For historical reasons, the various parts of Charles University are scattered over many different locations – not only in Prague, but also in other cities. In view of this situation, the University plans to focus in future on the development of “minicampuses”. The main objectives of building minicampuses are to concentrate related activities at a single site, to provide state-of-the-art facilities for teaching and research, and to harness the synergic potential offered by the close collaboration of experts and students from different fields.

The University’s strategic development goals mean that it must be well prepared not only to respond to developments in Czech tertiary education, but also to play a proactive role in influencing these developments. The same applies to developments on the international level (especially in Europe), in view of the University’s increasing engagement in international organizations (e.g. OECD, EC) and associations (e.g. EUA, UNICA). Given the level of the University’s involvement in international structures of this kind, ad hoc responses or conformance with decisions made by others are no longer viable options for the future. Moreover, the ongoing development of the University itself makes it essential to achieve a carefully judged balance between two parallel requirements: on the one hand the growing number of courses and the widening range of activities pursued at the University’s various faculties and centres, and on the other hand the need to strengthen the cohesion of the University as a unified entity.

Achieving these goals requires detailed analysis of current trends and impacts, including the use of benchmarking methods. One of the foundation stones of the University’s development strategy is its focus on development projects – including projects financed from EU Structural Funds.