

Prof. Ing. Jaroslav Šesták, DrSc, dr.h.c.,

(*1938, Držkov)

is an honorary citizen of Prague 5, an emeritus researcher at the Czech Academy of Sciences and a professor at the Center for New Technologies, West Bohemian University in Pilsen. He holds the highest honors of the Czech Academy of Sciences (Heyrov Medal 2000) and of the Czech Chemical Society (Hanuš Medal 1998) as well as international awards such as Kurnakov Medal (USSR 1985 and Russia 2015), Bodenheimer Medal (Israel 1987), Patras Medal (Greece 2007) or the Netzsch Awards (Germany 2014). Recently he received supreme state honor by the President of the Czech Republic for his lifetime work.

He became the guarantor of a number of institutions such as the School of Energy Science of Kyoto University in Japan, the Faculty of Humanities at the Charles University in Prague and the Czech Department of the University of New York in Prague, where he lectured for twenty years on an interdisciplinary subject "On the Crossroads of Science and Philosophy of Nature". He is a founding member of the journals *Thermochimica Acta* (Elsevier, 1969), *J. Mining and Metallurgy* (Bor, 1996) and *Int. J. Applied Glass Research* (Wiley, 2009).

He wrote to three hundred expert papers, delivered hundreds of professional and popularizing lectures and in 2000 he was among the 20 most cited Czech physicists (thermodynamics). He has been involved in the emergence of new scientific disciplines such as kinetic phase diagrams, glass-forming theory, economical thermodynamics, or non-isothermal kinetics, where his Sestak-Berggren equation is cited more than a thousand times. He is the author and editor of fifteen books, which he often edited graphically, supplemented by photographs, and where he also designed their covers. His triptych on thermal physics published by Springer in the series "Hot topics of thermal analysis" was ranked between the Springer best twenty books. He also became the author of twenty exhibitions of art and reportage photography.