

European Federation of Immunological Societies



**APPLICATION FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF THE
EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF IMMUNOLOGY**

SEPTEMBER 2015

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC



CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE
2nd FACULTY OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY

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head

Prague, May 27, 2009

**EFIS
European Congress of Immunology 2015**

Dear members of EFIS board,

On behalf of the Czech Immunology Society (ČIS) and Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (ČSAKI) we are applying for being the host of the European Congress of Immunology (ECI) in 2015.

Prague has never hosted the European Congress of Immunology while it has successfully hosted many European as well as World congresses in other medical and research specialties.

With the very traditional and prestigious history of Prague, its oldest University in the Central Europe (founded by Emperor Charles IV in 1348), famous Prague Immunology School tradition, Prague represents an ideal location for bringing together basic and clinical immunologists for a fruitful meeting.

We would appreciate very much if EFIS accepted our invitation to meet at the heart of Europe.

For the organizing committee

Jiřina Bartůňková
Professor of Medicine and Immunology
Vice-president of Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology

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PRAGUE AS CAPITAL OF IMMUNOLOGY IN CZECH REPUBLIC

Prague as capital of the Czech Republic is also center of both basic and applied research in Immunology. So called Prague immunological school dates its activity already to fifties of last century. At present, immunology-oriented basic research is the domain of Academy of Science in Prague (Immunological Dept. of Institute of Microbiology, Institute of Molecular Genetics). Basic but also clinically-oriented research is focused at Charles University and its 3 Medical Faculties and Faculty of Science. Applied research in immunology is traditional also at Institute of Hematology, Rheumatology and Institute of Clinical and Experimental Medicine which are organizations directed by Ministry of Health.

1. HOST SOCIETIES AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

1.1. CZECH IMMUNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

The European Congress of Immunology in 2015 should be organized by both **Czech Immunological Society (CIS)** and **Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (CSAKI)**.

CIS started its existence in sixties and seventies as informal immunological center known later as the Czech (Prague) Immunological School represented by Prof. Milan Hasek and Prof. Jaroslav Sterzl (see later). The Immunological section of the Czechoslovak Biological Society was established in 1971. The independent Czechoslovak Immunological Society was established in 1979, which was subsequently split to Czech and Slovak Immunological Societies as a consequence of division of Czechoslovakia to the Czech and Slovak Republics in 1993. CIS is member of EFIS.

Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology dates its history to 1957 (founded as Allergy society first). As CIS, also CSAKI was divided in 1993 to Czech and Slovak societies which closely continue to collaborate.

Czech Immunological Society promotes the work of young immunologists by means of the yearly granted Award of the CIS for Young Scientists. CSAKI award yearly the best publication in the field of clinical immunology and allergy.

Recently, the Czech Immunological Society has approximately 600 members. About one third of them are also members of Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology. This later society has about 1200 members.

1.2. SYMPOSIA AND CONGRESSES ORGANIZED BY CZECH IMMUNOLOGISTS

Many Nobel prize winners attended symposia and congresses organized by Czech Immunologists

Famous were symposia in sixties organized by Jaroslav Šterzl and Ivan Říha entitled Molecular and Cellular basis of antibody formation (1964) and Developmental Aspects of Antibody Formation and Structure (1969). These symposia have been attended (among many others) by G.L. Ada, B. Benacerraf, F.M. Burnet, G.M. Edelman, J.L. Fahey, P.G. Gell, R.A. Good., P. Grabar, L. Hood, J.H. Humphrey, N.K. Jerne, E.A. Kabat, N.A. Mitchison, G.J.V. Nossal, A.M. Silverstein, G.J. Thorbecke, B. A. Askonas, A. Bussard, E.A. Kabat, M. Sela, J. W. Uhr, E.R. Unanue, W. E. Paul, G. Nossal, H. Metzger. Some of them became later Nobel prize winners.

EFIS High Tatra Conference and meetings for up to 1700 participants

The specialized conferences oriented to mucosal immunity, host-pathogen interactions, reproductive immunology, and specific aspects of theoretical and clinical immunology are organized yearly by CIS and CSAKI. Moreover, Czech Immunological Society is the co-organizer of EFIS High Tatra Conferences and Immunological Schools, which were held in several centers of the Czech Republic. 7th International Congress of Mucosal Immunology, in Prague 1992, was attended by approx. 700 delegates, European Mucosal Immunology Meeting was organized in 2006 and was attended by 300 participants. Every year the CSAKI organizes its congress and every three years are congresses organized with Czech Immunological Society. Many leading immunologists from worldwide figured as invited speakers at these congresses. The last very successful meeting with the motto From Experiment to Clinical Practice held in 2008 in Prague had nearly 1700 participants.

2. DATE

Proposed dates are **13th to 16th September 2015**.

Additionally, we have reserved the following periods at the Prague Congress Centre:

September 9th – September 23th 2015

June 10th – June 24th 2015

We hold the booking till August 30th 2009.

3. THE CITY OF PRAGUE

- more than 1000 years of history and culture, unique collection of historical monuments
- good airway connection with all important cities in Europe (more than 6 mil. int. arrivals per year)
- excellent railway, bus connection
- dense and quality network of public transport
- wide range of all kinds of the hotel accommodation (from the luxury ones to hostels); more than 200 hotels with 50.000 beds



The attractiveness of Prague lies in the breadth and diversity of its offerings. The tourist is fascinated and forever captivated by the unique atmosphere of the city, which has been called the "heart of Europe" for ages. Among the most fascinating places are the "genius loci" of the inner historical parts of Prague - Hradcany (the Prague Castle), the Lesser Town (Mala Strana) and the Old Town (Stare Mesto). These areas, which virtually amount to small unique cities within the larger city, have their own particular features. Hradcany, the large-scale, historically rich complex, has been the residence and symbol of Czech statehood for centuries. The grandiose Gothic St. Vitus Cathedral dominates the Lesser Town roofs and offers a beautiful view of dozens of Old Town towers. Charles Bridge, the oldest stone bridge in Central

Europe, connects the two historic sites of the city. Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque, and especially in the Old Town - Art Nouveau, cubism and modern styles from the beginning of the century are a unique aesthetic unit.

4. SITE: THE CZECH REPUBLIC

- so called the heart of Europe
- stable democratic country, member of NATO
- 10,5 million of inhabitants
- mild climate, typical for Central European region

Thanks to its long and rich history and the diversity of its natural environment, the Czech Republic is a great attraction for the millions of guests who visit it every year. The jewel in the Czech crown is Prague with its gorgeous and rich architectural styles but the country is also dotted with numerous historical city centres, castles and chateaux. Outside the urban areas, deep woods, rock formations and limestone caves are among the many interesting sites the Czech Republic has to offer. Since the Czech lands lie exactly on the border of Eastern and Western Europe, the country has come under the influence of several different cultures throughout the course of history. Each of these influences indelibly marked the face of the country with architectural or artistic monuments. This accounts for the uniquely rich cultural heritage of this relatively small country. In addition, the Czech lands are extraordinary in Europe due to the fact that they are practically untouched by the large-scale destruction of war.

Climate

The Czech Republic lies in the temperate climate zone of Europe, which makes for pleasantly mild summers and winters with only moderate amounts of precipitation

Lowland temperatures in July average 20 C, and in mountainous areas 8-11 C. Lowland temperatures in January average -1 to -2oC, -5 to -7oC in the mountains.



Time Zone

The Czech Republic is on central European Time - Greenwich Mean Time (GTM) plus 1 hour. From April to October is summer time, i.e. GTM +2 hours.

Currency and exchange rates

The official currency of the Czech Republic is the Czech Crown = Česká koruna (CZK = Kč)

The official exchange rates of the Czech National Bank on 15th May, 2009 were:

1 EUR = 26, 94 CZK

1 USD = 19, 86 CZK

The majority of hotels, shops, restaurants and other establishments' accept credit card. Money can be withdrawn from Automatic Teller machines ATM's or banks, which can be found in various locations around cities and the centres.

Czech Republic and the European Union

The Czech Republic became part of the European Union (EU) on 1st May 2004.

Furthermore, it is expected that the Czech currency (CZK) will be replaced by the EURO approximately 4 - 5 years later.

5. PROPOSED CONGRESS FACILITIES: PRAGUE CONGRESS CENTRE

The Prague congress centre (PCC) is one of the largest and best equipped European centres. The centre has at its disposal 20 halls and 50 meeting rooms, with a capacity from 12 to 2764 persons.

Prague Congress centre (PCC) is one of the most dominant sights in Prague. The former building was open in 1981 as one of the largest and the most modern cultural European centres. In 1998-2000 the building went through an extensive reconstruction and completion. The new multifunctional building also has been built with a large hotel and office capacities next to the centre. In the Congress Centre there are 8 halls with total capacity for 4,500 persons and 30 meeting halls for 1,500 persons. The whole complex is providing catering services for 7,000 persons.



Advantages of Prague Congress Centre:

- Modern and luminous premises fully air-conditioned
- Great variety of size of meeting rooms and foyers
- Famous view of the Prague panorama headed by Prague castle
- Large choice of quality services certified by ISO 9001:2000
- All specialities in audiovisual and other conference technologies
- Professional catering for up to 7000 persons at one time
- Easy access by underground – 2 stations to the downtown

5. 1. FACILITIES FOR SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

5.1.1. PLENARY SESSIONS

Plenary Session Rooms							
Hall/Room	Floor	Theatre style	Class room	"U" shape	Banquet	Reception	Total area sq.m.
Congress Hall	1 - 4	3,300	-	-	-	-	4,214
Forum Hall	2 - 4	1,034	600	500	1,000	1,200	1,873
South Hall	3	700	450	200	750	900	1,003

5.1.2. SYMPOSIA

Symposia							
Hall/Room	Floor	Theatre style	Class room	"U" shape	Banquet	Reception	Total area sq.m.
Small Hall	0	320	230	110	280	350	411
Chamber Hall	3	220	120	90	160	230	278,7
Conference Hall	4	200	160	110	200	240	352
Small Theatre	0	130	80	80	160	230	172
Panorama Hall	1	400	250	110	400	500	532
Restaurant Zoom	1	-	-	-	280	700	747
Club A	1	140	100	60	130	160	184.5
Club E	1	140	100	60	130	160	184.5
Club H	1	160	100	60	180	200	218,8
Meeting Hall 1	1	500	300	200	380	500	548
Meeting Hall 4	2	250	150	100	190	250	276
Meeting Hall 5	2	250	150	100	190	250	276
North Hall	2	220	140	80	220	280	329
Terrace 1	2	160	80	50	200	240	263
Terrace 2	2	120	100	60	180	200	230

5.1.3. WORKSHOPS

Other Rooms							
Hall/Room	Floor	Theatre style	Class room	"U" shape	Banquet	Reception	Total area sq.m.
Club B	1	70	50	35	65	80	90
Club C	1	65	45	25	60	75	80.8
Club D	1	70	50	35	65	80	90
Meeting Room 1.1	1	45	30	20	-	-	63.7
Meeting Room 2.1	2	50	35	30	-	-	67.6
Meeting Room 4.1	4	55	40	30	-	-	75.5
Meeting Room 4.2	4	55	40	30	-	-	76
Dressing Room of Congress Hall 220	2	50	35	35	-	-	67

5.1.4. POSTERS

1300 posters which can be disposed simultaneously

POSTER SESSION PREMISES

Terrace I. and Terrace II. are usually used as a poster session areas due to the fact, that in these halls is a natural daylight and these are detached from the noise of the congress.



5. 2. SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITS

Total exhibition space of PCC is 13 000 m2.

Exhibition area dimensions & capacities					
Hall/Room	Floor	Banquet	Reception	Exhibition Area	Total area sq.m.
Forum Hall Foyer Ground floor	0	550	750	448	1,086
Congress Hall Foyer Ground floor A	0	1,100	1,400	1,350	1,840
Congress Hall Foyer Ground floor B	0	950	1,200	457	1,509
Hall/Room	Floor	Banquet	Reception	Exhibition Area	Total area sq.m.
Congress Hall Foyer 1 st Floor A	1	500	700	364	858
Congress Hall Foyer 1 st Floor B	1	450	600	180	696
Forum Hall Foyer 1 st Floor	1	750	1,000	366	1,194
Congress Hall Foyer 2 nd Floor	2	1,600	2,000	1,892	2,536
Forum Hall Foyer 2 nd Floor	2	900	1,150	512	1,447
Congress Hall Foyer 3 rd Floor	3	950	1,200	1,078	1,572
Forum Hall Foyer 3 rd Floor	3	450	600	424	677
Congress Hall Foyer 4 th Floor	4	950	1,200	1,201	1,569
Total				8,272	14,984

5. 3. ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

The Prague congress centre dispose of 30 small rooms which can be used as small meeting rooms or offices. Their capacity is between 15 to 45 seats.

5. 4. EATING FACILITIES

At the Prague Congress Centre up to 7000 people can be catered within its premises at the same time.

5. 5. AIR – CONDITIONING

Prague congress centre is fully air-conditioned.

REFERENCES

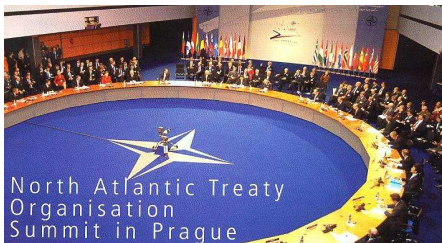
Annual Meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group, Prague 2000



Quality, suitable location as well as favourable conditions of the Prague Congress Centre were the facts which decided the election of the PCC to host the Annual Meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank Group in 2000. 17,536 participants were present during this event.



NATO Summit



In Prague Congress Centre were held Meetings of Heads of State and Government level of the North Atlantic Council (NAC) and between NATO and Heads of State and Government of Partner Countries in November 2002.

The Czech Republic is a member of NATO since 2000.



12th United Gastroenterology Week (UEGW 2004)



UEGW 2004 was the biggest medical congress in history of Czech Republic. PCC hosted 1000 participants and 3391 sqm registered exhibitors.

International Bar Association Conference (IBA 2005)



Prague was given a chance to host the conference of the most prestigious international lawyer's professional association IBA. The conference hosted 4600 participants

19th Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Hypertension / 12th European Meeting on Hypertension

Meeting in PCC Prague, 7500 participants

6. HOUSING

AVAILABILITY OF HOTEL ROOMS IN PRAGUE

Prague has large capacities in all types of hotels. Delegates can choose different styles from luxury five- star hotels to three-star hotels (or two stars hotels and hostels). All of the suggested hotels are **easily accessible** – at most 5 - 20 minutes by underground, bus or tram ride away from the Prague Congress Centre.

- **5-star hotels** – more than 30 hotels, 8 350 beds, price = 180 - 300 EUR per person per night
- **4-star hotels** – more than 100 hotels; 20 085 beds, price = 130 – 200 EUR per person per night
- **3-star hotels** – more than 160 hotels; 19 061 beds, price = 80 – 120 EUR per person per night
- **Low cost accommodation** in Prague is available. Organizing agency will arrange low-cost accommodation in variety of hostels, apartments and other type of cheap accommodation in different locations and rankings.

7. TRANSPORTATION

7. 1. TO CITY

Prague by plane

Prague - Ruzyne Airport is located 17 km from the city centre. It is one of the most modern international airports in Europe and was designed for almost 5 million passengers per year. The whole of Prague airport has been rebuilt and is one of the most modern airports in Europe using up-to-date technology equipment including top navigation system. It has three terminals – Terminal 2 handles flights from so-called Schengen countries, while Terminal 1 is for flights to and from other countries. The Terminal 3 handles government and military flights.

A regular airport bus – to get to the airport, passengers can use the city's buses, a taxi or their own car. Bus 119 departs from Dejvická metro station on line A (20min), and the 100 leaves from Zličín station on line B (15min). In 2005 a special AE (=Airport Express) service began operating from Holešovice railway station to Terminal 1 and Terminal 2, and runs from 5am until 10pm at 30-minutes intervals.

Airplane distance from European towns to Prague



Time distance by airplane to Prague

Amsterdam	1,5 h.	København	1,5 h.
Athens	2,5 h.	London	2,0 h.
Barcelona	2,5 h.	Madrid	2,5 h.
Beograd	1,5 h.	Milano	1,5 h.
Berlin	1,0 h.	Moskva	2,5 h.
Bratislava	1,0 h.	München	1,0 h.
Bruxelles	1,5 h.	Oslo	2,0 h.
Bucuresti	2,0 h.	Paris	2,0 h.
Budapest	1,0 h.	Roma	1,5 h.
Dublin	2,5 h.	Stockholm	2,0 h.
Frankfurt	1,0 h.	Warszawa	1,5 h.
Helsinki	2,5 h.	Wien	1,0 h.
Istanbul	2,5 h.	Zurich	1,5 h.
Kiev	2,0 h.		

Prague by bus or coach

International coach services link large Czech cities such as Prague, Brno and Ostrava with cities in Europe. Domestic coach services often use comfortable modern vehicles.

Prague by train

Lying in the very centre of Europe, the Czech Republic stands at a crossroads where many international rail routes meet (EuroCity, InterCity and SuperCity services). The train is an ideal way to get around the Czech Republic, as it has one of the densest rail networks in Europe. The overwhelming majority of services are operated by Czech Railways. Timetable information and ticket prices can be found at www.idos.cz. A new feature on Czech Railways is the Pendolino train which now links Prague with Ostrava, Vienna and Bratislava. The train can travel at up to 180 km/h.

7. 2. WITHIN CITY

Public transport

In the city centre, its share is up to 85% of all journeys taken. The main means of public transport is the underground railway - the metro (designated by letters A, B, C), with complementary system of bus, tram and railway transport. The well developed transport system connects Prague with towns and villages within 40 - 50 km.

The metro network (including underground railway, trams and buses) ticketing system is as follows:

Short -term season tickets

Network ticket for 1 day (24 hours)	CZK 100. - / EUR 3.80
Network ticket for 3 days (72 hours)	CZK 330.- / EUR 12.70
Network ticket for 5 days (120 hours)	CZK 500.- / EUR 19.20

Visa requirements

All foreign visitors to the Czech Republic must possess a passport, which validity finishes at least 3 months after the end of their stay in the country. Participants requiring a visa should apply immediately to consular Office of the Czech Republic or diplomatic missions in their country in order to avoid delay in travel to Conference.

It is strongly recommended that all foreigners check the web site of the Czech Embassy since changes are often made. (HYPERLINK "<http://www.czechembassy.org>" www.czechembassy.org ; HYPERLINK "<http://www.mzv.cz>")

8. PROGRAMME

8. 1. SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The programme will be prepared by a scientific committee, consisting of 2 representatives of the organizing Czech Immunological societies and of the national societies with more than 500 members, and one representative of other national societies.

We plan to cover following topics:

- Anti-infective immunity and vaccination
- Anti-tumour immunity
- Atopy and allergy
- Autoimmunity and tolerance
- Developmental and veterinary immunology
- Genetic control of immune disorders and environmental impact
- Immunocompetent cells and cytokines
- Immunodeficiencies
- Immunological aspects of sepsis
- Immunology of reproduction
- Immunology of transplantation
- Innate immunity and inflammation
- Mucosal immunity
- Neuroimmunology
- Organ specific autoimmunity

8. 2. SOCIAL PROGRAMME

8.2.1. EVENTS INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION FEES

- Opening Ceremony
- Welcome Reception
- Kids Corner
- Congress Party (this event is included in the registration fee for accompanying persons only)

OPENING CEREMONY AND WELCOME RECEPTION AT PRAGUE CONGRESS CENTRE



The typical places for holding the Opening Ceremony are the spaces and foyers of the Prague Congress Centre. This event can be held in the meeting halls or at the foyers where participants can meet.

KIDS CORNER AT PRAGUE CONGRESS CENTRE

We would like to make it easier for those of us who have small kids and would like to attend the congress at the Prague Congress Centre. Therefore we would be happy to arrange a Kids' corner for children. This service will be included in the registration fee.



8. 2. 2. OPTIONAL CONGRESS EVENTS

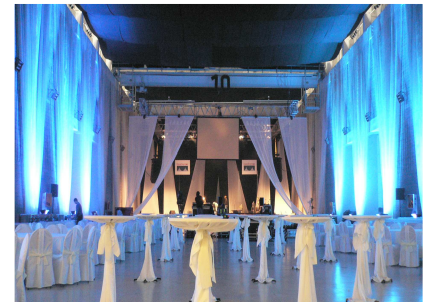
Congress party would have to be paid separately by congress participants. Following options are considered:

THE TRADE FAIR PALACE

It offers a variety of uses for commercial, cultural and non-cultural events. This exclusive space belongs to the most significant monuments of 20th century modern architecture-functionalism.

This commercial space under the same roof with world famous art collections owned by the National Gallery in Prague creates a unique and prestigious atmosphere for organizing event.

The evening at the Trade Fair Palace could be closed by the exciting performance of Křižík's fountain. The excellent combination of lightning fountain, classic music and performance makes unforgettable experience from Prague.



- Program for accompanying persons – Golf, Jazz Boat, Prague by night – Jazz Club
- Visit of the concert of popular or classical music in National Theatre, Prague Spring Festival, Prague Autumn Festival, ballet or opera performance in State Opera
- Sightseeing tours (half or whole day) - Prague Castle and the Royal Garden, Prague's Old Town and Jewish Ghetto, Art Nouveau Prague, Mozart Prague, Nelahozeves Castle and the Museum of Antonin Dvorak, Castolovice Chateau and Game Preserve, Karlstejn Castle and Konopiste Chateau, Krivoklat Castle and Nizbor Glassworks

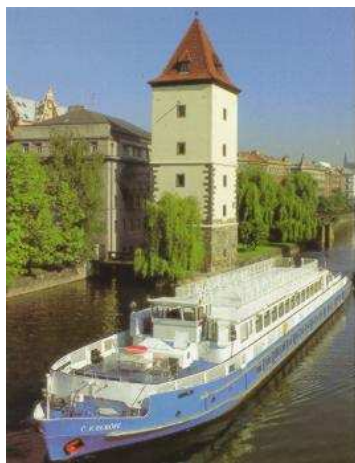
8.2.3. SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Golf courses in Prague and nearby

The Czech Republic is a place where golfers can experience a unique combination of their favourite sport played against a backdrop of historical sites and natural beauty. Golf courses have sprung up across the Czech Republic and this boom in new facilities is set to continue. Investors are now focusing in particular on top-notch courses and facilities, including accommodation and various wellness programmes. At present in the Czech Republic there are 132 golf clubs and 74 golf courses, of which two have 36 holes, six have 27 holes, 27 have 18 holes and 39 have 9 holes. The best courses with the highest standard of services can be found around the capital, in the West Bohemian spa triangle and North Moravia. **There are four golf courses in Prague. Some of the most scenic courses can be found at Karlstejn, Konopiste and Beroun, which is very close to Prague.**



Jazz Boat



Surely you'll agree with us that the look of the city changes by night. By night, the sight of illuminated Prague from on board a boat enables you're the mind to relax, evokes romantic atmosphere and revives imagination. The river cruise includes a jazz concert and a dinner.

Going along the riverbanks, you can admire Prague's cultural, historical and architectural jewels, e.g. Vyšehrad Castle, the residence of medieval Czech kings, the National Theatre – the most important symbol of Czech culture and national consciousness, Žofín Palace, Lichtenstein Palace, the string of Art Nouveau buildings on the embankment, unique on a European scale, Charles Bridge and the unforgettable panorama of the Prague Castle, which contributes to Prague's fame.

Prague by night – Jazz Club

You may start your interesting evening by a short walk around some of the most beautiful spots in Prague, such as the avenue of Příklad or the Old Town Square, and then continue with a jazz concert in one of Prague's best jazz clubs – U Staré Paní (At the Old Lady's). During the concert you will be served a three-course dinner, wine and soft drinks.

8.2.4. SUGGESTED VENUES FOR CONCERTS

The National Theatre

The National Theatre in Prague, apart from the Czech Philharmonic and National Gallery, belongs to the most important Czech cultural institutions with a rich artistic tradition which was created and maintained by the most distinguished personalities in Czech society. This tradition helped to preserve and develop the most important features of the nation – the Czech language and a sense for a Czech musical and dramatic way of thinking.

The building of the National Theatre was inaugurated on November 18, 1883 with a performance of Smetana's festive opera *Libuše* composed for this occasion. The building, technically perfectly equipped (electric illumination, a steel constructed stage), served without any extensive modifications for almost one hundred years.

Now this historic, extremely prestigious and beautiful building together with the annex of a modern office building which also includes the main box office, represents the main stage of the three artistic ensembles of the National Theatre: the drama, opera and ballet.



Laterna Magica

One of the famous attractions of Prague is the Laterna Magica, a special performance, which does not use words, only the combination of film projection and life stage media's - dance, sound, lights, pantomime, black-theatre e.t.c. The Magic Latern is a theatre located on Národní Street in Prague. It will shortly turn 40, and its name now sounds familiar to people all over the world. The theatre is certain to appeal to all – its means of expression are easily comprehensible and each programme is a very original work of art.



The Rudolfinum

Home of the Czech Philharmonic and an incomparably beautiful setting in the heart of Prague for concerts, exhibitions and other social events. The Prague Rudolfinum is a Neo-Renaissance building of a multi-purpose cultural centre design, which received its name after Rudolf, Austrian Prince Royal. The building received the award of a prominent European architects jury for "an extraordinary building that ideally fulfilled all operational and artistic requirements" in 1885. Since the building was put in operation, the Picture Gallery of the Society of Patriotic Friends of Art was permanently placed there. The building is constantly hosting the Aesthetic Union and Czech Philharmonic. It again serves the public for concerts and art exhibitions purposes.



Prague State Opera

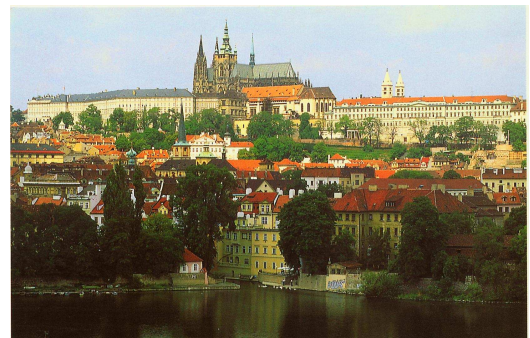
Prague State Opera resides in the building which on January 5th, 1888 was opened as a Prague German stage with the performance of Wagner's opera, The Mastersingers of Nürnberg. In the 19th century, Prague Germans performed in the Estate's Theater in alternation with a Czech company. Nowadays stage of Prague State Opera offers the most famous performance as following: Nabucco, Aida, La Traviata, Rigoletto (Giuseppe Verdi), Madama Butterfly (Giacomo Puccini), The Magic Flute (W.A.Mozart), Carmen (Georges Bizet), etc.

SIGHTSEEING TOURS

All participants and accompanying persons can take part in these tours and participants will pay for them individually. All trips include a bus transport, English speaking guide, lunch, and admission fees to historical monuments or other needed reservation fees. Minimum number of participants for each tour is 20 people.

Prague Castle and the Royal Gardens

This half-day sightseeing tour of the Prague Castle, which is the seat of Czech President, includes the Royal Palace, the residence of the kings of Bohemia with its famous Vladislav Hall, St Vitus Cathedral from the 14th century, St George's Basilica with its treasure of old Czech art, baroque paintings and sculpture, and Golden Lane, once inhabited also by the famous writer Franz Kafka. You'll get the opportunity to admire a variety of architectural styles, showing the progress of European architecture throughout the centuries.



Prague's Old Town and Jewish Ghetto

This half-day walking tour will take you to the ancient heart of the city – the Old Town, which was settled more than 1000 years ago. The tour begins at the Powder Gate, leading you to the Old Town Square with its beautiful houses, palaces and churches of various architectural styles, and with the famous astronomical clock. From there you continue to Jewish Quarter, the home of Prague's Jewish ghetto in the Middle Ages. The history of the Jewish community in Prague can be traced back to the mid-tenth century. You will be shown the impressive Old Jewish Cemetery, which dates back to the 15th century, Europe's oldest synagogue – the Gothic-style Old New Synagogue, the High Synagogue, the Town Hall, the Pinkas Synagogue and the Ceremonial Hall with its collection of children's art from the Terezín concentration camp.



Art Nouveau Prague



This tour gives you the chance to acquaint yourself with the works of the great Czech artist Alphonse Mucha (1860 – 1939). The exhibition is located in Kaunitz Palace, in the very heart of Prague. The Municipal House – Prague's most prominent Art Nouveau building stands on the site of the former Royal Court Palace, the residence of Czech kings between 1383 and 1485. The interior of the building was decorated by leading Czech artists of the last decade of the 19th century, including Alphonse Mucha.

There are numerous smaller halls, as well as cafés and restaurants, where visitors can relax and appreciate the centre's flamboyant Art Nouveau decorations.

Mozart Prague



It is often said that Mozart spent some of the happiest days of his life in Prague. The “Mozartean” tour includes a walk around the Estates’ Theatre where Don Giovanni was staged for the very first time in 1787, and a visit to Villa Bertramka – the memorial to W.A. Mozart and the Dušek family. During his several sojourns in Prague, Mozart stayed at Bertramka and composed some of his works there.

8. 3. SATELITE MEETINGS

There is a sufficient capacity for several Satellite Meetings that can take place previous to the congress or during lunch breaks. Satellite Meetings as in-depth discussions will be covering the topics connected to the main programme scheme of the European Congress of Immunology.


9. ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

9. 1. LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Local Organizing Committee will be in charge of the local organization of the congress. Preliminary we have directed the offer to following personalities of Czech Immunology:

- **Jiřina Bartůňková**, Institute of Immunology, 2nd Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague, director of FOCIS Center of Excellence
- **Pavel Dráber**, Institute of Molecular Genetics, Prague
- **Petr Dráber**, Institute of Molecular Genetics, Prague
- **Jiří Litzman**, Institute of Clinical Immunology and Allergy of Masaryk’s university in Brno
- **Petr Panzner**, Institute of Immunology and Allergy at Faculty of Medicine, Plzeň
- **Martin Petřek**, Institute of Immunology, Palacký University in Olomouc
- **Blanka Říhová**, Institute of Microbiology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
- **Ilja Stříž**, Immunology department at Institute of Experimental Medicine, Prague.
- **Peter Šebo**, Biotechnological centre in Prague
- **Anna Šedivá**, Institute of Immunology of Faculty Hospital Motol in Prague
- **Radek Špíšek**, Institute of Immunology, 2nd Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague.

9.2. Letter of Intent by the Czech Tourism office



Prof. MUDr. Jiřina Bartůňková, DrSc.
Department of Immunology
2nd School of Medicine, Charles University and University Hospital Motol
V Úvalu 84
150 06 Prague 5
Czech Republic

April 14th, 2009

Dear Professor Bartůňková,

It is with great pleasure that I learned that the Czech Republic intends to hold the European Congress of Immunology in the year 2015.

In my capacity as Director of the Czech Tourist Authority, I would like to assure you of our wholehearted invitation.

In addition, visiting participants would find the opportunity for first-hand observation and recreation in our country which will certainly be an enriching and rewarding experience. The city of Prague is a very popular destination with all the facilities needed for holding congress events. The city with its rich historical background is considered a treasure of architecture which makes the city very attractive for foreign visitors and congress delegates. In fact, Prague is on the UNESCO list of the world's historical heritage sites. We believe that a vast range of cultural and social activities our city has to offer enables all visitors choose the best way of spending free time in our country.

I wish all participants at this future congress a mutually fruitful exchange of information as well as a pleasant stay in Prague and the Czech Republic.

Best success with your initiative.

Yours sincerely,



Rostislav Vondruška
Director of Czech Tourism



Czech Tourism, Václavská 86, P.O. Box 27, 120 41 Praha 2, Czech Republic. Tel: +420 221 580 111
Fax: +420 221 247 516, e-mail: info@CzechTourism.cz, www.CzechTourism.cz, www.CzechTourism.com

9. 3. PROFESSIONAL CONGRESS ORGANIZERS

Several congress organizing companies would compete for the organization of the Congress. Two hot candidates are:

9.3.1 GUARANT International

The company is specialized in **organising large congresses** on an international and local level. Besides congresses and conferences, Guarant International provides services in related areas, such as incentive tourism, presentations of new products, gala dinners, banquettes for clients and business partners, press conferences and many other programmes based on the requirements of the client.

GUARANT International spol. s r.o.

Opletalova 22
110 00 Praha 1
Česká republika



Tel: +420 284 001 444
Fax: +420 284 001 448
E-mail: guarant@guarant.cz
Web: www.guarant.cz

QUALITY GUARANTEE – ISO 9001:2000



In 2001, **GUARANT International** was certified by **CQS** in accordance with the international quality standard **ISO 9001:2000** for the processing of conference organisation, incentives and social events (Certificate No. 2049/2001). It is one of a few companies in the “Congress / Conference” industry who have invested in this certification. GUARANT International can provide quality and reliability and has proven it by successfully organising dozens of government, medical and scientific congresses and conferences. **The most prestigious of them was the Annual Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in September 2000.**

9.3.2. Agentura Carolina

Agentura Carolina belongs to the leader congress organizing companies on the Czech Tourism Market. The company was established in 1991 as one of the first private Czech agencies in the Czech tourism market and in the course of its eighteen-year existence it obtained valuable experience in the preparation and organization of major international and national conferences and congresses. Great care is paid to ensuring the organization and administration of conferences to meet the high professional standards laid down by IAPCO (International Association of Professional Congress Organizers).

Agency has contractual liaison with the leading Czech Institutions - Prague's Charles University and the National Gallery. Since our establishment we have been cooperating with public sector such as Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Czech Tourism.

Agentura Carolina is a member of prestigious international associations ICCA & EFAPCO.

Agentura Carolina, spol. s.r.o.

Albertov 3a/7, P.O.Box 45
128 01 Praha 2
Česká republika



Tel: + 420 224 990 811
Fax: + 420 224 918 681
E-mail: carolina@carolina.cz
WEB: www.carolina.cz

Expertise:

19th Scientific Meeting of International Society of Hypertension and 12th European Meeting on Hypertension

Venue: Congress Centre Prague, 7000 pax
This event we organized in cooperation with a concurrence company

14 European Congress of Clinical Chemistry & Laboratory Medicine
Venue: Prague Congress Centre, 2790 pax

International Congress of Dentistry "Stomatology yesterday, tomorrow and today" (ICD),
Venue: Congress Centre Prague, 1250 pax

9. 4. PROMOTION

A promotional committee will be formed, composed of one representative of each of the national societies.

Promotion of the European Congress of Immunology, ECI 2015 is preliminarily planned on following events:

- Congresses of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology
- Congresses on Autoimmunity
- Meetings of the European Society of Immunodeficiencies
- National congresses of the immunological societies

Presentation of the congress in available congress databases

- Promotion in all available databases increases attractiveness of the event

Web presentation

- The creation of internet pages can be easy and provide only the basic information, or it can be more sophisticated and can contain hyperlinks or on-line registration, collection of theses, creation of personal calendar of meetings during the conference, contacts to other already registered participants and many other services which will enable the participants and the organisational committee to prepare and organise the conference.

Production of promotion materials

- Agencies can prepare printed materials for the congress, such as posters, leaflets, book marks or postcards, leaflets for a specific lecture or part of the programme, diplomas or confirmation of participation in the congress.

9. 5. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

9. 5. 1. CONGRESS FINANCING

The Congress will be financed from:

- the income of the registration fees from the participants
- sponsorship
- exhibition, symposia, evening functions, advertisement incomes etc.

Based on the preparation of the congress documentation we have already contacted several companies for possible sponsorship and we are including the ones who have preliminarily agreed:

- Exbio Praha a.s.
- Immunotech, a.s.
- Olympus, spol. s.r.o.
- Dynex, s.r.o.
- Roche, s.r.o.
- AstraZeneca, s.r.o.
- Glaxo Smith Kline, s.r.o.
- Merck Sharp & Dohme IDEA, Inc.
- Siemens Healthcare Diagnostic s.r.o.
- Teva Pharmaceuticals ČR, s.r.o.
- Baxter Czech, spol. s.r.o.
- ZENTIVA, a.s.
- LaboServ s.r.o.
- PharmaTech, s.r.o.
- Grifols, s.r.o.

9. 5. 2. ESTIMATED BUDGET IN EUR

European Congress of Immunology September 13 - 16, 2015 Prague - Czech Republic	
ESTIMATED BUDGET	
Estimated expenses based on 4 000 participants per May 2009 - VAT included	
CONGRESS	
Congress venue - Prague Congress centre, Halls, Techniques, Navigation system etc.	324 500,00 €
Printed Materials, Mailing, Internet etc.	154 000,00 €
Scientific Secretariat, Poster Exhibition	77 000,00 €
Hotel & Travel Expenses (Speakers & Committee)	165 000,00 €
Organization, Staff, Auxiliary staff, Technicians, Press, Advertisements etc.	341 000,00 €
Catering & Social events	154 000,00 €
Transportation, Public transport tickets	66 000,00 €
Other costs, e. g. bank fees, congress materials as bags etc.	66 000,00 €
Contribution to EFIS office, 3800 registered paying participants á 15 EUR	57 000,00 €
Total	1 404 500,00 €
EXHIBITION	
Exhibition space, staff, organization, plans etc.	253 000,00 €
Total	253 000,00 €
COSTS TOTAL	1 657 500,00 €
CONGRESS INCOMES	
Registration fees, preview 3800 paying participants (Preliminarily we count with cca 200 non-paying guests - speakers, press etc.)	1 045 000,00 €
Sponsorship	150 000,00 €
Exhibition incomes, evening events, advertisement etc.	880 000,00 €
Taxes	-385 700,00 €
TOTAL INCOMES	1 689 300,00 €
BALANCE	
Congress Incomes	1 689 300,00 €
Congress Costs	1 657 500,00 €
Surplus	31 800,00 €

9. 5. 3. REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees as per 2009 event:		
	Early fee	Standard fee
Members:	230,- EUR	350,- EUR
Non-members:	320,- EUR	420,- EUR
Students:	115,- EUR	170,- EUR

9. 5. 4. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE SPEAKERS

Financial support for the speakers will be payment of the travel and accommodation expenses, further no charge of registration fees to speakers will be applicable.

9. 5. 5. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR YOUNG INVESTIGATORS FROM DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A number of Travel grants will be provided by the ECI 2015 Congress. As per this year model the grants distributed can have a value of up to 400 EUR and will be given after fulfilling of several conditions.

9. 5. 6. PLANS FOR EFIS INCOME

We presume the EFIS income to be 15,- EUR per participant. With 3800 paying participants the total income for EFIS should be then 57 000, - EUR.

9. 5. 7. REQUIREMENT FOR ADVANCE FUNDING BY EFIS

No advanced funding will be required. The initial costs will be covered by the Czech Immunological Society and a local PCO.

10. APPENDIX

Few words about history of Czech Immunology and current status through list of (some) important personalities

Nobel Prize within a reach

The important person of Czech Immunology was Milan Hašek. His coworker J. Iványi in an article entitled Milan Hašek and the discovery of immunological tolerance (Nat Rev Immunol 2003) wrote: "This year is the 50th anniversary of the publication of a paper by Milan Hašek, in which he showed the phenomenon of immunological tolerance by the selective failure of chimaeric chick-embryo parabionts to produce antibodies against the red blood cells of each other. The discovery of tolerance was credited by the Nobel prize (to P. Medawar and M. Burnet), but excluded Hašek, because he misinterpreted his original experimental results."



photograph of Peter Medawar, J. Z. Young, Milan Hašek and Leslie Brent



Pavol Iványi

Another colleague of Hašek, **Pavol Iványi** (1930 -2005) contributed significantly to the experiments discovering HLA whose results later brought the Nobel Prize to Jean Dausset in 1980. **Jan Klein**, after emigration to the U.S.A., in the seventies became probably the most eminent immunogeneticist worldwide (co-discoverer of the fundamental immunological significance of MHC proteins).

Councillor of IUIS and leader of „Prague Immunological School“

Jaroslav Šterzl (1925) was undoubtedly leader of Czechoslovak Immunology in sixties and seventies of the last century. The topic closest to Šterzl's heart was the work on developmental aspects of antibody formation. His contributions to the world immunology were recognized by various prizes not only in Czechoslovakia, but also by honorary memberships in a number of foreign immunological societies. He worked as the councillor of IUIS in 1992-1998.



Jaroslav Šterzl

Poet among Czech Immunologists



Another personality is **Miroslav Holub** (1923- 1998), world-well recognized poet and also an immunologist. Holub's literary work was heavily influenced by his experiences as an immunologist, writing many poems utilising his scientific knowledge to poetic effect. His work is almost always unrhymed, so lends itself easily to translation. It has been translated into more than 30 languages and is especially popular in the English-speaking world. In addition to poetry, Holub wrote many short essays on various aspects of science, particularly biology and medicine (specifically immunology) and life. As an immunologist he was from the very beginning heavily involved in the study of nude mutation.

Miroslav Holub

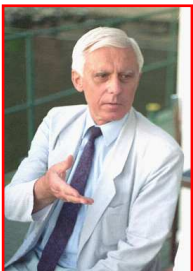
Allergy is a Branch of Immunology



This is the motto of the leader of Czech allergology and clinical immunology, **Václav Špičák** (1929). He was active in several functions in European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) and still belongs to leading personalities of Czech pediatric allergology.

Václav Špičák

Czech Immunologists at WHO



Ivan Říha (1927 – 2005), **Ivo Hána** (1928) and Václav Houba worked for many years as consultant for immunology at WHO. Prof. Hána was for a long period president of CIS and organizer of postgraduate study in immunology. He was the president of very successful VII. Congress of Czech and Slovak Immunologists held in Prague (1994).

Ivo Hána

First lady of Clinical Immunology



Terezie Fučíková is considered as First lady of Czech clinical immunology. Her contribution to immunology lies especially in setting the clinical immunology and allergy as a clinically-oriented medical specialty based on internal diseases.

Terezie Fučíková receiving the prestigious Purkyně medal for the contribution to clinical immunology in 2008

Imprint of Czech (and Slovak) Immunologists to world immunology

Many scientists left Czechoslovakia (most of them due to the Soviet armed invasion in 1968), and became leaders in several fields of world immunology. Few examples:

Hundreds thousand patients worldwide are treated by a drug discovered by Jan Vilček



Jan Vilček (1930) is working at New York University School of Medicine since 1965. His team studied cytokines which led to the development of infliximab, a monoclonal antibody against tumor necrosis factor used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and Crohn disease.

Jan Vilček awarded by Garnet Immunglobulin from hand of the president of Czech Immunology Society Blanka Říhová in 2008

Resistance and vaccines to Mycobacteria in hands of Czechs and Slovacs

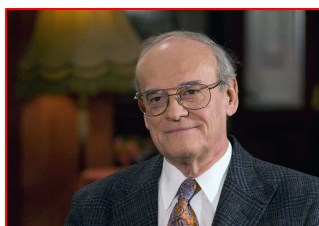


Emil Skamene (1941) left Czechoslovakia in 1968 and became the professor of Mc Gill University in Montréal, Canada. Dr. Skamene's major contribution to the field of infection and immunity has been the identification of genes controlling susceptibility to tuberculosis, leprosy and malaria.

Emil Skamene

Juraj Iványi (1932) left Prague for London in sixties. He dedicated his scientific life at Kings College to the study of mycobacterial infection and development of new vaccine formulas.

Important field of immunology: mucosal immunity. Again a Czech.



Mucosal Immunity in the world is represented by **Jiří Městecký** (1941), another emigrant from Czech Republic. At University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA, he achieved big success in the research in mucosal immunity, IgA and vaccines against HIV.

Jiří Městecký

Famous Basel Institute of Immunology and Ivan Lefkovits



Ivan Lefkovits left Czechoslovakia 1965, worked with Niels Jerne at the Paul-Ehrlich Institute in Frankfurt 1967-69, and thereafter for more than 30 years at the Basel Institute for Immunology. At present he is working at the University Hospital Basel. In Czech and Slovak Republic he organized several Central European Schools of Immunology.

Ivan Lefkovits

Czech Immunology at now days

The Czech Immunologists who reached prominence in both in science or clinic (examples)



Blanka Říhová – the president of the Czech Immunology Society. One of most famous women in science. Her research at Institute of Microbiology at Academy of Science in Prague concern targeted anticancer drugs.

Helena Tlaskalová -Hogenová– former president of Czech Immunology Society, first lady in the field of mucosal immunity.



Václav Hořejší, professor of Immunology, is the director of the Institute of Molecular Genetics at Academy of Science in Prague. One of the most cited author worldwide. His group contributed substantially to the discovery and characterization of many leukocytic antigens. He is editor –in-chief of Immunology Letters, official journal of EFIS.

Peter Šebo, leader in the field of antimicrobial immunity. He is director of recently established Biotechnological Center at Prague.

Petr and Pavel Dráber. Both brothers work at the Institute of Molecular Genetics. Peter's research is focused on IgE signalling in mast cells, Pavel's on the cytoskeletal research.



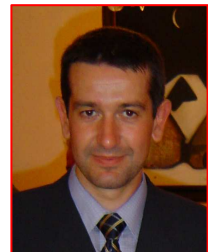
Jiří Litzman – head of the Institute of Clinical Immunology and Allergy of Masaryk's university in Brno. He established the Czech Registry of Primary Immune Deficiencies.

Jiřina Bartůňková – head of the Institute of Immunology, 2nd Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague, director of FOCIS Center of Excellence. She established a group dealing with dendritic cell – mediated immunotherapy of cancer. President of the last congress of Czech and Slovak Immunologist held in 2008 in Prague.



Anna Šedivá – vice-head of the Institute of Immunology of Faculty Hospital Motol in Prague. As a pediatrician she works mainly on primary immune deficiencies and allergy in childhood.

Radek Špišek – after his stay in Rockefeller University in New York, he became the leader of anticancer research at Institute of Immunology, 2nd Faculty of Medicine, Charles University in Prague.



Martin Petřek – leading immunogenetist at Palacký University in Olomouc. His research is focused to the pathogenesis of immune-mediated lung diseases.



Petr Panzner – head of the Institute of Immunology and Allergy at Faculty of Medicine, Plzeň. His topic is atopy and its treatment. He is active in EAACI.

Ilja Stříž is the head of immunology department at Institute of Experimental Medicine, Prague. He focuses the research to immunology of organ transplantation, cytokine polymorphisms and lung diseases.



..... and many others such as Lokaj J, Ulčová-Gallová Z., Tučková L., Prokešová L., Holáň V., Krejsek J., Bubeník J., Macela A.....

..... If our application finds support with EFIS, we will be happy to supply further background information related to the activities of our immunological societies and a "who-is-who" of the rich history of the scientists that were part of the "Prague-school" of immunology as well as those who currently carry out the diversified research of basic and clinical immunology in our country.

Welcome to Prague in 2015!

Blanka Říhová, president of Czech Immunology Society



Vít Petrů, president of Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology



Jiřina Bartůňková, vicepresident of Czech Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology, designed president of local organizing committee for ECI 2015

