

Statute of the Expert Panels

Article 1

Introductory provisions

1. The Expert Panels are established by the Council for Research, Development and Innovation (hereinafter only “Council”) as its specialist and advisory bodies according to § 35 par. 7 of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on the Support of Research and Development from Public Funds and on the Amendment to Some Related Acts (the Act on the Support of Research and Development)
2. The Expert Panels verify and evaluate selected results created by research organizations (within pillar II. of the Methodology for Evaluation of Results of Research Organizations and Finished Programmes (valid for years 2013 -2015), approved by the Government Resolution of 19th June 2013 No. 475 (hereinafter only “Methodology”).
3. One panel shall be established for each field group (see Annex 6 of the Methodology).
4. The Expert Panels shall act according to their Statute and Rules of Procedure. The Statute and Rules of Procedure of the Expert Panels or their amendments shall be approved by the Council.

Article 2

Competences of the Expert Panels

Evaluation shall be done according to the following principles

1. The Expert Panels shall evaluate all submitted results in each field group. These results shall be divided into two categories A and B so that A will contain the most significant and highest quality results in the given field.
2. The number of results placed in the A category cannot exceed 20% of the total number of submitted results in the given field group.
3. When evaluating results the Expert Panel takes into account primarily the significance of the achieved results within the field and then the real contribution of Czech facilities to its creation.
4. When classifying of results the Expert Panel shall take into account also the classification from previous years. The members of the Expert Panel shall try to achieve consensus in classification. If that is not possible the final classification shall be decided by vote.

5. If the final verdict has not been reached by a consensus, the outvoted members shall also write their explanations. They shall include their own opinion about the classification of results and their reasons for it.
6. The explanation of the Expert Panel and the explanation of the outvoted members shall be made public.
7. No evaluator may evaluate the results of the research organization with which he is in a labour-law relation or where there is another conflict of interests.

Article 3

Administration of Expert Panels

1. Expert Panels work independently.
2. The activities of the Expert Panel are directed by its Chair, who is appointed and removed by the Council Chair upon the Council's proposal.
3. The Expert Panel Chair is responsible to the Council for the Expert Panel's activities, acts in its name, presides over its meetings and approves the meeting records.
4. The Expert Panel Chair is deputized by the Vice-Chair, whom the Panel elects from its members.
5. The Vice-Chair may be removed upon the proposal of the Expert Panel members.

Article 4

Expert Panel members

1. Each Expert Panel shall have no less than 15 members, typically 15 – 20 members.
2. No less than one third of the Expert Panel members shall be foreign experts with proven reputation to achieve the required expert representation.
3. Candidates for Expert Panel membership shall be proposed by research organizations and then discussed by the expert and advisory bodies of the Council. The proposals are presented to the Council according to the field competence.
4. The selection of the Expert Panel members shall be discussed and approved by the Council.
5. The Expert Panel members shall be appointed and removed by the Council Chair upon the Council's proposal.

6. The term of office of the Expert Panel member is identical to the period of validity of the Methodology; however not longer than two years. An Expert Panel member may be appointed to an Expert Panel for no more than three consecutive terms of office.
7. The Expert Panel Membership shall be terminated upon the expiration of the term of office, removal from office or death of a member.
8. The Expert Panel membership is incompatible with concurrent membership in:
 - a) Statutory bodies of research organizations
 - b) Result Evaluation Commission (KHV)
 - c) Panels or other bodies of the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic and the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic.
9. The Expert Panel members cannot be deputized. The Expert Panel members are obliged to attend the Expert Panel meetings and actively participate in its activities.
10. If one of the members does not duly perform his function and if the majority of the members of the given Expert Panels agree, the Chair of the given Expert Panel may propose that the Council remove this Expert Panel member and appoint a new Expert Panel member.
11. The Expert Panel members are obliged to keep confidential all information about discussed materials presented to the Council until their approval and publication; however this does not prevent expert consultations regarding the discussed materials.
12. The list of Expert Panel members shall be published at the webpage www.vyzkum.cz.

Article 5

Expert Panel meetings

1. The Expert Panel meetings are subject to the Rules of Procedure of the Expert Panels.
2. The meetings take place from June until August of the given year. The dates and places of the meetings are set in the framework annual programme (plan) of the Expert Panel activities, which shall be proposed by the Expert Panel Chair, discussed by the members of the given Expert Panel and approved by the Council.
3. Extraordinary meetings of the Expert Panel take place upon the request of any member of the Expert Panel after its approval by an absolute majority of the Expert Panel members. The Expert Panel meetings are called by the Expert Panel Chair.

Article 6

Costs for Activities and Remuneration

1. Costs of the Expert Panel activities, including remuneration for their members, are covered from the expenditures on research, experimental development and innovation from the budget chapter of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic.
2. Expert Panel members are entitled to remuneration for performing this public function. The amount shall be set by the Council.

Article 7

Concluding Provisions

1. This Statute comes into effect on 8 October 2013.
2. Amendments of this Statute shall be approved by the Council.
3. This Statute shall be made available to the public on the webpage www.vyzkum.cz and on the premises of the Office of the Government. The version displayed on the website is always the full wording of the valid Statute.

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