway	3.2	https://www.forskningradet.no/en
Advisory Board Social Research Center for Welfare Technology	3.2, 3.2.5	https://sites.uef.fi/weltech/advisory-board/
FORUM – International Research Network	3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7	https://www.dezim-institut.de/aktuelles/network-forum/
International Spring School of Social Work	3.2, 3.6	https://eris.osu.eu/spring-school/
The Association of Educators in Social Work	3.2	https://www.asvsp.org/english/
FWO (Research Foundation Flanders)	3.2.5	https://www.fwo.be/en/
Evaluation Panel P404 Sociology, Demography, Social Geography, Media Studies, Social Work of the Czech Science Foundation	3.2.5	https://gacr.cz/en/panels/
Body of Evaluators of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation - RVVI, evaluation of Module 1 results	3.2.5	https://vyzkum.gov.cz/Default.aspx?lang=en
Faculty research direction Population Groups at Risk of Social Exclusion	3.3	https://fss.osu.eu/research/
REFRESH project	3.3	https://www.osu.eu/projects-and-grants/?g=6718
DigiWELL project	3.3	https://www.digiwell-opjak.cz/en/home/
Jsc/Jimp publications of the project TJ04000152 Development of tools to support the involvement of fathers in social activation services for families with children and their pilot testing in practice (08/2020–07/2022)	3.3	https://socialnipace.cz/en/article/factors-that-have-an-influence-on-fathers-involvement-in-the-family-social-work/ , https://socialnipace.cz/article/zapojovani-otcu-v-socialne-aktivizacnich-sluzbach-pro-rodiny-s-detmi-v-ceske-republice/ https://ubp.uni-bamberg.de/jfr/index.php/jfr/article/view/796/696
Social Work Journal/ERIS Journal	3.7	https://socialnipace.cz/en/about-journal/

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Faculty of Arts

FORD: 6 - Humanities and the arts

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.¹²⁹ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

The mission of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ostrava (FA UO; <https://ff.osu.eu/>) is focused on the development of humanities and social sciences in the region which has traditionally been associated mainly with the industrial and technical sphere. The aim of the FA UO is to use its potential to reflect the identity, culture and history of the multicultural Moravian-Silesian region and to cultivate it through educational, scientific, creative activities and popularization. In the same spirit, the Faculty wants to contribute to shaping the city of Ostrava (and the surrounding region) as a university, scientific and international place of meeting.

The FA UO approaches the fulfilment of the mission defined through active transfer of current educational, scientific research and popularization trends anchored in the international academic and social discourse to the regional environment. An integral part of the Faculty mission is the internationalisation of a wide range of activities with the potential to responsibly prepare graduates for their future professional and civic life, the achievement of excellent internationally relevant scientific outputs in the areas of research conducted, as well as the transfer of foreign good practices into the public sphere and shape it in the spirit of the principles of an open democratic society.

The FA UO presents itself as a scientific and educational institution that wants to actively intervene in the solution of regional and societal problems of today's world. For this purpose, it uses its teaching activities in its accredited study programmes and other courses or modules held at the Faculty (for details, see e.g., 3.1.4. and 3.1.5). As for this, scientific goals, which it uses all forms of research activities – basic, applied and oriented research to achieve, are inherent. (It carries out contract research in a very limited and specific form only.)

The Faculty has a total of 12 departments and 4 research centres. The size of these departments/centres varies, and so do the different tasks they perform across all the objectives pursued. Overall, the number of students per full-time equivalent (FTE) at the Faculty corresponds

¹²⁹ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

to the average of OECD countries (about 15.5 students per FTE), which allows for the implementation of other professional activities at all Faculty's departments, albeit at different intensities. The Faculty is divided into the following departments (in alphabetical order):

- Art History and Cultural Heritage,
- Czech Language,
- Czech Literature and Literary Criticism,
- English and American Studies,
- German Studies,
- History,
- Latin Language and Culture,
- Philosophy,
- Psychology,
- Romance Studies,
- Slavonic Studies,
- Sociology.

The research units are centres for:

- Economic and Social History,
- Research of Professional Language,
- Regional Studies,
- Research in Medieval Society and Culture – VIVARIUM.

In addition to these departments, other research teams across these departments are formed at the Faculty (see below section 3.2 or the REFRESH project). In order to ensure the activities of all departments and centres, the Faculty also has several administrative and organisational units that are involved in the provision of educational, scientific, development, internationalisation and PR activities.

Given the nature of the humanities that dominate the Faculty, the most attention is paid to basic research. This takes place in all FORD areas carried out at the Faculty (see Table 3.1.6 for more details). The results of (especially) basic research are evaluated annually in Modules 1 and 2 according to the Methodology 17+ at the national level by the R&D&I Council, while the FA UO is a key contributor to the evaluation of the UO in Module 1, i.e., in excellent R&D results. In the period covered by this self-evaluation report (2019–2023), results produced at the Faculty of Arts account for more than 40% of the results nominated by the UO for these evaluations. The FA UO has also received the top "world-leading" award most often: The entire UO has received 14 such awards, 7 of which were the result of the FA UO.

The internationalised research environment that the Faculty strives to create is essential for the creation of such positively valued results at the FA UO. In the period 2019–2023, it substantially worked on the visibility of its R&D results in international professional circles. This was reflected, for example, in the acceptance of 5 faculty journals into the Scopus database or the acquisition of several international scientific project. In many respects, it can be said that the staff of the Faculty of Arts is a respected part of the international scientific community (see section 3.2 for more details). At the FA UO, basic research is perceived as very closely linked to the applied and oriented research. Therefore, the Faculty also focuses on the social impact of its scientific research, teaching activities and popularization. Ostrava's location at the intersection of cultural and linguistic areas naturally and greatly determines the social focus of these activities. Building awareness of cultural identity, traditions and customs, or while protecting the cultural and industrial heritage of the region, can be considered important.

At the same time, however, the Faculty (especially the experts in the social sciences) stresses the need of sociological and managerial analyses and the required competencies of society (language skills, soft skills, etc.). The Faculty is aware that it plays an important role in building the civil society in the region and is actively involved in educational programmes for all ages of the society. That is

why it tries to optimise its study programmes in line with the needs of the labour market and in cooperation with the private sector.

Nowadays, the applicability of the R&D results in the humanities and social sciences is fundamentally linked to interdisciplinary cooperation in most cases. This is also why the Faculty has been intensively involved in the so-called digital humanities in recent years in cooperation with departments of informatics and partners, but also in cooperation with medical, technical and natural science specialists. Examples of this versatile linkage of the basic research to the applied, specialized and interdisciplinary research of the FA UO are contained in other parts of this Self-Evaluation Report.

Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE¹³⁰

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	10.98/4.33	10.15/3.33	10.38/4.00	9.93/4.00	11.32/4.00	10.55/3.93
Associate Professor	28.58/7.17	28.68/6.57	27.77/6.50	26.04/6.29	24.90/6.93	27.19/6.69
Assistant Professor	69.39/33.14	63.39/28.45	71.12/31.94	71.17/32.32	72.24/33.89	69.47/31.95
Assistant	1.51/0.94	5.15/3.08	5.33/3.83	4.45/2.53	1.27/0.23	3.54/2.12
R&D Personnel ¹³¹	8.67/4.62	5.63/2.98	5.15/1.55	7.22/1.22	5.02/0.86	6.34/2.25
Researchers in other categories ¹³²	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
Technical and economic staff ¹³³	38.78/30.84	37.76/29.54	36.45/29.22	35.48/27.84	32.00/26.14	36.10/28.72
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	111.85/46.77	113.43/45.49	121.44/50.69	118.55/50.07	116.69/49.75	116.45/46.82
Early career researchers ¹³⁴	0.48/0.25	2.05/0.83	0.20/0.20	0.86/0.51	0.57/0.40	0.83/0.40
Total¹³⁵	157.92/81.04	150.76/73.94	156.2/77.04	154.3/74.21	146.75/72.05	153.19/75.66

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

¹³⁰ The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

¹³¹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹³² The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹³³ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹³⁴ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹³⁵ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹³⁶

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					3		2	1	3	2	3	
Associate Professor			1		16	3	5	2	7	1	2	1
Assistant Professor	3	2	26	5	22	14	11	6	3	2	1	1
Assistant	1	1	3	2	3	1						
R&D Personnel ¹³⁷			6	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1
Researchers in other categories ¹³⁸												
Technical and economic staff ¹³⁹	2	2	1		21	17	13	10				
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	4	3	31	8	49	22	18	9	14	5	6	2
Early career researcher ¹⁴⁰	1		3	2								
Total¹⁴¹	6	5	37	9	67	37	32	20	15	7	8	3

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹⁴²

¹³⁶ The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

¹³⁷ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹³⁸ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹³⁹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁴⁰ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁴¹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁴² The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					1		5	1	4	2	3	1
Associate Professor					13	3	5	1	6	2	4	1
Assistant Professor			26	7	28	16	16	9	5	4		
Assistant			1									
R&D Personnel ¹⁴³	3	3	7	4	2		1					
Researchers in other categories ¹⁴⁴												
Technical and economic staff ¹⁴⁵	1	1	5	4	13	10	11	9	2	2		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities			31	10	43	20	28	13	16	8	7	2
Early career researcher ¹⁴⁶			2	1								
Total¹⁴⁷	4	4	39	15	57	29	38	20	17	10	7	2

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate	1,332	1,003	1,325	992	1,280	931	1,381	1,026	1,389	1,029	3,489	2,558
Master's ¹⁴⁸	299	224	299	231	278	217	284	208	278	201	775	581
Doctoral	100	49	81	41	80	44	76	50	72	46	164	91
Lifelong Learning Courses	100	76	95	79	61	54	131	104	141	114	486	392
Total	1,831	1,352	1,800	1,343	1,699	1,246	1,872	1,388	1,880	1,390	4,750	3,622

¹⁴³ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁴⁴ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁴⁵ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁴⁶ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁴⁷ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁴⁸ All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ¹⁴⁹ / Of which professional study programmes											
	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
Undergraduate	30/0	0	30/1	0	30/1	0	29/1	0	25/1	0	30/1	0
Master's	19/0	0	20/0	0	20/1	0	17/1	0	15/1	0	22/1	0
Doctoral	17/1	0	17/2	0	20/2	0	21/3	0	19/3	0	24/3	0
Lifelong Learning courses	6/0	0	6/0	0	3/0	0	5/0	0	5/0	0	11/0	0
Total	72/1	0	73/3	0	73/4	0	72/5	0	64/5	0	87/5	0

Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.6 Biological sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.7 Other natural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.4 Chemical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.5 Materials engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.7 Environmental engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.0	Select an item.	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	0.0	Select an item.	
	3.2 Clinical medicine	0.0	Select an item.	
	3.3 Health sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.3 Veterinary science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	6.5	Basic Research	13.5

¹⁴⁹ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

	5.2 Economics and Business	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.3 Education	3.0	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.4 Sociology	4.0	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.5 Law	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.6 Political science	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.8 Media and communications	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.9 Other social sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	22.0	Basic Research	86.5
	6.2 Languages and Literature	50.0	Basic Research	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	8.5	Basic Research	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	6.0	Basic Research	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.0	Select an item.	
Total		100%	-	100%

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

In the implementation of scientific activities of the employees of the FA UO, a great emphasis is placed on active cooperation with the research community across the world. In line with their professional focus, the teams and individuals of the FA UO are an integral part of many multinational professional scientific networks and collaborate with many foreign experts and international institutions at various levels.

Naturally, the most significant involvement is in the Central European region and the Czech Republic itself, which fully corresponds with the declared mission of the FA UO. The most visible sign of the international Central European cooperation is the regular stays of our academics at universities and research institutes in all four neighbouring countries. Similarly, experts from these countries most often visit the FA UO as part of their lectures and research stays.

Thus, the cooperation with the Polish academic environment (e.g., Jagiellonian University in Cracow, University of Warsaw, Polish Academy of Sciences, Catholic University in Lublin, etc.) is typical, which is reflected not only in the frequent membership of the employees of the FA UO in the editorial boards of Polish scientific journals and publishers (including of many those in the WoS and Scopus databases), but also in numerous professional associations, evaluation bodies (e.g., accreditations of Polish higher studies) and, last but not least, it is reflected in the awards granted to our academics by the Polish institutions.

The cooperation with the Slovak and Austrian academic institutions (to name but a few: University of Vienna, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovak Academy of Sciences, etc.) is similarly intensive, with whom there is a frequent mobility (lectures and scientific) cooperation, participation in the editorial boards of prestigious journals and in expert panels of providers of scientific funding, as well as in accreditation committees and in a number of professional associations.

The same applies to Germany (e.g., Humboldt and Free University in Berlin, University of Passau, University of Würzburg, etc.). Of these collaborations, the intensive involvement in the quantitative linguistic research published by RAM-Verlag (e.g., the *Glottometrics* journal) or the membership in the international scientific board of the Leibniz-Institute for the German Language in Mannheim can be particularly highlighted.

These numerous collaborations within the Central European area are reflected not only in the joint scientific research grants obtained, but also have an impact on the international study programmes that have been accredited at the FA UO – currently two follow-up Master's degree programmes are being implemented in cooperation with the universities of three countries (in addition to the FA UO, the University of Silesia in Katowice and Matej Bel University in B. Bystrica) and one doctoral programme with the University of Wrocław. A Bachelor's degree programme with the University of Applied Sciences Zwickau is being intensively developed.

Naturally, the social relevance of the Faculty's scientific activities is most pronounced in the Czech Republic itself. This is evidenced not only by the awards, but also by the involvement in the scientific community across the country in a variety of roles – from membership in bodies representing higher education or the scientific community and scientific support providers, to university scientific and doctoral boards, to editorial boards of prestigious scientific journals (including many of those in the WoS and Scopus databases), to scientific publishers and professional associations.

However, the Central European area is far from exhausting the international cooperation of the FA UO. Beyond the information in the tables below, the elected memberships in professional associations, which cover all areas of research in which the FA UO is involved, could be mentioned. In particular, it is worth highlighting the representation in *The European Network for Positive Psychology* (Dr. Millová has been elected as a national representative since 2023) or *The European Association for Urban History* (Prof. Pokludová was elected as a member of the executive committee for the years 2016–2024 and was the president of the committee of this association in 2022–2024). Other notable elected memberships include history societies such as *The International Society for History Didactics*, *The International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions*, and *The International Committee for the History of Technology*. In philosophy, for example, the membership in *The International Society for the Study of Medieval Philosophy*, *The International Association for Aesthetics*, *The International Association of Women Philosophers* or *The Northwestern University Research Initiative for the Study of Russian Philosophy and Religious Thought*. In linguistics and literature, for example, *The European Society for the Study of English*, *The International Quantitative Linguistics Association*, *Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Français [The International Federation of Teachers of French]* and *The Societas Linguistica Europaea*. Close and numerous collaborations with a number of European and non-European research and higher education institutions are carried out not only thanks to the cooperation with these professional associations. For example, the scientific activities with Hispanic and Francophone countries from Latin and Central America to North America and Europe, where academics from the FA UO are not only involved in the running of scientific journals, but are also heavily in literary and linguistic research. The results of this research have been reflected in grants and publications, as well as in reciprocal expert lectures.

The attractiveness of the research and research environment at the FA UO for researchers from all over the world can be also seen in the successful involvement of foreign experts in the workplaces of the FA UO. This takes place at several levels, in addition to the traditional recruitment at the FA

UO and the regular use of visiting professors (in 2019–2023, e.g., prof. Eichinger, prof. Hirsch, prof. Sawicki, etc.), the main objective is to build an international scientific research environment in the form of professional research teams. This has been most successful in the REFRESH project, where 11 foreign experts have already joined the FA UO, e.g., Aviezer Tucker (formerly Harvard University), Dawn Norris (formerly the University of Wisconsin) or Viktor Pál (formerly the University of Helsinki). These facts prove that the FA UO is fully involved in the global research community (see the following tables).

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
MIZEROVÁ Simona, PhDr., Ph.D. MURYC Jiří, PhDr., Ph.D. KOZDEROVÁ VELČOVSKÁ, Štěpánka, Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>European Language Label Award 2022</i>	European Commission
LIČKA Lukáš, Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>S.I.E.P.M. Junior Scholar Award 2020</i>	Société Internationale pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale
MURYC Jiří, PhDr., Ph.D.	Medaile Komisji Edukacji Narodowej <i>Za szczególne zasługi dla oświaty i wychowania 2023</i>	Ministerstwo Edukacji i Nauki, PL
MÁLKOVÁ Iva, prof. PaedDr., Ph.D. (as a member of the team of authors)	Academia Book of the Year 2023	Czech Academy of Sciences (the CAS)
URBANOVÁ Svatava, prof. PhDr., CSc.	<i>Artis Bohemiae Amicis 2022 medal</i>	Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic
ZATLOUKAL Pavel, prof. PhDr.	Silver Medal of <i>the President of the Senate 2021</i>	Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
ZÁŘICKÝ Aleš, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	<i>Za zasługi dla Uniwersytetu Śląskiego 2019 gold badge</i>	Uniwersytet Śląski w Katowicach, PL
BÍLKOVÁ Veronika, Mgr.	Winner of the <i>Premio Iberoamericano 2023</i>	Embassies of Ibero-American countries in the Czech Republic
KADLEC Petr, Mgr., Ph.D.	Nominated for the <i>Chairman's Award of the GA CR 2021</i>	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)
MÁLKOVÁ Iva, prof. PaedDr., Ph.D. (as a member of the team of authors)	Recommendation of the jury of the <i>Magnesia Litera 2023 award for Non-fiction</i>	Litera Association

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
CHALUPA Jiří, doc. Mgr., Dr.	<i>Caracteres. Estudios culturales y críticos de la esfera digital</i> , 2254-4496
CHALUPA Jiří, doc. Mgr., Dr.	<i>Ricyde. Revista Internacional de Ciencias del Deporte</i> , 1885-3137
KOLÁŘ Stanislav, doc. PhDr., CSc.	<i>Confluente</i> , 1842-662x
KUBÁT Miroslav, Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>Glottometrics</i> , 2625-8226
LAZAR Jan, doc. Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>Cahiers de Praxematique</i> , 2111-5044
LIČKA Lukáš, Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>Intellectual Practice and Thought at Late Medieval and Early Modern Universities</i> , book series by Brepols

LIPOVSKI Radek, PhDr., Ph.D.	<i>Przeszłość Demograficzna Polski</i> , 0079-7189
OTISK Marek, prof. Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>Philosophy and Cultural Studies Revisited</i> , 2510-5353, book series by Peter Lang
RACLAVSKÁ Jana, doc. PaedDr., Ph.D.	<i>Roczniki Humanistyczne (Językoznawstwo)</i> , 0035-7707
RYBAŘÍKOVÁ Zuzana, Mgr., Ph.D.	<i>Logic and Philosophy of Time</i> , 2596-4372

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
ANTONÍN Robert, doc. Mgr., Ph.D.	New Perspectives on Late Medieval Heresy: A Round Table Discussion & Ritual Practice of Power in Bohemia in the 14th Century	International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, Invited speaker	2019
DAVID Jaroslav, prof. Mgr., Ph.D.	Urban Landscape and its Toponymy – Czech Socialist Cities in the Centre of Research Interest	The University of Tübingen, Department of Computer Science, Invited Lecture	2022
KOLÁŘ Stanislav, doc. PhDr., Dr.	Immigration in American Literature and American Holocaust Literature	Feng Chia University, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Taichung City, Invited Lecture	2019
KUNDRÁT Josef, Mgr., Ph.D.	Educational Live Action Role Playing as Teaching Method	The University of Genoa, Invited Lecture	2019
LAZAR, Jan, doc. Mgr., Ph.D.	Neological loanwords from English and their use in France and Canada	KFLC: The Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Conference, University of Kentucky, Invited Speaker	2023
MILLOVÁ Katarína, PhDr., Ph.D.	Life transitions, work-family conflicts and well-being in established adulthood	National Association of Mental Health and Allied Health Foundation, International Conference on Emerging Issues and Challenges in Global Mental Health and Public Health For the 21st Century, Keynote Speaker	2022
MLČOCH Jan, dr. Mgr.	La Transición española como época clave en la reformulación de la identidad española actual	University of La Sabana, Bogotá, XVI Coloquio Internacional Literatura panhispánica y sus valores, Invited Speaker	2020
OTISK Marek, prof. Mgr., Ph.D.	Saltus Gerberti et Genitura mundi Adalboldi: The Creation of the Material World within the Boethian Number Theory	Centre national de la recherche scientifique, Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes (CNRS, IRHT); École Pratique des Hautes Études – Sorbonne (EPHE – PSL), Paris; Invited Speaker	2023
POKLUDOVÁ Andrea, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	Industrial Cities and Discourses of Modernity	European Association for Urban History, 15th Conference of the EAUH: Inequality and the City, Antwerp; Session Organiser & Invited Speaker	2022
PUMPROVÁ Anna, doc. Mgr., Ph.D.	Lodowicus laicus laudipeta iniquus	University of Vienna, Institute of Austrian Historical Research, Invited Lecture	2019

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year
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COURTIS Alan, prof. Dr.	University of Buenos Aires	Poesia sonora en America Latina	2020
EARHART Amy, associate prof., Ph.D.	Texas A&M University	Digital Humanities and Digital Tools: Teaching and Research Uses	2022
EL-MADKOURI MAATAOUI Mohamed, prof. Ph.D.	Autonomous University of Madrid	La conceptualización de la traducción y de la equivalencia, y el proceso traductor	2022
GALMICHE Xavier, prof., Dr.	Sorbonne University, Paris	The Work of Jakub Demel and the Seeking of Infrasound in 20 th Century Poetics	2019
KRAPFL James, associate prof., Ph.D.	McGill University, Montreal	Czechoslovakia 1990, year of "The second revolution"	2020
LÜHR Rossemarie, prof. Dr.	Humboldt University of Berlin	Phonästhemische LexemCliquen mit Nasal-StopSequenzen in germanischen und anderen indoeuropäischen Sprachen	2022
QUEIRÓS Carla Sofia Ferreira, Dr.	Polytechnic Institute of Porto	Baroque Monuments: <i>Azulejos</i> or Stoves. Architecture and Design of the 21 st Century	2019
TUCKER Aviezer, prof., Ph.D.	Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.	Historical Revisionism - A Philosophical Perspective.	2020
WASZAK Krystyna, prof. dr hab.	University of Warsaw	Derywaty słowotwórcze współczesnej polszczyzny w perspektywie kognitywno-komunikacyjnej	2021
WICH-REIF Claudia, prof. Dr.	University of Bonn	Form und Funktion von Movierungen - diachrone Analysen	2022

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the research project/programme call	Name of the contracting authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year
VAŇKOVÁ Lenka, prof. PhDr., Dr.	Humanities and Social Sciences	Austrian Science Fund (FWF)	2020, 2021
POKLUDOVÁ Andrea, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	Member and chair of the panel of Modern History (since 1780) and Ethnology (410)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2019–2023
ANTONÍN Robert, doc. Mgr., Ph.D.	Member and chair of the panel of Archaeology and Pre-Modern History until 1780 (405)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2019, 2023
VAŇKOVÁ Lenka, prof. PhDr., Dr.	Member of the Linguistics and Literature panel (406)	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	2023
ANTONÍN Robert, doc. Mgr., Ph.D.	Member of the Expert Group of the Czech National Agency for International Education and Research (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)	CEEPUS	2023
POKLUDOVÁ Andrea, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	Danube Region Strategy, multilateral science and technology cooperation	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic	2023
BENEŠ KOVÁČOVÁ Dominika, Mgr., Ph.D. MÁLKOVÁ Iva, prof. PaedDr., Ph.D. MILLOVÁ Katarína, PhDr., Ph.D. NEDOMOVÁ Zdeňka, doc. PhDr., Ph.D. OTISK Marek, prof. Mgr., Ph.D.	Scientific Grant Agency (VEGA)	Slovak Academy of Sciences & Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic	2019–2023
DAVID Jaroslav, prof. Mgr., Ph.D. OTISK Marek, prof. Mgr., Ph.D.	Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV)	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic	2020, 2022

ČERNÝ Miroslav, doc. PhDr., Ph.D.	Cultural and Educational Grant Agency (KEGA)	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic	2021, 2022
POKLUDOVÁ Andrea, prof. PhDr., Ph.D.	Inter-Excellence, Inter-Transfer sub-programme	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic	2019

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research¹⁵⁰) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023¹⁵¹. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1–3.3.2)¹⁵², regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

Although the focus of the Faculty's research is on basic research, in the period under review, the Faculty's members and teams participated in a number of applied and oriented research projects supported by several national and international donors. A selection of ten projects is presented below.

On the other hand, FA UO didn't carry out any contract research with financial statements. In the period in question, several contract research activities were carried out (e.g., research for The Moravian-Silesian Research Library in Ostrava *The Library and its Readers*, or research for the Czech Television, Regional Studio Ostrava on the role of regional news, for the National Moravian-Silesian Theatre *Attitudes of Young People to the Theatre* which was followed up by a contract sociological survey for the same institution *Attitudes of High School Students to the Heroes of the Prague Spring*), however, it was a reciprocal, not a financial transaction in all cases. At the same time, contract research with a financial statement for the Municipality of the City of Ostrava on strategic plans for the Dubina district was prepared (as part of the REFRESH project – see below), but it was not implemented until 2024.

Presentation of ten selected applied research projects:

I. Project TACR ÉTA, TL03000240: *Diagnostic system for attitude measurement based on psychological distance testing with a use of evolution algorithms (2020–2023)*

The project was focused on the development of a unique pedagogical-psychological diagnostic tool. The research and development of this tool required interdisciplinary cooperation involving teams from the Department of Psychology of the FA UO and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, with each department contributing

¹⁵⁰ For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

¹⁵¹ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

¹⁵² The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

its specific expertise – psychologists provided the theoretical anchoring and the design of the diagnostic method, while the computer scientists developed the software solution of the tool.

The main output of the project is an innovative diagnostic tool, Interactive Visual Metaphors (IVM), for identifying pupils' attitudes towards school subjects and for analysing relationships among pupils, thus helping to map pupils' school experience. The IVM tool brings a new approach to sociometrics and attitudinal diagnostics using intuitive work with visual metaphors in an interactive digital environment instead of direct questioning or questionnaire scales. This solution is based on the theory of conceptual metaphors and psychological distance, which represents a completely unique way of psychological-pedagogical applied research.

This project of the FA UO fulfils its goal of being a socially engaged and educationally beneficial institution that influences life (not only) in the region. The main benefit of the project is establishment of an effective and psychologically safe tool for early identification of problematic relationships in a classroom and limiting negative attitudes towards education. In this way, school psychologists and teachers can work with the classroom climate and prevent school failure more effectively. Its practical applicability is confirmed by the interest of schools in implementing it in their diagnostic practice. The project thus contributes significantly to increasing in the efficiency of education, positively supports the stability of the school environment, and offers innovative solutions for psychologically sensitive diagnosis of classroom collectives, and helps to identify pathologies (bullying, cyberbullying etc.) in classroom collectives.

II. Project TACR ÉTA, TL03000187: *Propaedeutic of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy in History Education at High Schools (2020–2023)*

The project aimed to tackle the challenges of the contemporary world and media environment by proposing and implementing a didactic method that would be able to pass on crucial competencies. History education was identified as a school subject with great potential to include skills involved in information processing, scientific explanation, ethical evaluation, evidence-based thinking, or rhetorical analysis. These skills are becoming increasingly important in the current geopolitical climate and so-called post-truth era. The very idea of the project is strictly interdisciplinary – while focusing on history education, the researchers drew heavily on various philosophical and scientific disciplines and argued for the implementation of interdisciplinarity and integrated education in high schools. Various model lectures aim to pass on skills and knowledge going beyond mere historical factography, and they contain modern theories from fields like psychology, politology, biology, geography, and physics. Furthermore, they encourage students to revisit the knowledge gained during earlier stages of education and to re-examine it in the light of additional evidence and theoretical frameworks.

The main outputs of the project (book and model lectures) are available free of charge via Open Access, as well as two papers published in scientific journals. The book has already received attention through a review and a prize for the best Open Access title (awarded at book fair Books Brno 2024). The model lectures themselves touch upon important social topics, including colonialism, totalitarian ideologies, or infodemics and are widely used by teachers (not only) in high schools in the region. The pilot lectures took place at three selected grammar schools in Ostrava (Matiční Grammar School; Olga Havlová Grammar School; Pavel Tigrid Language Grammar School). With this project, FF UO also fulfils its mission as a responsible producer of scientific outcomes that modify the educational process and contribute to the stability of society.

III. Project NAKI II, DG18P02OVV047: *The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia – Identity, Culture and Society of the Czech Silesia in the Process of Social Modernization with the Cultural Landscape Impact (2018–2021)*

The aim of this project was to research the historical processes influencing the population and landscape in the period of the so-called modernisation (mainly from the middle of the 19th century to the present) in the territory of Czech Silesia and the territorially adjacent "Moravian wedge".

Three institutions were involved in the project: besides the historians from the FA UO (and one geographer from the Faculty of Science) of the UO, the staff of the Silesian Museum in Opava and the research institute Accendo as the principal investigator – were also involved.

The goal of the NAKI project call was fully compatible with the mission of the FA UO, which has thus fulfilled its role as a scientific institution whose mission is to research cultural heritage and the complex construction of identity in the ethnically diverse region of Czech Silesia. It was a multidisciplinary project combining history, demography, sociology, economics, urban planning and natural sciences. The synergy of these investigations provided a new perspective on the development of the defined area. This development has been significantly influenced by the landscape management, but other links between historical processes and the current state of the society and landscape (demographic changes, migration, transformation of biological and socio-cultural structures, the impact of mining on the landscape, the consequences of war conflicts, etc.) have not been left out of the research.

The results of the research obtained to be used for educational purposes and museum presentations (two exhibitions were held in the Silesian Museum, one in the Těšín Museum). *The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia* was prepared for the general public (with a special focus on schools of various types) as the main output, which was published in printed and electronic form (<https://mapa.atlas-slezska.cz/en.html>) as an interactive dynamic atlas in four languages (Czech, German, Polish and English).

IV. Project NAKI II, DG20P02OVV020: *Literary Image of the Region 1918–2018 (Northeastern Moravia and Czech Silesia): Personalities, Events, Institutions, Places, Texts (2020–2022)*

The project is fully in line with the mission of the FA UO. The research and outputs help to shape the cultural awareness of the general public about the region. The social contribution of the project can be defined as the provision of facts that show the cultural identity of the defined space in non-traditional forms, which at the same time has offered an atypical approach to literary science. This is represented by the outputs of the project, such as the touring exhibition with a critical catalogue *Literary Memory of the Region 1918–2018*, the printed map *Literary Map of Ostrava 1918–2018* and the encyclopaedic dictionary *Literary Dictionary of Northeast Moravia and Bohemian Silesia* which capture the changes in the literary and cultural life of the region over the last 100 years. These outputs trace the formation and transformation of the linguistic, ideological, national and social identity in the industrial environment of the 20th century.

The project carried out at the FA UO in collaboration with the Silesian Museum, the Ostrava City Library and the Fiducia Club, was based on research of unique archival sources and significantly contributed to the theoretical definition of regionalism.

The interdisciplinary approach has brought together several research fields (history, linguistics, ethnography, social geography, cultural history and ecocriticism). Thanks to this research and presentations of its results, forgotten literary works have been discovered and a new contextual view of the history of literature and, as part of this, a modification of the interpretation of traditional works that constitute the literary identity of the region. The results of the project prove that the literary heritage of the region is hidden in the texts written in Czech, Slovak, German, Polish and dialects, that the genius loci of North-eastern Moravia and Bohemian Silesia can be expressed synecdochically, emblematically and aesthetically.

V. Project Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership, 2017-1-PL01-KA204-038686: *Polish Online (2017–2020)*

The aim of the international applied research project was to use digital technologies to increase the availability of language learning materials through a multilingual e-learning platform polski.info which is used for self-study and guided learning of Polish. Representatives from six European countries participated in the implementation of the project objectives. These were three organizations focusing on intercultural education and communication (Studio Gaus in Berlin, Germany; Education@Internet in Partizánske, Slovakia; and Inter-Culture in Maribor, Slovenia) and

the representatives from three universities: University of the National Education Commission in Cracow, Poland (principal investigator), Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas (Lithuania); and the FA UO. All three participating universities were responsible for postulating the theoretical background and the actual content of the learning portal (individual lessons, exercises, grammar, etc.).

This international project and platform polski.info fulfils the socially relevant objectives of the Faculty's R&D activities in several ways: development of language skills and competences regardless of age, previous knowledge of the studied language and preferred language of study (the platform offers ten language versions and teaching in 21 languages); attractive and effective use of digital technologies that enable personal development according to personal capabilities and preferences; integrative elements that overcome difficulties in integrating immigrants into society by facilitating orientation in language and intercultural dialogue.

All these goals were approached by the FA UO staff who have not only created their own teaching materials, but above all have used their previously acquired scientific and theoretical concepts for the success of this platform. It can be said that it has been successful, as evidenced, among other things, by the numerous users of this learning platform (see below in section 3.4 for more details) and the European Commission's European Language Label Award 2022.

VI. Project Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership, 2021-1-IT02-KA220-HED-000032111: *Digital Womanist (2021–2024)*

An international applied research project involving universities and non-academic partners. The main objective of the project was to develop digital literacy of female students in the humanities across Europe, starting with a qualitative and quantitative survey of the current situation in this area and ending with specific steps leading to the development of a new curriculum that will emphasize the acquisition of digital literacy by female students in the humanities.

The project was led by the University of Salerno, Italy, and in addition to the FA UO, teams from three other European universities (University of Alicante, Spain; University of Bucharest, Romania; and University of the Peloponnese in Tripoli, Greece) and three other partners (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania in Bucharest; Conform, an Italian technology company; and Artykel Creative Form in Prague, Czech Republic) participated in the research and development.

The research identified the main barriers that prevent female students at faculties of humanities from reducing the digital literacy gap between men and women. The main outputs of the project are a summary report on women's digital literacy and the IT gender gap in the EU countries involved in the project. A *Digital Womanist* curriculum (*Digital Womanist Toolkit*) was also prepared to develop the IT skills of female students in the humanities. The project outputs are also interactive training videos that will be included in the DIGIT – Educational TV programme.

Among the activities of the FA UO in this project, the activities of the female students of the Faculty can be especially highlighted who, in cooperation with the National Heritage Institute, Regional Office in Ostrava, implemented a digital solution for the innovation of internal systems for archiving cultural heritage which is now being prototyped in the laboratories of Digital Solutions Design Labs.

VII. Project OP ST CZ.10.03.01/00/22_003/0000048: *REFRESH – Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries (2022–2027)*

Since 2022 FA UO has been involved in the intensive preparation and subsequent implementation of a strategic project whose main carrier is the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava. The project focuses on research on various aspects of the transformation of the Ostrava and Moravian-Silesian region. The FA UO participates in the activities of one of the living laboratories of this project, the Social Lab, which aims to conduct oriented research in the field of social sciences and humanities with a focus on the process of just transformation leading to an increase in the standard of living of the inhabitants of the region. Experts from the FA UO are mainly involved in monitoring the current phenomena of unemployment, the changing structure of the labour market, social mobility and the

breakdown of family ties. They look at these issues in their historical, social and geographic context, paying special attention to disadvantaged social groups which are expected to suffer the highest level of negative impacts of the transformation. An important role in the research is played by the influences on the value attitudes and beliefs of these disadvantaged groups, in which philosophers are involved alongside the sociologists and historians (narrative analysis, critical thinking, media literacy, ethical aspects, etc.). The problematic situation of disadvantaged social groups and their attitudes may be one of the biggest obstacles to successful changes in the region, in accordance with the current European strategies. FA UO produces also macro perspective research on processes and phenomena leading to a higher level of social resilience to social pathologies, in which international experts involved in the project are collaborating. Through the project FA UO is succeeding in fulfilling several of its strategic goals, including the involvement of top international researchers, an increase in research activities such as publications or projects, including links to foreign grant schemes.

VIII. Project TACR Trend, FW08010025: *Development of a telemedicine platform for the development of cognitive functions (2023–2025)*

The aim of the project is to create a telemedicine platform suitable for testing cognitive functions and at the same time to assess its usability compared to traditional methods requiring the physical presence of doctors and patients with cognitive disorders. This inherently interdisciplinary project combines the knowledge and methods of psychiatry, neurology, linguistics, pragmatics and semantics with the field of telemedicine and their application to mobile devices. The main outcome of the project will be a telemedicine platform including modules assessing and developing patients' cognitive functions. Currently, there are several isolated solutions that will link the project and enable timely transfer of the patient to the care of a healthcare facility with available capacity.

Cognitive, behavioural and psycho-developmental disorders are among the disorders that significantly reduce the quality of life of patients, their families and the environment. The project to help facilitate easier diagnosis of cognitive impairment and facilitate access to specialist care will provide a convenient and easy first step to enable more appropriate prevention and early diagnosis for these at-risk groups.

The role of the FA UO research team is to collaborate with a team from the Faculty of Medicine UO and with MEDIhub, a technology company (the project's principal investigator), in testing cognitive functions for the early diagnosis of serious mental illnesses. The researchers from the FA UO use the results of their previous original research in the field of nonverbal communication, which they modify for the purposes of the above objectives: they compile a catalogue of intentional gestures, poses and facial expressions, which is verified on a population sample. This project also fulfills goals of the FA UO by applying culturological research that diachronically examines forms of communication for medical-diagnostic possibilities that facilitate the detection of problems in the affected populations.

IX. Project MŠMT, CRP, C20-2019 & C15-2020: *Joint Approach of Philosophical Faculties to Improve the Quality and Prestige of the Humanities and Social Sciences I–II (2019–2020)*

This project carried out in cooperation with three Czech universities (besides the UO, the University of Hradec Králové as the principal investigator and Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem) served to promote the humanities and social sciences in Czech society. The main objective of the project was to challenge stereotypes and artificially created negative image of students and graduates of humanities and social sciences in the public space and to draw attention to the persistent stigmatization of humanities and social sciences education as an unpromising higher education sector whose graduates have no place and meaning in the contemporary society.

In order to fulfil this objective, an extensive sociological survey was carried out (in cooperation with the STEM/MARK agency) among private companies, i.e., potential employers, which aimed to identify the requirements of employers as well as the character of graduates of these fields in

relation to their professional life and the needs of the labour market. The project also implemented a marketing campaign aimed at potential applicants to study the humanities and social sciences, but also at the general public. This was done by introducing successful graduates of these fields to the public and applicants with the aim of changing and straightening the perception of the humanities not only among the general public but also among public policy makers in the Czech Republic.

One of the main outputs of the project is the web portal (humanitky.cz) with personal stories of many well-known and publicly active graduates of the humanities and social sciences; it also presents the results of the above-mentioned sociological survey and, last but not least, it is a platform addressing potential applicants to study these fields. The FA UO participated in all of these activities.

X. Project Interreg VA SK-CZ, 304010AZV9: Support of Transferable Work Competencies for the Labour Market while Studying at University (2021–2023)

The aim of the project, in which the FA UO acted as the principal investigator and in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts, Trnava University, and the Faculty of Materials Science and Technology, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, was to define the current set of competences most demanded by employers, which will be applied in practice by graduates of universities, on the basis of a combined sociological survey of the labour market in Slovakia (analysis of data on job offers for the years 2020–2022) and in the Czech Republic (focus group of HR specialists of major companies in the Moravian-Silesian region – qualitative analysis of transferable job competences). On this basis, two successive international modules were developed and tested for students at all three levels of higher education at the participating universities which specifically strengthen transferable work competences and significantly deepen the competence skills of graduates and thus their better employment in the labour market. At the same time, another supporting educational activity was developed and tested in the form of a series of thematic webinars for teachers and doctoral students of partner universities and expert representatives of employers working in the modules. Emphasis in all implemented educational activities was placed on their use through digital tools that will help to distribute and share learning content online and to manage e-learning with maximum respect for the individual needs of learners. The dynamic development of the labour market leads to the fact that the project results will be revised at regular intervals and adapted to the changing requirements, thus the FA UO will continue to fulfil its intention to be an important creator of the social environment in the Moravian-Silesian region.

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary						
Provider ¹⁵³	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ¹⁵⁴				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Beguines and Preachers. Between the Moral Ideal, Homiletics and Pastoral Care in the Czech Lands in the period of the 14th–16th Century	716 / 28,245	1,023 / 40,356			
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Early Modern Mosaic Physics and Its Comenian Successors				561 / 22,130	822 / 32,426
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Education, the economy and society 1848–1914: The socioeconomic contexts of the development of	341 / 13,452	523 / 20,631			

¹⁵³ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

¹⁵⁴ Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

	vocational education infrastructure in Austrian Silesia					
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Environmental Justice in Ethnic American Literatures				1,038 / 40,947	1,497 / 59,053
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	From the Obelisk to Moderation. Brno Architecture of the Nineteenth Century					403 / 15,898
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Landfrieden as the source of the provincial law in Moravia of the Estates era	579 / 22,840	555 / 21,893	804 / 31,716		
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Medical Compendium by the Jew of Salms: historical context – linguistic analysis – editing	443 / 17,475	628 / 24,773			
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Meditation on City, Landscape and Fine Arts: Olomouc 1919–1989	238 / 9,389	1,231 / 48,560			
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Modes of Chronicle Novels in Contemporary Czech Prose	238 / 9,389	362 / 14,280			
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Philosophy and Numbers in the Latin Pre-Scholastic Thinking	583 / 22,998				
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Quantitative Onomastics: Starting Points, Concepts, Applications				1,063 / 41,933	1,179 / 46,509
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Quantitative Syntactic Stylistics of Contemporary Written Czech				480 / 18,935	1,025 / 40,434
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Reception of French historical avant-gardes in Czech interwar theatre		477 / 18,817	405 / 15,976	592 / 23,353	
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	The Big History and its Philosophical Potential					753 / 29,704
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	The modernisation of commercial education in Cisleithania 1848–1918: patterns, trends, processes					462 / 18,225
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	The Moravian Compromise as a Laboratory for the Nationalization of Politics and Law: The National Partitioning of Moravia's Towns, 1905-1914		959 / 37,830	945 / 37,278	1,158 / 45,680	
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	The transformation and social activation of rural areas in Moravia and Austrian Silesia 1861–1914	1,640 / 64,694				
Corss-border Cooperation Programme Interreg Slovakia – Czech Republic	Support of Transferable Work Competencies for the Labour Market while Studying at University			297 / 11,728	892 / 35,183	520 / 20,523
Moravian-Silesian Region	Grant Programme for Support of Science and Research in Moravian-Silesian Region 2017–2023: Support for Talented PhD Students	631 / 24,892	751 / 29,625	648 / 25,562	756 / 29,822	942 / 37,160
MŠMT [Ministry of Education Youth and Sports, Czech Republic]	Different types of projects (IRP, SGS, PPSR, Mobility, etc.)	8,841 / 348,758	7,784 / 307,061	4,620 / 182,249	5,300 / 209,073	4,991 / 196,884
Nadace Landek [Landek Foundation]	Orlová, Silesia and Central Europe 1223–2023: Conference about the City of Orlová					50 / 1,972
Ministry of Culture, Czech Republic, Programme NAKI II –	Literary Image of the Region 1918–2018 (Northeastern Moravia and		2,735 / 107,890	3,592 / 141,696	2,980 / 117,554	

National and Cultural Identity	Czech Silesia): Personalities, Events, Institutions, Places, Texts					
NPO [National Recovery Plan], Ministry of Education Youth and Sports, Czech Republic	[FlexibilitOU] Flexibility to Development of Professional Skills					1,100 / 43,392
OP RDE, Ministry of Education Youth and Sports, Czech Republic	Improving of Educational Infrastructure FA UO and Improving the Accessibility for Students with Special Educational Needs	40,271 / 1,588,600	136 / 5,365	164 / 6,469		
OP RDE, Ministry of Education Youth and Sports, Czech Republic	We are Ostravská – the Modern, Inspirational and Attractive Place for Quality Study	1,547 / 61,025	176 / 6,943	75 / 2,959		
Municipality of the City of Ostrava	5 projects	30 / 1,183		1,372 / 54,122	1,098 / 43,314	40 / 1,578
TACR (Technology Agency of the Czech Republic)	Diagnostic system for attitude measurement based on psychological distance testing with a use of evolution algorithms		346 / 13,649	772 / 30,454	391 / 15,424	202 / 7,969
TACR (Technology Agency of the Czech Republic)	Propaedeutic of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy in History Education at High Schools		383 / 15,108	585 / 23,077	486 / 19,172	468 / 18,462
Visegrad Fund	Portraying Countryside in Central European Literature		215 / 8,500	32 / 1,275		
Total		56,098 / 2,212,940	18,284 / 721,281	14,311 / 564,561	16,795 / 662,520	14,455 / 570,189
In the role of another participant						
Provider ¹⁵⁵	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Erasmus+	6 projects	295 / 11,655	410 / 16,188	1,234 / 48,665	2,584 / 101,918	787 / 31,031
GACR (Czech Science Foundation)	Development of the Czech pronominal (en)clitics	212 / 8,363				
MŠMT [Ministry of Education Youth and Sports, Czech Republic]	3 projects (CRP, Mobility)	828 / 32,663	1,109 / 43,748	33 / 1,302		17 / 671
NAWA [Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange]	Polonystika otwarta [Polonistics Open]		321 / 12,633			
Ministry of Culture, Czech Republic, Programme NAKI II – National and Cultural Identity	The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia – Identity, Culture and Society of the Czech Silesia in the Process of Social Modernization with the Cultural Landscape Impact	2,096 / 82,682	1,998 / 78,817	1,047 / 41,302		
OP ST [Operational Programme Just Transition], Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic	REFRESH – Research Excellence For Region Sustainability and High-tech Industries					2,015 / 79,487
TACR (Technology Agency of the Czech Republic)	Development of a Telemedicine Platform for the Development of Cognitive Functions					332 / 13,097

¹⁵⁵ Ibid.

Total	3,431 / 135,363	3,838 / 151,386	2,314 / 91,269	2,584 / 101,918	3,151 / 124,286
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Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ¹⁵⁶	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total		0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts¹⁵⁷, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

All of the research results below have an impact on society, which in most cases is documented in quantitative terms. In the selection process, preference was given to outputs related to the applied research projects listed in section 3.3, complemented by other typical products of scientific research work that lead to the fulfilment of the Faculty's mission. In addition to these results, we can also mention the actual effects of contract research without financial compensation (see also section 3.3), which had an impact on the modification of some activities and their public presentation by the institutions requesting the research (National Moravian-Silesian Theatre and Moravian-Silesian Research Library in Ostrava).

I. The main result of the project *Diagnostic system for attitude measurement based on psychological distance testing with a use of evolution algorithms* is the **diagnostic software *Interactive Visual Metaphors***, which is available to the professional public after registration on the website <https://ai.vsb.cz/eds>. The software is a comprehensive diagnostic tool with an innovative approach to measuring student's attitudes and relationships in the classroom, developed in collaboration between psychologists and computer scientists (see above in section 3.3).

The social impact of the tool is systematically supported through application guarantors, including the National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic, and Regional Facility for Further Education of Pedagogical Workers in Nový Jičín and Ostrava. Since the beginning of the project, more than 15 dissemination workshops have been held to introduce the tool and its practical use to the professional public. Collaboration with universities, including systematic training of staff of School Counselling Centres (SCCs) at Charles University in Prague, also plays an important role in disseminating the tool. Current data show that lower tens of schools actively use or have used the

¹⁵⁶ If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

¹⁵⁷ See Terms definition.

tool, and there is considerable interest (measurable in the hundreds) in participating in the planned dissemination activities.

The software offers a user-friendly interface, graphically attractive visualization of results, and the ability to use advanced data processing algorithms, which significantly enhances the diagnostic capabilities of school psychologists and other SCC staff. Another important aspect is the gender and social sensitivity of the tool, which minimises the risk of stigmatising pupils when diagnosing classroom relationships through the use of metaphors. The software is provided free of charge. The sustainability of the project is ensured through the technical support of the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava and continuous methodological support from the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ostrava.

II. Expert methodology *The Interactive Visual Metaphors diagnostic tool* is a methodological material for using an innovative approach to diagnosing attitudes and relationships in the school environment. The methodology was developed within the project *Diagnostic system for attitude measurement based on psychological distance testing with a use of evolution algorithms* by an interdisciplinary team led by the FA UO.

The methodology provides a comprehensive theoretical framework and practical guidance for the use of visual metaphors to express attitudes in diagnostic practice. Its uniqueness lies in linkage of the theory of conceptual metaphors and psychological distance with practical diagnostic procedures. The document describes the theoretical background of the method, the method of administration, interpretation of the results and their practical use in pedagogical practice in detail. The societal benefit of the methodology lies in providing a standardised procedure for working with the new diagnostic tool. The methodology contains empirically validated standards developed on a representative sample of 881 pupils from Czech primary schools for the assessment of school subjects and 358 pupils for the assessment of relationships between pupils. These standards allow valid interpretation of diagnostic results in the Czech educational context.

The material is freely available to the professional public after registration on the project website (<https://ai.vsb.cz/eds/accounts/login/?next=/eds/>), thus ensuring its wide availability to schools and school guidance centres. The methodology also includes procedures for the qualitative use of the tool in individual diagnostics and thus supports a comprehensive approach to assessing classroom climate. Sustainability and further development of the methodology is ensured through continuous feedback from users and expert support from the author team.

III. The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia is the main output of the project *The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia – Identity, Culture and Society of the Czech Silesia in the Process of Social Modernization with the Impact on the Cultural Landscape*. Nine researchers of the Department of History and the Centre for Economic and Social History of the FA UO participated in its creation. Their task consisted of collecting relevant archival materials and analysing them to create maps and text sections.

The Atlas was published in a printed version which were distributed to users (cultural institutions in the Moravian-Silesian Region, especially archives and museums or some cooperating schools). The result is of great interest to historians, libraries, educational institutions, representatives of municipality councils in the area, as well as professionals and the general public. In 2023, the research team was approached by the academics from the University of Giessen (Germany) in connection with this result, which leads to the pedagogical and other scientific collaboration currently in preparation.

The Atlas is also publicly available in an electronic version as an interactive digital map as software in the form of a web application at <https://mapa.atlas-slezska.cz/en.html>. The result is widely used by historians, educational institutions and also by the general public interested in the area in which they live, as well as by representatives of the municipal councils of the area in question, for whom the result represents an important source of information about the historical development of their

area. The website with the map is visited and used very frequently, with more than 10,000 users currently recorded, with 500–700 more per year in the last two years. This output received an excellent rating by the Ministry of Culture, Czech Republic.

IV. The multilingual e-learning platform www.polski.info is designed for self-study and guided learning of Polish through 21 world languages. The portal was created as part of the *Polish Online* project and is intended for those interested in the active use of Polish, including a better understanding of Poland itself. Each lesson contains basic information about everyday life in Poland, local traditions or expressions and phrases typical of commonly used Polish

The platform contains multimedia materials, interactive and motivational exercises, reading texts. A discussion forum allows users the opportunity to communicate with each other and use practical language. The platform is available free of charge after registration. Currently, according to the available statistics, more than 31,000 users from all over the world are actively using the portal. They can (but do not have to) also indicate their gender when they registries – about 2/3 of users have done so, and 70% of them are women.

The course is designed for adults who learn Polish from the beginning at the A1 and A2 SERR level, or B1 level. Lessons therefore include phonetics lessons, dialogues with reading and listening exercises, grammar, interactive exercises, new vocabulary and phrases with pronunciation, audio files and texts, and comments on the cultural context. The vocabulary and metalanguage used on the portal is linked to online dictionaries that provide instant translation of words and sample sentences.

Real life communication situations help users to acquire everyday language adapted to their language skills. The situations cover topics such as first day at work, making an appointment, looking for an apartment, having a job interview, shopping in an online store. While working on the topics, users also learn about gender equality at work, the status of immigrants, the role of minorities, etc.

V. The internet database *Propedeutika kritického myšlení a mediální gramotnosti ve výuce dějepisu na SŠ* (Propaedeutic of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy in History Education at High Schools) – see <https://ff.osu.cz/dej-krit/> (only in Czech) is an outcome of the TACR project of the same name. It serves as an accessible and easy-to-use interface for the distribution of the methodical book *Dějepis mezi vědou a vyprávěním* (History Education between Science and Narration) and mainly accompanying model lectures. Furthermore, it contains contact details and additional information for the interested public.

The model lectures are meant to complement history education at high schools, so they do not require a more complex redesign of yearly lecture plans. Each model lecture is divided into worksheets for students and teacher's guide with an outline of the lecture and a description of a central idea. Lectures use the E-U-R model of teaching, focusing on Evocation, Understanding, and Reflection. Each lecture aims to pass on additional skills going beyond pure factual knowledge of the past; they are interdisciplinary and include additional pieces of evidence or texts.

The database's content is arguably reaching the wider audience, evidenced by a review (Jaroslav Pinkas, journal *Dějiny a současnost*) and a prize for the best Open Access title (*Ceny knihy Brno* 2024). Furthermore, members of the research team have organised additional presentations of its contents (e.g., 23rd November 2023 in Ostrava or 12th October 2023 in Prague). The database is free of charge and is used by many teachers in high schools (the exact number is difficult to verify, but according to the feedback, it is in the dozens of schools in the Czech Republic).

VI. The OnomOs Corpus (available as part of the Czech National Corpus, The Charles University, Prague; see <https://wiki.korpus.cz/doku.php/en:cnk:onomos>) is the first specialized onomastically annotated corpus in the Czech Republic and one of the first in European and global linguistics. In total, the corpus contains 255,149 tokens (during the course of 2025, it will be expanded with a new set of texts of approximately 250,000 tokens). During its creation, we addressed and successfully

resolved numerous methodological and technical challenges. OnomOs can thus serve as a model for other similarly oriented corpora, while also being adaptable and expandable for future use.

The annotation was done using the NameTag 2 software. However, the classification used by NameTag 2 was modified to be in line with the linguistic or onomastic conception of proper names and with current onomastic terminology.

In addition to the standard morphological annotation, the texts in the corpus include marked proper names, which are categorized into 23 detailed groups. These categories represent a compromise between the geographical and onomastic approaches to proper names; at a higher level, they can be grouped into three basic categories: anthroponyms, toponyms, and chrematonyms. The corpus consists of texts from (*Rudé Právo*, a publication that was issued for most of the 20th and 21st centuries, making it a stylistically consistent source suitable for diachronic research.

The corpus is used for quantitative analyses of proper names and we anticipate, that the corpus will inspire the creation of similar databases for other (Slavic) languages. The corpus can be searched using the standard KonText tool (since its start at the end of 2023 almost 500 user queries have been recorded by the end of 2024 alone).

VII. The touring exhibition *Literary Memory of Region 1918–2018* brings a unique testimony of the literary past of North-eastern Moravia and Czech Silesia. A team from the FA UO in cooperation with the regional institutions created (in the NAKI project *Literary Image of the Region 1918–2018 (Northeastern Moravia and Czech Silesia): Personalities, Events, Institutions, Places, Texts*) an original mosaic of quotations from literary stories and images, through events, personalities and phenomena. In this specific way, the exhibition presents the process of forming the cultural identity of the region.

Thanks to the interconnection of archival materials, visual and graphic elements, the exhibition has already reached over 53,000 visitors not only in the Moravian-Silesian Region (Ostrava, Opava), but also in Brno and Vienna. It has become a springboard for further activities in many places. The primary and secondary school students turned it into an inspiration for further study, recitations and projects. Teachers used it as a space for discovering and sharing stories, as an initiation for further learning about their own region. For experts (including foreign ones), it has become a stimulus for discussions on how to process and mediate literary history in the 21st century.

The exhibition also presents forgotten voices, women writers, emerging authors and the relationship between literature and landscape. It was created by combining the knowledge of literary science, history, cultural anthropology - and above all thanks to the erudition and work of scholars, especially from the FA UO who proved that literature is a living organism that brings new impulses. Thanks to the mobile versions of the panels, the exhibition has a long-term reach and its impact is still growing (further installations are still in progress) and has attracted a great deal of media interest (Czech Television, Czech Radio, print and electronic mass media).

VIII. Internet portal *humanitky.cz* (<https://humanitky.cz/>) was created in the *Joint Approach of Philosophical Faculties to Improve the Quality and Prestige of the Humanities and Social Sciences I-II* project in which three faculties of arts participated (besides the FA UO, also the faculties of the University of Hradec Králové and Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem). The portal (in Czech only) aims to draw attention to the importance and irreplaceability of the humanities and social sciences in contemporary society. Several forms of communication are used for this purpose. For example, through interviews with the graduates of these fields, employment opportunities are presented (including very successful and well-known personalities), which is expanded with information from a sociological survey conducted among employers on the possibilities of graduates' employment in the labour market. Myths and misconceptions associated (often purposefully) with the humanities and social sciences are debunked. A positive image of these sciences among the general public is built through video clips (also disseminated on social media), including humorous ways of drawing attention to a number of completely unfounded prejudices

associated with these sciences. In addition, examples of science and research carried out at the faculties of arts are presented and the study programmes of the participating faculties of arts are presented.

The reach of the portal (including the associated social networks) is enormous: the number of video views on Facebook has exceeded 2 million, on YouTube it almost to three quarters of a million, the number of visitors to the portal is in the thousands. The portal is followed by other activities that connect the (not only Czech but also international) labour market with graduates (<https://www.osu.eu/25419/career-portal-jobteaser/>) or other forms of highlighting the irreplaceable role of the humanities and social sciences (e.g., the Czech-language popularization and presentation magazine OFFLine – <https://www.osu.cz/24073/offline/>).

IX. The Internet database *Living Encyclopaedia* (www.ziva-encyklopedie.cz) was created in cooperation between the Moravian-Silesian Research Library in Ostrava and the FA UO (especially the Centre for Regional Studies) and the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava as a means of increasing the awareness of the general public about the regionally significant personalities, places and events, which can be commemorated especially at the time of their anniversaries. Subsequently, the Faculty of Arts and Science, Silesian University in Opava, whose Institute of Movie, Television and Broadcast Creation provides mainly promotional videos, shots, filmed interviews, etc. joined the collaboration.

Every year several new entries are added to the database, in different modes: The basis consists of an entry for a person, place or event, sometimes simple, sometimes heavily branched out into several separate pages. The entry is further supplemented by other extra-web activities (e.g., lectures, conferences, walks), e-books, audiobooks, but also e.g., a web game for schools and the public (e.g., the entry Elevation of Karviná to a city). The *Living Encyclopaedia* also includes a previously created web database dedicated to the personality of the region's leading writer Vojtěch Mártínek (www.vojtech-martinek.cz).

The Moravian-Silesian Research Library, which owns and manages the website, maintains and operates the database. The FA UO provides (in cooperation with other institutions in the region) the expertise and content of the database. The target audience of the *Living Encyclopaedia* is the general public, schools of various levels (pupils, students, teachers), but also researchers who can find photographs, scans of documents, excerpts of journal articles, etc. for some entries that are not available elsewhere. The encyclopaedia is very widely used, with thousands of users visiting it in the first year since its launch.

X. The main output of the applied project *Support of Transferable Work Competencies for the Labour Market while Studying at University* are international **modules *Transferable Work Competencies (I and II)*** which have been implemented since 2022 and are still ongoing. The theoretical framework of the modules' design and their correspondence with the sociological investigations carried out was subjected to an expert discussion in the form of three published outputs written in English, which were subsequently taken into account in the practical launch of the teaching modules. The modules themselves take place at the FA UO as courses of the Lifelong Learning Centre, which can be enrolled by students of all three universities involved in the project (University of Ostrava, Trnava University, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava) and consist of six courses in total. Teachers from all three universities and experts from both the Czech Republic and Slovakia participate in the implementation of the modules. Learners perform tasks that has been also created by the representatives of employers from both republics. There is quite a lot of interest in the modules, with more than 100 students successfully completing the modules by the end of 2023, with two-thirds of the graduates being women and one-third being men. A similar proportion is the case of students in the humanities and social sciences (about 2/3) and in technical fields (1/3). The teaching involved 9 academics from all three universities and 14 experts from the practice from the both republics.

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ¹⁵⁸	Year of application	Name
Internet database	2023	<i>Living Encyclopedia</i>
Internet database	2023	<i>OnomOs corpus</i>
Internet database	2023	<i>Propedeutics of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy in History Teaching at Secondary Schools</i>
Book	2023	<i>History between Science and Narratives [Dějepis mezi vědou a vyprávěním]</i>
Holding an exhibition	2023	<i>Sacred Icons of Kyiv and Chernigov (Warsaw) [Święte ikony Kijowa i Czernichowa (Warszawa)]</i>
Audiovisual production	2023	<i>Digital Solutions Design Laboratory Output – Cultural Heritage Tour: Digital Humanities Approach at Lower Vítkovice Area</i>
Book	2023	<i>English in Southeast Asia: Language guide [Angličtina v jihovýchodní Asii]</i>
Summary Research Report	2023	<i>The Educational Curriculum of the Digital Womanist</i>
Book	2023	<i>Orlová, Silesia and Central Europe 1223–2023 [Orlová, Slezsko a střední Evropa 1223–2023]</i>
Teaching module	Since 2022	<i>Transferable Work Competences I and II</i>
E-learning portal	2022	<i>Digital Womanist E-learning</i>
Field methodology	2022	<i>Interactive Visual Metaphors: An Expert Methodology for a Diagnostic Tool</i>
Software	2022	<i>Interactive Visual Metaphors: Diagnostic Software</i>
Software	2022	<i>Interactive Visual Metaphors: Diagnostic Software for Virtual Reality</i>
Internet portal	2022	<i>Humanitky.cz</i>
Book	2022	<i>From Etymology to Landscape. Onomastics for the 21st Century [Od etymologie ke krajině: Onomastika pro 21. století]</i>
Specialized map	2022	<i>Literary Map of Ostrava 1918–2018</i>
Book	2022	<i>Literary Dictionary of North-eastern Moravia and Czech Silesia 1918–2018 [Literární slovník severovýchodní Moravy a českého Slezska 1918–2018]</i>
Touring exhibition with a critical catalogue	Since 2021	<i>Literary Memory of the Region 1918–2018 (Texts, Personalities, Places): Silesian Museum in Opava (2021–2022), Ostrava City Library (2022), Lower Vítkovice Area in Ostrava (2022–2023), Moravian Library in Brno (2023), The University of Vienna (2023), Zbýšov u Brna (2023)</i>
Holding a conference	2021	<i>VI Congreso Internacional Virtual de Educación Lectora CIVEL (Ostrava, more than 1,000 participants)</i>
Methodology	2021	<i>Digital Womanist Toolkit</i>
Specialized map	2021	<i>The Great Historical Atlas of Bohemian Silesia</i>
Software	2021	<i>Interactive Dynamic Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia</i>
Book	2021	<i>People and Landscape of Bohemian Silesia – Identity, Culture and Society of Bohemian Silesia in the Process of Social Modernization with Impact on Cultural Landscape [Lidé a krajina českého Slezska – Identita, kultura a společnost českého Slezska v procesu společenské modernizace s dopadem na kulturní krajinu]</i>
Exhibition with a critical catalogue	2021	<i>Landscape and People: The Cultural Landscape of Czech Silesia in Changes</i>
Exhibition with a critical catalogue	2020	<i>Memory of the Landscape: Czech Silesia 1750–1950</i>

¹⁵⁸ Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

Exhibition with a critical catalogue	2020	<i>Těšín Silesia and its Changes in the Era of Modernisation</i>
Book	2019	<i>A Brief History of English [Stručné dějiny angličtiny]</i>
Summary Research Report	2019	<i>Quantitative Research Report (STEMMARK) Graduates in Humanities and Social Sciences</i>
E-learning portal	2019	<i>Polski.info</i>

Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples).

It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)¹⁵⁹, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).¹⁶⁰

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

Self-assessment:

The transfer of research results takes place on several interrelated levels. The establishment of the university-wide Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the UO was essential, and which provides systematic contact with the commercial sector to which our services are offered. The FA UO provides consulting, advisory and interpreting services for language and cultural orientation for English, German, Russian, Polish, French and Spanish speaking countries (including Czech, of course), but also expert consulting services for important historical anniversaries and their popularisation, including methodological guidance and advice on the protection of cultural and industrial heritage, and last but not least, sociological surveys.

Apart from cooperation with domestic and foreign academic institutions and companies (see above, especially in section 3.2) and public and private secondary and primary schools, the Faculty initiates and develops contacts with **(i) companies** operating in the region that participate in shaping the Faculty's R&D activities. This is especially the long-term cooperation with companies such as Siemens, Kofola, Transdev, Teva, etc., which leads not only to the development of R&D activities, but also has been reflected in the preparation (and now also the implementation) of a professionally oriented study programmes *Foreign Languages for Business Practice* and *Applied Humanities*. An intensive form of cooperation also takes place with **(ii) the regional government and (not only) regional cultural institutions** (historical milestones and anniversaries, sociological surveys, etc.), in

¹⁵⁹ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

¹⁶⁰ If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

some cases with the participation of private companies (e.g., MIAME MSK and commemorative medals). Another typical partner for cooperation is **(iii) media**, where the Faculty as the expert is involved in the production of cultural and historical programmes (Czech Television, Czech Radio, print media, electronic media, etc.), while at the same time there has been an active cooperation on the study module *Basics of Television Journalism*, which has now been transformed into the prepared professional study programme *Journalism*. Furthermore, it is necessary to mention the intensive cooperation with **(iv) HR companies** (typically HR departments of many regional companies) and **(v) professional organizations** such as the Czech Confederation of Commerce and Tourism, Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic etc.

The commercialisation of R&D results in the period under review was carried out mainly in three directions. First, it is in the form of **(i) donations** from (mainly) commercial companies to support research and its presentation (sometimes associated with support for independent research of talented students, especially PhD students). In addition, there was **(ii) a commercial service for applicants for Czech citizenship** in the form of testing their language skills, knowledge of the constitutional system and basic orientation in the cultural, social, geographical and historical facts of the Czech Republic for the needs of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. The third area of commercialisation of scientific research results is **(iii) the sale of R&D outputs**, typically monographs and journals, where customers are dominantly from the Czech Republic, but not exclusively (e.g., the inclusion and digitisation of the Faculty's *Bibliographic Dictionary of Silesia and Northern Moravia* in the databases of the De Gruyter).

Selected examples of the search for new users of the results and commercialisation (educational institutions where this form of cooperation is commonplace are not mentioned):

I. Regional Government

In accordance with this system of transferring research results into practice, regional government employees are in contact with the FA UO in cases of significant historical milestones or cultural events. The results are publications or popular science meetings. In the period under review, two such collaborations can be highlighted. In close cooperation with the council of the City of Orlová, a conference called *Orlová, Silesia and Central Europe 1223–2023* was held to commemorate the 800-year history of the town, which was followed by a publication of the same name. For the Ostrava, municipal district of Poruba, an extensive and representative publication was being prepared for a long time *History of Poruba: From a Medieval Village to a Modern Urban District* which was published in 2024, but the work on it had taken place over several years and produced unique results that attracted a lot of attention among the residents of this part of Ostrava.

Since most of the Faculty's employees are also residents of the city of Ostrava, a natural form of initiating cooperation with the regional authorities is to respond to the urban and infrastructure satisfaction of the population, for which the Faculty conducts various surveys.

II. Professional Organisations

Cooperation with professional organisations operating in the region has proved to be very useful for the effective transfer of scientific research results into social practice. These organizations (e.g., Czech Confederation of Commerce and Tourism, Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic, Regional Chamber of Commerce of the Moravian-Silesian Region or Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre) are regularly informed about the activities (research, project and educational) at the FA UO and help to further disseminate and modify them. These organizations were repeatedly contacted in the period under review in connection with the projects and their results as well as with the preparation of professionally oriented study programmes and were cooperative in the implementation of individual R&D results with emphasis on their applicability, especially with regard to the labour market. A big advantage of this established cooperation is the active involvement of

representatives of these organizations in the research at the FA, which actually increases the impact of users of R&D results produced at the Faculty.

III. Cooperation with Private Sector (especially HR)

Expert activities in the field of HR have become another important and frequent form of application of professional activities of the Faculty's academics with various private firms and companies. The results of these expertise were brought to the attention of the HR staff of various companies through participation in company conferences (and through personal contacts) that then initiated training and other professional assistance in organizing their own work activities. In addition to the above mentioned companies, it can be also mentioned e.g., FEBE, Hertin, Key2Bussines, Maxion Wheels Czech, Model Obaly, Mondelez CR Biscuit Production, PanEurop, PV-Czech, STAMPA Ostrava, with whom professional cooperation was implemented in the period under review, which was manifested not only in their adaptation of the results of the expert work of academics from the FA UO, but in some cases they themselves were involved in project tasks solved at the FA UO and offered active assistance in the preparation of professionally oriented study programmes.

Another example of the use of R&D results of our activities is the cooperation with MIAME MSK which was approached with the intention to produce and distribute commemorative medals which have been issued since 2021 as a reminder of 800 years of the history of the city of Ostrava. Even this form serves to commercialise the results of our scientific activities.

IV. Media

In the changing media world, it is necessary to constantly search for new partners for the use of the results of the FA UO professional R&D work in the media. In this way, new important media platforms and companies are continuously approached (e.g., N Media), but also previously established links are repeatedly revived using our research results (most notably Czech Television and Czech Radio). The world of media is repeatedly very interested in our expertise related to the historical and cultural events (typically participation in discussion programmes, preparation of documentary or popular-science programmes) in the period under review, the awareness of our expertise in these media has significantly increased the demand for expert analyses related to the current political and economic situation, which is not exclusively related to the Moravian-Silesian region or the Czech Republic, but also to the global issues and related topics (e.g., in the period under review, there was also a lot of psychological dimension of anti-pandemic measures, etc.).

V. Cultural and Memory Institutions

A natural partner for the application of the results of the R&D work of the Faculty's researchers are cultural and memory institutions which are usually approached in order to provide them with external information and professional evaluation of their current activities. In addition to the aforementioned cooperation with the National Moravian-Silesian Theatre and the Moravian-Silesian Research Library in Ostrava, it is possible to mention the Research Library of South Bohemia in České Budějovice which reflected the research offer on the analysis of its services expected from such a conceived institution. At the same time, it is possible to add the cooperation with the National Heritage Institute, Regional Office in Ostrava, which came out of the *Digital Womanist* project (see above in section 3.3) and the National Heritage Institute used the offer for digital visualization of technical monuments. Similarly, other institutions (mainly regional museums – in addition to the above-mentioned, e.g., Ostrava Museum or National Open Air Museum in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, but also the most visited monument of the region the DOV - Lower Vítkovice) were approached, for which the professional results provided by the Faculty's staff were crucial.

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023

Additional activities	419 / 16,528	88 / 3,471	149 / 5,878	199 / 7,850	261 / 10,296
Donations	89 / 3,511	5 / 197	142 / 5,602	83 / 3,274	215 / 8,481
Income from sales of R&D results (publications)	314 / 12,387	327 / 12,900	302 / 11,913	176 / 6,943	298 / 11,756
Total	822 / 32,426	420 / 16,568	593 / 23,393	458 / 18,607	774 / 30,533

Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

The popularization of R&D&I at the FA UO takes many forms and levels. The most frequent form is that of popular science lectures for the general public, which takes place on the Faculty's premises (e.g., in the form of Lifelong Learning Courses or University of the Third Age), but also in cooperation with various cultural and educational institutions (Fiducia Club or Ostrava Centre of Culture and Education) and, of course, also secondary and primary schools.

In order to coordinate popularization lecture activities at all lower school types, the University has established the coordination platform *Univerzita pro školy* [University for Schools] (<https://univerzitaproskoly.osu.cz/>), where mutual contacts between university teachers and the needs or requirements of secondary or primary schools are shared. The platform *Univerzita pro (společnost, firmy a organizace, absolventy...)* [University for (society, companies and organisations, alumni...)] also includes other popularisation activities for the general public.

A natural consequence of the Faculty's mission is the active participation of our employees in the activities of various regional associations and centres (e.g., the *Beautifying Association for Beautiful Ostrava*, the *Ostrava Information Centre*, etc.), which strive to protect and present the cultural and historical facts of the local region. Whether in the form of guided tours and walks or organized events, it contributes to the cultivation of the Moravian-Silesian region. Similar activities also take place as part of various cultural, literary, historical and other symposia and festivals that are organized in the region (in addition to the ones mentioned below, e.g., *ProtimlůvFest*, *Festival in the Streets*, etc.).

Visibility in the virtual electronic space also plays an important role in the popularisation of our R&D activities. In addition to social media and the web platforms or databases mentioned elsewhere in this Self-Evaluation Report, blogs and podcasts (see e.g., *Z čejovny*, <https://kcj.osu.cz/podcasty/>) are also very popular and frequently visited in certain sectors of contemporary society. Their impact is well measurable and is reflected in the interest in studying at the FA UO. We cannot leave out the national and regional media where the visibility of the FA UO is also quite good. Last but not least, it is necessary to mention a number of exhibitions (not only in the region or the Czech Republic, but also e.g., in Poland or in other partner countries) which the Faculty participates in, and in this way popularizes its professional activities for the general public. This also applies to the unique *Eight Centuries of the City* project which was mentioned above, part of which medals are issued annually to commemorate the specifics of Ostrava's urban development and have a great public response.

Examples of popularization activities:

I. Regular Workshops *Didactic Interventions*. With the exception of the period of anti-pandemic measures, regular didactic workshops were held continuously (usually 4 times a semester), focusing on teaching practice in lower school types. These workshops, led by teachers of our Faculty in the form of model classes were (and are) held either at the FA UO or at the Community and Information Centre PANT. The workshops are intended mainly for secondary and primary school teachers, but also for students of the *Teacher Education* programme who plan to pursue a career in teaching. Attendance at these events was high (between 50–70 participants per semester, with many repeat attendees). The topics of the individual workshops were chosen with regard to the current problems faced by teachers in primary and secondary schools (e.g., pedagogical/didactic specifics of the approach to pupils and students whose mother tongue is not Czech or the use of artificial intelligence in teaching from the perspective of both teachers and pupils), but also the usual issues that belong to the common teaching content according to the framework and school curricula (e.g., teaching literature, grammar or history or social sciences) were addressed.

II. *The Week of Humanities Festival*. Since 2023, the FA UO has joined the popularization activities of the Czech universities, commemorating the UNESCO World Philosophy Day. Discussions, workshops and popularization lectures for the general public are organized every third week of November. The attention is paid to socially important topics that affect our everyday lives. Active speakers at these festival events are not only academics from the FA UO, but also important personalities of social and scientific life who are close to the given issue. In 2023, which falls within the period under review, there were debates on topics such as democracy between East and West, the specificity of socio-political developments in Central Europe in the context of the global political issues, pathological social phenomena detecting social collapse and the necessary steps to increase the resilience of society, or the use of artificial intelligence in everyday work and private life. Among the personalities who do not work at the Faculty of Arts of the UO and were invited to these debate events, the journalist, political scientist and historian Jacques Rupnik or the Egyptologist and archaeologist Miroslav Bárta are to be mentioned. The event was attended by lower hundreds of people.

III. *Translation Day Competition*. The FA UO has been organizing this very popular and successful competition since the academic year 2005/2006. While the competition was originally intended for undergraduate and graduate students, since 2018 it has been expanded to include a high school section which is becoming more and more popular. In 2019–2023, more than 1,000 translations were submitted by students from high schools and universities from all over the Czech Republic, with almost 800 of them being high school students. Submitted translations are evaluated by expert juries which are divided by language. Traditionally, the largest number of entries are translations from English (about one third), with translations Spanish and German being quite numerous too, followed by translations from French, Russian and Polish, but translations from Portuguese, Italian and Latin were also evaluated. The awards for the selected translations are always presented at a day-long event also called *Translation Day*. In addition to the awarding of honorary mentions to the students, there are also conference presentations by the invited professional translators and academics from all over the Czech Republic, followed by translation workshops under their guidance. Awarded translations are published by the Faculty in an annual anthology.

IV. *Popularization Lectures at Cultural and Memory Institutions or Popularization and Cultural Events and Festivals*. Among the typical popularization activities of the FA UO are regular presentations of expert knowledge to the general public. Numerous performances at cultural and memory institutions (archives, museums, galleries, cultural and educational centres, libraries) were held in the period under review not only in Ostrava and the Moravian-Silesian region, but also in other parts of the Czech Republic (including Prague, Brno and Olomouc) and abroad (typically in Poland and Slovakia). These popularization lectures are frequently attended and are usually thematically related to the cultural and historical heritage of the locality or to topics that are

currently resonating in society. Especially the other thematic area is often presented at larger cultural festivals (e.g., the multi-genre festival *Colours of Ostrava* where, as part of Meltingpot, people from the FA UO perform in moderated talks and lectures every year).

V. Mass Media (especially Czech Television and Czech Radio). A still extremely influential tool for popularizing expert activities at the FA UO is their presentation in traditional mass media – television and radio. The Faculty's academics are repeatedly and frequently invited to moderated debates, expert commentaries and popularization interviews not only in the public media, but also to TV Polar, TV Noe, etc. In times of pandemic measures, the representatives of our Department of Psychology often appeared on TV programmes to discuss the impact of restrictive measures on people's mental health and to provide expert advice on how to cope with the situation. Our experts usually appear in debates on historical or contemporary events and phenomena (e.g., the *History.cs* journalistic programme, commentaries on political events in various television or radio programmes, interviews on local specifics, etc.). A separate chapter is the contribution to the documentary production of these media. An illustrative example is the biographical documentary film *Václav II – The Journey from the Shadow*, in which doc. Robert Antonín as a guide and scriptwriter participated.

VI. Night of Scientists, an International Science Festival. The Faculty regularly participates in this international popularization event which has a twenty-year tradition and was initiated by the European Commission. In the period under review, it participated in dozens of activities of various types (in addition to popularization lectures, presentations or video recordings, also model commented demonstrations, games, competitions, popularization theatre sketches, happenings and discussion meetings, etc.) intended for various age categories from children to the elderly. In addition, in 2018–2023, the Faculty's representatives were also part of the main national coordinating association that organised this pan-European event in the Czech Republic. Among the topics that were presented to the public in this way during the relevant period, man and robot, time, senses or mystery can be named, which are the themes that very appropriately demonstrate the attractiveness of the humanities and social sciences cultivated at our Faculty.

VII. Month of Author Reading, a Literary Festival. This international festival taking place annually throughout July brings the public a well-attended presentation of current literary works which usually respond to societal issues. In the presence of the authors themselves and in moderated discussions with them (the moderator roles are mostly taken by literary scholars, and the academics of the FA UO in charge of the Ostrava section of the festival), the literary regions of Central Europe and Ukraine are connected with the literature of one invited country at a time. In the period under review, this included Romanian, Hungarian, Icelandic and Norwegian literature. Literary evenings in Ostrava took place in the National Moravian-Silesian Theatre (*Theatre "12"*) and in the Cultural Center *Provoz u řeky*. Each event in the Ostrava section is usually attended by 30–40 interested members of the general public, with an exceptional number of 70 visitors.

VIII. Cooperation with Secondary and Primary Schools. The staff of the FA UO regularly collaborate especially with the regional secondary and primary schools, participating in the activities of the local school boards, in committees and juries of various competitions and, of course, also present selected topics in the form of lectures or discussions with students. These forms of cooperation are implemented through the so-called teaching schools or university-wide platform *University for Schools* (see above), but also on the basis of personal ties and experience (many of the teachers at the primary and secondary schools are our graduates). All departments of the FA UO participate in this form of popularization. One example of the unique cooperation is the *Philosophy for Children* workshop which is in great demand in primary (and even kindergarten) schools – in the school year 2022/23 alone, it took place in ten schools in the Moravian-Silesian Region, in some cases repeatedly. Similarly, our teachers, through their numerous teaching presentations, have been

involved in the *Experts in Teaching* programme (at secondary schools) and other similar initiatives to stimulate the interest of secondary school students in the fields of studies pursued at the Faculty.

IX. Lifelong Learning Courses and the University of the Third Age (UTA). The FA UO is also significantly active in the field of adults educations. It regularly organises Lifelong Learning Courses and, in particular, as part of the so-called UTA, it regularly offers several courses for this segment of the population. The interest in the lectures of the UTA is enormous. For the years 2019–2023, the number of participants in the courses of for seniors at our Faculty was 1,884, and this number would be higher if it were not for the cancellation of the whole year of the UTA due to anti-pandemic measures. Traditionally, the greatest attention is paid to art-historical and historical courses, both regional or international focus (*European Royal Families; Art Lovers – Collectors – Patrons; Society in the Czech Lands over the Time; Selected Chapters in the History and Culture of the Spanish and French Speaking Countries; History and Culture of the Romance Countries; History and Culture of the English-Speaking Countries; Moravian-Silesian Region and its Society over the Last Three Centuries; Great Epochs of European Art*), but the language courses *Spanish and French for the Elderly* or the psychological series *The World through the Eyes of Psychology* also have their numerous graduates.

X. German, Polish, Spanish and French Cultural Days in Ostrava. The language departments of the FA UO participate in annual popularization festivals which make the culture and customs of certain European language areas accessible to the general public and students (especially) of secondary and higher education. As for the presentation of German culture, we are one of the main organisers of the multi-genre festival *Czech-German Cultural Days – Ostrau der Kulturpunkt*, for Polish realities and their connection to the local region we are involved in the *Polish Days in Ostrava*, we also participate in the activities of *the Spanish Culture Week – Semana Ostraña* or the *French Autumn in Ostrava* whose main organiser is the Alliance française d'Ostrava. These events include guided screenings of film productions from the countries concerned, author readings, exhibitions, theatre performances, workshops, lectures and discussions, concerts, as well as competitions, guided tours and gastronomic happenings. The FA UO participates in the organization and professional content of these cultural festivals.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

The evaluation of the FA UO by the International Evaluation Panel (IEP) for the period 2014–2018 in Module 3 was mostly positive, which we appreciate very much. However, the evaluation report also highlighted some weaknesses and suggested a number of constructive recommendations that have inspired our future work. The basic suggestions made in the previous IEP evaluation to the FA UO can be divided into four basic areas:

1. International context. The IEP evaluation found that we should move on from the relatively well-developed international cooperation and become more involved in the international research environment, especially in the form of international projects. We should focus more intensively on the international professional audience and increase the visibility of outputs. To this end, we have been called upon to create the appropriate conditions for academics, i.e., to invest in their language skills more, to provide funds for further development of the international cooperation (mobility), etc.

The FA UO paid attention to this suggestion. Significant efforts have been made to internationalize the research environment at the Faculty, which has been successfully fulfilled (see above especially section 3.2). For the purpose of the systematic support of the Faculty staff, a widely used *Fund for Supporting Quality R&D at the FA UO* was established in 2019, which targets mainly at the international (publication, mobility and project) activities of the Faculty staff, thus helping to promote the visibility of R&D results in the international environment. Language courses are also available to improve the language skills of the Faculty staff.

It can be declared there has been a clear increase in the number of outputs in internationally important publications (often in Open Access mode) published in English or other relevant languages:

R&D outputs reported in RIV	In Czech	In English	In other languages
2014–2018	59.3 %	15.2 %	25,5 %
2019–2023	44.3 %	26.0 %	29.7 %

Furthermore, several international projects were obtained and we managed to collaborate on socially important topics of applied research with the partners across Europe (in addition to mentioned projects in section 3.2, these included projects of Visegrad Funds, Polish agency NAWA, Spanish project *Transficción* [<https://transficcio.es/equipo>], etc.).

The evaluation report explicitly stated that, for example, the outputs of the project *The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia* should target at an international audience, which was fulfilled and the main output is available in four language versions (English, Czech, German, Polish).

2. Digital Humanities. In the IEP evaluation, the Faculty was praised for its interdisciplinary collaboration, but was recommended to develop more activities especially towards the IT environment and the dynamically developing interdisciplinary research within the digital humanities.

In this regard, the Faculty has taken a great initiative and has succeeded in linking the humanities and social sciences with the information and digital environment. Probably the most significant results are the European project *Digital Womanist* presented above and its outputs, the diagnostic psychological-pedagogical tool (see section 3.4) and the upcoming telemedicine platform (see section 3.3). This is also reflected in other activities of the faculty (see e.g., the OnomOs corpus in section 3.4), which can be evidenced by the currently acquired interdisciplinary project *OPIAK A Biography of AI Disinformation: A Risky Phenomenon Through the Prism of Modern Human Sciences*. This project is led by FA UO and involves not only humanities and social sciences researchers from the UO and other Czech academic institutions, but also the Institute of Informatics of the CAS and Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling UO.

3. Non-public sources and contract research, technology transfer and commercialisation: The Faculty was advised to intensify its efforts to connect more strongly with the private and public sectors in an effort to raise more funds for applied and contract research. The humanities-oriented faculty has obvious limits in this respect, but even this should not prevent success in some areas (e.g., cultural heritage in an ethnically diverse region).

The Faculty responded to this suggestion in several ways. As for the research of cultural heritage, it cooperated with several local institutions (city councils, foundation etc.) which also provided financial resources for the work of the Faculty researchers. The Faculty has been significantly involved in the commercial testing of the language skills for the acquisition of Czech citizenship. Just as often, cooperation with the corporate commercial sector was also undertaken (e.g., their involvement in teaching modules at the FA UO on HR or journalism or the involvement of foreign companies in scientific work at the language departments).

The Faculty also tries to systematically incorporate contract research into its activities, although the results are still far from satisfactory (see section 3.5). However, we have succeeded in creating conditions that take this form of commercialization of our research (especially sociological) activities

into account – financially covered contract research has been underway since 2024, with more in the pipeline for 2025.

4. Measurement of non-academic impact (quantitatively and qualitatively): The FA UO has been urged not to waver in the pursuit of quantitative and qualitative measurement of the outcome of its scientific and popularization activities, and to focus on relevant feedback even more.

In the period under review, the Faculty's PR department was significantly expanded, which is involved in monitoring the social impact of the R&D and popularization Faculty's activities. Currently, we are now much better equipped with the quantitative data on the impact of our activities (see information in sections 3.3 and 3.6). At the same time, we can also declare the qualitative impact of our expertise: Under the influence of our research, there have been changes in the plans of the Ostrava city district councillors (a consequence of the contract research from the previous evaluation period) or local cultural institutions, the trend of interest in studying at the FA UO is changing (the demographic situation is certainly also playing a role), the response of private companies to their involvement in the preparation of modular education meeting the requirements of future employers of our graduates has been very positive, etc.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
FA UO, official website	3.1	https://ff.osu.eu/
Evaluation According to the Methodology M17+; National Level	3.1	https://m17.rvvi.cz/en/m1/summary/
European Network for Positive Psychology	3.2	https://enpp.eu/enpp-representative/
SIEPM – Société Internationale pour l'Étude de la Philosophie Médiévale	3.2	https://hiw.kuleuven.be/siepm/awards
Glottometrics – journal for the quantitative research of language	3.2	https://glottometrics.iqla.org/about/
Leeds, International Medieval Congress	3.2	https://www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/
Project <i>Diagnostic system for attitude measurement based on psychological distance testing with a use of evolution algorithms</i>	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL03000240
Project <i>Propaedeutic of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy in History Education at High Schools</i>	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL03000187
Project <i>The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia – Identity, Culture and Society of the Czech Silesia in the Process of Social Modernization with the Cultural Landscape Impact</i>	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/DG18P02OVV047 https://atlas-slezska.cz/ (only in Czech)
Project <i>Literary Image of the Region 1918–2018 (Northeastern Moravia and Czech Silesia): Personalities, Events, Institutions, Places, Texts</i>	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/DG20P02OVV020
Project <i>Polish Online</i>	3.3	https://polski.info/about?hl=en
Project <i>Digital Womanist</i>	3.3	https://digitalwomanist.unisa.it/
Project REFRESH	3.3	https://www.smaragdova.cz/en/refresh/about-the-project/
Project REFRESH at OU	3.3	https://refresh.osu.eu/
Project <i>Development of a telemedicine platform for the development of cognitive functions</i>	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/FW08010025
Project <i>Joint Approach of Philosophical Faculties to Improve the Quality and Prestige of the Humanities and Social Sciences</i>	3.3	https://humanitky.cz/ (only in Czech)
many other projects (e.g., GACR) - after entering the project title in the search	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en

Interactive Visual Metaphors: assessment software	3.4	https://ai.vsb.cz/eds/ (only in Czech)
Interactive Visual Metaphors: methodology for assessment tool	3.4	https://ai.vsb.cz/eds/ (only in Czech)
Interactive atlas <i>The Great Historical Atlas of Czech Silesia</i>	3.4	https://mapa.atlas-slezska.cz/en.html
A multilingual platform for learning the Polish language	3.4	https://polski.info/
An internet database <i>Propaedeutic of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy in History Education at High Schools</i>	3.4	https://ff.osu.cz/dej-krit/ (only in Czech)
The OnomOs Corpus	3.4	https://wiki.korpus.cz/doku.php/en:cnk:onomos
Career Portal JobTeaser	3.4	https://www.osu.eu/25419/career-portal-jobteaser/
An internet database <i>Living encyclopedia - Personalities, places and events of the Moravian-Silesian Region in one place</i>	3.4	https://ziva-encyklopedie.cz/ (only in Czech)
Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Ostrava	3.5	https://www.osu.eu/knowledge-and-technology-transfer/
Czech Language Exam for foreigners who are applying for Czech citizenship	3.5	https://kcj.osu.cz/statni-obcanstvi-cr/ (only in Czech)
Memorial medals to commemorate the 800th anniversary of Ostrava	3.5, 3.6	https://www.dejinyostravy.cz/ (only in Czech)
Internet platform <i>Univerzita pro školy</i> [University for Schools]	3.6	https://univerzitaproskoly.osu.cz/ (only in Czech)
Podcast <i>Z čejovny</i>	3.6	https://kcj.osu.cz/podcasty/ (only in Czech)
International Festival <i>Researchers' Night</i>	3.6	https://www.nocvedcu.cz/en
<i>The Authors' Reading Month</i> literary festival	3.6	https://ostrava.autorskecteni.cz/en/pages/o_nas_mac
Research, Development and Innovation Information System – Results Information Register (The Research, Development and Innovation Council of the Government of the Czech Republic)	3.7	https://www.isvavai.cz/riv (only in Czech)
Project <i>Transficción</i>	3.7	https://transficción.es/equipo (only in Spanish)

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Faculty of Education

FORD: 5 - Social sciences

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.¹⁶¹ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

The Structure and Activities

The Faculty of Education of the University of Ostrava (FE UO; <https://pdf.osu.eu/>) is a multidisciplinary academic institution encompassing specialised departments and research centres, focusing on education, humanities, arts, and technical disciplines. The Faculty places a strong emphasis on scientific research, educational innovation, and practical cooperation (<https://pdf.osu.eu/departments-and-centres/>).

The Faculty consists of 14 departments:

- *Department of Civic Education* focuses on civic education, democratic citizenship, and social sciences.
- *Department of Czech Language and Literature with Didactics* guarantees programmes in Czech language, literature, and their didactics.
- *Department of Education and Adult Education* concentrates on pedagogy and adult education theory and practice.
- *Department of English Language Teaching* specializes in English linguistics, literature, and didactics.
- *Department of Human Movement Studies* focuses on physical education, sports, and applied movement activities.
- *Department of Information and Communication Technologies* integrates ICT, media literacy, and technology didactics into education.

¹⁶¹ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

- *Department of Mathematics with Didactics* guarantees studies in mathematics and mathematical didactics.
- *Department of Music Education* covers music theory, practice, and music education.
- *Department of Educational and School Psychology* addresses psychological aspects of education and counselling.
- *Department of Preprimary and Primary Education* prepares future teachers for early education.
- *Department of Social Education* deals with social education, inclusion, and work with at-risk groups.
- *Department of Special Education* provides training in special and inclusive education.
- *Department of Technical and Vocational Education* guarantees technical disciplines and their didactics.
- *Department of Visual Arts Education* focuses on art production, theory, and didactics.

The Faculty operates several research centres:

- *Centre for Educational Research* focuses on educational research and policy.
- *Centre for Research into Culture and Identity of the Region* studies cultural and regional identity.
- *Centre for Visual Studies* explores visual culture, visual arts, and media studies.
- *Human Motion Diagnostic Centre* specialises in applied research in motion diagnostics, physiotherapy, and sports sciences.
- *Institute for Adult Education and Development* focuses on lifelong learning and andragogy.

Personnel and Human Resources

The Faculty experienced a modest increase in academic staff numbers, with stability in the professoriate and associate professorship ranks. However, a deficit of younger associate professors remains evident. Several employees successfully completed their doctoral studies, contributing to human resources renewal. A slight decrease in non-teaching staff was observed. The Faculty ranks among the largest faculties in the Moravian-Silesian Region.

Student Body and Educational Programmes

The Faculty recorded a slight increase in student enrolments, with a predominance of full-time students. During the evaluation period, ex-post evaluations of study programmes and preparation of audit reports were carried out, receiving positive assessments from external evaluators and the Internal Evaluation Board.

The Faculty strives for a stable and gradually expanding portfolio of accredited study programmes and lifelong learning initiatives, including qualification supplements, specialisation courses, and full offerings of the University of the Third Age, such as language and art courses and the Kalokagathia programme.

Two new doctoral study programme accreditations were finalised, and an increasing number of full-time doctoral students was recorded. Furthermore, an application for habilitation rights in the field of Kinanthropology was submitted to the National Accreditation Office.

Scientific Research and Grant Projects

The Faculty continued to implement the prominent *Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (HAIE)* project, aimed at healthy ageing processes in industrial environments. In addition, three significant external grants were successfully prepared and funded: *LERCO*, *DigiWELL*, and *REFRESH*.

The *LERCO 4HAIE* project aims to follow up the original 4HAIE cohort five years later, to monitor the long-term effects of physical (in)activity on health, psychological well-being, quality of life, and

ageing processes in an industrial region. Participants aged 18–70 from the Moravian-Silesian and South Bohemian regions are included, regardless of their current activity levels. The study will analyse causal relationships among (in)activity, air pollution, psychological, biomechanical, physiological, somatic, and genetic variables in relation to health, quality of life, and well-being.

The *DigiWELL* project represents an innovative research initiative focused on the short- and long-term impacts of digital technology use on the population's wellbeing. Key objectives include experimental research on technology use and wellbeing, development of personalised digital interventions promoting healthy lifestyles, and implementation of e-mental health tools. The project seeks to generate practical applications that support mental health and overall life satisfaction.

The *REFRESH* project examines the ongoing socio-economic transformation of the Moravian-Silesian Region following the decline of mining activities and energy sector restructuring. These changes affect not only the economy but also education, health, and psychological wellbeing. The research team investigates the consequences for mining company employees and their families, analysing work motivation, life satisfaction, educational needs, and the educational success and ambitions of their children. Through questionnaires, testing, and qualitative interviews, the project gathers comprehensive data to inform strategies supporting family adaptation and children's educational achievements in new socio-economic contexts.

Academic staff and doctoral students also participated as principal investigators and co-investigators in several other grant projects funded by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR) and internal specific research schemes.

Publication Activity

Scientific publishing activities saw considerable growth, particularly in journals indexed in *Web of Science* and *Scopus*, and in peer-reviewed monographs. Outputs evaluated according to *Methodology 17+* (now *M25+*) increased steadily.

In 2019–2023, the Faculty's output in the Web of Science category rose from 14 to 34 publications, a 140% increase. Although a slight decrease occurred in 2022, the positive trend continued, reaching a historical maximum in 2023. Most outputs were in kinanthropology, though a visible improvement was noted in the field of education research.

This growth reflects the Faculty's strengthening scientific potential, increased international visibility, and systematic support of research activities.

Strategic Research Directions

The Faculty's key research centres — *Human Motion Diagnostic Centre*, *Centre for Educational Research*, *Centre for Visual Studies*, and *Centre for Research into Culture and Identity of the Region* — remained active in interdisciplinary projects. The Human Motion Diagnostic Centre aligns with the UO's strategic research direction *Human Motion and Health*.

Conclusion

Throughout the evaluation period, the FE UO demonstrated sustained growth in research, education, and societal impact. It continues to strengthen its academic and scientific profile regionally and internationally, particularly in educational sciences, humanities, and health-related disciplines.

Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE¹⁶²

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	5.18/2.08	4.56/2.50	3.08/2.38	2.55/1.85	2.98/2.38	3.67/2.24
Associate Professor	27.01/13.56	29.24/15.79	29.65/15.65	29.89/15.52	28.15/13.98	28.79/14.90
Assistant Professor	67.95/33.44	57.77/29.14	59.60/30.86	55.21/29.07	60.32/30.04	60.17/30.51
Assistant	4.08/2.10	14.72/7.04	14.10/5.67	16.05/7.59	16.36/9.30	13.06/6.34
R&D Personnel ¹⁶³	2.16/1.32	1.83/0.60	0.83/0.50	1.47/0.47	0.36/0.19	1.33/0.62
Researchers in other categories ¹⁶⁴						
Technical and economic staff ¹⁶⁵	61.74/44.05	56.98/39.38	49.66/32.75	43.90/32.41	43.13/32.15	51.08/36.15
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	104.47/51.18	107.36/54.54	106.97/55.02	104.33/54.6	108.78/56.6	106.38/54.39
Early career researchers ¹⁶⁶		0.83/0.00	0.50/0.00	0.25/0.00		0.32/0.00
Total¹⁶⁷	168.12/96.55	165.1/94.45	156.92/87.81	149.07/86.91	151.3/88.04	158.1/90.76

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹⁶⁸

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor									4	3	3	

¹⁶² The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

¹⁶³ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁶⁴ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁶⁵ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁶⁶ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁶⁷ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁶⁸ The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Associate Professor			2		11	6	7	5	12	7		
Assistant Professor	1	1	18	9	26	12	15	9				
Assistant	9	5	4	2	3	1			1			
R&D Personnel ¹⁶⁹					1							
Researchers in other categories ¹⁷⁰												
Technical and economic staff ¹⁷¹	15	11	17	9	14	9	12	12	6	3		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	10	6	24	11	40	19	22	14	17	10	4	
Early career researcher ¹⁷²												
Total¹⁷³	25	17	41	20	55	28	34	26	23	13	3	

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)¹⁷⁴

Academic/professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor							1	1	4	3	3	1
Associate Professor					9	3	10	7	7	4	5	3
Assistant Professor	2		16	8	26	12	22	9	4	4		
Assistant	6	5	10	6	6	3			2			
R&D Personnel ¹⁷⁵												

¹⁶⁹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁷⁰ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁷¹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁷² See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁷³ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁷⁴ The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

¹⁷⁵ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

Researchers in other categories ¹⁷⁶												
Technical and economic staff ¹⁷⁷	3	1	9	7	16	10	12	12	2	2		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	9	6	27	15	41	18	33	17	17	11	8	4
Early career researcher ¹⁷⁸												
Total¹⁷⁹	11	6	35	21	57	28	45	29	19	13	8	4

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate	1,451	1,004	1,581	1,064	1,680	1,111	1,713	1,154	1,754	1,208	4,054	2,730
Master's ¹⁸⁰	790	644	829	699	855	710	916	749	961	767	2,108	1,671
Doctoral	47	29	50	24	49	29	47	32	45	29	96	59
Lifelong Learning Courses	770	635	840	705	914	756	899	762	973	801	3,369	2,771
Total	3,058	2,312	3,300	2,492	3,498	2,606	3,575	2,697	3,733	2,805	9,627	7,231

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ¹⁸¹ / Of which professional study programmes											
	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
Undergraduate	27		27		34		34		34		34	
Master's	19		18		13		24		21		25	
Doctoral	4		8		9		10		10		10	
Lifelong Learning courses												

¹⁷⁶ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁷⁷ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁷⁸ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁷⁹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

¹⁸⁰ All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

¹⁸¹ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

Total	50		53		66		68		65		69	
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Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	2.2	Balanced basic and applied research	2.4
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	0.2	Applied Research	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.6 Biological sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.7 Other natural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering	0.0	Select an item.	3.5
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.9	Applied Research	
	2.4 Chemical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.5 Materials engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	0.2	Balanced basic and applied research	
	2.7 Environmental engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.2	Balanced basic and applied research	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	2.2	Applied Research	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	0.2	Balanced basic and applied research	19.7
	3.2 Clinical medicine	1.0	Applied Research	
	3.3 Health sciences	18.5	Balanced basic and applied research	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.1	Applied Research	0.1
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.3 Veterinary science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	7.6	Balanced basic and applied research	57.0
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.8	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.3 Education	45.8	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.4 Sociology	1.6	Applied Research	
	5.5 Law	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.6 Political science	1.0	Applied Research	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	0.0	Select an item.	

	5.8 Media and communications	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.9 Other social sciences	0.2	Balanced basic and applied research	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	1.0	Balanced basic and applied research	17.3
	6.2 Languages and Literature	5.7	Balanced basic and applied research	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	1.0	Balanced basic and applied research	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	9.6	Balanced basic and applied research	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.0	Select an item.	
Total		100%	-	100%

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

In the period 2019–2023, FE UO strengthened its position in the research community at the national and international level. This position is confirmed by individual awards of academic staff, their active participation in editorial boards of prestigious international scientific journals, participation in major international lectures and professional conferences, as well as hosting leading international scientists and experts at the Faculty. The Faculty also participated in the evaluation of research projects at the national and European levels, thus contributing to the development of scientific quality in a broader context.

Individual professional recognition was awarded to academic staff of the Faculty in the form of the Rector's award for their long-term scientific research or teaching activities. These awards, given by universities and other institutions, reflect their contribution to the development of scientific excellence and education. According to Web of Science, Prof. Steriani Elavsky is the most cited scholar in the field of Social Sciences in the Czech Republic.

The important position of the Faculty in the international scientific environment is also confirmed by the active participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals. Membership in the editorial boards of prestigious professional periodicals demonstrates the professional reputation of the Faculty and its involvement in the creation and evaluation of scientific publications at the global level.

Academic staff of the FE UO were also invited to give lectures, exhibitions and curatorial activities at foreign universities and scientific conferences. These activities contribute to the international recognition of the Faculty and strengthen its scientific cooperation in various fields.

The Faculty also hosted distinguished foreign experts who gave lectures and engaged in specialist debates with academic staff and students. These visits contributed to the development of scientific exchange and the strengthening of the Faculty's international cooperation.

A weakness is that no academic staff member of the FE was involved in the evaluation of national or international programmes during the period under evaluation. However, there has been new developments as Doc. Petr Knecht, who is, for example, on the evaluation board of the Czech Science Foundation (GACR) has recently joined the FE. We expect that there will also be improvements in this area in the next term and now some selected academics have been nominated to serve on evaluation boards for the Faculty.

Overall, it can be concluded that the FE UO in 2019–2023 has made a significant contribution to the scientific community and strengthened its prestige in the academic environment. Individual awards, participation in editorial boards, active participation in international professional events, and hosting of leading scientists point to the increased level of professional activity of the Faculty and its importance in the field of research and education.

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
doc. Mgr. Steriani Elavsky, Ph.D.	Rector's Award for outstanding long-term scientific research, artistic activity or activity for civil society of academic and scientific staff of the UO	University of Ostrava
PhDr. Hana Cisovská, Ph.D.	Rector's Award for outstanding long-term educational activity for the University of Ostrava	University of Ostrava

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
Doc. Mgr. Zuzana Sikorová, Ph.D.	member of the editorial board of the journal IARTEM e-Journal, ISSN 1837-2104
Doc. Mgr. Roman Farana, Ph.D.	member of the editorial board of the journal Sports Biomechanics, ISSN 1476-3141
Doc. PhDr. Denisa Labischová, Ph.D.	member of the international editorial board of the journal Historical Encounters. A journal of historical consciousness, historical cultures, and history education, ISSN 2203-7543
ThDr. Józef Szymeczek, Ph.D.	member of the scientific board of the journal Wschodnioznawstwo, ISSN 2082-7695
ThDr. Józef Szymeczek, Ph.D.	member of the scientific board of the journal Biuletyn Historyczny Muzeum Marynarki Wojennej, ISSN 0137-5539
doc. Ing. Kateřina Kostolányová, Ph.D.	member of the Reviewer Committee of EJEL (Electronic Journal of e-Learning), ISSN 1479-4403
Mgr. Tatiana Havlásková, Ph.D.	member of the Reviewer Committee of EJEL (Electronic Journal of e-Learning), ISSN 1479-4403
Mgr. Tomáš Javorčík, Ph.D.	member of Reviewer Committee časopisu EJEL (Electronic Journal of e-Learning), ISSN 1479-4403
Mgr. Tomáš Javorčík, Ph.D.	member of Reviewer Committee časopisu CAEO (Computers and Education Open), 2666-5573

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
Doc. Mgr. Roman Farana, Ph.D.	Skill acquisition and performance through a synthesis of motor control, biomechanics, and coaching	Invited Applied Section-International Symposium of Biomechanics in Sports – John Moore University, Liverpool	2022

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year
Prof. Salvatore Alaimo	Grand Valley State University	What we see matters: An introduction to visual literacy	2023
prof. Elisabeth Yeager Washington (Fulbrightovo stipendium)	University of Florida	Teaching Traumatic History When Democracy is Under Attack	2022
prof. Joseph Hamill	University of Massachusetts Amherst	Can biomechanical approaches to ACL injury prevention be successful?	2021
Dr. Andrea Monte	University of Verona	The influence of muscle and tendon mechanical behaviour on the physiological responses of human locomotion	2021
Prof. Klára Šedřová	Masaryk University	Research on teaching communication	2021
Prof. Vladimřra Spilkovř	University of Pardubice	Clinical school and its role in teacher education	2022
prof. dr hab. Andreas Guskos & prof. dr hab. Arkadiusz Mieczysław Marcinkowski	Academy of Art in Szczecin	Logos & Techne (exhibition)	2022
dr hab. Sonia Rammer	University of the Arts in Poznań	Tangled (exhibition)	2019
prof. dr hab. Sławomir Kuszczak	University of the Arts in Poznań	Malarstwo (exhibition)	2022
dr hab. Łukasz Kliř	University of Silesia in Katowice	Monitored Playroom (exhibition)	2022

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the research project/programme call	Name of the contracting authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research¹⁸²) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023¹⁸³. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1-3.3.2)¹⁸⁴, regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

The most important research project in this period under evaluation, 2019–2023, is in our opinion the solution of the excellent project of the Operational Programme Research, Development, Education (OP RDE) called "Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (HAIE)", which was implemented in cooperation with the FM UO and the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. The research project addressed the effects of selected environmental and lifestyle risk factors on the health and ageing of a population in an industrial region. The UO solves six external grants of the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR), one of them in a co-investigator role, one project of the Czech Science Foundation (GACR). These projects reflect interdisciplinary approaches and collaboration with other institutions. Their results contributed to the fulfilment of the mission of the FE UO in the field of applied research and innovation in education and social care. Below are the most important research projects with regard to their results and application potential. We also present information on the strategic projects LERCO and REFRESH and the cutting-edge research DigiWELL, which were prepared and acquired during the period under evaluation.

Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (HAIE) (<https://haie-lerco.cz>)

The excellent OP RDE project implemented in 2018–2023 in cooperation with the FM UO and the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic focuses on the impact of selected environmental and lifestyle risk factors on the health and ageing of a population in an industrial region. The research includes an analysis of exposure to air pollutants, the impact of socio-economic factors and the potential to prevent negative impacts on health. The project provides valuable insights for public health and health protection policy. The published results of the 4HAIE Programme have contributed to the discovery of new insights into the impact of air quality and lifestyle on health, running injuries and quality of life, which can be very valuable in the context of preventive healthcare and in the development of recommendations for healthy ageing of men and women in the Moravian-Silesian and South Bohemian regions.

The effects of lowering dietary carbohydrates on health, exercise performance and wellbeing-related outcomes (18-08358S) (<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/GA18-08358S>)

The GACR project investigates the effect of a low-carbohydrate ketogenic diet on health, sports performance and psychological indicators of quality of life in two groups: healthy individuals with regular physical activity and overweight people living a sedentary lifestyle. The results of the research provide valuable insights into the potential for influencing health through carbohydrate restriction and emphasise a holistic approach to the prevention of civilization diseases. This project

¹⁸² For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

¹⁸³ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

¹⁸⁴ The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

contributes to the development of recommendations for healthy lifestyles and maintaining the overall fitness of the population.

Children and domestic violence - research into the need for services specialized in helping children at risk of domestic violence and proposal of minimum parameters for these services (2022013)
(<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TIRSMPSV127?query=wkqiaadsw54q>)

The project, implemented under the BETA2 programme of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MLSA), focused on establishing minimum parameters for services for children at risk of domestic violence. The main objectives included the formulation of recommendations for the establishment and funding of these services, staffing and availability for 2,500 children per year. The project built on relevant national prevention and equality strategies. The project also resulted in the creation or modification of methodological materials regulating the procedures of workers working directly with the target group, modification of the conditions of the services provided.

SMART Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly (TL03000520)
(<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL03000520?query=3rhyaadau4pq>)

The aim of the project was to integrate smart technologies into the care of the elderly with an emphasis on improving their quality of life. A system has been developed that integrates data from wearable devices and sensors in the environment, enabling monitoring of vital signs and simplifying care for people with special needs, including individuals with dementia. The project brought together insights from psychology, kinanthropology and sensory technologies.

The Development of Diagnostic Set of Reading Comprehension with Pupils of 2nd degree of Primary Schools (TL03000259)
(<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL03000259?query=slbiaads64ba>)

The project focused on the development of a diagnostic tool for assessing the level of reading comprehension with pupils. The test set reflects current scientific knowledge and international methodologies in the field of reading literacy. Experts from applied linguistics, special education and psychology were involved in the development, and the piloting was carried out using eyetracking.

Importance of learning tasks with increasing difficulty in primary school-aged pupils' knowledge development and diagnosis (TL05000097)
(<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL05000097?query=xcuaadeqj3q>)

The project focused on the design and validation of learning tasks with increasing difficulty, which enable effective diagnosis and development of pupils' knowledge. The outcome was the creation of a learning progress algorithm that helps teachers plan instruction to meet the individual needs of pupils.

Education in the field of engineering and its optimization for labor market needs (TJ02000083)
(<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TJ02000083?query=u2aqaadsz6ga>)

The project analysed the requirements of engineering companies for graduates of technical schools and identified deficits in curriculum documents. Empirical investigations were carried out mapping the factors influencing the choice of study and entry into the labour market. The outputs are used to optimise education in this area.

Improving the quality of learning and strengthening students' motivation to learn by deploying a 3D virtual university campus based on virtual and augmented reality technologies in the teaching process (TL05000459) (<https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL05000459?query=yptiaadsstcq>)

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a 3D virtual campus was developed using virtual and augmented reality technologies. The aim was to increase the effectiveness and interactivity of the teaching. The environment was piloted at the university and collaborating institutions and its usefulness was verified.

LERCO 4HAIE

The objective of the project is to follow up the 4HAIE study after five years and to monitor the long-term effects of physical (in)activity on health, psychological well-being, quality of life and ageing of a population in an industrial region. The study will again involve adult men and women aged 18 to 70 years from the Moravian-Silesian and South Bohemian regions, regardless of their current level of physical activity. The implementation of this research will allow to study the cause and effect relationships between (in)activity, air pollution, psychological, biomechanical, physiological, somatic and genetic variables on health, quality of life and wellbeing of the 4HAIE cohort.

DigiWELL

The cutting-edge project focuses on exploring the short and long-term impacts of use of digital technology on the wellbeing of the general population, experimental technology and wellbeing research, development of personalised digital interventions to promote wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, and use of E-mental health tools to promote mental health and wellbeing.

REFRESH

The project focuses on the transformation of the Moravian-Silesian region as a result of the decline in mining and the wider energy transformation. These changes are having a major impact not only on the region's economy, but also on education, human health and the psychological well-being of residents. The research team of the FE UO is investigating how these changes affect employees of mining companies and their families. We focus on the work motivation, life satisfaction and educational needs of adults, but also on the school achievements, ambitions and future direction of their children. Through questionnaires, tests and interviews with children, parents and teachers, we gather valuable data to help us better understand their needs. The aim of the project is to design effective solutions that will support educational success of children and facilitate the adaptation of families to new social and economic conditions.

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary						
Provider ¹⁸⁵	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ¹⁸⁶				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	The effects of lowering dietary carbohydrates on health, exercise performance and wellbeing-related outcomes	1,881/ 74,201	793/ 31,282			
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Education in the field of engineering and its optimization for labor market needs	1,132/ 44,654	1,580 /62,311	580/ 22,887		
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	The Development of Diagnostic Set of Reading Comprehension with Pupils of 2nd degree of Primary Schools		440/ 17,373	859/ 33,881	924/ 36,445	838/ 33,057
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	SMART Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly		334/ 13,155	505/ 19,917	544/ 21,452	450/ 17,748

¹⁸⁵ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

¹⁸⁶ Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Importance of learning tasks with increasing difficulty in primary school-aged pupils' knowledge development and diagnosis			715/ 28,185	916/ 36,142	766/ 30,225
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Children and domestic violence - research into the need for services specialized in helping children at risk of domestic violence and proposal of minimum parameters for these services				80/ 3,156	1,500/ 59,172
Internal UO grant	Student grant competition (internal projects for UO students)	2,836/ 111,858	2,740/ 108,087	2,392/ 94,347	2,470/ 97,436	2,626/ 103,570
OP RDE	HAIE – Healthy Aging in Industrial Enviroment	25,308/ 998,343	24,390/ 962,130	21,323/ 841,144	16,520/ 651,677	
OP RDE	LERCO – Life Environment Research Center Ostrava					2,461/ 97,081
OP RDE	REFRESH – Research Excellence For Region Sustainability and High-tech Industries				Acquired in 2022, funded from 2024	
Total		31,157/ 1,229,056	30,277/ 1,194,338	26,374/ 1,040,361	21,454/ 846,308	8,641/ 340,853
In the role of another participant						
Provider ¹⁸⁷	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Improving the quality of learning and strengthening students' motivation to learn by deploying a 3D virtual university campus based on virtual and augmented reality technologies in the teaching process			206/ 8,114	327/ 12,907	173/ 6,824
Total				206/ 8,114	327/ 12,907	173/ 6,824

Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ¹⁸⁸	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total		0	0	0	0	0

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its

¹⁸⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸⁸ If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts¹⁸⁹, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

The project **"Importance of Learning Tasks with Increasing Difficulty in Primary School-Aged Pupils' Knowledge Development and Diagnosis"** focused on the design and validation of learning tasks with increasing difficulty, which enable effective diagnosis and development of pupils' knowledge. The outcome was the creation of a learning progress algorithm that helps teachers plan instruction to meet the individual needs of pupils.

An important outcome of the **Smart Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly** project is the use of the tested technologies. Currently, all 17 SeneCura facilities in the Czech Republic are equipped with ANUME system pads. Beyond the project, there is also a commercial collaboration, where the long-term use and expansion of the number of installations in SeneCura facilities is expected. The number of pads is continuously increasing and on average, there are 8 pads per senior centre. Nurses have tablets where they can monitor current events and senior nurses and management receive regular weekly reports on the quality of care.

The material entitled **"Basis for the Creation or Modification of Methodological Materials Regulating the Procedures of Workers Working Directly with the Target Group, Modification of the Conditions of the Services Provided "** is a methodological document developed within the framework of a project focused on research on services to help children at risk of domestic violence and the proposal of minimum standards for these services. The project was funded by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic. The material focuses on the availability, staffing and financing of services and proposes different models of assistance, from crisis intervention to family centres. The results are based on research in the Czech Republic and abroad, including interviews with experts and questionnaire surveys among workers in education, social and health institutions. The publication serves the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, social work, education and health professionals and policy makers in the field of child protection. Emphasis is placed on multidisciplinary cooperation, easy accessibility of services and their long-term sustainability. It reflects the gender dimension and contributes to more effective financing of services, thus promoting their development and accessibility.

The main output of the grant **The Development of a Diagnostic Set of Reading Comprehension with Pupils of 2nd degree of Primary Schools** is a manual presenting the initial concept of the project, its implementation and including newly developed diagnostic tasks (texts supplemented with questions to check the comprehension of texts and questions to conduct semi-structured interviews with diagnosed pupils of 2nd degree of primary schools) and a methodology for their use. The manual was developed for the needs of educational-psychological counselling centres (EPCC) and was created in cooperation with the application partners - EPCC in Ostrava and EPCC in Opava. It is a proposal for a new methodology for diagnosing specific learning disorders (dyslexia) in pupils of the second degree of primary schools and for monitoring the diagnosed pupils in the subsequent period and verifying the suitability of the chosen measures. Given the frequency of specific learning disabilities and their impact, this is a necessary tool for EPCCs. The knowledge about the verification of the quality of reading technique and the level of comprehension of texts was incorporated into the teaching of especially didactically oriented disciplines (Didactics of

¹⁸⁹ See Terms definition.

Literary Education for the study programme Teaching for the 1st degree of Primary School, Teaching of the Czech Language and Literature for the 2nd degree of Primary School, Didactics of Mother Tongue for Students of Special Education)

Another project with broad social relevance is "**Playful Educational Images with Fairy Tale Motifs**", implemented in 2020–2024 with the support of the Moravian-Silesian Region. This project focuses on the innovative use of creative education through fairy tales and illustrations created by students, teachers and staff of the FE UO. This project has created didactic materials that combine fairy tale motifs with educational elements, using artistic and narrative methods to support children's reading literacy, critical thinking and emotional intelligence. The project not only expanded the possibilities of creative learning, but also demonstrated that the combination of art and education can effectively support children's imagination, language development and emotional literacy. Thanks to the broad involvement of students and academic staff, it also brought new impulses to the undergraduate training of future teachers, who could actively participate in the creation of educational materials and their application in teaching.

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ¹⁹⁰	Year of application	Name
Teaching aids	2023	Playful Educational Fairy Tales
Teaching aids	2023	Playful Educational Images with Fairy Tale Motifs
Research report	2023	SMARTCare: Smart Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly
Methodology	2023	Tasks with Increasing Difficulty

Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples).

It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)¹⁹¹, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).¹⁹²

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

¹⁹⁰ Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

¹⁹¹ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

¹⁹² If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

Self-assessment:

The project **"Importance of Learning Tasks with Increasing Difficulty in Primary School-Aged Pupils' Knowledge Development and Diagnosis"** focused on the design and validation of learning tasks with increasing difficulty, which enable effective diagnosis and development of pupils' knowledge. The outcome was the creation of a learning progress algorithm that helps teachers plan instruction to meet the individual needs of pupils.

An important output of the **Smart Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly** project is the use of ANUME tested technologies. Currently, all 17 SeneCura facilities in the Czech Republic are equipped with ANUME system pads. Beyond the project, there is also a commercial collaboration, where the long-term use and expansion of the number of installations in SeneCura facilities is expected. The number of pads is continuously increasing and on average, there are 8 pads per senior centre. Nurses have tablets where they can monitor current events and senior nurses and management receive regular weekly reports on the quality of care.

Currently, the projects LERCO, DigiWELL and TACR, which were prepared and obtained in the period under evaluation, are being solved at the FE UO. These projects include activities that have considerable potential for transfer to practice. In the LERCO project, the main focus is on the development of a new methodological procedure for the detection of running and walking activities through mobile applications in order to identify potential injury risks associated with these activities. In addition, a Spin-Off is being developed within this project focusing on a movement programme advisory based on the research evidence from the previous HAIE project and current LERCO data. In the TACR project, the application to practice is focused on the development of new impact surfaces that will meet international standards and will be applied to physical education practice. Currently, three new impact surfaces have been developed and tested in cooperation with JIPAST, on which the company will apply the utility models that are one of the project's application outputs.

The largest item in these non-public sources in the years 2019–2023 were consultations and counselling at the Human Motion Diagnostic Centre (person and specimen measurements, stress examination and testing, body composition analysis, and nutritional counselling). The research centre cooperates with regional sports clubs and then tries to transfer scientific knowledge into training practice. Furthermore, in 2023, a project called Teacher as a Social Support was initiated, funded by the Abakus Foundation, with the aim of developing the basis for the innovation of the existing subject "Challenging Situations in School", which is implemented in the teacher education programmes for primary and secondary schools. We want to verify the proposed innovative teaching methods in practice.

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Human Motion Diagnostic Centre	223/ 8,801	394/ 15,546	168/ 6,639	254/ 10,000	160/ 6,304
Internship of teachers and staff of the Higher Vocational Medical School		0.8/ 32			
Theatre Forum on the topic of cyberbullying		37/ 1,448	1/ 47		
Teacher as social support ("Experiential learning as a path to solutions")					477/ 18,817
Total	223/	432/	169/	254/	637/

	8,801	17,026	6,686	10,000	25,121
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Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

The FE UO actively participated in the popularization of science, research and innovation (R&D&I) and communication with the general public in 2019–2023. The aim of these activities was to bring current scientific knowledge to a wide audience, including students, teachers and the public interested in education and social affairs. The Faculty developed various formats of popularisation - lectures, workshops, podcasts, cooperation with the media and participation in cultural events. The key principle was clarity, attractive form and direct contact with the public.

In the period 2019–2023, the FE UO systematically devoted itself to the popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public through various formats and platforms. These activities not only raise awareness of the Faculty's scientific activities, but also promote educational growth and the involvement of the general public in academic discourse. Below are the ten most important activities of the FE UO in the field of popularization of science and communication with the public in this period:

1. Participation in the Night of Scientists

The FE UO regularly participates in the national event Night of Scientists, held each year in autumn. As part of this event, the Faculty prepares interactive programs, lectures and experiments that make scientific knowledge accessible to the public of different age groups. Topics reflect current Faculty research and link theory with practical applications in everyday life.

2. Podcast "5 Questions FOR..."

In 2022, the FE UO launched its own podcast channel "5 Questions FOR...", which brings interviews with experts from the Faculty and external specialists on topics in education, psychology and other related fields. The podcast is available on the Spotify platform and extends the Faculty's popularization reach into the digital space.

3. Workshops and seminars for high school students

The Faculty regularly organizes workshops and seminars for high school students to motivate them to further their studies and provide insight into current trends in education and science. This initiative also includes the "University for Schools" project, linking academics with high school students through expert lectures and practical workshops.

4. Cooperation with the media and issuing press releases

The FE UO actively cooperates with the media and provides expert commentaries on current social and educational topics. The Faculty regularly issues press releases about its research projects and other activities, thus ensuring awareness and popularization of scientific knowledge in the wider society.

5. Participation in cultural events

Academic staff of the FE UO participate in cultural events, such as the Colours of Ostrava festival, where they lead discussion panels and lectures focused on socially relevant topics. These activities support the linking of science and public space.

6. The "FE Forum" project

Since 2020, the Faculty has been organising an online discussion programme "FE Forum", aimed at sharing current professional topics with the public. The program includes interviews with experts and presentations of Faculty research results, using professional audiovisual production.

7. Popularization articles and blogs

Academic staff of the FE UO regularly contribute popular articles and blogs on the platforms of the Faculty and the University, including OU@live. Since 2020, they have had an editor to help them with the right approach to popularisation outputs.

8. Virtual Faculty

In 2022, a virtual tour of the Faculty was made available, allowing visitors to explore its premises and obtain information about the study opportunities and popularization activities of the Faculty. This initiative brings academia closer to the general public.

9. Online webinars and live streaming

In response to the growing demand for online education, the Faculty began hosting webinars and live streaming lectures on current topics. In this way, it allows a wide range of interested parties to participate without having to be present in person.

10. Publishing of popularization publications

The FE UO participates in the creation and publishing of publications aimed at popularizing science, which bring professional knowledge to the wider public, teachers and students.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

In response to previous evaluations, the Faculty has worked significantly to expand and systematically document its scientific activities, increase awareness of the societal benefits of its research, and improve communication of its results to the academic and broader public.

1. Improvements in scientific activity

Although in the previous evaluation the Faculty was perceived primarily as an institution focused on artistic activities, in the period under evaluation the scientific focus and emphasis on interdisciplinary research with applicable outputs was significantly strengthened. Research activities have been expanded across several areas, particularly within the **HAIE, LERCO, REFRESH and DigiWELL** projects, which reflect key societal and technological themes.

In the field of science and research, the Faculty emphasized **publications in prestigious journals indexed in the Scopus and Web of Science databases**, thus strengthening its international scientific relevance. An increase in publication outputs evaluated according to the 17+ methodology has been achieved, and the Faculty is gradually gaining ground not only in the field of kinanthropology, but also in educational sciences and social studies.

2. Societal benefits and applicability of research

On the basis of the recommendations, targeted work was done to grasp the broader societal benefits of the research. The Faculty has carried out research with a significant impact on society, such as the **REFRESH project**, which analyses the impact of the decline in mining and the wider economic transformation on the Moravian-Silesian region. The results provide the basis for strategic planning of regional development, education and employment. Involvement in technology transfer and applied research was also an important step. The Faculty has participated in the development of **smart solutions for the elderly (ANUME project)**, where the tested technologies improve the quality of care in elderly homes. The practical implementation of these technologies in cooperation with private sector partners contributes to a real improvement in the lives of the target group. Another important area of applied research are the **TACR projects**, which reflect the interdisciplinary approach and social relevance of research:

- **The Importance of Learning Tasks with Increasing Difficulty in Primary-School Aged Pupils' Knowledge Development** – The outcome was the development of a learning progress algorithm that helps teachers plan instruction with respect to individual pupils' needs.
- **Smart Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly** – Development of innovative sensor technologies for monitoring seniors in care facilities, implemented in collaboration with the SeneCura network.
- **Children and Domestic Violence - research into the need for services specialised in helping children at risk of domestic violence** – The output of the project are methodological materials regulating the procedures of workers working directly with children and recommendations for optimising these services.
- **Education in the Field of Engineering and Its Optimization for the Labour Market Needs** – The analysis of the needs of the labour market led to adjustments in curriculum documents and optimization of the preparation of graduates of technical schools.
- **Improving the Quality of Learning and Strengthening Student Motivation to Learn by Deploying a 3D Virtual Campus** – Development of an educational environment using virtual reality to enhance the interactivity of learning.

3. Measuring the impact of research

In response to the evaluation, the Faculty strengthened both quantitative and qualitative metrics of the impact of research. The evaluation incorporated data on:

- **Number of publications in impacted journals** (Web of Science, Scopus).
- **Involvement in national and international grants (TACR, GACR, OP RDE).**
- **Applied outputs** such as new methodological approaches, teaching tools or technological innovations.
- **Concrete social benefits**, such as methodological materials for education or innovations in social services.

4. Improving the communication of results

One of the main findings of the previous evaluation was that the Faculty did not adequately communicate the scope and importance of its activities. There has been a major shift in this direction. A new strategy for communicating scientific results has been implemented, including:

- **Podcasts (5 Questions FOR...)** that popularize research to experts and the general public.
- **Nights of Scientists and popularisation workshops** that allow direct contact with the public.
- **Cooperation with the media**, regular press releases and popularization articles.
- **Virtual tours of the Faculty**, which makes the academic environment accessible to the general public.

The period under evaluation showed that the Faculty has strong potential not only in artistic but also in scientific activities with a real impact on society. The implementation of the recommendations has led to **increased transparency, research efficiency and better communication of results**, which provides a solid foundation for further growth and development of the Faculty.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
FE UO website	3.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/
FE UO Departments and Centers	3.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/departments-and-centres/
LERCO-HAIE website	3.1, 3.3, 3.7	https://haie-lerco.cz
REFRESH website	3.1, 3.3, 3.7	https://refresh-pdf.osu.cz/studie-skol/
DigiWELL website	3.1, 3.5, 3.7	https://www.digiwell-opjak.cz/en/home/
Tasks With Increasing Difficulty website	3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7	https://info.geografickeulohy.cz
Geographical Tasks website	3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7	https://geografickeulohy.cz
FE Forum	3.6	https://pdf.osu.cz/28243/pdforum/
Virtual Faculty	3.6	https://pdf.osu.cz/25624/pedagogicka-fakulta-ou-online/
5 Questions FOR	3.6, 3.7	https://open.spotify.com/show/3qIPMsh4p83tdJGFA35i5H
Playful Educational Fairy Tales and Playful Educational Images	3.4	https://pdf.osu.cz/31024/hrave-edupohadky-a-hrave-eduobrazy/
Project detail: The effects of lowering dietary carbohydrates on health, exercise performance and wellbeing-related outcomes	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/GA18-08358S
Project detail: Children and domestic violence - research into the need for services specialized in helping children at risk of domestic violence and proposal of minimum parameters for these services	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TIRSMPSV127?query=wkqiaadsw54q
Project detail: SMART Solutions Across Continuum of Care for the Elderly	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL03000520?query=3rhyaadau4pq
Project detail: The Development of Diagnostic Set of Reading Comprehension with Pupils of 2nd degree of Primary Schools	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL03000259?query=slbiaads64ba
Project detail: Importance of learning tasks with increasing difficulty in primary school-aged pupils' knowledge development and diagnosis	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL05000097?query=xcuaaaadeqj3q
Project detail: Education in the field of engineering and its optimization for labor market needs	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TJ02000083?query=u2aqaadsz6ga
Project detail: Improving the quality of learning and strengthening students' motivation to learn by deploying a 3D virtual university campus based on virtual and augmented reality technologies in the teaching process	3.3	https://starfos.tacr.cz/en/projekty/TL05000459?query=yptiaadsstcq

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULE 3

THE NAME OF THE UNIT BEING EVALUATED: Faculty of Fine Arts and Music

FORD: 6 - Humanities and the arts

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION OF THE EVALUATED UNIT

3.1 Introductory information about the unit under evaluation

The evaluated unit will describe its mission and vision and provide a general self-reflection of the societal contribution of R&D&I, along with its long-term goals in the fields it develops. The distribution of research activities by type of research will also be commented on.¹⁹³ The evaluated unit will describe its organisational structure and size (staffing, number of students, number of study programmes implemented, etc.) based on the data provided in annex tables 3.1.1 to 3.1.6.

Maximum 1000 words.

This is a non-rated indicator that serves as an introduction to the evaluated unit, providing context for data in indicators 3.2-3.7.

Self-assessment:

Faculty of Fine Arts and Music of the University of Ostrava (FFAM UO; <https://fu.osu.eu/>) represents an important pillar of art education and research not only in the Moravian-Silesian region but also in the whole Czech Republic. It is a key institution in the field of creative activities focused on artistic research, whether theoretical or practical, with a significant overlap into socio-cultural life. It confirms its role through long-term cooperation with important institutions, including the Ostrava House of Art or National Moravian-Silesian Theatre.

The Faculty carries out research activities in nine departments in three main areas which correspond to the interdisciplinary nature of art and its connection with scientific research:

Visual Arts and Graphic Technologies – it includes research in the field of classical and new media, graphic design, painting, printmaking, sculpture, animation and multimedia creation (Department of Intermedia, Department of Graphic Arts and Drawing, Department of Painting, Department of Sculpture).

Musical Arts – it combines research in music performance and music theory (Department of Wind Instruments, Department of Keyboard Instruments, Department of String Instruments, Department of Vocal Studies).

Art Theory and History, Art – it includes research on cultural heritage, music theory and history, curatorial practice, exhibition practice, art criticism and art in public space.

The research through art at the Faculty includes a wide range of activities carried out in cooperation with partners in the field of visual and musical arts. For example, interdisciplinary projects in the field of music research, thematic concert series, archiving of unique musical sources and cooperation with the Czech Museum of Music. The theoretical area of research is represented by the Department of History and Theory of Art which participates in professional research and interdisciplinary projects

¹⁹³ Basic, applied, contract, artistic research (see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+).

focused on the interpretation and presentation of cultural heritage. Its key activities include involvement in research grants (e.g., the Transformation of Silesia project, research on Gothic and early Renaissance art in East Bohemia, and analysis of the role of museums of decorative arts in the Czech environment). The members of the department are also actively involved in curatorial and professional activities associated with the Dukla Gallery, GAFU Gallery, Plato and other cultural institutions.

The international overlap of the Faculty is also evident in its research activities which are carried out in cooperation with foreign partners. Important projects include the GAME LAB - International Laboratory for Game Studies and Design organized in cooperation with the Silesian University in Katowice, or the International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava (ISSO) which, since 2013, has become a platform for the development of screen printing in artistic creation and the networking of Central European art schools. The Faculty is also involved in the VIR Virtual Gallery project which aims to create a cross-border online platform for the presentation of artworks, exhibitions and research outputs of students and academics.

In the coming years, the Faculty will focus on further developing artistic research and strengthening the interdisciplinary links between art, science and technology. Participation in grant activities as a principal investigator can be perceived as a challenge and opportunity for development; currently, the Faculty is more in the position of a co-investigator and participant. A number of attempts have been made to move in this direction, but this takes us outside the period under review. Expanding international cooperation in the field of art and digital media, deepening the links with research institutions and developing projects in new technologies such as AR, VR and AI are also important objectives.

The new building of the Faculty at Černá louka provides top-quality facilities for education, research and creative activities in the field of music and visual arts. The concert hall with excellent acoustics allows professional music production, recording and interpretation of historical and contemporary music. As for art, the Faculty offers the GAFU Gallery which serves as an exhibition space for students, academics and external artists, and the Digital Technology Centre, which promotes innovative approaches in digital graphics, printing and 3D technologies.

Due to the interdisciplinary nature of artistic research and its significant overlap with the cultural and creative sphere, it is difficult to evaluate it exclusively through standardised methodologies such as the M17+. Nevertheless, the results of these activities significantly contribute to the fulfilment of the so-called third role of the university, linking the academic environment with the public and having an impact on the cultural life of the region and international cooperation. Therefore, the Faculty strives to make artistic research visible as an equal part of scientific discourse.

The Faculty has seen steady growth in academic and research activities over the past five years, reaching a peak in academic staff per FTE in 2023 (79.22). Notably, the number of professors rose significantly (5.91 from 4.20 in 2019), enhancing the Faculty's professional profile. While associate professor numbers slightly declined, they stabilized compared to 2019. A marked rise in assistant professors reflects support for young academics and research team development. Technical and administrative staff levels remain stable, indicating sound operational management.

The age structure in 2023 shows a balance of younger and experienced researchers, with the largest group aged 30–49, ensuring continuity and long-term development. Senior staff (60+) provide mentoring, while early-career academics receive institutional support. Student numbers are also rising, especially in master's and doctoral programmes, showing increased interest in the Faculty's offerings.

Women are well-represented, particularly among assistant and associate professors, reflecting a commitment to gender balance. In theoretical research, the Department of History and Theory of

Art leads with an 86.7% share in art and art history research, underlining the Faculty's focus on basic research in the arts. Overall, the Faculty continues to strengthen its research profile and foster interdisciplinary collaboration.

Table 3.1.1 - Staffing per FTE¹⁹⁴

Academic/ Professional position	Total / Of which women					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Professor	4.20/1.00	4.18/0.93	4.43/1.00	4.38/0.88	5.91/0.91	4.62/0.95
Associate Professor	14.28/3.54	15.35/4.30	15.91/5.00	14.57/4.67	12.67/4.33	14.55/4.37
Assistant Professor	32.60/10.35	20.56/4.88	21.92/5.78	23.52/6.79	24.75/7.62	24.67/7.08
Assistant	4.06/1.93	16.95/7.51	18.32/7.33	18.37/6.67	18.75/6.01	15.29/5.89
R&D Personnel ¹⁹⁵	0.20/0.00					
Researchers in other categories ¹⁹⁶						
Technical and economic staff ¹⁹⁷	20.15/15.47	19.61/13.67	17.81/13.20	17.30/13.42	17.14/13.99	18.40/13.95
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	55.14/16.82	57.04/17.62	60.58/19.11	60.84/19.01	62.08/18.87	59.13/18.29
Early career researchers ¹⁹⁸						
Total¹⁹⁹	75.49/32.29	76.65/31.29	78.39/32.31	78.14/32.43	79.22/32.86	77.53/32.24

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.2 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2019 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁴ The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

¹⁹⁵ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

¹⁹⁶ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

¹⁹⁷ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

¹⁹⁸ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

¹⁹⁹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

²⁰⁰ The total number of employees/workers as of 31st December of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor							2		3	1		
Associate Professor					6	2	7	1	3	1		
Assistant Professor			6	2	15	3	2					
Assistant	3	1	11	4	7	3	2		1	1		
R&D Personnel ²⁰¹												
Researchers in other categories ²⁰²												
Technical and economic staff ²⁰³	2	1	1	1	8	6	7	5	4	3		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	3	1	17	6	28	8	13	1	7	3	3	1
Early career researcher ²⁰⁴												
Total²⁰⁵	5	2	18	7	36	14	20	6	11	6		

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D Personnel, Researchers in other categories and Technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported in only one category. The categories of scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities and early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

3.1.3 Age structure of R&D&I personnel of the evaluated unit and their structure by job title and gender in the year 2023 (numbers of physical employees and personnel)²⁰⁶

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years		30-39 years old		40-49 years old		50-59 years old		60-69 years old		70 years and older	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor					1		2		3		1	
Associate Professor					7	4	4	1	6	1		

²⁰¹ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

²⁰² The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

²⁰³ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

²⁰⁴ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

²⁰⁵ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I Personnel, Researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

²⁰⁶ The total number of employees/workers as at 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be entered, irrespective of the level of time worked, but only in an employment relationship (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance). Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

Assistant Professor			9	4	14	3	6	2				
Assistant	1		9	3	6	1	4	1	3	1		
R&D Personnel ²⁰⁷												
Researchers in other categories ²⁰⁸												
Technical and economic staff ²⁰⁹	4	1	2	2	5	5	5	4	5	4		
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	1		18	7	28	8	16	4	12	2	1	
Early career researcher ²¹⁰												
Total²¹¹	5	1	20	9	33	13	21	8	17	6	1	

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, R&D personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Table 3.1.4 – Students

Type of study	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		Total	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Undergraduate	282	193	281	199	282	217	321	243	334	242	721	515
Master's ²¹²	113	70	123	76	179	121	178	122	166	129	396	278
Doctoral	8	5	9	4	11	5	13	6	26	11	34	16
Lifelong Learning Courses												
Total	403	268	413	279	472	343	512	371	526	382	1151	809

Table 3.1.5 - Study programmes in Czech/English

Type of study programme	Total ²¹³ / Of which professional study programmes					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total

²⁰⁷ The category "R&D Personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

²⁰⁸ The category "Researchers in other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

²⁰⁹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

²¹⁰ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

²¹¹ Total is the sum of the categories: professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, R&I personnel, researchers in other categories and technical and economic staff.

²¹² All master's degree students are listed, regardless of the length of their programme of study.

²¹³ The total number of study programmes for which admissions have been announced in a given academic year.

Undergraduate	8		8		9		9		9		9	
Master's	8		8		11/1		10/1		10/1		11/1	
Doctoral	1		1		1		3		5		5	
Lifelong Learning courses												
Total	17		17		21/1		22/1		24/1		25/1	

Note: For each SP type, enter the number of SPs in Czech language in the first cell and insert the number of SPs in English language after the slash in the same cell (e.g., 15/3), enter the number of professional SPs in Czech language in the second cell and insert the number of professional SPs in English language after the slash. Follow a similar procedure in the last column of the table (Total).

3.1.6 – R&D&I capacities

R&D&I field	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of industry group [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.6 Biological sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
	1.7 Other natural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.4 Chemical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.5 Materials engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.7 Environmental engineering	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.0	Select an item.	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.0	Select an item.	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	0.0	Select an item.	
	3.2 Clinical medicine	0.0	Select an item.	
	3.3 Health sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.3 Veterinary science	0.0	Select an item.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	0.0	Select an item.	0.5
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.3 Education	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.4 Sociology	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.5 Law	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.6 Political science	0.0	Select an item.	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	0.0	Select an item.	

	5.8 Media and communications	0.5	Basic Research	
	5.9 Other social sciences	0.0	Select an item.	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	2.8	Basic Research	99.5
	6.2 Languages and Literature	0.0	Select an item.	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	0.5	Basic Research	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	94.8	Basic Research	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	1.4	Basic Research	
Total		100%	-	100%

RECOGNITION BY THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

3.2 Recognition by the research community

The evaluated unit will briefly comment on its position in the research community. It shall consider individual and other prestigious R&D&I awards, participation of its academic staff in the editorial boards of international scientific journals, elected membership in professional societies, major invited lectures given by the evaluated unit's academic staff abroad or by foreign scientists and other relevant guests at the evaluated unit. Additionally, it will address the involvement of staff in the evaluation of national or European project/programme calls over the period of 2019–2023 based on the data provided in annex tables 3.2.1 to 3.2.5 (max. 10 most relevant items). If necessary, the evaluated unit shall list any additional services to the scientific community that it considers relevant.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

The FFAM UO has long been a major player in the field of artistic research and theoretical reflection on art with an international scope. The academic staff of the Faculty are actively involved in professional activities in editorial boards, research projects and major international initiatives.

Prestigious Awards and Recognition

The individual achievements of the Faculty's academics confirm its prominent position in the research community. The monograph by doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D. was awarded the highest grade (A) in Module 1 of the 17+ methodology (Spurná, *New Paths in Opera*). Several other titles received the second highest rating (B). Among the award-winning experts from the art department of the Faculty are Marek Sibinský who won the main prize in the category of Graphic Art 2021 in Prague, the Award of the Bureau of Art Exhibitions in Kielce (2021/2022) and the Special Honour at the Second International Triennial of Graphic Arts Livno (2020). Other award winners are Oľga Moravcová (Award for Graphic Techniques – Digital Printing, Graphic Art 2023), Libor Novotný (nomination for the Jantar Award for Fine Arts 2021) and Andrea Uváčiková (nomination in the Graphic Art 2020 in the serigraphy category).

Memberships in Editorial Boards and Professional Associations

The Faculty's staff serve on a number of important editorial boards and professional committees. For example, prof. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D. is a member of the editorial board of *Acta historica SU*, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the Silesian Museum – Series B* and a member of the editorial board of the journal *Těšínsko*. Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D. serves on the editorial board of the journal *Musicalia* (Czech Museum of Music) and is a member of the curatorial board of the SMI in Regensburg. Important positions in the expert committees are also held by Mgr. Tomáš Knořlíček, Ph.D. (member of the Commission of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic for the awarding

of creative and study scholarships, member of the expert juries for the memorials in Ostrava) and doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D. (member of the evaluation panel of the Czech Science Foundation).

Invited Lectures and International Activities

The academic staff of the Faculty are regularly invited to international conferences and lecture tours. Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D. completed a six-month teaching fellowship at the Universität Wien (2023/24) and a one-year research fellowship at the Deutsches Historisches Institut Warschau (2024). His important lectures include "Antonín Dvořák and Czech Vienna" (Slovanská beseda, Vienna) and "Smetana International" (Vienna, Konzerthaus). Mgr. Tomáš Knoflíček, Ph.D. lectured on the topic "Czech Contemporary Art on the Example of the Kukačka Project" at BWA Wrocław (2021). The Faculty also hosted distinguished international experts such as Joan Grimalt from the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya, who lectured on musical hermeneutics and Mahler's songs. The academics of the music part of the Faculty are regularly invited as lecturers in performance courses at foreign educational institutions, such as MgA. Karel Dohnal (Belgium), Prof. Dušan Foltýn – Alicante (Spain), Prof. Igor František – Udine (Italy), Porto (Portugal), Prof. Miloslav Jelínek – Vilnius (Lithuania), Fukuyama (Japan).

Table 3.2.1 - Prestigious R&D&I awards granted during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the award	Awarding institution
dr. MgA. Olga Moravcová dr	Award for graphic techniques – Digital Printing Graphics 2023	Hollar Foundation, Prague
MgA. Libor Novotný, Ph. D.	Nomination for the Jantar Award	ProJantar s.r.o., Ostrava
MgA. Andrea Uváčiková, Ph.D.	Nomination for an award in the Graphics 2020 competition in the category "Award for Serigraphy"	Hollar Foundation, Prague
doc. Mgr. Marek Sibinský, Ph.D.	Main award in Category A Graphics 2021	Hollar Foundation, Prague
doc. Mgr. Marek Sibinský, Ph.D.	7th International Graphic Arts Triennial award, 2022	International Graphic Arts Triennial, Gdańsk
doc. Mgr. Marek Sibinský, Ph.D.	Nagroda Biura Wystaw Artystycznych w Kielcach, 2021/2022	International Triennial of Lithography Kielce

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.2 Participation of academic staff of the evaluated unit in editorial boards of international scientific journals during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of scientific journal, ISSN
Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D.	Member of the editorial board of <i>Musicalia</i> (international journal of the Czech Museum of Music)
doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D.	Member of the editorial board of the Slovak Theatre magazine (since 2019)
Prof. PhDr. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D.	Editorial Board of <i>Acta historica SU</i> (since 2007)
Prof. PhDr. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D.	Member of the editorial board of the Journal of the Silesian Museum – Series B (since 2009), since 2016 Chief Editor
Prof. PhDr. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D.	Heritage Council of the National Heritage Institute in Ostrava (since 2002)
Prof. PhDr. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D.	Member of the editorial board of the <i>Těšínsko</i> magazine (since 2000)

Note: Please provide up to 10 examples of academic staff participation in editorial boards of international scientific journals (e.g., editor, editorial board member, etc.).

Table 3.2.3 The most important invited lectures delivered by the academic staff of the evaluated unit at foreign institutions during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Invited lecture title	Name of host institution, or name of conference or event	Year
Mgr. Tomáš Knořlíček, Ph.D.	Czech Contemporary Art on the Example of the Kukačka Project – art in public space.	BWA Wrocław	2021
Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D.	Six-month teaching visit	Universität Wien	2023–24
doc. Mgr. Marek Sibinský, Ph.D.	Profesor wizytujący: Visiting professor	Akademię Sztuki w Szczecinie	2022
Mgr. Jan Drozd, dr	Profesor wizytujący: Visiting professor	Akademię Sztuki w Szczecinie	2022
doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D.	An Assessment of Czech Musicology and Theatre Studies. Thirty Years after the Fall of the "Iron Curtain"	Institute of Contemporary Art, Moscow	2019
Doc. MgA. František Kowolowski	Profesor wizytujący: Visiting professor	Faculty of Fine Arts, UJD in Częstochowa	2021

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.4 - The most important lectures by foreign scientists and other guests relevant to R&D&I at the evaluated unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the lecturer	Lecturer's employer at the time of the lecture	Invited lecture title	Year
dr Barbara Czapor-Zareba, dr hab. Katarzyna Winczek	J. Długosz Academy in Częstochowa	Lecture, Workshop Eco Graphics	2023
dr Alexandra Jakubczak	J. Długosz Academy in Częstochowa	Lithography lecture and workshop	2022
mgr Nastazja Ciupa	Akademia Sztuk Pięknych w Warszawie	Lithography lecture and workshop	2021
dr Anka Leśniak	Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk	Invisible inVisible	2023
Gregor Eldarb	Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna	AFTER ABY – Image analysis / concept and realization	2023
Gabor Varga	Hungarian Radio Budapest	Online clarinet masterclass	2020
Vladimir Skrylev	Mikhailovsky Theatre in St. Petersburg	Online clarinet masterclass	2020
Valentin Uryupin	Musica Aeterna, Moscow	Online clarinet masterclass	2020
dr hab. Dorota Optulowicz McQuaid	Akademia Sztuk Pięknych w Warszawie	Lecture and workshop – Collagraphy	2021

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

Table 3.2.5 - Involvement in the evaluation of national/European research project/programme calls relevant to the R&D&I area at the unit during the evaluation period

Name, surname and title(s) of the evaluated unit's staff member	Name of the research project/programme call	Name of the contracting authority/guarantor project/programme call	Year
doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D.	Member of the evaluation panel of GACR – Arts Sciences, P 409	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Since 2023
doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D.	Evaluator of the Government Council for Research, Development and Innovation	Research, Development and Innovation Council CZECH REPUBLIC	Since 2020
Mgr. Tomáš Knořlíček, Ph.D.	Member of the strategic team for culture of the Statutory City of Ostrava	the Statutory City of Ostrava	Since 2020

Mgr. Tomáš Knořlíček, Ph.D.	Member of the Commission of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic for Professional Art - Fine Arts and	Ministry of Culture CR	Since 2014
Mgr. Tomáš Knořlíček, Ph.D.	Member of the Commission of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic for awarding creative and study scholarships	Ministry of Culture CR	Since 2022
Mgr. Tomáš Knořlíček, Ph.D.	Member of the Gallery Council of the Třinec City Gallery	Třinec Authority	Since 2014
Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D.	Member of the SMI curatorship	SMI, Regensburg	Since 2013
Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D.	Member of the Supervisory Board of the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences	Czech Academy of Sciences	Since 2017
Doc. MgA. František Kowolowski	Cultural Committee	Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic in Prague	Since 2022
doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D.	Member of the evaluation panel of GACR – Arts Sciences, P 409	Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Since 2023

Note: Provide up to 10 examples.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

3.3 Research projects

The evaluated unit shall list at most 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research projects/activities (regardless of whether they are supported by public funds or based on contract research²¹⁴) that it has implemented or participated in during the period of 2019–2023²¹⁵. This should be done from the full list in annex tables (Table 3.3.1-3.3.2)²¹⁶, regarding particularly the results achieved or the application potential of the projects. The unit should also describe how the research projects contributed to the mission and purpose of the evaluated unit. If the evaluated unit has been a participant in listed project, it shall indicate which other entities were involved and describe its contribution to the project. The interdisciplinary aspects of the projects will also be commented on, along with any collaboration with other units of the evaluated HEI.

Maximum 300 words per project.

Self-assessment:

The academic staff of the Department of History and Theory of Art are actively involved in several major inter-institutional projects supported by the central grant agencies, which strengthens their professional activities and develops cooperation with other academic and cultural institutions. However, the University of Ostrava is not always among the recipients of grants or official partners of these projects, which represents a challenge and an opportunity for future development of strategic involvement of the Faculty in larger grant calls. Most considerably, the Faculty is represented in smaller projects implemented at the city and regional level, which, however, play a key role in fulfilling the third role of the university and in its active participation in the cultural and social development of the region.

- **Transformation of Silesia** (GACR No. 22-05263S, 2022–2024)
The FFAM UO is involved in the Transformation of Silesia project through Prof. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D. who is a member of the research team within the Czech Science Foundation (GACR). This project

²¹⁴ For the definition of contract research for the purposes of evaluation in the HE segments, see Article 2.2.1 of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation 2014/C 198/01.

²¹⁵ Regardless of whether the projects are completed or still ongoing, provided that at least part of the project was implemented during the evaluation period.

²¹⁶ The evaluated unit shall only fill tables that are relevant to it.

is carried out in cooperation with the Silesian Museum and focuses on the analysis of the historical and cultural changes in Silesia, with an emphasis on the visual arts, architecture and cultural heritage of the region. With regard to sustainability, the project focuses on a long-term strategy for the protection and development of Silesia's cultural heritage, thus promoting its preservation for future generations and wider public involvement in the care of cultural monuments.

- **PASPO – Passportization of Theatres and Spaces for Playing** (TACR SIGMA STA02023TQ010, 2023–2026)

The project creates a comprehensive database of theatre and performance spaces in the Czech Republic, thus contributing to more effective management and development of cultural infrastructure. The results are useful for cultural organisations, public administrations and city authorities which can better plan investments in cultural infrastructure based on the analysis. Interdisciplinary aspects and collaboration: It combines architecture, urban planning, scenography and cultural management. Prof. PhDr. Pavel Šopák, Ph.D., working at the Department of History and Theory of Art, is a co-researcher of the project, the participating organizations are the Faculty of Architecture of the Brno Technical University, Janáček Academy of Performing Arts in Brno.
- **PUTM – The Contribution of Museums of Decorative Art and Technical Museums to the Economic Development and Educational Culture of Moravia and Silesia** (NAKI III - DH23P03OVV041, 2023–2027)

The project contributes to the revitalisation and popularisation of museums of decorative art and technical museums, thus promoting tourism, education and the creative industries. The outputs are useful in collections management, expand the possibilities of educational programmes, and stimulate interdisciplinary collaboration between artists, historians, and technology experts. Interdisciplinary aspects and collaboration: It combines museology, cultural economics and educational programmes.
- **Gothic and Early Renaissance Art in East Bohemia** (NAKI II - DG16P02B003, 2016–2022)

The project brought detailed research, digitization and interpretation of Gothic and Renaissance art in East Bohemia. The outputs help conservationists, museums, academics and the public to better understand historical and artistic contexts. Interdisciplinary aspects and collaboration: The project combines art history, restoration and digital archiving of cultural heritage. The researchers are Mgr. Tomáš Knoflíček Ph.D. and Mgr. Hana Vorlová, Ph.D. The participating organisations are the Institute of Art History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Palacký University in Olomouc and the National Heritage Institute.
- **Mapping and Development of a Strategy for Cultural and Creative Industries in the Moravian-Silesian Region** (MK 35812/2023 OUKKO, 2023–2025)

The project helps to strategically manage and develop the cultural and creative industries in the region. The outputs will be used by the Statutory City of Ostrava, regional and cultural organizations for effective allocation of funds and long-term support of the creative sector. The project combines cultural policy, cultural economics and creativity management. The principal investigator is the University of Ostrava, the co-researcher on behalf of the FFAM UO is Mgr. Tomáš Knoflíček, Ph.D.
- **Ad unicum** (institutional support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic for long-term conceptual development of research organisations, since 2022)

The project supports the long-term conservation and research of unique artistic artefacts, thus contributing to the preservation and presentation of cultural heritage. It combines restoration, art history and museology. The co-researcher of the project is Mgr. Hana Vorlová, Ph.D. from the

Department of Theory and History of Art, the participating organization is the National Heritage Institute.

- **Shlaraffia: An Element in Plays of 19th-Century Culture** (GACR: 23-04979S, 2023–2025)
 The project explores the phenomenon of shlaraffia as an element in plays in 19th-century social culture. The research contributes to the understanding of historical forms of entertainment, socialization and their influence on today's society. The outputs can be used by cultural institutions, academics and professionals working on the history of leisure time and social games. It combines history, sociology and game theory. The co-researcher is Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velek, Ph.D.
- **Avantgarde Opera in Interwar Czechoslovakia** (Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, 2020–2021)
 The project focused on the research of avant-garde opera in interwar Czechoslovakia, analysing its cultural, musical and aspects of stage design. The outputs of the project included scientific studies, lectures and archival research that helped to map the development of the opera experiment in this key historical phase. The results are useful not only in the academic sphere, but also for dramaturgs, curators and theatre historians, and can contribute to the revitalization of the avant-garde opera repertoire. Interdisciplinary aspects and collaboration: The project connected the fields of music theory, art history, scenography and cultural history, while the cooperation with the National Theatre in Prague enabled the direct application of the research findings to the contemporary opera performances. The co-investigator was doc. Mgr. Helena Spurná, Ph.D.
- **Game Lab – International Laboratory for Game Studies and Design** (2020–2021)
 The Game Lab Challenge was primarily an international workshop that brought together student teams and their academic mentors from different universities. The main objective of the workshop was to exchange experiences in didactics, teamwork and the development of effective methods that prepare students for the global labour market. Unlike traditional competitions, the Game Lab Challenge emphasized collaboration and knowledge sharing, not winning and material rewards. Each team, consisting of students from Poland (Silesian University in Katowice as the principal investigator), Germany, Czech Republic, USA, Belgium, Mexico and Japan, had to create a functional preview of a video game and prepare its presentation. Within the game development process, the mentors took on the role of project managers whose main task was to supervise the teamwork and project implementation according to the set milestones. The project was funded by the Polish National Agency NAWA. The project investigators for the Faculty were Mgr. Jan Drozd, dr. and doc. Mgr. Marek Sibinský, Ph.D.
- **Kukačka Festival – Art in Public Space** (2013–2021)
 Kukačka is a festival that focuses on site-specific art and artistic interventions in the public space of Ostrava. The project reflects social, environmental and political issues through art. The FFAM UO provides professional research and curatorial management of the festival in cooperation with the Ostrava House of Arts, the Statutory City of Ostrava, PLATO Gallery and other cultural organizations.

Table 3.3.1 Projects supported by public funds

In the role of beneficiary

Provider ²¹⁷	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR) ²¹⁸				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
SDF – Strategic Development Fund	City Campus – exploiting the potential of the new building of the Faculty Digital Technology Centre – improving students' access to new technologies and improving students' training for this operation Study Programme – Production					1,826/ 72,378
Czech Music Fund Foundation	Preparation of part two of "Musical Artists between Ostrava and Vienna" (Richard Kubla) Contribution to the Richard Kubla book printing. Musical artists between Ostrava and Vienna 2 / Tonkünstler zwischen Wien und Ostrau 2 "Richard Kubla: My Life with Opera Preparation and Publication of the Memoirs of an Ostrava Opera Singer"	30/ 1,183	10/ 394	20/ 788		
MK – Ministry of Culture	HYBRID-IN Exhibition catalogue – HYBRID-IN Catalogue of the 8 th annual festival of art in public space Kukačka 8 Kukačka 8: Life is Elsewhere Kukačka 9: This is Not Art International Festival of Children and Students' Multimedia Production TrixFilm 2022, 2023 Student competition – BookVision 2022,2023	385/ 15,187	803/ 31,708	170/ 6,706	85/ 3,353	105/ 4,142
MSK – Moravian-Silesian Region	50 YEARS OF OSTRAVA ANIMATION PRODUCTION International Festival of Children and Students' Multimedia Production			125/ 4,930	405/ 15,976	585/ 23,076
SMO – the Statutory City of Ostrava	BookVision Viktor Kolář Sr., a Photographer HYBRID-IN Kukačka 9: This is Not Art International Festival of Children and Students' Multimedia Production TrixFilm 2022		190/ 7,495	280/ 11,045	234/ 9,230	1,255/ 49,506

²¹⁷ If the provider is from abroad, please indicate the provider's country of origin in brackets. For the determination of the country of origin of the provider, the place of residence of the provider is decisive.

²¹⁸ Indicate the total amount expressed in thousands of CZK and the conversion of the total amount into Euro.

	International Summer Academy of Chamber Music Ostrava 2022 International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava ISSO Opera performance: Maurice Ravel – Child and Magic Trick film in Ostrava 9 th International Piano Performance Courses at the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music of the UO International Festival of Children and Students' Multimedia Production TrixFilm 2023, 2024 International Oboe Courses of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music of the University of Ostrava International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava – ISSO 2023 Opera performance: DANCE OF THE UNGRATEFUL WOMEN and DIDO AND AENEAS Support for the development of musical and linguistic competences Fundamentals of Animation and Film Education for Educators and Trainers of Cultural Institutions 2 nd International Summer Music Academy Ostrava 2023 2 nd Annual Student Competition BookVision					
Municipal District of Moravská Ostrava and Přívoz	Kukačka 8: Life is Elsewhere Kukačka 9: This is Not Art International Festival of Children and Students' Multimedia Production TrixFilm International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava – ISSO	60/ 2,371	70/ 2,761		20/ 788	
Interreg V-A Czech Republic – Poland	Art beyond Borders/Sztuka ponad granicami VIR Virtual Gallery					
Visegrad Fund	Situation Silesia 2019	10/ 394				
UO internal grant	Student Grant Competition		260/ 10,280	232/ 9,152	208/ 8,205	275/ 10,860
IRP (Internal Development Project of the UO)	Studio of the guest artist of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music of the UO - Dariusz Fodczuk		360/ 14,201	725/ 28,582		

	Innovation of the study programme Instrumental Techniques by transferring selected courses to the online form					
	Development of infrastructure for the implementation of flexible forms of education at the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music					
	Creation of an electronic teaching aid for the course Music, Arts, and Culture in the Early 20 th Century					
CRP – Central Development Project (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)	Collaboration of art colleges and faculties with local public partners and creative industries to present educational and creative activities Artistic education – online presentation of artistic and creative outputs		380/ 14,990	405/ 15,976	250/ 9,862	
Total		485/ 19,132	2,073/ 81,775	1,957/ 77,199	1,202/ 47,416	4,046/ 159,606
In the role of another participant						
Provider ²¹⁹	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Interreg V-A Czech Republic – Poland	Art beyond Borders/Sztuka ponad granicami					9/ 385
Interreg V-A Czech Republic – Poland	VIR Virtual Gallery					51/ 2,011
Creative Europe	LAG – Festival of Art and Independent Games	416/ 1,643				
Creative Europe	Game Lab – International Laboratory for Game Studies and Design			276/10, 922		
Total		416/ 1,643		276/ 10,922		60/ 2,396

Table 3.3.2 - Contract research activities

Client ²²⁰	Activity name	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total		0	0	0	0	0

Note: List and describe contract research activities with a revenue in a given calendar year, regardless of the amount of financial revenue.

²¹⁹ Ibid.

²²⁰ If the client is from abroad, indicate in brackets the country of origin of the client.

3.4 Research results with existing or prospective impact on society

The evaluated unit shall briefly comment on a maximum of 10 (considered most significant by the evaluated unit) research results already applied or realistically heading towards application during the period of 2019–2023, based on the overview annex table 3.4.1 (it is recommended to indicate results with a link to projects listed in indicator 3.3). The evaluated unit must demonstrate in its description that the research results have led or will soon lead to positive impacts²²¹, on society (e.g., description of how the results are used by various users, the range of persons/institutions for which the result is relevant, measurable economic impacts, etc.). The evaluated entity shall indicate in its commentary whether the gender dimension is considered in these results and discuss the impacts of the results regarding sustainability.

Maximum range 300 words/result.

Self-assessment:

The selected results reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the artistic research at the Faculty, include theoretical, curatorial and artistic outputs, and outreach to cultural and social life:

- **Mapping of Cultural and Creative Industries in the Moravian-Silesian Region (2023–2025)**

The research project in cooperation with the Ostrava City Authority contributes to the development of the cultural strategy of the region, identification of key actors and proposal of measures to support cultural and creative industries. The outputs will be used by the municipal administration and professional institutions.

Impacts on the society: The outputs of the project will contribute to the development of a cultural strategy for the region, which will enable the effective development of cultural and creative industries. The results are relevant for city administration, regional cultural institutions and businesses in the creative industries.

Sustainability: It supports a long-term strategy for the sustainable development of culture in the region and the economic stabilisation of the creative sector.
- **Dukla Gallery as an Experimental Platform for Public Art (since 2018, continuously)**

The results of the research on art in public space are reflected in the curatorial programme of the Dukla Gallery. The gallery links academic research with urban cultural policy and actively supports artist residencies, site-specific installations and community projects.

Impacts on the society: The Dukla Gallery links academic research with urban cultural policy and actively supports artist residencies, site-specific installations and community projects, making contemporary art more accessible to the general public.

Gender dimension: The exhibition programme reflects the themes of equality, inclusion and social diversity.

Sustainability: The project promotes artistic interventions using ecological materials and recycled elements, while its concept reflects long-term cultural sustainability.
- **Research project "Transformation of Silesia" (GACR 2022–2024)**

The project analyses the changes in the cultural identity of Silesia, focusing on the visual arts, architecture and cultural heritage of the region. The outputs include professional publications, international conferences and popularization activities.

Impacts on the society: The research provides expert knowledge of the cultural identity of the region, which has a direct impact on the architectural, historical and cultural practice, including heritage conservation.

Sustainability: Promoting the cultural sustainability and protection of heritage sites in the region.

²²¹ See Terms definition.

- **International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava (ISSO, 2019–2024)**

The research of screen printing as an artistic technique has resulted in a collection of contemporary European serigraphy (350+ prints, 126 artists). The symposium contributes to the international exchange of knowledge, research in the field of graphics and strengthening the network of art schools.

Impacts on the society: The symposium promotes international exchange of knowledge and innovation in the field of graphics. The outputs are used by artists, students, curators and professional institutions.

Gender dimension: The project actively promotes equal representation of male and female artists in the symposium.

Sustainability: ISSO takes into account eco-friendly printing technologies and materials, thus contributing to sustainability in the field of art printing.
- **Festival of Art in Public Space Kukačka – application of research in public space**

The Kukačka Festival combines academic research with practical artistic interventions. The editions "Life is Elsewhere" (2019) and "This is Not Art" (2021) tested social and spatial strategies of art in public space.

Impacts on the society: The festival enables direct public participation in artistic projects, which contributes to increased cultural literacy and civic engagement.
- **"PASPO – Passporting of Theatres and Performance Spaces" Project (TACR SIGMA 2023–2026)**

The outputs of the project help to map theatres and performance spaces in the Czech Republic, their history, use and cultural potential. The Faculty of Architecture of the Brno Technical University, the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts and other institutions cooperate on the project.

Impacts on the society: The research provides a comprehensive mapping of the theatre infrastructure in the Czech Republic, which will enable more effective management and development of the theatre network.

Sustainability: It contributes to a sustainable cultural infrastructure and efficient use of existing theatre facilities.
- **Development of Digital Forms of Art Presentation – VIR Virtual Gallery (2021–2023)**

The VIR Virtual Gallery project, implemented in cooperation with the Silesian University in Katowice and its application partner Tasty Air, enables digital access to the artistic outputs of students, graduates and established artists. The gallery crosses the regional borders and offers online curatorial projects.

Impacts on the society: The VIR Virtual Gallery makes artworks accessible to the general public and supports digital archiving and online exhibitions.

Gender dimension: The platform provides equal conditions for the presentation of both male and female artists.

Sustainability: Reducing the ecological footprint by digitizing exhibition activities.
- **GAME LAB – International Laboratory for Game Studies and Design (2019–2022)**

The research on game design and interactive art was carried out in cooperation with the Silesian University in Katowice. The project included the development of original game prototypes, interdisciplinary workshops and game jams in which the students and academics participated.

Impacts on the society: The project outputs strengthen the link between the game industry and academia, and contribute to innovation in interactive media.

<i>Sustainability:</i> The emphasis on ethical game design, digital media sustainability and socially engaged themes. Reflection of Architectural Heritage – Research of Monument Zones in Ostrava (2020–2023) The research project analyses the urban development and cultural value of Ostrava's conservation areas. The outputs include professional publications, exhibitions and proposals for a methodology for cultural heritage management. <i>Impacts on the society:</i> The project helps to preserve and revitalize the conservation areas of Ostrava, which improves the quality of life of the citizens and the development of the urban environment. <i>Sustainability:</i> Promoting sustainable urbanism and preserving historical heritage. Music History Popularization Series in Cooperation with Czech Radio (2022–2023) The Faculty organised commented concerts and specialised programmes on musical personalities and music history in cooperation with the Czech Radio and the Czech Museum of Music. The outputs include live broadcasts, recordings and archiving of unique pieces of music. <i>Impacts on the society:</i> The project makes music history more popular through radio programmes and concerts, allowing the wider public access to musical heritage. <i>Sustainability:</i> The archiving and documentation of historical musical materials supports the long-term preservation of cultural heritage.

Table 3.4.1 - Overview of research results in the period under evaluation

Type of result ²²²	Year of application	Name
Developing a cultural strategy for the region, identifying key players and proposing measures to support the cultural and creative industries	2023–2025	Mapping of Cultural and Creative Industries in the Moravian-Silesian Region
Analysis of the urban development and cultural value of Ostrava's conservation areas		Reflection of Architectural Heritage – Research of Monument Zones in Ostrava
Curatorial Programme of the Dukla Gallery	Since 2018	Dukla Gallery as an Experimental Platform for Public Art (since 2018, continuously)
Professional publications, international conferences and popularization activities.	2022–2024	Research project "Transformation of Silesia" (GACR)
Map of theatres and performance spaces in the Czech Republic	2023–2026	Project "PASPO – Passporting of Theatres and Performance Spaces" (TACR SIGMA)
Live broadcasts, recordings and archiving of unique pieces of music	2022–2023	Commented concerts and specialised programmes for the Czech Radio
Development of original game prototypes, interdisciplinary workshops and game jams	2019–2022	GAME LAB – International Laboratory for Game Studies and Design
Collection of contemporary European serigraphy (350+ prints, 126 artists).	2019–2024	International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava ISSO
Digital access to the artistic outputs of students, graduates and academics	2021–2023	VIR Virtual Gallery

Note 1: Please list and describe the results already applied in practice or heading towards application in practice with existing or prospective impact on the society (e.g., domestic or foreign patents, sold licenses, spin-offs, prototypes, varieties and breeds, methodologies, significant analyses, surveys, expert outputs for policymaking or other forms of non-publication

²²² Specify the specific type of result. Add rows as needed.

outputs, etc.). Indirect results of research, development and creative activities with documented societal impact, e.g., expert activities, services to the public/government/scientific community, may also be reported.

TRANSFER OF RESULTS INTO PRACTICE

3.5 Transfer of results into practice

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its system for transferring results into practice. It shall also indicate up to five of the most typical users of its results, whether in the university environment or in the non-university application/corporate sphere, detailing how it collaborates with them and how it seeks out new users (using a maximum of five specific examples).

It will also indicate whether and how it commercialises R&D&I results (e.g., selling licences, setting up start-up or spin-off companies, etc.)²²³, providing brief description of the commercialisation methods used. The effectiveness of the transfer of results and the commercialisation of R&D&I results will be described using a selection of results (max. five) listed in annex table (Table 3.4.1).²²⁴

Additionally, the evaluated unit shall briefly comment on the funds received during the period of 2019–2023 from non-public, non-grant sources (e.g., licences sold, spin-off revenues, donations, etc.). A full summary shall be provided in annex table (Table 3.5.1).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each provided example of finding a new user of results and commercialization.

Self-assessment:

The Faculty primarily draws its funding from public sources and grant projects, however, some funds are also obtained through partnerships with institutions, cultural events and specialised projects. For example, the cooperation with the Statutory City of Ostrava in the operation of the Dukla Gallery, income from exhibition activities and support for the Kukačka festival from private and foundation sources. Overall, the Faculty demonstrates significant involvement in the application sphere, although it focuses primarily on artistic research and the creative industries, where the evaluation of economic impacts is more complex. Its main contribution lies in the transfer of knowledge and artistic creation into the cultural and public space. Examples of indirect commercial exploitation of the evaluated results include:

VIR Virtual Gallery – it extends access to artworks online and provides a space for international artists to present their work, increasing their commercial reach. The project is extended to include cooperation with the application partner – Tasty Air.

ISSO – International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava – the results are not only artistic artefacts, but also their curatorial management and subsequent presentation in exhibitions.

LAG Game Jam – it connects the academic research with the game industry and opens up opportunities for the commercialisation of interactive digital outputs.

Cooperation with the Statutory City of Ostrava on art in public space – for example, mapping of conservation areas and urban interventions related to the cultural heritage.

Popularisation activities with a commercial dimension – the organisation of concerts and exhibitions contributes to the development of cultural tourism and the regional economy.

Table 3.5.1 - Summary of non-public revenues received during the period under evaluation

²²³ In the case of military HEIs, their specific position is taken into account when evaluating the commercialisation/evaluation of R&D&I results.

²²⁴ If the commercialisation of R&D&I results is carried out in this way.

Type of revenue	Revenue (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Health Institute in Ostrava – audiovisual trailer	41.3/1,629				
Total	41.3/1,629				

Note: Enter funds raised for R&D&I from non-public sources besides grants or contract research (e.g., licences sold, spin-off company revenues, donations, etc.) in the calendar year.

POPULARIZATION OF VAVAI

3.6 The most important activities in the field of popularization of R&D&I and communication with the public

The evaluated unit shall briefly describe its main activities related to the popularisation of R&D&I and communication with the public (e.g., popularisation lectures, citizen science initiatives, etc.) during the period of 2019–2023 and provide up to 10 examples that it considers the most significant.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given.

Self-assessment:

The Faculty actively participates in the popularization of research results in the field of art and art theory through exhibition projects, lecture series, expert discussions and public presentations. In particular, the Department of History and Theory of Art carries out a wide range of activities that reflect current artistic and social issues and make research results available to the professional and lay public.

Dukla Gallery

The Dukla Gallery was opened in 2018 as a result of cooperation between the FFAM UO and the Ostrava-Poruba District Council. The gallery focuses on the reflection of the local context and contemporary artistic tendencies, with an emphasis on New Genre Public Art, Site-Specific and Social Projects. The gallery's dramaturgy includes regular exhibitions, accompanying programmes and expert discussions with curators and artists.

Festival of Art in Public Space Kukačka

Kukačka is a platform for non-gallery presentations of the contemporary art in Ostrava. The festival aims at the social role of art and tests innovative artistic strategies in public space. In the period 2019–2023, two editions of the festival were held with the themes "Life is Elsewhere" (2019) and "This is Not Art" (2021).

Open Studios Art Hub

Since 2021, the Faculty has collaborated with Open Studios Art Hub, an independent platform for contemporary visual art. This initiative systematically supports local art scenes through workshops, discussions and residencies for young artists.

Lecture and Discussion Programmes within the Meltingpot Colours

The Faculty regularly organizes lectures and discussions at the Colours of Ostrava festival, where experts in art theory and history reflect on the relationships between art, society and culture. Notable performances include, for example, the "Fateful Eights" lecture series.

Exhibition Activities of the GAFU Gallery

The GAFU Gallery, run by the FFAM UO, presents exhibitions of students, alumni and established artists. In addition to the exhibition programme, it offers guided tours, lectures and accompanying activities that link research and creative practice.

International Exhibition Projects

The Faculty is involved in international exhibition projects that reflect socio-political and cultural issues. These include, for example, "Kręgi Sztuki – Circles of Art" (Český Těšín, Třinec) or "From the Centre Out – Art of the Regions 1985–", a project focused on the decentralisation of the Czech visual art.

Guided Concerts and Music Popularization

The music departments of the Faculty organise guided concerts, lectures with musical demonstrations and expert discussions on important personalities of music. For example, the Concert of Compositions by Emil Břetislav Lvovský, which was also broadcast by Czech Radio on 3 December 2024, or the cooperation with the National Moravian-Silesian Theatre within the Opera Studio platform.

International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava (ISSO)

The ISSO Symposium brings together experts in the field of graphic arts and serigraphy and serves as a platform for sharing knowledge between academia and the public. The results of the symposium are regularly presented through exhibitions, professional publications and public discussions (for example, a show of works by Czech-Slovak artists at the Hollar Gallery in Prague in 2023).

VIR Virtual Gallery Project

The VIR Virtual Gallery provides the public with access to online exhibitions of prominent artists and alumni of the FFAM UO. The gallery serves to popularize research through art and makes artistic outputs accessible to a wide audience.

Cooperation with Cultural Institutions on Professional Lectures

The academics of the Faculty regularly give lectures at the major cultural and educational institutions. For example, the lecture by Mgr. Tomáš Knoflíček, Ph.D. on "Czech Contemporary Art on the Example of the Kukačka Project" at BWA Wroclaw (2021) or lectures by Mgr. Dr. Phil. Viktor Velk, Ph.D. on Antonín Dvořák and Czech Vienna (Slovanská beseda, Vienna) and "Song of the Vltava" (Prague, Exhibition Grounds, 2024).

Through these activities, the FFAM UO actively participates in connecting academic research with the public, developing cultural discourse and reflecting on current social issues through art.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

3.7 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 3

The evaluated unit will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 3 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

In recent years, the Faculty has focused on strengthening the social impact of its research and developing interdisciplinary projects. The panel's recommendations, which had pointed to the need for a strategic approach to applied research and broader social engagement, were gradually reflected and integrated into the Faculty's research activities.

Applied Research

In response to the evaluation, cooperation with the regional institutions has been expanded, with the Faculty actively participating in projects such as Transformation of Silesia, PASPO – Passporting of Theatres and Performance Spaces and Mapping of Cultural and Creative Industries in the

Moravian-Silesian Region. These initiatives reflect the need to link research with cultural policies, heritage conservation and urban planning.

Cooperation with the Non-Academic Sector and Technology Transfer

The evaluation report recommended stronger engagement with commercial entities and the use of digital technologies. The Faculty has implemented a strategy for development in this area through projects such as the VIR Virtual Gallery, Game Lab and LAG Game Jam, which bring together art, digital technology and the creative industries. The Faculty has been also developing the Digital Technology Centre, which opens up new opportunities for transferring research outputs into the application sphere.

Popularisation of Science and Research

In the area of research popularization, the Faculty has strengthened its interaction with the public through art festivals and exhibitions such as the Kukačka Festival, the International Serigraphy Symposium Ostrava (ISSO) and BookVision.

The evaluation report recommended an increase in international engagement and emphasis on scientific excellence. The Faculty responded by expanding cooperation with foreign partners, especially the Silesian University in Katowice, which has led to the strengthening of joint research activities. At the same time, academic networking has been expanded, which has resulted in greater representation of the Faculty members on international expert committees and editorial boards.

The Faculty's ratings improved in Module 3, particularly in the areas of applied research and collaboration with the cultural and creative sectors, which has strengthened its societal impact. The Faculty has been also systematically developing a strategy for the use of digital technologies and technology transfer, which opens up new opportunities for the commercialisation of research results. Although there is still room for improvement in some areas, such as contract research or the economic impact of applied research, the Faculty has demonstrated a significant progress in meeting the previous recommendations.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 3

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
FFAM UO website	3.1	https://fu.osu.eu/
Festival of Art and Independent Games LAG	3.3	https://www.kreativnievropa.cz/podporeny-projekt/festival-of-art-and-independent-games-lag
Game LAB project	3.3	https://gamelab.us.edu.pl/
SZTUKA PONAD GRANICAMI – Interreg	3.3	https://www.osu.cz/27697/umeni-za-hranicemi/
VIR Virtual gallery	3.6	https://tastyair.cz/virtualni-galerie/
Kukačka Festival	3.6	http://www.kuckacka.org/
Book vision – competition	3.6	https://www.bookvision.info/

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR MODULES 4 AND 5

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION NAME: University of Ostrava

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER (CRN): 61988987

MODULE 4 – VIABILITY

ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF R&D&I

4.1 Organisation and management of R&D&I

The HEI will briefly describe its organisational structure²²⁵ and describe the R&D&I management system including the role of the HEI's central management, the management of faculties, and the HEI's institutes in organizing and managing R&D&I. It should also describe the role and structure of the technical and economic apparatus.

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

Organisational structure of the UO in the context of R&D&I

The University of Ostrava consists of six faculties, namely the Faculty of Science (FS UO; <https://prf.osu.eu/>), Faculty of Medicine (FM UO; <https://lf.osu.eu/>), Faculty of Arts (FA UO; <https://ff.osu.eu/>), Faculty of Fine Arts and Music (FFAM UO; <https://fu.osu.eu/>), Faculty of Education (FE UO; <https://pdf.osu.eu/>), Faculty of Social Studies (FSS UO; <https://fss.osu.eu/>) and one university institute, the Centre of Excellence IT4Innovations – Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modelling (IRAFM UO; <https://ifm.osu.eu/>). Most of the scientific activities are carried out at the level of research teams within departments, some of the teams are interdepartmental or inter-faculty, while the aspect of interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research has been intensified by large strategic projects in recent years, which have enabled bridging disciplinary boundaries and intra-university barriers.

Teams at the level of departments or individual faculties may be further organised into research units designated as institutes, centres or laboratories:

The IRAFM UO forms four working groups, namely Logic, Dynamical Systems, Neural Networks and Computer Vision, and Fuzzy Modelling (<https://ifm.osu.eu/research-groups/>).

The FSS UO has established, beside the departments, the European Research Institute for Social Work (ERIS; <https://eris.osu.eu/>).

The FS UO establishes the Environmental Centre at the official level of the organizational structure (<https://prf.osu.eu/enc/>) and The Centre for Research on Natural Science Education and Talent-Management (<https://prf.osu.eu/cvvp/>), and in the progressive form of research labs, the Life Science Research Centre (<http://lsrc.osu.cz/>).

In addition to the standard departments, the FA UO has implemented into its organizational structure The Centre for Economic and Social History (<https://ff.osu.eu/chsd/>), The Centre for the Research of Professional Language (<https://ff.osu.eu/cvoj/>), The Centre for Regional Studies (<https://ff.osu.eu/ceres/>) and The Centre for Research in Medieval Society and Culture (VIVARIUM; <https://ff.osu.eu/viv/>).

²²⁵ A graphical representation of the organisational structure will be provided as an annex.

The FE UO has established and implemented into its structure, beside the standard departments, the Human Motion Diagnostic Centre (<https://pdf.osu.eu/cdlp/>), the Centre for Educational Research (<https://pdf.osu.eu/cpv/>), the Centre for Research into Culture and Identity of the Region (<https://pdf.osu.eu/cvkir/>), the Centre for Visual Studies (<https://pdf.osu.eu/cvs/>) and the Institute for Adult Education and Development (<https://pdf.osu.eu/cdv/>).

The FM UO has implemented into its structure the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology (<https://lf.osu.eu/ufo/>), The Institute of Emergency Medicine (<https://lf.osu.eu/umk/>), the Institute of Molecular and Clinical Pathology and Medical Genetics (<https://lf.osu.eu/upa/>), the Institute of Laboratory Medicine (<https://lf.osu.eu/kbo/>), the Institute of Physiology and Pathophysiology (<https://lf.osu.eu/ufy/>), the Centre for Hyperbaric Medicine of Faculty of Medicine University of Ostrava and Ostrava City Hospital (<https://lf.osu.eu/hbm/>), the unique Simulation Centre / Training Hospital (SIMLEK) (<https://lf.osu.eu/sim/>) and finally the Centre for Health Research (<https://lf.osu.eu/czv/>), which in its structure comprises 13 other units (departments, centres, working groups) including, for example, the Blood Cancer Research Group.

However, large strategic inter-faculty or university-wide projects that link a number of teams both within the UO and with teams from a number of partners are of key importance. The largest (in terms of budget for the UO, not in absolute terms) is the Life Environment Research Center Ostrava (LERCO) project (<https://lerco.osu.eu/>), another strategic project is the Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries (REFRESH) (<https://refresh.osu.eu/>) and a third project of similarly key importance is the Research of Excellence on Digital Technologies and Wellbeing (DigiWELL) (<https://www.digiwell-opjak.cz/en/>). These projects ensure transdisciplinary collaboration and bridge rigid faculty structures for the benefit of developing university science.

R&D&I management structure

The system of management and organization of R&D&I is based on Act No. 111/1998 Coll. on Higher Education and is in accordance with the Statute of the UO (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/statute-uo.pdf>). The Rector, as the statutory body, appoints his Vice-Rectors, determines the scope of their competences and responsibilities for their departments by means of the Statute and internal standards, assigns tasks and approves the strategic focus of their activities. The Vice-Rector for Research and Artistic Activities methodically coordinates the R&D&I strategy, and the Vice-Deans responsible for science and research (or the Deputy Director of the university institute) implement the university-wide strategy at the faculties (institute), augmented by the specific strategies of the individual faculties (institute).

The preparation of the long-term University research strategy is carried out not only by the University management, especially the Vice- Rector for Research and Artistic Activities and the Vice-Deans of the faculties, but also by the Deans of the faculties, and it is discussed by the Scientific Board and approved by the Academic Senate of the University. The Vice-Rector for Research and Artistic Activities and the Vice-Deans of the faculties responsible for science and research and the Deputy Director of the IRAFM UO form the eight-member college of the Vice-Rector for Research and Artistic Activities (the Vice-Rector's College). The Vice-Rector's College is a key body that is involved in the continuous development of policies supporting science and research, including the strategic construction and continuous adjustment of the internal university R&D evaluation methodology as a key tool for: (a) monitoring, (b) evaluation, (c) formative feedback, (d) targeted merit-based, yet stable and robust allocation of the institutional budget for the conceptual development of science and research.

The Vice-Rector and members of his section (staff of the Rector's Office) regularly organise training sessions and visit the faculties. They present the methodology of science and research evaluation, the activities of the Vice-Rector's section, the policy and methodologies of open science, the system of support for knowledge transfer and research commercialization, intellectual property protection,

support tools (plagiarism detection software, citation software, stylistic and language proofreading software, AI tools and other internal information systems) and university policies for supporting science and research. The University Library and the Development Department of the Information Technology Centre work closely with the Vice-Rector and his section.

Other apparatus structure

Key support is localized at the Rector's Office, especially at the Vice-Rector's section, which includes The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Ostrava (KTTC UO; <https://www.osu.eu/knowledge-and-technology-transfer/>). In addition, a massive Centre for Development and Innovation has been set up at the Rector's Office to provide project support. Electronic information resources, support in SW tools, education, databases including the operation of the open access repository is provided by the University Library and support in the development of its own SW tools for science and research (grant schemes, publication records, project records and approval processes) and HW support for the entire operation of R&D including storage is provided by the Centre for Information Technology (<https://cit.osu.eu/>).

R&D&I QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT SYSTEM

4.2 System of support for a quality R&D&I environment and incentive measures for quality science

The HEI will briefly describe the systemic incentive measures/tools to support quality R&D&I (if applicable). For each measure/tool described, an example will be provided to illustrate the effectiveness of the measure/tool in practice (e.g., number of projects supported by internal grants, statistics on the use of advisory systems, number of newly established research teams, etc.). The description will pay particular attention to:

- A system of support for attracting national and international projects of projects.
- A system for project consultancy/management/administrative support.
- Science management (e.g., personnel and financial capacity for R&D&I transfer, personnel and financial capacity of the project acquisition support system, science managers, data analysts, business and innovation advisors, etc.).
- The existence of internal funding schemes.
- Strategy/opportunities for establishing new research teams (including international ones) and supporting them within the HEI (e.g., sharing of R&D&I equipment, laboratory and information facilities, administrative support, etc.).
- Support system for students and early career researchers²²⁶.
- a system to support excellent science (e.g., support for excellent scientists, research teams, PhD students, collaborations, infrastructure, etc.).
- A system of support for interdisciplinary research and collaboration within the HEIs.
- The concept of providing conditions for the emergence of new, high quality research directions/topics, especially those with application potential.

Maximum 300 words per point.

Self-assessment:

The UO invests non-negligible resources in the R&D support system at many levels and tries to structure support not only according to key activities but also according to the target groups of individual actors.

Support system for the acquisition of projects (both national and foreign)

²²⁶ Student grants, support for PhD students, postdocs and early career scientists.

The system of project acquisition support is based on a two-level structure of project departments, the first level is faculty and the second is rectorate. This is primarily provided by the Centre for Development and Innovation (CRI). This work unit is responsible for gathering calls, disseminating them at the faculty level, supporting two-way scouting, i.e., targeted search for suitable solution teams for individual calls and, conversely, searching for suitable calls for specific teams. It also provides support for the preparation of applications and subsequent administration, project management and financial management of projects. The division of these activities between the faculty and rectorate levels is determined by whether the projects are central inter-faculty to university-wide or faculty-only. In the latter case, the CRI provides for the gathering of information, scouting, advice and formal application. In the first case, it also takes over project management. A new position of Project Manager has been created, specialising only in European projects. In total, there are currently 26 people dedicated to these activities at the rectorate level, which has led to project acquisitions in the period 2020–2024 totalling over CZK 4 billion (EUR 158 million), of which only central research projects acquired in 2023 and 2024 totalled over CZK 1 billion (EUR 39.5 million). In addition, the Science, Research and Innovation Officer handles support for the preparation and submission of projects and handles support for national and local agencies, nearly 30 providers to which the Rector's Office can provide maximum support. The submission of a total of 384 grants was supported in 2020–2024 to the two largest agencies, the Czech Science Foundation (GACR) and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR), and a total of CZK 258.9 million (EUR 10.21 million) was obtained.

Project consultancy/management/support administration system

The project consultancy and management system has been described above as an inseparable and essential part of the project acquisition support. It also includes presentations on calls and training for researchers who are key or preparing for calls (more than 100 training sessions in total). Another component of R&D management and support is the additional position of Science and Research Officer providing administrative support for internal systems and processes and communication with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, as well as training in supporting information systems and support for internal support tools. In addition, the Rector's Office employs a Science Evaluation Specialist who not only provides support for the evaluation of the internal robust assessment tool, but also carries out on demand any necessary bibliometric and comparative analyses. The Rector's Office also includes the KTTC UO, which in addition to supporting commercialization and transfer, also provides support in handling the issues of intellectual property, for example in contractual relations with partners involved in the implementation of joint projects. In the period 2020–2024, the work unit revised more than 150 contractual relationships, the majority of which were contracts for cooperation on R&D&I projects. This work unit also provides training in all matters related to their resort and provides entrepreneurship education in the semester-long BizOU system more than 130 students have been supported by this tool during 2020–2024. An Open Science Manager has been recruited to support the fulfilment of the terms and conditions of project and grant providers in the field of open science. In the period Q3/2024–Q1/2025 alone, she carried out 7 training sessions, prepared 5 methodologies, manuals and guidance materials (templates) and ensured compliance with the providers' conditions at the time of sending interim or partial reports for 8 projects.

Science management

In total, only at the central level of the Rector's Office, 20 employees are involved in science management, having total of 17.95 FTE, of which 6 (5.7 FTE) are in the section of the Vice-Rector for Research and Artistic Activities, the rest in the CRI. The KTTC UO, which ensures the transfer of results into practice, is composed of two full-time staff members and supported by additional staff from the Legal Department by the Council for the Commercialisation (13 experts). In addition, only

at the Rector's Office, the Centre for International Cooperation (<https://www.osu.eu/international-office/>) is engaged in matters of mobility and international cooperation support, as well as the Strategic Analyst from the Centre for Quality. Another member of the support team is the Science Popularisation Specialist at the Centre for Marketing, Communication and Popularisation.

In terms of management, the highest body is the eight-member Vice-Rector's College, consisting of the Vice-Rector, six Vice-Deans in charge of scientific activities, and one Deputy Director of the IRAFM.

In addition to the Scientific Board of the University of Ostrava, there is also the International Council at the UO (<https://www.osu.eu/international-council/>), which permanently provides the services of an experienced advisory board for the management of the University of Ostrava also in matters of strategic management of research, and two project-specific International Scientific and Advisory Boards (ISAB) for the project Excellent Research in Digital Technologies and Wellbeing, and for the project Biographies of Disinformation with AI Attribution: Risk Phenomenon through the Prism of Modern Human Sciences.

Another component of the central support and management of science are the work units outside the Rector's Office, namely the University Library (<https://library.osu.eu/>) and the Centre for Information Technology (<https://cit.osu/>).

Existence of internal grant titles

In the beginning, internal development projects targeted at talented postdocs and promising research directions were completed. In 2020, an investment was made in 8 projects supporting promising research directions, mostly involving top postdocs or external foreign experts in the amount of CZK 12.89 million (EUR 508.5 thousand). In addition, two individual institutional development projects were supported to foster the addition of new postdocs.

High dozens of SGS student grants are awarded annually, where teams of students and academics work on their research. In total, 403 grants were distributed for the period under review 2020–2024, totalling CZK 100.54 million (EUR 3.97 million). In order to increase the individual expertise and responsibility of young researchers who might be overlooked in larger SGS projects, prestigious grants for doctoral students (Doctoral Grant Competition – DGC) with generous budgets were announced in 2021. In total, 13 grants (18 researchers) were supported with a total budget of CZK 12.36 million (EUR 487.7 thousand). It was decided to support mobility projects serving doctoral students for personal research-oriented development, and a Via PhD grant was opened to support mobility beyond the EU. Twenty such projects were supported with a total budget of CZK 2.57 million (EUR 101.4 thousand). A new general system of internal grant calls anchored in the Rector's Measure No. 266/2024, allowing to issue any internal calls according to the needs was released. It launched UO Junior Star call in 2024 to support the preparation of applications for external junior grants (11 supported applicants). This was followed EXCELLENCE call, which grants whose projects have received a high-quality evaluation, but for budgetary reasons have not been funded. Other calls aimed at application research with transferable outputs were a series of calls called proof-of-concept. In the period under review, 4 projects were supported in two announced calls (2021, 2024) with a total budget of CZK 142 thousand (EUR 5.6 thousand).

Establishment of new research teams and their support within the UO

The strategic grasp on the establishment of new research teams has been explicitly incorporated in the Strategic Plan 2021–2025 (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf>), where the whole Sub-objective 1 "Strengthening of Research Infrastructures Associated with Real Internationalisation and Interdisciplinarity of Creative Activity" was devoted to it in Priority 2, which implemented Measure 2.1.1 "Carrying out a Comprehensive Analysis of the Development of the

Main and Promising Research Directions and Elaboration of the Concept of Their Strategic Support Leading to the Acquisition of International Projects, and to Cooperation with High-Quality Foreign Workplaces and Strengthening with Top Researchers." Prospective research directions and new postdocs were supported from the IRP projects until 2020, which led to the creation of new and established teams that have remained at the UO and form the basis for new grant income (see detailed description of the System of Support for Excellent Science below). In the following years, the UO focused on supporting the preparation of large strategic projects (see REFRESH, LERCO, DigiWELL, STENEO, etc.), which were a priori built on interdisciplinary living labs and aimed at bringing in new foreign experts. The success of this strategy can be seen in the number of incoming foreign employees, which increased to 198 in 2024 alone, with 70 foreign people (headcounts) joining. Their support is provided through shared infrastructure, which is not only being developed as part of the above strategic projects with the a priori aim of transforming the region and serving the entire University in a capacity-building manner, but also through a system of sharing general infrastructure elements across the University. For simplicity, these elements are clearly provided to potential users on the UO website in a database powered by Power BI (only in Czech <https://www.osu.cz/vyzkumna-infrastruktura/>).

Support system for students and early career researchers

The system of support for students and early career researchers is reflected in the overwhelmingly dominant focus of the internal grant titles described above. To reiterate, these included internal development projects to support new postdocs, massive support for SGS student grants, excellent individual projects for doctoral students in the Doctoral Grant Competition (DGC), mobility support for excellence Via PhD and the new UO Junior Star call.

In addition to the above-mentioned internal UO grant titles, the University was continuously processing applications for Moravian-Silesian Region scholarships until 2017, which were three-year prospectively defined research grant projects providing comfortable conditions for excellent doctoral students from the second to the fourth year. In this way, 85 students of doctoral study programmes were supported at a total amount of CZK 23.12 million (EUR 912.2 thousand).

In addition, the Scholarships for Talented Doctoral Students scheme was launched in 2021, offering a significant increase (by up to 140%) in the basic scholarship for internal doctoral students based on their research achievements to date. The support was prospective and intended for one academic year. As of autumn 2023, this system has been modified to allow differentiation and different amounts of scholarship to support more doctoral students, while also adding the possibility of a one-off scholarship for a specific research or creative achievement. During the existence of this programme, 43 doctoral students have been supported by regular scholarships and 10 doctoral students by one-off scholarships.

System of support for excellence in science (support for excellent scientists, research teams, doctoral students, collaboration, infrastructure)

The system of support for excellence in science has been described in detail in the description of internal grant titles that target excellent teams or young individuals, e.g., incoming postdoc projects, DGC, scholarships for talented doctoral students, Via PhD and institutional projects to support promising research directions. The impact can be demonstrated by the fact that some of the supported teams have proved to be absolutely bearing directions of research for the future. For example, the supported direction of physics of nanostructures (researcher F. Karlický) in the following years received the individual grants and became a work package of the LERCO project. Another leader of such in-house project in genetic anthropology, Piya Changmai, was repeatedly awarded a "Final Panel Score B" in the ERC application and became ERC CZ national project holder

twice. Another supported direction (topological structures) has become one of the most productive at the University of Ostrava in terms of the number of publications per author.

Excellence is systemically supported in the most important tools. The so-called K indicator, which tracks the performance of the University on the basis of which it brings part of the funding to the University, is then distributed within the University according to performance parameters. Here again, the number of ERC and ERC CZ projects matters. The main tool is the internal evaluation of science and research with an impact on the distribution of funding for science and research. This tool has long been completely free of mechanical counts of publications and tracks the goals of faculties, with the key parameter being the proportion of FTE of the relevant unit (faculty) funded by research grants. Thus, not only is this success rate monitored, but a motivational incentive for it is created.

System of support for interdisciplinary research and collaboration within the units of the University

Support for interdisciplinary research is codified in the Strategic Plan of the University of Ostrava in Sub-objective 2, Measure 2.1.5 "Preparation of strategic projects (especially **LERCO** and **REFRESH**) ...". These two strategic projects with budgets of CZK 4.5 billion (EUR 177.5 million) are based on the Living Labs concept and a high degree of interdisciplinary collaboration with impacts on the region. These projects aggregate medical sciences, physics, chemistry, artificial intelligence and data analysis, environmental and social impacts of the region's transition, history and philosophy, and economic geography. Interdisciplinary concept was reflected in the implementation of other projects: **DigiWELL** (CZK 500 million / EUR 19.7 million) and the cooperation of kinanthropologists, psychologists, health scientists, social scientists, mathematicians and computer scientists; **STENEO** project (approx. CZK 90 million / EUR 3.55 million) dealing with the social aspects of energy transition, involving economic geographers, social work experts and mathematicians and computer scientists; **"Biography of Disinformation with an AI Attribute: Risk Phenomena through the Prism of Modern Human Sciences"** (CZK 147 million / EUR 5.8 million), which combines philological disciplines with artificial intelligence, psychology and other humanities disciplines, including philosophy (logic).

IRAFM has long provided interdisciplinarity with enormous application potential. As a result, the IRAFM is permanently an analogy of the Living Lab concept, which is also involved in a number of other smaller interdisciplinary projects, from those with industrial enterprises to those with the FSS focused on social work. At the same time, from 2022 onwards, a part of the funds for student SGS grants is annually allocated from faculty competitions to the IRAFM headed "interfaculty" projects, which encourages direct interdisciplinary collaboration and strategically educates the youngest generation of researchers to pursue it. For the evaluated period, 12 such projects were supported (CZK 5.17 million / EUR 203.9 thousand).

Concept of providing conditions for the emergence of new quality research directions / topics, especially with the application potential

The emergence of new research directions has been successfully initiated through institutional projects establishing promising research directions and to attracting new foreign postdocs. This strategy has been mirrored in the strategic projects REFRESH and LERCO, as these conceptually Living Lab-based projects must necessarily have an application impact in the region. We again recall the support of 4 proof-of-concept projects. Gradually, the work units have been shifting from basic research to a combination of basic and applied research, which is observable across disciplines. For example, in the last M3 evaluation, the IRAFM received feedback pointing to the low volume of funding from applied projects and transfers, whereas for the 2020–2024 period it has been researching cooperation projects with application partners with budgeted funds for the period

exceeding CZK 43 million (EUR 1.7 million) and the application generated revenues from non-public sources exceeding CZK 5 million (EUR 197.2 thousand). In addition, it has acquired additional applied projects with companies for the future period worth more than CZK 15 million (EUR 591.7 thousand). The Haemato-Oncology Clinics has moved from a work unit dominating in publication outputs to a work unit directed through applied research to the development of therapeutic methods and procedures based on cell therapy (CAR-T) of cancer diseases.

In general, this concept is also captured in the methodology of institutional evaluation of science at the University of Ostrava with an impact on the distribution of institutional support (LCDRO, see indicator 4.3), where applied research is monitored and evaluated to ensure that the methodology has the desired formative impact.

4.3 Quality control system for R&D&I environment

The HEI will briefly describe the system of internal and external evaluation of research units, including the following aspects:

- Internal and external evaluation of R&D&I quality: This includes the evaluation of R&D&I by the HEI's authorities, the evaluation of research teams (if such a system exists), and the involvement of international scientific councils or other independent advisory bodies in quality control and of R&D&I management.
- The ethical aspects of research: This includes adherence to ethical principles and good scientific practice, compliance with related legislation (codes of ethics, ombudspersons, ethics committees and ethics hotlines, and systems for reporting whistleblowing and ethical misconduct).

The HEI shall demonstrate the functioning of the quality control systems in the R&D&I environment by examples (e.g., brief information on the evaluations carried out and their results, specific examples of the use of whistleblowing or the handling of ethical violations, etc.).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example described (max. five).

Self-assessment:

R&D&I quality assessment

The key tools of the quality assessment are: the university-wide evaluation of the units in accordance with the methodology, with an impact on the distribution of institutional support for the long-term conceptual development of the research organization (LCDRO), the evaluation of departments at the faculty level, the individual evaluation of employees in accordance with **the Career Code** (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/karierni-rad-en-06032019.pdf>) and the Rector's Measure No. 207/2023. Evaluations at the Scientific Boards in matters of personal and career advancement (habilitations and appointment of professors) are in accordance with the Higher Education Act. The prospective evaluations include the student grant competition at the level of Faculty Committees and subsequently in the SGS Council (Rector's Measure No. 220/2023), or the evaluation of internal grant applications in accordance with the Rector's Measure No. 266/2024, which takes place on a committee basis (College of the Vice-Rector). The same committee evaluates other individual applications, e.g., for scholarships for talented PhD students. Another element of evaluation is the internal evaluation of strategic projects, which is often carried out under the auspices of the International Science Advisory Boards (ISAB) or similar bodies.

Ethics of research and social safety at the University of Ostrava

The UO does not restrict the freedom of research (choice of scientific topics, scientific integrity etc). In 2022, the University of Ostrava successfully passed the international certification process and received the prestigious Quality Management System Certification.

The UO has effective legislation tool, namely **Code of Ethics for Staff and Students** (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/eticky-kodex-en.pdf>). The Code of Ethics states that employees must treat others with uniformity and respect, regardless of their race, origin, ideology, religion, nationality, age, gender, sexual orientation, social circumstances or health disadvantage. The UO currently takes all reasonable steps to identify and eliminate unlawful direct, indirect and systematic discrimination. The UO offers employees the opportunity to choose their own path – part-time work, flexible working hours and, from 2018, the possibility to work from home. The UO Career Code also takes into account professional breaks due to parenthood or long-term illness, which must be taken into account by the supervisor during the regular evaluation. The UO affirms the right of all employees and students to work and study in an environment free from harassment and bullying, mobbing, staffing, bossing and other social conflicts. This document (updated in 2024) also regulates the procedural rules of the Ethics Committee and the Research Ethics Committee, which oversee compliance with ethical principles in the academic environment. The Code also includes framework rules for the regulation of ethical areas at individual faculties.

The environment includes a whistleblowing and social safety protection systems, including an ombudsperson. This is further strengthened by the system of faculty ombudspersons at the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Arts.

Examples of evaluation

A) Evaluation methodology of units. Each unit has different indicators set (e.g., for FA UO we do not monitor the quartiles of journals according to WoS). Weighting of the M1 module is highest for FORD6, high for FORD5, and moderate for the others while FORD1–3 have the highest weight for articles in top journals. The system tracks the M3 results or the FTE in research projects. Target values are set individually in terms of discipline and typology (IRAFM with low teaching load has higher target values). Compensatory indicators have no target values, but their gain is summed up to other mandatory indicators (no penalty for not meeting the target value in the transfer, but if the transfer is performed, it compensates for the lack of FTE in grants). The indicators (often relativized per employee) are evaluated on the A–E scale over 3 years. It is not the case that twice as many outputs means twice as much funding, the budget is modified incrementally based on the score. The formative role of the methodology is assured by a detailed evaluation report that analyses all results, contributions of departments, and prospective analysis towards future expectations, outlining possible steps to improve the result.

B) The evaluation of employees in accordance with the Career Code is a system that does not focus on the mechanical counting of the quantitative outputs, but on personal development, career goals and personal growth. A five-year plan is set, unless there is a reason for a different length, by the employee together with the superior. Next, an annual evaluation is conducted, which begins with the employee self-evaluation report. It is not a quantitative evaluation of the fulfilment of commitments, but a description of the path to meet the long-term plan. The follow-up interview of the employee with the superior enables a comparison of the perception of the implementation of the plan, clarification of obstacles, or changes in the plan. An evaluation is then available for the employee to comment on. The long-term evaluation follows identical process, except that it is evaluated as a whole and then a plan is set for the new period. The evaluation may have impact on the salary (bonuses) and good results may allow the extension of the employment contract. Everything is audited by an external authority thanks to the awarded HRS4R label

(<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/hrs4r/internal-review-for-renewal-assessment-of-hrs4r-new-action-plan-2024-2027.pdf>)

C) The evaluation at the Scientific Boards takes place in accordance with the Higher Education Act, where the Scientific Boards of the Faculties evaluate the habilitation proceedings of individual candidates and the first round of the procedure for the appointment of professor, while the second round of the procedure for the appointment of professor takes place at the Scientific Board of the University of Ostrava. A specific element is the International Scientific and Advisory Boards (ISAB), which approve the strategic direction of the project objectives. At the beginning of 2025, the University of Ostrava had two such project ISABs at its disposal. Another important element is the university-wide International Council (<https://www.osu.eu/international-council/>) which evaluates the implementation of the Strategic Plan in all aspects.

Examples of ethical regulation of research and social safety

A) Whistleblower protection

In accordance with Act No. 171/2023 Coll., on the protection of whistleblowers, the University of Ostrava has established an internal reporting system for receiving and handling reports of wrongful acts. The system allows reports to be made in writing, orally or in person, while the identity of the whistleblower is strictly protected. A designated person, appointed by the employer, is responsible for receiving and assessing notifications and acts as an independent and impartial assessor of whistleblowing reports. More information on the whistleblowing procedure can be found on the University's website (<https://nntb.cz/c/mvx3lu6g>). The process for submitting and dealing with complaints is regulated by Rector's Measure No. 214/2023.

B) Social safety

In accordance with the HR Award Action Plan (<https://www.osu.eu/hrs4r/>), a robust social safety system was launched at in June 2023. A working group worked for two years to develop this system headed by the Ombudsperson, who, together with the ombudspersons of FA and FM and contact persons, ensures the promotion of social safety rules and suggestion among students and employees. The University has summarised specific recommendations in the Practical Guide to Social Safety (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/pruvodci/prakticky-pruvodce-socialnim-bezpecim-en.pdf>).

So far, 40 complaints have been resolved, one of which led to the termination of employment and in two cases a warning was issued. After the investigation, the Deans of the relevant units receive final reports with recommendations from the ombudsperson. A social safety complaint can be made through the system Do Not Let It Be (<https://www.app.nntb.cz/en-gb/>). The handling of complaints is governed by the Rector's Measure and is conducted through secure communication between the reporting person and those responsible. This increases confidence and strengthens the protection. All involved persons are under the obligation of confidentiality. The process is governed by Rector's Measure No. 202/2023.

C) Ethics Committees and their activities

The Ethics Committee of the UO takes suggestions from members of the academic community and other employees. No complaints were submitted to the Ethics Committee in 2024. In the period 2020–2024, the Ethics Committee received 5 complaints, one of which was stayed due to an anonymous submission. Information about the Ethics Committee of the UO is available at (<https://www.osu.eu/ethics-committee/>).

The Research Ethics Committee is responsible in particular for approving research applications (projects) that require such approval. Thus, research on human subjects (with probands) requiring their informed consent, especially if they are children or otherwise vulnerable, requires careful examination to ensure that the research includes all necessary precautions to avoid negative impacts on the subjects. Other cases requiring assessment are those of research on biological material and, in particular, on therapeutic methods and medical procedures, including development of medicines. For the period under review 2020–2024, the Research Ethics Committee considered 24 applications falling within its remit, i.e., either university-wide research or research at faculties with no faculty committee established. Other applications were thus considered by the Research Ethics Committees of the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Social Studies.

4.4 Sustainability and resilience of R&D&I

The HEI will describe the arrangements for sustainability and increasing the resilience of R&D&I, if such a system exists, and provide examples of its implementation. These include:

- The sustainable development concept (strategy, objectives, plan and implementation).
- Social responsibility strategy.
- A knowledge transfer system, if it is established at central level.²²⁷
- The third role, the transfer of R&D&I results to society and interaction with local actors.
- The concept of research data management (data collection, access and sharing of data, use of the information obtained for R&D&I management, responsibility for data files, archiving and backup of data).
- Ethics and personal data protection.
- Intellectual property protection.
- Ensuring institutional resilience (resistance to foreign influence, cyber security, risk prevention, prevention of misuse of R&D&I and knowledge transfer results, a system to prevent or mitigate the negative impacts of R&D&I and knowledge transfer in society).
- Digitisation and the use of smart technologies.
- The institutional strategy for Open Science 2.0/Open Access (if one exists), including information on the operation of the institutional repository or similar tools.
- A system for training undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as staff in the field of intellectual property protection and technology transfer.

The HEI will demonstrate the effectiveness of its procedures by examples (e.g., the number of people trained in intellectual property protection and technology transfer, data on the usage of Open Access repositories, handling of risk incidents, etc.).

Maximum 300 words per point.

Self-assessment:

Sustainable development concept

The principles of sustainable development in science and research were applied at two levels – operational and thematic. At the **operational** level, sustainability principles were implemented through specific measures according to the UO Strategic Plan:

- 5.3.1: Implementation of the principles of responsible procurement, in particular taking into account environmental and social aspects in the implementation of public procurement

²²⁷ If the knowledge transfer system is decentralised to the unit level, the HEI shall describe how the system works.

(promotion of environmentally friendly solutions, support for sourcing services from social enterprises or sourcing fair trade products);

- 5.3.2: Consistent recycling of the waste produced (systematic reduction of non-recycled waste) and promotion of "plastic-free" solutions.

The principles of "Do No Significant Harm" have also been followed in the construction of the research infrastructure, including the use of modern energy-saving sources (photovoltaic panels; geothermal energy, etc.), such as the LERCO science hub building.

At the **thematic** level, UO implements projects focused on the economic, environmental, and social aspects of sustainability. Besides research by the Faculty of Science (environmental sustainability) and the Faculty of Social Studies (social sustainability), interdisciplinary projects have emerged. The REFRESH project explores topics like "Governance of Sustainable Transition" and includes a working group on environmental justice. The STENEO project (OP JAK) investigates negative side effects of the green transition. Additionally, four intersectoral ITI OP JAK projects are being conducted in cooperation with VSB – Technical University of Ostrava, focusing on environmentally sustainable technologies. The importance of sustainability for the research field is also demonstrated by the currently approved Sustainability and Green Transformation Strategy of the University of Ostrava 2025–2030, where research focused on sustainability is part of the Priority Area: Collaboration and the Third Role.

Social responsibility strategy

The social sustainability strategy follows the Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge (1999) and the University's internal principles. Beyond scientific integrity or quality control (see above), we emphasize the social responsibility of research in relation to the region. When selecting research topics, especially in oriented or applied research, we assess their social relevance to regional needs, expected outcomes, and impacts. We also address the needs of disadvantaged groups, applying transformative mechanisms. In line with socially responsible science, we involve citizens not only as respondents but as active participants, e.g., through "citizen science". Examples of socially responsible research projects include:

- **"Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (HAIE)"** explores the links between environmental factors, lifestyle, health, quality of life, and aging in industrial regions (Moravian-Silesian Region).
- **"SMART Technologies for Improving the Quality of Life in Cities and Regions"** investigates digital poverty (especially among seniors) and how digital tools engage underrepresented cultural actors.
- **"Optimization of Community Planning of Social services at the Municipal Level"** developed a methodology to optimize local community planning of social services, focused on Ostrava.
- **"Implementation of Walkability as a Tool to Support Sustainable Mobility in Czech Cities"** engaged diverse groups (e.g., mothers with children) to study walkability and mobility in Ostrava.

The ongoing projects (selected and started no later than 2024) address societal challenges in the areas of energy poverty and displacement (STENEO); population outflow, socio-economic uncoupling, social exclusion, inclusive education (REFRESH); health prevention (LERCO) and healthy lifestyles (DigiWELL).

In order to strengthen social responsibility and participation of the inhabitants in the region, the REFRESH and STENEO projects have created Living Labs, which act as platforms for intensifying participation.

Knowledge transfer system

The University of Ostrava's system for managing intellectual property includes key sub-processes: identifying technologies, knowledge, and services suitable for commercialization, securing industrial legal protection, cooperating with application sphere entities, establishing spin-off companies, licensing intellectual property, and implementing proof-of-concept projects. The main goal is to ensure efficiency and transparency. The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre (KTTC UO, <https://www.osu.eu/knowledge-and-technology-transfer/>), founded in 2020, supports researchers in enhancing the social, cultural, and economic value of their work. Through cooperation with external partners, KTTC UO promotes the societal benefit of academic knowledge.

To enable effective management, internal regulations and forms define the rights and responsibilities of stakeholders. KTTC UO collaborates with the Council for Commercialization (<https://www.osu.eu/the-council-for-commercialisation/>), an advisory body to the Rector composed mainly of representatives from business, banking, and public administration. The Council evaluates and recommends projects, spin-offs, and the use of funding for pre-seed and proof-of-concept activities.

To simplify navigation, a TT Manual has been created for academic and research staff, summarizing key principles for handling intellectual property at UO. It is available in both print and electronic forms. KTTC UO promotes services and research outputs on its website and social media, including technologies for licensing and research infrastructure for external partners. KTTC also organizes roundtables with application sphere representatives. For example, in 2021, the roundtable "Computer Processing of Image Data" led to cooperation with 24 Vision a.s. on defect assessment in automotive parts using AI tools from IRAFM UO (<https://graphicwg.irafm.osu.cz/storage/pr/links.html>).

KTTC UO uses Microsoft Power BI to present statistics on UO revenues and transfer contracts since 2017, sortable by faculty and activity (<https://www.osu.eu/commercialization-statistics/>).

Third role, transfer of R&D&I results to civil society and local interactions

Fulfilling the third role of the UO involves support for social and economic development through collaboration with industry, the public sector, and civil society. Key tools include technology transfer, support for student and academic entrepreneurship, development of spin-offs, science popularisation, and regional engagement.

Between 2020–2024, the UO significantly advanced knowledge and technology transfer. Incomes showed an overall upward trend from 2017 to 2024, with a temporary dip during 2021–2022 due to COVID-19. Transfer income nearly quadrupled in this period. The main source of income consists of long-term economic contracts, typically one-off activities applying R&D to practical tasks of external partners. While the number of subcontracts is rising, the average value remains around CZK 130,000 (EUR 5,100). A major achievement was the establishment of the Czech Republic's first social science spin-off with university ownership: Rosteam s.r.o. (in 2022), applying cutting-edge knowledge in social work and community development (only in Czech www.rosteam.cz).

The UO collaborates closely with regional stakeholders such as the Moravian-Silesian Region, the Statutory City of Ostrava, and the Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre (<https://www.ms-ic.cz/en/>). This includes contributions to the Regional Innovation Strategy, Ostrava's Strategic Development Plan, and other strategies (e.g., the Concept of Family Policy, Sustainable Development Plan for

Moravská Ostrava and Přívoz; the Cultural Development Concept of Poruba). The UO also contributed to new programmes like an extension study for the strategic plan "fajNOVA CENTRUM".

Nationally, the UO works with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (project TIRSMPSV127 on children and domestic violence; the project "Social Housing – Methodological and Information Support in the Field of Social Agendas"). In 2024, it also supported the Ministry of Health in developing a methodology "Cognitive Rehabilitation for Patients with Acquired Brain Disabilities from the Acute Stages of Treatment".

Concept of research data management

Section 2.2.3 of the Strategic Plan UO 2021–2025 addresses research data management. To enhance data handling, two NAS storage devices with backup capabilities were purchased, with plans for future expansion. To support open data sharing, the UO established a community Zenodo repository (<https://www.osu.eu/open-science/storing-your-data/>) with bilingual upload instructions (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/open-science/zenodo-en.pdf>). Through cooperation between the Faculty of Medicine UO and Ostrava University Hospital, a shared repository for medical data based on Labkey was built. In 2024, FM UO started preparing for the implementation of CLADE-IS advanced modular system for clinical trials, offering rights management, form creation, data entry, and analysis. Developed in the Czech Republic, it is tailored to FM UO's needs. Penetration tests and ECRIN certification guarantee high data security essential for international collaborations. Moreover, the faculties involved in large strategic projects such as LERCO and REFRESH (FM UO, FS UO, FA UO, FSS UO, FE UO) use centralised data management within these projects via secure repositories (e.g., CESNET).

Procedures for the personal data protection are set in the UO's Code of Ethics (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/eticky-kodex-en.pdf>). Consistency between data sharing and intellectual property protection is ensured through the KTTC UO and Rector's Measure No. 102/2020. The UO also appointed a GDPR officer (a specific member of the Legal Department of the Rector's Office), and established detailed rules (<https://www.osu.eu/gdpr/>).

Data management planning is supported through templates and guides. These include not only information on data management in general, but also describe specific requirements from funders and provide support for the development of data management plans for research projects (<https://www.osu.eu/open-science/helpful-resources/>). The UO also offers individual consultations to ensure compliance with current scientific practice and project requirements. Researchers can easily submit shared data information to the RIV database (national Register of Information on Results) via the University's PUBL interface.

Intellectual property protection

Protecting intellectual property rights in universities is key to ensuring fair use of research results, fostering innovation and transferring knowledge into practice. An effective protection system motivates academics to create and facilitates collaboration with industry, thus contributing to technological progress and economic development. The principles of intellectual property management at the UO are included in an internal regulation (Rector's Measure 102/2020: Intellectual Property Protection at the UO), which describes the key components, processes and competencies of the actors involved in this area. This regulation includes namely guidelines for the registration, archiving, protection and commercialisation of research and development results.

For the purpose of processing industrial rights applications, the UO mainly uses the services of external patent and trademark offices. In some cases, however, the KTTC UO staff are also involved in the processing of applications.

In 2020–24, there has been a significant increase in the number of solutions applied for and currently there are a total of 10 active (protected) technical solutions, 8 trademarks and 1 industrial design.

In the area of copyright, the KTTC UO is significantly involved in the preparation and negotiation of contractual relations with publishers of professional monographs, but also in the preparation of contractual relations on the basis of which the software solutions developed at the UO (24Vision a.s. – defectoscopy in automotive; Varroc Lighting Systems, s.r.o. – software for evaluation of brightness data and conversion into photometric data; First information systems, s.r.o. – use of artificial intelligence and neural networks in information system for construction production management).

System of education of undergraduate and postgraduate students and staff in the field of intellectual property protection and technology transfer

The system of education of undergraduate and postgraduate students and employees in the field of intellectual property protection and technology transfer is implemented at the UO through the following activities:

- Specifically oriented one-off events focused mainly on the issues of IP rights protection, but also on working with searchable databases or the principles of commercialization. During the implementation of the project "Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre", a total of 33 courses were implemented, attended by 423 people.
- Distance learning platform LMS Moodle. A set of courses focusing on different forms of protection and management of intellectual property rights. In total, 8 courses were created and 84 people participated.
- BizOU. An internal educational programme for students of the UO focused on the development of entrepreneurship and innovative thinking, including thematic workshops, LMS Moodle courses, personal mentoring and a final presentation of a business plan to a committee of entrepreneurs. A total of 6 thematic workshops were held, attended by 131 students, and 3 LMS Moodle courses were attended by 74 students.

Institutional Strategies for Open Science 2.0/Open Access

The University of Ostrava supports open sharing of research results in accordance with the Strategic Plan for the period 2021–2025. To make information on this strategy more accessible, a dedicated Open Science website has been launched (<https://www.osu.eu/open-science/>) with a summary of the Open Science policy (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/open-science/os-en.pdf>). The UO website not only provides general information on open publishing (<https://www.osu.eu/open-science/open-access/>), but also information on the terms and conditions of funders in the field of open access publishing (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/open-science/podminky-poskytovatelu-en.pdf>). The UO organises regular training activities focusing on common issues in open publishing and meeting project requirements in the area of open access.

Thanks to its membership in the CzechELib consortium, the UO is able to provide its authors with discounts on open publishing (<https://www.osu.eu/open-science/open-access-publishing-discounts/>) and, thanks to transformation agreements, APC (Article Processing Charge) tokens for Open Access publishing (<https://www.osu.eu/open-science/transformational-agreements/>).

In order to increase transparency in the publication process and in line with the development of trends and good practice in the field of Open Science, the UO introduced the obligation to obtain a persistent ORCID identifier for all authors by Rector's Measure No. 210/2023. The University of Ostrava also has its own persistent identifier ROR (<https://ror.org/00pyqav47>).

The UO also operates a repository of publications used to archive and share publications published by the University of Ostrava (<https://eduo.osu.cz/home>). The repository has been archiving publications since 2024 and contains 89 monographs, 1 journal and 7 articles. It is also planned to further expand the content of the repository, especially with works published by the faculties of the UO. The open-source software DSpace serves as the basis for the repository.

Ensuring institutional resilience

The UO is actively strengthening its institutional resilience that it has already implemented, supported by staff expansion and preventive services aligned with the Ministry of Interior's anti-influence manual. The strongest resilience element is cybersecurity, where the UO created a Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT) in the initial years of the 2020–2024 period under review (<https://www.trusted-introducer.org/directory/teams/csirt-ou-cz.html>). The team developed prevention and response solutions for cyber incidents and delivered training transferred to Moodle. A total of 4,508 students completed the related online course. In 2023, a Cybersecurity Manager position was created to professionalize cybersecurity and align it with the European Directive NIS2 (Network and Information Security). The UO currently achieves 69% compliance with the requirements of the security standards ISO/IEC 27001:2013, NIST 800-53 rev.4, Microsoft Data Protection Baseline (+GDPR). An educational campaign of mock phishing attacks targeted 2,600 participants. In total, the cybersecurity team has already blocked 10,349 IP addresses and more than 1.9 million phishing and spam emails.

In the area of institutional resilience, careful due diligence is performed in particular when entering into contracts, where the Magion information system is extended with an intelligent AML Security Check tool eliminating any possibility of entering into a contractual or supplier relationship with a sanctioned person, and due diligence methodology is also carefully applied by the KTTC department during the negotiations of the transfer of technology and knowledge, which must not fall into unauthorized hands.

At the end of 2024, a detailed project (VIVAT UO) was developed and submitted by the University of Ostrava to develop institutional resilience in all its spectrums, i.e., both in matters of cyber security and resistance to foreign power influence, risk management processes or security information management system.

Digitisation and the use of smart technologies

In accordance with its Strategic Plan, the UO is continuously transferring all aspects of the work of academic, research and administrative work into a digital environment. In HR, digital systems now handle requests and approvals for leaves, sick days, extraordinary remuneration, and personnel changes, including workload and wage structures under accounting contracts and projects. The electronic approval of all documents and contracts has been implemented, including business trips, accounting documents (orders, invoices) and contracts.

In the field of science and research, the fourth version of the PUBL information system was implemented. It manages not only publications, but also all results and outputs of science and research, the third role activities, creative/artistic work, and other academic outputs. Alongside it, the EVID information system is used for the registration of projects and project applications, i.e., for the registration of upcoming project applications and their internal approval in electronic form before they are submitted. Projects are maintained in the system in the case of acceptance and financial support and the publications in IS PUBL are linked to them in the case of financial support from the project.

Digitisation has become a key slogan for the administration of internal grants. Both the SGS Student Grant Competition and the DGC Excellence in Doctoral Projects Grant Competition operate via their own electronic systems within the UO internal portal.

For the approval of accounting documents, an intelligent algorithm is implemented to detect risky or sanctioned entities. Other intelligent algorithms are implemented in electronic access to various databases such as Web of Science, InCites, Scopus. To foster the use of artificial intelligence, all employees now have access to MS Copilot, and the Scite.AI system is being introduced to support scientific search and retrieval.

PERSONNEL POLICY

4.5 Structure of human resources

The HEI shall describe the current state, age structure, degree of internationalization and development trends of the staff involved in R&D&I, along with their distribution by a job title and gender for the period of 2020–2024 as detailed in annex tables (Tables 4.5.1 to 4.5.3) (including the provision of technical and economic facilities).

Maximum 1000 words.

Self-assessment:

Commentary on Tables 4.5.1. to 4.5.3.

For the period 2020–2024, the number of staff involved in R&D activities at the UO was well in excess of 1,000, however, due to natural turnover and staff changes (e.g., retirements and recruitments) and the high proportion of part-time positions actively offered as part of a gender and staff-friendly policy, the number of FTEs ranged between 500 and 600, with this number increasing due to an active and successful policy of attracting external grant funding. Structurally, this number defines a very natural pyramid, with professors at the imaginary top, associate professors 3–4 times more numerous below them, followed by the largest cohort of assistant professors with Ph.D. degrees, and finally assistants, see Table 4.5.1. The system then includes a non-majority but still non-trivial representation (about 60 persons) of other researchers. The increase in assistant professors and the decrease in assistants can be considered positive, illustrating a natural and logical change where people without Ph.D. qualifications are less employed as assistants and more employed in doctoral student positions where they are still gaining qualifications for higher assistant professor positions. They are also partially hidden statistically in the column of other researchers. The shares and numbers of associate professors and professors are stable, slightly increasing in absolute numbers.

In terms of internationalisation, a positive development can be observed, with the share of all research (academic) workloads increasing from 9.1% to 10.3%, which, due to the overall increase in workloads, amounts to an increase from 46.5FTE to 59FTE, i.e., an increase of about 27%. The increase can be observed in practically all categories, except for the already mentioned and increasingly less used positions of assistants and professors, where the decline is in the proportion, not in the absolute number, i.e., it is more an optical effect due to the increase in the number of domestic professors. We consider the increase in internationalisation of younger career staff, i.e., associate professors, assistant professors and other researchers, to be key and strategically targeted, where the proportion of foreign staff is naturally the highest, namely 27.1%.

In terms of gender balance, a positive development can again be observed, demonstrating that the HR policies strategically applied by the University (HR Award HRS4R, Gender Action Plan, reduced workload option, childcare support, etc.) are gradually meeting the stated objectives. The

proportion of women has fallen virtually only for assistants, i.e., for workloads whose overall proportion is generally declining. A key indicator is the proportion of women among research (academic) workloads, which increased from 40.8% to 42.3%, an increase in absolute terms from 208.4FTEs to 242.3FTEs, an increase by 16.3% (33.9FTEs) due to the overall increase in workloads. The proportion of women increased among assistant professors, increased significantly among other researchers, and maintained its value among associate professors and professors.

In terms of age structure, trends can be observed in Tab. 4.5.2. relating to 2020 and in Tab. 4.5.3. relating to 2024. The distribution of professors in age cohorts has shifted in the desired direction, with only 58.8% of professors, and no longer 74.5%, being aged 60+. In particular, the 50–59 cohort has been strengthened, where the UO has seen its share of professors double (from 14.4% to 29.4%). The development in the other categories is relatively stable, except for associate professors, where there has been a slight increase in the highest age cohort. Overall, however, the trend is slight but rather positive, with the share of the 60+ cohort in the category of all research (academic) staff falling from 18.9% to 17.9%.

4.5.1 Staff involved in R&D&I of the university (FTE) in the period under review

Academic/professional position	Total 2020	Of which women [%]	Of which foreign [%] ²²⁸	Total 2024	Of which women [%]	Of which foreign [%]
Professor	39.4	23.6%	13.2%	48.0	24.0%	10.3%
Associate Professor	126.8	31.4%	8.7%	129.4	31.0%	11.1%
Assistant Professor	258.4	44.0%	7.9%	306.6	46.4%	10.0%
Assistant	54.7	46.8%	9.3%	43.7	42.7%	5.7%
R&D Personnel ²²⁹	57.3	37.4%	24.2%	60.9	43.9%	27.1%
Researchers in other categories ²³⁰	0.0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0%
Technical and economic staff ²³¹	462.9	69.7%	2.2%	450.4	70.0%	1.5%
Early career researcher ²³²	20.0	41.9%	54.1%	20.3	54.7%	29.2%
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	510.9	40.8%	9.1%	572.7	42.3%	10.3%
Total number of foreign nationals	84.7	58.1%		92.3	48.6%	

Note: The categories professor, associate professor, assistant professor, assistant, other scientific, research and development staff, scientific staff not falling into other categories and technical and economic staff are mutually exclusive, i.e., one staff member is reported under one category only. Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities, as well as early career researchers are reported collectively for all the above-mentioned categories.

Note: The average number of hours worked is calculated as the ratio of the total number of hours actually worked during the reference period, from 1 January to 31 December, by all staff (including agreement on work activity, excluding agreement on work performance) to the total annual working time pool per full-time employee. The full-time status of the worker in the evaluated unit is always reported. If an employee holds more than one type of full-time job within the evaluated unit, the total sum of the two shall be reported.

²²⁸ Researchers with Slovak citizenship are not considered foreign.

²²⁹ The category "Other scientific, research and development personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

²³⁰ The category "Researchers not falling under other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

²³¹ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

²³² See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

4.5.2 Percentage of HEI's staff involved in R&D&I, categorized by age structure, job title, and gender in the year 2020 (number of physical employees and staff)

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years [%]		30-39 years [%]		40-49 years [%]		50-59 years [%]		60-69 years [%]		70 years and over [%]	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%	14.4%	23.3%	42.8%	68.9%	31.7%	7.8%
Associate Professor	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%	2.0%	36.5%	34.6%	27.7%	32.7%	27.1%	26.8%	5.3%	3.9%
Assistant Professor	0.8%	1.4%	29.9%	22.5%	40.9%	46.3%	18.7%	19.2%	7.8%	9.3%	1.8%	1.4%
Assistant	13.9%	23.0%	33.3%	30.8%	29.3%	32.8%	15.4%	9.5%	7.3%	3.9%	0.8%	0.0%
Early career researcher ²³³	10.9%	0.0%	85.5%	91.5%	3.6%	8.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
R&D Personnel ²³⁴	33.3%	47.3%	33.3%	20.0%	17.2%	17.5%	9.7%	7.6%	1.1%	2.5%	5.3%	5.1%
Researchers in other categories ²³⁵												
Technical and economic staff ²³⁶	12.8%	13.7%	22.7%	19.5%	32.2%	33.5%	21.8%	24.7%	10.1%	8.2%	0.4%	0.3%
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	3.8%	6.7%	23.3%	21.3%	34.8%	38.4%	19.3%	18.9%	14.1%	12.8%	4.8%	1.9%

Note: The total number of employees/workers as of 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be given, irrespective of the proportion of full-time equivalents, but only in an employment relationship, i.e., not including persons working parttime agreements. Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

²³³ See Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

²³⁴ The category "Other scientific, research and development personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

²³⁵ The category "Researchers not falling under other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

²³⁶ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

4.5.3 Percentage of HEI's staff involved in R&D&I, categorized by age structure, job title, and gender in the year 2024 (number of physical employees and staff)

Academic/ professional position	Under 29 years [%]		30-39 years [%]		40-49 years [%]		50-59 years [%]		60-69 years [%]		70 years and over [%]	
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Professor	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.8%	0.0%	29.4%	9.4%	29.4%	54.7%	29.4%	35.9%
Associate Professor	0.0%	0.0%	4.6%	3.9%	26.8%	22.6%	33.7%	37.7%	23.4%	26.5%	11.5%	9.4%
Assistant Professor	0.8%	1.9%	26.7%	25.5%	39.2%	39.0%	23.2%	20.7%	8.6%	11.0%	1.5%	1.9%
Assistant	15.2%	19.6%	31.3%	26.7%	29.2%	36.7%	11.1%	9.6%	12.1%	7.5%	1.0%	0.0%
Early career researcher ²³⁷	6.7%	0.0%	83.3%	88.0%	6.7%	6.0%	3.3%	6.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
R&D personnel ²³⁸	33.3%	36.4%	28.1%	28.8%	21.6%	24.2%	9.8%	9.1%	2.6%	1.6%	4.6%	0.0%
Researchers in other categories ²³⁹												
Technical and economic staff ²⁴⁰	12.8%	12.3%	22.8%	23.1%	28.6%	27.4%	23.8%	26.6%	10.9%	9.7%	1.1%	0.8%
Scientific, research and development staff involved in teaching activities	3.4%	5.5%	21.9%	22.4%	33.5%	34.9%	23.2%	21.7%	12.4%	12.0%	5.5%	3.5%

Note: The total number of employees/workers as of 31.12. of the calendar year in question is to be given, irrespective of the proportion of full-time equivalents, but only in an employment relationship, i.e., not including persons working parttime agreements. Other types of contractual relationships under the Civil Code that involve purchase of services are not included.

²³⁷ See definitions in Methodology HEI2025+.

²³⁸ The category "Other scientific, research and development personnel" includes technical and professional personnel who are not directly involved in R&D&I but are indispensable for the research activity (e.g., operators of research facilities).

²³⁹ The category "Researchers not falling under other categories" includes all other staff who cannot be classified under any of the above categories (e.g., independent researcher/scientist).

²⁴⁰ Who participates in the management and support of R&D&I in the institution.

4.6 Academic and Research Careers

The HEI will briefly describe the central system for HR recruitment, placing particular emphasis on recruitment from outside the HEI, especially from abroad, as well as system of career development of academic and research staff, if such system exists. Information will be provided on:

- Career development rules and legislation related to the recruitment and career development of domestic and foreign employees (e.g., Career Code, HR Award, OTMR policy, etc.).
- International tenders.
- The process of new employee adaptation and mentoring.
- Transparent distribution of institutional time, attitudes towards chaining of contracts and senior academic positions.
- Rules for filling senior positions in the context of R&D&I.
- The rules and support system of sabbaticals.
- Measures for the return of workers after a stay in an external workplace, including a foreign workplace.
- Arrangements for workers to return after maternity/parental leave or other career breaks (e.g., caring for family members).
- Other relevant information at HEI discretion.

The HEI shall provide a reference to an existing career code or similar document (if one exists). The HEI shall describe the effectiveness of the systems used with examples (e.g., a model example of the adaptation process, a specific anonymised example of an academic's career path, statistics on the return after maternity/parental leave or career breaks before and after the implementation of the measures, etc.).

Maximum 300 words per point.

Self-assessment:

The filling of posts at the UO is governed by the Selection Procedure Regulations and the UO Career Code. In 2019, the University of Ostrava received the HR Award, which confirms its commitment to transparent and open recruitment. In 2021 and 2024, an internal evaluation of the implementation of the HR Award action plan was conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures taken. The UO systematically implements the principles of the OTM-R policy (Open, Transparent, Merit-Based Recruitment), which are enshrined in internal regulations, especially in the Selection Procedures Regulations. Further information and documents relating to the HR Award are available on the UO website (<https://www.osu.eu/hrs4r/>).

International selection procedures

All selection procedures for academic and research staff are published not only on the University's official website, but also on international platforms such as EURAXESS, ResearchGate and other dedicated servers. In 2024, 107 selection procedures for academic and research staff were published, of which 70 positions were filled by foreign candidates, which demonstrates the openness of the process. The selection committees always include experts in the field and external specialists who ensure the objectivity of the evaluation. The conditions for the selection of candidates are transparently established prior to the start of the selection procedure and are in line with the OTM-R principles.

Support for career growth

The University of Ostrava actively supports the career growth of academic staff, especially the gradual development of students in doctoral study programmes towards habilitation. Doctoral students have the opportunity to participate in research projects and grant schemes, thus gaining

the necessary experience for their academic career. The UO also offers specialised mentoring programmes and professional training to develop teaching and research skills. Career development is regulated in particular in the UO Career Code (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/karierni-rad-en-06032019.pdf>). In the period 2019–2023, 62 academic staff members were habilitated or completed their professorships at the UO, which reflects the effectiveness of the career system.

New employee onboarding and mentoring process

The adaptation process at the UO is regulated in the Rector's Measures No. 207/2023 for the Staff Training and Professional Development of Employees (<https://portal.osu.cz/publicdocs?id=A1001001A25C26B55138B37439>). Each new employee receives a mandatory adaptation plan, which is determined by the manager. This plan includes initial training, familiarisation with internal regulations, internal systems and work processes.

Onboarding courses are available online in Moodle and are divided into:

- Courses for all and senior staff
- General courses (UO structure, internal regulations, job duties, information systems, cyber security)
- Professional courses (specific requirements of a given faculty or institute, grant management, academic ethics, scientific work).
- For foreign employees, key documents are available in English and onboarding courses are translated. In 2024, 330 employees underwent the adaptation process, 70 of whom were foreign workers.

Mentoring is provided by the manager of the adaptation process and the employee's supervisor. New employees are usually mentored by a manager or other designated employee. The mentor acts as the main contact person, providing support for integration and ensuring the successful completion of the adaptation process. The UO monitors the success of adaptation and employee feedback through evaluation questionnaires.

Transparent distribution of institutional time, attitude towards chaining of contracts and senior academic positions

The UO complies with the Labour Code regarding the chaining of employment contracts – the maximum period of employment for fixed-term contracts is 9 years. Exceptions are possible on the basis of statutory conditions and in accordance with the internal regulations of the University (inclusion in a project). This is regulated by the Collective Agreement and the Rector's Measures on Personnel Work at the UO.

Academic staff are offered various forms of flexible working, including part-time, flexitime and home office options. These measures allow a better work-life balance and contribute to greater work flexibility. In 2024, a total of 564 employees worked less than 50% of the stipulated weekly working time. That's 32% of all employees.

Senior academic positions are filled through a selection process that complies with the Selection Procedure Regulations and other internal regulations. Selection procedures for senior positions are open and transparent, and the selection committee must always include an external expert. New positions are always advertised on the University's website (<https://www.osu.eu/job-opportunities/>).

In the case of senior staff who cannot be removed from their posts under the applicable laws, the senior position contracts are agreed for a limited term. This measure ensures the possibility of

periodic reassignment of senior positions and also allows the existing senior staff to defend their positions in a new selection procedure. This system promotes competitiveness and improves the quality of management of individual units of the University.

Rules for filling senior positions in the context of R&D&I

The filling of senior academic positions is carried out in accordance with the Selection Procedure Regulations and other internal regulations of the University. Selection committees include external experts to ensure objectivity and transparency in the selection process. Each selection procedure is publicly announced and published on the University website and relevant international portals.

The main criteria for selecting candidates for senior positions are:

- Professional competence and academic qualifications
- Experience in research, development and innovation (R&D&I)
- Management skills and previous experience in leading research teams or academic institutions
- Publication activities and involvement in international projects.

The selection process includes:

- Announcement of the selection procedure in accordance with the Selection Procedure Regulations
- Assessment of candidates based on their professional profiles and track records
- Interview with the selection committee, which assesses the professional and managerial competence of the candidates
- Recommendation of the candidate for appointment to the Rector or Dean of the relevant faculty

Senior academic positions at the UO are usually filled on a fixed-term basis. For some positions where removal of a senior staff member is not possible under the applicable laws, a fixed-term contract is agreed to allow the position to be reopened periodically and to allow senior staff members to defend their positions in a selection procedure. This approach ensures competitiveness, promotes innovation in the management of academic departments and enables the University to manage human resources effectively.

Measures to improve selection processes

The following measures have been implemented at the UO as part of the continuous improvement of the transparency and efficiency of selection procedures:

- Introduction of standardised evaluation criteria for selection procedures for senior positions
- Mandatory participation of an external member in selection committees
- The possibility of direct involvement of the academic community in the selection process of senior staff
- Regular evaluation of the success of newly appointed managers after their term of office.

In 2024, an evaluation of the selection processes was conducted, which showed that 98% of the senior staff were selected through an open selection process.

Rules and support system for sabbatical staff

The UO allows academic staff to take paid creative leave (sabbatical leave) for 6 months once every 7 years, which is enshrined in the Rector's Measure No. 205/2023 on the Conditions for Granting

and Taking Sabbatical Leave and its Annexes
<https://portal.osu.cz/publicdocs?id=A1001001A25C28A93055J07037>).

The sabbatical leave aims to promote scientific and creative activity, including:

- Preparation of scientific publications and monographs
- Expanding professional competences through internships and research stays
- Establishing international cooperation and participation in international research consortia
- Acquiring new skills for teaching and academic leadership.

In the period 2020–2024, 5 academics have benefited from the sabbatical, 4 of whom have completed a stay abroad. The UO also monitors the impact of sabbaticals on academic productivity and regularly evaluates the return on investment in the system. Outcomes from sabbaticals are reported and reflected in the evaluation of academic staff. The UO has created a policy for taking creative leave in 2023, including all associated forms. Very few staff members take sabbatical, although it is an institute with impacts which are desirable for the UO. The UO is therefore preparing a grant system for persons taking creative leave, which will prevent a drop in staff income during creative leave, which is the main obstacle to it being more frequently used.

Measures for the return of workers after a stay at an external workplace

The UO supports the return of employees after foreign internships and stays at external institutions through flexible working hours, return grants, mentoring programmes and individual adaptation plans.

The support includes:

- The possibility of a gradual return to full-time employment
- Mentoring from senior colleagues
- Opportunities to get involved in new projects funded by the University or grant agencies
- Institutional support to return to teaching and research.

In 2024, 1,301 foreign business trips were made at the UO. The UO also monitors the career progression of these employees and evaluates the success of their reintegration into the academic environment. The UO emphasizes the transfer of foreign experience to home work units and for this reason individual work units organize internal seminars where participants of foreign internships present the experience gained.

Measures for the return of workers after maternity/parental leave or other career breaks

The UO seeks to facilitate the return of staff after maternity/parental leave or other career breaks such as caring for family members. Employees can benefit from part-time work, home office, language training, adaptation programs, mentoring and a playgroup for their children.

Specific measures include:

- Possibility of adjusting the workload individually in the first year after return
- Access to onboarding courses and other forms of training
- Mentoring from more experienced colleagues
- Individual career development consultations provided by the faculties
- Possibility of direct involvement in research projects or teaching activities.

In the period 2019–2024, 148 staff returned after maternity/parental leave, of which 69 returned to academic positions.

Other relevant information

The UO systematically supports the professional development of its staff through participation in conferences, professional training, internships and grant projects. Employees can benefit from internal and external training programmes funded by the University as well as national and international grant schemes.

The forms of support include:

- Financial contributions for participation in prestigious conferences and professional workshops
- Possibility of long-term internships abroad, supported by institutional grants
- Courses for the development of pedagogical and scientific skills
- Internal programmes to support junior researchers, focusing on grant application writing and academic careers
- Mentoring programme linking experienced academics with younger colleagues
- Support for participation in interdisciplinary research groups and EU-funded projects

In 2024, 150 employees were supported to participate in training activities within the SEDUO training portal. Employees of the UO undertake approximately 1,300–1,500 international business trips each year. The exceptions were the years 2020 and 2021, which were affected by the restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The University provides a link to the existing Career Code (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/karierni-rad-en-06032019.pdf>), which governs the procedures associated with the professional development of academic and other staff. This document sets out clear rules for career development, employee evaluation, and professional development opportunities.

To assess the effectiveness of the measures in place, the University uses the following model and anonymised examples:

1. Adaptation process of new academic staff

- a. New employees go through an orientation program that includes mentoring, training and the establishment of a career plan in the first year of employment.
- b. The success of the programme is monitored through participant feedback and retention rates. For example, 96 new employees completed the programme in 2024, including foreigners.

2. Career path of an academic worker

- a. As an example, we can mention the anonymised career of an academic worker who, after completing his Master's degree in 2008 at the UO and finishing his PhD studies at the UO in 2013, subsequently started working at the UO as an assistant professor and, thanks to support in the form of grant opportunities, pedagogical training and opportunities to participate in research projects, achieved the position of associate professor over the next 6 years.

3. Support for returning after maternity/parental leave

- a. The University has implemented flexible hours, part-time work options and adaptation programmes to support returning employees.

- b. As these measures were introduced in 2023, it is too early to assess their impact, 8 people completed the adaptation process after returning from parental leave.
- c. This year the University is preparing a grant programme to support staff returning from parental leave.

These examples demonstrate the effectiveness of the implemented measures and their benefits for career development of not only academic staff. The University continues to monitor the impact of these systems and regularly evaluates them with a view to further optimising them.

4.7 Gender equality measures

The HEI will briefly describe the measures relating to the application of gender equality in the areas required for assessment criteria 4.5, 4.6, with an emphasis on:

- Gender equality in recruitment and career development.
- Legislation and documents regulating gender equality (e.g., Gender Equality Plan, Action Plans, strategic documents for equality, including links to overarching strategies, etc.).
- The filling of leadership positions (including gender balance in leadership positions, see Table 4.7.1).
- Nominations to professional bodies.
- Evaluation and remuneration.
- Measures to reconcile the work and family life of researchers (flexible working hours, flexible forms of work, maternity/parental leave management, facilitating child/dependent care, age management in relation to gender).
- Measures to eliminate negative workplace behaviour such as mobbing and sexual harassment.

The HEI shall provide evidence of the examples from practice (e.g., use of flexible working hours, dealing with cases of mobbing or sexual harassment, compliance with the principles of gender equality in HEI professional bodies, etc.).

Maximum 300 words per point.

Self-assessment:

The University of Ostrava has already made a clear commitment to the principles of gender equality by preparing and defending all documents within the HR Award process (HRS4R) and implementing internal processes accordingly. In order to strengthen these efforts and to declare concrete steps, it has prepared the VIVAT UO project (OP JAK, Research Environment call), in which it commits to further follow-up steps within the framework of the KA3 key activity, and at the same time it is preparing a project (OP JAK, Returns call) for the creation of an internal grant system enabling smooth returns to employment after a career break. At the same time, the UO has become part of the NEOLAIa alliance of European universities, which has Diversity and Inclusion as its motto and main goal, and not only is this goal dedicated to WP3, but it is reflected in all the other nine work packages.

Gender equality in recruitment and career development

The University of Ostrava applies a system of open and transparent recruitment and career development in accordance with the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. The University has an established Selection Procedure Code which enshrines the principles of equality in the selection of staff. A balanced representation of men and women is ensured in the selection committees and gender discriminatory issues are eliminated in the selection procedures. 144 selection procedures were

announced in 2019, 226 in 2020, 327 in 2021, 297 in 2022, 361 in 2023 and 424 in 2024. All selection procedures were announced in gender inclusive language. Although the University uses the generic masculine in its internal regulations, it always uses both forms in its advertising.

As part of career development, the University takes into account maternity and parental breaks and supports mentoring programmes for early career researchers regardless of gender. Every employee returning from maternity or parental leave can undergo an adaptation process, which is prepared in the form of online Moodle courses. Each employee undergoes a short-term evaluation and a long-term evaluation (in the case of an academic worker or a researcher) after 3–5 years. All career plans and evaluations are stored electronically on the Employer Portal. For evaluation, senior staff have a basis in measurable indicators – for example, the number of hours taught, student evaluations, number of publications, etc. On the basis of this evidence and in line with the strategic objectives, senior staff then set short- and long-term objectives in the areas of teaching, research, the third role and personal or professional development. The goals are tailored to the individual's capabilities and the needs of the work unit. Targets are set for staff in relation to their capabilities, with this being taken into account for carers.

Legislation and documents regulating gender equality

The University of Ostrava has implemented the Gender Equality Plan 2022–2025, which is the main strategic document for promoting gender equality. The plan is based on the UO Strategic Plan 2021–2025 (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf>), the Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030 (government document).

The University also subscribes to HRS4R (Human Resources Strategy for Researchers), as evidenced by the HR Award certificate it has received. In addition, it complies with the legislative framework of the Czech Republic, including the Labour Code and the Anti-Discrimination Act.

The University implements the Gender Equality Action Plan (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/acction-plan-of-gender-equality-at-the-university-of-ostrava.pdf>), where specific activities and their mandatory frequency are provided in the plan. A new action plan will be developed in 2025, based on an external gender equality audit that will take place in the summer of 2025, the results of which will serve as a basis for the development of the action plan for the next period.

Filling of senior positions (including gender balance in senior positions)

Thanks to the implementation of the Gender Equality Plan and the internal equal opportunities policy in general, it has been possible to gradually eliminate the imbalance in the occupation of senior positions at the University of Ostrava, as shown in Table 4.7.1. It shows that in all categories there has been an increase in female representation between 2020 and 2024, and in some cases an equalisation of the ratio, although the number of female academics at the UO is lower than the number of male academics. At the same time, there is still a need to continue this trend, as in some categories the proportion of women in senior positions does not match the proportion of women among academic staff.

As part of measures to increase balance, the University is therefore promoting targeted nominations of women to senior positions and introducing the principles of a gender-balanced selection process. Currently, the University is particularly keen to support women returning to work after maternity and parental leave in the research field by offering research grants to fund themselves, their research team, mobility, education and possibly childcare. The University's aim is to enable persons to return smoothly to the research process after a career break and to adapt more quickly to new developments and research advances in the field concerned.

Nominations to professional bodies

The University of Ostrava supports a balanced representation of women and men in academic and professional bodies. It has taken the following measures:

- Transparent and inclusive nomination processes that take into account gender balance (it is difficult to ensure equal representation of women and men in elected bodies, yet the ratio of women and men is almost equal in elected bodies (the composition of the Academic Senate is absolutely balanced, the number of Deans is 4, the number of female Deans is 2). In the case of non-elected bodies (UO Scientific Board, Ethics Committee, vice-rectors), the ratio is gradually approaching the percentage of women among academics which is about 40%, see Table 4.7.1
- Monitoring of gender representation of women and men in key decision-making bodies of the University with a view to achieving parity (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/acction-plan-of-gender-equality-at-the-university-of-ostrava.pdf>)
- Motivating faculties and institutes to nominate female candidates for prestigious academic positions and scientific awards (see the Women in Science event: Motherhood is not a barrier to success-OU@live (<https://alive.osu.cz/zeny-ve-vede-materstvi-neni-prekazkou-k-uspechu/>)).

Evaluation and remuneration

The University is committed to a transparent and fair system of evaluation and remuneration:

- Eliminating gender pay gap – regular analysis of pay conditions to identify and eliminate inequalities between men and women. A gender audit was conducted in 2021 and another one will be conducted in 2025. Wages of women and men are regularly monitored – see UO annual reports.
- Transparent evaluation criteria – clearly defined and published standards for career progression to avoid unintentional gender discrimination. The objectives set out in the Career Development Plan are set in accordance with the Career Code, taking into account the needs of carers.

Measures to reconcile family and working life of researchers

The University of Ostrava supports flexibility and inclusiveness of the working environment for all employees, especially parents and carers:

- Flexible working hours – the possibility to adjust the work schedule according to the individual needs of employees is explicitly implemented in internal regulations.
- Hybrid and part-time – the possibility to combine full-time and remote work depending on the nature of the job duties. The UO enables home office. In 2024, employees worked an average of 2 days per month remotely. Part-time jobs are widely used to enable the UO to balance work and family life for staff. In 2024, 48% of employees had part-time jobs.
- Support for return after maternity/parental leave – mentoring and adaptation programmes for smoother return of academic staff to research and teaching activities. In 2024, 8 people completed the adaptation process after returning from parental leave. For these people, the adaptation process is voluntary.
- Support for childcare and care of children and close relatives – cooperation with local childcare facilities, offering children's corners during conferences. The UO offers a 50% discount on tuition fees in the children's group Elánek in the centre of Ostrava. Some work units have play areas where children can play while the parent works.

- Age management in the context of gender equality – supporting academics at different stages of their careers, taking into account their life situation and needs. The University has a University Seniors Club, which allows it to connect former employees with the University.

Measures to eliminate negative behaviour at the workplace

The University of Ostrava has zero tolerance for undesirable forms of behaviour such as mobbing, discrimination or sexual harassment:

- The University's Code of Ethics – a clearly articulated policy against discrimination and harassment at the workplace (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/eticky-kodex-en.pdf>)
- Reporting and victim support mechanisms – confidential channels for anonymous complaints, including the UO Ombudswoman and a network of contact persons in all UO units.
- Training for employees – regular training activities aimed at preventing mobbing, discrimination and sexual harassment.
- Safe and respectful workplace – campaigns to promote an inclusive work environment and foster diversity.

See Section 4.3 – Examples of ethical regulation of research and social safety.

These measures confirm the University of Ostrava's commitment to gender equality and support the long-term strategy of creating a fair, transparent and inclusive academic environment.

Examples from practice (flexible working hours, dealing with cases of mobbing or sexual harassment, etc.)

According to the Higher Education Act, academic staff determine their own working hours. The exception is the part of the working time that is scheduled, i.e., the time when they perform direct teaching activities (e.g., teaching, consulting or testing). For other employees, the Rector's Measure 164/2022 provides for flexible working hours and the possibility of approval of working remotely. Giving an example would thus merely be a specification of the general principle applicable to all employees.

The University receives suggestions from the ombudswomen and contact persons directly or indirectly through the electronic communication system in the field of social safety. In 1.5 years, the University received and addressed 40 complaints of social safety violations. The final report always contains recommendations for further action, the implementation of which is the responsibility of the Dean or Rector. In one case, termination of employment was recommended and in two cases, a written warning was given to the employee for breach of duty. In other cases, Deans were advised, for example, to change examination rules to ensure greater objectivity, to set rules for communication with learners and subordinates, to complete mandatory staff training activities or to have the staff member concerned undergo personal coaching to develop soft skills.

4.7.1 Gender balance in management positions

Senior staff	2020		2024	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Rector	1		1	
Vice-Chancellor	3	1	2	2
Dean ²⁴¹	5	1	4	2
Academic Senate	23	18	19	19
Scientific/Artistic/Academic Council	35	9	32	13
Quaestor	1		1	
Board of Directors	11	1	9	3

Note: If one person holds more than one of these positions within the HEI, he/she will be counted in each.

4.8 Mobility of academic and research staff (including sectoral and inter-sectoral mobility)

The HEI shall describe in a concise and structured manner its strategies and objectives for the mobility of academic and research staff (including PhD students), with particular emphasis on mobility related to the development of excellent science and interdisciplinary (intersectoral) mobility. The HEI shall identify potential barriers to mobility, including gender-based barriers. The HEI shall provide information on long-term stays abroad by its own academic staff or, conversely, by foreign staff at the HEI being evaluated.²⁴²

The achievement of the set objectives will be demonstrated by the HEI by describing specific examples of mobility or by brief statistics on mobility during the period of 2020–2024.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given (max. five examples with a specific description of the relevance of mobility to the stated objectives).

Self-assessment:

The UO uses a range of tools to support the mobility of academic and non-academic staff. The largest instrument in terms of funding and number of trips is of course Erasmus. Beyond this, however, the University of Ostrava supports mobility in both natural ways, i.e., through its own mobility programmes as well as through administrative and advisory support in applying for external mobility funding. Beyond these standard instruments, there is individual and targeted support for mobility from own resources of the individual work units, including institutional support for the long-term conceptual development of the research organisation (LCDRO), where targeted funds are used for this purpose at the level of the Dean's Offices or the departments themselves, see more in indicator 4.11.

Examples of mobility programmes and support:

Support for mobility of excellent doctoral students – Via PhD

The Via PhD Mobility Programme is aimed at supporting excellent doctoral students in their professional development mobility. The programme is intended to be complementary to and not duplicative of the Erasmus programme. Therefore, it supports mobility of a minimum of 30 days and a maximum of 180 days, which must not be directed to countries of the European Union, which can easily be ensured in terms of mobility just from the Erasmus programme. Each mobility is assessed by a committee consisting of the Vice-Rector for Research and Artistic Activities and the Vice-Deans of the individual faculties responsible for science and research. This ensures a focus on the research

²⁴¹ or other head of a relevant work unit of a higher education institution under Section 22(1) of the Higher Education Act performing R&D&I activities, regardless of the designation.

²⁴² Long-term mobility means an uninterrupted period of more than three months.

development of junior researchers. To increase the pressure on performance and results, a 10% co-financing is required; the program only funds a maximum of 90% of the costs. In the evaluation period 2020–2024, 20 mobilities of excellent doctoral students to destinations such as the USA, UK, Switzerland, India, Australia or New Zealand were supported in this way. In total, it was 1,650 student-days with financial support of CZK 2,570 thousand (EUR 101.4 thousand).

Supporting incoming mobilities of excellent academics – To Be In (To Better Internationalization)

The programme was launched to engage academics and researchers in international cooperation as well as in a range of activities of internationalisation at home, including the support of visiting professors actively involved in academic work at the University of Ostrava. In the period under review 2020–2024, the programme supported 20 incoming mobilities for top Visiting Professors from the USA, Finland, UK or Poland. Some Visiting Professors have established intensive long-term collaborations that have led to regular research visits to the UO and a range of outputs, or have gained employment directly at the UO and have become staff who assist the UO in fostering the international competitive level of scientific activities.

Promoting the use of external resources for mobility

The UO has actively supported its staff in raising external funds for inbound and outbound mobility. These were, for example, Fulbright Alumni (<https://fulbright.gov.cz/en/grantees-and-alumni/current-grantees/>), which supported two outgoing mobilities (Jan Hůla – 3 months at Harvard University, Josef Kundrát – 5 months at the University of Connecticut) and one incoming mobility (Alaimo Salvatore – 6 months from Grand Valley State University), as well as the CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies) and SAIA (Slovak Academic Information Agency) mobility programmes, which supported 11 incoming mobilities in the period under review, mainly of research orientation, and at the same time supported two outgoing mobilities of our academics abroad.

NEOLAIa Mobility and Mentorship Programmes

Within the membership of UO in the NEOLAIa Alliance of European Universities, the university can participate on the newly released mobility programmes, in particular NEOLAIa Joint Research Programme and the NEOLAIa Early Stage Researcher (ESR) Mentorship Programme. While the first one is designed in order to support mobilities of researchers to gain new knowledge, experience and in order to seed new joint project proposals with colleagues in the NEOLAIa Alliance (first three mobilities from UO were confirmed in 2024), the latter one is focused on junior researchers (PhD students and postdocs) in the role of mentees who enter the two-year lasting mentorship where they support their expert growth by absolving series of online mentorship seminars given by Alliance experts in the role of mentors and consequently, a mandatory on-site mentee visit of their mentors. The first two mentees from UO were confirmed by the end of 2024.

Targeted support for mobility from individual work units and faculties

The UO has actively supported a number of staff outside of specific mobility programmes in a direct way through funds and instruments set up for this purpose, including funding provided by home work units. Examples of significant internships include the research internship (172 days) and the subsequent clinical-research internship (164 days) of doc. Jelinek at the University of Miami in 2024–2025, the internship of prof. Ďuriš and Dr. Šobáňová (52 days) at the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle in Paris in 2024, an internship to prepare a joint project of researchers Pech and Volná (30 days) at Örebro University in 2024, or a series of three research internships of researchers in the field of physical geography (69 days in total) at Cerege – European Centre Research And Teaching In Geosciences De L'envi in Aix-en-Provence in 2024. These and other mobilities to sites in the USA, Japan, Germany, Portugal or the Philippines are organised and funded on an annual basis.

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

4.9 Research infrastructure

The HEI will describe the system for acquiring/optimizing expensive instruments and equipment, as well as refurbishing outdated expensive instruments. The HEI will also briefly present the internal organisation of the research infrastructure (including technology, expensive instruments, and instrumentation)²⁴³. The HEI will describe the system of sharing (including external research entities) of instruments and instrumentation, including expensive instruments and instrumentation units, referred to as 'core facilities' (if such a system exists). The HEI will demonstrate the effectiveness of the systems with examples (e.g., specific instruments acquired/optimised and their relevance to the achievement of research objectives, examples of sharing of expensive instruments and instrumentation, statistics on sharing of expensive instruments and instrumentation, etc.). The HEI will briefly comment on the data in Table 4.9.1.

The HEI shall also indicate whether it hosts large research infrastructure projects. The name and a brief description will be provided.

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given (max. five examples).

Self-assessment:

The University of Ostrava does not host large research infrastructure projects and there are no large core facilities at the UO. However, there are a number of instruments, instrument units and infrastructure elements within individual laboratories of departmental (or faculty) importance. The UO has therefore decided to reflect this point in its Strategic Plan 2021–2025 (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf>), where it is explicitly addressed throughout Sub-Objective 1 of Priority 2 (Excellence in Science and the Arts for the Advancement of Knowledge), with the Sub-Objective entitled "Strengthening Research Infrastructures Linked to Real Internationalisation and Interdisciplinary Creativity". This objective simultaneously implements two measures, the first of which, namely 2.1.2., is "Analysis of the Current State of Use of Laboratories and Technology and Preparation of a Strategy for more Efficient Use of Human Resources and Technology (Sharing Facilities)" and the second measure titled "Preparation of Strategic Projects (in Particular LERCO and REFRESH) with the Potential for a Qualitative Leap in Science and Research in Terms of Obtaining Funds for the Development of Research Infrastructures and the Internationalization of Research Teams and Strengthening the Interdisciplinarity of Creative Activity." Both measures are being progressively implemented. At the same time, they are combined

²⁴³ The definition of research infrastructure is set out in the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation (2014/C 198/01) and Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in accordance with Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty.

with the interconnection and sharing of infrastructures within the NEOLAIa alliance of European universities, of which the UO became a member in 2024.

As can be documented in Tab. 4.9.1, investment in infrastructure, equipment, fixed assets and buildings grew over the period under review, demonstrating the targeted focusing of UO resources towards this key research provision. The cost of acquisition of small fixed assets increased from CZK 10,296 thousand (EUR 406 thousand) in 2020 to CZK 18,342 thousand (EUR 724 thousand) in 2024. Expenditure on repairs and maintenance of equipment increased even more from CZK 748 thousand (EUR 30 thousand) to CZK 2,775 thousand (EUR 109 thousand) for the same period. Investments in SW even increased almost thirteenfold, namely from CZK 330 thousand (EUR 13 thousand) to CZK 4,163 thousand (EUR 164 thousand) and expenditure on buildings tripled. In terms of key infrastructure, however, the most telling data are those on investment in other non-small fixed assets, i.e., plant and equipment. Here, from a value of CZK 16,408 thousand (EUR 647 thousand) in 2020, the UO grew to a value of more than CZK 50 million (EUR 2 million) each year thereafter, to a total of CZK 268.7 million for the period under review (EUR 10.6 million).

Examples demonstrating effectiveness:

A) Mapping and sharing the infrastructure

An analysis and overview of the infrastructure elements used for research purposes was carried out. All elements have been entered into a database that is shared online on the University website incl. search mechanisms in the Power Bi system (<https://www.osu.cz/vyzkumna-infrastruktura/>). In case of a need for sharing, the contact details of both the responsible person and the Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Ostrava providing support in these matters are always provided with the record. Measure 2.1.2. of the Strategic Plan 2021–2025 is thereby fulfilled.

B) Purchases of shared infrastructure in large strategic projects

Major strategic projects LERCO and REFRESH have been prepared and subsequently acquired, which include budget options and specific items for the purchase of infrastructure elements. Especially in the case of the LERCO project, this is a massive injection into the UO's equipment, which is also supported by the construction of a new building, for which the project allocates CZK 851 million (EUR 33.57 million). At the same time, research infrastructure is gradually being acquired, e.g., confocal microscope or liquid and gas chromatography with mass spectrometry, with a total planned value of CZK 178 million (EUR 7.02 million) from the LERCO project alone. This infrastructure is fully in line with the rules of the Just Transition Fund (JTF) projects aimed at the just transition of the affected regions and is being acquired in sufficient capacity to serve not only for research related to the specific project, but also for general use by the UO and project partners for other research purposes to assist the transition of the region. This fulfils Measure 2.1.5. of the Strategic Plan 2021–2025.

C) Mapping activities within NEOLAIa Alliance

Within work package WP5 of the NEOLAIa project supporting the establishment of the NEOLAIa alliance of European universities, there is an explicit commitment to map research infrastructures within all nine alliance partners in order to create a database of such infrastructures that are (a) unique (i.e., very rarely available at or around the working sites of other members) and (b) shareable by other members of the alliance, i.e., not infrastructures that for technical, legal or cost reasons cannot be made available for use either remotely or during on-site visits by colleagues from other member universities. The first collections of these infrastructures have already taken place and the database is in its first version.

D) Central infrastructure elements and their acquisition

The UO provides support to employees through basic infrastructure elements such as network and cyber security elements. If we focus on research infrastructure elements, these have always been acquired only from the funds of individual departments. Despite the cost burden being carried by only one unit, there has always been a rational level of sharing for optimization purposes, for example, the DGX A100 Station for AI computations owned by IRAFM is provided freely to computer science students from the Faculty of Science. Recent decision was made to put in place a new system of targeted purchases of central infrastructure elements. The plan is to purchase two clusters to replace the aforementioned DGX Station (based on NVIDIA L40 and NVIDIA H100) that will meet the needs of mathematicians, computer scientists, biologists, bioinformaticians, physicians and researchers in the humanities (e.g., automatic reading of historical script). In addition, a pair of high-capacity NAS storages were purchased to hold the research data and automatically back it up to ensure its security. This step proved necessary not only because of the need for physical and remotely accessible repositories, but also for reasons of cybersecurity and data management and Open Science policies.

4.9.1 Summary of expenditure/costs on research infrastructure and equipment for the period under review (including related non-investment and personnel costs).

Costs/expenses in thous. CZK/EUR/year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total value of assets ²⁴⁴
Costs/expenses related to the acquisition of small fixed assets for R&D&I	10,296/ 406,161	9,710/ 383,031	17,185/ 677,892	16,486/ 650,355	18,342/ 723,542	72,019/ 2,840,981
Cost of repairs and maintenance of equipment	748/ 29,523	1,242/ 49,010	1,621/ 63,948	1,612/ 63,575	2,775/ 109,452	7,998/ 315,507
Acquisition of tangible (DH) and intangible (DN) assets for R&D&I (investments)						
Of which software	330/ 13,007	1,191/ 46,971	1,870/ 73,781	11,001/ 433,955	4,163/ 164,230	18,555/ 731,945
Of which other intangible fixed assets						
Of which land, buildings and structures	82,305/ 3,246,739	389,967/ 15,383,331	481,116/ 18,978,942	171,038/ 6,747,056	326,168/ 12,866,585	1,450,594/ 57,222,653
Other intangible fixed assets (machinery, apparatus, equipment, etc.	16,408/ 647,262	60,172/ 2,373,646	73,965/ 2,917,748	56,647/ 2,234,609	61,466/ 2,424,691	268,658/ 10,597,956
Total infrastructure spending in years²⁴⁵	110,087/ 4,342,692	462,282/ 18,235,989	575,757/ 22,712,311	256,784/ 10,129,550	412,913/ 16,288,500	1,817,824/ 71,709,043

²⁴⁴ Enter the sum of the row.

²⁴⁵ Enter the sum of the column.

FINANCES

4.10 Budget and structure of financial resources

The HEI shall provide and comment on an overview of the total R&D&I budget in the period of 2020–2024, broken down by organisational units of the evaluated HEI and by source of funds (Table 4.10.1). The HEI shall also comment on the shares of total costs/outputs covered by public and non-public sources by type of R&D&I for the period under evaluation as shown in Table 4.10.2.

As complementary data, the university will provide an overview of prestigious research projects obtained during the period of 2020–2024 (ERC²⁴⁶, MSCA²⁴⁷, HHMI²⁴⁸, HFSP²⁴⁹, NSF²⁵⁰, Horizon Europe²⁵¹, NIH²⁵², Wellcome Trust²⁵³, EDF²⁵⁴, OP JAK²⁵⁵, OP TAK²⁵⁶, NPO²⁵⁷, GA ČR²⁵⁸, TA ČR²⁵⁹ etc.). Include information on the amount of funding received and whether the HEI were principal investigator or co-investigator in Tables 4.10.3, 4.10.4 and 4.10.5.²⁶⁰

In addition, the HEI will describe in more detail up to five of the most important projects from the list of prestigious individual projects abroad (ERC, MSCA, HHMI, HFSP, NSF, etc.), providing basic information at the HEI's discretion and regardless of the funder: title, field of expertise, agency, amount of funding, other project participants, and other relevant information as appropriate.

A maximum of 500 words plus 200 for each example of a prestigious international individual project given.

Self-assessment:

Structure of resources

The total budget for science is determined by institutional support (LCDRO) and by external sources (projects or transfer). The breakdown by units over 2020–2024 is shown in Table 4.10.1, but unfortunately, no key finding has emerged. The important finding would be the ratio between institutional and external resources. The UO received a total of CZK 682.7 million (EUR 26.93 million)

²⁴⁶ The European Research Council (ERC) is part of the 'Excellent Science' pillar of Horizon Europe. The ERC funds cutting-edge research by supporting individual Principal Investigators and their research teams.

²⁴⁷ Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (MSCA) is part of the "Excellent Science" pillar of Horizon Europe and is also aimed at supporting young researchers, including PhD students.

²⁴⁸ Howard Hughes Medical Institute - a non-profit organization in the USA significantly supporting international biomedical research.

²⁴⁹ Human Frontier Science Program - an international programme to support research, particularly in the natural sciences and computer science.

²⁵⁰ National Science Foundation (USA).

²⁵¹ Horizon Europe - the EU's 9th Framework Programme for research and innovation, running from 2021-2027.

²⁵² National Institutes of Health (NIH) - an agency under the United States Department of Health and Human Services. NHI is a major player in project support for biomedical research.

²⁵³ major UK private foundation supporting mainly biomedical research.

²⁵⁴ European Defence Fund.

²⁵⁵ Operational Programme Jan Ámos Komenský - Priority 1 - Research and Development - multiannual programme under the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Within the framework of the OP JAK it is possible to draw financial resources from the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) in the period 2021-2027.

²⁵⁶ Operational Programme Technologies and Applications for Competitiveness. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is available in the period 2021-2027 to co-finance business projects in the areas of research, development and innovation, digitalisation and digital infrastructure, business development, smart and sustainable energy and the circular economy.

²⁵⁷ National Recovery Plan - under Pillar 5 - Research, Development and Innovation of the National Recovery Plan, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) is available for the period 2022-2026.

²⁵⁸ Grant Agency of the Czech Republic.

²⁵⁹ Technology Agency of the Czech Republic.

²⁶⁰ The military and the police HEIs, as parts of the organisational unit of the state, are treated specifically in terms of the possibility to participate in the projects.

for LCDRO, however, the total budget was CZK 1,199 million (EUR 47.29 million). So, institutional resources were only 56.9%, which demonstrates the strongly undersized institutional funding (comparison with inflation is below in indicator 4.11), but also the high level of involvement and success in grant competition as a sign of high quality.

As an almost exclusively research-oriented centre, the IRAFM UO participates in a larger part of the budget than the "small" faculties, FSS UO, FFAM UO or even the much larger FE UO, and is comparable to FM UO. The "success" of FA UO is due to a good historical base from R&D evaluation with an impact on LCDRO and a relatively high success rate in national grant competitions. The FS UO is quite logically the largest research entity within the UO and this is also affirmed in both at the level of LCDRO and in terms of grants.

The oscillation between years in basic, applied and experimental research (Tab. 4.10.2) is more due to the success in individual grant calls than to an overall change in the focus of the University. Considering that the UO is a humanity and social science oriented, the 50–60% share of basic research is interpretable as gratifying and demonstrating that despite its disciplinary focus, the UO is able to significantly devote itself to applications and application-oriented research.

Prestigious research projects

The structure of projects from foreign providers (Tabs. 4.10.3–4.10.5) is very diverse and over time the focus has shifted from partner projects to projects with UO as a beneficiary. However, the data in this ministry defined Table is somewhat confusing because the entire project is budgeted in a single year – the year in which the project was acquired. Therefore, the table does not say anything about the total annual budget, nevertheless, there is a noticeable increase.

Tab. 4.10.4 (national projects) shows a significant increase in project resources, with the strategic project LERCO being an anomaly. This table shows resources that are much larger than the resources that we would calculate in the total science and research budget from Table 4.10.1 after deducting LCDRO. The first reason is that this Tab 4.10.4 includes hard non-research costs (new LERCO building). The second reason is the mentioned fact that the tables include the total funds raised which are yet to be used in the future. The third reason is again the Ministry methodology for filling in these tables. Only the part of the budget allocated to the UO is indicated for partner projects, however, for projects where the UO is the main beneficiary, the entire budget of the project is indicated.

The five most important foreign projects

- 1) Horizon Europe – MSCA4Ukraine: **"Study of the Anti-Leishmanial Activity of Nanoparticles Considering Their Effect on the Microbiome"** (2024–2026), CZK 3,813 thousand (EUR 150.4 thousand).

Project is solved by Liudmyla Hrebenyk, supervisor is Prof. Vyacheslav Yurchenko

Project focuses on nanotechnology in medicine – offers innovative solutions for treating leishmaniasis, a parasitic disease affecting millions. Key applications include:

- Targeted drug delivery: Nanoparticles improve drug efficiency and reduce side effects.
- Nanovaccines: Enhance immune response and long-term protection.
- Metallic nanoparticles: Silver, gold, and zinc show antimicrobial properties.
- Polymeric carriers: Improve traditional drug performance.

Liposomal amphotericin B, already WHO-approved, demonstrates the potential of nanomedicine. However, safety concerns require further research to ensure biocompatibility and environmental sustainability.

- 2) Longevity Science Foundation (LSF): "**Genome, transcriptome, and proteome sequencing of the longest living vertebrate on Earth (Greenland shark, *Somniosus microcephalus*) can reveal the secret of longevity and healthy life for humans**" (2023–2026), CZK 2,028 thousand (EUR 80 thousand).

The project is solved by the team: Bartas Martin, Pečinka Petr, Červeň Jiří, Volná Adriana

The main objective of this project is to obtain a high-quality genome, transcriptome, and proteome of the Greenland shark (*Somniosus microcephalus*). It is hypothesized that the Greenland shark possesses a certain molecular-genetic "trick" that allows it to successfully escape aging processes on the one hand and, on the other hand, prevent tumorigenesis, which is associated with the accumulation of mutations as a function of time. This research project will generate for the first time the genome, transcriptome, and proteome of the longest-living vertebrate on Earth, the Greenland shark.

- 3) LIFE Nature and Biodiversity Programme: "**Osmoderma Eremita Species Conversation in SCI Poodří**" (2018–2023), CZK 2,678 thousand (EUR 105.6 thousand).

The project is solved by the team: Macha Přemysl, Kočárek Petr, Rumanová Tereza

This project aims to improve the conservation status of *Osmoderma eremita* by addressing key threats. It will also benefit other protected species, including *Misgurnus fossilis* and *Bombina orientalis*, as well as cavity-nesting birds and bats. The sustainable use of biomass from pollarded willows will support local communities, revitalize traditional land management practices, and enhance regional attractiveness for tourism. Additionally, the project will strengthen ecosystem services and foster a stronger connection between local residents and their natural heritage.

- 4) EEA Grants, NORWAY GRANTS: "**Innovation and application of the methodology of incubation of protected fish species and lampreys**" (2022–2024), CZK 2,229 thousand (EUR 87.9 thousand).

The project is solved by the team: Ruman Stanislav, Rumanová Tereza

This project builds on previous research on incubating salmonid eggs directly in their native streams, enhancing fish population recovery and ecosystem restoration. The methodology will be expanded to additional species, including barbel, and lamprey, while assessing climate change risks and land cover impacts in ten Czech river basins. Collaboration with partners from the Czech Republic, Norway, and the UK ensures knowledge exchange and best practice dissemination. The project integrates hydrological modeling and local stakeholder engagement to optimize incubation sites and ecological outcomes.

- 5) Funding NATO: "**Prevention of Geo-Threats to Azerbaijan's Energy Independence**" (2022–2025), CZK 786 thousand (EUR 31 thousand).

The project is solved by the team: Pánek Tomáš, Břežný Michal

This project aims to mitigate geological hazards threatening Azerbaijan's energy independence by strengthening the resilience of the Shamkir and Mingachevir hydroelectric power plants. These critical infrastructures are vital for national stability and regional security, particularly given their proximity to the Nagorno-Karabakh border. The project includes geohazard risk assessment, preventive measures, capacity-building for researchers and technicians, and the adoption of advanced technologies such as Virtual Reality and drone surveys. These efforts will help prevent potential disasters, stabilize energy production, and enhance cooperation in NATO's neighbourhood.

4.10.1 Total budget of the HEI

Name of the HEI unit	Total budget in thous. CZK/EUR	Percentage of public funding in the Czech Republic	Share of public funding from abroad in %	Percentage of funding from other sources
Faculty of Arts	232,103 / 9,155,949	100	0	0
Faculty of Social Studies	41,272 / 1,628,090	100	0	0
Faculty of Fine Arts and Music	4,912 / 193,767	100	0	0
Centre of Excellence IT4Innovations – IRAFM	167,058 / 6,590,048	100	0	0
Faculty of Medicine	171,603 / 6,769,329	99.98	0.02	0
Faculty of Education	95,623 / 3,772,112	100	0	0
Faculty of Science	485,338 / 19,145,479	99.84	0.16	0
Total	1,197,909 / 47,254,774	99.93	0.07	0

4.10.2 Share [%] of total costs/outputs by type of R&D&I paid from public and non-public sources

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Basic research	62	62	59	55	50	59
Applied Research	31	27	23	19	28	26
Experimental development and innovation	7	11	18	25	22	15
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Note: For definitions see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

4.10.3 Projects supported by a foreign provider

In the role of beneficiary							
Provider Investor	Programme/Grant Scheme	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Longevity Science Foundation (LSF)	Foreign Foundations and Funds	Genome, transcriptome, and proteome sequencing of the longest living vertebrate on Earth (Greenland shark, <i>Somniosus microcephalus</i>) can reveal the secret of longevity and healthy life for humans (2023–2026)				2,028/ 80,000	
EEA Grants, NORWAY GRANTS	Other projects with foreign funding	Innovation and Application of the Methodology of Incubation of Protected Fish Species and Lampreys (2022–2024)			2,229.2/ 87,938		
Visegrad Fund	Visegrad Fund	Spirit Open (2023–2024)				236.7/ 9,337	
Horizon Europe–MSCA4Ukraine	Horizon Europe	Study of the anti-leishmanial activity of nanoparticles considering their effect on the microbiome (2024–2026)				3,813.6/ 150,439	
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports-OP JAK-ERC.CZ	Horizon Europe	Improving the Robustness of Archaeogenetic Studies of Highly Mixed Human Populations in the Late Holocene of Eurasia (2024–2026)				346.7/ 13,676	
Visegrad Fund	Visegrad Fund	Building Values in Social Work Education (2020–2021)	375.1/ 14,795				
EMBO/EMBC-Solidarity grants	Other projects with foreign funding	The Role of Alternative Oxidases in Trypanosomatidae (2023–2024)				912.6/ 36,000	

National Institute of Health (NH)	Other projects with foreign funding	TimeCapsule—studying rapid evolution of selfing syndrome in plants using resurrection ecology (2022–2024)			189.8/ 7,487		
Total			375.1/ 14,795		2,419/ 95,426	7,338/ 289,452	
In the role of another participant							
Provider / Investor	Programme/Grant Scheme	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
HORIZON Europe	Horizont Europe	Partnership for the Assessment of Risks from Chemicals (PARC) (2022–2029)			184.1/ 7,263		
Funding NATO	Other projects with foreign funding	Prevention of Geo-Threats to Azerbaijan's Energy Independence (2022–2025)			785.9/ 31,000		
Visegrad Fund	Visegrad Fund	School education in the era of pandemic and post-pandemic in Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia (2022–2023)			0/0		
Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA)	Other projects with foreign funding	The Strategic Research Partnership for the mathematical aspects of complex, hypercomplex and fuzzy neural networks (2022–2024)			713.9/ 28,160		
Horizon 2020	Horizon 2020	Effect of Allopurinol in addition to hypothermia for hypoxic-ischemic Brain Injury on Neurocognitive Outcome (2016–2020)	3,564.8/ 140,624				
Visegrad Fund	Visegrad Fund	Increasing digital competencies—the growth of education in society (2020–2022)	63.4/ 2,500				
LIFE Nature and Biodiversity Programme	LIFE Programme	Osmoderma Eremita Species Conversation in SCI Poodří (2018–2023)	2,677.9/ 105,636				
National Agency (NAWA)	Other projects with foreign funding	Polonistyka otwarta (Polish Studies Open, 2019–2020)	321/ 12,663				
Visegrad Fund	Visegrad Fund	Ukrainian refugees in Central Europe and the Balkans—lessons learned and policy recommendations (2023–2023)				81.1/ 3,200	
Total			6,627/ 261,423		1,684/ 66,423	81.1/ 3,200	

Note: For co-sponsorship projects, please only indicate the amount of funding for the evaluated HEI.

4.10.4 Projects supported by the Czech provider

In the role of beneficiary							
Provider / Investor	Programme/Grant Scheme	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic	Health Research Agency of the Czech Republic		1,281/ 50,527	4,536/ 178,919			1,813/ 71,519
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Standard project of the GACR		15,854/ 625,395	40,695/ 1,605,326	25,542/ 1,007,564	28,566/ 1,126,860	34,502/ 1,361,030
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	INTER-ACTION		3,033/ 119,639	3,320/ 130,954	2,370/ 93,498	2,281/ 89,985	2,157/ 85,079
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	International Cooperation in R&D-Mobility					134/ 5,276	198/ 7,825
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Technology Agency of the		27,875/ 1,099,598	26,117/ 1,030,239	18,769/ 740,386	11,561/ 456,037	8,318/ 328,131

	Czech Republic – Total						
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP JAK / MSCA - Fellowships-CZ	Magnetic Properties of Two-Dimensional Ferromagnets and Antiferromagnets at Finite Temperature (2024–2026)					3,709.2/ 146,319
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP JAK / Intersectoral cooperation for ITI	Advanced Materials for Energy and Environmental Technologies (2024–2028)					13,626.5/ 537,533
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP JAK / Cutting-Edge Research	Excellence in Research on Digital Technologies and Wellbeing (2024–2028)					459,666.9/ 18,132,818
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP JAK / Intersectoral cooperation for ITI	Social Dimension of New Technologies in the Energy Sector in the Ostrava Metropolitan Area (2024–2028)					85,761.5/ 3,383,098
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP RDE / Research Infrastructure for Educational Purposes – Building or Modernisation	Infrastructural Support for the New Doctoral Programme in Clinical Neuroscience at the Faculty of Medicine, UO (2017–2022)	37,410.3/ 1,475,753				
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP RDE / Research Excellence	Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment (2018–2022)	132,585.4/ 5,230,192				
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP RDE / Long-Term Intersectoral Cooperation for ITI	AI-Met4AI: Centre for Research and Development of Artificial Intelligence Methods in the Automotive Industry of the Region (2018–2022)	31,184.1/ 1,230,141				
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP RDE / Long-Term Intersectoral Cooperation for ITI	Cell Coolab Ostrava – Research and Development Centre for Cell Therapy in Haematology and Oncology (2018–2022)	45,116.2/ 1,779,732				
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP RDE / Long-Term Intersectoral Cooperation for ITI	SMART Technologies for Improving the Quality of Life in Cities and Regions (2018–2023)	44,507.5/ 1,755,720				
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP RDE / Pre-Application Research for ITI II	New Directions of Biomedical Research in Ostrava Region (2019–2022)	17,188.6/ 678,051				
Ministry of Environment	OP ST / Strategic Projects of the Moravian-Silesian Region	Life Environment Research Centre Ostrava (2021–2027)					1,442,989/ 56,922,652
Total			356,034/ 14,044,749	74,666/ 2,945,438	46,681/ 1,841,447	42,541/ 1,678,157	2,052,741/ 80,976,003
In the role of another participant							
Provider / Investor	Programme/Grant Scheme	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
			2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Ministry of Health	Health Research Agency of the Czech Republic				716/ 28,247	3,397/ 133,993	4,025/ 158,791
Ministry of Finance	THE EHP FUND AND NORWAY				491/ 19,361	710/ 28,019	81/ 3,181

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	INTER-ACTION					12/ 485	
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	International Cooperation in R&D-Mobility		33/ 1,302	29/ 1,150			
National Agency for Agricultural Research (NAZV)	Agricultural Research (Earth)		1,577/ 62,195	4,735/ 186,800	1,221/ 48,162		
Czech Science Foundation (GACR)	Standard project of the GACR		2,496/ 98,451	5,710/ 225,245	5,368/ 211,771	8,265/ 326,039	7,939/ 313,190
Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TACR)	Technology Agency of the Czech Republic – Total		4,432/ 174,832	7,090/ 279,699	5,547/ 218,827	11,294/ 445,528	13,094/ 516,537
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP JAK / Cutting-Edge Research	Natural and Anthropogenic Geophysics (2024–2028)					9,093.1/ 358,702
Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	OP JAK / Cutting-Edge Research	Saving Lives through Research into Early Detection and Prevention of Cancer: Molecular, Genomic and Societal Factors (2024–2028)					48,179.5/ 1,900,573
Ministry of Environment	OP ST / Strategic Projects of the Moravian-Silesian Region	REFRESH-Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries (2023–2027)				237,556.7/ 9,371,073	
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP TAK / Application I	miracIIS, SE-Application 1- Non-Invasive Online Patient Monitoring with Artificial Intelligence (2023–2026)				2,699.8/ 106,503	
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP TAK / Application I	Semi-operation of a Comprehensive Service using Heuristic Methods for Optimization and Management of Municipal Waste Collection (2023–2026)				8,889.5/ 350,671	
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP TAK / Application I	Prototype System for Visual Inspection in Mass Production of Polymer Components Using Artificial Intelligence Methods (2024–2026)					9,889.3/ 390,109
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP TAK / Application I	24 VISION a.s. – Application 1 – Automation of Quality Control with Artificial Intelligence Elements in a Hybrid Environment (2024–2026)					3,067.1/ 120,988
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP PIK / Applications	Musculoskeletal Monitoring Using Telemedicine Applications in Trauma Surgery (2020–2022)	11,156.0/ 440,081				
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP PIK / Applications	Using Artificial Intelligence Methods for Automated Medical Image Analysis (2021–2023)		8,078.1/ 318,662			
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP PIK / Applications	Research and Development of CAPIRAX Dietary Supplement (2021–2023)		1,876.2/ 74,013			
Ministry of Trade and Industry	OP PIK / Application ITI Ostrava	Consortium for Industrial Research and Development of New Applications of Laser	8,291.4/ 327,075				

Note: Please summary list GA CR, TA CR and other departmental projects. For co-sponsor projects, please indicate the financial volumes for the HEI. Projects financed from EU structural funds and focused exclusively on R&D&I (e.g., OP JAK, OP TAK, NPO) and projects financed from regional sources focused exclusively on R&D&I list individually. For co-sponsoring projects, please indicate the financial volumes for the evaluated HEI only.

4.10.5 Projects supported from non-public sources

[illegible]

Provider / Investor	Project name	Support (in thousands CZK/EUR)				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total		0	0	0	0	0

Note: Indicate, for example, sponsorship donations, resources generated from other own economic activities, foreign subsidy programmes of private entities.

4.11 Rules for the use of institutional support for the LCDRO

The HEI will describe the strategy and rules for the use of institutional support for the LCDRO in the management of institutionally supported research activities (e.g., prioritisation of research topics by the HEI according to individual needs, internal grant agencies, incentive tools, support for excellent science) and the method for distribution of institutional support to individual departments/research teams for the period of 2020–2024. The impact on the management of institutionally supported research activities will be described by the HEI using specific examples (e.g., distribution of institutional support in the period of 2020–2024 depending on the evaluation results, examples of supported excellent science projects, etc.).

Maximum 500 words plus 200 words for each example given (max. five examples).

Self-assessment:

The University of Ostrava has implemented a very well-developed methodology for evaluating its units in science and research with a direct link to the allocation of institutional funding for the long-term conceptual development of the research organisation (LCDRO). This methodology allows for a unique implementation of national policies through its formative role, which enables the transfer of these goals and incentives. It is based on the national assumptions of disciplinarity (disciplinarily distinct units have full objectives and indicators), relativisation (objectives are set according to the size of the units), continuity (adjustments are not made revolutionarily, time is required for adaptation) and formativity (it is known in advance what the requirements for the unit are so that it can adapt to these with its internal policy). The impact of this methodology on the budget is in turn based on the principle of robustness, i.e., changes are incremental (a bad result does not bring a unit to its knees and allows pro-growth policies to be introduced to improve it).

At the same time, there was a situation where the budget increases for the LCDRO were well below inflation and did not allow for a real increase in funding for the science units. Due to the state policy, they were increasingly becoming dependent on external project funding for their existence. Over the period 2020–2024, the total budget for all HEIs for the LCDRO has only grown by around 19%, while the aggregate inflation over the same period has been over 39%. In addition, the budget did not reflect the high-quality B rating that the UO received, as the results of the evaluation were only visible in the first year, and the share of the LCDRO funds for all HEIs was fixed. Therefore, the UO came to a fully consensual conclusion of the management and the individual units that it was no longer possible to keep such financially destroyed teams under the pressure of further withdrawal of funds for central calls, and all funds were transferred according to the formative methodology to the individual units. Proactive incentive tools were then implemented, but always (a) at the central level from other funds, which objectively increases the amount of funds directed to science and research, unlike the cut-off of funds from the LCDRO, (b) from LCDRO funds only at the level of individual units.

Examples:

Excellence in Science Support Fund of the FSS UO

The FSS UO establishes the Excellence in Science Support Fund with the support of the LCDRO, which is divided into all-faculty and departmental funds. For the all-faculty part of the fund, there is a

methodology in place for supporting and rewarding excellence in science, specifically for publication outputs and project activities. This methodology is updated annually, and the updates are approved by the Dean's College – the highest advisory body of the statutory representative of the Faculty. The remaining part of the all-faculty part of the fund is used for related services to motivate and help excellent science, e.g., language translation (grant applications, article texts) or fees (conference fees, open access APCs, or fees for training in excellence in science). The part of the fund allocated to the departments is again used for translations and fees related to the initiation of new research or its dissemination and application. The efficiency and effectiveness of the use of all components of the fund is evaluated annually.

Quality Support Fund of the Dean of the FA UO

This is a general fund for support based on requests from individual employees. Applications and subsequent support may be directed to contributions for major science and research activities, e.g., support for participation in major scientific conferences, for language proofreading (e.g., of grant applications), or for contributions to publishing activities including APC fees (Article Processing Charge) related to the publication of results in Open Access mode.

Personnel Development Fund of the Dean of the FA UO

A fund from which a contribution can be made on an individual basis to cover the salary costs of an expert that the Faculty's departments and centres would otherwise be unable to budget for. In principle, it is always directed to a person with the promise of advancing the research potential of the relevant work unit. The funds can (and are) used e.g., for co-financing incoming grants for top foreign researchers.

Development of Scientific Capacities Support Fund of the FS UO

The Dean's Measure 3/2022 establishes a fund to support the development of the Faculty's scientific capacities, which is intended to increase staff capacity in cutting-edge science while at the same time increasing the degree of internationalisation. The funding provided can only be used for salary expenses, including statutory health and social security contributions. The supported department must cover 10% by co-funding from its own resources to ensure a level of participation in the risks associated with new staff acquisitions. It is provided by the rules that support can only be used for new researchers whose results and outputs are already in line with the priorities of the national M17+ methodology. At the same time, the applicant must have a prospective research project ready for implementation at the UO.

Methodology of budget allocation for the LCDRO at the FS UO

The majority of the LCDRO funds after the budget for the Development of Scientific Capacities Support Fund at the FS UO is distributed according to a methodology that places high emphasis on (a) top publications in the best journals according to the IF in the relevant WoS Categories, (b) according to the results in the peer review evaluation of selected top outputs in the M1 module, (c) and newly according to the volume of contract research and funding for science and research transfer. This combination motivates each department to produce outputs of top quality, which not only have the potential to be published in the most renowned journals, but also have the potential for success in subsequent peer review, or to implement high-value applied research that has the potential for transfer.

Methodology of budget allocation for the LCDRO at the FM UO

The budget for the LCDRO is strategically allocated at the Faculty of Medicine based on the fulfilment of the prerequisites for publication performance, however, it is not purposefully similar to the former "coffee grinder", where there was the link result = money. It is rather a transparent and pre-communicated tool analogous to contract funding, i.e., the work units have pre-set goals that reflect their size and disciplinary focus. The budget is then incrementally modified according to the execution of the plan, where increments can be both positive and negative. An additional key tool

is the separation of a portion of the budget, which is then allocated according to grant activities. This is not only for the grants being solved, but also for the preparation and submission of new grant proposals to ensure that the system contains the right pro-growth and supportive incentives. In addition, beyond the above, the LF has taken a strategic part of its budget from the LCDRO funds, which it has used for shared laboratories, the APC fund and to support work units with the accreditation of doctoral programmes.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

4.12 Important collaborations in R&D&I

The HEI will describe specific cases of R&D&I collaboration at the national level (maximum five examples) and the international level (maximum five examples), including examples of concrete results and impacts in the field of R&D&I beneficial for the HEI during the period of 2020–2024.

Maximum 300 words per example.

Self-assessment:

A) Examples of cooperation at national level

Cooperation of the UO with the VSB – Technical University of Ostrava

Long-term cooperation between UO and VSB-TUO, which is often strengthened by cooperation with the Ostrava University Hospital, led, among other things, to the absolute first documented finding of microplastics in human amniotic fluid and placenta ("Microplastics and Additives in Patients with Preterm Birth: The first evidence of their presence in both human amniotic fluid and placenta", Journal CHEMOSPHERE). Interdisciplinary collaboration not only in medical sciences, but also, for example, in the field of material sciences, has led to numerous publications and patents and to the successful preparation and profit of the REFRESH and LERCO projects with total budgets of CZK 4.472 billion (EUR 176.4 million). The results of the cooperation in the period under evaluation include, for example, innovative treatment methods for the musculoskeletal system in trauma surgery (OP project, approx. CZK 78 million / EUR 3.08 million) leading to the development of a new generation of implants with improved biomechanical properties and biocompatibility, which were subsequently tested in clinical practice.

Cooperation of UO and FNUSA-ICRC in consortium with Olomouc University Hospital, Palacký University in Olomouc and Masaryk Cancer

The project Molecular, cellular and clinical approach to healthy ageing ENOCH (2018–2023) with a budget of approx. CZK 20 million (EUR 789 thousand). A project focused on age-related haematological diseases, especially amyloidosis, involving the FM UO. The project involved the identification of new biomarkers for early diagnosis and monitoring of disease progression in collaboration with the Olomouc University Hospital, Palacký University and Masaryk Cancer Institute. By combining genetic, molecular biological and clinical approaches, new biomarkers for early diagnosis and monitoring of disease progression have been identified and innovative diagnostic procedures have been developed. Collaboration with institutions continues within the OP JAK SALVAGE project.

Cooperation between the UO and Ostrava University Hospital

This is a key and long-term partnership in research and clinical practice, sharing infrastructure and staff capacity, without which neither of these entities would probably exist in their current form. The cooperation is crucial both for the status of a teaching hospital and for accreditation at the FM UO. In addition to the above-mentioned cooperation with VSB-TUO leading, among others, to the LERCO project, the HAIE (Healthy Aging in Industrial Environment, 2018–2022) project with a budget of CZK 251 million (EUR 9.9 million) was implemented between the FM UO, FE UO and Ostrava

University Hospital. The collaboration led to the identification of new biomarkers of environmental burden to better protect the inhabitants of industrial areas. This collaboration is particularly fundamental in the fields of haematooncology, neurosciences and internal medicine.

Collaboration between the UO and the PrimeCell Advanced Therapy Consortium, SPADIA Lab and the Centre for Cell Therapy and Diagnostics

The project Cell Coolab Ostrava – Research and Development Centre for Cell Therapy in Haematology and Oncology (2018–2022) with a budget of approx. CZK 51.7 million (EUR 2.04 million) led to the development of new protocols for the isolation, cultivation and modification of therapeutic cells. This type of collaboration between an academic institution and the commercial sector accelerates the implementation of research results into clinical use and creates conditions for the development of innovative therapies. This collaboration supported the transfer of basic research into clinical practice and significantly strengthened the position of the FM UO as a leader in the field of translational medicine.

Cooperation between the UO and MEPAC CZ

The IRAFM UO has established an intensive cooperation with MEPAC CZ focused on high-precision engineering, e.g., laser technology, precision welding and engraving or robotics and automation. The successful project "AI-Met4Laser Consortium for Industrial Research and Development of New Applications of Laser Technologies Using Artificial Intelligence Methods" (2020–2023, approx. CZK 24.2 mil. / EUR 955 thousand) led to the implementation of AI algorithms into a new prototype of an engraving machine that can semi-automatically adjust the engraving laser head of the machine with material savings, and demonstrated the success of linking mathematical and informatics methods with the engineering requirements. This cooperation was followed by the project "Prototype System for Visual Inspection in Mass Production of Polymer Components Using Artificial Intelligence Methods" (2024–2026, approx. CZK 27 million / EUR 1.07 million). The projects aim at developing a universal device that will allow inspection of plastic parts of different shapes, sizes, colors, made of different materials and different surface structures to be carried out right away as the first operation after removing the plastic part from the injection tool. The research core of the project is AI, which can evaluate and identify defects that have not been discovered before.

B) Examples of cooperation at international level

Cooperation of the FM UO with the University of Navarra (Spain) in the field of Haematology and Immunology

The team of haematooncologists consisting of physicians, biologists and bioinformatics under the leadership of Prof. Hajek maintains a strategic collaboration with the Centre for Applied Medical Research headed by Dr. Bruno Paiva (<https://cima.cun.es/en/research/staff-research/bruno-paiva>), which has resulted in publications in high impact journals, including *Leukemia* (Q1, IF=12.104). Thanks to this cooperation, the FM UO doctoral students gain expertise in advanced technologies such as single cell analysis through internships, which strengthens the innovation potential of the Faculty and the University as a whole and its attractiveness for talented researchers.

Cooperation of the FM UO with the University of Miami leading to breakthrough research in the field of haematooncology

The team of haematooncologists led by doc. Tomáš Jelínek is implementing a collaboration with the University of Miami initiated by a one-year research stay (from January 2024) of doc. Jelínek at the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center (<https://umiamihealth.org/en/sylvester-comprehensive-cancer-center>). This strategic mobility (see indicator 4.8 for more details) is aimed at learning and transferring state-of-the-art techniques for early and minimally invasive diagnosis of multiple myeloma using circulating tumour plasma cells (CTCs) and studying the identification of predictive factors and resistance mechanisms in modern immunotherapy. Already during the first year of the fellowship, significant scientific outputs were achieved in the form of presentations at the most

prestigious haemato-oncology conferences (ASH, EHA) and preparation of a series of publications in journals with high impact factor (D1/Q1). The most important contribution to research excellence at the FM UO is the establishment of a long-term institutional collaboration between the Blood Cancer Research Group at the FM UO and the prestigious Cancer Center in Miami, which creates conditions for a major shift in the field of personalized treatment of multiple myeloma and significantly strengthens the international position of the FM UO in R&D and Innovation. This collaboration also opens up new opportunities for obtaining international grants and the Faculty involvement in global research consortia in the field of haematooncology.

Cooperation of the FSS UO with the University of Eastern Finland

The cooperation which is dominantly localized at the Faculty of Social Studies thanks to the involvement of Prof. Soňa Kalenda Vávrová in the Advisory Board of the Social Research Center for Welfare Technology at the University of Eastern Finland (<https://sites.uef.fi/weltech/advisory-board/>) has subsequently proved to be crucial for the whole University. In addition to long-term direct research cooperation, two experts from the Finnish work unit were involved in key projects of the University of Ostrava. Namely, Prof. Honglin Chen was involved in the excellent DigiWELL project (OP JAK Top Research project) as a key foreign expert and also the cooperation with Dr. Juha Hämäläinen was mentioned. Prof. Honglin Chen became a member of the ISAB. Furthermore, the project documentation mentioned the Social Research Center for Welfare Technology as a so-called Training Centre in relation to key project-supported mobilities. The same work unit is among the collaborating work units of the REFRESH strategic project, and the above-mentioned Dr. Hämäläinen is a foreign expert on the project. The long-term cooperation has thus helped to gain and subsequently solve two absolutely crucial projects for the UO.

Cooperation between the FS UO and Harvard Medical School in the field of genetic anthropology

Collaboration of biologists from the FS UO with Harvard Medical School, specifically with the David Reich Lab (<https://reich.hms.harvard.edu/>) strengthened by the genetic anthropology research group has led to a long-term collaboration directly with David Reich and his colleagues. The result is a number of prestigious publications, including articles in the journal Nature, where P. Flegontov from the FS UO is the first and corresponding author; other authors from the UO include Piya Changmai, who also thanks to this collaboration submitted a very high-quality ERC project. Thanks to the high-quality evaluation and advancement to the final round, this project, although ultimately not funded by the European Union, received support for the second time from the national system of support for excellence in science ERC CZ. In connection with this collaboration, the contract research reported in Section 3.3 of Module M3 of the FS UO is also being carried out.

Cooperation of the FM UO with Harvard Medical School in the field of obesity treatment

The team of doc. Bužga at the FM UO has established a research collaboration with the Harvard Medical School in consortium with the Brigham and Women's Hospital, specifically with the laboratory led by Christopher C. Thompson (<https://physiciandirectory.brighamandwomens.org/details/1681/christopher-thompson-gastroenterology-hepatology-and-endoscopy-boston>), the Director of Endoscopy, on the "Jejunileal Magnetic Diversion" project. Subsequently, the published results strengthened the international visibility of the FM UO in the field of innovative obesity therapies. This prestigious collaboration enables the Faculty of Medicine to participate in the development of new therapeutic procedures with the potential to transform clinical practice and increases its competitiveness in obtaining international grants.

STUDIES

4.13 Doctoral studies

The HEI will briefly describe the organisation of the doctoral studies (if there are any doctoral study programmes²⁶¹). HEI will comment on:

- Structure and organization of studies.
- A system of cooperation between PhD students and their supervisors.
- Basic statistics (including drop-out rate, student workload, etc.).
- Information on promotion and recruitment schemes.
- Cooperation within doctoral studies (e.g., Czech Academy of Sciences, application sphere, building open study programmes for foreign nationals and creating international networks of study programmes, "joint degree", "cotutelle", etc.).
- Student care system (e.g., counselling, wellbeing care, career guidance).
- A system for tracking the future careers of graduates²⁶².
- Other relevant data, such as the existence of a doctoral school, basic soft skills courses, etc. at the discretion of the HEI.

The HEI shall support this with appropriate examples (e.g., a model example of doctoral student cooperation with their supervisor, statistics on collaboration within doctoral studies, specific examples within doctoral studies, statistics on the use of student care systems, etc.).

Maximum 300 words per point.

Self-assessment:

Structure and organisation of studies

Doctoral studies can be studied in full-time and combined form in the standard duration of 3 or 4 years, while gradually all newly accredited full-time study programmes have switched to the standard duration of 4 years. The UO has clearly set rules for the management of doctoral students, see detail below. In accordance with the applicable laws, the study is concluded with the state doctoral examination and the defence of the dissertation, however, the new legislation introduces the unification of both steps for new students, i.e., the state final examination will consist only of the defence of the dissertation. At the UO, doctoral studies are accredited and offered at all six faculties, which affirms the research character of the University. Key support for doctoral students is provided by the UO not only in the form of a basic scholarship for all full-time doctoral students, but also through numerous internal grant programmes (see indicator 4.2), a system of central scholarships for talented doctoral students, frequent involvement in research projects in the form of employment, support in applying for scholarships from the Moravian-Silesian Region or talent scholarships from the Statutory City of Ostrava. Administrative and organisational support is provided not only by supervisors, departmental councils and departments, but also by the science offices at individual faculties (at the Faculty of Medicine, it is the studies office) and the Central Science and Artistic Activities Office at the Rector's Office, which also provides professional horizontal support through the so-called Doctoral School (<https://www.osu.eu/doctoral-study/>).

System of cooperation between doctoral students and supervisors

The duties of the supervisor and the Programme board that evaluates the course of study are set out in the Study and Examination Regulations of the UO. Doctoral students regularly submit annual individual study plans developed jointly with their supervisors to be approved by the Programme

²⁶¹ If the HEI does not organise any doctoral programme, it will explicitly state this information in the self-evaluation report.

²⁶² The HEI will list the top five highest ranked graduates in academia, the private sector, and public administration over the past five years.

board. The latter then carries out an evaluation of the student in accordance with the fulfilment of the individual study plan. This allows the study plan to be adapted in a targeted manner to the needs of the student and the respective training work unit and to external conditions, such as the student's social or health situation. The internal standards of the UO allow the Programme board to appoint a supervisor and a supervisor-consultant, who complements the supervisor in tandem and allows the scope of training to be expanded with an appropriate disciplinary combination (e.g., the supervisor is a biologist and the supervisor-consultant is a bioinformatician). At the same time, the supervisor plans to engage with the doctoral student in professional horizontal courses and subjects within the Doctoral School, which allow for a wider range of acquired competences and a smoother course of study. There is also support for mobility (e.g., Erasmus and Via PhD) through the Centre for International Cooperation (<https://www.osu.eu/international-office/>), or support from the Counselling and Career Centre (<https://www.osu.eu/counselling-and-career-centre/>) and for the students with needs also Pyramida Centre (<https://pyramida.osu.eu/>). All of this support, as well as the social safety system, is provided by the UO, either on the basis of a recommendation or direction by the student's supervisor, or on the basis of the student's personal choice, which is always respected, and the role of the supervisor is mostly mentoring.

Basic statistics

There are 14 doctoral study programmes (DSPs) at the FA, 2 DSPs at the FSS, 2 DSPs at the FFAM, 7 DSPs at the FM, 4 DSPs at the FE, 8 DSPs at the FS (37 in total). A total of 430 doctoral students were studying at the UO (12/2024), which is the highest number since 2016 (increased by 16% in 2020–2024). Most students are studying at the FM (150), FS (114) and FA (66). The share of full-time studies is approximately 64% in the long term (currently 281). The proportion of men and women is almost equal (45% of men). The proportion of foreign students also increased slightly (from 21% to 23%).

Regarding the dropout rate, which according to the definition of the Ministry is calculated only for the first year of study, the situation for doctoral studies is favourable for the UO. In 2020–2024, the UO's dropout rate is only around 10%, with only 6.3% in the last year under review. This was the lowest non-zero result in the Czech Republic (only HEIs that do not offer any PhD studies or specific Artistic universities that admit only single-digit numbers of students have zero dropouts). Regarding the so-called graduation rate as defined by the Ministry (students who have been enrolled for at least 455 days are monitored, so as not to affect the indicator by early dropouts), the UO reaches a value of 27.8% and as the national average is 23.7%, also here UO proves a higher number of success rate than in the rest of the country. In the last 5 years, a total of 271 students have successfully completed their doctoral studies (average 55 per year), with the highest number of them at the FS (109) and FA (65).

On average, 35% of successful PhD graduates also undertake a stay abroad of at least 30 days during their studies.

Information on promotion and recruitment schemes

The development and promotion of doctoral studies is one of the UO's priority tasks within the Strategic Plan and is directly related to the New Action Plan for the Period 6/2024– 6/2027 ([internal-review-for-renewal-assessment-of-hrs4r-new-action-plan-2024-2027.pdf](#)) related to the Assessment of HRS4R. The plans also include the creation of centrally coordinated recruitment schemes. Recruitment of doctoral students is currently carried out in a number of ways to maximise the number of quality applicants and to enable the committees to select those with the best aptitude. The applied recruitment procedures include:

- Recruitment of candidates from among the graduates of the Master's degree programme on the basis of recommendations from the supervisor of the graduate thesis and other departmental staff
- Recruiting students from other Czech and foreign universities based on personal connections and contacts and using the built reputation of successful research groups
- Recruitment of foreign and Czech candidates by posting offers on websites, social media, or by advertising on job portals and other suitable places, e.g., on Research Jobs (<https://www.researchjobs.cz/en/jobs/>) or on EURAXESS, especially in cases where a position corresponding to the classification of a doctoral student is also offered
- Promotion at international fairs and conferences of higher education, Open Days of All Faculties, events such as the Night of Scientists and other events aimed at popularising science
- Recruitment at foreign universities on the basis of bilateral relations, partnership agreements and strategic trips of UO management delegations to these universities
- Through bilateral diplomatic contacts, e.g., through the embassies and representations of countries with a strong interest in this cooperation in providing higher tertiary education for their young researchers.

Cooperation within doctoral studies

The UO is involved in PhD study collaborations. In addition to the traditional research cooperation, all forms of official cooperation are implemented: joint degrees, cotutelle doctorates, joint accreditation with other institutions, or inviting external members to the Programme boards and external supervisors. Examples:

- Study program *Theory and History of Czech Literature* (FA UO), realized in cooperation with the Institute for Czech Literature of the Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)
- *Philosophy* international study programme (FA UO), realized in cooperation with the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Wrocław
- Cotutelle Doctorates in *Chemistry* with the University of Upper Alsace (FS UO)
- Contractual cooperation with the Institute of Global Change Research (CAS) and VSB-TUO within the study programme *Biophysics and Physics of Nanostructures* (FS UO)
- Contractual cooperation with the Institute of Geonics (CAS) within the framework of the doctoral study programme *Applied Informatics* (FS UO)
- Preparation of a joint degree *Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology* (FM UO) with the University of Cavendish in Zambia
- Study programme *Clinical and Experimental Medicine in Haematology and Oncology* (FM UO) cooperating with a number of institutions, e.g., *University of Navarra* (Spain), *University of Miami* (USA), *Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center New York* (USA), *University of Calgary* (Canada), *Erasmus MC Cancer Institute Rotterdam* (Netherlands)
- Study programme *Internal Medicine* (FM UO) cooperating with the Multimorbidity working group European Federation of Internal Medicine

The UO exploits the potential of partnerships with neighbouring universities. It is preparing a doctoral study programme focused on AI with VSB-TUO (involving IRAFM UO in the AI domain and faculties for domain applications) and IRAFM UO develops contractual cooperation to guarantee the application for accreditation to the Silesian University in Opava (SLU). At the same time, all three regional universities (UO, VSB-TUO and SLU) joined forces in cooperation in the doctoral schools.

Student care system (e.g., counselling, wellbeing care, career guidance)

The system of care for doctoral students is based on a multi-layered model, where the primary layer is the supervisor and the relevant department in terms of professionalism. Other layers constitute,

e.g., information support for relevant faculty departments (science), activities of the Counselling and Career Centre (<https://www.osu.eu/counselling-and-career-centre/>), which offer a range of support, from study consultations, career consultations, to psychological counselling or coaching. The Pyramida Centre (<https://pyramida.osu.eu/>) providing support for students with special needs is part of the system. During 2020–2024, the total number of counseling services (academic counseling, career counseling, psychological counseling) was approximately 2,200 per academic year, with approximately 60 doctoral students involved.

In the area of well-being and work-life balance in general, a working group has been set up at the UO to take this goal even further to a deeper systemic level.

Furthermore, the UO uses activities leading to better onboarding. For several years now, a Welcome Day has been organised every year at the beginning of the studies, where the Vice-Rector for Research and Artistic Activities welcomed all doctoral students and provided them with introductory information about the study system and the services provided. In these matters, he has always relied on numerous presentations by colleagues e.g., from the International Office (about offered choice of mobilities) or the KTTC (about IP).

The new concept of the Welcome Day will be transformed into an introductory adaptation course with a trip to a hotel in the countryside, which will allow to strengthen networking, personal ties of doctoral students to the University and other doctoral students and intensify their preparation, which should help them with a smoother start of the new career.

Graduate career tracking system

Careers are tracked to the extent permitted by cybersecurity and data protection rules. The UO must not maintain emails for students after graduation nor may continue to retain private contacts gathered during their studies.

The UO has therefore created an Alumni Portal (only in Czech <https://absolventi.osu.cz/>), where alumni can voluntarily register. They can then stay in permanent contact with their alma mater and attend various events of social and professional importance. So, we manage to keep a good overview of their careers.

Examples of successful PhD graduates:

- **Kateřina Lochmanová** (defended in 2021; FA UO). Institute of Philosophy, CAS, researcher
- **Lucie Rathouzská** (defended in 2022; FA UO). Institute of Philosophy, CAS, researcher
- **Jan Matyáš** (defended in 2020; FA UO). National Heritage Institute, territorial expert workplace in Kroměříž, head of the department of monuments registration
- **Monika Szturcová** (defended in 2021; FA UO). Silesian Museum, Head and Curator of Literary Collections
- **Harrer-Amersdorffer Jutta Helga** (defended in 2021; FSS UO). Technische Hochschule Nürnberg Georg Simon Ohm. Professor of Social Work Theory and Social Work Negotiation Theory
- **Anastasia Karpunina** (defended in 2022; FSS UO). Postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Sociological Studies at the University of Sheffield
- **Zuzana Stanková** (defended in 2022; FSS UO). FSS UO, Assistant Professor. Founder and co-owner of the spin-off company **Rosteam**
- **Jakub DOLEŽEL** (defended in 2019; FM UO). Head of the implementation team of the Telemedicine Services Center, University Hospital Ostrava.
- **Lenka KRUPOVÁ** (defended in 2020; FM UO). Head Nurse of Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Ostrava
- **Pavla Svrčinová** (defended in 2019; FM UO). Chief Hygienist, Ministry of Health of Czech Republic, 2019–2023.

- **Molinger Jindřich** (defended in 2024; FFAM UO). Solo horn player of the Janáček Philharmonic Ostrava.
- **Rovná Veronika** (defended in 2024; FFAM UO). Soloist of the Moravian-Silesian National Theatre Opera.

Doctoral school and soft skills courses

The Doctoral School of the UO is a horizontal educational support system for PhD students introducing them generic and transferable skills and developing competencies across all programmes. The Doctoral School offers standard semestral courses completed by credits (Academic Writing; Academic English; Scientometrics; Publishing Strategies and Supporting IT Tools in Science; Enhancing Teaching Skills; Qualitative Research Methodology and Quantitative Research Methodology). Recently, it has been extended by possibility of organizing short workshops or seminars for doctoral students which do not require complex accreditation process that does not reflect the need for quick responses to the needs of the environment. We may mention a series of workshops on Open Science, which can be taken as a whole or can be chosen on a selective basis, choosing only those that the doctoral students need for their work. In preparation are courses on Communication Science or Entrepreneurship courses. In this way, courses can be brought to students from practitioners and experts (Open Science Manager, Head of the KTTC UO) due to their expertise regardless their (missing) habilitation.

The new agreement on cooperation with VSB-TUO and SLU was also reached – it is based on the joint organisation of a Scientific Writing Camp for students from all universities, who will participate in transdisciplinary teams in developing research projects with the assistance of mentors, while the winning teams gets a financial support for future phases. The second part of the cooperation is based on sharing the free capacity of Doctoral School courses, so UO students will be able to attend Doctoral Schools courses at the partners.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

4.14 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 4

The HEI will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 4 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words

Self-assessment:

For the sake of readability, we repeat the recommendations provided by IEP in the Assessment from 2020. However, the maximal number of words defined for this section of the evaluation does not allow us to include our reactions to all recommendations. Consequently, only the most crucial ones are included below, some of them are shortened or two or more recommendations are aggregated. We look forward to provide more detailed information during the on-site visit. Recommendations are in italics while the answers are in roman letters.

- ***Reinforce the Project Support Office to assistance researchers applying for European projects. Set up a specific office to support researchers, with staff specialised in EU-funded research. Strengthen support for obtaining international projects, mainly those with UO as beneficiary.***

RE: Done. This step has been implemented by constituting a subpart of the PS Office and finding a new manager for the EU project applications support.

- ***Encourage greater involvement of researchers in social sciences, arts and humanities by creating a sustainable research centre to increase the number of research centres at the University of Ostrava.***

RE: These research Centres (ERIS, VIVARIUM etc.) have been strongly supported by their engagement in the big transdisciplinary projects, which gives them a huge chance to overcome these periods of cutting state budgets (in real values) and to prove their pilotage is successful and may serve as an example of good practice.

• Strengthen the efforts in the field of increasing the number of female professors and what is concerned the organisation and support of Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts. Change age structure of people on professor position and increase the number of full professors and attract high-profile researchers who will contribute to strengthening the University.

RE: The number and the percentage of female professors increased (see 4.5). The age structure of professors improved. Internationalization has been also increased. Repetitive incoming call have been used to strengthen the teams. The number of researchers and their foreign percentage increased as well.

• Offer doctoral degrees in association with other universities within the country. Offer doctoral degrees in association with universities in other countries.

RE: The cooperation on national as well as international level is among major goals of UO in the doctoral studies and the plan is to go on in this direction (see 4.13).

• Increase the scholarship for doctoral studies to the minimum monthly salary in the Czech Republic. Develop strategy to ensure that major grant applications, wherever possible, include fully funded doctoral positions.

RE: The Ministry has not increased the specific budget for the doctoral scholarships for a ca decade. Thus, the doctoral scholarship remained unchanged. However, the UO has increased significantly both, the percentage of doctoral students who are in parallel employed as well as the average FTE (and consequently the salary) of PhD students. Due to the success in projects, some of the students have 1.0FTE and salaries that double the minimal national salary (plus the scholarship). Starting from September 2025, all PhD students will start to receive doctoral income that will be 1.2 higher than the minimal salary. All big projects need to be structured in an optimal pyramid of HR positions with sufficient basis for juniors and PhD students. All smaller grants (GACR, TACR) are even judged by meeting the PhD study involvement goal and so, even for them we employ this strategy.

• Encourage student's mobility.

RE: UO employed active policy in the budgetary methodology that offers strengthens mobilities more than the national policy, due to which UO became one of the leaders in this indicator.

• The presuppositions for national and international cooperation are given, and the organisational side is well developed. Practically, the activities concentrate well above average in the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Science. Our recommendation therefore is to support the engagement of the other faculties.

RE: This strategy has been employed, and the engagement is nowadays, even reaching the absorption capacity mainly in the case of FSS, IRAFM has more than 60% of FTE on running grants, all of them in a cooperation with partners

• Look for other opportunities for R&D&I cooperation at the national level than the operational programmes.

RE: To confirm this strategy was followed, we present the budget of gained national research projects in 2016 (beginning of the previous period): CZK 39.6 milion (EUR 1.56 milion); in 2020 (beginning of the currently evaluated period): CZK 72.2 milion (EUR 2.85 milion); and in 2023 (accounting of 2024 is not closed yet): CZK 95.8 milion (EUR 3.78 milion).

• Establish temporary secondments for high-profile professors, whose position is adequately enumerated even after the sabbatical period.

RE: Any position is kept with all the setting and benefits even after the sabbatical period.

• ***The recruitment of high-profile international researchers should be reinforced.***

RE: This plan was employed in all big projects (e.g., REFRESH, LERCO, DigiWELL) as well as in specific open position calls (e.g., so-called “global expert” call).

• ***More elaborate information should be provided on international academics selection procedures; the transparent distribution of institutional Full Time Equivalents (FTE's); position on successive contracts and senior academic posts; arrangements for staff return after placements at external workplaces, including abroad; and any other presented information.***

RE: More details are in 4.5–4.7, especially in 4.6. Lots of strategic steps have been employed in this direction.

• ***Reconsider the trends in the female gender involvement by highlighting reasons or factors implicated. Moreover, more transparency in this issue by – for example a web page with numbers is suggested.***

RE: The trends were considered and moved towards the goals, some bodies are already equalized, the internal principles are obstacle-less, percentage of female professors increased, lots of work has been done on informing and instructing all employees and communicating the strategy openly including workshops, lectures and public videos.

• ***Establish a plan to attract private funding linked to research projects.***

RE: Based on the last recommendations, UO worked a lot in this direction, nowadays, from the budgetary point of view, vast majority of projects focus on applied science and often include private partners – recall the note on IRAFM UO with CZK 43(+15) milion (EUR 1.7 milion) on projects with partners in 4.3 above.

• ***The challenge facing Ostrava is familiar to any research-active university ...Researchers should also be encouraged to recycle promising applications. An internal, specialist independent review panel for applications before submission is also an essential component of a strategy like this.***

RE: This strategy has been employed in internal grant competitions, which provide researchers with monetary support to rework and resubmit their previous unsupported grant proposals. The monetary support is not only directed in bonuses but contain also travel money and services that may be used for consultations or establishing grant partnerships.

• ***Establish an annual budget for new teams and areas of research via a specific call.***

RE: Described in 4.2 in detail.

• ***Ensure that major grant applications include well considered proposals for infrastructure and equipment purchases. Explore the scope for sharing expensive equipment with other local institutions. Plan implementation of a system and procedures for sharing the equipment at the UO level and also with the external research organizations. A good practice of creating a database of available equipment could be suggested here.***

RE: This strategy has been mirrored in all strategic projects (see 4.9 for details). Sharing the facilities and infrastructure points is ensured also via NEOLAiA alliance. Sharing the internal infrastructure is also ensured, the database is accessible to anyone.

• ***Overall, Ostrava is moving in the right direction in these areas, though it is currently behind best standards in the sector. The self-evaluation gives the impression of fragmented, ad hoc practices, which are especially serious in relation to data management, and the institution should seek expert input in establishing principles, guidelines, rules and systems that apply across all its work. These might include creating institution-wide repositories for open access research that meets a certain standard and for sensitive data.***

RE: data management strategy started to be employed, hardware as well as manpower and knowledge support are the keypoints that UO started to invest in. Open Science became a crucial strategic priority, an open repository has been established.

- ***As above, carefully integrate OS and OA principles into UO Strategic Plan. What could be useful it to introduce a general university repository with publications of UO employees which will be easy to search through by key words, authors names or fields of expertise.***

RE: Described above – this is undoubtedly a key priority we meet and put our main focus on (see 4.4).

- ***Consider implementing a uniform concept of research data management and establish a team which could draw from FM UO experiences. This team could be responsible for drafting criteria for a centralized data management system available to all UO employees.***

RE: The experience from FM UO is not transferrable as it is based on a close relationship to the University Hospital, sharing personnel as well as infrastructures, which is due to the joint projects more than natural. However, UO agrees with this weak point and invested into setting new central data management infrastructure and its operation as well as education of key data stewards and data managers on its use.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 4

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
Faculty of Science of the UO	4.1	https://prf.osu.eu/
Faculty of Medicine of the UO	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/
Faculty of Arts of the UO	4.1	https://ff.osu.eu/
Faculty of Fine Arts and Music of the UO	4.1	https://fu.osu.eu/
Faculty of Education of the UO	4.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/
Faculty of Social Studies of the UO	4.1	https://fss.osu.eu/
Centre of Excellence IT4Innovations – Institute for Research and Applications of Fuzzy Modeling (IRAFM) of the UO	4.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/
IRAFM Working Groups	4.1	https://ifm.osu.eu/research-groups/
European Research Institute for Social Work (ERIS)	4.1	https://eris.osu.eu/
Environmental Center	4.1	https://prf.osu.eu/enc/
The Centre for Research on Natural Science Education and Talent-Management	4.1	https://prf.osu.eu/cvvp/
Life Science Research Centre	4.1	http://lsrc.osu.cz/
The Centre for Economic and Social History	4.1	https://ff.osu.eu/chsd/
The Centre for the Research of Professional Language	4.1	https://ff.osu.eu/cvoj/
The Centre for Regional Studies	4.1	https://ff.osu.eu/ceres/
The Centre for Research in Medieval Society and Culture (VIVARIUM)	4.1	https://ff.osu.eu/viv/
Human Motion Diagnostic Centre	4.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/cdlp/
Centre for Educational Research	4.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/cpv/
Centre for Research into Culture and Identity of the Region	4.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/cvkir/
Centre for Visual Studies	4.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/cvs/
Institute for Adult Education and Development	4.1	https://pdf.osu.eu/cdv/
Institute of Clinical Pharmacology	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/ufa/
The Institute of Emergency Medicine	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/umk/
Institute of Molecular and Clinical Pathology and Medical Genetics	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/upa/
Institute of Laboratory Medicine	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/kbo/
Institute of Physiology and Pathophysiology	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/ufy/

Centre for Hyperbaric Medicine of FM UO and Ostrava City Hospital	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/hbm/
Simulation Centre/Training Hospital (SIMLEK)	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/sim/
Centre for Health Research	4.1	https://lf.osu.eu/czv/
Life Environment Research Center Ostrava (LERCO)	4.1	https://lerco.osu.eu/
Research Excellence For REgion Sustainability and High-tech Industries (REFRESH)	4.1	https://refresh.osu.eu/
Research of Excellence on Digital Technologies and Wellbeing (DigiWELL)	4.1	https://www.digiwell-opjak.cz/en/
Statute of the UO	4.1	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/statute-uo.pdf
The Knowledge and Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Ostrava (KTTC UO)	4.1, 4.4	https://www.osu.eu/knowledge-and-technology-transfer/
Centre for Information Technology (CIT)	4.1, 4.2	https://cit.osu.eu/
Centre for International Cooperation	4.2, 4.13	https://www.osu.eu/international-office/
International Council at the UO	4.2, 4.3	https://www.osu.eu/international-council/
University Library	4.2	https://library.osu.eu/
Shared Research Infrastructure of the UO (only in Czech)	4.2, 4.9	https://www.osu.cz/vyzkumna-infrastruktura/
Code of Ethics for Employees and Students of the UO	4.3, 4.4, 4.7	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/eticky-kodex-en.pdf
HRS4R label (HR Award)	4.3	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/hrs4r/internal-review-for-renewal-assessment-of-hrs4r-new-action-plan-2024-2027.pdf
Whistleblowing Channel of the UO (only in Czech)	4.3	https://nntb.cz/c/mvx3lu6g
Human Resources Strategy in Research at the UO and Action Plan	4.3, 4.6	https://www.osu.eu/hrs4r/
Do not let it be	4.3	https://www.app.nntb.cz/en-gb/
Ethics Committee of the UO	4.3	https://www.osu.eu/ethics-committee/
Practical guide to social safety at the UO	4.3	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/pruvodci/prakticky-pruvodce-socialnim-bezpecim-en.pdf
Council for the Commercialization UO	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/the-council-for-commercialisation/
IRAFM UO Vision Group	4.4	https://graphicwg.irafm.osu.cz/storage/pr/links.html
KTTC UO Commercialization statistics	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/commercialization-statistics/
Spin-off Rosteam s.r.o.	4.4	www.rosteam.cz
Moravian-Silesian Innovation Centre	4.4	https://www.ms-ic.cz/en/
Zenodo Repository of the UO	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/open-science/storing-your-data/
Guide to the Zenodo Repository at the UO	4.4	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/open-science/zenodo-en.pdf
Computer Security Incident Response Team of the UO	4.4	https://www.trusted-introducer.org/directory/teams/csirt-ou-cz.html
GDPR rules at the UO	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/gdpr/
Methodological materials and templates for data management	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/open-science/helpful-resources/
Web Open Science UO	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/open-science/
Document on the Open Science Policy at the UO	4.4	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/open-science/os-en.pdf
General information about Open Access publishing at the UO	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/open-science/open-access/

Information on the terms and conditions of funders in the field of Open Access to publications	4.4	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/open-science/podminky-poskytovatelu-en.pdf
Transformation contracts for APC tokens for Open Access publishing	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/open-science/transformational-agreements/
Persistent identifier ROR UO	4.4	https://ror.org/00pygav47
Open Access Publishing Discounts at the UO	4.4	https://www.osu.eu/open-science/open-access-publishing-discounts/
Archive of the publications issued by the UO	4.4	https://eduo.osu.cz/home
Job opportunities at the UO website	4.6	https://www.osu.eu/job-opportunities/
Rector's Order No. 205/2023	4.6	https://portal.osu.cz/publicdocs?id=A1001001A25C28A93055J07037
Rector's Order No. 207/2023	4.6	https://portal.osu.cz/publicdocs?id=A1001001A25C26B55138B37439
The Regulations on the Career System of the UO	4.3, 4.6	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/karierni-rad-en-06032019.pdf
Action Plan of Gender Equality at the UO 2022–2025	4.7	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/osu/action-plan-of-gender-equality-at-the-university-of-ostava.pdf
UO Strategic Plan 2021–2025	4.2, 4.7, 4.9	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf
Women in Science: Motherhood is not a barrier to success-OU@live (only in Czech)	4.7	https://alive.osu.cz/zeny-ve-vede-materstvi-neni-prekazkou-k-uspechu/
Fullbright Alumni	4.8	https://fulbright.gov.cz/en/grantees-and-alumni/current-grantees/
Dr. Bruno Paiva (Center for Applied Medical Research, University of Navarra)	4.12	https://cima.cun.es/en/research/staff-research/bruno-paiva
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami	4.12	https://umiamihealth.org/en/sylvester-comprehensive-cancer-center
Advisory Board of the Social Research Center for Welfare Technology na University of Eastern Finland	4.12	https://sites.uef.fi/weltech/advisory-board/
David Reich Lab, Harvard Medical School	4.12	https://reich.hms.harvard.edu/
Christopher C. Thompson, Harvard Medical School	4.12	https://physiciandirectory.brighamandwomens.org/details/1681/christopher-thompson-gastroenterology-hepatology-and-endoscopy-boston
Doctoral School UO	4.13	https://www.osu.eu/doctoral-study/
Pyramida Center	4.13	https://pyramida.osu.eu/
New Action Plan HRS4R 2024–2027	4.13	internal-review-for-renewal-assessment-of-hrs4r-new-action-plan-2024-2027.pdf
Research jobs website	4.13	https://www.researchjobs.cz/en/jobs/
Counseling and Career Centre UO	4.13	https://www.osu.eu/counselling-and-career-centre/
Alumni Portal of the UO	4.13	https://absolventi.osu.cz/

MODULE 5 - STRATEGY AND POLICIES

5.1 Mission and vision of the evaluated institution in R&D&I

The HEI will briefly describe its mission and vision with emphasis on R&D&I in general and its R&D&I capacities in the implemented R&D&I fields²⁶³ (Tables 5.1.1 and 5.1.2). In particular, the HEI's vision covers the following five-year period and must relate to the strategic objectives of the Provider, the National Policy on Research, Development, and Innovation of the Czech Republic 2021+, the Gender Equality Strategy 2021-2030, and other higher national and supranational strategic documents in the field of R&D&I (Table 5.1.3). The HEI shall complement the description with active references to its Strategic plan for the teaching, scholarly, scientific, research, development, artistic, and other creative activities of the higher education institution (regarding the results and recommendations from the previous evaluation period, if the evaluated HEI participated in it). The HEI shall describe how the vision and mission were implemented during the period of 2020–2024.

Maximum 2000 words.

Self-assessment:

Mission and vision of UO in R&D&I stems from a) Strategic Plan 2021–2025 and its evaluation (<https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf>); b) Strategic Plan 2026–2030 (in the phase of its creation); c) National RDI Policy of the Czech Republic 2021+ (<https://vyzkum.gov.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=932081>); d) Evaluation Methodology 2017+ and its resort version M2025+ (<https://vyzkum.gov.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=695512>); e) National strategy RIS3 (Research and Innovation Strategy for Smart Specialisation, https://www.ris3.cz/sites/default/files/National-RIS3-Strategy_2.pdf) as well as its regional version RIS-MSK; f) Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030 (<https://vlada.gov.cz/cz/ppov/rovne-prilezitosti-zen-a-muzu/dokumenty/zakladni-dokumenty-rady-216828/#>) and g) from the valid as well as intended legislative The Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 Coll (<https://msmt.gov.cz/areas-of-work/tertiary-education/the-higher-education-act?lang=2>), The Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the Support of Research and Development (<https://vyzkum.gov.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=15607>), Directive 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Act no. 130/2002 Coll. Open science (<http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/1024/oj>).

Although even the National RDI Policy recalls, that the most fundamental Act No. 130/2002 has been only until 2018 already 19 times novelized, it is a major legislative document that jointly with Act No. 111/1998 create the framework in which UO and other HEIs operate, and so, both establish firm grounds for the strategical management.

The Mission and vision of UO could be in the following itemization:

- 1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics
- 2) Research with strong interdisciplinary character that enables to incorporate even non-major research initiatives or smaller teams out of current main directions
- 3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region
- 4) Research involving and supporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students
- 5) Research that is provided with better system support
- 6) Research system that takes its formative role as a key central point that motivates for doing the right things
- 7) Research with the internationalization spirit
- 8) Research supported by a strong HR management system
- 9) Research that is ethically responsible and as open as possible

²⁶³ For so-called R&D&I capacities, see Definition of Terms in Methodology HEI2025+.

10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges

We only shortly comment on the 10 highlighting points mentioned above as more space is provided below in indicators 5.2 and 5.3

- 1) The research in the directions that belong to the key ones needs to be and will be emphasized. The word “key” denotes the directions that are either part of the major research initiatives of UO (<https://www.osu.eu/research-initiatives/>), or derive from their importance in relation to the National Strategy RIS3 or to the Regional Strategy RIS3-MSK, or stem from the National RDI Policy. This is a wide range of fields and areas which offer very attractive combinations and wide choice for interdisciplinarity and also direct connections to currently running strategic projects, that, naturally, should not be viewed as time limited donations to particular departments, but as a truly strategic emphasis on long-term sustainable field orientation of UO. This is perfectly aligned with the so-called “Megatrends in RDI” mentioned in the Addendum to the National RDI policy, that mention e.g., Demography incl. migration (connection to REFRESH), Natural resources and energy (connection to REFRESH), Climatic change and environment (connection to REFRESH), Society incl. urbanization (connection to REFRESH), Health, inequality and living standards (connection to REFRESH, LERCO and DigiWELL), Big data analysis (connection to REFRESH, LERCO, DigiWELL, and Biography of disinformation project), AI (connection to REFRESH, LERCO, DigiWELL, and the Biography of disinformation project), Neurotechnologies (connection to LERCO), Nanomaterials (connection to LERCO).
- 2) Interdisciplinarity is a key point that boosted the cooperation within UO as well as between UO and other HEIs, and so it remains our major focus to be strengthened in the future. The intersecting points listed in point 1) above, as well as the already running interdisciplinary strategic projects, demonstrate this direction to be well-functioning and sustainable with respect to key strategic documents in the Czech Republic.
- 3) Due to the connection to the Regional Strategy RIS-MSK, the UO research is by principle set up to focus on the fields with the major interest of the region in its innovative growth. Apart from that, it is one of the key goals of UO to coordinate setting the of the cooperation. This coordination has very strong roots in the past and UO managed to intensify it in the recent years. UO will emphasize the focus on the societal relevance that will undoubtedly, play a key role in the ability to sustain the research funds and the cooperation with the general as well as regional stakeholders. The knowledge transfer is an essential part of this mission and vision priority.
- 4) The insufficient support of early-stage researchers does not give a chance for the sustainable research evolution and therefore, the support of junior researchers (postdocs) and Ph.D. students will remain one of the strategic goals that will be mirrored in the currently created Strategic Plan 2026–2030.
- 5) The research at UO cannot be left without improved and strengthened support. This is meant on distinct level or layers. By support, we mean improved formative tools, motivating incentives (e.g., internal grants), well-directed and focused monetary support, strengthened team support (strengthening the EU-fund and project office, Open Science support, Science communication support, mobility support) as well as general scientific environment (work-life balance, childcare, digitalization of services, support SW systems etc).
- 6) The formative role has been the main motto of the whole RDI evaluation system at UO and it is one of the main goals of UO to adopt this principle generally. For instance, the internal grant support is mainly not focused on funding the research itself as it would be a service that replaces the national and international agencies. It is mainly used in order to provide monetary support that motivates teams and individuals to apply for external funding. Such an approach needs to be upgraded from individual cases to a general principle.

- 7) The internalization “per se” is not the goal while internalization of the RDI activities or with the positive impact on research activities is what UO opts for. Therefore, and also in the light of the point 6), the internationalization will be performed in a wide spectrum of its forms (international projects, joint degrees, cotutelle, study programmes in foreign languages, increased number of foreign students, increased number of foreign academics and researchers, international cooperations and publication outputs with foreign co-authors) which will be done through the formative tools.
- 8) HR management is a key policy in any institution and in the case of HEIs, it has a direct and crucial impact on the research performed. The adopted direction needs to be followed, HR award again not per se, but as a tool of outer and fair evaluation of our intended internal changes and policies, guarantees the strong will to improve the HR support. Moreover, NEOLaIA as an alliance focusing on diversity and inclusion gives a strong support in formulating the right directions and defining the right tools. On the national level, we stem from the Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030. Connection to the internationalization is straightforward.
- 9) The provided research has to be ethical from all points of view. Here, we do not mean only the standard ethical aspects of the research itself (privacy, data protection, medical and bioresearch ethics etc.) but also more general aspects will be taken into account, such as potential impact on the research, fostering research with responsible impact on the society or environment, inclusivity w.r.t. involved researchers, or ethics related to open science (fair and open data, reproducibility and reusability).

Responsibility w.r.t. global challenges is meant not only with the focus on sustainability development goals, but mainly in order to preserve the institutional resistance to influence by foreign power. It is absolutely crucial to meet the standards given by the Ministry of interior Manual for HEIs and other derived documents in both, the resilience as well as cybersecurity.

5.1.1 R&D&I capacities of HEI in the year 2025

Field of Research	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of field of reaserch [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	4.59	Basic research	24.94
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	4.15	Basic research	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.94	Basic research	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	2.70	Basic research	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	2.73	Basic research	
	1.6 Biological sciences	9.83	Basic research	
	1.7 Other natural sciences		Zvolte položku.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering		Zvolte položku.	1.12
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.15	Applied research	
	2.4 Chemical engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.5 Materials engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	0.58	Basic research	
	2.7 Environmental engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.03	Balanced basic and applied research	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.36	Applied research	

3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	4.09	Basic research	34.2
	3.2 Clinical medicine	17.31	Applied research	
	3.3 Health sciences	12.80	Applied research	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.02	Applied research	0.02
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science		Zvolte položku.	
	4.3 Veterinary science		Zvolte položku.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences		Zvolte položku.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	2.56	Basic research	20.46
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.13	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.3 Education	9.25	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.4 Sociology	4.22	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.5 Law	0.11	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.6 Political science	0.24	Applied research	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	3.43	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.8 Media and communications	0.01	Basic research	
	5.9 Other social sciences	0.51	Balanced basic and applied research	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	4.11	Basic research	19.27
	6.2 Languages and Literature	9.84	Basic research	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	1.68	Basic research	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	3.60	Basic research	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.04	Basic research	
Total		100 %	-	100 %

5.1.2 Target R&D&I capacities of HEI for the next five-year period

Field of Research	FORD	FORD share [%]	Predominant type of research	Total share of field of research [%]
1. Natural Sciences	1.1 Mathematics	4.02	Basic research	25.20
	1.2 Computer and information sciences	4.52	Balanced basic and applied research	
	1.3 Physical sciences	0.94	Basic research	
	1.4 Chemical sciences	2.70	Balanced basic and applied research	
	1.5 Earth and related environmental sciences	2.70	Balanced basic and applied research	
	1.6 Biological sciences	10.32	Balanced basic and applied research	
	1.7 Other natural sciences		Zvolte položku.	
2. Engineering and Technology	2.1 Civil engineering		Zvolte položku.	1.87
	2.2 Electrical engineering, Electronic engineering, Information engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.3 Mechanical engineering	0.15	Applied research	
	2.4 Chemical engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.5 Materials engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.6 Medical engineering	1.33	Basic research	

	2.7 Environmental engineering		Zvolte položku.	
	2.8 Environmental biotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.9 Industrial biotechnology		Zvolte položku.	
	2.10 Nanotechnology	0.03	Balanced basic and applied research	
	2.11 Other engineering and technologies	0.36	Applied research	
3. Medical and Health Sciences	3.1 Basic medicine	4.90	Basic research	32.88
	3.2 Clinical medicine	16.40	Applied research	
	3.3 Health sciences	11.58	Applied research	
4. Agricultural and veterinary sciences	4.1 Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries	0.02	Applied research	0.02
	4.2 Animal and Dairy science		Zvolte položku.	
	4.3 Veterinary science		Zvolte položku.	
	4.4 Other agricultural sciences		Zvolte položku.	
5. Social Sciences	5.1 Psychology and cognitive sciences	2.75	Balanced basic and applied research	21.50
	5.2 Economics and Business	0.13	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.3 Education	9.43	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.4 Sociology	5.15	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.5 Law	0.32	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.6 Political science	0.16	Applied research	
	5.7 Social and economic geography	3.38	Balanced basic and applied research	
	5.8 Media and communications	0.01	Basic research	
	5.9 Other social sciences	0.17	Balanced basic and applied research	
6. Humanities and the Arts	6.1 History and Archaeology	4.11	Basic research	18.54
	6.2 Languages and Literature	8.95	Basic research	
	6.3 Philosophy, Ethics and Religion	1.77	Basic research	
	6.4 Arts (arts, history of arts, performing arts, music)	3.69	Basic research	
	6.5 Other Humanities and the Arts	0.01	Basic research	
Total		100 %	-	100 %

5.1.3 Relation to the strategic objectives of the provider and strategic documents in the field of R&D&I

Strategic document	Follow-up
National RDI Policy of the Czech Republic 2021+	1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics, and 2) Research with strong interdisciplinary character that enables to incorporate even non-major research initiatives or smaller teams out of current main directions, and 3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region, and 4) Research involving and supporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students, and 7) Research with the internationalization spirit, and 8) Research supported by a strong HR management system, and pporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students, and 9) Research that is ethically responsible and as open as possible, and 10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges.
Evaluation Methodology 2017+	3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region, and 6) Research system that takes its formative role as a key central point that motivates for doing the right things.

National strategy RIS3	1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics, and 3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region, and 10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges
Regional RIS3-MSK	3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region
Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030	4) Research involving and supporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students, and 7) Research supported by a strong HR management system
The Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 Coll	1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics
The Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the Support of R&D	1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics, and 3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region, and 4) Research involving and supporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students, and 9) Research that is ethically responsible and as open as possible
Directive 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Act no. 130/2002 Coll. on Open science	9) Research that is ethically responsible and as open as possible
UO Strategic Plan 2021–2025	1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics, and 2) Research with strong interdisciplinary character that enables to incorporate even non-major research initiatives or smaller teams out of current main directions, and 3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region, and 4) Research involving and supporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students, and 5) Research that is provided with better system support, and 7) Research with the internationalization spirit, and 8) Research supported by a strong HR management system, and pporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students, and 9) Research that is ethically responsible and as open as possible, and 10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges.
Counter Foreign Interference Manual for the Czech Academic Sector	10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges
Methodological recommendations for risk management in the field of research safety at the institutional level <i>[in Czech]</i>	10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges
Methodological recommendation defining the minimum scope of due diligence and risk management of cooperation with third parties in the framework of strengthening the resilience of the higher education and research environment against illegitimate influence (Methodological recommendation on cooperation with third parties) <i>[in Czech]</i>	10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges
NIS2	10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges
Decree No. 82/2018 Coll., on cybersecurity <i>[in Czech]</i>	10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges

5.2 Research and development objectives

The HEI will describe its intentions and goals for the next five-year period. The objectives in the field of research development, innovation, and knowledge transfer as well as the objectives in the field of cooperation with public administration, entrepreneurs, and non-profit organisations will be described in relation to the mission, vision and disciplinary capacities of the HEI. Furthermore, the objectives for the development of the HEI as a research organisation will be described, in the areas of human potential development, institutional resilience, the implementation of open science and adherence to the principles of ethics, scientific integrity, and good practice, and their interrelationship with R&D&I objectives. The objectives described must be consistent with the Strategic plan for the teaching, scholarly, scientific, research, development, artistic and other creative activities of the higher education institution.

Maximum 2000 words.

Self-assessment:

The above-mentioned 10 points of our major mission and vision can be summarized in terms of goals as follows:

- 1) The goal is to set up a strong support of the key research directions so that they become stable and robust as their presence in the sufficient strength and critical mass at UO is a substantial condition for the whole university potential to compete for external research support funds. Creation of recordable institutional CV in such research fields, that are view strategic on the European, national, or regional level, or stem from those that proved their essential importance for university in the past due to their high efficiency and impact, i.e., major research initiatives or the strategic project work package teams.
- 2) Making and keeping such teams mentioned in point 1) stable and robust contributes to the potential of other teams to join them in interdisciplinary research, and, moreover, gives a potential to apply for strategic income growth.
- 3) The goal can be seen in the increased number of collaborations (projects) with regional stakeholders where the word “project” is not meant only as a grant funding of research, but any cooperation with a direct impact to the region, where the third role is significantly represented as well. The same can be stated as a goal towards national impact and national policies and, in general, stabilized knowledge and technology transfer as not only a visible source of income of UO, but mainly as a tool of making the university impact visible and valuable.
- 4) The support of early-stage researchers (ESR – juniors, postdocs, PhD students) is essential, and it cannot become a cliché, it has to be a recordable fact that stands among pilots of the UO research policy. The goals that need to be reached, are as follows: higher number of ESR research involved in research projects; higher number of ESR co-authoring publications with foreign authors; all internal PhD students with a sufficient support outreaching the minimal salary standards; higher percentage of PhD students employed under a work contract; increased number of graduation rate of PhD students.
- 5) We strive to ensure a sustainable and transparent system of internal grants and financial incentives that effectively drive high-quality research. The university will reinforce increase of personnel of key support units, including the EU-fund and project office, Open Science services, and science communication, to better assist researchers in securing funding, sharing knowledge, and increasing visibility. Additionally, we aim to create a research-friendly environment by improving work-life balance measures, childcare services, digitalizing administrative processes, and integrating advanced software solutions that streamline research activities. Doctoral school as a widely used support system as well as rich offer of courses provided by Career and

counselling centre are among appropriate system tools. The goal is to increase the number of courses as well as attendants.

- 6) The goal is to have internal budgetary and monetary incentives employed in every single tool that is used. It cannot happen that something would be supported without having a clear justification that is an activity that UO decided to strategically support. All the financial support, either in internal evaluation and budget distribution mechanisms, or in purpose money (internal grants, projects, scholarship systems or mobility programmes) have to clearly lead to intensify right those activities that UO finds crucial and strategic.
- 7) UO aims to achieve research-driven internationalization. Our goal is to increase the number of international research collaborations, international projects, and co-authored publications, ensuring that international engagement directly enhances the quality and impact of our research. We strive to establish sustainable joint degree programs and cotutelle agreements that attract top-tier international students and researchers. The university will significantly expand the presence of foreign academics, integrating them into research teams to foster knowledge exchange and innovation. Additionally, we aim to strengthen international mobility opportunities for both researchers and students, creating a dynamic and globally connected research environment that enhances UO's reputation and competitiveness on the international stage.
- 8) UO aims to establish a transparent and inclusive HR management system that effectively supports research excellence by creating appropriate conditions. Our goal is to fully implement and integrate the principles of the HR Award into institutional policies, defend the HR Award label; improve the internal career evaluation standards by better education of team leaders; introduce and employ new strategic materials through active engagement in the NEOLAIa alliance (e.g., NEOLAIa diversity and inclusion charters or NEOLAIa Research Framework), and reach a substantial level of the employment of new work-life balance policies that will include childcare tools. We seek to strengthen international HR standards to facilitate even better the integration of foreign researchers within UO's academic community, which is again an aspect of internal internationalization.
- 9) Our goal is to have fully integrated ethical principles in every single aspect of the research governance. In particular, ensuring compliance with privacy, data protection with detailed characterization of data privacy categories while Open Science principles are not suppressed at all, vice-versa, they will be mandatorily fostered as an automatic key principle. UO will focus on fair and accessible data sharing, reproducibility, and reusability of research out also addressing broader societal and environmental responsibilities. We will increase the capacity of our data storage, we will increase the number of users, the number of lectures and workshops on its use. The number of publications shared in the institutional publication repository will be significantly increased as well. We strive to foster a research culture where inclusivity, fairness, and transparency are embedded in every stage of the research process.
- 10) Our goal is to integrate sustainability principles into research practices, contributing to solutions for pressing societal and environmental issues. The SDGs will be fostered, promoted and monitored. At the same time, we will strengthen institutional safeguards (resilience) against external influence by fully implementing the standards set by the Ministry of the Interior and related policies given in manuals provided by the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport. This includes enhancing cybersecurity measures, securing research data (in compliance with point 9) above) as well as due diligence methodology and processes in transfer or any scientific cooperation. By fostering a research environment that is both globally responsible and institutionally resilient, we aim to position UO as a trusted and secure research institution on the international stage, that complies with global and European goals to protect the society against external influence.

5.3 Institutional tools and measures for the implementation of the research and development strategy

The HEI will describe its institutional and strategic tools (e.g., strategic management tools, tools created to support the implementation of research objectives, legal and organisational norms in relation to R&D&I support, etc.) that are designed to fulfil the research and development objectives for the next five-year period (Table 5.3.1), with an emphasis on:

- Supporting quality R&D&I.
- Excellent science.
- Innovative environment and increasing the international or disciplinary competitiveness of the HEI's research activities.
- Development of human potential.
- Institutional resilience.
- Adherence to ethical principles, scientific integrity and good practice in R&D&I.

Maximum 2000 words.

Self-assessment:

As indicators 5.1 and 5.2 describe the mission and vision as well as goals in a soft, essayistic manner, capturing the strategic points ideologically, we aim to formulate this 5.3 indicator in a more concise, structured, and bullet-pointed format—ensuring that, despite its brevity, it remains fully comprehensive, precise, and informative.

1) Research with strengthening of key directions and areas with support of national policy topics:

- Conduction of an internal assessment to define research fields with strategic relevance at European, national, and regional levels.
- Extending the list of Major research initiatives for areas involved heavily in strategic projects.
- Systematic documentation and promotion of research achievements in strategic fields.
- Support the consolidation of Major research initiatives by prioritization in subsequent open calls with limited number of slots, or, in internal calls.
- Provide targeted assistance in grant writing and project preparation for key research areas.

2) Research with strong interdisciplinary character that enables to incorporate even non-major research initiatives or smaller teams out of current main directions:

- Assistance of interdisciplinary teams in targeting funding calls that favour cross-disciplinary approaches.
- Organizing internal calls with interdisciplinarity as either mandatory aspect or, as a score bonus in their evaluations.
- Fostering interdisciplinarity via visibility and promotion of its major results and impact.
- Enabling minor teams access to infrastructures bought by major teams through strategic projects.
- Strengthening the central infrastructure support provided for free to all teams to overcome budgetary obstacles and limitations.

3) Research with maximum benefit for society and the region:

- In compliance with formative nature of the whole system (point 5)), motivating incentives will be employed in the internal systems – evaluation as well as internal calls.
- The tight cooperation with regional stakeholders will be used to direct better the cooperation (calls) so that it brings benefits to both sides.
- Targeted project support for such open calls.
- Active promotion of UO impact as a substantial part of 3rd role.
- Strengthened transfer support in terms of personnel (transfer expert / lawyer).
- Directed support of new spin-offs (already in preparation).

- Internal Proof-of-concept support system – continued and intensified.
- Formally endorsed NEOLAIa Entrepreneurship Charter to update these internal policies within UO and the whole alliance.

4) Research involving and supporting early-stage researchers and doctoral students:

- Improved preparation for PhD study at its early stages – includes adaptation course.
- Intensified support via Doctoral school (more workshops, more course, often short yet intensive and narrow topics rather than wide long whole-semester courses).
- Developing practical skills in Doctoral schools (practical courses rather than theoretical subjects).
- Sharing best practice and sharing capacities based on the new agreement with VSB-TUO and SLU.
- New internal Rector's Order and other directives setting up updated rules on better support of doctoral students in their studies.
- Improved information support (new web, new guide-book) for PhD students.
- Targeted mobility support for doctoral students – flat support as well as new mobility programme.
- Use of NEOLAIa alliance for networking leading to cooperation, use of its programmes, e.g., NEOLAIa mentorship.
- Increased mentorship support of PhD students by promoting the system of pairs of supervisors (supervisor + supervisor consultant).
- Increased and still growing financial support for doctoral students.
- Targeted assistance with project preparation in order to include more PhD students and juniors into employed project teams.

5) Research that is provided with better system support:

- Overall increased number of research support team members.
- Increased number of Open science experts and data steward
- Increased number of EU-fund office support members.
- Increased number of persons educated in science communication.
- Stronger institutional knowledge by networking within NEOLAIa Expert support teams.
- Increased number of courses on distinct skills and expertise (AI, managerial skills, soft skills, Open Science etc).
- Constuction of a knowledge support scheme in the trajectory "order – methodology – hardware/software and expert support – education and courses" whenever appropriate (e.g., in Open Science).
- System of central infrastructures (new infrastructure points to be bought) and NEOLAIa alliance sharing.
- System of internal targeted (formative role) grants and projects.
- Newly digitalized internal agendas

6) Research system that takes its formative role as a key central point that motivates for doing the right things

- Revision of the current evaluation methodology that cannot go back to result=budget binding anymore but, aside its robustness and distinct field-focus has to be performance based. Revision of weights and revision of the monitored indicators is legitimate.
- Adjustment of internal grant schemes so that eligibility and evaluation are explicitly tied to UO's priority research areas and institutional goals.
- Each grant system, scholarship/mobility programme will need to set up goals toward them it formatively guides or even forces the bearers.
- Ensure all purpose-specific financial instruments (e.g., research projects, scholarships, mobility programs) are allocated based on their contribution to UO's long-term vision.

- Each monetary tool (scholarship, mobility programme, grant system) needs to be monitored and over evaluated over time. If necessary, then also updated.

7) Research with the internationalization spirit:

- Targeted mobility programmes that need regular over evaluation and resetting in order to capture their role of initiation of a cooperation.
- Development of an internal funding scheme to support joint proposal writing (seeded projects).
- Use of NEOLAIa Research Framework and NEOLAIa Research Programme for seed funding of joint projects.
- An update of simplified administrative processes for joint degrees (in PhD studies).
- Development of standardized procedures for cotutelle agreements.
- Determined targeted support for establishing cotutelle agreements, e.g., within the formative aspects of the mobility programmes.
- Determined formative institutional tools for joint degrees in PhD studies.
- Improved internal internationalization of UO.
- Smoothened onboarding of foreign researchers at UO, introduced UO buddy programme for these purposes, hired manager for internal internationalization at UO.
- Support incoming programmes to support international research teams.
- Active seeking and support of researchers using MSCA and other incoming external sources to UO.
- Use of NEOLAIa in supporting research visits (incoming and outgoing).
- Use of NEOLAIa in ESR seminars and mentorship programmes.
- Expand the EU-fund office in its personnel.

8) Research supported by a strong HR management system:

- Conducted a gap analysis on a repetitive basis to ensure full compliance with the HR Award principles.
- Aligned all HR policies with updated HRS4R label audit findings.
- Formally endorsed NEOLAIa policies (NEOLAIa Diversity and Inclusion Charter; NEOLAIa Research Framework) and ensure their implementation across faculties.
- Improved work life balance by establishing new free time activities that will lead to the Healthy Campus label.
- Deepened flexibility in work arrangements.
- Introduced internal return grants to support returns after big career breaks (e.g., parental leaves).
- Introduce the expert support during the career breaks (e.g., education or conference attends during the break).

9) Research that is ethically responsible and as open as possible:

- New measure (Rector's Order) on data privacy compliance, data protection, and generally on data management will be released.
- Open Science principles will be fostered in the most open form especially in terms of Open Data sharing for the sake of reproducibility of experiments.
- Shared Data storage for scientific purposes will be extended for these purposes.
- Education in research ethics will become an essential element of the Doctoral school.
- Education in Open Science will become an essential course provided by the Doctoral school and offered to all employees.
- We will accept and comply with NEOLAIa Research Framework and NEOLAIa Diversity and Inclusion Charter that contain numerous ethical rules falling into the RDI resort.
- We will impose the strategical steps elaborated in detailed in the Sustainability Strategy of UO.

10) Research that is responsible with respect to global challenges:

- In accordance with the Counter Foreign Interference Manual for the Czech Academic Sector (issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic) and the Methodological Recommendations of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, internal policies of the University will be implemented.
- An Institutional Resilience Strategy will be issued to introduce a comprehensive framework for preventing the influence of foreign powers and increasing the security of processes.
- A Methodology and Guidelines for Risk Management will be issued to ensure the identification and management of risks associated with partners, students and employees.
- A guideline for Due Diligence will be issued – careful review of potential partners and donors.
- A Communication and Education system will be built – i.e., training of employees and students on the threats of influence, including defining mandatory participants in specific training.
- A new position of institutional resilience expert will be created for these purposes.
- UO cybersecurity will be moved from value 3 to value 5 according to an external audit and to comply with the NIS2 directive.
- Specifically, the Security Information Management System will be released, multi-factor authentication (MFA) will be introduced, end-device reporting will be strengthened, and sensitive data will be protected.
- In the area of cybersecurity, personnel will be strengthened to ensure the above-mentioned commitments.
- Global challenges arising from environmental threats and sustainability needs will be implemented in the internal processes of the UO in accordance with the newly approved Sustainability Strategy.
- An education system focused on employees and students will be initiated in accordance with the Sustainability Strategy and the SDGs.

5.3.1 Institutional tools and measures for the implementation of the research and development strategy

Name of instrument/measure	Description of the tool/measure	Implementation status	Year
Major research initiatives revision	Extending the list of Major research initiatives for areas involved heavily in strategic projects.	Not-implemented	2025–2026
Major fields support	Support the consolidation of Major research initiatives by prioritization in subsequent open calls with limited number of slots, or, in internal calls.	Implemented partially	since 2023
Grant writing assistance	Provide targeted assistance in grant writing and project preparation for key research areas.	Implemented partially	since 2023
Formative incentives for research with benefits for society and region	In compliance with formative nature of the whole system (point 5), motivating incentives will be employed in the internal systems – evaluation as well as internal calls.	Implemented partially	since 2021
Transfer support strengthening	Strengthened transfer support in terms of personnel (transfer expert / lawyer)	Not-implemented	2025–2026
Spin-off support	Directed support of new spin-offs (already in preparation).	Not-implemented	2025–2028
Proof-of-concept	Internal Proof-of-concept support system – continued and intensified.	Implemented	since 2021
NEOLAIa Entrepreneurship Charter	Formally endorsed NEOLAIa Entrepreneurship Charter to update these internal policies within UO and the whole alliance.	Not-implemented	2025
Adaptation course for PhD students	Improved preparation for PhD study at its early stages – includes an adaptation course.	Not-implemented	2025–2030

Doctoral school enriched	Intensified support via Doctoral school (more workshops, more course, often short yet intensive and narrow topics rather than wide long whole-semester courses).	Implemented partially	since 2025
Rector's Order about PhD study	New internal Rector's Order and other directives setting up updated rules on better support of doctoral students in their studies.	Not-implemented	2025
Use of NEOLAIa programmes	Use of NEOLAIa alliance for networking leading to cooperation, use of its programmes, e.g., NEOLAIa mentorship.	Implemented partially	since 2024
Financial support of PhD students	Increased and still growing financial support for doctoral students.	Not-implemented	since 2025
Increased number of Open science experts and data steward	Increased number of Open science experts and data steward	Implemented partially	since 2025
Central infrastructure support	System of central infrastructures (new infrastructure points to be bought) and NEOLAIa alliance sharing.	Implemented partially	since 2023
Internal grant re-evaluation	Adjustment of internal grant schemes so that eligibility and evaluation are explicitly tied to UO's priority research areas and institutional goals.	Not-implemented	2026
Mobility programmes re-evaluation	Targeted mobility programmes that need regular over evaluation and resetting in order to capture their role of initiation of a cooperation.	Not-implemented	2026
Use of NEOLAIa programmes for seed funding	Use of NEOLAIa Research Framework and NEOLAIa Research Programme for seed funding of joint projects.	Not-implemented	since 2025
Tools for international cooperations in PhD programmes	An update of simplified administrative processes for joint degrees (in PhD studies). Development of standardized procedures for cotutelle agreements. Determined targeted support for establishing cotutelle agreements, e.g., within the formative aspects of the mobility programmes.	Not-implemented	2026–2030
Internal internationalization	Improved internal internationalization of UO. Smoothed onboarding of foreign researchers at UO, introduced UO buddy programme for these purposes, hired manager for internal internationalization at UO.	Not-implemented	2025–2030
Use of NEOLAIa ESR programmes	Use of NEOLAIa in ESR seminars and mentorship programmes.	Implemented partially	since 2025
Healthy Campus	Improved work life balance by establishing new free time activities that will lead to the Healthy Campus label.	Not-implemented	since 2025
Support during and after career breaks	Introduced internal return grants to support returns after big career breaks (e.g., parental leaves). Introduced the expert support during the career breaks (e.g., education or conference attends during the break).	Not-implemented	since 2026
Rector's Order of data management	New measure (Rector's Order) on data privacy compliance, data protection, and generally on data management will be released.	Not-implemented	2025
Shared Data storage extension	Shared Data storage for scientific purposes will be extended for these purposes.	Not-implemented	2025
Open science education	Education in Open Science will become an essential course provided by the Doctoral school and offered to all employees.	Implemented partially	since 2024
NEOLAIa Research Framework, NEOLAIa Diversity and Inclusion Charter	We will accept and comply with NEOLAIa Research Framework and NEOLAIa Diversity and Inclusion Charter that contain numerous ethical rules falling into the RDI resort.	Not-implemented	2025

Sustainability Strategy of UO	We will impose the strategical steps elaborated in detailed in the Sustainability Strategy of UO.	Implemented partially	since 2025
Institutional resilience policy	In accordance with the Counter Foreign Interference Manual for the Czech Academic Sector (issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic) and the Methodological Recommendations of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, internal policies of the University will be implemented.	Not-implemented	2025–2030
Risk management	A Methodology and Guidelines for Risk Management will be issued to ensure the identification and management of risks associated with partners, students and employees	Not-implemented	2025–2030
Due diligence guidelines	A guideline for Due Diligence will be issued - careful review of potential partners and donors.	Not-implemented	2025–2030
Cybersecurity audit	UO cybersecurity will be moved from value 3 to value 5 according to an external audit and to comply with the NIS2 directive.	Not-implemented	2025–2030

5.4 Implementation of the recommendations in Module 5

The HEI will briefly describe how it has implemented the recommendations for Module 5 from the previous evaluation period, if applicable.

Maximum 1000 words

Self-assessment:

• **Developing a real “mission” and “vision” in the next period should ask the questions: Where does the university want to be, let’s say, in 10 years? Which role wants it to play within the university system in Czech Republic, which role in the international area? Is there a sort of a “regional” mission – as it is the case with other universities existing in borderlands? Are there any points of excellence which are strong enough to stand the competition also with bigger universities (e.g., Charles University in Prague), and which should be strengthened in a special form.**

RE: Regional importance of an institution’s work can often appear like a limited ambition, the opposite of ‘international’. In practical terms, Ostrava embraces its position in a complex region on a number of actual, historical or felt borders, through particular applied research and through its interactions with close neighbours. Ostrava can make a strong case that its regional role is what give its international importance, not on the margins of the Czech Republic, but central to a complex region whose experiences will be comparable to other such regions throughout the world.

• **Reinforce digitisation and new technologies via online education. Introduce digitisation as an objective to strengthen research and transfer of results.**

RE: The UO is gradually moving all aspects of the work to the digital environment. The agendas of vacations, sick days, bonuses and wages, personnel changes, business trips and approval of accounting documents (orders, invoices) have been digitized. Electronic approval of all contracts is being introduced. An intelligent algorithm detects a risky entity under sanctions. In the R&D&I area, the more friendly fourth generation of PUBL (managing publications and other outputs) was implemented. PUBL is connected to EVID, which serves for project registration and approval of applications. The administration of SGS/DGC grants is running on own electronic systems. All employees are provided with access to MS Copilot (AI) and the Scite.AI is newly available. Tools for detecting plagiarism (Turnitin) and for language editing Writefull are also provided. Teaching is carried out in parallel using Moodle, the vast majority of seminars and courses are implemented in hybrid form (MS Teams). Numerous training courses are implemented for all systems.

• **Provide content-based – thematic priorities for R&D&I and strength links to the state or ministry policy.**

RE: Thematic priorities in line with the government's strategies include: formative assessment with the separation of distribution of finances from the calculation of results, support for excellence and support for juniors and doctoral studies (doctoral school, internal grants, special scholarships, specific mobility programmes, NEOLAIa network programmes), support for infrastructure sharing, internationalisation networking (NEOLAIa, Baltic Univ. Programme, specific mobility programmes), open science including the building of hardware, human and knowledge capacities and the project support (incl. EU-fund office).

• *Integrate all present disciplines and to support all forms of creativity (scientific and artistic) within this field.*

RE: All disciplines are integrated in terms of joint procedures and managerial tools via the main one – Vice-rector's College. This body forms the whole strategy and policy of R&D&I which enabled to share the vision and mission, and consequently, to boost joint interdisciplinary projects.

• *Do more to articulate its vision for its place in regional and national contexts, how these objectives will benefit wider society and the status of Czech research.*

RE: UO significantly improved its regional and national impact through its increased transfer and contribution to the innovative potential of the region. A portion of the transfer was focused on the creation of regional or national policies (regional school system, national system of social housing). Via big projects that established the Living Labs, the cooperation with region turned in meeting its demands.

• *Consider how fields that currently do not feature among the university's favoured research areas will be assisted to grow and succeed.*

RE: UO significantly included non-major research directions to strategic projects, e.g.,: social and economic geography, criminology, nanophysics, chemistry, neurology, psychology or philology. The intended plan was to involve these directions into the interdisciplinary cooperation to overcome the critical mass issues and to boost the potential. Several of such teams were also by purpose supported by specific individual programmes (incoming grants).

• *Consider how the society and the market's needs have been identified and how presented objectives respond to these needs.*

RE: The societal needs became the major focus of UO and the cooperation with regional stakeholders (City-hall, Region) helped to communicate the needs and potential benefits of the cooperation. The involved teams are those that work with social challenges, which confirms that the needs have been identified.

• *Consider implementation of additional criteria: preference quality over quantity, support for young researchers establishing conditions that would enable reaching life-work balance, improvement educational skills of academics and gradual adaptation of teaching to the requirements of 21st century.*

RE: The UO methodology prioritizes quality over quantity. Good results in peer review module M1 has the highest weight for the FA or, numbers of Q1–Q2 articles matter more than the number of all JCR articles for FS, FM or IRAFM, where D1 articles contribute even more as a compensatory indicator. There are numerous support programmes for young researchers, described in M4 and the HR management has been pushed to much higher standards. Teaching requirements are met by activities of Career and Counselling Centre providing the educational support and by the Doctoral School.

• *Ostrava's engagement with national and international measures should not be merely cosmetic but should be communicated to employees and tailored to the needs and priorities of the institution and its staff. Concentration of resources on existing areas of excellence should be accompanied by measures designed to encourage other areas to develop in the same way.*

RE: The importance of involving the non-major research initiatives is emphasized above. Any such activity is popularized more than before. Apart from the fundamental support provided by the Centre for Marketing and Communication (CMC) and Faculty science communicators, CMC has a full-time science communicator focusing only on the interdisciplinary projects that involve non-major research initiatives.

• Support the organisation of international congresses and high-profile seminars in priority areas of research.

RE: In 2021, the internal budget methodology has been changed in such a way that no overheads are charged to internal conference organizers. We emphasize that we are not aware of any other university that would have such a proactive step implemented in its policy.

• Support the participation of researchers in international associations.

RE: By Czech legislative, the memberships to professional organizations are tax non-deductible and public sources cannot be used. Through the accounting optimization, the non-public sources are used, for instance ca 1/3 of IRAFM employees are members of the European society for fuzzy logic and technologies or other organizations (e.g., IEEE).

• Promote the participation of UO researchers in editorial boards and special issues, including open access publications.

RE: Such activities are actively promoted and monitored. System PUBL collects them as “other academic activities” and even the internal personal assessment system based (Career plan) counts and evaluates them in the item “employee’s role” so, employees have an explicit call to declare such activities for their career promotion. Consequently, some workplaces actively publish this data, see <https://ifm.osu.eu/membership-in-editorial-boards/>

• Strengthen quality (excellence), wherever it appears.

RE: This recommendation is employed with major focus on early-stage researchers.

• The measures containing positive incentives should not be neglected.

RE: The modification of the internal evaluation of faculties, evolution of the personal assessment, as well as internal systems of support are directed mainly by their formative roles to set the positive incentives.

• Go on with presented ideas.

RE: The direction set during the evaluation in 2020 has not been abandoned yet elaborated to adapt it to the national situation.

• Specific recruitment of staff who specialise in implementing and managing research projects funded in EU calls.

RE: The recommendation was implemented.

• Specific training programme in digital skills for doctoral students.

RE: Activities are employed mostly by Career and Counselling Centre (and Doctoral School).

• Implement tools providing appropriate working conditions, which allow man and women to combine family and work, children and carrier, ensuring equal opportunity.

RE: Tremendous job has been done in the meantime to allow combining family and work needs, details are described in M4. A working group on work-life balance has been set up to foster this goal. New system of “return grants” to support the returns of employees after career pause (e.g., maternity leaves) is designed.

A LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS/LINKS FOR MODULE 5

Document name	No. criteria	Location (link in HTML)
UO Strategic Plan 2021–2025	5.1	https://dokumenty.osu.cz/rektorat/dz/szou-2021-2025-en.pdf
National RDI Policy of the Czech Republic 2021+	5.1	https://vyzkum.gov.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=932081
Evaluation Methodology 2017+	5.1	https://vyzkum.gov.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=695512
National strategy RIS3	5.1	https://www.ris3.cz/sites/default/files/National-RIS3-Strategy_2.pdf
Gender Equality Strategy 2021–2030	5.1	https://vlada.gov.cz/cz/ppov/rovne-prilezitosti-zen-a-muzu/dokumenty/zakladni-dokumenty-rady-216828/#
The Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 Coll	5.1	https://msmt.gov.cz/areas-of-work/tertiary-education/the-higher-education-act?lang=2
The Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the Support of R&D	5.1	https://vyzkum.gov.cz/FrontClanek.aspx?idsekce=15607
Directive 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Act no. 130/2002 Coll. on Open science	5.1	http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/1024/oj
Main Research Initiatives of the UO	5.1	https://www.osu.eu/research-initiatives/
Counter Foreign Interference Manual for the Czech Academic Sector	5.1	https://mv.gov.cz/chh/clanek/terorismus-web-aktuality-aktuality-protivlivovy-manual-pro-sektor-vysokych-skol.aspx
Methodological recommendations for risk management in the field of research safety at the institutional level <i>[in Czech]</i>	5.1	https://msmt.gov.cz/uploads/O31/O311/Bezpecnost_vyzkumu_posilovani_odolnosti_vuci_nelegitimnimu_ovlivnovani/Metodicke_doporuceni_k_rizeni_rizik_bezpecnosti_vyzkumu_na_institucionalni_urovni.pdf
Methodological recommendation defining the minimum scope of due diligence and risk management of cooperation with third parties in the framework of strengthening the resilience of the higher education and research environment against illegitimate influence (Methodological recommendation on cooperation with third parties) <i>[in Czech]</i>	5.1	https://msmt.gov.cz/uploads/O31/O311/Bezpecnost_vyzkumu_posilovani_odolnosti_vuci_nelegitimnimu_ovlivnovani/Metodicke_doporuceni_due_diligence_a_rizeni_rizik_spoluprace.pdf
NIS2	5.1	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/CS/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022L2555
Decree No. 82/2018 Coll., on cybersecurity <i>[in Czech]</i>	5.1	https://www.zakonyprolidi.cz/cs/2018-82
Journal editorial board memberships of the IRAFM employees	5.4	https://ifm.osu.eu/membership-in-editorial-boards/