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The Institute of the Czech Language was created in 1946 from the original Office for the Czech Lexicon, founded in 1911 by the former Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts. The branch in Brno was founded in 1952. The Institute of the Czech Language became a part of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences on 1 January 1953. Pursuant to Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Institute became a public research institution as of 1 January 2007.

The Institute is concerned with the study of grammar, style, lexicology, lexicography, dialectology, etymology, onomastics and historical development of the Czech language. Both the Prague and the Brno Institute Centres provide consulting services concerning Czech orthography, grammar and language culture. The Department of Language Studies specialises in theory and practice of language education.

The Institute publishes the following periodicals: Naše řeč (Our Language) 5 issues a year; Slovo a slovesnost (Word and Literature) 4 issues a year; Časopis pro moderní filologii (Journal of Modern Philology) 2 issues a year; Linguistica Pragensia, 2 issues a year; Acta onomastica; Bibliografie české lingvistiky (Bibliography of Czech Linguistics); Bibliografie české onomastiky (Bibliography of Czech Onomastics), and other bibliographical records.

More detailed information about the organisational structure of the Institute and its research and specialised units can be found at the following URL:

http://www.ujc.cas.cz