

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

28

27

26

24

23

INTRODUCTION



The year 2025 confirmed that Technology Centre Prague serves as a bridge between European research programmes, the commercial sector, and public administration. Our activities range from providing guidance on Horizon Europe programme, supporting transfer of space technologies to preparing analysis and studies for government decision-making.

The activities of Technology Centre Prague are organised into three departments:

- NICER – the **National Information Centre for European Research**
- ORP – **Business Development**, space technology transfer, space innovation, and the incubator for startup companies
- STRAST – **Strategic Studies** for research and innovation policy, and foresight for public administration

The following pages highlight our achievements across these areas through both key figures and concrete success stories.

February:

The KAMO AI startup joined the TC Runway incubator. The company is developing an AI-powered application that enables professional-quality photography using a smartphone.

April:

As an ESA Technology Broker, Technology Centre Prague supported two projects that, through the ESA Spark Funding programme, will travel to the International Space Station (ISS) with Czech astronaut Aleš Svoboda.

June:

Technology Centre Prague, in cooperation with the European Commission and Charles University, organised a seminar on Horizon Europe project implementation, focusing on programme simplification and project management.

January:

Technology Centre Prague supported the ICARUS ARMOR project, which developed a technology for monitoring stress levels and improving the safety of workers operating in extreme environments.

March:

Technology Centre Prague helped the Novosad & syn glassworks secure funding through the EENergy project for energy optimisation and cost savings achieved by modernising its lighting system.

May:

Technology Centre Prague organised the sixth edition of the SCI-PO Conference, focusing on the sustainable financing of research, development, and innovation in the Czech Republic beyond 2027.

August:

A representative of Technology Centre Prague was nominated to the steering group of an OECD project supporting strategic intelligence and evidence-based policymaking for key technologies.

October:

Technology Centre Prague published a Policy Brief following the SCI-PO Conference, highlighting the need for a structural transformation of research, development, and innovation funding in the Czech Republic.

December:

Together with the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), Technology Centre Prague organised a seminar on research, development, and innovation, presenting the latest statistics, analyses, and future challenges facing the Czech innovation ecosystem.

July:

Technology Centre Prague prepared an analysis of the development of ERC grants awarded to Czech researchers. Using data from the ERC Dashboard, the study mapped the country's performance in excellent research.

September:

Technology Centre Prague organised an internship for 20 project managers from Czech research and innovation institutions, providing an introduction to the Horizon Europe programme and the services of the National Contact Points (NCPs).

November:

Technology Centre Prague organised the 22nd edition of CZEDER Conference, dedicated to the future of European research and innovation funding after 2027.

NICER

National
Information Centre
for European
Research

The members of the NICER department are the people Czech researchers and project managers turn to when they need advice on the Horizon Europe programme.

The department's main activities in 2025:

770

individual
consultations on
research projects
and grant
applications

75

organised or co-
organised events
(60 national, 15
international)

13

participations in National
Contact Point (NCP)
network projects funded
by Horizon Europe
programme

39

expert analyses on
the Czech
Republic's
participation in the
EU Framework
Programmes

In January 2025, the NICER department, in cooperation with the British Embassy and UK National Contact Points, organised a brokerage event that brought together Czech and British organisations working in the fields of battery and hydrogen technologies—an area in which both the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom have been steadily strengthening their technological sovereignty.

www.horizontevropa.cz/en

ORP

Business Development Department

The Business Development Department (ORP) underwent a major transformation in 2025. The BISON3T project (Enterprise Europe Network) came to an end in the middle of the year, and the department shifted its focus to two rapidly growing areas: space technologies and incubation of startup companies.

The main activities in 2025 included:

8

business and technology cooperation agreements between Czech and international companies

37

“Advisory Achievements” – documented positive impacts of advisory services provided to clients

4

new contracts under the ESA Spark Funding CZ programme, with a total value of EUR 300,000

67%

success rate of Czech proposals submitted to the ESA Spark Funding programme, exceeding the average across the ESA Technology Broker network

2,5 mil.
USD

investment offer secured for KAMO AI, a startup participating in the TC Runway incubator

ORP supported BBT, a company that developed an ultra-compact interferometer originally designed for Earth observation from space, in finding a partner to adapt the technology for terrestrial use in a hyperspectral imaging system.

This is exactly the kind of technology transfer the ESA Technology Broker programme was made for: a technology developed for use in orbit finds practical application on Earth.

<https://esa-technology-broker.cz/>

STRAST

Strategic
Studies

The STRAST department provides strategic analyses and evidence-based policy support primarily for the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Office of the Government of the CR, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of the Interior, the Technology Agency of the CR, and regional authorities.

Highlights of 2025 included:

- The SCI-PO 2025 Conference, which played a significant role in shaping the national debate on the future of research and innovation funding beyond 2027, followed by a Policy Brief presenting key recommendations.
- A foresight study for the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic, used to target research funding in the field of societal security and resilience
- The Interministerial Concept for Security Research 2025+, was approved by the Government of the Czech Republic in November 2025 based on materials prepared by the Technology Centre Prague.
- An analysis of the socio-economic impacts of the planned International Space Station mission of Czech astronaut Aleš Svoboda, prepared for the European Space Agency (ESA).
- Active involvement in international research collaboration – the BrightSpace and Eye of Europe projects, membership of the OECD Foresight Community, ETAG and other networks

The STRAST department has established itself as a valuable source of high-quality materials for public administration in the field of research and innovation. Its analyses provide evidence-based support for government decision-making and contribute, among other things, to shaping future programmes supporting research and development through grants and project funding.

<https://www.strast.cz/en>

TC PRAGUE AS A WHOLE

78

employees

27K

unique visitors to the TC website (a year-over-year increase of nearly 20 %)

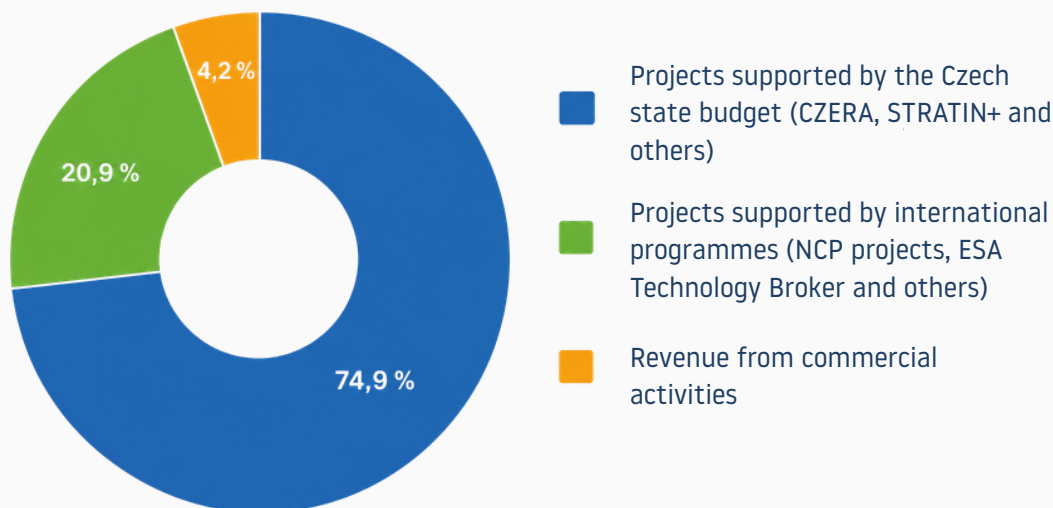
1 618

followers on LinkedIn (an increase of 391 over the past year)

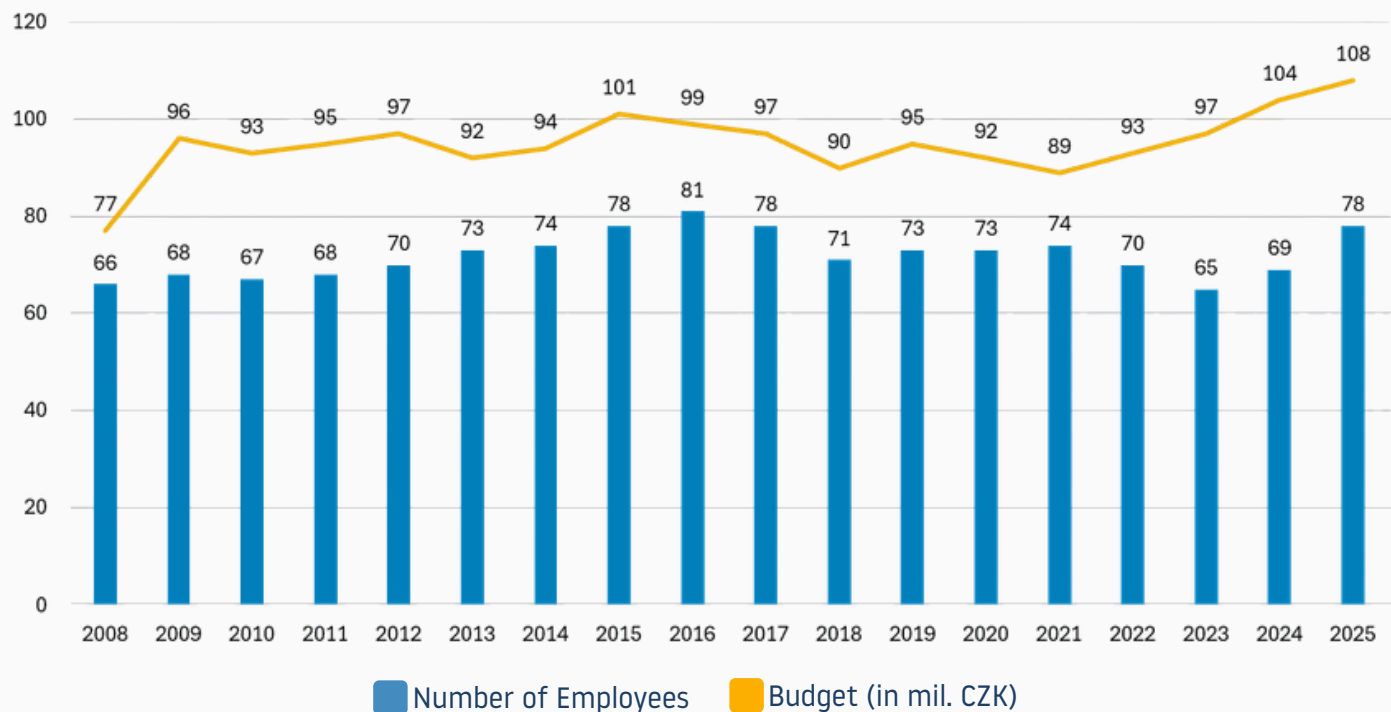
27

projects

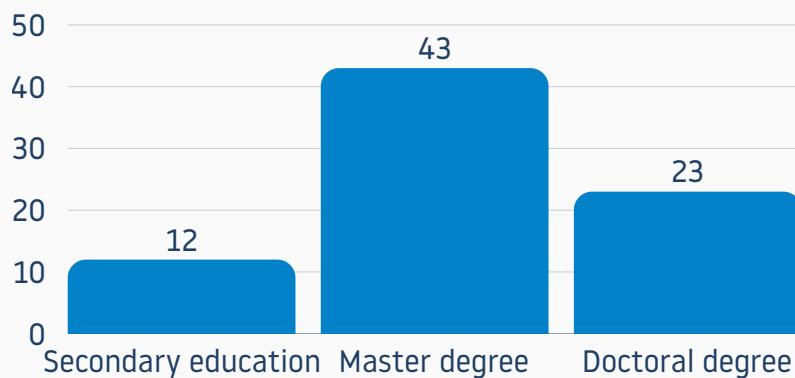
FINANCIAL STATS AND STAFF



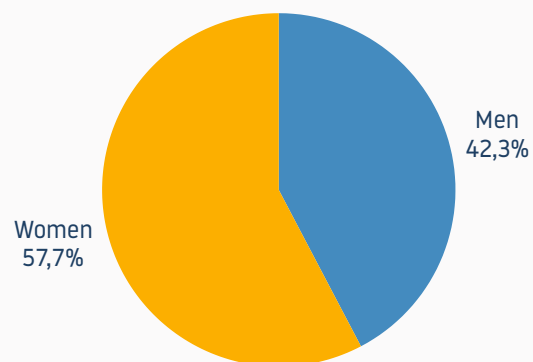
Trends in the Number of Employees and Budget Since 2008



Staff Highest Level of Education



Gender Ratio



Annual Report of the Technology Centre Prague for the Year 2025

Published by: Technology Centre Prague

Registered office: Ve Struhách 1076/27, Bubeneč, 160 00 Prague; www.tc.cz

Text editing: Martin Bostl, TC Prague

Graphic design: Martin Bostl

Translation into English: Martin Bostl

Photo: TC Prague Archive, unless otherwise stated

ISBN: 978-80-53065-03-0