



FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Charles University in Prague

Master's studies multidisciplinary programme

International Economic and Political Studies

- taught in English
- open to applicants world-wide



Charles University In Prague

Charles University in Prague was founded in 1348 by Charles IV, the King of Bohemia and the Holy Roman Emperor. When founded, the university had four faculties: arts, medicine, law and theology. Seven centuries later it consists of 17 faculties. Faculty of Social Sciences is its second youngest component.

This oldest university in Central and Eastern Europe has almost 52,000 students studying in more than 300 accredited degree programmes. There are over 6,000 foreign students studying at the Charles University in Prague.

Ranked 10th university in Europe and 72nd in the world

according to The Webometrics Ranking of World Universities for 2/2013 out of 21000 assessed by <http://www.webometrics.info/en/Europe>

Ranked 2nd in Central and Eastern Europe

according to The Academic Ranking of World Universities

<http://www.arwu.org/ARWU2010.jsp> or

<http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2012.html>

Charles University ranks there at par with The George Washington University in New York, University of London (Queen Mary), The University of Hong Kong, University of Bologna or University of Barcelona.



About the Faculty of Social Sciences

This university's second youngest faculty was founded in 1990, shortly after the Velvet Revolution. It soon became a centre of teaching and research in economics, sociology, political science, international relations, area studies, media studies and journalism.

The Faculty offers a full range of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programmes in economics, political science and international relations, area studies, sociology and social policy. The language of instruction is Czech and English. However, you can study social sciences at Charles University at all levels without having any knowledge of the Czech language! Currently, the Faculty of Social Sciences has more than 4,000 full-time students. Around 500 foreign students spend their studies here each year. It is fair to say we have students from literally all over the world.

In addition to the specialised programmes of study (in economics, finance, political science, sociology, journalism, media and area studies), there is one amalgamated programme, which consolidates previous studies – **International Economic and Political Studies (IEPS)**. The programme is targeting students with undergraduate qualifications with broad interests and synthetic thinking, able to deal with socio-economic and political problems in our present globalised world see: <http://fsveng.fsv.cuni.cz/FSVEN-362.html>.

IEPS belongs to a family of interdisciplinary M.A. studies known as PPE (Philosophy, Politics and Economics) or IPE (International Politics and Economics) – http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philosophy,_politics,_and_economics.

Their popularity was earned not only due to the prestige of universities offering such a wide programme but also due to the success of its graduates on labour markets all over the world.



Why the Faculty of Social Sciences

- **Academic excellence.** Due to the prestige of Charles University in the academic ranking, your degree will open wider horizon to your employment world-wide, above the potential of the no-name universities. Individual programmes at the faculty rank top in the Czech academia.
- **Top lecturers.** Members of our Faculty include distinguished academics, as well as leading figures in policy making, economics and social life of region. Our teachers must be internationally competitive also in research. No surprise that our economics program ranking no. 1 in the country is underpinned by our extensive publication record – <http://ies.fsv.cuni.cz/en/node/299>, <http://ies.fsv.cuni.cz/en/node/331>.
- **Talents.** We seek highly motivated students eager to develop their internationally-oriented employment potential. Every year, students of our faculty are among those granted competitive awards, scholarships and employment in prestigious companies.
- **Hands-on experience.** Our graduates receive not only a firm ground in theory but have numerous opportunities to get involved in various practical projects as well. Many courses offer Problem

Based Learning approach to studies so that students can experiment personally with the topics taught in lectures.

- **Family-size.** The Faculty of Social Sciences is a place where students and faculty members meet and interact. Moreover, students benefit from the young, dynamic and interdisciplinary environment of the Faculty.
- **Venue.** The School's location in the centre of Prague is a fundamental part of the studies where students are able to live and enjoy the amenities of a stimulating and cosmopolitan city full of most attractive culture, art, sport and tourist amenities. The central building of FSV overlooks the river with the skyline of Prague Castle and Petrin Hill within a walking distance. So, you will be in an active contact with both the globalised world and a pleasant locality.



Research

As well as educating future social scientists, the Faculty of Social Sciences also encourages and promotes advanced research in social sciences. The research activities of the Faculty are very diverse. The faculty members and the PhD students are assessed according to their publication record and the students can profit directly from the advances in their research. The Faculty of Social Sciences publishes seven international journals: one impacted economic journal and six peer-reviewed journals – in political economy, politics, area studies, media, public policy and political science.

Look at the recent research of our teachers of economics at <http://ies.fsv.cuni.cz/en/node/331>.

International Cooperation

The Faculty is an active participant in many international student exchange programmes – in particular ERASMUS. Majority of our students will spend at least one semester at another university as part of their study abroad opportunity: this will include some of the EU countries, but also the US, Australia, Korea or Hong Kong. The Faculty's International Office facilitates and co-ordinates the international mobility of incoming and outgoing students. More information about our programmes and procedures for admissions can be found at

<http://fsveng.fsv.cuni.cz/FSVEN-38.html>
<http://fsveng.fsv.cuni.cz/FSVEN-498.html>

When it comes to extracurricular activities, Charles University International Club organizes various social and cultural events for both international and Czech students, namely parties and trips/excursions around Prague and the Czech Republic, assists the faculties during the Orientation Week, and generally helps international students to handle their stay in Prague.



General Information about IEPS

IEPS, as an interdisciplinary M. A. programme of the PPE family, is the most preferred study at our faculty among students from abroad. It investigates contemporary political, economic and social issues from a multidisciplinary perspective. Although economic and political studies are in its core, students also explore the historical, legal and sociological aspects of events on international scene. The emphasis is on modern non-conventional economic thinking applied on political and economic decision-making and expertise at the level of supra-national institutions, states, regions, corporations, businesses, media and political parties. Students of IEPS enjoy a multicultural environment with classmates from literally all over the world: USA, Australia, Russia, China, Britain, Turkey, Ukraine, Malaysia, Korea, Mexico and many other countries.

See <http://fsveng.fsv.cuni.cz/FSVEN-362.html>.



Alumni

– International Economic and Political Studies

Best schools can be recognized by those who are their alumni. The IEPS programme, which accepted its first students in 2003, currently has more than 100 alumni. Many keep in touch with us and provide support to the school. We are proud of them and their achievements after graduation. The alumni network is an important part of a good school.

“What an amazing experience!”

Claire Hughes, Australia

“Thanks to IEPS I could spend one semester at the City University of Hong Kong. Except for taking five courses there, I could also consult my thesis on the Chinese economic development with some of the world’s best experts. Moreover, I was granted two scholarships: one Czech and one Chinese, while my tuition fee in Hong Kong was waived. Before the end of my studies I acquired a job in a high-tech aircraft technologies company.”

Anna Voronkova,
IEPS student, 2010-12

“This school supports new ideas as well as encourages knowledge in a friendly academic environment where both domestic and foreign students are highly motivated and inspired to study and conduct research. In addition there are a lot of sport and cultural activities to enjoy in your free time. I chose the MA in IEPS to gain Western knowledge and experience. Now, after graduating I am going to work in the area of global energy industry and apply my skills there.”

Shahmar Hajiyev
former student of the IEPS

“The atmosphere at the IEPS program of Charles University considerably broadened my world view, while the excellent exchange programs opened up many future possibilities. So I could spend a part of my studies of international politics at a university in Seoul, offering me a new insight into the world.”

András Megyeri
student of the IEPS programme

“I think the Institute of Economic Studies provides its students with a useful and comprehensive curriculum. It has an appropriate emphasis on modern economics and quantitative techniques, which I found essential in my subsequent career.”

Martin Čihák
IMF, Deputy Division Chief, Washington, D.C.

“When studying economics at FSV, I loved it. The school taught me how to dislearn, how to think alone and critically, and not buy into mainstream propaganda called education.”

Tomáš Sedláček
Chief Macroeconomic Strategist at ČSOB, the biggest Czech bank and the IEPS teacher



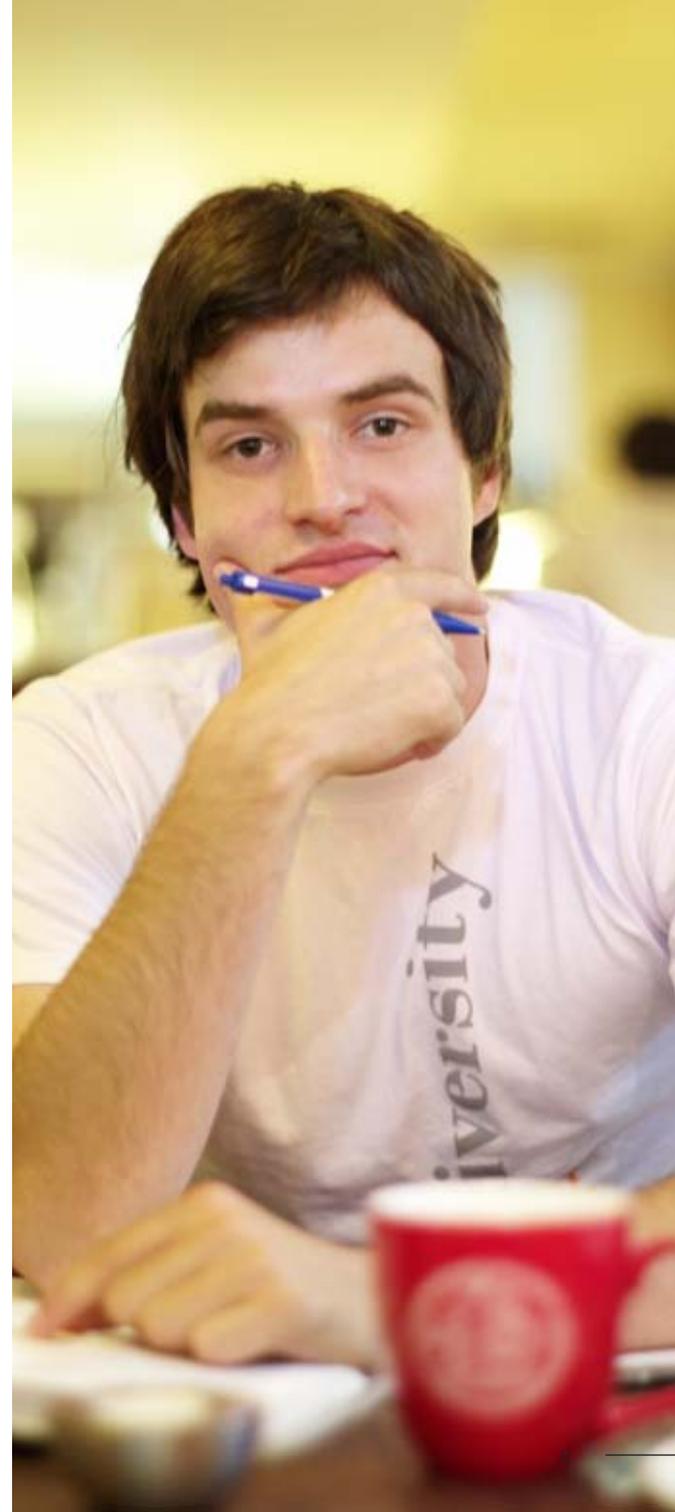
Requirements for the Study

Applicants to the IEPS Programme may come from a variety of undergraduate backgrounds. It is not necessary to have studied politics or economics. Admission may be granted also to students whose previous studies were in the humanities, commerce, law or even maths, technical or natural sciences. Although a background in mathematics is not formally required for admission, it is an advantage for IEPS applicants to have an aptitude for maths and statistics, especially those students who wish to specialise in economics and finance.

All students must have a good command of the English language in order to successfully complete all of the course requirements, including the ability to discuss specialised topics.

Our tutors will not be concerned only with what students know but they will also care about the clarity of their thinking, the capacity of explaining ideas in the public, how well you are able to work in teams and to absorb or expand new knowledge in the social sciences. They will seek evidence of students' interest in social and political issues and their ability to discuss them critically. If you like reading *The Economist*, you are a prospective programme applicant. If you have not tried yet, please do so and test your aptitude to the social phenomena of this study.

The tuition fee for the IEPS programme is € 3,000 per semester, which can be reduced in the closing stages of the study to € 300. Tuition covers the costs of studying at Charles University, sitting examinations and participating in international student exchanges. Students who are permanent residents of the Czech Republic may apply for loans of up to € 11,500. There are also scholarships and bursary funding available (see <http://fsveng.fsv.cuni.cz/FSVEN-134.html>).



Admissions Criteria for the IEPS

The following qualities are highly appreciated in our applicants:

- **Interest:** capacity for sustained study; motivation and interest in social issues; ambition to apply your expertise in management of enterprises, institutions and their socio-economic policies.
- **Reasoning ability:** ability to cope with social problems using logical and critical approaches; ability to assess empirical evidence, capacity to construct and critically assess arguments, flexibility to consider alternatives; an independent and reflective approach to both analytical and synthetic thinking.
- **Communication:** willingness and ability to express ideas clearly and effectively on paper and orally; ability to listen and defend your own thoughts opening you the capacity of innovation and leadership.

Interviews and tests

Since the IEPS programme targets students world-wide the admission is not based on interviews or tests in Prague. The selection is based on your past performance in your pre-graduate studies (e.g. in the transcript of grades) and the proficiency in English. More detailed specification of requirements can be found at <http://fsveng.fsv.cuni.cz/FSVEN-498.html>.



Careers of the Graduates

The careers most commonly chosen by IEPS graduates depend on their specialisation: economists work in great numbers in international commercial or investment banking, insurance and finance, consulting or business management. Some opt for the governmental institutions – national (such as ministries or central banks) or international (e.g. institutions of the European Union). Graduates specialising in political science or area studies also often choose to work for governmental institutions, in diplomacy and other sectors of public administration (as consultants and managers in social policy issues). Some prefer jobs in the non-governmental public organizations, education, public relations, advertising and media. Apart from these career opportunities, a number of our graduates continue their studies at the PhD level (often abroad).



Curriculum of IEPS

To complete the IEPS programme, students have to acquire a total of 120 credits. 64 credits are gained by successfully passing the following mandatory courses: (lectures/seminars in hours per week are in parentheses):

- Philosophy, Economics and Politics (2/1);
- Principles of Microeconomics I (2/2);
- Public Policy (2/1);
- Geography & Politics in Europe within Global Regionalism (2/2);
- Theories of International Relations (2/0);
- European Comparative Politics and Society (1/1);
- Legal Framework of European Integration (2/0);
- Public Finance (2/0);
- International Political Economy (1/1);
- Master Thesis Seminar (0/2).

Further 44 credits must be earned by selecting courses of your interest from three mandatory modules:

1. Economics module – two courses out of a list of fourteen;
2. Politics module – two courses out of a list of fourteen;
3. Humanities – three courses out of a list of eighteen.

Plus additional two elective courses from any of the modules.

Remaining 12 credits can be earned by participating in two or three master degree courses of your own choice. IEPS students can select from hundreds of courses taught at the Faculty of Social Sciences or other faculties of Charles University. These may include Czech as a Foreign Language courses. More information is at <http://karolinka.fsv.cuni.cz/KFSV-476.html>.

The traditional Master's degree (Mgr., Czech equivalent to an M.A.) is awarded to those students who have acquired at least 120 credits in the IEPS programme, defended their Master Thesis and successfully passed the final State Examinations from economics, politics and other social sciences.



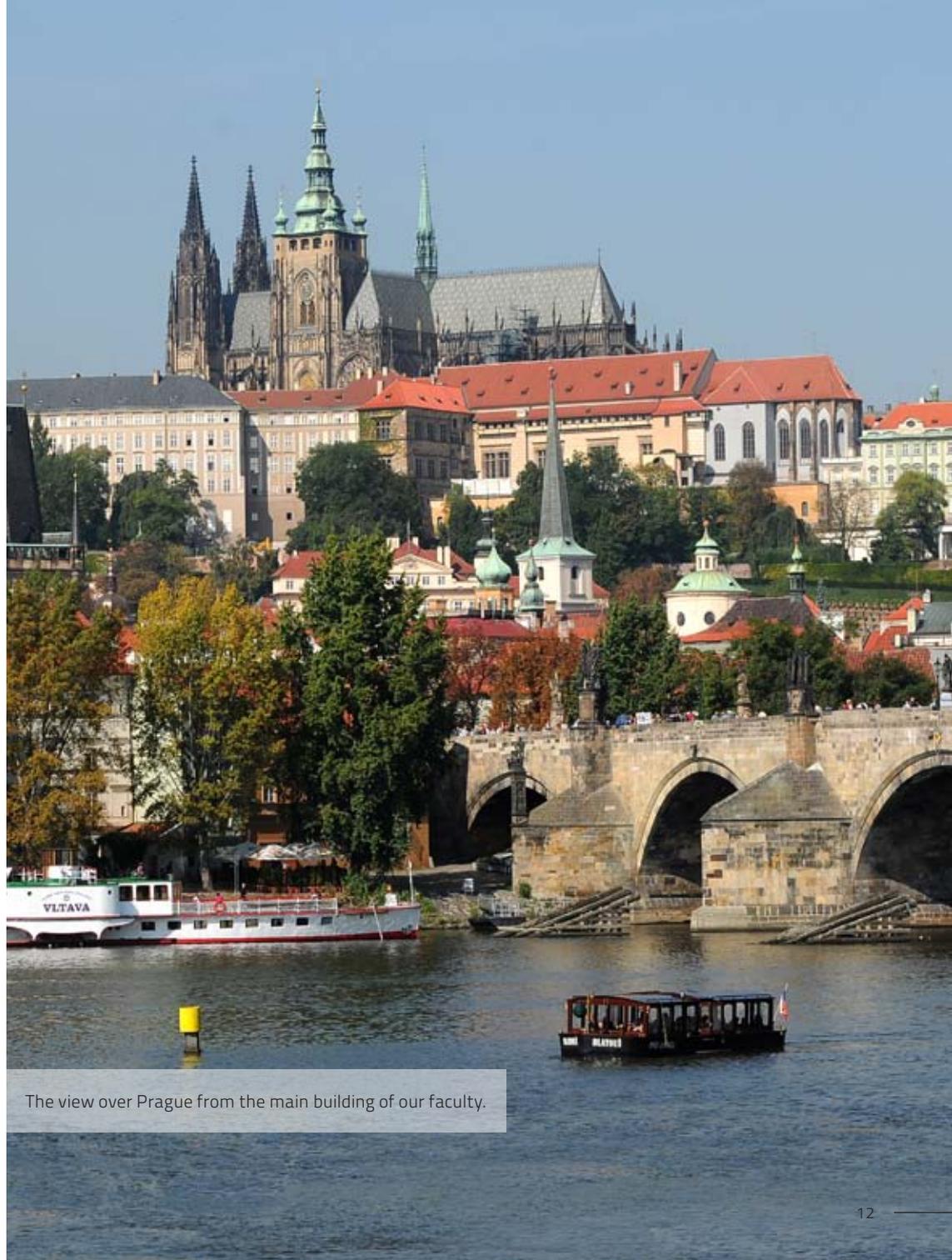
Further Information

Please visit www.fsv.cuni.cz for more information about the Faculty of Social Sciences and all programmes offered, including the IEPS programme, or address your enquiries to svoz@fsv.cuni.cz.

Visit <http://karolinka.fsv.cuni.cz/KFSV-476.html> for details about the IEPS programme

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The view over Prague from the main building of our faculty.