



## Official Minutes of the Meeting of the International Advisory Board of the Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague

**Date:** 28th November 2024

**Location:** Institute of Archaeology, Letenska 4, Prague and via ZOOM

**Chair:** Jan Mařík, Director of the Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague (IAP)

**Attendees:**

- Felipe Criado-Boado (on-line)
- Wolfgang Haak (on-line)
- Cynthia Dunning (on-line)
- Jerzy Piekalski
- Jan Mařík (Director; IAP)
- Petr Květina (Deputy Director; IAP)
- Jaroslav Řídký (Deputy Director and PR Manager; IAP)
- David Novák (Deputy Director; IAP) [Insert list of attendees, if available]

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### 1. Introductory Word

Jan Mařík, Director of the IAP, opened the meeting and introduced the program.

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### 2. The Funding Situation of the Institute

The Director presented an overview of the funding and economics of the IAP for 2023. A chart was shown to illustrate the distribution of funding.

- **Current Situation:** The funding remains similar to last year, with the Institute highly dependent on project-based funding.
- **2024 Outlook:**
  - A **7% increase** in funding from the Academy subsidy is expected.
  - Additional funding is anticipated from excavations.
- A graph was presented to show the growth of employees' salaries in comparison to:
  - The national average for the Czech Republic.
  - The average salary within the Academy of Sciences.
  - General national trends.
- **Key Investments for 2024:**
  - Acquisition of a **scanning electron microscope**.
  - Construction of the **OP JAK Res-Hum project laboratory** at the Letenská Street building.



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### 3. Research Achievements 2024 – Grant Projects Overview

- **International Grants:** Account for **10%** of the total funding.
- An overview was provided of major ongoing grants currently running at the IAP.
  - Michal Ernée – Praemium Academiae award (2020–2025) Creators of the Bronze Age – archaeogenetics and archaeology
  - Ladislav Varadzin Lumina Quaeruntur awarded by The Czech Academy of Sciences Shaqadud Archaeological Project (2020 – 2024) – Alternative forms of cultural adaptation to mid-Holocene desiccation of North Africa
  - Operational Program Johannes Amos Comenius (OP JAC) – Excellence in Research – Ready for the future: understanding long-term resilience of the human culture (RES-HUM)
  - MORDAT: towards successful 14C MORTar DATing of historical monuments
  - Viktor Černý Academic Award (Praemium Academiae) – Biocultural Interactions: Migration as a Consequence of Climate Change and Mismatch of Subsistences
  - Operational Program Johannes Amos Comenius (OP JAC) – Social sciences and humanities: mankind and humanity in the present global challenges “The Land Gone Wild. Archaeological and Transdisciplinary Studies in Strategies of Resilience in Modern Society”

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### 4. Research Infrastructure

D. Novák presented updates on the **Archaeological Information System of the Czech Republic (AIS CR)**:

- **Overview:** AIS CR is a large research infrastructure listed on the national roadmap approved by the government (<https://www.vyzkumne-infrastruktury.cz/>).
- **Structure:** Operated by a consortium of the two Institutes of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences.
- **Key Components:**
  - Centralized team, data, services, hardware, software applications, know-how, collaborations, and standardized methodologies.
  - Archaeological Map of the Czech Republic, featuring:
    - A modern data management system.
    - A domain-level digital repository.
- **New Collaborations:** Establishment of significant partnerships with the **Ministry of Culture**.
- **Project Update:** *ATRIUM* – a Horizon Europe project focused on advancing research in the arts and humanities:
  - Development of **AI-powered workflows** for:



- Textual data processing and enhancement (e.g., NLP, NER).
  - Automated image recognition for photograph descriptions.
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## 5. Infrastructure Improvement Plan

- In 2024, a series of **internal consultations** will be conducted on selected topics of IAP internal processes and research support. Ongoing analyses are underway to determine **implementation priorities** for 2025 and beyond.
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## 6. Five-Year Evaluation by the Academy of Sciences

D. Novák provided details on the **five-year evaluation process** to be conducted by the Academy of Sciences (CAS):

- **Evaluation Framework:** Each institute will undergo evaluation by an **international evaluation committee**.
  - The evaluation will be carried out in **two phases**:
    - **Phase I:** Peer-review of selected publication outputs based on the average FTE for the team:
      - Prehistory: 14
      - History: 10
      - Information/Landscape: 6
      - Natural Sciences: 9
      - Total: approximately **39 outputs**.
    - **Phase II:** Evaluation assessment report and an on-site visit.
  - **Role of the International Advisory Board (IAB):**
    - Official involvement is **limited** to IABs constituted before 2020.
    - **Summer 2025:** An **unofficial review** of the assessment report by the IAB.
    - **October 2025:** In-person meeting to:
      - Present evaluation outcomes.
      - Provide IAB feedback to support negotiations with CAS.
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## 7. Any Other Business

- The **next meeting** of the International Advisory Board (IAB) is scheduled for **October 2025**. The exact date will be discussed and confirmed.
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