



**Česká společnost ekonomická, z. s.**

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**CZECH ECONOMIC SOCIETY  
ACTIVITY REPORT  
2020**

## 1. THE SOCIETY AND ITS BODIES IN 2020

The Czech Economic Society (CES) is an association of professionals and enthusiasts in the field of economics. The main mission of the CES is to enhance the development and popularization of economics in the Czech Republic in a manner that fully respects and supports the plurality of opinions and the unique development of individual economic trends. To achieve its aim, the CES organizes lectures, seminars and competitions for young economists and publishes publications with economic content. It organizes a biennial conference and an annual managing board. The CES is a member of the Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic and the International Economic Association.

The managing board of the CES was in 2020, based on the elections at the General Assembly on 2 November 2020, composed as follows (the members of the Board of Directors are listed in alphabetical order, noting the agenda(s) they were responsible for in 2020).

Josef Bič	Relations with members
Jiří Dušek	CES web administrator
Ivana Faltová Leitmanová	
Jakub Fischer	CES Treasurer, chair of the organizing committee for the 10 <sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the CES
Kamil Galuščák	CES President in 2018-2020, member of the judging panel for the Young Economist of the Year competition, member of the programme committee for the 11 <sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the CES
Jan Hanousek	Vice-president, guarantor of the Kateřina Šmídková prize, member of the programme committee for the 11 <sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the CES
Roman Horvát	Member of the programme committee for the 11 <sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the CES
Petr Jakubík	Guarantor for the Experts in School project
Karel Janda	Member of the programme committee for the 11 <sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the CES
Petr Janský	Member of the judging panel for the Young Economist of the Year competition
Milan Jílek	Chair of the České Budějovice branch
Svatopluk Kapounek	CES President, guarantor of the Young Economist of the Year competition
Eva Kolcunová	Chair of the Ostrava branch

Viktor Kotlán	
Zuzana Kučerová	
Hana Lipovská	
Martin Macháček	President CES in 2016-2018
Daniel Münich	Guarantor of the Prize for long-term contribution to the development of Czech economics education
Daniel Němec	Chair of the Brno branch
Barbara Pertold - Gebická	Member of the judging panel for the Young Economist of the Year competition, member of the programme committee for the 11 <sup>th</sup> biennial conference of the CES
Mariola Pytliková	
Jakub Seidler	Editor of the CES Newsletter
Michal Skořepa	

In 2020, the managing board met on 20 January at CERGE-EI in Prague and on 2 November online via Zoom. The auditing committee was composed of Filip Petrách, Barbora Slintáková and Jan Vlachý. The coordinator of the Experts in Schools project in 2020 was Jaroslav Ambrož.

## 2. CES SEMINARS AND BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

In 2020, the CES organized a total of 2 seminars. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the number of seminars organized in 2020 was significantly limited. More detailed information about the seminars can be found in the CES Newsletter.

Topic	Leader	Date	Location
Green Finance and Central Banks	Marek Mora	3.3.2020	Brno
European Recovery Plan – a revolution in the EU budget	Pavλίna Žáková	26.11.2020	Ostrava

Unfortunately, the restrictions associated with the spread of the coronavirus pandemic also affected preparations for the biennial conference of the CES, which was originally scheduled to take place on 4–5 December 2020. The managing board decided to postpone the event until May 2021.

### **3. GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CZECH ECONOMIC SOCIETY**

Two meetings of the CES General Assembly were held in 2020, on 20 January and 2 November. At the first meeting of the General Assembly, the new members of the CES General Assembly were introduced and elections were held for the positions of CES President and Vice President, based on which Svatopluk Kapounek was appointed CES President and Jan Hanousek CES Vice President for 2020 and 2021. As of 20 January 2020, Klára Baková is serving as CES Secretary. The report on the CES's activities in 2019, the budget and the membership were discussed. CES activities for 2020 were planned, namely the "Experts in School" activity, the biennial conference of the CES and the CES Awards, and committees and other bodies were appointed.

At the November meeting of the CES General Assembly, discussion focused on the "Experts in School" project, the significant reduction in the number of CES seminars taking place (related to the restrictions associated with the coronavirus pandemic), and the CES Awards (the Award for Long-Term Contribution to the Development of Czech Economics Education, the Young Economist Competition, the Karel Engliš Award, and the Kateřina Šmídková Award). The CES General Assembly also agreed to reschedule the CES Biennial Conference to May 2021. The CES President also reported on the International Economic Olympiad to be held in Budapest from 18.11.2020.

### **4. YOUNG ECONOMIST OF THE YEAR COMPETITION AND KAREL ENGLIŠ PRIZE**

The Young Economist of the Year award is one of the key activities of the CES. This prestigious competition, which has been held annually since 1994, is primarily aimed at supporting young talents in the field of economics. The high level of the competition is confirmed by the successful careers of previous years' winners, both at home and abroad.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the 2020 awards have not yet been presented. The award ceremony will take place at the XI Biennial Conference of the CES, which will be held in May 2021 at the University of Economics in Prague. The Young Economist competition is sponsored by the Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic, and its media partners are Roklen24 and Bankovníctví.

In 2020, a total of 16 outstanding papers were submitted to the Young Economist competition and the best three papers were awarded based on the selection of the committee. The independent jury

(consisting of Kamil Galuščák, Roman Horváth, Petr Janský, Svatopluk Kapounek and Barbara Pertold-Gebická) awarded a total of 5 competition papers worth 75,000 CZK.

The winner of the Czech Economic Society's Young Economist of the Year 2020 Award was Bruno Baránek, for his work “Quality of governance and design of public procurement”. Second place went to Jan Hanousek jr. for his work on “Political Insider Trading: A narrow versus a comprehensive approach”. Third place was awarded to Marek Šedivý for his paper "Mortality shocks and household". The Karel Engliš Prize for Czech Economic Policy was awarded to authors Dominika Ehrenbergerová and Josef Bajzík. The CES President's Prize for authors under 25 was awarded to Daniil Kashkarov, a student at CERGE-EI, for his paper “Automation and Human Capital: Accounting for Individual-Level Responses”.

## **5. PRIZE FOR LONG-TERM CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF CZECH ECONOMIC LEARNING**

This year's Czech Economic Society Award for long-term contribution to the development of Czech economics learning was given to Lubomír Mlčoch, Professor Emeritus of Economics at the Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, where he was also active as Dean from 1997-2003 and as Vice Dean for Research from 1993-1996. He also served on a number of Charles University bodies, including several scientific councils. Professor Lubomír Mlčoch is one of the most outstanding Czech economists of recent generations. His research has contributed to a better understanding of the (mal)functioning of the socialist economy from the perspective of microeconomics and institutional economics.

The prize was awarded following a unanimous decision by the CES Board of Directors in a secret ballot held on 2 November 2020. The proposers were Roman Horváth and Jakub Seidler.

The award will be presented to Professor Mlčoch at the XI Biennial Conference of the CES, which has been postponed to May 2021 due to restrictive measures related to the coronavirus.

## **6. EXPERTS IN SCHOOL PROJECT**

In 2020, the CES continued to run its Experts to Schools project, which supports economics teaching in secondary schools and introduces secondary school students in the Czech Republic to current economic developments from the perspective of renowned Czech economists, both university lecturers and financial experts. The aim is to continue to introduce secondary school

students to economics in practice and to motivate them to study at universities with an economics focus.

The project was financially supported in 2020 by the Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic and the CERGE-EI Foundation. For the third year in a row, the CES cooperated with the Institute of Economic Education to promote the project. The feedback from secondary schools was once again very positive and a number of schools expressed a desire to participate in the project in 2021. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the number of lectures was limited. For the first time ever, we also gave online lectures, but even so, only 29 lectures were delivered in total. The most frequent topic in the lectures given was the European Union (12 lectures). Other topics included financial literacy, accounting and taxes. Besides Prague, Brno and Ostrava, lectures were also held in Jablonec nad Nisou, Havířov and Nový Jičín.

## **7. MEMBERS AND FINANCES IN 2020**

Any individual aged 18 years and above may apply for individual membership of the CES by completing an application form and submitting it to the managing board, who decide on their acceptance. Individual membership then commences upon the payment of the first membership fee. In 2019 the standard membership fee was 500 CZK, with reduced rates of 250 CZK for students and 100 CZK for pensioners. 166 individual CES members had duly paid their membership fees at the end of 2020; this is 6 fewer than in 2019.

In addition to its individual members, the CES's collective members also contribute substantially to the society's activities. Any legal entity may become a collective member if it financially, materially or otherwise supports the CES, agrees with its aims, requests collective membership in writing to the managing board of the CES and names an individual who will represent it at the General Assembly of the CES and in other CES bodies, with an advisory vote. Based on the value of the financial contribution or other forms of support, collective members are categorized into three groups: general partners, gold members and basic members. In 2020 the following collective members supported the CES's activities:

### General partners

- Czech National Bank
- Prague University of Economics and Business
- PRIGO University

Gold members

- CERGE-EI
- Faculty of Economics, Technical University of Ostrava
- Faculty of Economics and Administration, Masaryk University
- Faculty of Economics and Administration, Mendel University in Brno
- University of Finance and Administration

Members

- AMBIS College
- Faculty of Economics, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
- Faculty of Economics, Technical University of Liberec
- Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Pardubice
- Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University
- Moravian Business College Olomouc
- School of Business Administration in Karvina, Silesian University in Opava
- Škoda Auto University
- University of Economics and Management

The CERGE-EI Foundation and the Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic have also provided significant support for the CES's activities for a long time.

Revenues totaled 314,010.30 CZK in 2020 and were mainly made up of contributions from individual and collective members and a subsidy from the Council of Scientific Societies of the Czech Republic to support the Young Economist of the Year competition and the Experts in School project.

The costs amounted to 200,335.73 CZK, of which the most significant sums were spent on the Experts in School project and the Young Economist of the Year competition.

The difference between income and expenses amounted to 113,674.57 CZK. The society's current account balance at the end of the year stood at 349,404.65 CZK, and the CES does not have a cash box. Liabilities to employees, the tax office and customers amounted to 35,428 CZK at the end of the year and were paid in the first half of January 2021.