



Student Handbook 2026



Charles University in numbers

17	faculties in 3 cities (Prague, Pilsen, Hradec Králové)
More than 55 200	students (34 000+ of whom are women)
More than 9 400	employees
More than 11 400	international students
More than 5 800	doctoral candidates (PhD students)
More than 4 000	academic staff
More than 1 300	research staff
Almost 1 000	study programmes
More than 330	international study programmes
More than 6 000	participating in the Erasmus programme (outgoing, incoming)
17	dormitories
16	dining halls
More than 72 000	applications to all study programmes (2025)
More than 10 000	graduates per year
More than 1 100	lifelong learning courses
265th place	in the QS World University Rankings
More than 800	projects submitted to the CU Grant Agency

You are at the right place!

Dear students,

welcome to Charles University, the oldest university in Central Europe, but also one proudly featured among the top 3 percent of the world's best universities according to the prestigious QS World University Rankings.

I am delighted that you have chosen our university for your studies – one that welcomes approximately 55,000 students each year. I am confident that, regardless of which of our seventeen faculties you have enrolled in, you will not only receive a high-quality professional education here, but also find opportunities for personal growth, new experiences, and inspiring interactions with your classmates and faculty members.

I won't claim that your studies will always be easy. College education is supposed to be challenging. At the same time, however, it should be inspiring and open up new avenues for you. One such opportunity is the chance to study abroad, for example through the Erasmus+ program or the 4EU+ university alliance, which thousands of our students participate in every year.

Equally important is knowing that you will not be alone in your studies. If you find yourself in a challenging personal, academic, or social situation, Charles

University offers an extensive support system. Through CU Point, you can access academic, psychological, social, and career counseling, support for students with special needs, assistance with financial issues, and services designed for student parents. We want each of you to have the best possible conditions for successfully navigating your studies. But university life isn't just about lectures, seminars, and exams. You can get involved in various student clubs, help organize cultural and social events, volunteer, or represent the university in sports. It is often these experiences that graduates cherish most when looking back years later.

For nearly seven centuries, Charles University has connected tradition and openness to new ideas. It is a community of people united by a desire to learn, discover, and push the boundaries of human knowledge. Now you are becoming a part of it, too. I hope that Charles University will not only be a place where you receive first-class education, but also an environment where you will meet inspiring professors, form lifelong friendships, discover new interests, and gain experiences and memories that you will look back on with joy.



prof. RNDr. Jiří Zima, CSc.
Charles University Rector

Welcome to university life!

Upon enrolment, you are granted student status at Charles University. What should you do right away?



Set up your access

You can log in to the university systems using the personal number and password you used during the admissions process.

It will grant you access to:

- **SIS** – the Study Information System, where you can enrol in subjects, sign up for exams, check your progress, track earned credits and see your schedule. It also provides information about your study plan, exam dates, and so on. You can generate a Confirmation of Study letter with an electronic seal in the “Personal Data” section.
- **your own university email**
- **the eduroam Wi-Fi network**
- **other web apps** (e.g. stipend applications, accommodation in dormitories, Erasmus, grants, the Education Portal and more)
- **the ID system**

You can manage your password via CAS – Charles University Authentication Service (cas.cuni.cz)



↑
**SIS login
and student
guides**

Your student ID can be used every day at:

- the library
- the dining hall
- the faculty copy centres
- the student affairs office



You can also add an ISIC or Alive license to it.

You can order and collect it at the available distribution points.

Tip: The **number** listed below your photo on your ID card serves as **your username** for logging into Charles University systems.

Connect to eduroam

Charles University is part of the international eduroam Wi-Fi network. One connection will get you access not only at Charles University, but also many other universities and institutions across the Czech Republic and abroad.

Log in using:

→ **personalnumber@cuni.cz**



← **Instructions**

Traditions, degrees, and first steps

Charles University was founded in 1348, and some of its traditions continue to this day.

MATRICULATION CEREMONY

You take a pledge and become a student at Charles University. Unlike graduation ceremonies, this is not a public event (i.e., it is not intended for family members and friends).

GRADUATION CEREMONY

A formal ceremony marking the completion of your studies, during which you receive your diploma and academic degree.

With the exception of bachelor's degree ceremonies, all graduation ceremonies are held in the Aula Magna of the Carolinum and follow a set protocol including academic gowns, University insignia, and the ceremonial procedure.

WHAT TO WEAR?

Female students: dress / formal attire

Male students: suit, dress shirt, formal shoes

→ Jeans and sneakers are not appropriate for these occasions.

When your first term paper comes around

Where to find information, resources, and help with your studies

At university, a search engine alone is no longer enough. For research papers, presentations, and exams, you'll need academic books, articles, and databases. Charles University offers you access to these resources both online and in libraries across faculties.

UKAŽ → your go-to place for finding resources



Using the UKAŽ service you'll find:

- books (print and digital)
- journals (print and digital)
- research databases or specific articles
- diploma theses and other academic resources

In your user account you can:

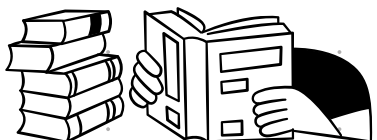
- track and extend loans
- submit reservations for books
- save your search records
- export citations

→ Log in using CAS (you can register by filling out the e-application)

→ ACCESS FROM HOME

You can access a wide range of academic databases and online resources from anywhere – all you need to do is log in with your university account (using CAS).

→ Database list eresources.cuni.cz



→ LIBRARIES ARE NOT ONLY ABOUT BOOKS

Charles University operates dozens of libraries and study rooms. Besides books, they offer:

- calm and comfortable study rooms
- group study rooms
- copying and printing
- the eduroam Wi-Fi network
- some even offer board games or special study aids



A complete overview of Charles University libraries, their services, contacts, and current information

→ STUDYING WITH AI: AN ASSISTANT, NOT AN AUTOPILOT

Generative AI tools can be very useful for studying – for example, when:

- explaining complex topics
- planning your studies
- scanning through texts
- revising course material

You can get started right away with Microsoft Copilot by signing in with your university account.

Remember to verify information and use AI to support your own thinking, not as a substitute for independent work.



Read more about AI at CU

→ FINAL TIP

If you have a question, don't hesitate to ask at your faculty's library, the Central Library (admin-eiz@cuni.cz) or reach out to your professors. Working with academic sources is an essential university skill, and one that everyone can learn over time.



Where to sleep, where to eat

CU canteens, dormitories, and cafés
are here to rest, eat, and meet.

RESIDENCE HALLS

Charles University offers accommodation for its students in Prague, Pilsen, Hradec Králové, and Brandýs nad Labem. For many freshmen, dorms are their first opportunity to meet new people from different departments.

FOOD WITH A LOWER ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

CU is committed to reducing waste and thinking about the future of the planet. That's why its cafeterias have introduced:

- plant-based meals
- returnable or recyclable packaging
- a focus on seasonal offerings

Information about dormitories, →
cafeterias, and latest news



CANTEENS

Good to know

- At most canteens, you order your meal in advance online or through a mobile app
- All canteens now offer vegetarian meals and regularly feature vegan options as well
- Canteens organize themed weeks or special menus (such as Italian, Greek, or vegan cuisine)
- You can also pay using your student ID
- Most cafeterias are open mainly during lunchtime, though some are also open in the evening or have their own café or snack bar



Live Hybernská!

The Kampus Hybernská brings together culture, innovation, science, and education in the heart of Prague, just a few steps from Náměstí Republiky. Come immerse yourself in the atmosphere of university life and get inspired.

→ **Kick off the academic year in style at the opening ceremony on 1 October 2026 at Kampus Hybernská.**

→ Science, art, and creativity

Scholars, students as well as the public meet here. A rich programme offers debates, concerts, lectures, exhibitions or student projects.



→ FameLab

The global FameLab competition is on the lookout for students and young scientists who can clearly present their scientific topic within three minutes.



→ International Středa, mezinárodní Wednesday

Every Wednesday during the semester, informal get-togethers are held for Czech and international students.



→ Come unwind and refresh your spirit

The Kampus promotes well-being and fosters a safe university environment. In collaboration with the Resilience Centre and the Carolina Centre, it hosts various workshops, support groups, and community events.



← Student associations



← 4 EU+ opportunities for students

→ 4EU+: The European University Alliance

Charles University is part of the prestigious 4EU+ European University Alliance, which connects leading European universities in Prague, Heidelberg, Milan, Copenhagen, Warsaw, Geneva, and Paris (including the Sorbonne). Thanks to this, students can take advantage of a wide range of opportunities, such as:

- joint study programmes
- short-term academic activities
- courses at a partner university through virtual mobility
- micro-certificates
- research projects
- ...and much more.

Where to enjoy sports?

After a long day of lectures or during exam periods, sometimes what you need is to clear your head and get a little exercise. Whether you enjoy team sports, hitting the gym, rock climbing, or running, there are plenty of options at Charles University where you can pump serious iron or just do some stretching.



↑
CU sports facilities

→ PRAGUE

→ The CU Sports Centre in Hostivař

Boasts a wide array of sports facilities, including an indoor swimming pool, a multipurpose hall for indoor sports, a gym, a sauna, outdoor athletic fields, tennis courts, football and softball fields, and more.

→ CU SPORT facilities offer

- a swimming pool
- a gym
- a sauna
- an athletic field
- outdoor athletic fields
- tennis courts and more

Special equipment for selected sports or and assistants for physically challenged students are available.

→ HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

→ Local faculties offer activities and facilities for team sports, canoeing, or wall climbing.

→ PILSEN

→ CU MED PILSEN students may use its athletic halls, courses, and partake in team sports.

You can find information about sports, courses, and exercise opportunities
→ on the faculty websites or in physical education departments' programmes. ←



→ MOUNTAINS AND ADAPTATION COURSES

→ CU also offers recreational and sports trips as well as courses in places such as the Giant Mountains or Šumava.

→ MORE THAN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

→ At many faculties you can also find:

- athletic courses
- university teams
- recreational tournaments and one-time events

→ Every year in May, the Charles University Rector's Sports Day is held.



← More information on sports at CU

Charles University Rectorate

Ovocný trh 560/5, Prague 1

Catholic Theological Faculty

- Thákurova 676/3, Prague 6

Protestant Theological Faculty

- Černá 646/9, Prague 1

Hussite Theological Faculty

- Pacovská 350/4, Prague 4

Faculty of Law

- nám. Curieových 901/7, Prague 1

First Faculty of Medicine

- Kateřinská 32, Prague 2 (Dean's office – the faculty also has workplaces in five Prague hospitals)

Second Faculty of Medicine

- Šimůnkova 4/1596, Prague 8
- Budínova 2, Prague 8
- U Vojenské nemocnice 1200, Prague 6
- V Úvalu 84, Prague 5
- Plzeňská 130/221, 311
- U Nemocnice 3, Prague 2
- Bruslařská 10, Prague 15

Third Faculty of Medicine

- Ruská 2411/87, Prague 10
- Ruská 2200/91, Prague 10
- Šrobárova 48/49, Prague 10
- Šrobárova 1150/50, Prague 10

Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen

- Alej Svobody 31, 76, 80, Pilsen
- Bolevecká 30-32, Pilsen
- Lidická 4, 6, 8, Pilsen
- E. Beneše 13, Pilsen

Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové

- Šimkova 870, Hradec Králové
- Nezvalova 265, Hradec Králové
- Na Hradě 91, Hradec Králové
- Zborovská 2089, Hradec Králové
- Sokolská 851, Hradec Králové
- Záměstí 683, Hradec Králové

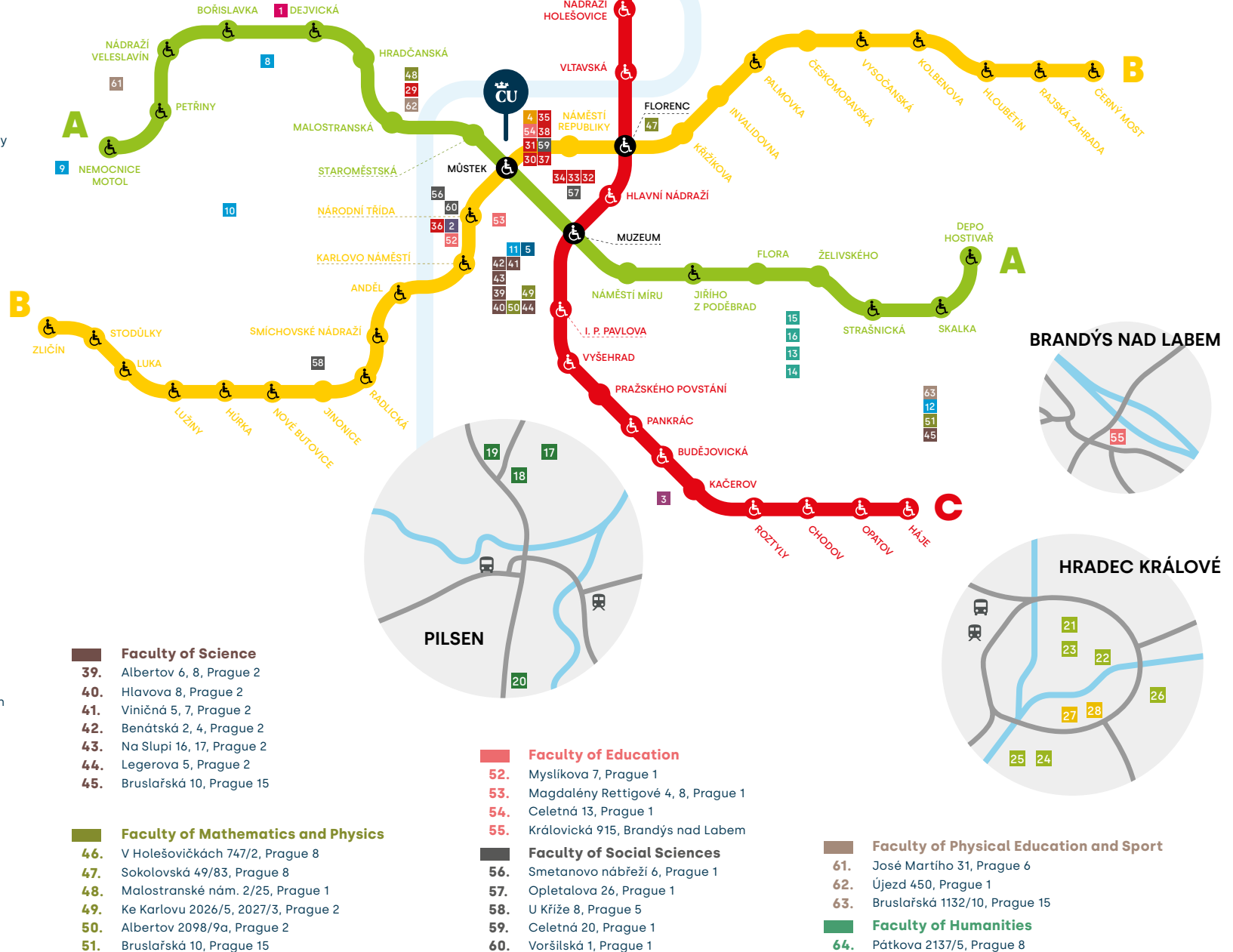
Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové

- Akademika Heyrovského 1203, Hradec Králové (Additional facilities are also used in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové)
- Botanická ulice, Hradec Králové

Faculty of Arts

- Josefská 6, Prague 1
- nám. Jana Palacha 1/2, Prague 1
- Celetná 13, Prague 1
- Hybernská 3, Prague 1
- Malé nám. 1, Prague 1
- Panská 7, Prague 1
- Celetná 20, Prague 1
- Voršílská 1, Prague 1
- Na Příkopě 29, Prague 1
- Revoluční 26, Prague 1

Map of CU faculties



Experience our **advanced teaching methods** and resources that adapt seamlessly to your language level. Enhance your pronunciation through **specialised phonetics lessons** and enjoy **interactive learning** with online tools and whiteboards that bring excitement to your learning journey.

Placement tests to determine the right language group for you.
You can study **in person at our Prague centre** in Voršilská Street,
in the Krystal centre near Nádraží Veveř metro station, or online.



→ LANGUAGE — STUDY — CAREER ←

→ Want to **assess your language skills in Czech or English?**
Our internationally recognised exams are ideal for academic, work, residency, or citizenship purposes both in the Czech Republic and overseas. We're a proud **member of the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE)**, ensuring top-notch language testing quality.



HOW JOEY FROM THE SWAMPS BROUGHT BENCE TO PRAGUE

*"By pure coincidence I found the song **Joey from the swamps** (Jožin z bažin) on the internet and I unexpectedly developed a strong liking for the song. This journey eventually led me to an internship at the Institute of Language and Preparatory Studies at Charles University, where I have been working for nearly a year," says Bence Bolla, a graduate in Czech Studies from Budapest.*

CU Point - support during your studies

CU Point is here for you every step of the way – from the first day of school to your first job. It offers counseling, educational events, support for your well-being, and opportunities for personal growth.

EDUCATION, WELL-BEING, AND SUPPORT

If you're feeling lost or find yourself in a difficult situation, you can access psychological, social, legal, or career counseling. There are also workshops focused on mental health, resilience, and coping with academic challenges.

CAREER, WORK EXPERIENCE, AND VOLUNTEERING

Are you thinking about a part-time job, an internship, or your future career?

CU Career Centre

- helps you prepare for job interviews and selection processes
- offers workshops focused on developing practical skills (communication, presentation, AI etc.)
- organises the Career Day at CU
- supports you in transitioning from student to employee

CU Volunteer Centre

- offers both one-time or long-term volunteer opportunities
- helps you gain valuable experience during your studies
- connects you with non-profit organisations and other partners



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Are you a student from abroad, or would you like to meet classmates from around the world? CU Point organises community and networking events, such as the Buddy Programme and International středa, mezinárodní Wednesday, which bring together Czech and international students across faculties.

A SAFE, OPEN, SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

CU Point provides information, education, and support to anyone who wants to actively contribute to the development of the university community. We promote equal opportunity, a safe and respectful environment as well as sustainable development, and we create opportunities for students to actively participate in university life.



Contacts, services, and current events

CU Point
Celetná 13
Prague 1

Stay in the loop with the student newsletter. Subscribe here.



We're here for you!

Helping in difficult situations

„When I started college, it never occurred to me that I would ever need help from the university for anything other than my studies. But when my personal and financial problems began to pile up, I was grateful that I didn't have to face them alone and that there were people and services that could help.“



WHEN MONEY IS TIGHT

Under certain conditions, students may receive:

- an accommodation subsidy
- a social stipend
- a stipend in an emergency or crisis situation
- allowances for educational materials
- or support from external foundations

The Carolina Centre or your faculty's Student Affairs Office can help explore your options.



↑
**Financial support
for students**

WHEN STUDIES GET TOUGH

If you feel overwhelmed or aren't sure what to do, we offer:

- coaching
- mentoring (senior students share their experience with juniors)
- counselling
- psychological help
- The Resilience Centre's services
- or individual consultation

Help is also available for students who:

- juggle their studies with caring for loved ones
- work while studying
- deal with health or personal complications
- or are studying in Czech, their non-native language

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

CU also supports students:

- with physical disabilities
- psychological difficulties
- learning disabilities
- autism
- ADHD
- and other specific needs

Support may include:

- adjustments to academic requirements
- assistance
- equipment lending
- or an individual support plan



Carolina Centre
Čeletná 13, Prague 1

The Carolina Centre helps students in various difficult situations and offers counseling, support, and useful information.



↑
**More information
and contacts**

Counselling and Mental Health Services

„I found myself in a situation where I felt like I couldn't keep up with school. What helped me the most at the time was being able to talk to someone and figuring out a way forward together.“

WHERE TO ASK FOR HELP?

COUNSELLING CENTRES AT FACULTIES

Individual faculties offer their own psychological or academic counselling. You can find more information on their websites.



← **Student support at CU**

CU POINT COUNSELLING CENTRES

CU Point offers psychological, legal, and career counselling for students.

Help is:

- confidential
- free of charge
- also available online

SELF-CARE

The key to avoiding crises is prevention. You can find information about courses focused on managing challenging situations in the newsletter.



← **Make an appointment for psychological counselling**

→ FIRST AID ←

If you find yourself in a crisis situation or feel like it's too much to handle, in addition to the support available at CU, there are also organizations and crisis services you can turn to immediately.



TELEPHONE SUPPORT

EU emergency call number 112

Available in multiple languages, accessible through mobile networks even without a SIM card or phone credit.

Free of charge and available 24/7.

Sluchátko therapeutic hotline

Phone: 212 812 540 (available during workdays)

Website: <https://linkasluchatko.cz>

Bílý kruh bezpečí (The White Circle)

Phone: 116 006, 257 317 110 (operates 24/7)

Website: www.bkb.cz/en

CRISIS SERVICE CENTRES

Crisis Intervention Centre, Psychiatric Hospital Bohnice

Immediate assistance 24/7, no appointment needed.

An english speaking doctor is always available on site; however, english language phone services cannot be guaranteed.

Address: Ústavní 91, Prague 8

Phone: 284 016 666

A sustainable...



Charles University is not just about lectures and exams. An important part of university life is also the environment in which you study, work, and spend your time.

Sustainable development is reflected not only in the university's operation, but also in teaching, research, creative work, and student activities. It provides new perspectives on addressing current challenges and brings together insights from various disciplines.

Sustainability means thinking about the future and seeking ways to improve the world around us through knowledge, innovation, and a responsible approach. You can get involved, too.



→ Sustainable development at CU



... and safe university

At Charles University, we have policies, support services, and specific measures in place to ensure a safe and fair environment for students and staff. Our goal is for everyone to feel welcome here and to receive adequate support when they need it.

→ Having a baby?
Not a problem!



→ We are highlighting important achievements in the field of equal opportunity with Carl and Gerty Cori Prize



Ombudspersons

Charles University has a university-wide Ombudsperson, as well as ombudspersons at individual faculties. They offer a confidential and safe space for dialogue and will help navigate your options for next steps.

If you encounter **inappropriate behavior, discrimination, bullying, humiliation, or any other unpleasant situation**, you don't have to face it alone.



← Ombudspersons for faculties



Reach out to the CU Ombudsperson:
ombudsmanka@cuni.cz

Text: Ivetta Bayerová, Nikola Rusová, UK Point

Follow us



→ in Czech

 @UniverzitaKarlova
 @unikarlova.cuni.cz
 @UniverzitaKarlova
 @UniKarlova

→ in English

@CharlesUniversityInPrague
@charles.cuni.cz
@CharlesUniversity
@CharlesUni



Join over 136 thousand of our followers on the professional network LinkedIn, 64 thousand Facebook fans, and almost 40 thousand Instagram followers. Remember to also follow **your own faculties' account online!**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!

International Středa, Mezinárodní Wednesday:

→ ukpoint.cuni.cz/IPSCEN-267.html

Series of regular gatherings where international and local students from across the faculties mingle.



CU Onboarding course for international students:

→ ukpoint.cuni.cz/IPSCEN-296.html

How to navigate the university structures and make the most out of all the available opportunities? How to find support when needed? This course offers answers and useful resources so you can easily adjust to the new environment, focus on studies, and enjoy your stay here. Look for the course in SIS under the code JZO001, organised by the Faculty of Social Sciences (yet available to all).



CU Student Ambassadors on Instagram:

→ www.instagram.com/ambassadors_cu

Freshest news from the student community and student associations including event invitations. Informal channel for our global citizens.



CU@CU

CU Point, International Student Hub team:

→ ukpoint.cuni.cz/IPSCEN-310.html

