

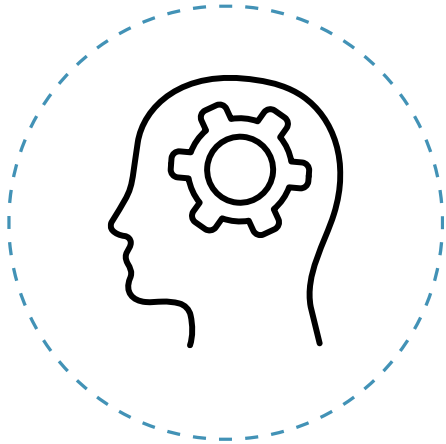
GRANT ASSESSMENT: LESSONS LEARNED, OPEN QUESTIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Petr Baldrian
Czech Science Foundation

November 10, 2023



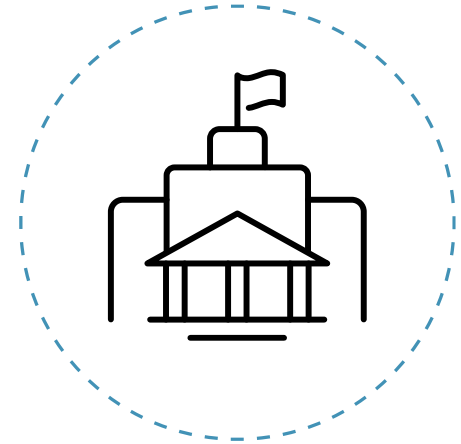
PROJECT FUNDING



Support of ideas

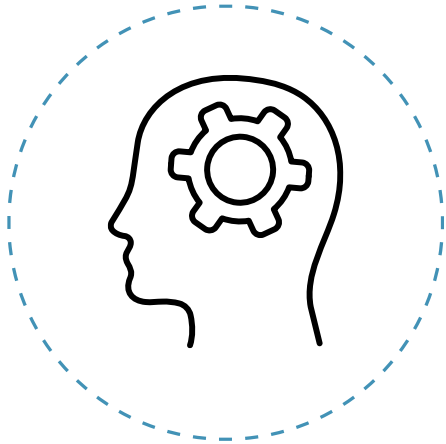


Support of
researchers and
their teams



Adds value to funding
of institutions and
research facilities

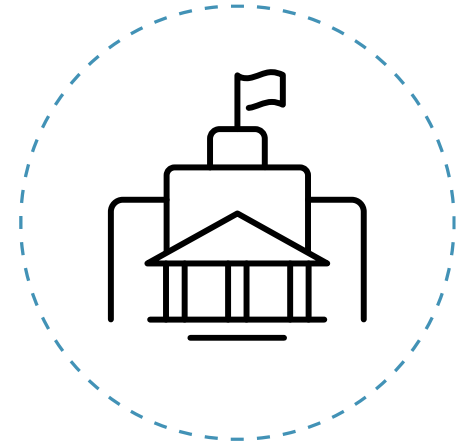
PROJECT FUNDING



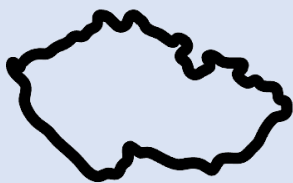
Support of ideas



Support of
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Adds value to funding
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*IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, PROJECT FUNDING
IS ESSENTIAL FOR DOING SCIENCE*

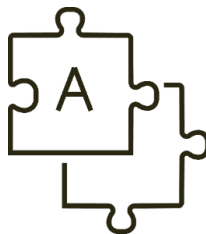
MISSION OF CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION



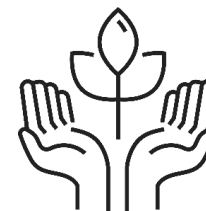
Support projects
of basic research



Support international
collaboration



Create suitable and
attractive conditions
for researchers



Promote shift to
responsible research

DESIGN OF THE FUNDING ENVIRONMENT



Continuity

Standard
projects



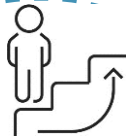
Early career researchers

JUNIOR STAR
POSTDOC INDIVIDUAL
FELLOWSHIP



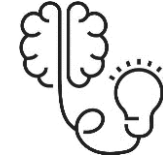
International collaboration

11 partner funders



Support of excellence

EXPRO
JUNIOR STAR



Important research challenges

Oriented basic
research calls

DESIGN OF THE FUNDING ENVIRONMENT



Continuity

Standard
projects



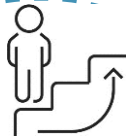
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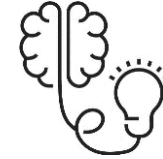
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Important research challenges

Oriented basic
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ASSESSMENT SHOULD REFLECT CALL SPECIFICITIES



As anywhere else, best project are selected by peers - researchers



Assessment is based on individual evaluation combined with panel discussion



Design of project assessment procedures is guided by experience of other research funders



Assessment of proposals is fully dependent on the work of panel members

ASSESSMENT REFLECTS CALLS SPECIFICITIES

Standard
Projects

EX|PRO

JUNIOR
STAR

POSTDOC
INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP
OUTGOING

POSTDOC
INDIVIDUAL FELLOWSHIP
INCOMING

Participation in projects as
member of research teams



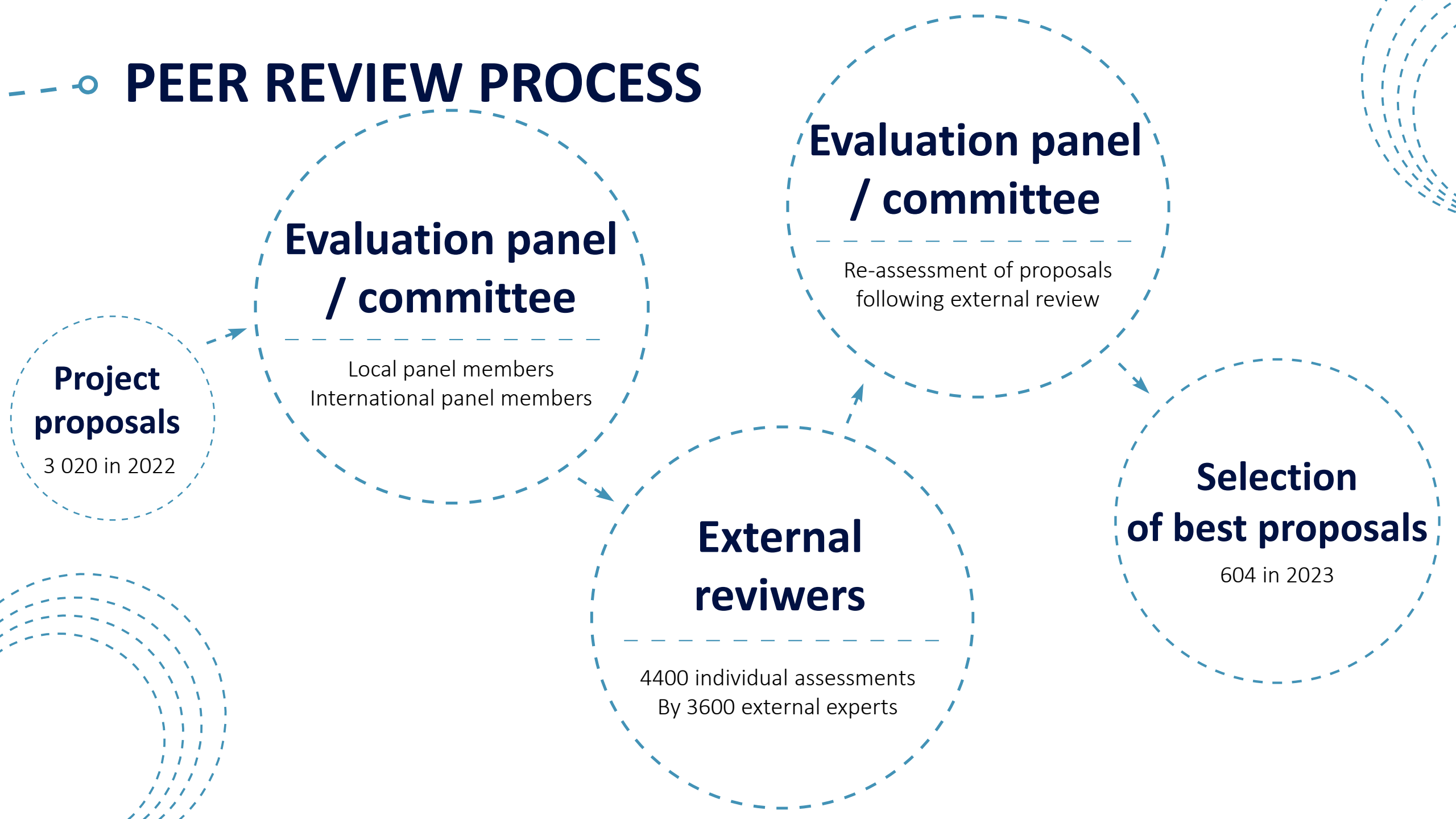
STUDENTS AND
DOCTORAL STUDENTS

OBTAINING Ph.D.

4 YEARS SINCE Ph.D.

8 YEARS SINCE Ph.D.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS

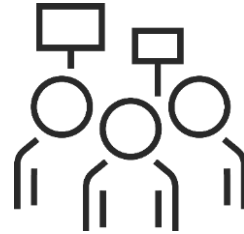




MAXIMIZING ASSESSMENT QUALITY



Using tested procedures



Striving for excellence in panels



Efficient information system



Consider career length /
career breaks when assessing
proposals



Considering
gender issues



New trends of project
assessment

DESIGN OF EVALUATION ENVIRONMENT

**Assessment
procedures equal
in all panels**



Local or international members in panels



Fighting conflict of interest



Selection of rapporteurs for projects



Everyone reads everything in the second round of evaluation



In local panels, check of panel evaluation by discipline committee

Problem:
standardization of
assessment by external
reviewers and its importance

CONDITIONS OF ASSESSMENT - SIMPLE

**Scientific quality,
novelty and
potential impact**



How to handle additional project requirements (gender, open science, outreach)?

**The ability of the
proposer and team to
successfully achieve
project goals**



How to balance the level of risk and gain?



Minimizing scientometric view of evaluation – panel members have to be educated

OPEN QUESTIONS ON ASSESSMENT

The value of interviews of proposers?

How to evaluate „soft“ parts of the proposal – value for society, involvement of public, communication with stakeholders?

How to assess proposals with minimal bias by scientometry?

What to consider when assessing the applicant?



FUTURE OF ASSESSMENT



Fairness

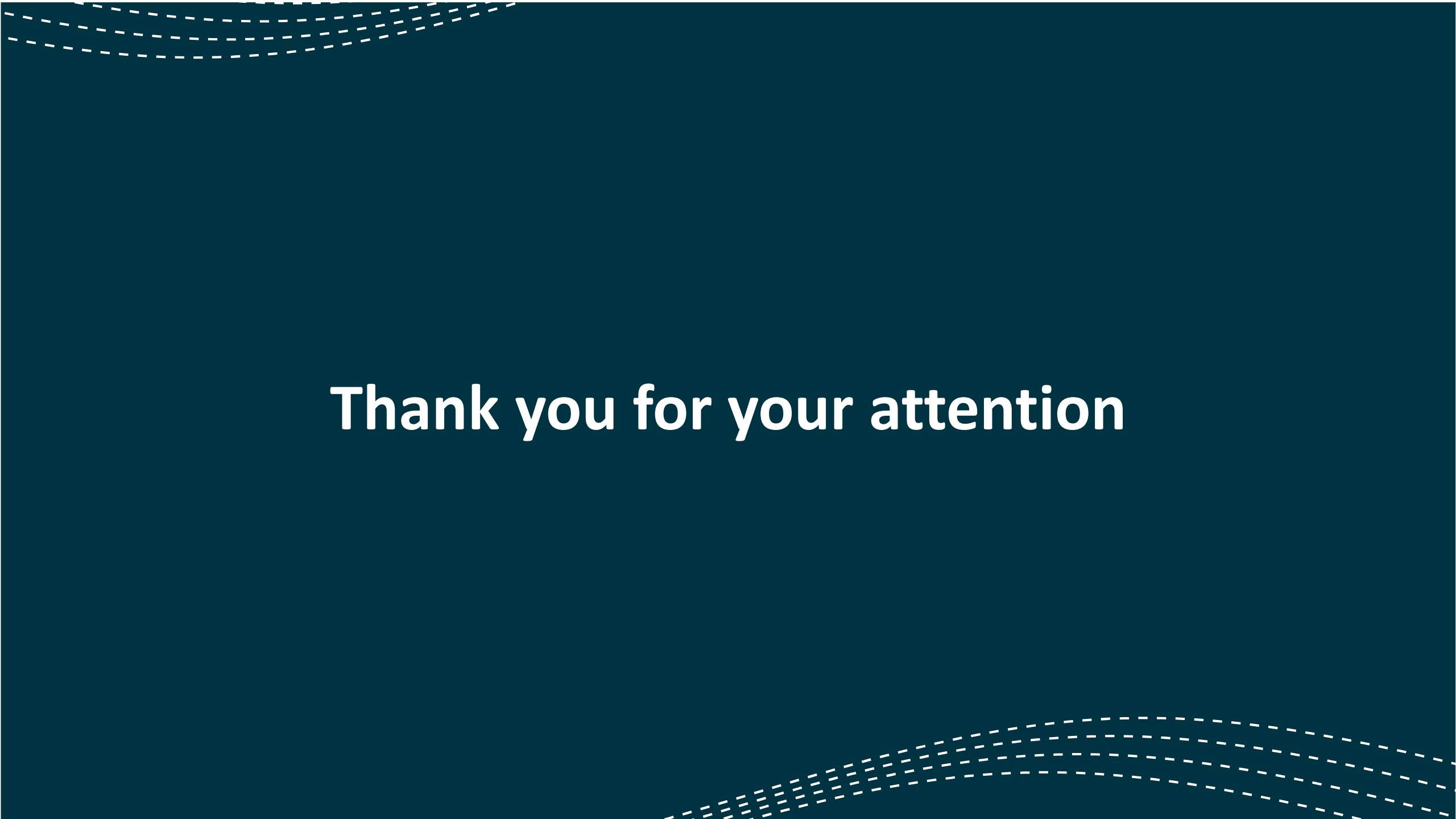


Interviews



**International
panels**





Thank you for your attention