



# Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education — Economics Institute

Dedicated to excellence and innovation in economics research and education  
Prague · Czech Republic

# CERGE-EI

*“CERGE-EI has assembled a group of vigorous scholars who offer high quality training and access to frontier research in economics. The seminars are active, the scholars are productive and the students trained there are doing high-quality research.”*

James J. Heckman  
Professor, University of Chicago  
2000 Nobel Laureate in Economics

## CERGE-EI

Founded in 1991 by Jan Švejnar and Josef Zieleniec to alleviate the acute shortage of trained economists throughout post-communist countries, CERGE-EI has established itself as one of the world's top centers of excellence in economics education and research. It provides a world-class education in English, produces cutting-edge research and contributes to public policy debates via its IDEA think-tank.

CERGE-EI's parent institutions are Charles University in Prague, one of the oldest institutions of higher education in Europe, and the Czech Academy of Sciences, the largest research institution in the Czech Republic. Their support together with that of numerous private donors ensures financial and intellectual stability and growth. CERGE-EI's graduates shape the future in universities, businesses and the public sector.

## MA in Applied Economics

In this intensive one-year program, students develop analytical and problem-solving skills essential for careers in business or the public sector. The program offers a curriculum grounded in real-life applications, small class sizes, and career consultation.

## PhD in Economics

This flagship program, which has graduated over 500 MA and PhDs since its inception, has the same structure as other leading US and European PhD programs: two years of course work leading to an MA in Economics degree, followed by several years of supervised PhD dissertation research.

## Undergraduate Study Abroad Programs

UPCES (Undergraduate Program in Central European Studies) and IEF (International Economics and Finance) programs offer US and other undergraduates an opportunity to spend a semester or an academic year studying in Prague.

## Teaching Fellows Program

CERGE-EI Teaching Fellows deliver modern economics instruction in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Each year, Teaching Fellows reach almost 20,000 undergraduates at over 50 universities.

[www.cerge-ei/about/cerge-ei](http://www.cerge-ei/about/cerge-ei)

# An Environment Tailored for Learning

*“In a remarkably short period of time, CERGE-EI has become one of the most prominent places in Europe to study economics.”*

Orley Ashenfelter  
Professor, Princeton University  
Member of CERGE-EI Foundation Board of Directors

## Individual Approach

Students studying at CERGE-EI benefit from:

- A student/faculty ratio for graduate programs of around 5 to 1, ensuring personal attention for every student.
- An Academic Skills Center that works with students to develop their written and oral communication skills to the highest professional level.

## Generous Financial Support and Stipends

Through the generosity of our supporters, almost all PhD students receive full scholarships, including tuition waivers and living stipends, and thus can focus on their studies. Students in good academic standing retain their scholarships for a full four years, after which CERGE-EI provides teaching and research opportunities until their dissertations are completed. Tuition in the MA in Applied Economics program is typically less than a third of that for comparable programs in the US or UK, and various scholarships are available.

## Modern Facilities in a Historic Palace

CERGE-EI is located in the center of Prague, in a historic palace that has been fully renovated to offer the latest academic technology. Students will find:

- An open-stack and highly electronic library containing the most extensive and up-to-date collection of economics literature in Central and Eastern Europe.
- State-of-the-art computer facilities with all the major software required for modern economics research, including a “secure data room” with access to confidential microeconomic data.
- An easily accessible Laboratory of Experimental Economics operated by the University of Economics, Prague.
- A facility open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, so that researchers and students can work at the times most conducive to their personal productivity.

[www.cerge-ei.cz/study](http://www.cerge-ei.cz/study)



## Academic Excellence

*“CERGE-EI has created in Central Europe an economics graduate program and research team that are competitive by international standards as well as adapted to the specific needs of the region.”*

François Bourguignon  
Professor, Paris School of Economics

### US and EU Accreditations

Accredited by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, CERGE-EI's PhD degree is offered together with its MA degrees under an absolute charter from the New York State Board of Regents. This ensures the highest European and US standards as well as degree recognition worldwide.

### Executive and Supervisory Committee

CERGE-EI's academic affairs, including curriculum, hiring, and promotions, are overseen by an international advisory board of professors from leading US and European Economics departments. These distinguished scholars meet regularly in Prague to interact with our students and faculty.

### International Faculty

CERGE-EI faculty come from many of the world's top graduate programs including Princeton University, the University of Chicago, the London School of Economics, the Johns Hopkins University, University of Minnesota, University of Pittsburgh, Washington University in St. Louis and University College London. Distinguished visiting professors provide a constant

infusion of the latest research ideas. For our applied programs, we engage business professionals as instructors to bring real-world experience into the classroom.

### Advanced Economics Research

Part of CERGE-EI's mission is to advance the frontiers of economics research.

- The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) ranks CERGE-EI in the top 2% of 1,500 institutions worldwide.
- Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) ranks CERGE-EI in the top 5% of economics institutions worldwide, one of only three such highly-ranked programs in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.
- CERGE-EI faculty and researchers regularly publish in the top journals in economics including the American Economic Review, Econometrica, Review of Economic Studies, and many others. Publications are often co-authored with CERGE-EI's advanced students.

[www.cerge-ei.cz/people](http://www.cerge-ei.cz/people)  
[www.cerge-ei.cz/research](http://www.cerge-ei.cz/research)

## A Diverse, Global Experience

*“CERGE-EI is a first-rate PhD program. The fact that CERGE-EI has such high quality students with such diverse backgrounds makes it unique in the world.”*

Joseph Stiglitz  
Professor, Columbia University  
2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics  
Member of CERGE-EI Executive and Supervisory Committee

CERGE-EI is truly international in its scope and influence. It also has a significant impact on shaping public policy in the region.

### International Student Community

- CERGE-EI students come from almost three dozen countries on five continents and from a wide variety of backgrounds, and hold degrees in economics, mathematics, international relations, physics, computer science, engineering, law, business, sociology or agriculture. Almost half of them are women.
- PhD students are supported to spend a semester or academic year on mobility at partner institutions worldwide. Thesis-level students have recently visited Princeton, New York University, and the University of California at Berkeley.
- Students from other universities are welcome to enroll in the Visiting Master's scheme or to come for a short-term PhD research visit.

### Global Development Network

CERGE-EI is the Central European hub for the GDN, established by The World Bank and other donors to build research capacity among young social scien-

tists. Researchers from the region obtain financial support and extensive guidance from senior scholars at CERGE-EI.

### Research Seminars and Public Lectures

CERGE-EI holds research seminars and public lectures several times each week, delivered by leading economists from Europe and North America. The Distinguished Speaker Series hosts Nobel laureates and other famous economists each year. Besides the seminars and lectures themselves, our students and faculty benefit from the opportunity to discuss their research ideas.

### Public Policy Think Tank IDEA

The Institute for Democracy and Economic Analysis focuses on policy-relevant research and recommendations. Backed by rigorous analysis and the academic expertise of CERGE-EI scholars, IDEA contributes to policy debates with its non-ideological, evidence-based approach to public policy. Their applied research is disseminated through policy studies, discussion panels, and roundtables.

**“It's a small world”  
at CERGE-EI**

Countries from which CERGE-EI students come



- |                        |            |               |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Albania                | Germany    | Netherlands   |
| Argentina              | Greece     | Nigeria       |
| Armenia                | Guatemala  | Pakistan      |
| Azerbaijan             | Hungary    | Poland        |
| Belarus                | India      | Romania       |
| Bolivia                | Iran       | Russia        |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Iraq       | Serbia        |
| Brazil                 | Italy      | Slovakia      |
| Bulgaria               | Japan      | Slovenia      |
| China                  | Kazakhstan | Switzerland   |
| Colombia               | Kenya      | Tajikistan    |
| Côte d'Ivoire          | Kyrgyzstan | Thailand      |
| Croatia                | Latvia     | Turkey        |
| Czech Republic         | Lebanon    | Ukraine       |
| Egypt                  | Lithuania  | United States |
| Estonia                | Macedonia  | Uzbekistan    |
| Ethiopia               | Moldova    | Vietnam       |
| Georgia                | Mongolia   |               |

Countries where CERGE-EI alumni work



- |                |             |                      |
|----------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Armenia        | Finland     | Qatar                |
| Australia      | France      | Romania              |
| Austria        | Georgia     | Russia               |
| Azerbaijan     | Germany     | Saudi Arabia         |
| Belarus        | Hungary     | Slovakia             |
| Belgium        | Kazakhstan  | Spain                |
| Bulgaria       | Kenya       | Turkey               |
| Canada         | Lithuania   | Ukraine              |
| Croatia        | Luxembourg  | United Arab Emirates |
| Czech Republic | Netherlands | United Kingdom       |
| Denmark        | New Zealand | United States        |
| Estonia        | Portugal    | Uzbekistan           |

Countries from which CERGE-EI faculty and researchers come

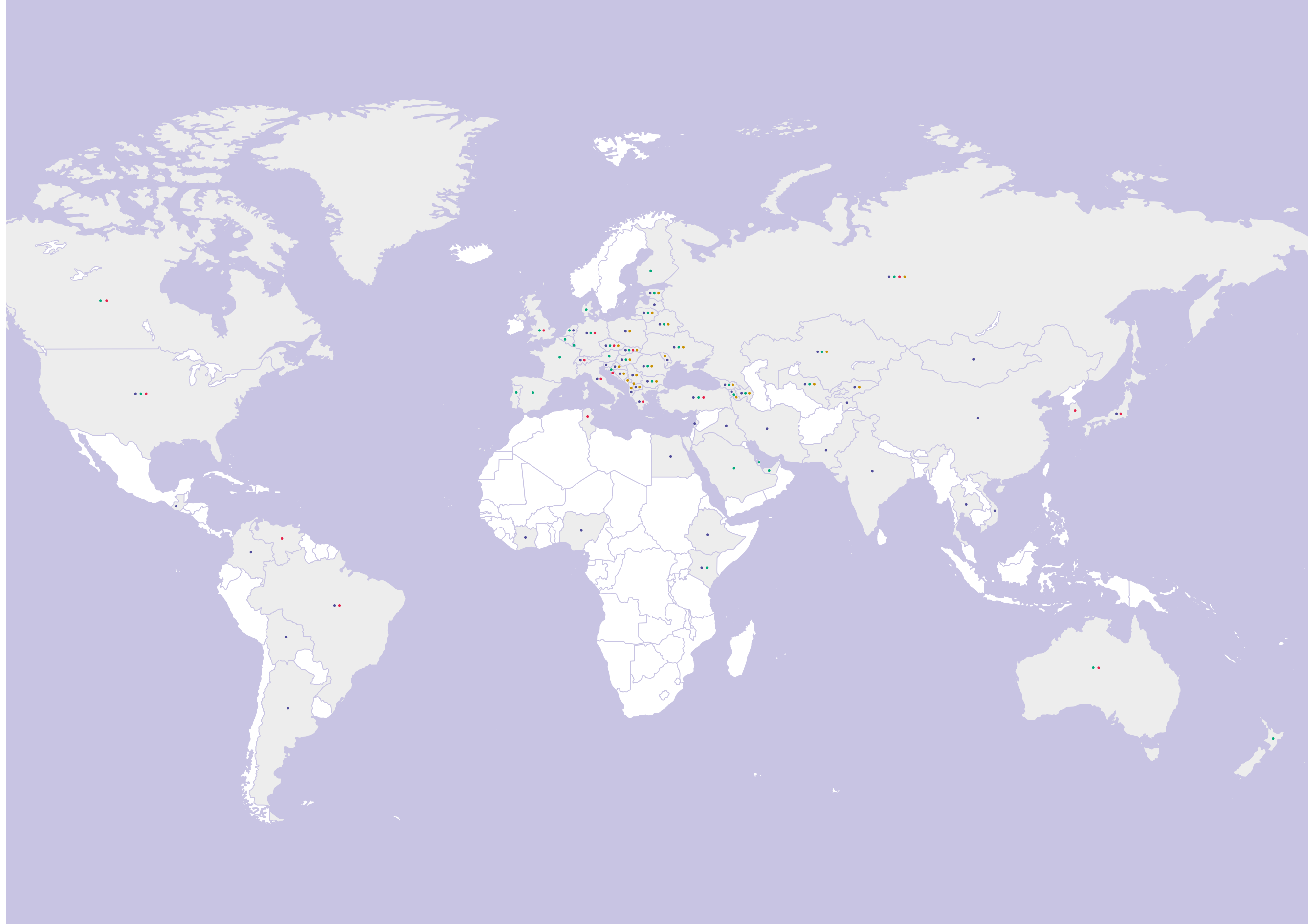


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|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Australia      | Greece      | Switzerland    |
| Brazil         | Italy       | Tunisia        |
| Canada         | Japan       | Turkey         |
| Croatia        | Russia      | United Kingdom |
| Czech Republic | Slovakia    | United States  |
| Germany        | South Korea | Venezuela      |

Countries where Teaching Fellows teach



- |                        |            |            |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Albania                | Georgia    | Poland     |
| Armenia                | Hungary    | Romania    |
| Azerbaijan             | Kazakhstan | Russia     |
| Belarus                | Kosovo     | Serbia     |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Kyrgyzstan | Slovakia   |
| Bulgaria               | Lithuania  | Ukraine    |
| Croatia                | Macedonia  | Uzbekistan |
| Czech Republic         | Moldova    |            |
| Estonia                | Montenegro |            |



## An Unparalleled Location

*“Being at CERGE-EI and in Prague was a wonderful experience. I often come back and every time I walk along CERGE-EI’s hallways and Prague’s cobbled streets, memories pop out. I really enjoyed the pleasant academic environment and the exciting social life.”*

Eugen Kováč  
2006 PhD Graduate  
Junior Professor for Applied Microeconomics  
and Management, University of Bonn

### Prague

Prague, city of 100 spires and a UNESCO World Heritage site, is a safe, vibrant, and cosmopolitan capital. With its rich history, unparalleled urban landscape, and exciting everyday life, Prague is an inspiring place to live and study. Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, Prague Castle, and dozens of museums and music venues are within easy walking distance of CERGE-EI. There is an abundance of outdoor activities, including strolls in historic gardens and parks, and more vigorous exercise opportunities, from hiking and running trails to bike paths. The restaurant scene is expansive, with famous pubs on almost every corner and all international cuisines are available, many at surprisingly affordable prices. Public transport is both cheap and efficient, and operates an all-night service.

### Outside of Prague

The Czech Republic offers a wide variety of weekend break sites and activities. There are over fifty ski slopes and hundreds of kilometers of walking trails within a few hours of Prague, and more than 1,800 castles and chateaus waiting to be visited on day trips.

### Traveling around Europe

For those who want to go further afield, Prague is called “the heart of Europe” for a reason – other major destinations including Berlin, Paris, Munich, Vienna, London, and Rome are just a few hours away.

### Cost of Living

Prague’s cost of living is low compared to many other European cities. Affordable student housing is available in dormitories or private apartments.

### Student Life

CERGE-EI students and faculty often gather outside the formal academic setting at sporting activities, beer parties, and other social events. Social activities supported and coordinated by student representatives are an important part of CERGE-EI’s community life.

[www.cerge-ei.cz/admissions/student-life](http://www.cerge-ei.cz/admissions/student-life)





## An Exciting Future

*“Studying at CERGE-EI was a turning point for me. What I learned there gave me confidence and opened doors in international organizations, academics, business, and government.”*

Anita Taçi  
2000 PhD Graduate  
Deputy Director, Strategy Coordination & Results Management  
Vice Presidency for Policy & Partnership, EBRD, London

### Worldwide Alumni Network

CERGE-EI’s influential alumni network spreads through over 30 countries worldwide, from Canada to Australia. Unlike narrowly focused programs, the skills learned at CERGE-EI provide graduates with a wide range of career opportunities. Currently, 10% hold high-level positions in international organizations, 18% in government ministries and central banks, 29% at universities and research institutes, and 43% in the private sector, ranging from large international companies to small innovative enterprises.

CERGE-EI graduates are employed at:

- Universities and research institutes: Arizona State University, Charles University in Prague, Florida State University, Max Planck Institutes, Novosibirsk State University, New York University, Tilburg University, the Universities of Bonn, British Columbia, Chicago, Kent, Western Ontario, Vienna, Ural Federal University
- International organizations: EBRD, European Commission, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UN, The World Bank

- Central banks: Federal Reserve Bank, Bank of Canada, and the central banks of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, and Slovakia

- Governments: Czech Ministries of Finance and Labor and Social Affairs, Georgian Budget Office, Greater London Authority, Slovak Ministry of Finance, UK Department of Health, UK Financial Conduct Authority, US Social Security Administration, New Zealand Treasury

- Corporations: Accenture, Amazon, BCG, Credit Suisse, Deloitte, DHL, eBay, Erste Group, EY, Honeywell, IBM, KPMG, Moody’s, RWE, Unicredit, Vodafone, and many others

Students joining the CERGE-EI community become part of an international network in an environment of intellectual curiosity, scientific rigor and free inquiry.

[www.cerge-ei/alumni](http://www.cerge-ei/alumni)

# CERGE-EI Executive and Supervisory Committee

- Prof. Philippe Aghion, Harvard University
- Prof. Wendy Carlin, University College London
- Prof. Henry Farber, Princeton University
- Prof. Randall K. Filer, Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and CERGE-EI
- Prof. Jan Kmenta, University of Michigan
- Prof. Alan B. Krueger, Princeton University
- Prof. George J. Mailath, University of Pennsylvania
- Prof. Kevin M. Murphy, University of Chicago
- Prof. J. Peter Neary, University of Oxford
- Prof. Lucrezia Reichlin, London Business School
- Prof. Gérard Roland, University of California, Berkeley
- Prof. Larry Samuelson, Yale University
- Prof. Avner Shaked, University of Bonn
- Prof. Christopher A. Sims, Princeton University, 2011 Nobel Laureate in Economics
- Prof. Joseph Stiglitz, Columbia University, 2001 Nobel Laureate in Economics
- Prof. Zdeněk Strakoš, Czech Academy of Sciences and Charles University in Prague
- Prof. Jan Švejnar, Columbia University, and CERGE-EI
- Prof. Jan Ámos Víšek, Charles University in Prague
- Josef Zieleniec, New York University in Prague

Tenured CERGE-EI faculty are internal members of the Executive and Supervisory Committee.  
For a full list, visit <http://www.cerge-ei.cz/governance/executive-and-supervisory-committee>





**Charles University**  
**Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education (CERGE)**

—  
**The Czech Academy of Sciences**  
**Economics Institute (EI)**

**Contact**

**CERGE-EI**

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