

Strategy of International Cooperation in the Field of Research and Development and Internationalisation of the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences

Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences (hereinafter referred to as "IAP") is aware of vital importance of international cooperation for the development of science and research and for the need of its institutional anchorage. For this reason, IAP has committed to fulfil activity No. 5 "Strategic setting and the development of international cooperation in R&D and internationalisation of the research organisation" within the project called "Development of capacities for research and development at Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences" (number of the project: CZ.02.2.69/0.0/0.0/18_054/0014500). The output of this activity consists in the creation of a strategic document which defines the rules and directions that the future international cooperation of the Institute should take.

The purpose and objective of this strategic document are to:

- describe the current state of international cooperation and internationalisation of Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences
- identify and support the existing methods to establish contacts and to ensure international cooperation
- define the principles of IAP's joining the European Research Area
- determine the basic directions and objectives of further development of international cooperation and internationalisation
- propose concrete actions including support mechanisms for this area



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Current State of International Cooperation and Internationalisation of IAP

1. International conferences – establishing contacts, presentation of the Institute

Know-how is transferred and contacts are established among researchers particularly during international expert conferences. IAP is interested that the researchers actively participate in international conferences which are globally recognised and visited by top scientists in the fields concerned.

2. Cooperation with foreign institutions

IAP's cooperation with international and foreign organisations is characterised by longevity and diversity. Direction of said cooperation including but not limited to the selection of foreign partners and the manner of its implementation arises out of the activities and professional needs of each department, team and worker and their professional interests. This decentralised character of cooperation has shown to be effective in terms of establishing new foreign contacts as well as motivation for its development.

We can provide the following examples of IAP's cooperation with excellent foreign institutions:

- participation in international projects financed by foreign providers (Frame Programmes of the European Commission, COST) or by research organisations (e.g. ESA)
- collaborative partnership with foreign universities and research organisations (e.g. DLR Oberpfaffenhofen, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Delft University of Technology etc.) based on bilateral agreements (Memorandum of Understanding, agreements on common solution of grant projects etc.), common projects or for a particular purpose
- support of science in emerging countries



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- participation of the IAP workers in decision making in international organisations, boards and committees and in the activity of international professional societies and institutions (among others EGU, COSPAR, URSI, IAGA, IUGG, ESA, IAMAS)
- participation in editorial boards of journals (International Journal of Climatology, Advances in Space Research, Surveys in Geophysics, Nature Scientific Reports, Radio Science Bulletin etc.)
- participation in organisational committees of conferences, chairing sections at conferences
- participation in panels and other assessment bodies of foreign and international funding agencies (ERC, HORIZON 2020 etc.)

Effects of mutual international cooperation are visible both in the area of quality and quantity of scientific achievements (as using unique know-how or equipment of foreign partners is an essential contribution in order to achieve a number of them), and in the area of IAP's international reputation. Subsequently, the above mentioned has an influence also on international evaluation or success of international projects. Internationalisation also increases the chance to obtain individual grants such as ERC, Fulbright Scholarship or Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

The forms of the international cooperation include but are not limited to:

- individual cooperation with colleagues from foreign workplaces based on personal contacts, common professional interests or work on international projects
- research activity of international teams leading to collective publications and other scientific achievements
- participation in international conferences, workshops and schools as lecturers as well as participants
- research stays and internships of employees and doctoral students at partner workplaces abroad, and stays of foreign colleagues at IAP



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IAP constantly strives to support scientists and motivate them for research stays abroad, whether in the form of providing information on the possibility of internships and stays, or subsequent assistance in the search for financing sources.

3. Internationalisation of the Institute's research environment

Besides the above-mentioned examples of cooperation with particular foreign institutional partners, IAP constantly tries to enhance its character of an international research institution comparable with reputable foreign workplaces. That means particularly the need to involve increasingly more foreign scientists and doctoral students in the research work within our Institute and, at the same time, to eliminate possible administrative and language barriers for these foreign colleagues.

Involvement of foreign researchers is enabled and facilitated by:

- website in English version
- important internal documents (applicable Guidelines and Director's Orders, Occupational Safety and Health and Fire Protection, Employment Rules and other documents relating to employment) being translated into English and available on intranet
- information e-mails within the whole Institute being sent in the Czech and English languages
- conversation courses in English and other languages for researchers and administrative staff (among others, a wide offer of language courses from the Department of Languages of the Czech Language Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences)
- encouraging foreign researchers to learn Czech



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Other areas of IAP's involvement in the internationalisation of the research environment:

- encouraging our scientists to become members of international editorial boards
- encouraging the participation in international projects
- supporting the international mobility, especially of early-stage researchers
- motivating the researchers to publish their research achievements in prestigious international journals by financial incentives

Objectives of the Institute of Atmospheric Physics in the Field of International Cooperation and Internationalisation

- drawing up this strategic document together with being committed to fulfil it systematically
- ranking among internationally famous and recognised research institutions
- long-term cooperation with other foreign institutions, contributing to new knowledge and discoveries due to this synergy
- constant provision of adequate financial sources for foreign cooperation
- reaching and employing quality foreign researchers
- further development of the foreign language skills of the Institute's employees
- provision of a fully bilingual workplace
- participation in the research projects of foreign partner institutions
- participation in international scientific conferences and internships in order to establish new contacts, increase the prestige of the Institute and share scientific knowledge
- striving for the participation of IAP's employees in decision-making processes in international organisations, boards and committees
- publishing significant research achievements in top international journals



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Proposed Actions to Reach the Objectives

- encouraging the involvement in international projects and the participation of IAP's employees in international conferences
- supporting the submission of national projects (in both cases, information, administrative and technical support – shall be provided by the Project Department)
- management of and participation in projects – one of the criteria for evaluation of researchers and one of the criteria for remuneration
- the same for active international cooperation
- remuneration for publishing activity, especially for publications in prestigious journals
- establishing and ensuring functionality of the Project Department
- keeping the website and internal documents in English version up-to-date (including the manual for new foreign employees)
- offer of English courses for researchers and administrative staff
- posting job vacancies for scientists and researchers also in English, and not only on the Institute's website but newly also on the Euraxess portal
- accomplishing the internships and establishment of long-term cooperation with foreign partner institutions within the project "Development of Capacities for Research and Development at Institute of Atmospheric Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences" (number of the project: CZ.02.2.69/0.0/0.0/18_054/0014500)

