

Evaluation of research and professional activity of research-oriented institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences for the period 2015–2019

Final Report

Name of the Institute: Institute of Ethnology of the CAS, v. v. i.

Evaluated teams and their leaders:

1. Department of Critical Heritage Studies (Jiří Woitsch)
2. Department of Ecological Anthropology (Luděk Brož)
3. Department of Ethnomusicology and Ethnochoreology (Daniela Stavělová)
4. Department of Memory Studies (Jana Nosková)
5. Department of Mobility and Migration (Michal Šípoš)

Part A: Evaluation of the institute

Strengths:

Founded in 1954 with roots going back to 1905, the Institute of Ethnology has an outstanding history. As a result of the last evaluation, the Institute of Ethnology has undergone a successful process of restructuring. The dual structure in Prague and Brno was dissolved and five new departments with new thematic focuses were established. The strength of these new departments undoubtedly lies in a productive combination of the Institute's classical research topics with new innovative research areas, which can be characterized as emerging fields. The Institute plays an important role in the analysis of social transformation processes and in the exploration of socio-cultural diversity in a globalized world. The spatial focus has been specifically expanded in recent years. While the institute has historically worked strongly on the Czech Republic, today transnational references and international comparisons are at the center of its work.

A particular strength of the Institute lies firstly in the critical and reflexive research of transformation processes and secondly in the area of third mission.

It is important to emphasize the balanced relationship between fundamental research and what one could describe as public anthropology.

A central resource of the institute is certainly also the historical and unique collections.

Weaknesses:

Given the central importance of anthropology in the research of social transformation processes in a globalizing world and in view of the large spatial focus, the institute is undoubtedly underfunded. Against the background of a relatively small number of researchers in each department, the Institute's strengths cannot be adequately developed.

On the other hand, the institute, in particular with its type of reflexive research that combines historical and contemporary approaches, could play an important role in interdisciplinary research projects. One challenge will be to develop the research traditions on the Czech Republic and its connections to other Central European Countries in a way that fits well with a research strategy that increasingly focuses on other regions of the world. In cooperation with other institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences (e.g. the Centre for Global Studies or the Oriental Institute), the Institute of Ethnology could thus develop a concise research strategy to cover different world regions. This research strategy could also be the basis of an internationalization strategy. Some departments are already very well networked internationally, while others still need a strategy and, above all, the appropriate infrastructure for successful internationalization.

Opportunities:

The Institute could expand its enormous potential even further if there were a sustainable structure to fuel interdepartmental exchange even more than there is now. Within this infrastructure, new and promising research topics can be identified across departmental boundaries. The institute is in a good position with the Czech Republic and within Central Europe to further develop some of its existing strengths, while at the same time actively promoting and nurturing new trends within the discipline. The main tool for that will be new hires, which therefore have critical importance for the future of the institute.

Threats:

The institute is underfunded and has too few staff overall. Ethnological research is usually confronted with research funding that allows, for example, field research only for a limited

period of time (usually three years). The strength of ethnological research, on the other hand, lies centrally in long-term research projects. It would be desirable if the Institute could be provided with the necessary resources to implement more long-term research projects that can also deal appropriately with transformation processes of a globalized world.

At the same time, research on the Institute's historical objects and collections, which are outstanding by international standards, must continue to be made possible. This also requires funding, for example, to implement digital humanities tools.

On a more general level, the Institute of Ethnology stands at a critical crossroads. It can either be content with the historical role it has played within the Czech Republic (and Czechoslovakia before) and within eastern Europe, or it can strive to become an internationally relevant center of research. This means neither that all that was good and relevant in the past should be thrown over board nor that the international relevance isn't yet given at least partially. The Institute of Ethnology should carry forward its legacy but framing it within the context of contemporary global developments within the field. While it should increase the opportunities for internationally recognized outstanding research, it might want to position research of primarily national relevance stronger in the realm of outreach, societal relevance or „Third Mission“.

Main criterion: 1. Quality of results (H1.1-H1.5)

H1.1	Quality of selected outputs of Phase I
The overall quality of the publications is very high and meets international standards. Considering the fact that the Institute of Ethnology is relatively small, there is an impressive number of publications: 44 books were published during the reporting period, as well as 157 chapters and 273 articles. In addition, there are numerous publication, which are aimed at a broader public. Outreach activities in the form of exhibitions and popular media contributions complement the scientific output in an excellent way. Some publications are available in English, German or other foreign languages.	
H1.2	Contribution of workers on the outputs reached
The participation of the team members is even and well-balanced; everybody contributes according to his/her academic experience.	
H1.3	Quality of all outputs and results
The overall quality of the publications is very high; many contributions address topics of international relevance within the discipline. Overall, the publication activity reflects a very good balance between traditional research topics and research on emerging fields.	
H1.4	The most valuable discoveries and findings in the fields, their importance for the field
All departments of the Institute of Ethnology have produced innovative publications, including those dealing with the institute's outstanding archival holdings. At the same time, a growing number of publications (for example, in the fields of heritage and memory studies, migration research or environmental anthropology) has been dedicated to emerging topics and approaches of international significance.	
H1.5	Contribution of the participation of the authors in large collaborations
The ratio of individual publications to larger collaborative publication projects is balanced.	

Main criterion: 2. Societal relevance (H2.1-H2.5)

H2.1	Societal relevance of outputs and results pursuant to CAS and institute mission
<p>The societal significance of the Institute of Ethnology is outstanding. In its more than 100-year history, it documents the cultural heritage in the field of everyday and popular culture of Bohemia and Moravia in its transnational references, in multi-ethnic contexts and in the context of a ongoing transforming society. At the same time, the Institute reflects on the significance of cultural heritage in political and economic contexts. It problematizes the ideological implications of cultural heritage and thus becomes an important advisor to national cultural policy. The institute has excellent contacts to different cultural institutions and successfully popularizes scholarly knowledge. The Institute's archives and the two libraries play a crucial role in this context.</p>	
H2.2	System functionality for knowledge transfer into practise, its usefulness for society. The impact of the institute's activity on proper practice in society in the area of social sciences and humanities
See H2.1	
H2.3	Relation to practice
Each department has identified relevant partners in terms of popularizing scholarly knowledge.	
H2.4	Participation in AV21 strategy
The participation in AV21 strategy is especially convincing and could be expanded even more.	
H2.5	Cooperation with regions of the Czech Republic
<p>The history of the Institute has given rise to different focal points within the Czech Republic. Whereas the Departments of Memory Studies, Critical Heritage Studies, Ethnomusicology and Ethnochoreology also focus on specific aspects of cultural production within the Czech nation state, the departments of Ecological Anthropology and of Mobility and Migration have stronger contacts to international cooperation partners.</p>	

Further criterion: 1. Position in international and national context (D1.1-D1.3)

D1.1	Comparison of the teams and the institute with similar international and national institutes
<p>In view of the societal relevance of the research results of the Institute of Ethnology, a strengthening of the entire institute is certainly recommended. In its current orientation, the institute is doing excellent work, it has a strong publication activity and is becoming increasingly internationalized.</p>	
D1.2	Scope and quality of international and national cooperation and the role of the institute in such cooperation; engagement in broad international cooperation
<p>All departments have varying degrees of international contacts. This has to do firstly with the history of the institute and secondly with the respective research topics. The Department for memory studies, for example, has sustained research contacts in</p>	

neighboring German-speaking countries as well as in countries of Eastern Europe. All research projects are designed for international cooperation, although the research results are made available internationally to varying degrees of intensity.	
D1.3	Participation of the workers in scientific community activities (organizing of conferences and workshops, invited lectures, awards)
The colleagues of the Institute of Ethnology are extremely committed to the organization of scientific events.	

Further criterion: 2. Vitality, sustainability and strategy (D2.1-D2.9)

D2.1	Direction in line with the perspective of the planned research directions
The strategic research plan for the next few years is well-balanced and aims above all to further expand the strengths of the Institute. Increased interdisciplinary cooperation is also planned, which is undoubtedly very welcome. The considerations regarding the expansion of research fields are also extremely comprehensible. Equally convincing are the explanations on how new emerging topics are to be identified (e.g. materiality, affect, resilience).	
D2.2	Assessment of the previous research objectives and their achievement
In view of the new orientation of the institute, very good research results have been achieved in recent years. The new structure has proven to be viable and has released very good energies that will certainly have positive effects on research performance in the coming years.	
D2.3	Assessment of implementation of recommendations from past evaluation
All recommendations of past evaluations have been sufficiently reflected and productively implemented. Although the restructuring was not explicitly recommended, it responds indirectly to the evaluation and can only be evaluated positively.	
D2.4	Success in receiving grants
Overall, the Institute has been extraordinarily successful in attracting third-party funding (success ratio above 90%).	
D2.5	Adequacy of instrumental equipment
No critical comments.	
D2.6	Effectiveness of management
All the management explanations are convincing.	
D2.7	Assessment of professional structure, development strategy and the strategy of keeping best scientists, age structure, career and qualification growth
The explanations of the structure are convincing. A major challenge will be to retain excellent scientists at the institute. Additional funds should be made available for this purpose.	
D2.8	Creating work-life balance conditions, assessment of approach towards possible gender issues
In the medium term, attention should be paid to gender balance in the management structure as a whole and in the management of the departments.	

D2.9	Relation of the institute with regard to the integration, development and sustainability of the research centre funded by the National Programme of Sustainability II.
No critical comments.	

Further criterion: 3. Cooperation with universities and participation in education (D3.1-D3.6)

D3.1	Scope of cooperation with universities on national and international level
The Institute maintains numerous cooperations with universities in the Czech Republic and beyond.	
D3.2	Effectiveness of joint research centres
Not relevant.	
D3.3	Success rate in supervision of PhD students
Excellent.	
D3.4	Participation of PhD students in the outputs
PhD students as well as students participate in the outputs of the institute.	
D3.5	Participation of the institute in master or bachelor studies
The institute is active in numerous study programs at various universities.	
D3.6	Assessment of cooperation intensity with universities in the form of teaching
Excellent.	

Further criterion: 4. Outreach activities (D4.1-D4.3)

D4.1	Sufficiency of media strategy and activities in the area of research popularisation
Public interest in ethnological research is high. The popularization activities are correspondingly diverse. It is to be welcomed that the Institute is also heavily involved in museum exhibitions.	
D4.2	Publishing activities and its quality
The institute has an impressive publication record. In the reporting period, for example, 44 books were published, 7 of them in languages other than Czech. Two journals are published by the Institute. The list of published articles (237) is impressive.	
D4.3	Participation in professional organisations in the area of research and development
The Institute cooperates with numerous cultural-political and civil-society institutions as well as with NGOs.	

Other comments of the commission:

Note on the approach to evaluation adopted by Commission 12

Commission 12 had to evaluate four institutes belonging to various, not closely related disciplines that in their turn use diverse methodologies and epistemologies. Moreover, the relevant disciplinary cultures are heterogenous, resulting in academic communities that may consist of, e.g., competitive global networks or tightly-knit regional clusters of expertise. Accordingly, the commission could not rely on a single standard set of criteria in its evaluation. If recommendations offered to team Aleph seem in tension with those given to team Bet, this reflects the diversity characterizing many fields in the humanities.

Part B: Evaluation of teams

1. Department of Critical Heritage Studies

Strengths:

The Department for Critical Heritage Studies draws excellently on the research traditions of the Institute of Ethnology. The department's title echoes an international line of research that focuses on the construction and political implications of cultural (intangible and tangible) heritage. On the one hand, it documents cultural heritage in the Czech Republic, and on the other hand, it examines how cultural heritage is used today within the framework of national cultural policy. Without any doubt, the particular strengths of the department lie in theoretical and methodological reflection, but beyond that also in the provision of scholarly knowledge for politics and society. The department combines historical and present-oriented research in an excellent way and thus also takes up a demand of the past evaluation. The Department has been exceptionally successful in attracting funding. The department's publication record is also impressive. The department's collaborations are also very convincing. Here, a focus within Europe is recognizable, which should definitely be maintained and further expanded. This would require more funding to increase the mobility of researchers within the department.

Weaknesses:

The Department could certainly play to its strengths further if it adopted an even clearer research strategy in the future. The report points out that there is as yet no formal structure in the department and that there are sometimes overlapping research interests. Here, it would certainly be recommended to develop an explicit and more long-term research strategy together with all researchers. This research strategy should then identify opportunities for collaboration with the other departments in the Institute of Ethnology, particularly the Department for Memory Studies.

Opportunities:

The Department takes an exceptionally important look at a topic that is extremely relevant, especially in comparison to other countries across Europe, against the backdrop of different nation-state histories and currently against the backdrop of growing right-wing populism. There is undoubtedly a great benefit to be gained from increased cooperation with colleagues in Europe. It is recommended to further expand the expertise on European heritages, thus at the same time maintaining the focus on the historical dimension of heritageization processes and of cultural heritage.

Threats:

One danger certainly lies in the project-oriented funding of research projects. Here, funds should be made available that also enable longer-term research projects beyond a short duration of three or four years. Ethnological research is characterized in particular by the long-term monitoring of cultural and social phenomena and the critical investigation of transformation processes.

In addition, the Department should work to identify topics for joint research within the Department but also in collaboration with other Departments of the Institute.

Main criterion: 1. Quality of results (H1.1-H1.5)

H1.1	Quality of selected outputs of Phase I
The quality of the publications is excellent. The Department has produced publications on key aspects of cultural heritage, some of which have addressed new and innovative dimensions (such as a volume on biocultural diversity in Europe).	
H1.2	Contribution of workers on the outputs reached
Numerous publications have been produced in cooperation.	
H1.3	Quality of all outputs and results
The quality of published research results is consistently very good. They productively take up international debates in every respect.	
H1.4	The most valuable discoveries and findings in the fields, their importance for the field
Critical heritage studies are now institutionalized internationally. The Institute has been extremely productive in taking up the international scholarly debates on the political dimensions of cultural heritage.	
H1.5	Contribution of the participation of the authors in large collaborations
No critical comments.	

Main criterion: 2. Societal relevance (H2.1-H2.5)

H2.1	Societal relevance of outputs and results pursuant to CAS and institute mission
The societal significance of the Department for Critical Heritage Studies' research findings is extraordinary. In particular, the topics worked on at the department are predestined for consulting work in cultural policy contexts.	
H2.2	System functionality for knowledge transfer into practise, its usefulness for society. The impact of the team's activity on proper practice in society in the area of social sciences and humanities
The department has developed very good formats for communicating research findings to the public and to cultural policy. All activities in this area are very convincing.	
H2.3	Relation to practice
The department's findings are particularly relevant to cultural policy.	
H2.4	Participation in AV21 strategy
The Department is involved in four programs within the AV21 strategy.	
H2.5	Cooperation with regions of the Czech Republic
From its history, the Department has a strong focus on the cultural heritage within the Czech Republic. This focus should definitely be maintained. It cooperates e.g. with regional museums and other institutions.	

Further criterion: 1. Position in international and national context (D1.1-D1.3)

D1.1	Comparison of the team with similar international and national institutes
The department maintains sustainable international collaborations and is involved in various disciplinary associations.	
D1.2	Scope and quality of international and national cooperation and the role of the team in such cooperation; engagement in broad international cooperation
See D1.1	
D1.3	Participation of the workers in scientific community activities (organizing of conferences and workshops, invited lectures, awards)
The Department has organized more than 20 workshops and conferences etc., which is an excellent output.	

Further criterion: 2. Vitality, sustainability and strategy (D2.1-D2.9)

D2.1	Direction in line with the perspective of the planned research directions
The planning of future research activities is well-balanced.	
D2.2	Assessment of the previous research objectives and their achievement
All objectives of previous research projects were achieved and published accordingly.	
D2.3	Assessment of implementation of recommendations from past evaluation
All recommendations were carefully reflected and implemented accordingly (for example, in the area of activities in the context of digital humanities).	
D2.4	Success in receiving grants
The Department has been successful in attracting funding.	
D2.5	Adequacy of instrumental equipment
The instrumental equipment seems to be sufficient.	
D2.6	Effectiveness of management
No critical points.	
D2.7	Assessment of professional structure, development strategy and the strategy of keeping best scientists, age structure, career and qualification growth
No critical points.	
D2.8	Creating work-life balance conditions, assessment of approach towards possible gender issues
No critical points.	
D2.9	Relation of the team with regard to the integration, development and sustainability of the research centre funded by the National Programme of Sustainability II.
No critical points.	

Further criterion: 3. Cooperation with universities and participation in education (D3.1-D3.6)

D3.1	Scope of cooperation with universities on national and international level
Cooperation with 7 universities is excellent.	
D3.2	Effectiveness of joint research centres
Not relevant.	
D3.3	Success rate in supervision of PhD students
8 Ph.D. students from 3 universities within DHS research projects.	
D3.4	Participation of PhD students in the outputs
No critical points.	
D3.5	Participation of the team in master or bachelor studies
More than 30 MA und BC courses taught.	
D3.6	Assessment of cooperation intensity with universities in the form of teaching
No critical points.	

Further criterion: 4. Outreach activities (D4.1-D4.3)

D4.1	Sufficiency of media strategy and activities in the area of research popularisation
Popularisation activities are excellent.	
D4.2	Publishing activities and its quality
Publishing activities are excellent.	
D4.3	Participation in professional organisations in the area of research and development
Excellent cooperations with different professional organizations.	

Other comments of the commission:

2. Department of Ecological Anthropology

Strengths:

The fact that the Department of Ecological Anthropology (DEA) has no history within the institute might be a strength, as it lets them operate without constraints of the past. Even more important is the quality of the research agenda and of the scientific staff of the department. Ecological Anthropology is an important and rapidly growing field within the discipline. Its societal relevance is obvious and further highlighted by the current research topics of the DEA, which range from biosecurity in times of a pandemic to the sustainability of food production to waste regimes. The small team consists of dynamic and fairly young researchers, who have an excellent track record of securing external funding.

Weaknesses:

The main weakness of the DEA is its small size. While this is somewhat understandable given its recent foundation – after all, the DEA was established barely one year before our site visit was scheduled to happen –, leadership of the IE and of CAS as a whole need to ensure that this young, vulnerable but extremely promising department can survive the critical stage of “childhood”.

Opportunities:

The recently awarded ERC grant will provide a welcome boost to the staff situation and the international reputation of the DEA. It would, however, be a grave mistake if the leadership were content with the fact that the department is very successful with external funding applications. In order to make this success more sustainable, increased base funding is needed.

Threats:

The danger of strong reliance on external funding is that that all grants come with an expiration date (typically between 3 and 5 years). This, together with the fact that it is rare to receive repeated funding for similar topics, means that building up a research cluster entirely on third-party funds is very difficult. Thus, base and bridge funding by the institute and/or department are needed. This requires an – at least – medium-term vision of where the DEA should be heading. If this vision becomes too narrow, however, necessary creativity might get stifled. The challenge is to create sustained conditions for a somewhat coherent research agenda without blocking new initiatives.

Main criterion: 1. Quality of results (H1.1-H1.5)

H1.1	Quality of selected outputs of Phase I
All of the outputs evaluated within Phase 1 (4 articles) were published in English or French. Still, they primarily represent earlier work and are only partially reflective of things to come. We hope that future evaluations will find strong contributions to the newly established research themes within the department.	
H1.2	Contribution of workers on the outputs reached
In all of the selected outputs, DEA researchers were sole authors or lead authors.	
H1.3	Quality of all outputs and results

Given the fact that the department is very young, not many (high-quality) publications should be expected. Still, the fact that half of the published journal articles appeared in journals in impact factors, is quite positive. By the way, the Journal of Cleaner Production has an impact factor of 7.246, which is significantly higher than any anthropology journal.	
H1.4	The most valuable discoveries and findings in the fields, their importance for the field
The most valuable “discoveries” are those that led to the successful external grants awarded after the reporting period ended (ERC, etc.). Successful grant applications require already conducted preliminary research and trust that the PI can deliver. While many of these discoveries have not yet appeared in print, their importance is guaranteed through high-profile grants.	
H1.5	Contribution of the participation of the authors in large collaborations
Wherever there were larger collaborations, DEA authors played a significant and – most often – decisive role.	

Main criterion: 2. Societal relevance (H2.1-H2.5)

H2.1	Societal relevance of outputs and results pursuant to CAS and institute mission
All the research topics pursued by the DEA are of high societal relevance. They are well integrated with the CAS Strategy AV21.	
H2.2	System functionality for knowledge transfer into practise, its usefulness for society. The impact of the team’s activity on proper practice in society in the area of social sciences and humanities
One of the publications deals with problems that arise for the social sciences and humanities if natural science models of evaluation are applied without regard for disciplinary specifics.	
H2.3	Relation to practice
There are beginning attempts being made.	
H2.4	Participation in AV21 strategy
Throughout the report and the self-presentation were indications that there is strong participation in the AV21 strategy.	
H2.5	Cooperation with regions of the Czech Republic
No cooperation with regions yet but, given the short history of the DEA, this might still be in the future.	

Further criterion: 1. Position in international and national context (D1.1-D1.3)

D1.1	Comparison of the team with similar international and national institutes
In international comparison, they are too small but the team has a very strong potential.	

D1.2	Scope and quality of international and national cooperation and the role of the team in such cooperation; engagement in broad international cooperation
The DEA is very international in scope and can compete with the best in its (global) field. This is also reflected in a variety of international cooperations, in which members of the DEA often play a leading role.	
D1.3	Participation of the workers in scientific community activities (organizing of conferences and workshops, invited lectures, awards)
The small DEA team has been heavily involved in national and international scientific communities activities, which further contributed to their international visibility. It is amazing that the TANDEM program between France and the Czech Republic was used as a stepping stone to bring an ERC Consolidator grant to the department.	

Further criterion: 2. Vitality, sustainability and strategy (D2.1-D2.9)

D2.1	Direction in line with the perspective of the planned research directions
The DEA has very ambitious research plans, which point into a promising direction. More permanent staff will be needed for these research plans to be realized.	
D2.2	Assessment of the previous research objectives and their achievement
N/A	
D2.3	Assessment of implementation of recommendations from past evaluation
N/A	
D2.4	Success in receiving grants
The DEA has been very strong in receiving grants. It is outstanding that each research group within the DEA is built around externally funded projects.	
D2.5	Adequacy of instrumental equipment
N/A	
D2.6	Effectiveness of management
While it is too early to provide a definitive assessment, certain conclusions can be drawn. Given the success in securing external funding and the ability to hire excellent scholars, DEA management seems to be quite effective.	
D2.7	Assessment of professional structure, development strategy and the strategy of keeping best scientists, age structure, career and qualification growth
Given that this is a very young department, its age structure is fairly young. It will get even younger with the inclusion of a variety of planned PhD hires. The hiring strategy of the department is strictly competitive without forgetting the importance of diversity.	
D2.8	Creating work-life balance conditions, assessment of approach towards possible gender issues

While the three founding members of the department are male, the expectation is that future hires will strive for a gender-balanced staff.	
D2.9	Relation of the team with regard to the integration, development and sustainability of the research centre funded by the National Programme of Sustainability II.
N/A	

Further criterion: 3. Cooperation with universities and participation in education (D3.1-D3.6)

D3.1	Scope of cooperation with universities on national and international level
The focus is on research cooperation but see below.	
D3.2	Effectiveness of joint research centres
N/A	
D3.3	Success rate in supervision of PhD students
Too early to say but it seems that some of the researchers have successfully supervised PhD students before joining the DEA or the IE.	
D3.4	Participation of PhD students in the outputs
There is a strong expectation that PhD students will actively participate in every aspect of the DEA's research portfolio.	
D3.5	Participation of the team in master or bachelor studies
Several researchers participate in MA and BA programs. The team's emphasis is on participation on PhD programs, however.	
D3.6	Assessment of cooperation intensity with universities in the form of teaching
There has been some activity by Broz in Prague and by Sosna and Jehlicka at the University of West Bohemia and the Open University.	

Further criterion: 4. Outreach activities (D4.1-D4.3)

D4.1	Sufficiency of media strategy and activities in the area of research popularisation
There have been a number of outreach activities, some of them in conjunction with the ERC grant.	
D4.2	Publishing activities and its quality
To our knowledge, there have been no designated outreach publications yet, apart from an editorial opinion piece. Outreach publications will follow once the new research projects have yielded first results.	
D4.3	Participation in professional organisations in the area of research and development

There has been a very strong participation of team members in a variety of relevant professional organizations.

Other comments of the commission:

3. Department of Ethnomusicology and Ethnochoreology

Strengths:

The Department of Ethnomusicology and Ethnochoreology has a very long history and has extensive folk music and folk dance collections. It examines traditional music as well as the role of dance and music in contemporary society. One of the strengths is certainly in the collections and in the analysis of the historical dimension of folk music. Another strength lies in long-term basic research, which should definitely continue to be implemented. In addition, research on the unique historical collections must continue to be made possible.

Weaknesses:

A key weakness is that the internationalization of the department is not yet very pronounced. In addition, interdisciplinary collaboration could be further strengthened. Another challenge seems to be the training of the next generation of researchers in this very specific field of research. Appropriate measures should be taken here.

Opportunities:

The department could play an important role in the testing and further development of digital humanities tools and concepts. Collaboration with the other departments of the Institute of Anthropology could also be strengthened. Links to the Department for Memory Studies and the Department for Critical Heritage Studies are obvious. The department could work on its research strategy in order to also focus more than before on contemporary research subjects, for example in the field of popular culture. The Department has excellent expertise in the study of folk music. At the same time, it would be important to have a strategy for linking the object of research to new questions and, if necessary, expanding it.

Threats:

It would be recommended that long-term research projects continue to be facilitated.

Main criterion: 1. Quality of results (H1.1-H1.5)

H1.1	Quality of selected outputs of Phase I
The department's publications tend to focus on classical ethnomusicological topics, often examining historical collections and archival holdings. Some publications are available in English and are dedicated, for example, to folklore revival movements in Europe after 1950 or to contemporary festivities. Still, more innovative approaches should be given additional consideration in future publication activities. The overall quality of the publications is good.	
H1.2	Contribution of workers on the outputs reached
No critical comments.	
H1.3	Quality of all outputs and results
The research findings take a more classical view of issues, which is reflected in all publications.	
H1.4	The most valuable discoveries and findings in the fields, their importance for the field

The department takes a classical approach to ethnomusicology and ethnochoreology. Accordingly, the publications are on a good scientific level, although few innovative approaches can be identified.	
H1.5	Contribution of the participation of the authors in large collaborations
No critical comments.	

Main criterion: 2. Societal relevance (H2.1-H2.5)

H2.1	Societal relevance of outputs and results pursuant to CAS and institute mission
Music and dance play an important role in everyday culture. The social relevance is evident with regard to the construction of Identities, for example. The department plays an important role in terms of the cultural selfunderstanding of the Czech society and in popularizing Czech cultural heritage in the European context.	
H2.2	System functionality for knowledge transfer into practise, its usefulness for society. The impact of the team's activity on proper practice in society in the area of social sciences and humanities
The investigation of the role of music and dance in relation to identity creation, nationalism and ideology, or as a representation of minorities comes with a number of questions that help to understand the meaning of social activities and processes through music and dance. An excellent example is the NAKI project.	
H2.3	Relation to practice
The department's research area alone has numerous connections to practice.	
H2.4	Participation in AV21 strategy
No critical points.	
H2.5	Cooperation with regions of the Czech Republic
The Department's research activities cover the entire territory of the Czech Republic.	

Further criterion: 1. Position in international and national context (D1.1-D1.3)

D1.1	Comparison of the team with similar international and national institutes
The department is relatively small by international standards.	
D1.2	Scope and quality of international and national cooperation and the role of the team in such cooperation; engagement in broad international cooperation
The Department has international activities and collaborations, which, on the other hand, should be further developed.	
D1.3	Participation of the workers in scientific community activities (organizing of conferences and workshops, invited lectures, awards)
Given the size of the department, the scientific activities are sufficient.	

Further criterion: 2. Vitality, sustainability and strategy (D2.1-D2.9)

D2.1	Direction in line with the perspective of the planned research directions
It is certainly to be welcomed that the department would like to implement more interdisciplinary and collaborative projects in the future.	
D2.2	Assessment of the previous research objectives and their achievement
All objectives of previous research projects were achieved and published accordingly.	
D2.3	Assessment of implementation of recommendations from past evaluation
All recommendations were carefully reflected and implemented accordingly.	
D2.4	Success in receiving grants
The Department successfully received three grants.	
D2.5	Adequacy of instrumental equipment
The instrumental equipment seems to be sufficient.	
D2.6	Effectiveness of management
No critical points.	
D2.7	Assessment of professional structure, development strategy and the strategy of keeping best scientists, age structure, career and qualification growth
One challenge seems to be the training of the next generation of scientists. Appropriate measures should be taken here.	
D2.8	Creating work-life balance conditions, assessment of approach towards possible gender issues
No critical points.	
D2.9	Relation of the team with regard to the integration, development and sustainability of the research centre funded by the National Programme of Sustainability II.
No critical points.	

Further criterion: 3. Cooperation with universities and participation in education (D3.1-D3.6)

D3.1	Scope of cooperation with universities on national and international level
Given the size of the department, the cooperation is sufficient. Only the international cooperations could be strategically expanded in the future.	
D3.2	Effectiveness of joint research centres
Not relevant.	

D3.3	Success rate in supervision of PhD students
Currently 2 Phd Students are supervised	
D3.4	Participation of PhD students in the outputs
Participation in the outputs is realized.	
D3.5	Participation of the team in master or bachelor studies
The team realizes various teaching activities.	
D3.6	Assessment of cooperation intensity with universities in the form of teaching
No critical points.	

Further criterion: 4. Outreach activities (D4.1-D4.3)

D4.1	Sufficiency of media strategy and activities in the area of research popularisation
No critical comments.	
D4.2	Publishing activities and its quality
Given the size of the department, publication activity is very good and in line with research planning.	
D4.3	Participation in professional organisations in the area of research and development
Excellent.	

Other comments of the commission:

4. Department of Memory Studies

Strengths:

The Department of Memory Studies focuses on memory as a specific source for the reflection of culture, a way of life connecting the past with the present, and a dynamic phenomenon that reflects social and cultural changes and transformation processes within present-day society.

The department deals with a topic that is extraordinarily connectable across different disciplines especially with all other departments of the Institute of Ethnology. These cooperations should be further expanded in the future through suitable formats. The Department maintains collections dating back to 1905 that are unique. It is recommended that the Department develops a research strategy that links these collections to current research questions.

Weaknesses:

In the report, the department itself addresses the internationalization that still needs to be expanded. Here, it is necessary to develop a strategy that can further expand the existing sustainable research contacts to Germany, Slovakia, etc.

The Department is very strong in the publication of monographs. In the future, financial resources should definitely be made available in order to be able to prepare the publications appropriately for an international audience.

Opportunities:

The department deals with socially highly relevant issues. For the identification of future research priorities, a suitable strategy should be developed, also in close cooperation with the other departments of the Institute for Ethnology.

Threats:

The Department should continue to have the capability for fundamental and long-term research. It must have sufficient funds to also be able to conduct research on its unique collections.

Main criterion: 1. Quality of results (H1.1-H1.5)

H1.1	Quality of selected outputs of Phase I
The quality of the published research results absolutely meets international standards.	
H1.2	Contribution of workers on the outputs reached
A whole series of publications has been produced in cooperation.	
H1.3	Quality of all outputs and results
The publications show the full breadth of the department's research perspectives. They take a look at important scientific topics, address classical perspectives and also demonstrate innovative research approaches. The overall output of the department is quite impressive. Some publications are available in German. The provision of publications in	

English would be a recommendation. However, additional resources (e.g. for translation) would have to be made available for this.	
H1.4	The most valuable discoveries and findings in the fields, their importance for the field
In the field of memory studies, all publications are relevant and internationally and interdisciplinarily connectable.	
H1.5	Contribution of the participation of the authors in large collaborations
No critical comments.	

Main criterion: 2. Societal relevance (H2.1-H2.5)

H2.1	Societal relevance of outputs and results pursuant to CAS and institute mission
The relevance of the Department's research findings is exceptionally high.	
H2.2	System functionality for knowledge transfer into practise, its usefulness for society. The impact of the team's activity on proper practice in society in the area of social sciences and humanities
Excellent.	
H2.3	Relation to practice
Excellent: Cooperation with secondary schools, local and regional institutions etc.; cooperation with minorities within Czech Republic.	
H2.4	Participation in AV21 strategy
Participation in the two programs „Effectice Public Policies and Contemporary Society“ and „Memory in the Digital Age“	
H2.5	Cooperation with regions of the Czech Republic
Excellent cooperations with various institutions in Moravia and Bohemia.	

Further criterion: 1. Position in international and national context (D1.1-D1.3)

D1.1	Comparison of the team with similar international and national institutes
By international standards, the team has excellent expertise.	
D1.2	Scope and quality of international and national cooperation and the role of the team in such cooperation; engagement in broad international cooperation
The existing international collaborations are limited, but they are strategically well chosen according to the topic and could be further expanded.	
D1.3	Participation of the workers in scientific community activities (organizing of conferences and workshops, invited lectures, awards)
8 international conferences, 4 workshops, and 2 conference panels	

Further criterion: 2. Vitality, sustainability and strategy (D2.1-D2.9)

D2.1	Direction in line with the perspective of the planned research directions
The Department has presented an excellent research strategy for the coming years, including revisiting recommendations from the previous evaluation.	
D2.2	Assessment of the previous research objectives and their achievement
The activities promised in the plan were successfully and completely implemented in the period 2015–2019.	
D2.3	Assessment of implementation of recommendations from past evaluation
All recommendations were implemented in an exemplary manner.	
D2.4	Success in receiving grants
The department has received several awards for its scientific activities. It is involved in various research projects.	
D2.5	Adequacy of instrumental equipment
No critical points.	
D2.6	Effectiveness of management
Very good.	
D2.7	Assessment of professional structure, development strategy and the strategy of keeping best scientists, age structure, career and qualification growth
No critical points.	
D2.8	Creating work-life balance conditions, assessment of approach towards possible gender issues
No critical points.	
D2.9	Relation of the team with regard to the integration, development and sustainability of the research centre funded by the National Programme of Sustainability II.
No critical points.	

Further criterion: 3. Cooperation with universities and participation in education (D3.1-D3.6)

D3.1	Scope of cooperation with universities on national and international level
Cooperation mainly with Masaryk University. Teaching activities mainly on Master level.	
D3.2	Effectiveness of joint research centres
Not relevant.	
D3.3	Success rate in supervision of PhD students
Supervision of 2 doctoral students.	

D3.4	Participation of PhD students in the outputs
Excellent.	
D3.5	Participation of the team in master or bachelor studies
The team is engaged in university teaching.	
D3.6	Assessment of cooperation intensity with universities in the form of teaching
No critical points.	

Further criterion: 4. Outreach activities (D4.1-D4.3)

D4.1	Sufficiency of media strategy and activities in the area of research popularisation
Excellent.	
D4.2	Publishing activities and its quality
The department's publication activities are excellent. One focus is on the publication of monographs. The provision of publications in English would be desirable.	
D4.3	Participation in professional organisations in the area of research and development
The department has various cooperation partners in very different contexts.	

Other comments of the commission:

5. Department of Mobility and Migration

Strengths:

Although a fairly new creation, the Department of Mobility and Migration (DMM) traces its history to the Department of Ethnic Studies (DES). Given the ubiquity of mobility and migration in the contemporary world, the work of DMM has high societal relevance. Over the years, a successful team – some members were seemingly too successful and were “hired away” – has come together around these important topics and has established a strong research and publication reputation nationally and internationally.

Weaknesses:

The focus of the team on East and Central Europe could be seen as a shortcoming or as a positive sign of focus. Likewise, while the fact that several team members were hired away by other institutions had a negative impact on DMM in the short run, it can be seen as confirmation of the good work conducted by DMM and its team members. While the overall publication activity of DMM during the reporting period was impressive, the fact that only 2 out of 37 journal articles were published in journals with impact factors points to an area of potential improvement.

Opportunities:

The DMM team has built up a strong legacy of anthropological knowledge about mobility and migration. Given that these topics will continue to be important in the Czech Republic and elsewhere, and that DMM is a dynamic team, the opportunities for this department seem to be bright. Additional investments (that is additional hires) by CAS and/or the IE might help to turn these opportunities into positive results.

Threats:

The self-presentation of DMM pointed to the transformation of the team as a weakness. As they state themselves, „the rebuilding of the team entails a threat of losing some of the specific knowledge and networks accumulated over the previous years.“

Main criterion: 1. Quality of results (H1.1-H1.5)

H1.1	Quality of selected outputs of Phase I
6 of the 7 selected publications were published in English and 5 of them in books by prominent international publishers (Palgrave Macmillan, Sean Kingston) or in prominent international journals (Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Population, Space and Place).	
H1.2	Contribution of workers on the outputs reached
Most of the selected outputs were single-authored or authored by 2 team members. The remaining publication list a 50% contribution by a team member. This amounts to a more than 90% contribution of team members.	
H1.3	Quality of all outputs and results
The overall output from DMM was quite impressive, close to 70 books, articles, chapters, and contributions to proceedings. Many of the publications are in Czech, which might have	

to do with the societal relevance of the research results. While a number of important English-language publications have appeared, more attempts to test the relevance beyond the Czech Republic might be advisable.	
H1.4	The most valuable discoveries and findings in the fields, their importance for the field
The work of the DMM seems less characterized by single big “discoveries” but by a steady stream of important contributions to the anthropological study of mobility and migration.	
H1.5	Contribution of the participation of the authors in large collaborations
The team has a track record of national and international collaboration. The DMM contributions have typically been significant and/or leading within these collaborations.	

Main criterion: 2. Societal relevance (H2.1-H2.5)

H2.1	Societal relevance of outputs and results pursuant to CAS and institute mission
The research focus areas of DMM are of great societal relevance within the Czech Republic and beyond.	
H2.2	System functionality for knowledge transfer into practise, its usefulness for society. The impact of the team’s activity on proper practice in society in the area of social sciences and humanities
The research conducted by DMM is highly relevant for transfer into practice. While the team seems to have sought communication and collaboration with politicians and other decision makers, we cannot assess in how far science recommendations were put into action by these decision makers.	
H2.3	Relation to practice
Several research projects have a relation to practice. One notable example is the cooperation between the predecessor of DMM (DES), the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Senate of the Czech Parliament.	
H2.4	Participation in AV21 strategy
DMM seems to have actively participated in and contributed to the Strategy AV21.	
H2.5	Cooperation with regions of the Czech Republic
It is unclear from the materials provided whether there has been cooperation with regions beyond the fact that the team conducted research in different regions of the Czech Republic.	

Further criterion: 1. Position in international and national context (D1.1-D1.3)

D1.1	Comparison of the team with similar international and national institutes
While DMM has focused primarily on the Czech Republic and other parts of east and central Europe, the department has been able to become visible internationally. While some prominent team members have moved on to other institutions, DMM remains a strong team of national and international significance.	

D1.2	Scope and quality of international and national cooperation and the role of the team in such cooperation; engagement in broad international cooperation
Team members have been very active in national and international cooperations. Given the regional scope of the DMM, east and central European institutions have been primary partners. Still, prominent pan-European organizations such as the European Association of Social Anthropology have been among the collaborators as well.	
D1.3	Participation of the workers in scientific community activities (organizing of conferences and workshops, invited lectures, awards)
The team members organized a number of conferences and workshops during the reporting period. All of them had international participation. In addition, 2 awards by team members, one of them by the French Embassy in the Czech Republic, have been mentioned.	

Further criterion: 2. Vitality, sustainability and strategy (D2.1-D2.9)

D2.1	Direction in line with the perspective of the planned research directions
The planned research directions are ambitious and feasible at the same time. They stay within the field of mobility and migration studies, and include high-quality publications and prestigious grant applications (e.g., H2020, ERC).	
D2.2	Assessment of the previous research objectives and their achievement
The team succeeded in meeting previous research goals and objectives, while at the same time being flexible enough to adjust and modify where circumstances demanded it.	
D2.3	Assessment of implementation of recommendations from past evaluation
The team seems to have implemented, or at least started to implement, recommendations from the last evaluation. The ongoing transformation of the team is a challenge to finding stronger unifying topics.	
D2.4	Success in receiving grants
While the department and its members have been involved in a variety of research projects, it is unclear how many of them were conducted with the help of external funding. It is clear that there has been external funding from a variety of sources but its overall significance for the research of DMM remains unclear.	
D2.5	Adequacy of instrumental equipment
n/a	
D2.6	Effectiveness of management
We are not familiar with the management details of DMM and can only judge its effectiveness through the overall successes of the unit, which speak for themselves.	
D2.7	Assessment of professional structure, development strategy and the strategy of keeping best scientists, age structure, career and qualification growth
As the team states itself, the transformation of the department has been a challenge. Still, while some excellent people moved on, other promising scholars joined the team. There is a clear strategy of hiring internationally competitive people. The age distribution at the time	

of self-reporting looked somewhat strange, with 3 small cohorts each divided by a generation or more.	
D2.8	Creating work-life balance conditions, assessment of approach towards possible gender issues
We have no information about work-life balance conditions; the gender distribution has been varying over the years and does not seem to be an issue.	
D2.9	Relation of the team with regard to the integration, development and sustainability of the research centre funded by the National Programme of Sustainability II.
N/A	

Further criterion: 3. Cooperation with universities and participation in education (D3.1-D3.6)

D3.1	Scope of cooperation with universities on national and international level
Team members have taught quite a lot of lectures and seminars on the BA, MA and PhD levels in Prague, other Czech universities, and abroad.	
D3.2	Effectiveness of joint research centres
N/A	
D3.3	Success rate in supervision of PhD students
According to the data provided, 2 team members were engaged in 9 PhD thesis defenses during the reporting period, which is an impressive rate.	
D3.4	Participation of PhD students in the outputs
It seems that only 1 PhD student was involved in the research of DMM during the reporting period.	
D3.5	Participation of the team in master or bachelor studies
Apart from the teaching activities mentioned above, there was some supervision of Bachelor and Master's theses.	
D3.6	Assessment of cooperation intensity with universities in the form of teaching
There was cooperation in the form of teaching (see above) but it seems impossible to assess cooperation intensity.	

Further criterion: 4. Outreach activities (D4.1-D4.3)

D4.1	Sufficiency of media strategy and activities in the area of research popularisation
Given the relevance of the topics studied, DMM has been quite active in outreach activities. We have no way to judge whether the media strategy was sufficient. While more is always possible, it should be clear that effective work with media requires staff dedicated to this task. While researchers must be involved in the outreach of their own research, the need the help of specialist to do it effectively.	

D4.2	Publishing activities and its quality
There was at least 1 dedicated outreach publication, which contributed to and was supported by Strategy AV21.	
D4.3	Participation in professional organisation in the area of research and development
Team members have been very active in professional organizations, including in internationally very visible positions such as Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the European Association of Social Anthropologists.	

Other comments of the commission:

Final report was elaborated by:

Commission 12 - Humanities and the arts

Evaluated teams No.: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Commission Chair: Prof. Dr. Alessandro Ferrara.

Commission Deputy Chair: Jakub Mácha

Commission Members:

Carla Canullo
Arkadiusz Chrudzimski
Martina Frank
Michael Friedrich
Akos Moravanszky
Christoph K. Neumann
Renate Prochno-Schinkel
Hans Rott
Peter Schweitzer
Markus Tauschek
Urszula Zeglen
Hans van Ess