

To whom it may concern

Vienna, 01.10.2025

Recommendation Letter for Promotion to Full Professor

Dear Members of the Committee,

It is my great pleasure and honor to recommend Doc. Mgr. Jiří Pánek, Ph.D. for promotion to Full Professor.

Over the past years, I have had several occasions to follow his academic achievements, his international engagement, and his commitment to mentoring the next generation of scholars.

Dr. Pánek has established an excellent international reputation through his outstanding research in the fields of GeoParticipation, participatory mapping, and development studies. Despite several opportunities to benefit from academic presentations of Dr. Pánek at scientific events in person and of appreciating his scientific progress visible through his publications, I had the particular pleasure on collaborating with Dr. Pánek in the Shape2gether project, where he has made significant contributions to linking geosciences, sustainability, and digital education. This project illustrates his strong ability to initiate and successfully manage interdisciplinary collaborations.

Equally noteworthy is his active engagement in the International Cartographic Association (ICA). As Chair of the Working Group on Participatory Mapping, he plays an essential role in shaping international discussions on innovative cartographic methods and citizen participation. His distinction as a two-time recipient of the prestigious ICA Scholarship further underlines both the high quality and the global relevance of his research.

Dr. Pánek is also highly dedicated to teaching and supervision. Beyond numerous theses at his home institution, he has supervised a Master's thesis in Vienna within the International Master in Cartography. This example highlights not only his pedagogical competence but also his ability to support students in an international academic environment.

His impressive publication record, his international teaching experience, and his many academic awards all testify to his scientific excellence. At the same time, he combines cutting-edge research with practical application and strong international networking – qualities that make him particularly well-suited for a professorship.

I am fully convinced that Dr. Pánek, with his expertise, commitment, and international visibility, will further strengthen the reputation and development of his faculty as well as his university. For these reasons, I support his promotion to Full Professor without reservation.

Sincerely,

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