

# Strategy of Research and Development

in sector of the Ministry of Culture

in 2004 - 2008

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## **I. PREAMBLE**

(1) The Strategy of Research and Development in the sector of the Ministry of Culture in 2004 - 2008 (hereinafter the “R&D Strategy”) defines the approach of the Ministry of Culture to research and development in the medium-term perspective. The R&D Strategy is based on several fundamental documents:

- The National Research and Development Policy of the Czech Republic in 2004 - 2008 (hereinafter the “NR&DP”) approved by Resolution No. 5 of the Government of the Czech Republic of 7 January 2004,
- Strategy of Improved State Support for Culture (“Cultural Policy”) approved by Resolution No. 40 of the Government of the Czech Republic of 10 January 2001,
- Strategy of Improved Care for Movable Cultural Heritage in the Czech Republic for 2003 - 2008 (Museum Development Strategy) approved by Resolution No. 87 of the Government of the Czech Republic of 22 January 2003,
- Strategy of Improved Care for Traditional Folk Culture approved by Resolution No. 571 of the Government of the Czech Republic of 11 June 2003,
- Strategy of Development of Libraries in the Czech Republic in 2004 - 2010 approved by Resolution No. 679 of the Government of the Czech Republic of 7 July 2004.

The R&D Strategy follows up on the Strategy of Research and Development in the sector of Culture of 11 April 2000, the time frame of which was limited to 2000 - 2003 due to dynamic changes in society, economy and legislation.

(2) The R&D Strategy is intended for the bodies of the Ministry of Culture, sectoral contributory organisations, private organisations and other institutions involved in the area of R&D for the successive fulfilment of the individual objectives and support of priorities of this R&D Strategy.

## **II. PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

(3) In general, the R&D Strategy is based on thematic priorities for social sciences that will undoubtedly include the historical reflections of the Czech nation, culture and State, the place of Czech society and the Czech State in the process of globalisation and European integration, and the status of and prerequisites for the cultivation and utilisation of human potential.

(4) The strategic objective – the meaning and social mission of the basic and applied research – will lie in the research of our own, i.e. Czech and territorially narrower, traditions developed by our own ethnic group that will be of crucial significance for the knowledge of the benefit and place of the domestic culture within worldwide culture (significance of cultural heritage for the individual and society, developmental tendencies, common features and specificity of the cultural heritage of the Czech Republic within the European context, the significance of cultural heritage for sustainable economic and social

development, etc.), for the further development of knowledge in general and knowledge of the national history in particular and for the development of aesthetic standards and creativity. Research and development in the field of culture will establish social prerequisites for the preservation, protection, conservation and presentation of cultural heritage in the broader sense.

- (5) Research and development in the field of culture must fulfil the above-mentioned general objectives. Given the acceptance of the systemic priorities that have been set out in the NR&DP until 2008 (see II.1 below), the NR&DP also provides for the thematic priorities that will be resolved by the National Research Programme, sectoral research programmes and the research intentions of allowance organisations (see II.2 hereinafter).

## II.1. **Systemic Priorities**

- (6) The systemic priorities of R&D are determined by the NR&DP and will be implemented through the National Research Programme. In accordance with the NR&DP, the R&D Strategy sets systemic priorities in the following areas:

- human resources
- co-operation between research establishments in the Czech Republic
- international co-operation in R&D
- regional aspects of R&D
- evaluation of R&D, including its results
- utilisation of the results in practice

### II.1.1. **Human Resources**

- (7) The characteristic of the current status lies (similar to other sectors) in the relatively high average age of R&D employees in the sector and in the absence of a young generation, the low pay grade of the research employees in the sector, lack of *ad hoc* R&D institutionalisation in large organisations (research is being carried out parallel to a number of other working activities), lack of internal competition stimulation in the R&D area with differentiated remuneration of employees and partial lack of a study programme specialisation in certain fields. This situation could be improved by the implementation of measures – see II.1.7.

### II.1.2. **Co-operation between Research Establishments in the Czech Republic**

- (8) Functional (rather than formal) co-operation between the individual establishments in the creation of integrated research teams, including professions necessary for resolving specific projects or research intentions that will make it possible, in addition to the coordination and distribution of work, also to utilise the R&D technical background of the individual establishments, is desired and will be supported. This co-operation means not only the co-operation amongst establishments within the sector but also co-operation with the institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, universities and research institutions outside the sector.

### II.1.3. **International Co-operation in R&D**

- (9) International co-operation represents an open area where co-operation takes place in a differentiated manner according to the individual fields. In the area of, e.g., the

monument care, participation in international programmes is not very extensive; however, international co-operation is increasing gradually (monument care – Silesia region). Involvement in partner co-operation is more significant in the case of libraries where e.g. the National Library of the Czech Republic currently participates in six international projects, the researchers of which are also researchers and co-researchers in other national and international R&D projects (e.g. within the Culture 2000 programme, etc.). In the field of libraries, as well as museums, the priority will continue to consist in making the cultural heritage accessible in digital form and in co-operation on the virtual integration of digital libraries making this possible (in particular digitised books, museum objects, etc.). The drawback of this co-operation on our part lies in the scant resources for co-financing and low salaries, poor administrative equipment to provide for the R&D service and lack of working capacity of the researchers simultaneously performing routine activities.

#### II.1.4. **Regional Aspects of R&D**

- (10) These aspects are resolved in accordance with the long-term and current needs through the involvement and co-operation of the regional professional establishments, both in terms of personnel resources and from the viewpoint of technological and laboratory equipment. This is the case, in particular, in target-oriented research also dealing with purely regional tasks resolving issues specific for the individual locations.

#### II.1.5. **Evaluation of R&D, Including its Results**

- (11) The Strategy emphasises the increasing importance of the evaluation of R&D to ensure its conformity to the demands that are common in developed countries. In the context of the conditions applicable in the European Union, the need for an objective, independent evaluation of all R&D activities becomes relevant. With respect to the considerable means expended from the State budget for R&D support, it is also necessary to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the use of such support. The basic principles of evaluation include a multi-criteria approach, demonstrable professional competence, transparency, independence and objectiveness. The evaluation criteria must be known in advance and must be binding, clearly formulated, evaluable and related to the set objective. The evaluation will be provided by the Research and Development Coordination Centre, reception committees, programme councils and evaluation committees of the relevant departments pursuant to Orders of the Ministry of Culture No. 26 and No. 27/2003 and the “Methods of Evaluation of Research and Development and its Results” drawn up by the Research and Development Council of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports pursuant to Government Resolution No. 644 of 23 June 2004 on evaluation of the results of research and development.
- (12) **Programme Evaluation.** The evaluation of new programmes is regulated by Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on the support for research and development from public funds, stipulating in detail the rights and obligations of the beneficiaries of earmarked support. After the termination of the sectoral R&D programmes, these programmes will be evaluated including the evaluation of public tenders, course of the project implementation, their efficiency from the viewpoint of the achieved results, their presentation and actual utilisation, the best results and overall fulfilment of the research programme objectives.

- (13) **Evaluation of Projects.** Programme projects are selected on the basis of R&D public tenders according to the manner in which such projects contribute to the fulfilment of the set thematic objectives of the given programme. The evaluation of draft projects takes place after the completion of the public tender, in the course of implementing the accepted projects at the turn of the year and after the completion of their implementation. Attention is paid to the evaluation of the objective of the draft representing the basis for the future level of the entire project and the compliance with the running project objectives and the quality of the achieved annual results is monitored in the course of the implementation. After the project design is finished, the final evaluation consists in the assessment of the quality of the results and compliance with the contractual obligations specified in the project design.
- (14) **Evaluation of Research Intentions.** The draft research intentions are evaluated by the individual committees (reception and evaluation); the research intentions dealing with problems related to the same field (i.e. virtually all research intentions) are evaluated by the joint committees. The draft research intentions are evaluated according to criteria such as how the intention will facilitate development of the field, the expected benefit of the research intention, the quality of the anticipated results, the infrastructure and facilities of the establishment and teams of researchers, and the appropriateness of costs with respect to achieving the expected results. In the course of the implementation (mostly at the end of the year), the achieved results are assessed and, after the research intentions are implemented, a final evaluation similar to the evaluation of the drafts research intentions is carried out. The evaluation results then serve as a basis for the decision-making on the provision of institutional funds to the given subsidised organisation in the following years.
- (15) **Evaluation of the R&D Strategy.** In addition to fundamental documents, this Strategy has also been created on the basis of the results of partial evaluation of the “Strategy of Sectoral Research and Development” of 2000, which took place in 2002, and partial data relating to systemic priorities gained from scientists through the programme councils and evaluation committees. The new R&D Strategy will be evaluated continuously from 2006 to 2008 and the overall evaluation will be made in 2009. Therefore, it contains a number of specific tasks, the performance of which it will be possible to evaluate. On the basis of the evaluation results, measures will be taken flexibly to remove any possible shortcomings and, if necessary, the R&D Strategy will be updated. The results of implementation of the Concept will form a component part of the analytical basis for the preparation and approval of the next sectoral R&D Strategy.

#### **II.1.6. Utilisation of R&D Results in Practice**

- (16) The determination of R&D thematic priorities in the sector of culture is based on practical requirements and suggestions gathered in particular from the subsidised organisations in the field of culture, from the governmental authorities in cultural matters and from universities. The Ministry of Culture as the R&D fund provider will, in individual applied research cases other than public tenders, conclude contracts on the utilisation of the results. Special emphasis will also be placed on the presentation of results and on entering information on the results into the R&D Information System in the form of an RIR (Results Information Register). Failure to comply with the assumed contractual obligations in this respect on the part of the researchers will constitute a

basis for excluding the R&D project designs of the candidates in question from subsequent R&D public tenders.

- (17) When putting the results into practice, it will also be necessary to resolve the issues contained in Government Resolution No. 513 of 26 May 2004 in respect of the document titled “Investment in Research: Action Plan for Europe” stipulating the co-responsibility of the Ministry of Culture for the following measures:
- together with the Industrial Property Office and in co-operation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Research and Development Council, to draw up supporting documents for the European Commission Directive related to legal regulation of the ownership, definition and utilisation of copyright in research funded by the State with the aim to support the transfer of technologies and the activities associated with spin-off (*Measure No. 14 – task of the European Commission*),
  - together with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Research and Development Council, in co-operation with the Industrial Property Office, to draw up supporting documents for the European Commission Directives related to copyright treatment and utilisation in public research organisations and in public-private partnerships that should support public research organisations in the drawing up and enforcement – on a voluntary basis – of charters containing the principles of ownership rights to the research results, granting licences, income allocation, etc. (*Measure No. 15 – task of the European Commission*),
  - together with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, to support coordinated copyright explication and training focused, in particular, on the European community of researchers. The copyright training in relation to research should be implemented in the Czech Republic within human resources development in research and development education financed from the European Social Fund (*Measure No. 57*),
  - to clarify specific aspects of copyright relevant for research, *inter alia*, also the extraordinary regulation of experiments, rights of the former owners, legal regulation of technological know-how and the provision on copyright co-ownership, and, on the basis of such clarification, also implement the necessary measures (*Measure No. 58 – Assignment of the European Commission*).

#### **II.1.7. Measures to Secure the Systemic Priorities**

- (18) On the basis of the NR&DP and the priorities contained in II.1.1 - II.1.5, the following measures must be taken:
- a) make employment in research more attractive by ensuring that the salary range of the researchers is motivational,
  - b) stimulate internal competition in the field of R&D through a system of differentiated remuneration of personnel who resolve projects successfully, publish in reviewed magazines, give lectures at universities, attend conferences abroad proactively; remunerate young researchers through a system of bonuses according to their scientific productivity or by offering them attractive research internships with exclusive financial coverage, to make the type of remuneration conditional on the application of the project results in the university education,

- c) support the creation of specialised R&D establishments or departments within large institutions involved in international programmes,
- d) discuss with the university management the possibilities of organising studies specialising in the individual fields (e.g. monument care),
- e) attract more students to the research, in particular by increasing the financial motivation and by facilitating the students' mobility with the aim to attract young "enthusiastic" employees to further pursue their professional careers in the area of R&D,
- f) define the range of unprocessed source files in the collections of the individual museums and provide them to universities for resolution within dissertations,
- g) to take into account, in co-operation with the institutes of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and the NPU, the scientific aspects in the database creation (the existing systems in museums mostly place an emphasis on administrative aspects and do not allow fully effective utilisation of information systems for scientific work); based on the appropriate co-operation, to complete the information systems for archaeological findings and research in the territory of the Czech Republic, records of collection items, etc.,
- h) create a virtual research environment for the co-operation of libraries, archives, universities and academic establishments,
- i) provide increased stimulation and interdisciplinary interconnection of research in the area of the science of the arts (i.e. in the area of music, theatre, film, literature and the creative arts) to facilitate its further integration into European research structures,
- j) evaluate the regional establishments, not only with respect to the method of keeping records, but also with respect to the degree of professional utilisation of museum collections and their promotion and especially appreciating those places where the offered range of souvenirs, including prints, CDs, etc., is locally and regionally specific,
- k) thoroughly carry out the evaluation of research projects, research programmes and research intentions in accordance with the "Methods of Evaluation of Research and Development and its Results".

## **II.2. Thematic Priorities**

- (19) Thematic priorities result from the current needs of Czech culture formulated in Chapter II, Articles 3 and 4, and are in accordance with the current orientation of the priorities formulated in the National Research Programme that are defined in the 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme of the European Union. These priorities have been set in the sector on the basis of proposals from scientists and after their consideration in the programme councils and evaluation committees. These are the following priorities:
  - a) quality of human life in a cultural and historical environment and their mutual interaction,
  - b) development of biodiversity in Central Europe as an indicator of environmental changes,
  - c) arts in human life, national identity,
  - d) communication infrastructure in the area of libraries,
  - e) development of mass media and audiovisual means.
- (20) In the implementation of priorities, emphasis will be placed upon the publishing activity and applicability of the R&D results in practice.
- (21) Priority thematic areas of R&D will be resolved within the:

- National Research Programme,
- sectoral research programmes,
- research intentions.

### II.2.1. National Research Programme

(22) Priority thematic areas for the National Research Programme were approved by Resolution No. 417 of the Government of the Czech Republic of 28 April 2003. The problems related to the area of culture are represented in five programmes (quality of life, information society, competitiveness upon sustainable development, energy for the economy and society and modern society and its transformation) and only partially in the thematic sub-programmes:

- Landscape and settlements of the future,
- Environment and protection of natural resources,
- Communication infrastructure and technologies,
- Social cohesion, social differentiation and national identity.

The sectoral R&D is involved in all three cross-sectional programmes of the National Research Programme provided by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports:

- Human resources for R&D,
- Integrated R&D,
- Regional and international co-operation in R&D.

### II.2.2. Sectoral Research Programmes

(23) Thematic priorities will be resolved in the framework of sectoral research programmes for 2006 to 2011 following up on the specific sectoral programmes ending in 2005. The draft programmes will be submitted to the Government for approval in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2005. This includes the following research programmes:

(24) **Research and scientific evaluation of the cultural and historical values of our environment, methods and instruments of their conservation and research of traditional folk culture phenomena as an integral part of intangible cultural heritage**

The programme is divided into 4 sub-programmes dealing with:

*1<sup>st</sup> sub-programme:*

Immovable cultural monuments, sets of immovable cultural monuments, protected monument territories and other architectural heritage – scientific research and surveys, documentation, records and presentation, methods and principles of maintenance, reconstruction and protection including the utilisation of both traditional and new materials, techniques and procedures including specific restoration procedures.

*2<sup>nd</sup> sub-programme:*

Movable cultural monuments, sets of movable cultural monuments and other movable cultural heritage – scientific research and surveys, documentation, records and presentation, methods and principles of maintenance, reconstruction and protection including the utilisation of both traditional and new materials, techniques and procedures including specific restoration procedures.

*3<sup>rd</sup> sub-programme:*

Archaeological heritage – scientific research and surveys, documentation, records and presentation, methods and principles of its protection and conservation for the purposes of monument care.

*4<sup>th</sup> sub-programme:*

Traditional folk culture phenomena – identification, documentation and presentation of traditional folk culture elements in the territory of the Czech Republic.

(25) **Protection of cultural, artistic and scientific resources and making them accessible**

The programme is divided into 2 sub-programmes dealing with:

*1<sup>st</sup> sub-programme:*

Making cultural heritage accessible in an integrated and interactive manner

Research in the area of the digitisation, long-term protection and enhanced accessibility of cultural resources and the utilisation of such resources for the development of tourism and the local culture, the development of knowledge and interactive technology for education, leisure, tourism and ensuring accessibility of the cultural heritage.

*2<sup>nd</sup> sub-programme:*

Enhancement of methods of protection of cultural heritage preserved in all kinds of documents

Research aimed at the improvement, enhancement or creation of brand-new methods of protection of all kinds of cultural heritage.

(26) **Scientific and documentary evaluation of the development of music, theatre and the creative arts, literary history, theory and criticism; analytical and sociological studies of the current state of culture in the Czech Republic and research and scientific evaluation of mass media and audiovisual means**

The programme is divided into 4 sub-programmes dealing with:

*1<sup>st</sup> sub-programme:*

Scientific and documentary evaluation of the development of music, theatre and the creative arts, literary history, theory and review

- a) long-term musical and editorial projects – comprehensive critical editions of musical resources,
- b) inventorial, cataloguing and lexicographical musical projects,
- c) history of theatre in the Czech Republic, stage art theory and reflections,
- d) basic encyclopaedic and lexicographical works in the area of theatre
- e) developmental trends and key personages in the area of the creative arts – research and scientific interpretation of Czech and European creative arts of the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century,
- f) processing and evaluation and provision of access to the archive materials and processing bibliographies related to Czech literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries,
- g) studies in the field of Czech literary history and literary theory and work in the field of literary lexicography.

*2<sup>nd</sup> sub-programme:*

Scientific and documentary evaluation of economic, social, historical and cultural aspects of the development of Czech audiovisual works

- a) evaluation of the current economic state of Czech audiovisual works,
- b) professional elaboration of the historic development of Czech audiovisual works and its definition in respect of a broader social context
- c) critical editions of film resources and documentation of the film culture in the Czech Republic,
- d) strategy of support in the area of audiovisual works in the Czech Republic and EU Member States, comparison, analysis of effectiveness and impacts of the individual models.

*3<sup>rd</sup> sub-programme:*

Analytical and sociological studies of the current state of culture in the Czech Republic and abroad

- a) economic environment of the current culture in the Czech Republic – evaluation of the effectiveness of the arts and culture industry in the Czech Republic,

- b) artists, arts and the perception of the arts, concept of development of arts in the Czech Republic,
- c) cultural diversity and national identity after the accession of the Czech Republic to the EU,
- d) comparative study of professional and non-professional artistic activities in selected EU Member States.

*4<sup>th</sup> sub-programme:*

Analytical studies of the development of mass media in Czech society and abroad

- a) comparative study of mass media regulation in the EU Member States,
- b) analysis of the self-regulation and co-regulation function in the media sector,
- c) scientific evaluation of the role of the national and regional media in the Czech Republic, taking into account the media consumption in individual social groups and individual regions,
- d) scientific evaluation of the share of the media in life-style changes and analysis of the role of both traditional and new media.

(27) **Testimony of the collections of Czech, Moravian and Silesian museums and galleries about the natural and cultural heritage of Europe**

The programme is divided into 3 sub-programmes dealing with:

*1<sup>st</sup> sub-programme:*

Scientific processing of natural substances from museum collections from the viewpoint of geological development and the past as well as the current biodiversity of the Czech Republic

Scientific processing of geological, mineralogical, paleontological, botanical (mycological, bryological, dendrological), entomological and zoological collections of museums from the viewpoint of their ability to testify about the development of nature in Central Europe.

*2<sup>nd</sup> sub-programme:*

Scientific processing of collections related to social sciences, literature and the arts from the viewpoint of cultural diversity of the Czech Republic

Scientific processing of the collections of museums and galleries from the viewpoint of their benefit to the knowledge of cultural diversity, regional and local specifics, direct European relations or mere analogies.

*3<sup>rd</sup> sub-programme:*

Evaluation of scientific knowledge in the area of analytical and conservation technologies used in the protection of museum items (museum and gallery collection items)

Conservation and analytical technologies used for the protection of museum items in the Czech Republic in the context of development in the same area in EU Member States.

### **II.2.3. Research Intentions**

- (28) Research intentions are dealt with by the contributory organisations in the sector. These intentions create the basic prerequisites for the solution of strategic objectives of the sectoral research (see II., par. 3 and 4). In 2004 to 2011, the research intentions are dealt with by seven professional contributory organisations established by the Ministry of Culture and falling within the competence of the Department of Conservation of the Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries (National Technical Museum, Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, National Museum, National Museum of Agriculture, The Moravian Museum, National Gallery in Prague, The Moravian Gallery in Brno), one organisation falling within the competence of the Monument Care Department (National Monument Institute), two organisations falling within the competence of the Regional and Minority Culture Department (National Institute of

Folk Culture and National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture) and two organisations falling within the competence of the Arts and Libraries Department (National Library of the Czech Republic and Moravian Library in Brno).

### **III. PRINCIPLES OF THE STRATEGY OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

#### **III.1. Openness, flexibility and transparency during the preparation and implementation**

- (29) In accordance with the NR&DP, the priorities, objectives and strategies of this concept have been prepared in close co-operation with the expert public represented in the programme councils and evaluation committees. The R&D Strategy for the sector of culture will continue to be prepared under the participation of the sectoral representatives and organisations, universities and practice.
- (30) The strategy will be evaluated during its implementation and the necessary updates of the strategy and instruments for its implementation will be proposed on the basis of this evaluation.
- (31) The Ministry of Culture will provide timely information on the announced R&D research programmes and public tenders as well as on their evaluation. It will also allow, in accordance with the valid legal provisions, free access to information.

#### **III.2. Links to other sectors**

- (32) The implementation of the strategy will require co-operation with thematically linked sectors, i.e. the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports or the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Informatics, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry for Regional Development. Emphasis will also be placed on improving the coordination in particular in the area of information infrastructure – libraries, museums, archives and computer networks.

### **IV. STRATEGIC INSTRUMENTS**

- (33) Strategic instruments are instruments intended for achieving the set objectives of the R&D Strategy; these instruments are based on the NR&DP.

#### **IV.1. Financing and support of R&D – the main instruments of the R&D policy**

- (34) Financing of the sectoral R&D is based on a medium-term outlook for R&D support. It is being refined on an annual basis during the preparation of the draft State budget. The performance of the objectives of the strategy is substantially affected by the Government's failure to fulfil its intention to attain the amount of support from public sources to which it committed (in 2002, the committed amount of R&D expenses was 0.7% of the GDP x the real amount of R&D expenses, 0.54% of the GDP). The financing of the sectoral R&D will be based on the accrued expenses approved by the Government in an amount of 0.58% of the GDP for 2004, 0.59% of the GDP for 2005 and 0.60% of the GDP for 2006.

The financial means of the sector of culture for R&D are as follows:

in 2004 – CZK 89,048,000.00  
in 2005 – CZK 93,733,000.00  
in 2006 – CZK 97,098,000.00

- (35) For the period of 2007 - 2008, the NR&DP is based on two variants – the first option maintains the recommended year-to-year increase in the financial means by 0.1% of the GDP to ensure that the indicator of 1% of the GDP from public funds, which is the target set by the Lisbon Strategy (adopted by the European Council in 2000), will be attained in 2010. The second variant anticipates a slower increase in the financial means and the Czech Republic will merely approach the Lisbon Strategy targets.
- (36) Given the relatively slow increase in the financial support for R&D, it is necessary to apply the principle of allocation of financial means increasingly on the basis of achieved R&D results in the solution of the individual projects and research intentions. The support will be aimed at activities of exceptional quality, importance and prospects that will lead to the practical fulfilment of R&D priorities.
- (37) With regard to the amount of support for R&D from public sources and with a view to increase the effectiveness of utilisation of the support, increased attention will be paid to the reviews of the submitted and resolved R&D projects and research intentions in order to eliminate the duplicate financing of activities. This is the objective of activity of the joint evaluation committees in reviewing the research intentions of institutions and of the co-operation with other sectors with the aim to verify the possible overlapping of thematic areas of the research programmes in thematically similar sectors.
- (38) The main method of financing the sectoral R&D from public funds consists in earmarked and institutional support.

#### **IV.1.1. Earmarked R&D Support**

- (39) Earmarked support for R&D will be provided, in particular, on the basis of the results of R&D public tenders within the announced research programmes. This makes it possible to join the research through public tenders in respect of the announced specific programmes for entities that are not eligible for institutional support (thus the institutions responsible for research intentions) even though such entities often have very good conditions in terms of the personnel and material to resolve programme projects. The R&D projects resolved within the research programmes announced in past years will terminate in 2005.
- (40) After approval by the Government, the sectoral research programmes for 2006 to 2011 will be announced in 2005 within a public tender. From 2006 onward, support will be provided to projects applied for and accepted to be resolved that deal with specific problems of the sector not included in the National Research Programme.
- (41) In selected and especially well-justified cases, the earmarked funds for R&D will be allocated through public contracts.

#### **IV.1.2. Institutional R&D Support**

- (42) The Ministry of Culture intends to focus institutional R&D support on the solution of scientific and research tasks in organisations established by the Ministry of Culture. These tasks represent research intentions, the implementation of which was commenced in 2004, and research intentions that will be accepted in 2004 (after their consideration by the joint evaluation committees) and the implementation of which will commence in 2005. These research intentions will terminate in 2010 to 2011.
- (43) The research intention defines the subject of the research activity including the R&D infrastructure, targets, strategies, expected results and corresponding expenses for the activity of the organisation for a period of 5 to 7 years. The institutional financing aims at providing long-term research development in the given organisation.

#### **IV.1.3. Indirect R&D Support**

- (44) After the modification of the respective legislation, indirect R&D support (tax, depreciation, customs and other relief) may be applied as a supplement to the direct support.

#### **IV.1.4. Legal Environment**

- (45) The legal environment creates a common framework for the necessary research autonomy. It is based on Act No. 130/2002 Coll., on the support for research and development, and on its implementing regulations – Government Regulation No. 267/2002 Coll., on information systems in research and development, Government Regulation No. 461/2002 Coll., on earmarked support for research and development, and Government Regulation No. 462/2002 Coll., on the institutional support for research and development. This Act approximated the system of support in the Czech Republic to the systems common in the EU Member States. Further, the provisions of Section 26 (2) (d) of Act No. 20/1987 Coll., on State monument care, as amended, according to which the Ministry of Culture coordinates the scientific and research activity in the field of State monument care, is also particularly significant.
- (46) More favourable institutional conditions for more intensive and effective R&D development will be created by the Act on Public Research Institutions, which is currently under preparation. It will not apply to the sector of culture as no research-oriented institutions have been established in this sector.

#### **IV.1.5. Structure of the System of Sectoral R&D**

- (47) The Research and Development Coordination Centre is the body responsible for the development of sectoral R&D, in co-operation with the competent departments of the Ministry of Culture that conceptually and methodically control the sectoral contributory organisations whose statutes, in addition to professional activities, include research.
- (48) The sectoral scientific and research bases include universities and institutes of higher education involved both in the area of humanities and in the technical area related to culture. The infrastructure of universities and institutes of higher education forms a base, not only for achieving significant results in the area of culture; the indisputable benefit of these institutions also consists in the forming and education of new researchers.

- (49) Within the resolution of R&D projects and research intentions, the co-operation with other research establishments will be enhanced, in particular for the comprehensive securing of the individual projects or research intentions.
- (50) The Ministry of Culture will support the creation of contact places in the individual regions with the aim to map more efficiently the needs of the individual regions and the research solutions to specific problems. These contact places may contribute to a higher awareness of the regions of the resolved research tasks and to a faster transfer of the R&D results into practice.

#### **IV.1.6. Infrastructure of the Sectoral R&D**

- (51) The infrastructure of the sectoral R&D consists of resources, services and human potential that mutually communicate, thus creating a network structure. The basic function of the R&D infrastructure lies in the support, coordination and concentration of capacities used for R&D and their interconnection and dissemination. The Ministry of Culture will continue to support the development of the infrastructure within the sectoral R&D both from institutional and from earmarked R&D funds.
- (52) Close attention will have to be paid, in particular, to enhancing and improving the information and communication infrastructure within the sector and their interconnection with the infrastructure throughout Europe. It is expected that an important role in this area will be played by the National Library of the Czech Republic and the National Monument Institute.
- (53) Libraries form an integral part of the R&D information infrastructure. Their fundamental task consists in providing for the creation of information funds, the availability of such funds and other information resources for the needs of R&D, mediating in their utilisation to the maximum possible extent and contributing to the evaluation, dissemination and application of the R&D results.
- (54) The support for these functions and services will be conditional upon broad co-operation within the system of libraries interconnected by communication and computer technology and in particular by shared funds and physically and virtually concentrated services.
- (55) The legal aspects of the availability of information funds and resources for the needs of R&D must be secured by laws regulating the essentials and copyright status of works emerging as a result of the research (dissertations and inaugural dissertations, research reports, etc.).
- (56) Within the national information system, the Ministry of Culture will make the information on the sectoral R&D available in the individual databases – these will include information on the announced competitions (VES), resolved R&D projects (CEP), research intentions (CEZ), results achieved from the solved research assignments (RIV) and on expenditures from the State budget (SR).

#### **IV.1.7. Morals and ethics**

- (57) At any R&D level, the ethical aspects and principles (integrity, workmanship, the spirit of criticism, openness, communicativeness, avoiding distortion of results, etc.) must be adhered to. These aspects and principles are and will be included in the rules regulating the activities of the sectoral R&D system, or possibly in the code of ethics which could be issued on the basis of the materials prepared by the Government.
- (58) Ethical matters are and will be resolved already in the draft programmes, terms and conditions for the submission of draft R&D projects, research intentions, guidelines for their evaluation, decision-making on the provision of support, evaluation of the course of solution and results. The responsibility for adherence to the principles of ethics will then be placed upon the competent bodies (councils, committees) in the individual R&D stages.