



The Right Step Forward

FIR

Faculty of International Relations
University of Economics, Prague





Foreword of the Dean

In 1991, the Faculty of International Relations (FIR) became the successor of the Faculty of Trade, one of the founding faculties of the University of Economics. The new name was not the only change; new content for the study programs came about as a result of the new socio-economic situation after the Velvet Revolution and represented the strengthening of internationalization as the main competitive advantage of FIR graduates.

FIR is the largest of the six faculties of the university, with more than 4500 students and 250 employees. FIR offers a wide range of programs, which are all characterized by substantial interdisciplinarity and a strong international focus. Emphasis is also put on foreign language education with demanding requirements in terms of achieved proficiency to communicate in at least two foreign languages. During their studies, students may acquire internationally recognized certificates of language proficiency.

FIR is very active and successful in the sphere of internationalization. In 2012 and again in 2014, the International Trade master's program obtained, as the first in the Czech Republic, the prestigious international EPAS accreditation, granted by the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD); in addition, the EGEM program (Economics of Globalization and European Integration) was repeatedly selected by the European Commission for financing from the Erasmus Mundus fund. FIR also offers other English-taught accredited programs – IBB (Bachelor of International Business) and the master's program IDS (International and Diplomatic Studies).

At FIR you may study in English on every level of studies, from bachelor's to doctoral. With regard to the number of subjects taught in foreign languages, the number of visiting professors from abroad and students of FIR travelling for studies abroad, our faculty is among the best faculties within the Czech Republic.

The goal of FIR is to strengthen its internationalization also within the field of research, further deepen its cooperation with the private sector and continuously update the teaching process with the latest trends and knowledge. FIR thus strives for fulfillment of its mission as an internationally recognized, research oriented institution of higher education, preparing top specialists capable of succeeding in the ever changing international environment.

doc. Ing. Josef Taušer, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Josef Taušer', is written over a light blue background.

Profile and Organizational Structure

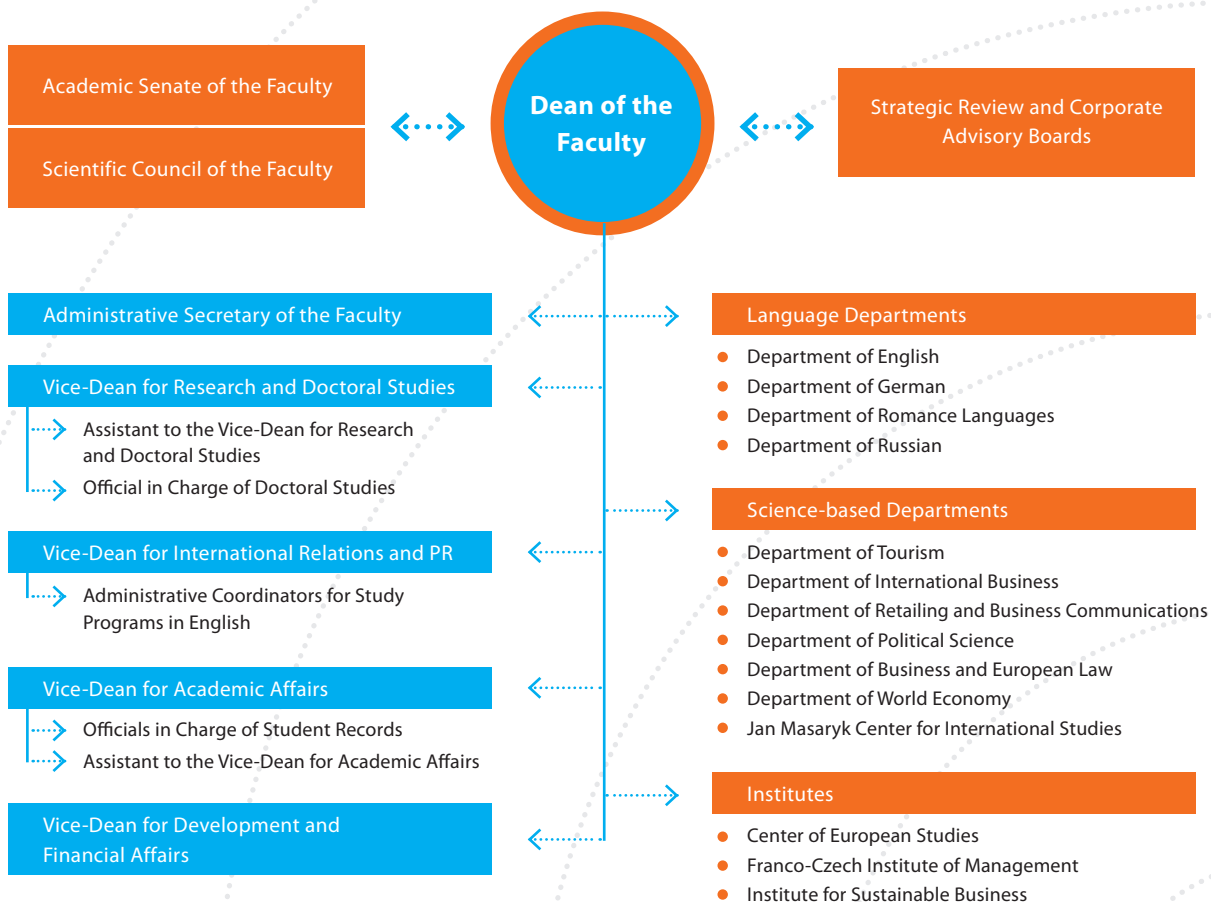
The Faculty of International Relations is one of six faculties at the University of Economics, Prague (VŠE) – the leading public university in the field of economics in the Czech Republic. The Faculty of International Relations offers a wide range of study fields in bachelor's, master's and doctoral study programs to Czech as well as foreign applicants.

Study programs meet the standards and guidelines of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). Due to proper implementation of the credit system, VŠE was awarded the right to use the ECTS Label and DS Label certificates by the European Commission. Regarding its organizational structure, FIR consists of departments and



institutes. There are seven science-based departments and four language departments. The Academic Senate has 18 members in total, 12 faculty members and 6 students. Within the Scientific Council, there are internal and external members. FIR is led by the Dean and there are four Vice-Deans in the management.

Organizational Chart





Study and Pedagogical Activity

The **bachelor's and master's programs** are full-time studies, except for the Business Management bachelor's program, which is accredited in the part-time study form. **Doctoral programs** are either full-time or part-time. Studying the programs in Czech is free of charge. Over the long-term, studies at

the Faculty of International Relations attract a lot of interest – the ratio of admitted students to applicants in the bachelor's study programs is one to three. In 2012 and again in 2014, the **International Trade master's program obtained the international EPAS accreditation.**

Study Programs	Level of Studies	Number of Students
Business Management	bachelor	180
International Trade	bachelor	1 033
	bachelor in English (IBB)	109
	master	920
Tourism	bachelor	243
	master	239
International Politics / Diplomacy	bachelor	388
	master	172
	master in English (IDS)	29
Enterprise and Law	bachelor	162
	master	150
Political Science	bachelor	21
	master	83
European Integration	master	75
	master in English (EGEI)	20

2 136
Students of Bachelor's Programs

1 688
Students of Master's Programs

162
Students of Doctoral Programs

▲ Number of students in individual programs (relevant at the end of February 2016)

Bachelor's programs

- Tourism and Regional Development
- International Trade
- International Studies – Diplomacy
- Enterprise and Law
- Political Science
- Business Management (part-time study form)

Master's programs

- Tourism
- European Integration
- International Trade (EPAS Accreditation)
- International Politics and Diplomacy
- Enterprise and Law
- Political Science

Doctoral programs

- International Economic Relations
- Commercial and International Economic Law
- International Political Relations
- Political Science



Internationalization of Study

Internationalization is a crucial priority for the Faculty of International Relations. FIR is a member of many international organizations, such as APSIA (Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs), ATLAS (Association for Tourism and Leisure Education), EDCOM (European Institute for Commercial Communications Education), EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development) and ERA (European Retail Academy).

The **International Business** bachelor's program, the **EGEI** and **IDS** master's programs and all the doctoral programs are also fully taught in English. Moreover, FIR provides a majority of the classes in the International Business – Central European Business Realities master's program and is also involved in a French MBA type program called **Master Management et Administration des Entreprises** via the Franco-Czech Institute of Management. In 2012, the International Business – Central European Business Realities master's program was awarded with the international EPAS accreditation. Tuition is charged for all programs taught in foreign languages.

FIR also offers the possibility to pass internationally acknowledged language examinations. For example, the Department of English is an authorized examination center for all types of internationally acknowledged **Cambridge ESOL Examinations**. The Department of Romance Languages is an authorized center for examinations in economic Spanish and Italian. The other two language departments, of German and Russian, offer authorized examinations as well. In 2012 and again in 2014, **the master's program International Business – Central European Business Realities, taught in English, obtained the prestigious EPAS Accreditation.**



Bachelor's program

- International Business

Master's programs

- EGEI – Economics of Globalisation and European Integration (Erasmus Mundus)
- IDS – International and Diplomatic Studies
- IB – International Business – Central European Business Realities (EPAS Accreditation)

Doctoral programs

- International Economic Relations
- Commercial and International Economic Law
- International Political Relations
- Political Science

MBA program

- MAE – Master Management et Administration des Entreprises

International Language Examinations

- Cambridge English Examinations: BEC Preliminary, BEC Vantage, BEC Higher, Cambridge Advanced (CAE), Cambridge First (FCE), Cambridge Proficiency (CPE)
- Cámara de Comercio de Madrid: Español de los Negocios (B2,C1, C2), Español del Turismo (B2,C1)
- Instituto Cervantes Prague: DELE – El Diploma de Español nivel (B1, B2, C1)
- Camera di Commercio e dell'Industria Italo-Ceca: Certificate of vocational Italian B2
- Goethe-Zertifikat: B1, B2, C1
- Русский язык делового общения: C1 (продвинутый уровень), B2 (средний уровень), B1 (базовый уровень)





Research Profile

Research activities follow the long-term research priorities of FIR as stated in the “Plan for Strategic Development of Research Activities for the Period 2016-2019 at the Faculty of International Relations”. The main research areas cover different fields of international relations in order to maximize the research potential of the faculty and to achieve synergy in interdisciplinary research.

Research Areas

- Political Economy, Globalization and Transformation
- Shifts of International Political, Security and Legal Environments in Reaction to Current Challenges
- New Strategic Directions in International Business and Competitiveness of Czech Enterprises in Changing Political and Economic Conditions
- Institutional and Economic Context of European Integration
- Strategic and Operating Management of Companies in Retail Business and Tourism in the Context of Sustainable Development and Consumption and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Didactics and Sociolinguistics of Commercial Languages

- Central and Eastern Europe in the Changing Business Environment
- Competitiveness of the Czech Republic

Research Projects

- International projects financed by international funds and institutions
- National projects financed by the ministries or government agencies

Reviewed Research Journals

- Contemporary Europe
- Jan Masaryk Review of International Studies

Research Competition

- Doctoral Thesis Awards (sponsored by Komerční banka)
- Master’s Thesis Awards (sponsored by Export Guarantee and Insurance Corporation)
- Regular student competitions on the best seminar projects and theses

International Conferences

- International Conference of Young Scholars Prague
- Annual Conference of the Czech Association for European Studies



Cooperation with Corporate Partners

The Faculty of International Relations aims to have close cooperation and mutual relations with corporate partners. Each field of study has its Strategic Review and Corporate Advisory Board that involves top managers and representatives of governmental and other institutions. In most cases, the board members are FIR alumni. Corporate partners support the development of the faculty by involving experts in

teaching, providing consultations for theses and seminar papers, offering internships and specialized practices as well as by providing financial support to projects. The faculty’s partners include e.g. Globus, EGAP, Komerční banka, L’Oréal, Procter & Gamble, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic and the Milan Jurčeka Foundation.

Contacts:

Faculty of International Relations
University of Economics, Prague
Nám. W. Churchilla 4
130 67 Prague 3

 <http://fir.vse.cz>

