

Psychology publication issues in the Czech Republic

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to present the current situation and the view of psychology publication policy in Czech Republic. The presentation provided a platform for discussion. It summarized sixth-century progress in the development of scientific language. The current publication situation in Psychology in the Czech Republic was described. The present article reports on the journals: Czechoslovak Psychology (Prague) in comparison with the journal *Studia psychologica* (Bratislava), about their impact factors and citation indexes; Psychology in Economical Practice; E-Psychologie; Psychology Today; two proceedings: *Annales Psychologici* (Brno) and *Varia psychologica* (Olomouc); News of the Czech-Moravian Psychological Society. In the Czech Republic, there seems to be a wish for the enlargement of the publication policy tailored to European perspectives; this is the challenge.

Key words: scientific communication; psychology; information dissemination; journals; language; publication policy, linguistic diversity, online publishing; Czech Republic

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The aim of this paper is to illustrate the current situation and the view of psychology publication policy in Czech Republic. The presentation provided a platform for discussion. In order to understand the present situation, it is necessary to take a look inside the specific geographic, political, cultural and educational conditions in Central Europe. This context allows us to realize why the development of scientific language and terminology as well as the support of publication has not always been direct and straightforward. It is beyond a doubt that English has become the leading language of communication in psychology. But at the same time we must be aware of the fact that development of psychology is the responsibility of psychologists in each respective country, because the relevant problems of local importance should be solved from inside in the national languages. The unique monograph by Brožek and Hoskovec (1995, figure 1) reflects this context in the history of Charles University founded 1348. At the present time this development is not finished nor closed.

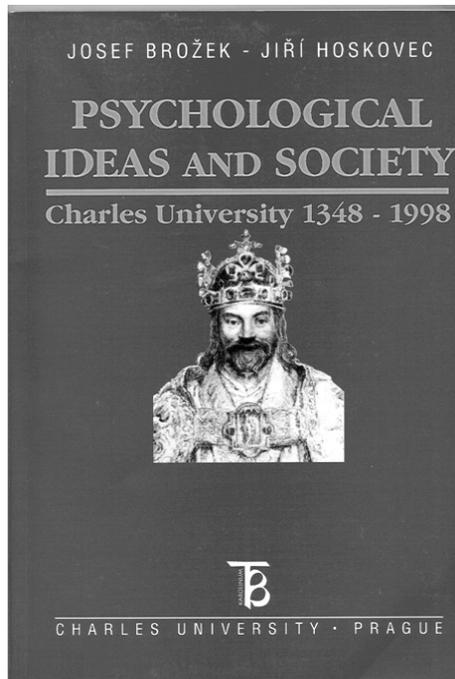


Figure 1.

The unique monograph by Brožek and Hoskovec (1995).

The current publication situation in Psychology in the Czech Republic describes the table 1.

Table 1.
Periodicals in the Czech Republic.

Periodicals in Czech Republic			
Title in English	Since	Language	No/year
Czechoslovak Psychology	1957	Czech, Slovak (suppl. 2007 English)	6
Psychology in Economic Practice	1966	Czech, Slovak	2
E-Psychologie	2007	Czech, Slovak, English	4
News of the CMPsych Soc.	1966	Czech	4
Psychology Today	1994	Czech	12
Annales Psychologici	1996	Czech, Slovak, English, German	1
Varia Psychologica	1996	Czech, Slovak, English	1
Psychology	1935-1943	Czech	4

The first journal of Psychology in Czechoslovakia was founded and edited by Mihajlo Rostohar in Brno, 1935:

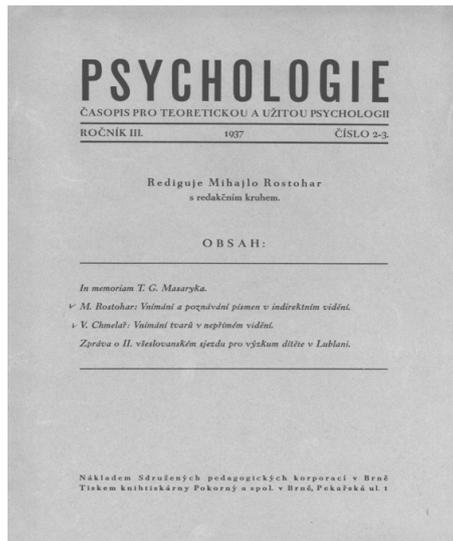


Figure 2.
Psychologie (Brno) I/1935

Czechoslovak Psychology (CP), ISSN 0009-062X, edited in Prague, is the most important journal in our country. The first issue of the journal CP appeared in 1957, the first editor in chief was Jan Doležal. After the change of Czechoslovakia to democracy in 1989 the editor in chief was Miluše Sedláková, the present editor in chief is Jiří Hoskovec. After the splitting of the federal Czechoslovakia in 1993 the journal remains the common scientific forum for psychologists of both the countries, Czech Republic and Slovak Republic.



Figure 3.

The journal Czechoslovak Psychology, Supplement 2007

The journal *Československá psychologie* (Czechoslovak psychology) publishes predominantly the original papers from the fields of psychological theory, methodology and practice. It represents a unique platform for publishing results of theoretical, experimental, and empirical research that is carried out in the Czech and Slovak research institutes, departments of psychology, and psychological laboratories in the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic. The papers are presented in Czech and Slovak languages with English abstracts. The special congress issue of the journal (2007) was published in English.

Československá psychologie (CP) is currently the only psychological journal published in the Czech Republic with an impact factor. The impact factor of CP: 1994 0.151, 1999 0.196, 2000 0.295, 2001 0.195, 2002 0.190, 2003 0.232, 2004 0.209, 2005 0.241, 2006 0,279 and 2007 0,133.



Figure 4.

Czechoslovak Psychology: Impact factor 2003-2007 (Source: Web of Science)

In the neighboring Slovak Republic, the journal *Studia psychologica*, ISSN 0039-3320, has been published in English since 1958 (editor in chief Damián Kováč).

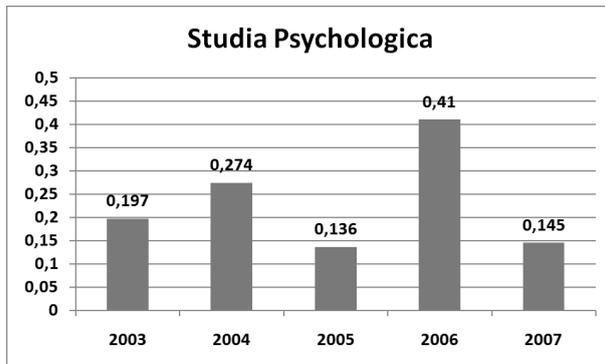


Figure 5.

Studia psychologica: Impact factor 2003-2007 (Source: Web of Science)

The next picture offers a different point of view: Citations.



Figure 6.

Czechoslovak Psychology: Citations 1980-2008 (Source: Web of Science)

For comparison the same aspect of *Studia psychologica*:

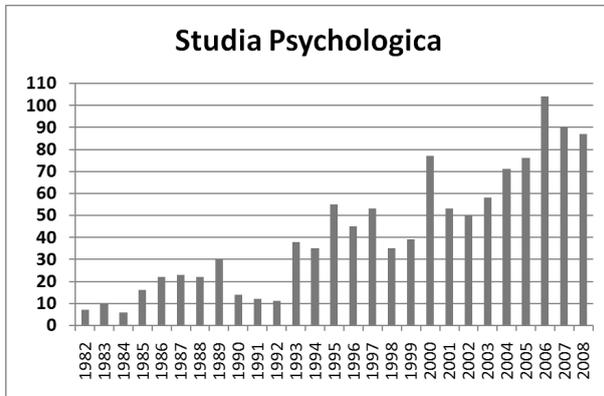


Figure 7.

Studia psychologica (Bratislava): Citations 1981-2008 (Source: Web of Science)

The other Slovak psychological journal *Psychológia a patopsychológia dieťaťa* (Child Psychology and Pathopsychology) is published in Slovak since 1966.

The mission of the journal CP cannot be seen only in making the psychological public acquainted with the outputs of psychological research executed and implemented in the CR and the SR, but also in elaboration of syntheses of knowledge, views, and methodological approaches subject to different paradigms that are applied in solving the psychological problems in particular laboratories of both theoretical and applied psychologies abroad.

The continuous enrichment of psychological terminology, that takes place in the process of particular forms of research in the world psychology and the fact that the journal is published in Czech and Slovak languages, leads to the necessity to search for and to create the equivalent of these terms in national languages. It follows that the journal stimulates the formation of scientific psychological language.

The perspectives of the journal CP are connected with psychology of personality, developmental and educational psychology, psychosocial basis of health of population, and psychology in the social and cultural context. In the rubric “From the history” the readers can become acquainted with the development of psychological thinking and knowledge, and also with the development of psychology and its most important representatives.

Czechoslovak Psychology (CP) offers both fee based subscription as well as open access, the printed journal appears six times a year, re-usage in public libraries.

Cost: the subscription of the journal CP is relatively cheap - CZK 222,-, (less the price of one book), no author fees nor cost of publishing.

Reviewing: every article is reviewed by two independent competent referees who stay anonymous to the author, in the case of recommended or necessary adjustments the referee receives the submitted article again for supervision; the rejection rates are relatively low.

The submission to publication takes usually six to eighteen months.

Language: the articles are written in Czech and Slovak with key words and abstracts in English. (There was one exception: the special issue of the journal CP, on the occasion of the European Congress of Psychology in 2007 in Prague, was published in English). The publication in CP has valuable impact in scientific career progression.

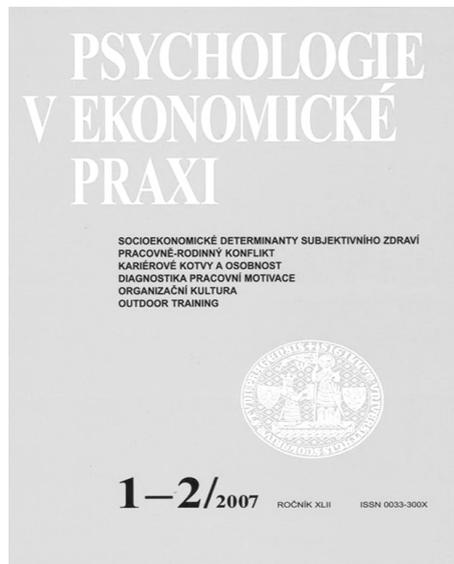
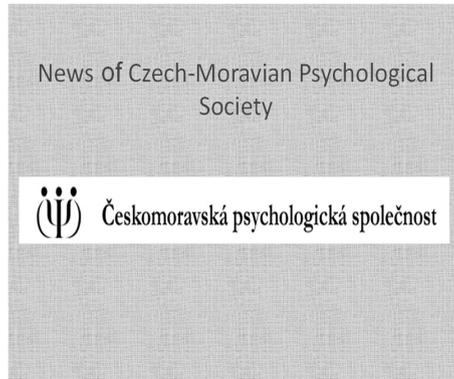


Figure 8.

Psychology in Economical Practice, ISSN 0033-300X

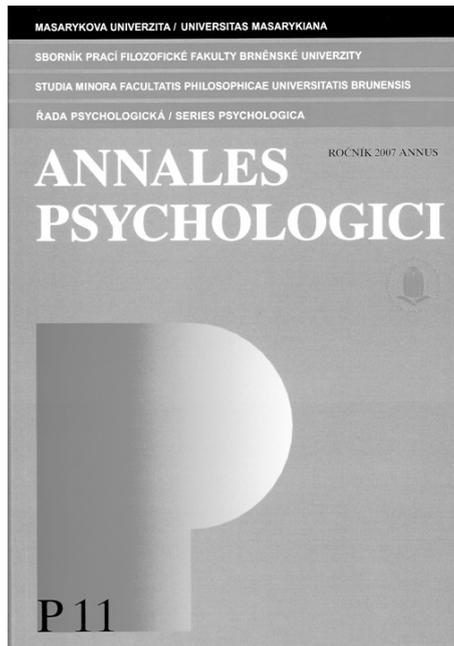
The journal has been published since 1966 by Charles University in Prague. The focus is on work and organizational psychology concerning theory, methodology and application. The authors are from universities as from other organizations and institutions as well. Themes are, for example, banking, state organizations, industry, and transportation and in service organizations. Critical reviews of new books and news, local and international, are included. In 2009 this journal shall follow up as “Psychology for Practice”.

**Figure 9.**

News of the Czech-Moravian Psychological Society

This journal appears four times a year, in Czech, and is based on the membership of this Society (about 1200 members). It offers information about current affairs, conferences, workshops, important anniversaries and reviews.

Following pictures refer to proceedings edited by two Czech departments of psychology:

**Figure 10.**

Annales Psychologici (Masaryk University, Brno), ISSN 1211-3522, ISBN 80-210-41447

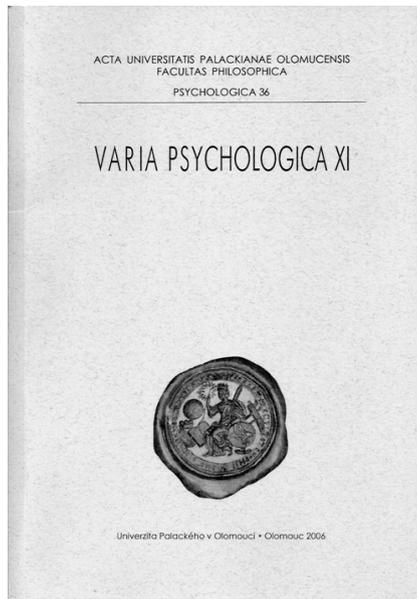


Figure 11.

Varia Psychologica (Palacký University, Olomouc), ISBN 80-244-1531-3

Psychology Today, ISSN 1212-9607, is a glossy magazine. Articles: How to attract happiness? Stalking, lifestyle perspective, etc.



Figure 12.

Psychology Today, 2008/6

Psychology Today is the most widespread psychological journal in the Czech Republic, which is similar to the analogous foreign journals. It focuses on actual topics and is popular also among non-psychologists. It appears monthly and publishes also advertisement of new psychological tests, workshops and books.

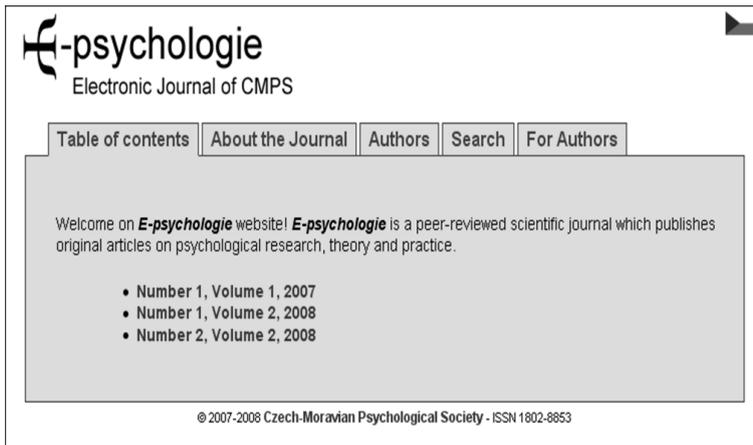


Figure 13.
E-Psychologie

E-Psychology is the new electronic scientific journal whose intended readers include all interested in psychology. The journal is published by the Czech-Moravian Psychological Society. In the journal original articles representing both research and practical experience, reviews, reports from interesting events and book reviews are published. The journal also provides space for professional discussion about current topics. Articles in “E-psychologie” are scientific and they can be used provided that they are cited properly (see the reference included in every article). It is freely available to all readers. In 2008 four issues will be published. The editorial board accepts articles written in Czech, Slovak, English and German.

Facit: The present writer is confident that linguistic diversity is not an obstacle for scientific communication in psychology.

Literature

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