

Call for Researchers at Risk Fellowship 2026

Identification information

Programme:	Researchers at Risk Fellowship (RISK Programme)
Implementation period:	max. 24 months
Contact person:	<u>CAS contact person</u>

The Call is open from 19 January until 23 March 2026.

Schedule

19 January 2026	Announcement of the Call
23 March 2026 23:59	Deadline for submission of applications
March/April 2026	Evaluation process
April 2026	Announcement of the results
1 May 2026	Earliest date of start of fellowship
1 November 2026	Latest date of start of fellowship

Basic definitions

Objectives:

The Researchers at Risk Fellowship (hereinafter “RISK Programme”) is a programme that is focused on researchers whose scientific work is at risk due to threats of war, persecution, natural disasters, and other life-threatening dangers they may face. The RISK Programme enables them to temporarily continue their research in a safe environment at the CAS institutes in the Czech Republic for maximum 24 months.

Target groups:

- Postdocs (less than eight years after receiving Ph.D. as of the start of the applicant’s fellowship),
- Researchers (eight or more years after receiving a Ph.D. as of the start of the applicant’s fellowship).

The research experience does not include maternity and parental leave, work disability lasting more than 90 days, compulsory military service, the period during which care is provided to a person who is considered to be dependent on the assistance of another natural person under the Social Services Act.

Eligibility criteria:

- The proposed applicant has not been awarded the CAS grant in previous “RISK Programme” calls. (The researcher who was awarded the CAS grant in previous rounds of “RISK Programme” is considered ineligible.)
- The proposed applicant must have a qualification required for the position at the CAS institute.
- The proposed applicant does not have to be an employee of the CAS institute at the time the application is submitted.

Research fields: All research fields.

Implementation period: Max. of 24 months (starting between 1 May and 1 November 2026).

Financial provisions

- Eligible costs are personal costs and shall be supported by a grant.
- The grant is awarded for a maximum of 24 months.

- The maximum amount of the grant is CZK 720 000 per calendar year (CZK 60 000 per month) if the proposed applicant's working capacity on her/his fellowship is 1.0 FTE. The amount of the grant shall be reduced proportionately if the researcher's working capacity on her/his fellowship is less than 1.0 FTE.
- The proposed applicant's employment with the institute must last for the entire duration of the grant provision.
- A successful application shall be funded based on [the respective grant](#) that shall be provided to the CAS institute in accordance with the *Guideline of the Academy Council of the CAS on Grants Provided by the Czech Academy of Sciences*.

Application form submission

The application form in Czech or English must be completed exclusively in the KIS online application, downloaded in PDF format and sent via data mailbox (the CAS ID fr6adt5) within the stated deadline. The application form must be submitted by the CAS institute, where the proposed applicant shall be employed. Applications submitted differently may be rejected on formal grounds.

The example of application form is available on the CAS website in the International Affairs section at the following links: [Currently announced programmes - Akademie věd České republiky \(avcr.cz\)](#) and [the AV CR Intranet](#).

The application form includes:

- A description of the threat the proposed applicant is facing in her/his home country,
- A description of the proposed applicant's planned research project/activities at the CAS institute,
- One-page CV of the proposed applicant, including previous publications and the most important research results achieved,
- A declaration on consent to personal data processing of the proposed applicant,
- Statutory declaration of the CAS institute confirming that the proposed applicant fulfils Eligibility Criteria as listed in this Call.

Evaluation procedure

Criteria for evaluation are:

- Existence of the threat faced by the proposed applicant,
- Quality of the research project/activities proposal incl. outputs and results,
- Proposed applicant's professional experience,
- Declaration of the CAS institute.

Other provisions

- The proposed applicant is responsible for securing her/his entry visa to the destination country.
- Any changes in the amount of the applicant's working time, a duration of the fellowship or changes regarding the planned research project/activities at the time of its implementation period are possible, however, these shall be reported via e-mail to the contact person and duly justified in the final fellowship report. Changes may result in a budget adjustment (compared to the original application form).
- At the end of the implementation period, the CAS Institute is required to submit a final fellowship report. The report is to be completed in the Word document, uploaded to the KIS online application, and sent via data mailbox (the CAS ID fr6adt5) within 30 days after the completion of the fellowship.
- The CAS Institute will support the project in accordance with *Guideline No. 15/2019 of the Academy Council of the CAS from 26 November 2019 on the Support for International Cooperation at the Research Institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences, as subsequently amended by Guideline No. 17/2021*.