Who are we:

- Founded in 2016
- Volunteering organization; society (per law) – any doctoral researcher enrolled in doctoral study in the Czech republic might become a member (we are open to international students as well)
- Any member of ČAD can be a candidate for member of the board
- Activism
Why was ČAD founded?

• Doctoral researchers are students by law, however, ECR at the same time (some of them are also employees) – what is their role? Who should represent them? It seemed nobody cared.
• Scholarship stagnation (2008-2018: 4k – 13k Kč/month) = (160 – 520 EUR/month); below minimal wage
• Without social benefits, health insurance
• <50 % success rate of Ph.D. studies, only 10% finish in time (3 – 4 years) (depending on the institution)
What we do:

• 1) agenda setting, lobbying for doctoral researchers' interests (members of government and estate administration, universities, institutions, stakeholders, etc.)
• 2) taking part in ongoing discussions on doctoral education in CZ (conferences, round tables, panel discussions)
• 3) raising awareness about doctoral education:
  • sharing good practices, surveys, and systematic problems of ECR – Fb, LinkedIn, building a community (target audience: doctoral researchers, peers)
  • media: article writing, communicating with journalists (radio, newspaper, podcast, etc.) (target audience: broader society)
  • workshops, seminars, discussions
  • 2 guides (issued together with SK RVŠ) – for 1rst yr. Doctoral researchers; for Master students considering Ph.D. study
• 4) Communication with our members, assistance with their problems – answering their questions, advising, mediation, etc.

• Activities overlap
Achievements:

- Intensification of cooperation with the Student Chamber of the Council of HEIs (pulling together)
- 2021+ Strategic Plan of MŠMT for Universities
- Amendment of the law of higher education (commenting on the legislating)
- 2 guides
- "respectable "position
• Thank you for your attention, and looking forward to a fruitful discussion!

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