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Founded in 1967, the Institute had its origin in the Departments of the Social, General, and Developmental Psychology at the former J.A. Comenius Pedagogical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Prague. The directorate has been located in Brno since 1993. Pursuant to Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Institute became a public research institution as of 1 January 2007.

The Institute carries out research in the following fields:

- Personality and social psychology (personality structure and stability, risk and protective factors of personality formation and development, life-span human development, organisation of personal experience - identity, self, spirituality, coherence),
- Cognitive psychology (complex processes of perception, consciousness, thought, physiological manifestations - electrodermal activity, eye movements),
- Psychology of health (stress and coping, buffering factors, quality of life, psychosocial and socioeconomic determinants of health, optimal ageing, resilience),
- Methodology (development of the qualitative and the quantitative perspective of research, narrative approach, psychosemantics, adaptive testing, diagnostic applications).

The Institute publishes the journal *Československá psychologie* (Czechoslovak Psychology), founded in 1957, *Bulletin Psychologického ústavu AV ČR* (Bulletin of the Institute of Psychology), and *Zprávy* (Reports).

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.psu.cas.cz>