

International Conference

15 February 2018, Prague

Digital Czech Republic



22 targets for Digital Czech Republic until year 22

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Institute for Politics and Society

Will we be better off in four years than we are today? A modern country that wishes to be prosperous in the 21st century needs to successfully embrace the digital revolution. In Central Europe, this is not possible without substantial help from the state. Digital Czech Republic is the first strategic priority of the future new government, which will face major challenges especially in the field of eGovernment services to citizens and entrepreneurs. The new government will, however, also play a key role in the digital transformation of the economy and everyday life in the next four years. On one hand, the state must lead by example and fulfill its own long-neglected tasks in the field of eGovernment. On the other hand, it also has to start actively removing barriers and creating favourable conditions for the private sector.

The aim of the Digital Czech Republic policy program and the third annual international conference is primarily to thoroughly debate the specific steps in the major and emerging areas of digitalization. In cooperation with conference participants and other experts, we formulated 22 achievable targets whose fulfilment would actually advance the digitalization of our country. We believe that when we meet at the end of the current election period in early 2022, the concept of digital Czech Republic will already have become a reality.

A necessary condition for success is the active involvement of the Czech Republic at the EU level because the problems of the digital economy need to be solved mainly on the global level. Three specific targets focused on the national level are being further set for each of the five panels. Foremost is the development of eGovernment which represents a major task for the Czech Republic. Healthcare and finance are examples of highly regulated sectors that are undergoing a radical transformation under the influence of modern technologies and in which significant advancement can be achieved. Education and Internet access are very important areas that represent vital prerequisites to digitalization. However, the state has not yet granted them the attention they deserve.

We believe that these 22 targets will inspire discussion at this year's conference as well as further debates in both the public and the private sector. We will facilitate their implementation, and promote debate in these and other areas towards building the digital Czech Republic.

The European Liberal Forum and the Institute for Politics and Society, alongside its partners, are organising the third annual international conference Digital Czech Republic, with a subheading borrowed from Ronald Reagan's 1980 election-winning speech "Are you better off than you were four years ago?". This year, the Digital Czech Republic panel discussions will be questioning what the government can do, with the aid of digital technologies, to make citizens feel better off at the end of the forthcoming electoral term.

The Digital Czech Republic conference is the main event of the year, which opens a debate and a discussion between politicians and the private sector about the key questions concerning digital technologies, the digital economy, the digitalization of the public sector, and, above all, the efficient and user-friendly state administration. Citizens, entrepreneurs and firms in the Czech Republic have so far encountered indifferent, sometimes even negative attitudes from public institutions towards digitalization, which is being criticised by the OECD and the European Union. However, in the 21st century, the government has to take into account not only the advantages which the digitalization brings along, but also the risks for which it has to be prepared in order to create the appropriate and safe environment for digital reforms.

The role of the state is to help with the unavoidable digitalization of the economy and the public sphere, create the conditions for a successful development of entrepreneurialism, provide its citizens with services, and protect them against market failure, support the science and cultivate the entrepreneurial environment from the start-ups organisations to the biggest

corporations. The state is not supposed neither to obstruct the digitization process, nor to create artificial administrative barriers or excessive and unnecessary regulations for it.

The purpose of the third annual year of the Digital Czech Republic conference is to discuss the main tasks that will face new Czech government that will emerge from the 2017 parliamentary elections:

- **How could a more efficient and user-friendly Czech public administration for both clerks and citizens be achieved?**
- **What impedes the development of the real digital economy in the Czech Republic and how is it possible to remove these obstacles?**
- **Which steps can be done during the electoral term of 2017-2021?**

The third year of the conference will be conceived as a **presentation of preparations and measures** to be taken in the field of digital society creation. The aim is also **to open a discussion and find solutions to the problems which impede the implementation of the digital agenda** in the Czech Republic. The speakers will not only be the members and representatives of the newly appointed government, but also their foreign counterparts, especially from countries from which it is desirable to take an example (Finland, Estonia, Korea, Poland etc.).

The panels of the conference will be divided into five blocks according to the topics of discussion: **eGovernment, eHealth, Frictionless and Cashless Society, Education for 21st century, Internet For Everyone.**

Program

Organised by the European Liberal Forum with the support of the Institute for Politics and Society

8:30 – 9:00

Registration

9:00 – 9:30

Welcome speech

Andrej Babiš Prime Minister, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Jan Macháček Chairman of the Board, Institute for Politics and Society (Czech Republic)

Martina Dlabajová Member of the European Parliament; Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), ALDE/ANO; Vice President, ELF (Czech Republic)

9:30 – 10:30

Keynote Speakers

Hanno Pevkur Leader, Reform Party; Vice President, Estonian Parliament (Estonia)

Věra Jourová Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, European Commission (Czech Republic)

Dita Charanzová Member of the European Parliament, Vice Chair, Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), ALDE/ANO (Czech Republic)

10:30 – 10:45

Coffee break

10:45 – 12:15

Main panel: eGovernment

Taavi Rõivas Former Prime Minister; Former Vice President, Estonian Parliament (Estonia)

Vladimír Dzurilla Designated Representative for IT (Czech Republic)
Ondřej Felix Advisor on eGovernment, Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Jan Klesla Commentator, Lidové noviny (Czech Republic)

12:15 – 13:00

Lunch break

13:00 – 14:30

Panel A: Education for 21st Century

Milena Jabůrková Vice President, Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Pavel Kysilka Founder, 6D Academy, former Vice Governor of the Czech National Bank (Czech Republic)

Einat Paz Head of Data Analytics and Statistics Team, Ministry of Education (Israel)

Jan Gulliksen Vice President for Digitalisation; Professor in Human Computer Interaction, KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)

Moderator:

Martina Dlabajová Member of the European Parliament; Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), ALDE/ANO; Vice President, ELF (Czech Republic)

Organised by the The Institute for Politics and Society

13:00 – 14:30

Panel B: Cashless and Frictionless Society

Lenka Dupáková Deputy Minister, Ministry of finance of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Vojtěch Benda Bank Board member, Czech National Bank (Czech Republic)

Tomáš Salomon Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of Board of Directors, Česká spořitelna (Czech Republic)

Sasha Krstic Country Manager in the Nordic and Baltic Region, Mastercard (Sweden)

Moderator:

Maria Staszkiwicz Executive Director, Czech Fintech Association (Czech Republic)

14:30 – 14:45

Coffee break

14:45 – 16:15

Panel C: eHealth

Adam Vojtěch Minister of Health, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Hans Erik Henriksen Chief Executive Officer, Healthcare Denmark (Denmark)

Miklós Szócska Director, Health Services Management Training Centre (Hungary)

Jan Petřík Director, Institute for Support of Czech eHealth (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Miloš Táborský Chairman, Czech Society of Cardiology (Czech Republic)

14:45 – 16:15

Panel D: Internet for Everyone

Jaromír Novák Chairman of the Council, Czech Telecommunication Office (Czech Republic)

Martin Dvořák Vice President, Committee of the Independent ICT Industry (Czech Republic)

Mateusz Litewski Manager for Central & Eastern Europe, Uber (Poland)

Martin Kolovratník Member of the Parliament, Parliament of the Czech Republic, ANO Movement (Czech Republic)

Moderator:

Ondřej Malý Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade for Internetization of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

16:15 – 17:00

Networking with a glass of wine

The European Liberal Forum

The European Liberal Forum (ELF) is the foundation of the European Liberal Democrats, the ALDE Party. A core aspect of the forum's work consists in issuing publications on Liberalism and European public policy issues.

The foundation also provides a space for the discussion of European politics, and offers training for liberal-minded citizens. The aim is to promote active citizenship in the European Union. The foundation is made up of a number of European think tanks, political foundations and institutes. The diversity of membership provides a wealth of knowledge and is a constant source of innovation. In turn, we provide our members with the opportunity to cooperate on European projects under the ELF umbrella.

ELF works throughout Europe as well as in the EU neighbourhood countries. The youthful and dynamic nature of ELF allows us to be at the forefront in promoting active citizenship, getting citizens involved with European issues and building an open, liberal Europe.



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Institute for Politics and Society

The Institute for Politics and Society is a Czech think-tank founded in October 2014. The mission of Institute is to cultivate the Czech political and public sphere through an in depth and open discussion and to create a living platform which terms problems and offers recipes for their solutions through international conferences, seminars, public discussions, political and social analyses available to the whole Czech society. We believe that an open discussion is a prerequisite for any successful solution to political and social problems.

Our main themes are foreign and security policy, defence, European matters, but also schooling, digitalisation, power industry, urbanism, life in a city and in the public space, values in politics and human rights in our country and abroad.



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Keynotes: Digital Europe and the Czech Republic

Digital revolution and transformation of society and markets brought about by new technologies had long ago transcended the borders of individual states and is, therefore, naturally one of the main priorities of the European Union. The EU primarily aims at removing barriers to trade and ensuring free movement of goods and services in the digital as well as the physical world. Digitalization is being seen as crucial for the future competitiveness of entire Europe as well as individual member states and one of the key factors for success on the internal and global market. Setting up a legislative framework that would not hinder but rather promote the use of new technologies is, therefore, a major goal for both the EU and the national governments. It is imperative to further invest in these new technologies and to exploit their potential.

The Czech Republic is politically active in this area mainly thanks to our representatives in the European Commission and the European Parliament. However, we are lagging behind the private sector on the domestic level. We could draw inspiration from countries like Estonia, or in certain areas also Denmark, Great Britain, Sweden, Hungary or Israel. Nevertheless, it is not necessary to wait for Europe and other countries, digital revolution gives us the unique opportunity to get ahead, adopt bold solutions and our own legislative rules, encourage entrepreneurship, increase national competitiveness, and thus, in turn become a role model for others.

Digital Europe and the Czech Republic

Target 1: Pursuing the Digital Single Market

Digital Single Market (DSM) initiative belongs to the main priorities of the current European Commission. It covers many legislative and non-legislative tools that should help to open and connect markets of member countries in the field of digital goods and services, and to harmonize their legal regimes in order to allow free movement in the EU. Among the proposed tools is the revision of copyright, regulation of the distribution of audiovisual content and the end of geoblocking.

Czech government should in collaboration with private entities, formulate a (if possible) coordinated national approach to every issue under consideration and actively participate in negotiations on European legislation, which is often directly effective. Synergy within the private sector is of fundamental importance.

Target 2: Building a data economy

The plan to create a digital single market is now known primarily due to the general regulation on the protection of personal data (GDPR), which together with related regulations forms one of the cornerstones of the Digital Single Market Strategy. These include in particular the protection of privacy in the digital world and the rules of data portability. The key, however, is not to just threaten companies with imposing sanctions and new obligations. The tools aim at establishing clear rules and thus opening the way for new business models based on the use of data.

The goal is not only to strengthen security and consumer confidence in digital services, but to provide entrepreneurs in the crucial area clear and predictable legal framework for their development. Thus, the state should not only be active in the negotiations, but also ensure quick and effective implementation of rules and their transparent and predictable enforcement at the national level.

Target 3: Promoting Artificial Intelligence

Rules for the legal and proper use of data are particularly crucial for the development of artificial intelligence (AI), which is at heart of the fourth industrial revolution. Machine learning based on the processing of huge amounts of usually anonymous data enables advances in automation and facilitates ease in all fields of everyday life, business and public administration. State regulation of artificial intelligence is required to ensure legal certainty for business and consumers, especially in the field of legal liability for, for example, self-driving cars.

The European Commission is preparing an initiative for AI. The Czechs should be actively involved. Due to the natural character of the cross-border transportation and other applications of artificial intelligence, transnational coordination of liability rules is very important. The Czech Republic has chosen this topic as central in the framework of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) and should actively contribute to an adoption of a compromise and common mandatory standards.

Target 4: Transferable records

The so-called blockchain regulation is another hot topic currently discussed at the international and European level. The technology of decentralized virtual registry is essential for cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin but also allows for a number of other, even more promising, applications. The private sector is primarily interested in using blockchain in international transport and trade, document management and so-called smart contracts that allow cheaper and faster facilitation of international transactions. The public sphere may use blockchain and similar decentralized technologies for various public registries.

To take advantage of this breakthrough technology and to introduce decentralized registers into Czech law it is necessary to set clear rules in the new legislation and amend existing norms of public and private law. Within the framework of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the Czech Republic significantly contributed to the preparation of a Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records (MLETR). By adopting national legislation in accordance with this model, we would become one of the pioneering countries and a role model for other EU members.

Digital Europe and The Czech Republic

Target 5: Rules for digital platforms

The global nature of multinational digital companies known as platforms means that it is necessary to address their regulation not only on the national but also on the European level. The European Commission has long been concerned primarily with questions of digital platforms' transparency, pricing, and relationships with partners and competitors from the viewpoint of the possible abuse of market power and their overall impact on competition. The EC focuses primarily on the areas of Internet search engines, social networks and eCommerce.

The Czech Republic urgently needs to set up clear rules for sharing economy peer-to-peer services and platforms like Uber and Airbnb. On one hand, people should not be afraid to join these platforms when they seek a quick source of income due to excessive bureaucracy. On the other hand, it is also necessary to ensure the safety of customers, proper fulfillment of tax and other duties and to assign responsibility for possible damages. New horizontal legislation, as well as sector specific regulations, are needed to remove outdated rules that hamper the development of digital platforms.

Target 6: Taxing the digital economy

Taxing internet-based business operations and provision of services via online platforms is becoming increasingly important as the digital economy grows. Not only to ensure compliance with legal obligations and to secure state's fiscal incomes, but also to ensure fair and equal conditions for national and multinational businesses. This is important on both the national and European level.

Given the transnational nature of the procurement and sales of digital goods and services, coordination of tax policy within the EU is crucial. Particularly with regard to the various tax optimization schemes, which exploit freedom of movement on the common market. The European Commission deals primarily with the issue of charging VAT on internet services. At the national level, it is important to ensure that no one uses facilitating work, services or accommodation on the internet to evade taxes. Similarly, it is also necessary to ensure fair and just taxation of new digital services and commodities such as cryptocurrencies.

Target 7: Cybersecurity

The complex area of cybersecurity relates not only to the digital and traditional businesses but also to the security of public IT systems, networks and data storage systems. It impacts the entire digital sector and virtually all the major sectors of the economy. Ability to ensure cybersecurity and defence against cyber attacks, is deemed to be a competitive advantage at the national level and the Czech Republic can profit from its existing excellent reputation in this field. The key component of the enviable Czech reputation has been active international cooperation. However, considering the dynamic developments in the area continued solid support for cybersecurity and cyber defence is crucial.

The Czech Republic was the first EU country to adopt a Law on Cyber Security. It is possible an amendment will be necessary in the future to harmonize the law with European legislation. Nevertheless, the changes should not be fundamental and the current system of public and private institutions and cooperating companies shall continue to develop and be able to respond to new threats. The Czech government should invest heavily in this field to ensure that the Czech Republic remains a European leader in this area. Investments are needed particularly in research, education, and human resources development.

Main Panel: eGovernment

Moderator:
Jan Klesla



Taxpayers rightfully expect state services that are easily accessible, fast, and safe.. The goal of eGovernment is to simplify the life of a citizen, unify public systems and provide automatic services, without any resubmissions of documents and information. In the area of eGovernment, the Czech Republic lags behind other EU states. The Czech Republic currently ranks 50th in the UN eGovernment ranking. Among the EU states, only one country is ranked worse. The most recent key strategic projects were realized between 2006 and 2010. Since then, only a few new projects and services have been implemented, and thus, not very effective status quo has been maintained.

We can see fragmented and decentralized development on the level of ministries, inconsistent and complex interfaces and a lengthy process of digitalisation of public services. The ministries are heavily dependant on large suppliers (vendor lock-in) and as a result pay very high cost for purchase and operation of public

IT systems. This leads to a very slow pace of development of eGovernment, aimed primarily at background services, rather than modern state-of-the-art services for citizens and businesses.

We need a fundamental change of approach to the provision of digital public services. Digitalisation should lighten the administrative burden for citizens and businesses, streamline state administration, save both public and private money and ultimately save time. Changes must be coherent, well targeted and discussed both with the public administration and the private sector. Close cooperation with businesses, ability to share ICT infrastructure, knowledge, experience and above all ability to perceive the needs of citizens and companies - the customers - is necessary. The government is aware of the need to fulfill these goals, and therefore, it has already announced the establishment of the Central IT Authority and appointed the Designated Representative that answers directly to the Prime Minister.

Target 1: IT Centralisation

The main problem in the area of digitalisation of public services is decentralized management. Each ministry builds its own ICT systems, often lacks experts, and thus, state's authorities are dependent on use of external suppliers. This leads to high costs and slow pace of development and results in poor services for citizens. On the other hand, we are already utilizing a number of centralized background support systems. eGovernment must be designed in innovative ways and get inspiration from the best IT services in the world.

The basis for change is central coordination of state IT systems and providers. The Designated Representative will prepare an Action plan within his first 100 days in office. The plan will contain specific tasks and deadlines as well as responsibilities of individual ministries and other governmental bodies. The IT agenda will become more focused, basic standards applicable to the administration will be set, cost management, architecture and responsibility for delivery of IT projects will be centralized. All state IT projects will have to have a clear business case and provide substantial benefits for the citizens, private companies and/or state organizations.

Target 2: User-friendly services for citizens and businesses

Current government digital services sharply differ from those facilitated by the private sector in terms of quality and scope. Commercial digital services, such as internet banking, insurance, commerce and online shopping are among the best in the EU. ICT literacy of citizens and businesses is very good and people can use a wide range of commercial online services. The apps these services use are usually user-friendly and easily manageable. Unfortunately, this is not the case in the public sector. We are not able to keep up with the commercial sphere, adapt, modify, offer flexible services and extend them to other areas where it is possible and practical to use digital technology. We also see little ability to „sell“ the already existing and operating services to clients - citizens and businesses.

Digital public services in the Czech Republic should be just as user-friendly as those offered by the private sector. It should, thus, be our ambition to create open platforms for discussion between the public and private sector, sharing of knowledge and experience in this area, promoting the possibility of linking different types and forms of services, etc. All public services should be based on a single digital identity for each citizen and a single interface to all national and most local agenda for citizens and businesses where all government services would be available in one place.

Target 3: Committee for digital-friendly legislation

Czech legal system is confusing and inconsistent to some extent which also affects digital services. The state creates barriers and prevents itself from providing many of digital services. For the development of digital services in the public sector, improvement of public as well as private services is needed to identify and remove legal barriers, while continuously monitoring new legislation to prevent new ones to emerge. All steps must be taken with regard to EU legislation.

The establishment of a specialized permanent working committee under the Government Council for Information Society could be an efficient way of ensuring adoption of digital-friendly legislation. It would become a professional body coordinating inter-ministerial procedures and, if necessary, it could also draft or amend legislation. The working committee's recommendations should be incorporated into the final report of the Government Legislative Council's Commission on Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA).

Panel A: Education for the 21st Century

Moderator:
Martina Dlabajová



Throughout history, every ground-breaking technology has been met with fears of job loss and displacement. Usually, the exact opposite happens. In the 21st century, the greatest innovations occur in the areas of artificial intelligence (the ability of machines to learn), Internet of Things (the interconnectedness of “smart” devices) and “Industry 4.0” (synchronization between the physical factory floor and the cyber computational space). When introduced into the economy, these innovations will drive economic growth and create entirely new job categories while transforming those that exist today. But we have to be prepared for that.

The key to a successful digital transformation of the economy is, therefore, a reform of the current education system. In the near future, people and machines will work side by side. Technology will improve our ability to make informed and objective decisions. Our ability to work with intelligent

machines and process massive amounts of data into actionable information will mean the difference between progress and stagnation. Unfortunately, current education systems are not prepared to meet the rapidly-changing needs of employers and help students to acquire the skills essential for today’s jobs. The result is the “skills crisis” – a global phenomenon plaguing countries around the world.

The Czech education system does not meet the needs of the digital economy. Traditional classrooms with rows of desks isolate students who are required to attend structured repetitive lessons. Yet, education has never been more important than in our digital data-based economy where new technologies are introduced at an increasing pace. If we succeed in adapting our education system to the new technological developments, the Czech Republic will be able to resolve the knowledge crisis and fully exploit the potential for economic and social growth.

Education for the 21st Century

Target 1: Reacting to changes in the labour market

The state's essential task is to guarantee a high-quality education for children. It must also address the growing demand of the labour market for digitally literate workers. This results in the need to transform the system into a truly lifelong learning experience in which universities serve as partners to both employees and employers. Topics that are covered today are archaic, such as outdated computer languages, and fail to meet the employers' needs. We cannot expect our graduates to be successful when their education does not provide them with skills they will need in their jobs and when they do not know what to expect from the real working environment. Yet, today's graduates are immediately plunged into jobs where they work in diverse teams and are expected to be persistent, independent, and capable of quickly adapting to change.

The education system must keep pace with the changing labour market and must be able to flexibly change the ways in which it prepares the students for their future jobs. A successful education system constantly changes course (and curriculum) to carry students toward the skills of the future. Sometimes updating an education is as simple as rearranging the rows of desks in a classroom so that students get more experience in teamwork. Other changes must be more profound. The curriculum should be redesigned based on labour market projections. Work-based learning and apprenticeships should be introduced as well as outcome metrics that measure career success by course of study, degree and institutions. Further, the Act on the Verification and Recognition of Further Education Outcomes (No. 179/2006 Coll.) should be amended so as to create a path equivalent to initial education in order to achieve the necessary qualifications in the labour market. A career guide should be available to students who need help with choosing their academic direction and selecting their courses. Last but not least, it is necessary to complete the reform of regional education funding and provide funding for public and private schools on the basis of labour market forecasts.

Target 2: Workplace education and apprenticeships

In the past, our education system was divided into pathways to either blue- or white-collar jobs – with white-collar jobs reserved for those with a tertiary education. This division has become outdated in the digital era. Simply hiring more employees with a tertiary education is not an adequate response to the skills shortage. Too many skilled employees lack a tertiary degree, and even those with tertiary degrees may lack skills needed in the labour market. We need to expand “new collar” jobs to those with the skills and experience needed, but lacking academic credentials. New collar education pathways (such as apprenticeships and certifications) are needed, and the employers should play a more important role in creating those.

At home and abroad, there are many examples of excellent cooperation in the field of vocational training between businesses, educational institutions and local communities. These partnerships could help to bring the Czech education to the 21st century. They combine the expertise of public and private stakeholders with government support. Skill mapping, which is often part of these projects, has proven to be a uniquely suited approach to curriculum design. Polytechnic education should be reintroduced at the elementary school level and after-school activities developing the interest of the pupils in technologies should be prepared in cooperation with the private sector. The practical preparation of students at the secondary school level should move to real workplaces in close cooperation with schools and employers. Legal and administrative barriers to cooperation between the schools and the private sector need to be removed and projects implementing dual education in the regions should be supported.

Target 3: Promoting collaboration between schools and businesses

Cooperation projects between businesses and educational institutions are becoming part of academic and technical courses. They provide students with the opportunity to acquire practical skills, work on specific projects, and find ways to solve complex problems. The cooperation between companies and the state is an essential prerequisite for the modernization of our education system. Many examples of fruitful collaborations between business, education institutions and local communities can already be found both home and abroad (projects such as P-TECH as well as Dual Vocational Education Project).

Panel B: Cashless and Frictionless Society

Moderator:
Maria Stasziewicz



Supporting cashless payments is also an effective move towards a “frictionless society”. The term implies removing obstacles from everyday life through modern technology. Digitalisation also provides valuable data that can be used for statistical or commercial purposes and policy-making. By promoting cashless transactions and electronic payments, the state helps create new opportunities for both entrepreneurs as well as the public and non-profit sphere.

Yet, financial services are subject to strong regulation in order to protect the customer and to sustain the market and economic stability. Innovation in financial services is, therefore, the interest to both regulators and the European Union, who seek to embrace modern technologies without weakening the fundamental elements of customer protection and institutions themselves. Some even test revolutionary ideas of a fully digital currency that would change the financial system altogether. In any case, the state and its support are indispensable to a better future of finance, which in itself is one of the greatest opportunities for further digitalisation.

Cashless and Frictionless Society

Target 1: Mandatory acceptance of cashless and online payments for eGovernment services

Financial transactions constitute a substantial part of both citizen's and entrepreneur's interaction with the state. A vast majority of government and municipal services still require a personal visit, some administrative fees need to be paid by special paper tax stamps, and some authorities still do not accept cashless payments or accept only specific cards, including the Czech Post. This is in dire contrast with the everyday experience in a country where almost 11 million payment cards are in circulation and almost two-thirds of internet users shop online and use internet banking on a daily basis. Uncoordinated approach to the introduction of online payments leads to potential double spending and systems incompatibility. A recent report by the Ministry of Finance on the impact of the Regulation on interchange fees showed that most municipalities positively evaluate the introduction of payment terminals. However, some studies mention notable discrepancies in the costs municipalities incur in relation to handling cashless payments.

It should be, therefore, made mandatory for all municipalities, administrative authorities and state enterprises, including the Czech Post, to accept all types of cashless payments, be it card or mobile. Once the acceptance of cashless payments is obligatory, the government has to assist the authorities in negotiating favourable terms by engaging with relevant industry associations and card schemes. Furthermore, citizens should be able to pay most of the eGovernment services online. The introduction of an "e-shop" for eGovernment services needs to be part of the general eGovernment architecture's redesign. The creation of a single payment gateway for public administration is the task for the Designated Representative.

Target 2: Regulatory sandbox

Financial services fall under strict regulations, which cannot anticipate the advent and potential applications of new technologies. This can and does hinder competition and limits a quick market delivery of more user-friendly, frictionless and cheaper solutions. Across the political spectrum, there is a widespread support for innovations that simplify bureaucratic burden and everyday life. Likewise, the European Union has long been advancing the modernisation of

financial services. The new Payment Services Directive (PSD2) and the support for open banking are only the recent examples thereof. Soon, the EU will also release the FinTech Action Plan.

One of the most effective tools for the support of financial innovation, which has already been proved effective when applied in other countries, is a regulatory testing space (a regulatory sandbox). Akin to clinical trials, the sandbox is a technology-neutral program run by the national financial regulator and/or supervisory authority for selected innovative businesses, be it new entrants or traditional players such as banks. The main objective is to test innovative business models, for which some legal requirements are waived for the testing period. The regulator, on the other hand, receives valuable feedback, which can lead to identifying and removing unnecessary barriers for businesses. Ministry of Finance along with the Czech National Bank in cooperation with industry associations can prepare the framework for such a regulatory sandbox, drawing on experience from the UK, Lithuania or Poland.

Target 3: Amendments to the Act on EET and the support for its voluntary adoption

Effective tax collection does not imply more bureaucracy for entrepreneurs, but above all, it simplifies the obligation to record sales and offers a full range of other uses such as automated data collection on revenues and transactions. It can facilitate accounting, management of inventory or tax returns, and it provides businesses with information in real time. Introduction of eSales systems do not necessarily incur additional costs and can ease operation for small and medium-sized enterprises. One of the main government objectives behind the electronic records of sales was to limit tax evasion and grey economy. The state should, therefore, further support the adoption of eSales systems.

The forthcoming amendment to the Act on Electronic Records of Sales (EET) is a good opportunity to open the debate on how eSales systems can further promote cashless economy and remove friction thanks to modern technologies. Given the recent ruling of the Czech Constitutional Court that exempts cashless payments from the obligation under the EET, it is quite clear that it can be used precisely for these purposes. It is also an ideal tool for reporting income of service providers which operate on platforms, such as shared economy ones. The state should therefore promote its voluntary adoption, particularly in these areas.

Panel C: eHealth

Moderator:
Miloš Táborský



eHealth is an area where digital technologies have potential to save lives and improve health standards by providing a more efficient health care. They can lighten the administrative burden and reduce financial costs of the entire medical industry. eHealth is a trend in many developed countries, such as Denmark, Netherlands and Estonia, and the concept also has a significant potential in the Czech Republic. However, we have seen only partial initiatives in this area so far, mostly on the part of health insurers or regional healthcare providers. A system-wide solution is still missing.

In autumn 2016, the Czech government adopted the National Strategy for eHealth that should constitute a basis for implementation of a number of national projects in this area. These will enable data sharing between healthcare providers through secure online communication, making patient information available online, or facilitating the development of telemedicine. The first big project is the introduction of mandatory electronic prescription (eReceipt) from 1 January 2018. The eHealth systems can already be described as a government priority. The legislative base for eHealth development is satisfactory and national authorities also have sufficient mandate for its promotion.

The Czech healthcare system does not currently apply the so-called Health Technology Assessment (HTA) or examination of new technologies, procedures, treatments and devices. First attempt to introduce this approach is the Committee of the Ministry of Health. We can expect a further rise in healthcare spending with the introduction of more new technologies and innovative medicines. Negative attitude of a part of the medical community, caused by the increase in costs associated with digitalisation, data protection or fear of a Big Brother scenario, could also prove to be a challenge. For these reasons, it is necessary to proceed with caution and start with creating specific missing registers.

Target 1: Drug register

The eReceipt system lacks a feature that would allow sharing data about individual patient's consumption of medicines. This would enable experts treating the patient for various conditions to check his or hers overall medication. The primary benefit would be the control of dangerous drug interactions, and particularly the patients' safety. Without this feature, it is not possible to access important information about the ongoing treatment and the potentially significant added value of the entire eReceipt system is lost. It is a common and ordinary functionality of eHealth systems around the world, which can also be helpful in connection with cross-border healthcare monitoring.

The solution must come primarily from the State Institute for Drug Control (SÚKL) and professional associations and professional chambers, namely the Czech Pharmaceutical Chamber, and representatives of major groups of healthcare providers. The further development of the eReceipt application can be seen as only a functional superstructure above the current eReceipt system. Its implementation will affect information systems of major health providers in particular. Funding is available from the usual sources for the development of healthcare IT, there is also the possibility of drawing funds from EU programs. In the near future, it will be necessary to implement a legislative amendment relating to the protection of personal data - especially to comply with the GDPR.

Target 2: eHealth data and agenda reference base

Three key registers are needed to form the reference base of eHealth - national registry of healthcare providers, national registry of health professionals and national registry of paid health services (as a base for national register of beneficiaries). These should ensure functionality of the eHealth system by providing medical professionals with eID, facilitating authorized communication between healthcare providers and securing sharing of health-related information, especially of electronic medical records. If this is not completed, further development of eHealth in the Czech Republic will not be possible. The National Health Information System is a supporting infrastructure for the development of other reference registers. From an international perspective, this is an essential part of eHealth, which is being addressed by the majority of the EU member states.

Key to this task is the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic (ÚZIS) and the Ministry of Health, especially its IT department, together with professional societies and professional associations as well as representatives of major groups of healthcare and eGovernment services providers and suppliers. National health information system development, including secure communications and other infrastructure, has been designed as an investment project and is planned within the available EU programs. The legislative base for the development of the registers and filling them with reference data is already sufficient. It will be also necessary to change the law in the near future to enable all potential functions of the registries.

Target 3: Vaccination register

It is necessary to create and implement a vaccination register which is a standard part of eHealth in developed European countries. The register should enable public health management to monitor vaccination coverage in the Czech Republic. If the registry is not created, the Czech Republic will not have relevant data about national vaccination coverage and the authorities will have to work only with estimates.

ÚZIS and the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic, the State Health Institute and SÚKL, and professional companies are crucial to the creation of the vaccination registry. There is a political will to implement the vaccination register, as well as other public health registries. The legislative environment and the mandate of appropriate institutions are also ready for adoption of the register.

Panel D: Internet for Everyone

Moderator:
Ondřej Malý



Creating a true digital economy requires first-class high-speed internet access in all households, businesses, and public places. It is not only the inevitable condition of eGovernment implementation but also the opportunity to attract investors to less developed regions. Access to digital services will increase the competitiveness of businesses and has the potential to trigger economic growth. The state should, therefore, support the internet access and strive to remove all barriers, whether public or private. Even at the cost of necessary regulation and intervention where market failure occurs.

Less than 82% of Czech households have internet access, which puts us below the EU average. If the state significantly invests in the development of eGovernment and at the same time does not extend the availability of high-quality internet connection, the „digital divide“ may be exacerbated. Statistics show that Internet access strongly correlates with revenues; just over half of 25% of the poorest households have internet connection. For a regular customer, mobile connection is unfortunately only the internet „between two wifi networks“. Tariff prices are among the highest in Europe, according to Rewheel Research the Czech customer will get only 3 GB of data for 30 euros with the so-called flat (unlimited) tariff. But in 13 EU countries, the customer gets 100 GB or unlimited data. Just in three EU states is the situation even worse. The customers in the Czech Republic, Greece, Belgium and the Netherlands, utilize mobile internet access much less frequently than those in other countries. While the average customer of the Finnish operator transfers over 11 GB per month and the average Austrian 5 GB, it's not even 1 GB for Czechs.

The biggest difference between the Czech Republic and the rest of the European Union is the predominant type of fixed internet connection. Due to many mistaken decisions of the former Czech Telecom operator's management, just over a quarter of households, the third lowest share of households in the EU, are connected by a network of this former monopoly. Half of the households are connected to the internet via small and medium-sized companies, i.e. local and regional operators, through wireless or fibre networks. Regional providers are also among the most active „diggers“ – it is primarily them who should be credited for the last year's growth of about ten percent in the number of fibre-optic connections to the building or home (FTTB / H, not the multinational giants).

Internet for Everyone

Target 1: Simplify the construction of FTTH

The foundation for both services and business are fast optical networks, which cannot be fully replaced by another technology due to the ever-increasing demands on data transmission. In this area, the state is undoubtedly in debt to the operators in the form of unbearable bureaucratic burden. The past government has identified the problem by adopting the „Action Plan to Implement Non-Deciding Measures to Support the Planning and Construction of Electronic Communications Networks“. It represents a set of more than twenty measures for different ministries in order to facilitate construction. The plan is the result of a rather unique cooperation between operator associations, ministries and regulators, and if it succeeds, it will bring about significant progress in the pace of FTTH construction. The plan aims for instance at achieving better predictability of decision-making by building authorities, or at reducing burden applied by municipalities and the state.

Significantly more support is needed from the state especially in the area of easements. Organizations such as the Railway Infrastructure Administration (SŽDC) or The Office for Government Representation in Property Affairs (ÚZSVM) could manage without the operators' easements and the state would get back the money that operators save on the large added value that the Internet brings mainly to rural areas. Therefore, the state should significantly reduce the cost of easement. It is also important to promote the construction of optical networks through good examples (Central Bohemia, Vysočina, towns around Prague), which could serve as an incentive for local mayors. Last but not least, it is necessary to enact the obligation to construct optical network protectors in each line construction.

Target 2: European subsidies for construction

Support for network construction can also be obtained via direct subsidy - under the Operational Program Enterprise and Innovation (OPPIK), 14 billion CZK for high-speed internet is being prepared for intervention areas, where there is no fast connection and operators do not plan to build it in the next few years. However, the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MPO) has brought the program to a

situation where the Ministry of Foreign Affairs says it is the “most complicated case” that is currently being assessed by the European Commission. The Commission also wants to be pre-notified by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the next wave of the program, which will significantly slow down the whole thing.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade and other stakeholders are discussing a second call for proposals. It is uncertain whether there is a will to explore the reasons behind the breakdown of the first call. Obviously, a different approach is needed because operators are deeply displeased with the ministry's former approach. The solution must be built on the fastest possible way leading to the announcement of a new call for proposals. At the same time, it has to reflect the legitimate concerns of the operators. The specified intervention areas should be as small as possible, and priority should be given to subsidies to the outermost regions, which would minimise the chances of a legal action seeking protection of existing or planned investments. Municipalities and regions should have the option to put forward proposals under the same conditions as operators. The key issue is to negotiate as swiftly as possible with the EC on pre-notification and with the operators on the conditions for using the allocated funds.

Target 3: Reducing prices and increasing the availability of mobile internet

While in the field of fixed connections the competition is fairly tough due to smaller, local companies, mobile internet is being held firmly by the three large operators. The result of their pricing policy is that people use little cell data. The huge potential that lies in the modern digital economy remains untapped in the Czech Republic. It is, therefore, apt to ask why operators have prepared offers that do not stand comparisons with neighbouring countries and reduce the chance of Czech internet companies to reach their customers. Operators need to understand that the business model that requires the customer to pay for each transferred megabyte is completely outdated in 2018.

The Czech Telecommunications Office plays a key role as the regulator, which already operates in this area according to its powers. It is also necessary to consider extending those powers to the protection of competition. The Office for protection of the competition (ÚOHS) has been inactive in this segment for a long time. The politicians should also actively put pressure at transnational giants to reduce prices. They should also do everything in their power to make the market more competitive, which is the best way to ensure lower prices and better services. It is therefore appropriate to support the entry of the fourth operator, mainly through the upcoming frequency auction in the 700 MHz band.

List of Participants



Andrej Babiš

Prime Minister, Government
of the Czech Republic

CZECH REPUBLIC

Andrej Babiš is the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic since December 2017. He served from 2014 to 2017 as Czech Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. He got his degree at the University of Economics in Bratislava, with studies focusing on international trade. He began his career as a trader for the Chemapol company in Bratislava, and later continued it for the Petrimex company. In 1993, he established his own company, Agrofert, which is now an international conglomerate with more than 250 subsidiaries in several industries: chemical, agriculture, food processing, forestry and timbering, ground-technologies, technology and transportation, renewable energy sources and as well as media. Since 2011 he has been a chairman of the ANO political movement, which gained the first largest amount of votes in the 2017 parliamentary elections.

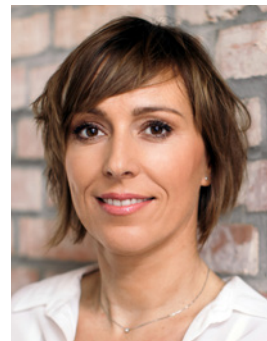


Vojtěch Benda

Member of the Bank Board,
Czech National Bank

CZECH REPUBLIC

Vojtěch Benda graduated from the Faculty of International Relations at the University of Economics in Prague in 1999. He has also completed a specialised course on macroeconomic analysis and policy at the IMF Institute in Vienna and a number of other courses and training programmes in economic policy and forecasting methods organised under the auspices of Banca d'Italia, Banque de France and others. In 1998 he joined the Czech National Bank, first as an economic analyst and later as a principal economic analyst in the Monetary Department. In 2006–2012 he was senior economist in the international economic research team at the ING financial group, where he specialised in macroeconomic analysis and financial market strategy. In 2013–2014 he was in charge of stock market analysis and strategy as chief economist at BH Securities. In April 2014 he became an adviser to Bank Board member Jiří Rusnok. Vojtěch Benda became a member of the Bank Board of the Czech National Bank on 1 July 2016.



Martina Dlabajová

Member of the European Parliament;
Vice President of ELF

CZECH REPUBLIC

Martina Dlabajová (ALDE/ANO) has been a member of the European Parliament since 2014. She is a member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the Vice Chair of the Committee on Budgetary Control. In her work in the European Parliament she is mainly focused on youth employment, labour mobility and free movement of workers. In 2015 the European Parliament adopted her report on matching skills and jobs. Martina Dlabajová was also the parliamentary rapporteur for the report on New Skills Agenda for Europe adopted by the European Parliament in September 2017. The report focuses mainly on the development of skills needed for future employment on the labour market. She is the author of the project of motivational traineeships for young people "PročByNe?" („Why Not?“).



Lenka Dupáková

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance
of the Czech Republic

CZECH REPUBLIC

Lenka Dupáková is a Deputy Minister of Finance for International Relations and Financial Regulation. Lenka Dupakova graduated from the Faculty of Law at the Charles University in Prague and from the Faculty of Business Administration at the University of Economics. She also studied at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England. She came to the Ministry of Finance from a large domestic bank where she was dealing with the restructuring of international companies. Previously she worked at an international law firm in the field of banking and financial transactions. Since 2010 she has lectured at the Law Faculty of the Charles University. She is in charge of preparation of new legal standards in the field of insurance, banking and consumer protection, as well as the harmonization of European financial directives with the Czech legislation.

List of Participants



Martin Dvořák

Vice President, Committee of the Independent ICT Industry
CZECH REPUBLIC

Martin Dvořák is a consultant in the field of corporate strategy specializing in Telecommunications market. He is also a Vice President of The Independent ICT Industry Committee which focuses on promotion of a development of Next Generation Networks and a support of healthy competitive environment in Telecommunications. He held managerial positions in companies such as Telefónica O2 ČR, WorldCom or Czech Telecom in fields of Business Development and Procurement. He holds an MBA in International Corporate Strategy from the Hitotsubashi University in Tokio.



Vladimír Dzurilla

Designated Representative for IT
CZECH REPUBLIC

Vladimir Dzurilla graduated from the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, also studied as an exchange student in Netherlands and at the British Open University. After completing his studies he worked at Accenture, where he started his career as a consultant for projects to exchange and implement large IT systems and to implement organizational and process changes in companies. These are still a topic of interest for him. The main areas of interest are transformation projects in the telecommunications, finance and government sectors. He also serves as an adviser to the General Financial Directorate and the Ministry of Finance. Since May 2016 he has been serving as a Chief Executive Officer for the State Treasury of the Shared Services Center, whose main task is the provision of ICT services to the state administration. He will serve as an advisor to the Prime Minister and IT agent in the current government.



Ondřej Felix

Advisor on eGovernment, Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
CZECH REPUBLIC

Since 90's Ondrej Felix focuses in different jobs on strategy, development and implementation of public services digital infrastructure in ČR. He was CEO of APP Systems (now NESS) , managing director of ORACLE Czech, chairman of the board, CEO and chairman of supervisory board of Czech Telecom, vicechairman of supervisory board of Česká Pošta. Since 2007 works as senior advisor to Ministry of Interior focusing on eGovernment issues. Ondřej Felix is author or coauthor of baseline principles of data boxes law, base registry law and electronic identification law. He was appointed as eGovernment Chief Architect since 2007 till 2014, in autumn 2012 was appointed by Czech government as Digital Champion. Currently he focuses on implementation of digital identity and citizens portal – two main remaining building blocks for online public services.



Jan Gulliksen

Vice President for Digitalisation; Professor in Human Computer Interaction, KTH Royal Institute of Technology
SWEDEN

As vice president for digitalization, Jan is in charge of analysing KTH's position when it comes to digitalizing education, research and collaboration and conduct an external analysis and benchmarking study, develop recommendations for digitalization to position KTH and develop a strategy for digitalization at KTH. As dean of the School of Computer Science and Communication at KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Jan is in charge of a school comprising 350 employed staff, a turnaround of 400 Mkr annually, educating about 1200 students each year. Jan currently supervise 3 PhD students, another 9 has graduated with a PhD under his main supervision. He teaches various courses in Human Computer Interaction, Usability and User-Centred Design at undergraduate and postgraduate level.

List of Participants



Hans Erik Henriksen

Chief Executive Officer,
Healthcare Denmark

DENMARK

Hans Erik Henriksen is CEO of Healthcare DENMARK. Healthcare DENMARK is a public- private partnership organization, with a national mandate to promote Danish healthcare solutions and competencies abroad. The partnership is a framework for linking international partners with efficient Danish solutions and does not represent individual companies. He has a solid healthcare background from different executive positions during the latest 20 years. He was CEO of the innovative Danish healthcare-IT company Cetrea, which during 2008- 2012 was established as a leading provider of solutions to the Danish market and during the same period accessed markets in other Nordic countries, Germany, Netherlands and USA. Before joining Cetrea, he was responsible for IBM Healthcare and Life Sciences in the Northern and Eastern part of Europe (the countries U.K., Ireland, South Africa, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, the Nordic Countries and Central and Eastern Europe).



Dita Charanzová

Member of the European Parliament,
Vice Chair, IMCO, ALDE/ANO

CZECH REPUBLIC

Dita Charanzová studied at the University of Economics in Prague and later at the Academy of Diplomacy in Madrid. In 2001 she successfully defended her dissertation at the Faculty of International Relations, the University of Economics (VŠE) in Prague. She has worked as a diplomat, a manager, a consultant and as a high government official for EU related issues. She stood as an independent candidate of the ANO political movement to the European parliament in 2014. As a European parliament member she became a vicechair of Committee for the Internal Market and also a substitute member of the Committee for International Trade. In the year 2017 she was listed by Politico as a 'Tech Titan' under the list of the 20 most influential women who shape Brussels.



Milena Jabůrková

Vice President, Confederation
of Industry of the Czech Republic

CZECH REPUBLIC

Milena Jabůrková graduated from social policy at Charles university and she got her master's degree from Victoria University Manchester in International Politics and Economics. She began her career in the field of social services, then she worked as a director of the Department of Social Services at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. Before she started her career at IBM, she directed external affairs at the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic, where she represented the interests of Czech self-governments towards to Government of Czech republic and European institutions. Nowadays she works as a director of governmental programmes and she is one of IBM's leaders in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. She specializes in the field of human resources, investments, international business and technological development.



Věra Jourová

Commissioner for Justice, Consumers
and Gender Equality, European
Commission

CZECH REPUBLIC

Věra Jourová is currently European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality. In 2014, before arriving to the European Commission, Ms Jourová held the position of Minister for Regional Development in the Czech Republic. Previous to this, from 2006 to 2013, she worked in her own company as an international consultant on European Union funding, and was also involved in consultancy activities in the Western Balkans relating to the European Union Accession. She holds a Degree in Law (Mgr.) and a Master's degree (Mgr.) in the Theory of Culture from the Charles University, Prague.

List of Participants



Jan Klesla

Economics commentator,
Lidové noviny

CZECH REPUBLIC

Jan Klesla has studied law, economics and IT in Prague, Norwich, Budapest and Florence. Before entering the media, he gained experience in law, finance and information technology. He worked as a business reporter and then as an editor of *Hospodářské noviny* (HN Daily). Then he co-operated on founding the economic periodical *Index LN* in *Lidové noviny* (LN Daily) and up until recently he was a Deputy Head of the economic column. Currently he is an economic commentator of LN. In the long term, he deals with the digital economy, investment and regulation, particularly in the area of technological disruption of traditional industries.



Martin Kolovratník

Member, Parliament of the Czech
Republic, ANO

CZECH REPUBLIC

Martin Kolovratník graduated from the Jan Perner Transport Faculty - University of Pardubice and he is a transport expert. In his capacity as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs and he is responsible for the development of high-speed railways in the Czech Republic. He is the organizer of the traditional international Railway conference in Pardubice. He stood at the birth of *Český rozhlas* on social networks (Facebook, Google+, YouTube) and was the main pioneer of live Skype calls from abroad to live broadcasts. He shares the support of liberal ideas, on the political center he identifies himself slightly to the right, he confesses the idea of an efficient state and austerity. Thanks to the support of the citizens, he became a deputy of the Parliament of the Czech Republic in autumn 2013, and he was able to defend this mandate even in the 2017 parliamentary elections.



Sasha Krstic

Country Manager in the Nordic
and Baltic Region, Mastercard

SWEDEN

Sasha Krstic is country manager for Mastercard in the Nordic and Baltic Region, consisting of eight diversified markets. In this role, she is responsible for developing and executing the Mastercard strategy in the Nordic and Baltic countries. This includes driving forward the relationships with our customers and partners and delivering innovative core and digital payment experiences for consumers and merchants that are safe, simple and secure. Most recently, Ms Krstic was senior vice president and group head, Global Products and Solutions for Mastercard Canada overseeing the development of innovative products and services that benefit Mastercard Canada's consumers, merchants, and business partners. Ms. Krstic has held various positions of progressive responsibility at Mastercard. Most recently, she was the head of issuing relationship management for Mastercard Canada, where she worked closely with the issuing customer base to strategically grow the company's collective market position. Before joining MasterCard in 2004, Ms. Krstic worked for Visa International on Emerging Product Strategy, out of the company's Tokyo office.



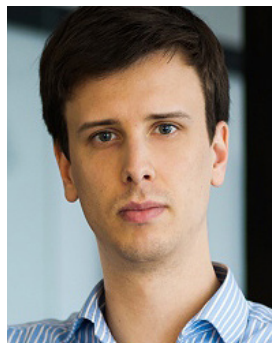
Pavel Kysilka

Founder, 6D Academy, former Vice
Governor of the Czech national bank ČNB

CZECH REPUBLIC

Pavel Kysilka studied at VŠE in Prague. Between 1986 and 1990 he worked in the Economic Institute ČSAV. He served as a Chief Economic Adviser to the Minister for Economic Policy between 1990 and 1991. In the 1990s he held the position of the Vice Governor and Executive Governor of the Czech National Bank, where he controlled the split of the Czechoslovakian currency in 1993 and the implementation of Czech Crown. As an expert for the IMF in 1994-1997 he was involved in the implementation of national currencies in many Eastern European countries. He served also as President of the Czech Economic Society during this time. In 2000 he began to work as a main economist for *Česká spořitelna*; in 2004 he was elected Member of the Board of Directors and from January 2011 he held the position of Director General and was Chairman of the Board of Directors for five years. In 2011, 2012 and 2013 he was awarded Banker of the Year.

List of Participants



Mateusz Litewski

Manager for Central & Eastern Europe,
Uber
POLAND

Mateusz Litewski is responsible for managing public policy of Uber in the Central and Eastern Europe region. He was also responsible for the expansion of Uber to new markets, including Croatia, Slovakia, Estonia and Ukraine. Prior to joining Uber, he was a consultant working with international companies from the aviation, e-commerce, heavy industry and finance. He is a graduate of Keele University, holding masters degrees from University of Bath and from Manchester Business School.



Ondřej Malý

Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade for
the Internetization of the Czech Republic
CZECH REPUBLIC

Ondřej Malý studied Journalism and International Territorial Studies, specializing in American studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Charles University. Within his master's degree study, he spent one semester at Renvall Institute in Helsinki. His entire career is infused by modern technologies – since 1997 he has been working as a specialized journalist focusing mostly on telecommunications and IT. For a few years, he also worked as a practical developer in a company called Illusion Softworks. Between 2012 and 2017 he was a Board Member of the Czech Telecommunication Agency. Since April 2017, he is a Digital Agenda Coordinator at the Government of Czech Republic.



Jaromír Novák

Chairman of the Council,
Czech Telecommunication Office
CZECH REPUBLIC

Jaromír Novák studied at the Faculty of Law at Masaryk University in Brno and Faculty of Information Management of the University Hradec Králové. In 2005 he started to work at the Ministry of Informatics, in the Department of Electronic Communications and after cancellation of the ministry, he transferred to the Ministry of Industry and Trade, where he took position of the Head of the Department of Electronic Communications and later became director of the Department of Digital Economics. He actively participated in many negotiations of the 'Packages of Telecommunications' during the period of the Czech presidency in the Council of the European Union (2009) and he was also a member of the Team for Implementation of New Regulatory Rules to the Czech law. In October 2012 he was appointed by the Government to the position of a Board Member of the Czech Telecommunication Office and in May 2013 he was appointed President of the Board.



Einat Paz

Head of Data Analytics and Statistics
Team, Ministry of Education
ISRAEL

Mrs. Paz is a BI and Data analytics expert at the Ministry of Education. For the past three years Mrs. Paz has been the head of the Data analytics and Statistics Team, which specialize in Data Analysis for the Ministry of Education officials, for other government offices and for the public sector. Mrs. Paz has developed the "Israeli Digest of Education Statistics" digital system, which provides data for the public sector concerning a broad field of educational issues (collected from different government sources and surveys).

List of Participants



Jan Petřík

Director, Institute for Support
of Czech eHealth

CZECH REPUBLIC

Jan Petřík is a prominent Czech lawyer, and serves as the director for the Society for Promotion and Development of Neurosurgery. He is also a partner of the financial group NORDIC INVESTORS. NORDIC INVESTORS engages in investment and consulting services focusing on projects in the areas of engineering, real estate and information technologies. He is the main sponsor of the project Zdravel, which enables people to receive important information about their health conditions in one place and connects health care providers.



Hanno Pevkur

Leader, Reform Party; Vice President,
Estonian Parliament

ESTONIA

Hanno Pevkur studied Law at Tallinn School of Economics and at the University of Tartu. Following his studies he worked as a Legal Adviser in Järva-Jaani Municipality Government and as a legal consultant in Koeru Municipality Government and Kareda Municipality Government until he joined the Law Office Aleksis as a lawyer. Later he served as an Administrative Secretary and District Elder in Tallinn Nõmme District Administration. As Deputy Mayor of Tallinn, Mr. Pevkur was in charge of Education, Culture and Sports. Hanno Pevkur entered the Ministry of Justice as an adviser to the Minister in 2005. He was appointed Minister of Social Affairs in 2009, Minister of Justice in 2012 and Minister of Interior in 2014. He has been a member of Estonian Parliament since November 2016 and in 2017 he was appointed Vice President of the Parliament.



Taavi Rõivas

Former Prime Minister and former
Vice President, Estonian Parliament

ESTONIA

Taavi Rõivas was educated at Tallinna Reaalkool and the University of Tartu, School of Economics and Business Administration, where he obtained a degree in Foreign Trade and Marketing. Taavi Rõivas was the Prime Minister of the Republic of Estonia from 2014 to 2016 and the Minister of Social Affairs of the Republic of Estonia from 2012 to 2014. He was a member of the 11th and 12th Riigikogu: he has chaired the European Union Affairs Committee, and been a member of the Social Affairs Committee as well as the Finance Committee of the Riigikogu. Taavi Rõivas was the leader of the Reform Party from 6 April 2014 to 7 January 2017. Taavi Rõivas has also worked as a Corporate Customer Account Manager at an IT company, and as an adviser to Märt Rask, Minister of Justice; Paul-Eerik Rummo, Minister of Population; and to Prime Minister Andrus Ansip as well as the elder of the Haabersti city district of Tallinn.



Tomáš Salomon

Chief executive officer, Chairman
of Board of Directors, Česká spořitelna

CZECH REPUBLIC

Tomáš Salomon has been at the head of Česká spořitelna since 2016. For most of his life he has worked in the financial sector. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Slovenská sporiteľna, and a co-founder of the company Mopet CZ. As Chairman of the Board of Directors and Managing Director, he ran GE Capital Multiservis; the retail bank of GE Capital Bank, and Poštová banka in Slovakia. He has also devoted himself to private investment projects and among other achievements initiated the creation of a platform which implemented mobile payments.

List of Participants



Maria Staszkiwicz

Executive Director, Czech Fintech Association

CZECH REPUBLIC

Maria Staszkiwicz studied Linguistics, International Relations and European Studies in Poland and Germany. Afterwards, she worked in the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union in Brussels. From 2010, she has lived in Prague where she has served as Director of the Association for International Affairs and later as Deputy Director of the Aspen Institute Central Europe. Currently she is leading the Czech Fin-Tech Association which represents the interests of businesses which, with the aid of modern technologies, bring innovations to the world of Finance. She is interested in the digital economy and the social impact of digitalisation.



Miklós Szócska

Director, Health Services Management Training Centre

HUNGARY

Miklós Szócska holds a Master degree of Public Administration degree from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a Ph.D. from the Semmelweis University in the field of change management. After his graduation at the SU he and his colleagues initiated the creation of the Health Services Management Training Centre (HSMTTC) which was officially established in 1995. Between 1995 and 2000 he was serving as the deputy director and in 2000 he was appointed to be the director of the Centre. His areas of professional interest cover a range of topics – development of organisations, management of change and leadership. He and his colleagues had extensive research in health human resources migration and HR strategy for health. Most recently he focuses on network analysis, big data solutions and data mining.



Miloš Táborský

Chairman, Czech Society of Cardiology

CZECH REPUBLIC

Prof. Miloš Táborský has 25 years of medical experience. He is a leading Czech cardiologist, and focuses on malfunctions of the heart rhythm. In 1989 he started to work at Na Homolce Hospital and began his postgraduate studies at the University of Münster. He also worked at Heart Centre in Leipzig. From 2001 to 2006 he was a chairman of the Workgroup of Arrhythmia and Permanent Cardiac Stimulation at the Czech Cardiologist Association, of which he is a member. He also participated as a member in the Deutsche Kardiologische Gesellschaft and Cardiac Electrophysiology Society. Currently, he works as a chief of the I. Internal Clinic of Cardiology at the University Hospital in Olomouc. Since 2015 he has been a chairman of the Czech Cardiologist Association.



Adam Vojtěch

Minister of Health, Government of the Czech Republic

CZECH REPUBLIC

Adam Vojtěch graduated at the Law Faculty and the Social Sciences Faculty of Charles University in Prague. He has also studied at the Law Faculty of the University College Dublin – National University of Ireland as part of an exchange programme. During his studies, he led the Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers, and was member of the management board of Randa Foundation, a charity that awards scholarships to talented and/or socially disadvantaged students. In addition, Vojtěch has worked as an intern in Brussels. After finishing his studies, Vojtěch worked as a corporate lawyer and subsequently received an offer to work for the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic where he was vigorously active in the area of health policy. He primarily focuses on increasing the economic efficiency of health services.

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