ARCHAEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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Archaeological Map of the Czech Republic (AMCR) is an electronic infrastructure combining a tool for managing the agenda of field archaeology in the CR with main data sources used for archaeological research. The core of the infrastructure represents a database of field interventions (building or mining activities, etc.) which may develop into archaeological "field work events". Licensed archaeological organisations in the CR (approx. 100 in number) may use this register and register any of the field work in order to conduct archaeological survey or excavation. The AMCR provides all the interventions with unique identifiers – in this way, an "authority list" of archaeological field activities comes into being. too, a necessary prerequisite of any efficient management and quality control. Using a uniform tool archaeologists will provide the information on results of their field work and submit their reports to the central repository, which is obligatory according to the valid Czech legal system. The on-line application may be also used to edit earlier parts of the database, now consisting of approx. 100,000 entries on archaeological excavations, sites and finds. This kind of "crowdsourcing" activities may play an important integrating role in the future of Czech archaeology. Part of this task has been already accomplished within the project as a joint effort of the project staff and approx. 30 external archaeologists.

The AMCR combines other existing infrastructures in the CR like the Digital Archives of the Institute of Archaeology CAS (80,000 of texts, 200,000 photos and plans), the Bibliography of Czech Archaeology (approx. 100,000 entries), the Aerial Archaeology Archives (approx. 10,000 aerial photographs), etc. By collecting of metadata, transforming them according to standard glossaries and persistent identifiers and creating multiple links among objects of various data classes, a complex e-infrastructure is coming into existence.

The AMCR infrastructure has been created in course of the project "Archaeological Map of the Czech Republic. A System for Data Acquisition, Management and Presentation". The project is supported by the Ministry of Culture of the CR from the NAMI programme targeting the applied research on the national and cultural identity in 2012–2015.

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Download the application (since Jan 1st, 2016): www.archeologickamapa.cz