

GRANT AGENCY OF AS CR STATUTE

SECTION I

FUNDAMENTAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Mission of GA AS

1. The Grant Agency of the Academy of Sciences of the CR (hereinafter only „GA AS“) is a body of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (hereinafter only “Academy“) established in compliance with Article 47 of the Articles, and a legal successor of the Grant Agency of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The registered office of the GA AS is Prague 1, 117 20, Národní 3.
2. The mission of the GA AS is to support quality projects of basic research type and based on the proposals of research teams and individuals. By its activities the GA AS contributes to the implementation of the Concept of Research and Development of the Academy (hereinafter only “Concept of Development of R&D“) and the National Politics of R&D of the CR. As concerns the conceptual issues, the GA AS cooperates with the Council for Sciences of the Academy (hereinafter only “Council for Sciences“).
3. Complying with the Act No. 283/1992 Coll., on Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic as amended and with the Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on support of research and development from public funds and on amendment to some related acts, as amended (hereinafter only “R&D support act“), the GA AS distributes upon the results of competitive tenders in the field of research and development special-purpose funds devoted for this purpose from the Academy budget and/or other sources to the support of the grant projects.

Article 2

GA AS activities

1. The elementary activity of the GA AS, fulfilling its mission, is to provide upon results of public tenders in the field of research and development (hereinafter only “Public Tenders“) special-purpose support to the projects focused on the specific research activity of the basic-research type.
2. GA AS
 - 2.1. publishes methodology and organizational instructions related to the provision of special-purpose grant projects support;
 - 2.2. announces Public Tenders for grant projects on annual basis;
 - 2.3. accepts proposals of the grant projects, provides their evaluation and announces results of the Public Tenders;

- 2.4. prepares and – upon commission of the Academy President – concludes contracts and/or issues the decisions about provision of support to grant projects;
 - 2.5. checks fulfillment of the projects' objectives as agreed on in the contracts and/or decisions on the support granting, evaluates obtained results of the projects, checks withdrawal and purposefulness of exploitation of the granted funds;
 - 2.6. in the event that the terms of contract are not met decides about halting of the support granting;
 - 2.7. enters data into the research and development information system;
 - 2.8. complying with the R&D support act stores documentation on participants in the public tenders;
 - 2.9. publishes substantial data about the supported grant projects.
3. The GA AS has right to announce public tenders for the following types of grant projects:
 - 3.1. Standard research grant projects:

The subject of the project is selected by the submitter and has a character of the basic research. The grant project is typically carried out by the creator with the team of fellow workers. Implementation of the projects may be scheduled for the period of 2 to 5 years (if not established otherwise for the given year). The members of the project teams may also be the students of the master's or doctor's studies. The standard research grant projects may be of departmental or interdepartmental character.
 - 3.2. Junior research grant projects:

The subject of the project is selected by the submitter and has a character of the basic research. The grant project is typically proposed by a young researcher of up to 35 years –graduate from or student of the doctor's studies- together with the project team with the predominant share of young researchers. Implementation of the projects may be scheduled for the period of 1 to 3 years.
 - 3.3. Complementary publishing grant projects

This type of grant projects is designed to facilitate editions of scientific publications and/or manuscripts of original scientific works drawn up in course of the research grant projects financed from public funds of the Czech Republic, whose publication would be impossible without the special-purpose subsidy. The subsidy is granted to the scientists (scientist teams) who are completing or recently successfully completed (typically in the past two years) a research grant project funded by the GA AS or a grant project supported from the public means of the Czech Republic provided by another grant agency. The subsidy is granted for 1 year.
 4. The GA AS has right to announce public tenders for other types of the grant projects if the tenders inviting complies with the National Politics of R&D of the CR.
 5. For detailed information on the public tenders refer to the relevant documents of competition.

PART II

GA AS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Article 3 GA AS bodies

1. The GA AS bodies are:
GA AS Chairman (hereinafter only “Chairman”),
GA AS Board of Directors (hereinafter only “Board of Directors”),
GA AS Department Councils (hereinafter only “Department Councils”),
GA AS Supervisory Board (hereinafter only “Supervisory Board”).
2. Organizational and administrative aspects of GA AS activities are provided by the GA AS Secretariat (hereinafter only “Secretariat”).

Article 4 Chairman

1. The Chairman represents the GA AS both in in-house and external relations and acts on its behalf in all matters.
2. The Chairman is appointed and revoked by the Academy Council of the Academy (hereinafter only “Academy Council”).
3. The Chairman is appointed for the term of three years. A Chairman is entitled to act in the position for the maximum of two subsequent terms in office.
4. The Chairman particularly:
 - a) appoints the members of the Department Councils upon results of the election and revokes them;
 - b) upon suggestion of the Department Councils’ chairmen and of the Board of Directors announces results of public tenders;
 - c) upon authorization of the Academy President concludes contracts and/or issues decisions on the provision of support to the grant projects;
 - d) on annual basis or upon request submits reports on GA AS activities to the Academy Council.
5. In the event that the Chairman cannot execute his duties as chairman, these are performed by a GA AS vice chairman appointed or approved by the Chairman or the Board of Directors.

Article 5 Board of Directors

1. The managing and executive body of the GA AS is its Board of Directors composed of the Chairman and three vice chairmen representing the separate

scientific fields of the Academy. The Academy Council has right to extend the Board of Directors by further members. The Board members are appointed and revoked by the Academy Council.

2. The GA AS vice chairmen and the other Board members are appointed for the term of three years. They are entitled to act in the position for the maximum of two subsequent terms in office.
3. The Board of Directors particularly:
 - a) manages GA AS activities
 - b) upon authorization of the Academy, invites public tenders and decides about their cancellation;
 - c) distributes financial means from the Academy budget designed for GA AS amongst the separate Department Councils and the Council for Interdepartmental projects;
 - d) upon suggestions of the Department Councils decides about support of the selected projects;
 - e) approves conclusions of the inspections in course of projects and of the inspections of withdrawing and application of the subsidies provided to the grant projects;
 - f) approves evaluation of the grant projects' results and conclusions;
 - g) draws up drafts of conceptual documents related to the GA AS activities;
 - h) evaluates work results of the GA AS bodies;
 - i) solves the requests and complaints of the project participants if addressed to the Board and informs relevant Department Councils about its decisions.
4. The GA AS vice chairmen assists the Chairman mostly in communication with their relevant Department Councils.
5. The Board members are obliged to take part in the Board meetings and to preserve unbiased attitude during all discourses. They are under contract of discretion about the facts made accessible during negotiation and evaluation of the proposals as well as in course of the grant projects and meetings of confidential character.
6. The Board members are not allowed to file their own proposals on grant projects with GA AS in course of their term in office.
7. The extended Board of Directors, composed of the Board of Directors, the chairmen of the separate Department Councils and the chairman of the Council for Interdepartmental Projects or their duly authorized representatives, discusses distribution of financial means and support of the selected projects. The representatives of the Department Councils have right to vote at the meetings of the extended Board of Directors.

Article 6 Department Councils

1. The Department Councils are professional advisory bodies of the GA AS securing its activities in the separate scientific fields. The Department Council members are usually the bearers of academic degrees.

2. The members of the Department Councils are appointed upon the results of elections carried out in compliance with the GA AS Rules of Procedure and Electoral Regulations approved by the Academy Council.
3. Department Councils are established for the following scientific fields:
 - DC 1 mathematical and physical sciences and informatics;
 - DC 2 technical sciences and cybernetics;
 - DC 3 Earth and Universe sciences
 - DC 4 chemical sciences,
 - DC 5 medical and molecular biological sciences;
 - DC 6 environmental biological sciences;
 - DC 7 social and economic sciences;
 - DC 8 historical sciences;
 - DC 9 humanities and philology.
4. The Board of Directors has right to establish further Department Councils, needed to provide the GA AS activities, upon approval of the Academy council.
5. After evaluation of the interdepartmental projects meeting the terms of the relevant project documentation, the Board of directors establishes the Council for Interdepartmental Projects out of the Department Councils members. The manner of its establishment and term of office complies with the GA AS Rules of Procedure and Electoral Regulations. The Council for Interdepartmental Projects has analogous rights, position and obligations with the Department Councils.
6. The Department Councils have 6 to 20 members, of which at least one third must be professionals from outside the Academy. The number of the separate Department Councils members is established before elections by the Board of Directors, thus upon negotiation by the existing Department Council.
7. The term of office of the Department Councils members is three years. Department Councils members are entitled to act in the position for the maximum of two subsequent terms in office
8. A director of a workplace cannot become the Department Council member.
9. The Department Councils members are obliged to take part in the Council meetings and to preserve unbiased attitude during all discourses. They are under contract of discretion about the facts made accessible during negotiation and evaluation of the proposals as well as in course of the grant projects and meetings of confidential character.
10. The membership in a Department council ceases to exist:
 - a) upon expiration of the term of office;
 - b) upon resignation,
 - c) upon dismissal due to non-performance of obligations (paragraph 9);
 - d) upon deprivation, limiting or cessation of qualification for legal acts.
11. Each and any member of the Department Council has right to file proposal of a grant project with the GA AS. If he/she files a proposal falling into the competence

of the Department Council he/she is the member of, he/she cannot take part in the negotiation of the proposal.

12. The main tasks of the Department Council are:
 - a) For the purpose of the grant projects evaluation, to assign suitable opponents who meet professional qualifications and the terms of impartiality. The opponents are typically bearers of academic degrees. The exceptions from this rule are possible only with well-founded reasons.
 - b) To provide its own evaluation of the grant project.
 - c) To submit to the Board of Directors the waitlist of the grant projects proposals filed with the Department Council in the given competitive round, drawn up based on the opponent's opinions and its own evaluation by the panel composed of the Department Council members and invited specialists.
 - d) To carry out inspections of the grant projects' objectives, including checking of withdrawing and purposefulness of the financial means under the concluded contract or of the decision on granting of the purpose-built subsidy, and – in justified cases – propose halting of the subsidy granting to the Board of Directors.
 - e) To carry out evaluation of the objectives met in the completed grant projects.
 - f) To solve the requests and complaints of the project participants if addressed to the Department Council and include relevant decisions into the minutes of its meeting.
13. The Department Council may invite consultants, who have advisory vote and who are obliged to meet the same principles of impartiality and protection of data included in the grant projects proposals and other documents related to the GA AS activities as the Department Councils members.
14. The Department Council acts in line with the GA AS Rules of Procedure and Electoral Regulations.
15. The Academy Council has right to reward activity of the Department Councils members and/or the opponents.

Article 7 Supervisory Board

1. The Supervisory Board is the GA AS control body. It enforces public interests in the GA AS activities, evaluates the GA AS activities particularly in the field of the financial means management and gives a discharge to the GA AS on annual basis.
2. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board is the Academy President.
3. The Supervisory Board has at least 10 members appointed and revoked by the Academy Council. The members of the Supervisory Board are:
 - a) personalities from the fields of science, universities, cultural, production and financial spheres appointed by the Academy Council.

- b) statutory representatives of the selected public authorities (or their delegated permanent representatives).
4. The term of office of the statutory representatives of public authorities (and/or their delegated permanent representatives) in the Supervisory Board is limited by their term in office in the public authority, the other members are appointed for the three-year term.

Article 8 Secretariat

1. The organizational and administrative aspects of the GA AS activities are provided by the Secretariat, which is a part of the Department for Support of Science of the AS CR Office.
2. The Secretariat attends to meeting of rules for management with the purpose-built financial means, and in cooperation with the Economic Department of the AS CR Office monitors financial means allocated to the GA AS and their distribution to the separate grant projects.
3. The Secretariat employees are under contract of discretion about the facts made accessible during negotiation and evaluation of the proposals as well as in course of the grant projects and meetings of confidential character.

SECTION III

FILING IN AND EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS ON GRANT PROJECTS

Filing in proposals on grant projects

1. In time of announcement of the next round of public tenders, the Board of Directors determines the types of the grant projects to be supported in the given round, the terms of the public tenders and publishes the project documentation. The terms of the public tenders and the contents of the project documentation are negotiated by the Board of Directors with the Scientific Council.
2. The proposal on a grant project is filed in by the applicant, the project proposal is drawn up by the designer. The proposal on the grant project is filed in accordance with the instructions included in the project documentation of the public tenders for the given year and the grant project type.
3. The committee designed to receive the project proposals and nominated by the Chairmen for this purpose has right to refuse proposals that do not meet the terms established in the invitation to the public tenders, that include wrong or incomplete data, or whose contents or form do not meet the requirements set. All the issues concerning factual contents of the proposal are negotiated by the committee with the relevant Department Council and the Board of Directors.
4. The grant project proposals accepted to the public tenders are evaluated by the Department Councils in form of panels and upon independent evaluation by opponents ("peer review").
5. The Department Council evaluates the proposals filed in mainly according to the relevance of the research purpose, the quality of the applicant's up-to-date results and the legitimacy of the financial requirements.
6. The Department Council shall establish the sequence of the filed grant project proposals upon its own evaluation conforming to given criteria and upon the opponents' opinions.
7. Designers of the projects supported in the past by GA AS that have been evaluated by the Department Council as unfulfilled, may be awarded a subsidy for a new project during the following three years only if the non-fulfillment of the former projects was caused by objective reality reasons.
8. The extended Board of Directors decides about awarding of the purpose-built support to a grant project upon the waitlist of the proposals drawn up by the Department Councils. The decision about awarding of the purpose-built support to the grant project is final.
9. The list of the grant projects proposed for support is made public on the GA AS websites. The Secretariat provides the applicants with the anonymous opponents' opinions upon their written request.

10. The position of the grant project designer is non-delegable. In the exceptional cases, the Department Council discusses the issue once again and the Board of Directors may upon the Council's suggestion award the support to the same project under management of another qualified project team member.

Article 10

Checking course and conclusion of grant projects

1. The designer of the grant project is bound by contract or by the decision to submit on annual basis during the project implementation or upon request of the GA AS a report on the course of the project implementation and the way of the financial means usage complying with the instructions given by the GA AS. Together with this report at the latest, the designer shall have right to submit any requirements on modifications in the planned project funding in the next year of the implementation. The receiver is responsible for the correctness of the data included in the report as well as for the exclusive usage of the purpose-built financial means for the project implementation.
2. Any non-fulfillment of the obligations under paragraph 1 herein may establish the grounds for halting of the project support in the following year. Such halting of the support is decided by the Board of Directors upon suggestion of the Department Council.
3. After completion of the grant project and within the defined time period, the project designer draws up a final report according to the instructions of the GA AS. This final report must include the results achieved by other project teams from other organizations, if any.
4. The reports on the course of the project implementation and conclusion are evaluated by the relevant Department Councils.
5. The Board of Directors shall have right to carry out inspection of the grant project implementation at the workplace any time and upon suggestion of the Department Council or from its own initiative. The form and course of such inspection is determined by the Board of Directors.

Article 11

Method of funding grant projects

1. The purpose-built financial means awarded to the implementation of the research grant projects are:
 - a) financial means of non-investment character designed – in compliance with the requirements included in the grant project proposal – exclusively for the expenses of the project implementation, mainly for repayment of material costs (e.g. material, minor tangible property, travel expenses, overhead, etc.),

salaries, wages or their shares corresponding with the work load and for the premiums and other personal costs (contract of jobs, contracts of services);
b) financial means of investment character awarded in well-reasoned cases.

The amount of the financial means required in the grant project proposal may be modified in total or in the separate items by the Department Council.

2. The amount and composition of the financial means awarded for the complementary publication grant projects may cover only the costs related to the publishing of the relevant publication, not the costs on the manuscript compilation or royalties.
3. Awarding of the purpose-built financial means is not claimable if not accorded contractually to the recipient.

SECTION IV

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 12

This Statute of the Grant Agency of AS CR was approved by the XXIXth meeting of the Academic Senate of AS CR on December 14, 2006 and comes into force on January 1, 2007. At the same time, the Statute of GA AS approved by the XXIst meeting of the Academic Senate of AS CR on December 18, 2002 and the Principles of GA AS approved by the Academy Council of AS CR on February 18, 2003 abated.