



ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE  
DÉPARTEMENT TERRE ATMOSPHÈRE OCÉAN

*Yves Guéguen  
Professor of Geophysics  
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Paris*

**The Director  
Center of Administration and Operations of the ASCR**

Paris, 28 September 2009

Sir,

I have known for a long time some of the Czech scientific colleagues. My first visit in your country took place in 1985, at a time where very few French (and more broadly Westerner) scientists visited Czech colleagues. My last visit took place four years ago when I was invited to be part of the visiting scientific committee of the Institute of Geophysics of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

I have globally a positive assessment of the quality of the Czech scientific research in the field I know. I have been impressed by the changes that followed the fall of Communism.

We, scientists from other European countries, need that basic research go on in the Czech Republic. I am convinced that the Czech Republic itself needs it. Following the statement of a previous scientific director of Ecole Normale Supérieure, Louis Pasteur, "there is nothing like applied science and fundamental science, there are only applications of science".

I am confident that you will make it possible, for the Czech Republic, to keep a high level of scientific research.

Very sincerely yours,

*Yves Guéguen,  
Professor of Geophysics,  
Former scientific director of Ecole Normale Supérieure*