

Expert Panels Rules of Procedure

Article 1

Introductory Provisions

1. The Expert Panels Rules of Procedure is an internal regulation of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation (hereinafter only as “Council”), which regulates the proceedings of the Expert Panels and is binding for their members.
2. The Rules of Procedure are issued pursuant to Article 1, Paragraph 4 of the Statute of the Expert Panels

Article 2

Dates and places of the Expert Panel meetings

1. The dates and places of the Expert Panel meetings are based on the schedule 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 and No. 250 of 16th April 2014 respectively (hereinafter only “Methodology”) and are set by the framework annual programme of activities according to Article 5 par. 2 of the Expert Panel Statute.
2. The meetings shall primarily utilize remote access to data and electronic communication (hereinafter only “electronic sessions”). In order to support this activity the Expert Panel members have special software designed for this purpose at their disposal.
3. In justified cases it is possible to organize meetings with personal attendance. Places for sessions are arranged by the Council Secretariat or an authorized body.
4. Possible changes of the date and place of Expert Panel sessions are announced to the members by the Expert Panel Chair not later than 14 days prior to the session date. The Chair also provides the Council Secretariat members with a new date and place.
5. The dates and types of Expert Panel meetings pursuant to articles 1 – 3 are stipulated by the Expert Panel Chair or upon his authorization the Expert Panel Vice-Chair.

6. In order to maintain flexibility all correspondence shall be sent in an electronic form to the electronic mail addresses provided by the members at the Expert Panel sessions.

Article 3

Course of the Expert Panel meetings

1. The Expert Panel is competent to act and adopt conclusions if a majority of its members is present.
2. Panel sessions shall be closed to the public. Apart from the Expert Panel members the Panel sessions may be attended by a Council member, member of the Council's advisory bodies, an authorized representative of the Council's Secretariat or a guest invited by the Council's Chair, if the invitation is approved by the Expert Panel.
3. Panel meetings are presided by the Expert Panel Chair, in his absence by a Vice-Chair or another authorized member of the Expert Panel.
4. Prior to the beginning of the Expert Panel's activity the Chair sends a framework programme to all the Expert Panel members, who then approve the programme.
5. The approval of the meeting's conclusions shall be decided by vote. The votes of the absolute majority of present members are necessary to approve the concluding statement. In case of an even division of votes, the vote of the person chairing the meeting shall prevail.
6. The Expert Panel members vote "per rollam" (electronic voting), in case of a personal attendance meeting the voting proceeds pursuant to article 3, par. 5.
7. The session language shall be Czech or English, if there is at least one member in attendance, who does not have a command of the Czech language. Correspondence shall be written in English, if the Expert Panel has at least one member, who does not have a command of the Czech language.

Article 4

Panel meeting records

1. A written record shall be made of the meeting proceedings (be it electronic or personally attended meetings), which shall include the adopted conclusions as well. The record shall be made by an Expert Panel member or a Secretariat representative charged by the Chair. The record shall be approved by the person presiding the meeting.

2. The meeting record must primarily contain the following information:
 - a) date
 - b) name of the presiding person, who approves the record
 - c) attendance sheet or a list of per rollam voters
 - d) subject of the meeting
 - e) adopted conclusions and resolutions
3. The presiding person hands the approved record and attendance sheet to the Council Secretariat without undue delay. The Secretariat then publishes it on the website www.vyzkum.cz.
4. The Expert Panel Chair is obliged to inform the Council or its Chair about the results of the meeting should the Council or its Chair request this.

Article 5

Relations of the Expert Panels and the Council Secretariat

1. The Council Secretariat or an authorized subject arranges the following:
 - a) rooms for Panel meetings (meeting places);
 - b) payments for rented rooms, should the meeting take place outside the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic;
 - c) reimbursement of members' expenses as well as payments of other necessary expenses according to Article 6 of the Statute of the Expert Panels;
 - d) gathering, processing and sending or otherwise making available the materials and information for the Expert Panel meetings to its members;
 - e) publishing of records of the Expert Panel meetings on the website www.vyzkum.cz and presenting them for information at the next Council meeting;
 - f) publishing of annual activity reports of Expert Panel activities on the website www.vyzkum.cz after their approval by the Council;
 - g) administrative matters related to the ordering and payment for the preparation of materials for Expert Panels according to Article 6 of the Statute.
2. Contact with the Council Secretariat or an authorized subject is provided by the Expert Panel Chair.

Article 6

Concluding Provisions

1. Changes and amendments to this Rules of Procedure shall be approved by the Council Chair upon the Council's proposal.
2. These Rules of Procedure shall come into effect as of the day of its signing by the Chair of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation.

MVDr. Pavel Bělobrádek, Ph.D., MPA
Chair of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation