



Call for Cooperation No. 1

Open Science II Mini-Projects

1. Introduction

Charles University, as the beneficiary of the Open Science II project, announces, in accordance with the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries – Specific Part, Open Science II Call, Version 2¹, **Call for Cooperation No. 1 Open Science II Mini-Projects**.

2. Objective of the Call

The objective of the Call is to support industry-specific and interdisciplinary activities within the implementation of the European Open Science Cloud² (EOSC) initiative in the Czech Republic in accordance with the conceptual document "Architecture of EOSC Implementation in the Czech Republic"³.

The objective of the Call is to involve a wider target group in the activities of the Open Science II project – in particular in ensuring FAIRification of research data, metadata and repositories and ensuring standardization/compatibility and the interconnection of systems and other activities necessary for the functioning of the NDI through "mini-projects" that can be utilised both by the beneficiary's and project partners' entities, as well as by other entities outside the partnership (collectively involved institutions).

3. Identification and timing of the call

Type of call	Single-round
Evaluation model	Dual-phase
Date of publication of announcement of the call on the website of Charles University	26/01/2026
Date of announcement of the call, i.e. access to applications in IS Věda	02/02/2026
Timeframe for submitting a Request for Opinion of EOSC WG	26/01/ - 22/02/2026.

¹ https://opjak.cz/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/PpZP_specificka_cast_vyzva_Open_Science_II_verze-2_web.pdf

² The EOSC is a pan-European initiative aimed at building a unified European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) data infrastructure that is accessible to both academia and industry, as well as to public service providers. The aim of building the EOSC is to accelerate and support the current transition to open science and open innovation in the digital single market and to support the economy by utilising the results of research – technology transfer. The EOSC will enable the interconnection of existing (and future) data infrastructures for scientific data, which today are fragmented across disciplines and Member States. The ambition is to create the so-called "Web of FAIR Data and Services" based on the principle of making research data available in accordance with the FAIR principles policy. For further information, see <https://open-science-cloud.ec.europa.eu/>

³ This is the basic framework document for the implementation of the EOSC initiative in the Czech Republic. It has been approved by the Coordination Committee for the Implementation of the EOSC Initiative in the Czech Republic, which is an expert advisory body of the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports with the aim of coordinating stakeholders in the field of R&D & I in the Czech Republic in the development of the data infrastructure of the Czech Republic, the purpose of which is to create conditions in the Czech Republic for the management of scientific data in accordance with FAIR principles. The document is available here: <https://www.eosc.cz/en/about-eosc-cz/initiative-eosc-cz>





Date of start and end of receipt of applications for mini-projects	02/02/ - 31/03/2026 by 13:00
Minimum/maximum period of time for which the applicant is entitled to plan the mini-project	Minimum duration: 6 weeks Maximum duration: 18 months
Earliest implementation start date of the mini-project	01/09/2026
Latest date for completion of the realization of the mini-project	29/02/2028
Time eligibility of expenses	01/09/2026 – 29/02/2028

4. Eligible activities

Creation of outputs that follow the planned outputs and/or supported activities of the Open Science II project and significantly expand the planned outputs and/or supported activities of the project. These are outputs with a high level of preparedness, as discussed by the EOSC Initiative community in the Czech Republic (for further information see Annex 7 of the Call).

The output(s) of mini-projects must meet the following criteria:

1. Mini-projects must be created for one or more of the following domain/thematic clusters:
 - ✓ Bio/health/food
 - ✓ Material Sciences and Technology;
 - ✓ Data Management for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning;
 - ✓ Social Sciences;
 - ✓ Physical Sciences;
 - ✓ Humanities and Arts;
 - ✓ Environmental Sciences;
 - ✓ Sensitive Data.
2. Every output must correspond to exactly one output type (output specification column) from the Catalogue of Outputs (see Annex 2 of the Call)
3. Every output must:
 - ✓ develop or respond to the requirements of research and domain EOSC communities and
 - ✓ build on the outputs of previous projects and activities of the EOSC CZ initiative and thus meets the requirements of the NDI.

5. Sustainability

The sustainability of the output(s) of a mini-project is determined over a period of five years in accordance with the Regulation (EU) No. 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the





Council. Further information is provided in the Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions.

6. Eligible applicants

Eligible applicants must belong to the following category:

Entities that meet the definition of an organization engaged in the dissemination of research and knowledge under the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation (2022/C 414/01) with the legal form of:

- public research institutions;
- public universities;
- other legal entities.

Beneficiaries or partners with financial contribution in the Open Science II project are eligible applicants for this call.

7. Eligible partners

Partnership is not permitted in this Call.

8. Form of funding

Allocation of the Call	77,230,000 CZK
Minimum amount of total eligible expenditure per mini-project	Not stipulated for mini-projects in this Call
Maximum amount of total eligible expenditure per mini-project	4,500,000 CZK
Method of financing	Ex-post

9. Project eligibility

Funding cannot be provided if the output(s) of the mini-projects has/have been completed or fully implemented before the earliest implementation start date of the mini-project, regardless of whether the applicant has made all related payments or not.

The project eligibility of expenditure is determined by the definition of eligible activities and objectives of the Call.



10. Method of reporting total eligible expenditure

Total eligible expenditure will be reported under the simplified reporting scheme, i.e. using lump sums – see Annex 3 of the Call "Lump Sum Calculator – Mini-Projects". See also Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions.

11. Level of funding and conditions for co-financing

Co-financing is required to the minimum amount of 10% of the total eligible expenditure.

12. Conditions for state aid

The funds provided are not defined as state aid within the meaning of Art. 107 (1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Funding will be provided for the implementation of non-commercial activities defined in para. (20) of the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation (2022/C 414/01). Any economic use must be purely incidental in accordance with the provisions of para. (21) of the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation.

The applicant undertakes to fulfill the obligations deriving from the provisions of Art. 2.1.1 of the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation that prevent the financing of a mini-project from being based on state aid within the meaning of Art. 107 (1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU and that funding provided will be used to perform non-commercial activities as defined in para. (20) of the Framework for State Aid for Research, Development and Innovation.

13. Formal requirements for applications for a mini-project

Applications for mini-projects must be submitted through IS Věda at: <https://is.cuni.cz/veda/portal/dashboard>. Applications for mini-projects must be submitted in Czech or English.

Applications for a mini-project must be accompanied by a positive opinion of the relevant domain/thematic working group of the EOSC CZ Initiative (<https://www.eosc.cz/en/working-groups>). For the Template of the Opinion see Annex No. 8 of the Call.

See Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions, Chapter 4.8.1.

Applications for a mini-project must be accompanied by a valid electronic signature recognized under Act No. 297/2016 Coll., the statutory body of the applicant or a person authorized to sign on the basis of a power of attorney/authorization.

Further requirements for applications for a mini-project are provided in the Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions (and its annexes), available here link: <https://www.eosc.cz/en/projects/open-science-ii/mini-projects-and-opinion-of-the-wg>.



14. Consultation on the preparation of an application for a mini-project

Before submitting an application for a mini-project, applicants may consult employees of Charles University if they have any questions about the Call.

Charles University will only provide email consultations via e-mail: os2_minizamery@ruk.cuni.cz.

E-mail inquiries will be handled on an ongoing basis, usually no later than five business days from the receipt of the e-mail.

15. Changes to the Call

The Call and related documentation may be changed, especially when required by changes in legislation or changes in the methodological environment of the grant provider, or due to unforeseen events.

Changes to the Call will be published on the website of the announced Call. Applicants who already have an application for support in IS Věda will also be informed about the publication of changes to the Call via a message in IS Věda.

16. Additional documentation for the Call

Applicants/participating institutions are bound by the additional conditions set out in the following documentation:

The rules described in Chapter 8.2.1. of the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries (RAB) – general and specific part and rules concerning publicity according to Chapter 7.7. of the Rules for Applicants and Beneficiaries – general part relevant for the ERDF, all available here: <https://opjak.cz/dokumenty/pravidla-pro-zadatele-a-prijemce-obecna-cast/>.

When preparing an application for a mini-project, the Applicant/Participating Institution must comply with the versions that are valid and binding for the Open Science II project at the time of submission of the application, and the versions valid and binding for the Open Science II project at the time of realization of the mini-project. Further information is provided in Chapter 4.6 of the Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions.

Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions, available here: <https://www.eosc.cz/en/projects/open-science-ii/mini-projects-and-opinion-of-the-wg>.

IS Věda manual for Open Science II Mini-Projects, available here: <https://www.eosc.cz/en/projects/open-science-ii/mini-projects-and-opinion-of-the-wg>.

17. Other provisions

During the approval process for applications for a mini-project, Charles University applies the procedures enshrined in the Methodology for Applicants and Participating Institutions.

- procedures for eliminating defects in applications for a mini-project are set out in Chapter 5.1;



- procedures for expressing disagreement with the evaluation of the application are set out in Chapter 5.5;
- procedures for the submission of other documents necessary for the conclusion of the cooperation agreement are set out in Chapter 5.4.

Funds will be provided on the basis of a Partnership Agreement (amendment to this Agreement), or Agreements on Cooperation in Research, Development and Innovation, which will be concluded pursuant to § 8 (3) of the Act on Support for Research and Development. A template of the Agreement is available here: <https://www.eosc.cz/en/projects/open-science-ii/mini-projects-and-opinion-of-the-wg>.

The final amount of funds provided is decided by Charles University on the basis of the results of the evaluation process.

Charles University reserves the right to suspend and/or terminate the Call prematurely (e.g. due to the exhaustion of allocated funds).

18. Annexes to the Call

Annex No. 1 Evaluation criteria

Annex No. 2 Catalogue of Outputs

Annex No. 3 Lump Sum Calculator for Mini-Projects

Annex No. 4 Request for Opinion of the EOSC CZ WG

Annex No. 5 Schedule of Outputs

Annex No. 6 IS Věda - Manual for Applicants in the Open Science II Mini-Projects Calls

Annex No. 7 Key Activities (excerpt from the Feasibility Study)

Annex No. 8 Opinion of the Thematic/Domain EOSC CZ WG