Grants Week 2025: ERC Talks

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ERC principles

- Ambitious frontier research
- Assessed only based on scientific excellence
- All research fields and career stages
- Based on honesty, trust and responsibility
- Flexibility, portability, minimum bureaucracy

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ERC calls

Starting	Consolidator	Advanced
0 – 10 years from PhD	7 – 12 years from PhD	> 12 years from PhD
Min. 50% commitment	Min. 40% commitment	Min. 30% commitment
1,5 mil. EUR	2 mil. EUR	2,5 mil. EUR
5 years	5 years	5 years
12-14% success rate	14% success rate	11-14% success rate
478 funded grants	306 funded grants	281 funded grants
DDL: 10/2026	DDL: 13/1/2026	DDL: 27/8/2026

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ERC calls

Starting	Consolidator	Advanced	Synergy
0–10 years from PhD	7–12 years from PhD	> 12 years from PhD	All career stages
< 50% commitment	< 40% commitment	< 30% commitment	< 30% commitment
1,5 mil. EUR / 5 years	2 mil. EUR / 5 years	2,5 mil. EUR / 5 years	10 mil. EUR / 6 years
12-14% success rate	14% success rate	11-14% success rate	9-10% success rate
478 funded grants	306 funded grants	281 funded grants	66 funded grants
DDL: 10/2026	DDL: 13/1/2026	DDL: 27/8/2026	DDL: 11/2026

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ERC call

Starting	Consolidator	Advanced	Synergy	Proof of concept
0–10 years from PhD	7–12 years from PhD	>12 years from PhD	All career stages	ERC grantees
< 50% commitment	< 40% commitment	< 30% commitment	< 30% commitment	< 30% commitment
1,5 mil. EUR	2 mil. EUR	2,5 mil. EUR	10 mil. EUR	150 000 EUR
5 years	5 years	5 years	6 years	18 months
12-14% success rate	14% success rate	11-14% success rate	9-10% success rate	35% success rate
478 funded grants	306 funded grants	281 funded grants	66 funded grants	245 grants / year
DDL: 10/2026	DDL: 13/1/2026	DDL: 26/08/2026	DDL: 10/2026	DDL: 2x year

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NEWS: ERC PLUS

- aims to make Europe more attractive for top scientists
- for exceptionally ambitious ideas that need more time and funding
- > 7mil. EUR for 7 years
- all research fields, all career stages
- justification of how the project goes beyond what standard ERC grants support
- only 30 grants will be supported
- will be evaluated by AdG panel in Step 1 and special expert panel in Step 2

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Change – eligibility window

WP 2026	WP 2027
StG: 2-7 years since PhD defence	**StG**: 0-10 years since PhD defence
CoG: 7-12 years since PhD defence	**CoG**: 5-15 years since PhD defence
	Only 1x StG and 1x CoG grant per career

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Change – proposal structure

WP 2025	WP 2026
B1:	***B1:***
– Extended Synopsis (5 pages)	– Part BI of the scientific proposal (5 pages)
– CV and Track Record (4 pages)	– CV and Track Record (4 pages) ~~FEASIBILITY~~
B2:	***B2:***
– Scientific proposal (15 pages)	– Part BII of the scientific proposal (7 pages)
– appendix All ongoing and submitted grants	– appendix All ongoing and submitted grants

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ERC CZ

- Aim: supports top-quality frontier research projects that ranked in the 2nd stage of international peer review of the ERC in category A or B but did not receive funding. Projects must be implemented in Czechia

- Funding: for A - whole budget of original ERC project; for B – funding corresponding to 2 years of duration of the project

- Frequency: 1x year (call deadline in March, implementation starts in September)

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ERC grants at MU

Richard Štefl
DECOR

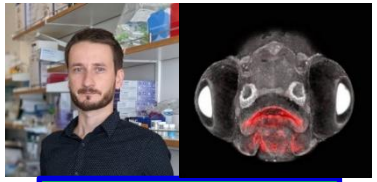
Daniel Kráľ
LaDIST

Matthew Rampley
CRAACE

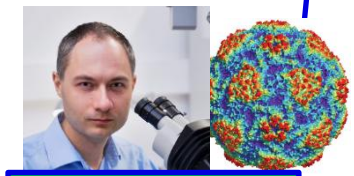
David Zbíral
DISSINET

Robert Vácha
PeptideKillers

Adam Williamson
FitSleep


Peter Fabian
MERLIN

Jiří Macháček
COCO


Pavel Plevka
PICOSTRUCTURE

David Kosař
JUDI-ARCH

Marek Mráz
LeukemiaEnviron

David Kosař
INFINITY

Petr Těšina
NeuroQuality

Pavel Plevka
BioPhage

Jan Křetinský
InOVatioCS

Tomáš Fiala
PROTEOFORMER

Robert Vácha
FireBacteria

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026

ERC CZ

Pavel Plevka
BioPhage

Gabriel Demo
CROSSBETT

Robert Vácha
PeptideKillers

Hana Macháčková
PAAC

Filip Hrbáček
SEAL

6x Social Sciences and Humanities

8x Life Sciences

6x Physical Sciences and Engineering

2x Proof of Concept

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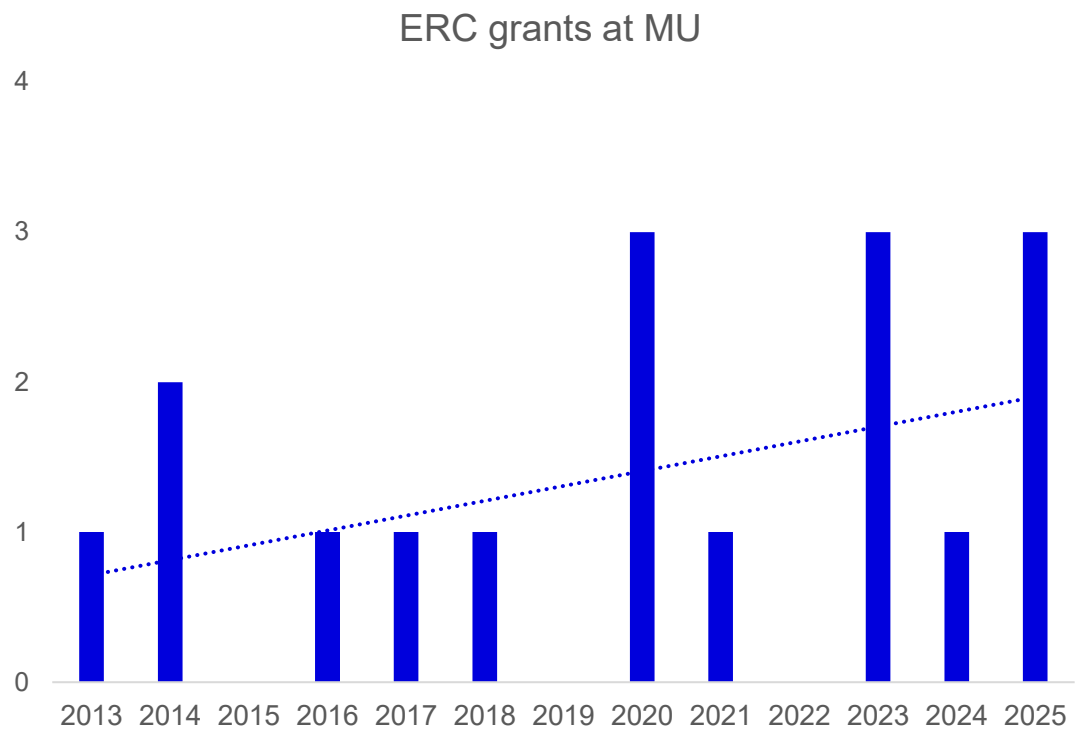
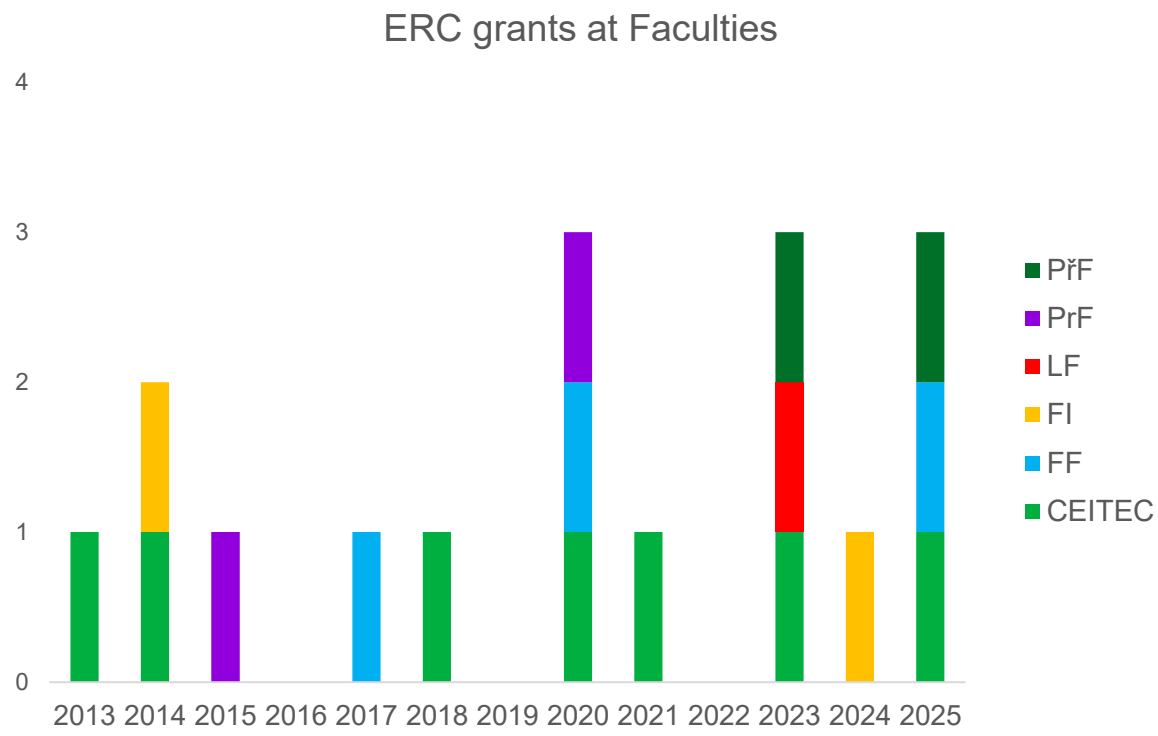
ERC grants hosted by MU





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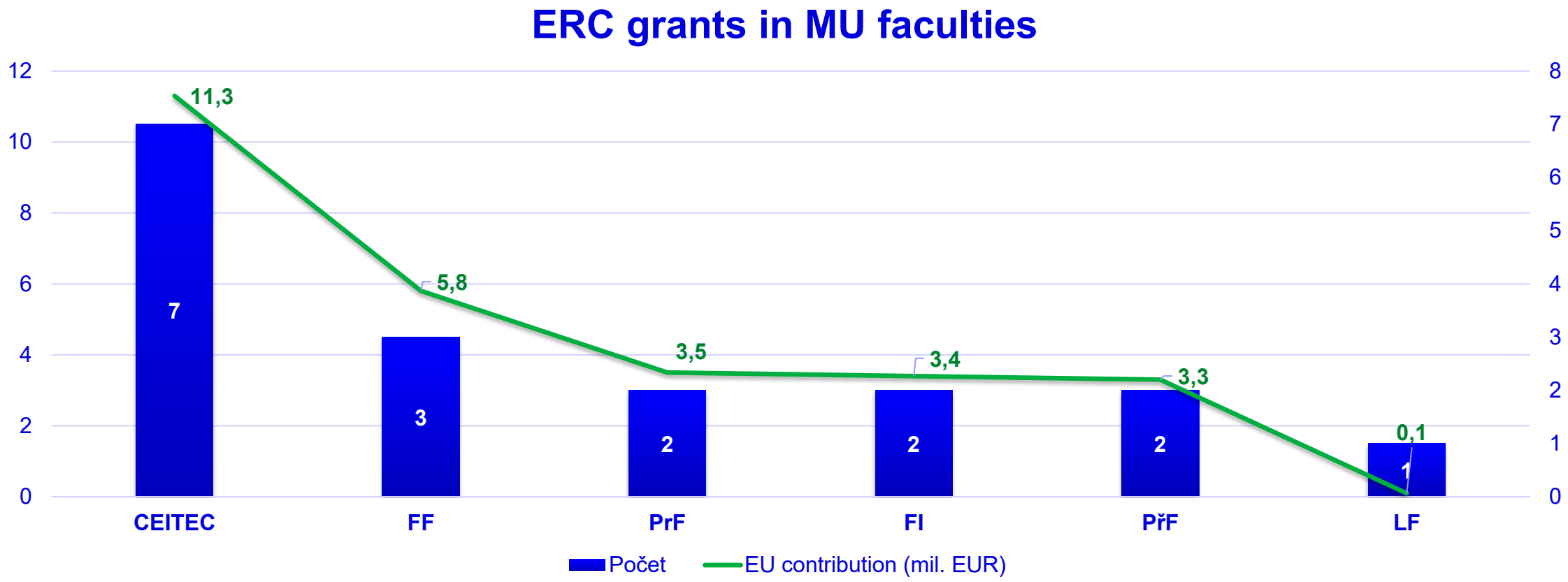
17 ERC na MU



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Central project support for ERC

METHODOLOGICAL

- Information servis – dedicated webpage on the MUNI Portal, guidance through proposal development and GA preparation and methodological support during implementation.
- Training events
  - ***ERC Talks at Grants Week*** (26.11. 2025)
  - Seminar ***Sharing practices in preparing ERC grant budgets at MU*** (11.2. 2026) - for project managers – with Martin Hovorka and Božena Čechalová
  - Seminar ***ERC grant applications – Strategies, Pitfalls and Best Practices*** *(February/March)* – for scientists
  - Workshop ***ERC and beyond*** (29. 4. PART 1, 13. 5. PART 2, 27. 5. PART 3) – for scientists, by Tomáš Fiala and Peter Fabian

Central project support for ERC

DIRECT

- Individual project consultation and proposal review (compliance with evaluation criteria, project structure, clarity of text)
- Strategy for selecting appropriate evaluation panel
- Recommendation of other reviewers incl. professional consultants for preparation for an interview
- Organization of mock interview
- Preparation of candidates for national support of Experts group for ERC (TC Prague)

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Central financial support for ERC

GAMU MASH a MASH StG/CoG = support for talented individuals with potential to get an ERC

- MASH StG/CoG – 12 mil CZK/4 years to recruit an external scientists to apply for ERC at MU
- MASH – 25 mil CZK/5 years to recruit an external talented scientists ideally ERC holder

GAMU Horizons

- Direct funding for preparation of ERC grant proposal (and other HE) in a total amount of cca. 1 mil CZK per year. Typically – consultancy and training for ERC interview and other activities to support the preparation of project applications.

Direct contribution to Faculty´s budget

- The performance component of the budget in the indicator „foreign grants“ multiplied by 1.5 for ERC revenues throughout 3 years.

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Faculty´s motivational tools for attracting ERC

- Targeted funding for project preparation needs (travel, consultants, etc.)
- Faculty grant/reward for winning or submitting a grant
- Guaranteed time reserved for R&D during the implementation/preparation of the ERC grant (reduced other obligations)
- Retention part of overhead costs by the grant holder

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Expert group for ERC

Coordinator: prof. Ing. **Zdeněk Strakoš**, DrSc.

• **PE:**
Chair: doc. Ing. **Pavel Jelínek**, Ph.D.
prof. Mgr. **Pavel Jungwirth**, DrSc.
prof. **Tomáš Jungwirth**, Ph.D.,
prof. Mgr. **Michal Koucký**, Ph.D.

• **LS:**
Chair: Mgr. **Pavel Tomančák**, Ph.D.
prof. Ing. **Michal Hocek**, CSc., DSc.
prof. RNDr. **Julius Lukeš**, CSc.
prof. RNDr. **Vojtěch Novotný**, CSc.

• **SH:**
Chair: Prof. **Matthew Rampley**, B.A., Ph.D.
doc. **Mirjam Fried**, Ph.D.
prof. PhDr. **Tomáš Havránek**, Ph.D.

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Support from NCP and Expert Group for ERC

- National information day
- Methodological support
- Workshops for ERC applicants – interactive training, set of three online meetings focused on:

Day 1	• Experts´feedback on 5 min the presentation of project idea and applicant's CV and track record
Day 2	• Evaluation of successful proposal from the scientific domain of applicant´s preference
Day 3	• Individual presentations of B1 and discussion with members of Expert Group and other ERC evaluators

- Mock interviews - for applicants in 2nd stage of evaluation

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QUESTIONS?

Thank you!

ERC grant application

B1:

- Part BI (5 pages)
- CV and Track Record (4 pages)

B2:

- Part BII (7 pages)
- appendix All ongoing and submitted grants

Annexes:

- PhD certificate (StG and CoG)
- Host institution support letter
- Documentation supporting a request for eligibility extension

Part A:

- General information about the project (panels, key words, title, duration, abstract etc.)
- Contact details to PI and HI
- Budget table and justification (max. 8000 characters)
- Ethics and security
- Other questions – time commitment, excluded reviewers etc.

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New central financial support for ERC

Cofinancing of investment costs

- From 2027 deductions from depreciation of investments will be covered from FRIM without the need to pay ????

Odvody

- Centrální odvody činí cca 14%, ERC (stejně jako všechny HE projekty) mají režie 25%

Od 2025 je možné odvody realizovat i přeúčtováním režijních nákladů (nikoliv pouze odvodem PVČ).

Další motivace – GAMU ERC+ ?

- Forma bude ještě diskutována mezi proděkany VaV, je potřeba vydiskutovat motivace a potřeby všech fakult. Financování by mohlo být z programu MŠMT Excelence, pokud bude vyhlášen, případně navýšením centralizace GAMU

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