Charles University academic staff are highly active in international research and development cooperation. R&D projects implemented under the 7th EU Framework Programme represent an especially important part of this cooperation (as of the end of 2012, Charles University had been successful with 97 project applications – the highest number of any institution in the Czech Republic). The most prestigious of these projects include those funded by the European Research Council (ERC), which runs what is currently the most competitive grant scheme in the world. In one of the three ERC categories, “Starting Independent Researcher Grant”, with an average success rate below 10 per cent, Charles University had two successful young applicants in a single year (2010): doc. Daniel Král’ (Faculty of Mathematics and Physics) and Dr. Jana Roithová (Faculty of Science).

Many Charles University researchers also implement projects under the Ministry of Education schemes KONTAKT, COST and INGO, which likewise promote international research cooperation, or under the Public Health programme and the European Union’s Lifelong Learning subprogrammes, Erasmus and Jean Monnet.

This year and in the following years, Charles University will take an active part in preparing a new framework for research and development funding within the joint European programme Horizon 2020.

As of January 2002, the Rectorate includes a Subdepartment for International Research Cooperation, which actively facilitates communication between faculties or other parts of Charles University, the Rectorate and the Academy of Sciences or other domestic and international partners in international research cooperation.