

# Promotion and support for Czech literature abroad

by the Czech Ministry of Culture  
and the Czech Literary Centre



# Comprehensive grant support

The Czech Republic, through programmes organised by the Czech Ministry of Culture and CzechLit – Czech Literary Centre, a section of the Moravian Library, has a comprehensive grant system for publishing Czech books abroad. The support is for publishers, translators, authors and event organisers. The Czech Ministry of Culture provides grants for publishing Czech literature abroad (support for book-length translations, excerpts and magazines, production, copyright and promotion costs), CzechLit provides travel grants for Czech authors and residencies for translators as well as information and advisory services and communication within the network of Czech literary professionals.

# Grants for publishing Czech literature abroad

Every year, the Czech Ministry of Culture awards grants to support the publication of Czech prose, poetry, drama, essays, comics and children's literature abroad. The grants cover books, excerpts and magazines.

## BOOKS

Publishers can apply for funding for:

- translation costs (up to 50% of the total cost of publishing)
- graphic design, typesetting and printing costs (up to 50% of the total cost of publishing)
- copyright costs (up to 15% of the total cost of publishing)
- promotion costs (up to 25% of the total cost of publishing)

In total, the grant can cover up to 70% of the total cost of publishing.

## EXCERPTS

Publishers, agents and translators can apply for funding for:

- the translation of an excerpt of between 10–25 standard pages (1800 characters with spaces)

## MAGAZINES

Magazines can apply for funding for:

- publishing costs of an issue where at least 50% of the total content is dedicated to original Czech literature. In total, the grant can cover up to 70% of the total cost of publishing

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- completed application form
- contract with the copyright holder
- contract with the translator (applies only to publishers and literary agents)
- CV and translator's qualifications (education, translated titles)
- the publishing plan for this year and next year (applies only to publishers)

## PAYMENT CONDITIONS

- The grant is paid to the applicant after the book / magazine has been published or excerpt has been translated. Proof of this has to be sent to the Ministry of Culture (for details see the grant application form).

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

- 15<sup>th</sup> May for books and excerpts to be published in the same year as the application is submitted
- 15<sup>th</sup> November for books and excerpts to be published in the following year after the application is submitted

CONTACT PERSON:  
Radim Kopáč, Ministry of Culture Czech Republic  
radim.kopac@mkr.cz  
+420 257 085 221

For more information visit:  
[www.mkcr.cz/literature-and-libraries-1123.html?lang=en](http://www.mkcr.cz/literature-and-libraries-1123.html?lang=en)



**MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
CZECH REPUBLIC**

# Travel grants

The Czech Literary Centre offers subsidies to support Czech authors travelling to literary events abroad (festivals, readings, book launches, lectures, debates etc.). The applicant can be an event organiser or an author.

Event organisers can request support for appearance fees, travel expenses, meal allowances, accommodation, promotion, interpreting and moderation costs. The subsidy can cover up to 70% of total costs for the event.

Authors can request support for appearance fees, travel expenses and meal allowances. The subsidy can cover up to 100% of the total costs. Accommodation is provided by the event organiser.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- completed application form
- budget for the event (applies only to event organisers)

## PAYMENT CONDITIONS

- Event organisers: can receive 40% of the awarded amount before the event (based on an invoice and proof that the author will be taking part in the event) and 60% after the event on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation. Alternatively, they can receive 100% of the awarded amount after the event on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation.

- Authors: can receive 50% of the awarded amount within 15 days after the presentation of the planned event in the organisers materials (on the basis of documentation proving the author's travel expenses and proof of the author's presence at the event) and the remaining 50% on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation. Alternatively, they can receive 100% of the awarded amount after the event on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

- 31<sup>st</sup> March (for the period of 15<sup>th</sup> May to 15<sup>th</sup> October)
- 31<sup>st</sup> August (for the period of 15<sup>th</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> December)
- 31<sup>st</sup> October (for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> January to 15<sup>th</sup> March)

# Residencies for translators and Czech studies specialists

The Czech Literary Centre residency programme is intended for foreign translators of Czech literature, Czech studies specialists and literary scholars with an interest in Czech culture. The residents are accommodated in Prague or Brno for two to four weeks. Application deadlines are announced on the CzechLit.cz website twice a year – in the spring (for the autumn period) and in the autumn (for the spring of the following year).

## THE RESIDENT RECEIVES

- a 250 EUR per week contribution to living costs
- accommodation in a studio apartment
- support from the Czech Literary Centre in the form of information, contacts, meetings etc.

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- completed application form (including a cover letter and a description of the project)
- CV
- bibliography

## REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

- ability to communicate in Czech or English
- at least one published translation or scholarly work (including in magazines)

# Information about Czech literature

## CZECHLIT.CZ

The CzechLit.cz website in English and Czech is intended for literary professionals with an interest in Czech literature. It acts as an information hub with up-to-date information for publishers about Czech authors and books including sample translations. The website contains databases of translators, agencies and literary organisations as well as comprehensive information about grants for publishing Czech books abroad, travel grants and residencies. CzechLit.cz is also the home page of the Czech Literary Centre with details about the Centre's activities, current news from the world of Czech books and more in-depth texts about particular areas of literature from the Czech Republic.

[www.czechlit.cz](http://www.czechlit.cz)

## NEW CZECH BOOKS

Information about new Czech fiction, poetry, children's books, comics and non-fiction can be found in the New Czech Books catalogues published twice a year in the spring and autumn. Key new books of each season are selected by a group of independent experts on the various genres. In addition to relevant information for publishers about new books and authors, the publications contain an overview of grants for Czech literature abroad and Czech literary prizes. The catalogues can be found in electronic form on the CzechLit.cz website and in printed form at the Czech stand of all major international book fairs or at your local Czech Centre.

[www.czechlit.cz/en/resources/brochures](http://www.czechlit.cz/en/resources/brochures)



# CzechLit – Czech Literary Centre

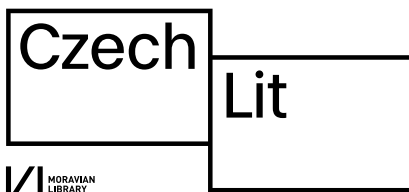
is a state-funded organisation supporting and promoting Czech literature abroad and in the Czech Republic. The centre is a section of the Moravian Library.

The Czech Literary Centre:

- Promotes prose, literature for children and young adults, poetry, drama, comics, non-fiction and new forms of literature
- Acts as an information hub for foreign publishers, translators, Czech studies specialists, event organisers and others interested in Czech literature
- Provides grants for authors to attend cultural events abroad
- Cooperates on international literature and translation projects with partner institutions abroad and in the Czech Republic
- Organises residencies for foreign translators, Czech studies specialists and authors
- Runs the bilingual website [czechlit.cz](http://czechlit.cz) with information about books, authors, grants, residencies and Czech literature news
- Cooperates with the network of Czech Centres, which promote Czech culture abroad, as well as with other governmental and non-governmental cultural and non-profit organisations and individuals
- Is involved in the presentation of Czech literature at book fairs abroad in cooperation with its parent institution
- Holds the annual Susanna Roth Award for young translators of Czech literature

CONTACT US:  
Czech Literary Centre  
Národní dům  
nám. Míru 9  
120 00 Prague 2  
Czech Republic

[www.czechlit.cz](http://www.czechlit.cz)  
[info@czechlit.cz](mailto:info@czechlit.cz)



# The Moravian Library

The presentation of Czech book culture at book fairs abroad has a long tradition. The Moravian Library, one of the leading Czech heritage institutions, has been in charge of coordinating the Ministry of Culture's national expositions since 2014. In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, authorities of Czech literary culture and Czech Centres abroad, the Moravian Library focuses not only on presenting major publishing houses but also on small publishers and printers. Significant Czech literary awards and their winners, along with a selection of current fiction and non-fiction are presented within the frame-work of a thematic national exposition. The accompanying cultural programme aims at bringing Czech authors together in the form of discussions and readings, especially at the Leipzig Book Fair (focused primarily on translations) or at the most important venue, the Frankfurt Book Fair. Czech book culture is presented in a similar scope also at the book fair in Bologna, which focuses on books for children, and at the London Book Fair. The Moravian Library is also the parent organisation of the Czech Literary Centre, which supports and promotes Czech literature abroad and in the Czech Republic.

Moravian Library  
Kounicova 65a  
601 87 Brno  
Czech Republic

[www.mzk.cz](http://www.mzk.cz)  
[mzk@mzk.cz](mailto:mzk@mzk.cz)





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Czech Literary Centre  
Národní dům  
nám. Míru 9  
120 00 Prague 2  
Czech Republic

[www.czechlit.cz](http://www.czechlit.cz)  
[info@czechlit.cz](mailto:info@czechlit.cz)  
+420 770 134 755

facebook: CzechLit – Czech Literature Online  
twitter: @czechlit1



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