**Invitation addressed to active senior postdocs, PI´s, group leaders in the Czech Republic & independent Czech researchers abroad**

Dear colleagues!

In December 2018, we are going to organise a discussion focused on possibilities of establishing independent research groups in the Czech Republic for researchers coming from abroad. As you spent several months or years at research institution(s) abroad, we would like to ask for your help in defining the most relevant discussion topics. You have experienced in which ways internationally recognised research institutions make themselves attractive for researchers and how they support researchers to do excellent innovative research. You have experienced different approaches and are able to compare different systems, visions and provided services. You can easily describe positives and negatives, strengths and weaknesses of your everyday research work abroad and in the Czech Republic.

We would like to ask you to fill in a very short questionnaire attached below. It is fully focused on your own research experience from abroad and from the Czech Republic. Can you share your motivations for coming to do research in the Czech Republic, your expectations from the Czech Research Area, your inspiration from abroad, your needs and suggestions for efficient and high quality institutional and governmental/state support and services that can improve your everyday research work?

Please send us your opinion to tomas.mozga@gmail.com before **Saturday 30 June 2018 23:59**. Simultaneously, we ask top managers and directors of Czech research institutions to fill in another short questionnaire mapping currently provided institutional support and services for researchers. We will summarise all remarks of researchers and science managers into one anonymous report of needs, expectations and provided support. The report will be published on Sunday 28 October 2018.

Thanks to your input we will be able to pinpoint and select the most important topics for the joint discussion. The round table discussion entitled “***Perspectives of Czech Science: Coming to the Czech Republic to do excellent research***” will be held in the Science Campus in České Budějovice on **Friday 07 December 2018 10:00-16:00**. At the same time, we would like to invite you to join the event and contribute to the discussion about the Czech science. Save the date and join us!

We will appreciate if you share the questionnaire and the information among your colleagues.

Thank you very much for your reply and help. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

All the best

Hana Šantrůčková, Jiří Šantrůček, Libor Grubhoffer, Julius Lukeš, Tomáš Mozga, Renata Novotná, Dagmar Bastlová, Biology Centre CAS & University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

České Budějovice, May 01, 2018

For more details you can contact

Tomas Mozga, tomas.mozga@gmail.com (questionnaire & report)

Hana Šantrůčková, hana.santruckova@prf.jcu.cz (discussion round table)

**The discussion is organised under the auspices of**

**President of the Czech Academy of Sciences Prof. Eva Zažímalová**

**President of the Czech Rectors Conference Prof. Tomáš Zima**

**Vědavýzkum.cz** is the main partner of this initiative.

The questionnaire is published and publicly shared within research community on [**www.vedavyzkum.cz**](http://www.vedavyzkum.cz)

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| **Questionnaire: Perspectives of Czech Science 2018** |
| Name: |
| Contact: |
| Expertise: |
| Lab www: |
| Foreign research experience (period, institution, www):1)2) |
| Current affiliation (period, institution, www):1) |
|  |
| **1) What motivated you to come and do research in the Czech Republic?** (Please make a list of your motivations with a short description/explanation.)* A
* B
* C
* D
* …
 |
| **2) Were your expectations from the Czech Research Area met and in what aspects?** (Please make a list of your expectations with a short description/explanation.)* A
* B
* C
* D
* …
 |
| **3) What do you appreciate about Czech Research Area and why?** (Please make a list of your positive experience with a short description/explanation.)* A
* B
* C
* D
* …
 |
| **4) What examples of good research support and services you have experienced abroad are you missing in the Czech Republic and why?** (Please make a list of your positive good practices with a short description/explanation.)* A
* B
* C
* D
* …
 |
| **5) What specific things & services would make your everyday research easier and more efficient and why?** (Please make a list of your needs and recommendations with a short description/explanation.) * A
* B
* C
* D
* …
 |
| **6) What are the most important challenges science in the Czech Republic is facing today and why?**(Please make a list of challenges with a short description/explanation.)* A
* B
* C
* …
 |
| Thank you very much for sharing your experience with us.Please send us your opinion to tomas.mozga@gmail.com before **Saturday 30 June 2018 23:59**. |