



Economists
shaping the future



MICHAL KEJAK
Director of CERGE-EI

CERGE-EI's focus on excellence in economic research and education has made a profound impact on the region for over two decades. We strive to expand this vital mission to further frontiers.

ABOUT CERGE-EI

The Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economics Institute (CERGE-EI) is a joint workplace of Charles University in Prague and the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic dedicated to advancing the frontiers of economic research and graduate education.

CERGE-EI offers Czech-accredited, US-chartered graduate degrees in Economics. CERGE-EI's Teaching Fellows program boosts Western-style undergraduate economics education throughout Central and Eastern Europe and the post-Soviet bloc. Two Study Abroad programs offer US undergraduates dedicated instruction in Prague's unique cultural environment.

Despite its small size, CERGE-EI has achieved global impact and reputation by producing frontier economics research. Economics know-how and expertise is shared through public lectures, seminars, symposia, conferences, top journal publications and policy-oriented studies.

CERGE-EI has created in Central Europe a graduate program and research team that are competitive by international standards as well as adapted to the specific needs of the region.

François Bourguignon

Professor, Paris School of Economics
former Chief Economist, The World Bank



**CHARLES
UNIVERSITY
IN PRAGUE**



**THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Mission

- **Educate** future economists in modern economic theory and applications to serve academia, government and industry in a region where such skills are lacking.
- **Create** an intellectual environment that emphasizes Western ideals of free and open inquiry and nondiscrimination.
- **Integrate** economists from around the world into common research projects, enabling analysis of important issues from multiple perspectives.
- **Inform** public debate by disseminating policy-relevant research findings through public lectures, seminars, symposia, conferences, and publications.

A first-rate PhD program. The fact that CERGE-EI has such high quality students with such diverse backgrounds makes it unique in the world.

Joseph Stiglitz, Professor, Columbia University
former Chief Economist, The World Bank
2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics

Impact

- Since its inception in 1991, more than 700 students have studied economics at CERGE-EI, mostly from Central and Eastern Europe and the post-Soviet bloc. Women comprise nearly 50 percent of the student body. Thousands more students and economists have benefited from other programs run by CERGE-EI.
- The vast majority of CERGE-EI graduates remain in the region or deal with regional issues in their work for international organizations. This is in sharp contrast to the 10 percent return rate of Central and Eastern Europeans receiving a PhD in economics from institutions in the United States or Western Europe.
- CERGE-EI promotes economic growth, reform and stability in turbulent regions such as the Balkans, Caucasus, Central Asia and the Middle East through its well-trained graduates and policy-oriented research.
- Through promoting the development of a region with over 400 million consumers, CERGE-EI and its graduates are improving markets and creating significant profit opportunities for international businesses.
- By fostering links between future leaders of transition and emerging economies with the United States and Western Europe, CERGE-EI helps to align Central and Eastern Europe and post-Soviet countries to the free-market structure of Western economies.

ABOUT CERGE-EI

Students

Each year CERGE-EI educates more than 300 students from as many as 35 countries in its Doctoral, Masters and Study Abroad programs. An additional 9,000 undergraduates are reached annually through the innovative Teaching Fellows program.

Faculty

The international faculty provides instruction at the leading edge of Economics science. All professors, both permanent and visiting, are outstanding researchers who publish widely across a broad range of fields in theoretical and applied economics. They hold PhDs from prestigious institutions including Princeton University, the University of Chicago, the London School of Economics, the Johns Hopkins University, the Universities of Virginia, Minnesota, and Michigan, and University College London.

Graduates

CERGE-EI graduates are employed in more than 30 countries. By remaining in the region as they develop their professional careers, they play a major role in preventing “brain drain.” CERGE-EI graduates are influential in introducing sound economic policies and economic literacy throughout the post-communist world. They hold high-level positions in international organizations including The World Bank, IMF, EBRD, ILO, UNDP, OECD, government ministries and central banks, regional universities, think-tanks, and private-sector organizations including major banks and consulting firms.



Research

CERGE-EI researchers have established a remarkable record of publications in top economics and policy-oriented journals. CERGE-EI has assembled a critical mass of scholars in various sub-fields of economics who work in a highly supportive research environment. The focus on scholarship is enhanced by a prestigious international advisory board that credibly enforces rigorous academic, hiring and promotion practices. CERGE-EI's active seminar series hosts prominent economists from the world's leading universities, including 12 Nobel laureates in recent years. In addition, CERGE-EI's unique Academic Skills Center offers professional writing and presentation guidance to the institution's scholars. Working in such an environment, CERGE-EI researchers consistently attract substantial research support from numerous EU and other international programs.

Funding

Each year CERGE-EI enrolls 25 to 40 new students in its flagship MA/PhD in Economics program. It is vital that these students graduate without debt burdens that would prevent them from accepting the lower-wage academic and public sector positions offered in the region. Students receive financial aid that, along with work obligations at CERGE-EI, covers their tuition and provides a modest living stipend. Funding for this support comes both from research grants awarded to CERGE-EI and from donated funds received and administered by either the CERGE-EI Foundation, which has 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in the US, or by Nadace CERGE-EI, its counterpart in the Czech Republic. CERGE-EI receives continuous core funding from the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and Charles University in Prague.



PROGRAMS

MA/PhD in Economics Program

The Western-style PhD program is designed for outstanding students who desire a rigorous graduate education in Economics at a prestigious international research institution. Nearly all students are awarded a full tuition waiver for the entire duration of the program and receive financial support toward living costs. The PhD degree program has a permanent charter issued in the United States, and is fully accredited in the Czech Republic. It consists of an MA program, involving two years of course work, followed by approximately three years of supervised PhD dissertation research. CERGE-EI encourages its students to conduct part of their research at top-flight partner institutions in Western Europe and North America and to participate in collaborative research projects in other countries.

MA in Applied Economics Program

The tuition-based, intensive one-year program combines modern theoretical economics with real-life empirical applications. Students master analytical and problem solving skills essential to local and international employers hiring analysts, economists or consultants. The program offers an excellent student-teacher ratio, personalized student support and career services.



In a remarkably short period of time, CERGE-EI has become one of the most prominent places in Europe to study economics.

Orley Ashenfelter, Professor, Princeton University
former President of the American Economic Association

Teaching Fellows Program

The program supports scholars teaching modern economics concepts to undergraduates in Central and Eastern Europe and the post-Soviet bloc. Its primary goal is to introduce modern economic concepts into less developed areas of the region. Fellowships are available to CERGE-EI alumni, advanced students and partner-institution graduates who are teaching economics at regional universities. The current Teaching Fellows cohort will teach almost 300 courses in over 50 universities in 18 countries, from the Balkans, to the Black Sea and Central Asia.

Global Development Network (GDN)

CERGE-EI is the Central European hub for the Global Development Network (GDN) established by The World Bank and other donors to promote research capacity among young social scientists. More than 400 young scholars from Central Europe have obtained financial support for their research along with extensive guidance from senior scholars at CERGE-EI.

Undergraduate Program in Central European Studies (UPCES)

UPCES is a study abroad program for US undergraduates. Each year UPCES offers more than 170 American students the chance to study in Prague. The curriculum focuses on important issues in Central European culture, politics and economics. Students live in the community and have extensive opportunities to interact with Czech and international students and to travel, experiencing immersion in the local society, culture and language.

International Economics and Finance Study Abroad Program (IEF)

The IEF program offers ambitious US undergraduate students challenging courses in economics, finance, policy, and management. An IEF semester also includes site visits to European businesses, relevant internship opportunities, and educational events as well as cultural opportunities.

Institute for Democracy and Economic Analysis (IDEA)

IDEA is a think-tank arm of CERGE-EI focusing on policy-oriented research and recommendations. Backed by rigorous analysis and the academic expertise of CERGE-EI scholars, IDEA contributes to policy debates with its non-ideological, evidence-based approach to public policy. IDEA is funded by private donors and public research grants.



Accomplishments

- The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) places CERGE-EI in the **top 3 percent** of more than 1,500 research institutions worldwide. Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) has ranked CERGE-EI in the **top 5 percent** of economics departments and research institutions worldwide for the last 10 years.
- CERGE-EI has been recognized as a **Center of Excellence** by the European Union, the US government, and the Czech Science Foundation.
- CERGE-EI's PhD and Masters programs are **chartered** by the New York State Board of Regents, and the PhD program is **accredited** by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic.
- Approximately 30% of CERGE-EI's graduates work in central banks and in branches of governments, as well as in international organizations including The World Bank, IMF, EBRD and OECD.
- CERGE-EI's **modern economics library** is the largest, most up-to-date collection of economics books, journals and on-line resources in Central and Eastern Europe.

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