
An International Comparison of the Quality of Academic Publication Output in the Czech Republic⁵

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Summary

In the recent study Jurajda a Münich. (2015).⁸ we presented a field-by-field comparison of Czech research publication output. This comparison of the relative strength of output by research institutes in each field within the Czech Republic (CR), could not comment on which Czech institutes are working at international level, and which lag behind their foreign counterparts. It is possible, for example, that an institute that is not at the forefront of its field in the CR may nevertheless be performing research at a standard comparable with international competitors, because it is working in a field in which the Czech Republic is performing very high level research. In this study we offer a first step towards comparing the research output of Czech institutes on an international scale: we compare the publication output of each research field, overall, in the Czech Republic with its international equivalent. Our comparison is based on articles published between 2010 and 2014 which are included in the Web of Science (WoS) database. The comparison includes eleven small and medium sized countries, only one of which has English as its native language. Five of the countries are European countries previously within the Soviet bloc, four are Western European countries and two are non-European countries.

Unlike most similar international bibliometric comparisons, ours does not only indicate the overall quantity of research publications noted in WoS, but also the quality of these publications. This enables us to compare Czech research fields both in terms of overall output and in terms of excellent output. We are also able to show how the international standing of Czech research fields has changed over time.

⁵ This study was made possible by support from the CAS within its "AV21" Strategy. The authors would like to thank ing. J. Kovařík for his help obtaining information from WoS.

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⁸ http://idea.cerge-ei.cz/files/IDEA_Studie_5_2015_Publikacni_vykonnost/IDEA_Studie_5_2015_Publikacni_vykonnost.html