Digital Czech Republic 2019

Policy Program and International Conference
Digital Czech Republic in 2019

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The European Liberal Forum

The European Liberal Forum was founded by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party (ALDE). A core aspect of the foundation's work consists in regular issuing of publications on Liberalism and European public policy issues. The foundation also provides for a space for the discussion on the European politics, and offers training for liberal-minded citizens. The main aim is to promote active citizenship in the European Union. The foundation is composed of a number of European think tanks, political foundations and institutes. The foundation also provides its members with the opportunity to cooperate on European projects under the ELF umbrella. ELF operates throughout Europe, as well as in the countries neighbouring the EU. The youthful and dynamic nature of ELF allows it to be at the forefront in promoting active citizenship, getting citizens involved in European issues and building an open, liberal Europe.

Institute for Politics and Society

The mission of the Institute is to cultivate the Czech political and public environment through a professional and open discussion and to create a living platform that names the fundamental issues, elaborates their analyses and offers recipes for their solution in the form of cooperation of experts and politicians, international conferences, seminars, public debates, political and social analyses available to Czech society as a whole. We believe that an open professional discussion and knowledge of the nature and causes of individual problems is a prerequisite for any successful solution to the problems of contemporary society.

The main themes of our efforts are social transformations, foreign and security policy, defence, European affairs, ways of adapting to emerging climate change and sustainable development, as well as education, schooling, digitization, energy and its new forms, urbanism, life in the city and in public spaces, and last but not least, the issues of values in politics and human rights in our country and in the world.

Events organized by the European Liberal Forum (ELF), supported by the Institute for Politics and Society and partners. Co-financed by the European Parliament. The European Parliament and the European Liberal Forum are not responsible for the content of the program or for its further use. The opinions expressed here are the opinions of the speakers. These views do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Parliament and/or the European Liberal Forum.
When we organized the first conference in 2016, it was our goal to open a public discussion and bring some examples of the best practices from abroad. Gradually, digitization has become one of the key topics for the public and also our conference has extended into a year-round series of activities, meetings and publications. Last year we set 22 specific targets for the development of digitization and the new government has adopted the Digital Czech Republic policy with an ambitious aim to make our country one of the leaders in the field in Europe. We have therefore decided to move further and together with our partners create the Digital Czech Republic policy program, by which we will promote these efforts.

Within its framework, this year we would like to focus on the development of eGovernment and eHealth, as public services for citizens, but also help the Czech Republic to become the cutting-edge in the state-of-the-art technologies of artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain. The dynamically developing field of mobility is also very important for our country and the economy. We also must not forget the key conditions for the digital transformation of the society and economy, such as the telecommunication infrastructure and cybernetic security. Each of the key fields have one guarantor who has formulated the targets for this year and in connection with the International Conference Digital Czech Republic we will subsequently follow up on them.

In compliance with the name and the mission of the Institute for politics and society we focus not only on the support and promotion, but also on challenges, which are brought by digital transformation for citizens, the business leaders and the government. The majority of these challenges go beyond the borders of the Czech Republic and apply to the whole European family. We are therefore very honoured that the auspices have been taken by the EU Commissioner Věra Jourová and Members of the European Parliament Dita Charanzová and Martina Dlabajová. We believe that this year we will, together with you, succeed in shifting Digital Czech Republic again one step ahead.
Digital Czech Republic policy program provides support for the activities of the Institute for politics and society regarding both its content and organisation in the field of digital matters headed by the annual conference of the same name. Our goal is to engage significant personalities and experts both from the public and the private sectors by means of public and private meetings, publications and other activities in order to help maximize the development of digitization in the Czech Republic and Europe, especially in the field of formulation of good public policies. Global digital transformation of economics and society is a chance to significantly enhance the competitiveness, develop strong brands and domestic capital and last but not least to help increase the income and living standard of all population groups. Digital Czech Republic is one of the major program priorities of the Czech government and it is in the centre of discussions, as well as regulatory activities. It is not only necessary to make requisite changes within the state administration, but also to create conditions for the companies, especially by the correct setting of regulation or, if applicable, necessary deregulation. The mission of the Digital Czech Republic policy program is to help identify and eliminate all legislative and administrative barriers and actively promote the best conditions for the success of the Czech companies, individuals and the whole country in digital transformation.
When I was in Japan, I visited a futuristic house prepared by one of the leading AI companies showing how the Internet of Things and AI will impact our daily life. It was interesting to see that a mirror will analyse your mood, adjust the lighting and music, and suggest what you should eat for breakfast. But it was also quite disturbing to realise the amount of information this technology will accumulate and the influence it will have on our daily lives. Our political debates in polarised European societies often focus on the immediate issue or crisis, but no one who thinks responsibly about the future can ignore AI and its impact on all of us.

First of all, AI is already very present, even if we are not always aware of it. It helps take investment decisions, it may help decide if you get your credit, and what type of job you will do in the future. It can help and improve our lives, but it also carries certain risks.

One way or another it means disruption. That’s why we should think of a compass to guide us through this digital revolution.

For me, this compass should be based on values. As the digital challenges are diverse, they require a diverse response. I believe we need to create conditions for artificial intelligence that will be competitive and at the same time ethical. Just as an architect needs to respect and comply with the building code and safety legislations, so the digital world should think of a similar system. We need a mix of ethical, legal and societal norms that would ensure continuing trust in the greatest revolution of our lifetime. Our role, the role of politicians, is to make sure we will help find the right answers to these challenges.

The debate about the impact of digitalization is far from over, and the Czechs, with their reputation and digital skills, should play an important role in it. The Czech Republic has a great opportunity to become a major player in the field of European Artificial Intelligence and I firmly believe its people and economy can significantly benefit from it.
Digitization is the way to prosperity

Dita Charanzová
Member of the European Parliament
Vice-president of the ALDE Party
Vice-chair of the Committee INTA

Digital Czech Republic, digital Europe, digital world. A vision from which we are separated only by a thin line. The future is digital, not only the future of industry, services, healthcare, agriculture, but also our personal lives and the whole society in the end. We must not allow that this future is moving away from us, keeping pace with development is extremely important for the Czech Republic. Already today it is necessary to focus our attention on all the aspects which might influence the digital future positively. These are the investments into basic research, support for applied research, and start-ups. It is the ability to keep researchers in the academic sphere and attract new ones from abroad. We have to learn to support creativity and technical thinking at the smallest ones and adjust the school curriculum to the digital age from the earliest age. It is necessary to prepare the labour market for these changes. Already today there are a number of new professions, some are, on the hand, ceasing to exist, and lifelong learning is a must. Demands on employees are diametrically different from the demands at the time of their graduation. These are not easy targets, but they are the prerequisites for a prosperous Czech Republic to become the reality for the years to come. The time of the extraordinary boom we are experiencing at the moment is ideal for triggering such changes. The Czech Republic has the prerequisites to become a fully functioning digital economy, modern and creative country in the centre of Europe. Let’s use this potential.
Digitization is an opportunity and a challenge

Martina Dlabajová
Member of the European Parliament
Vice-president of the European Liberal Forum

In connection with the expansion of digitization, robotics and new technologies we are commonly speaking about a so-called revolution 4.0. Rather than a revolution, however, I would describe the current development as an evolution. Evolution, which is natural, inevitable and which we have to learn how to grasp and use correctly. It is not possible to stop it and we should actually not even try to do it.

Whether we want or not, digitization penetrates into all areas of our life. Whether it is the economic sphere, industry or public or private spheres. I wish that both the Czech Republic and Europe would manage to do their best to motivate the development of digital technologies and help where it is needed.

Let’s not be threatened with digitization and development of technologies, but let’s rather focus on challenges that await us in connection with the transformations of society. Let’s direct our efforts to modernization and reform of education, introduction of new elements into lifelong learning and continuous courses and training. Let’s focus on acquiring relevant skills, whether it be digital literacy, soft skills, or the support of creative sectors and crafts, i.e. the areas, where robots cannot replace human creative activities. We have many challenges ahead of us. Let’s take it positively and take only the best from them.
Digitization is the basic prerequisite for the Czech Republic to become an innovation leader, to become competitive so we can enjoy living here. Therefore, it is firmly embodied in the Policy statement of the government and must become an inviolable area, upon which we will all work and nobody will question. We are aware of the fact that the digital transformation will bring about a number of changes, affecting each of us, as well as the authorities themselves. Citizens and entrepreneurs, as well as their unions, are at the same time calling for the digitization of state administration and finally it has started to move forward. We must not forget what we have already developed – basic registers, data mailboxes, CzechPOINTs and the data sharing infrastructure. After a year of work, we have the first successful projects, in particular, the citizen portal, electronic identification (NIA), changes in the distribution of documents, eIdentity cards, ePrescription. And we have set others in motion such as digitization of the building permit procedure and the builder portal, online Tax office, portal of the Ministry of Labour, eLegislation, eCollection, Czechiana or single tariff at the Ministry of Transport. We have the intended subject-matter of the proposed law and a plan for
Digitization of healthcare, digital technical map, we are preparing digitization of the administration of elections and much more. But we have to deal with the heritage of the past, the complexity of the current systems and inadequacy of the law, which did not take into account digitization. We have the chance to learn from other countries, but we do not want to merely follow them.

We are looking for ways to make great progress thanks to new technologies, which facilitate digitization, make it cheaper and move it forward. Artificial intelligence and blockchain are examples. We are following the latest trends and we have signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Blockchain Republic and the AI Platform of the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic. We will continue to build the shared subject field and operational information systems of public administration and one of the priorities is a shared platform and cloud that will save costs and will divest us of the vendor lock. That is why we have an eGovernment cloud policy approved by the government, that will shift us to the cutting-edge of Europe. Digitization is simply a priority and we still want to achieve a great deal in this respect.
TARGET 1:

Implementation of the Digital Czech Republic

In the autumn, the government approved the Digital Czech Republic concept, which defines 15 major and 115 partial targets so that digitization is shifted in a complex way as a whole. It consists of three other documents – Information policy of the Czech Republic, Digital economy and the Czech Republic in digital Europe. Today we have 770 outlines of the law that respond to the Digital Czech Republic and fulfil its goals. By the end of March, implementation plans will be outlined including clear deadlines and price assessment. Everything is being managed and coordinated under the government office for IT and digitization, with the aim to make the Digital Czech Republic the main document relating to digitization, which will gradually replace existing policies and organise government resolutions, which were gradually created in the past, which have been forgotten and which few people currently understand. Directly alongside the policy, we have set up the new functioning of the Government Council for the Information Society, which fully supports the policy today and all its activities lead to its fulfilment.

TARGET 2:

Online services for citizens and companies

In recent years, much work has been done in the digitization of the state. However, digitisation has been carried out on unseen services which have not brought convenience to citizens and have not made the work of the entrepreneur easier. We are working very hard to change that and finally some
results are being seen. After a half year since its activation, we now have 60 services in the citizen portal, and each of the ministries is working on projects that will make online services available and eliminate bureaucracy. We have stopped fighting with the commercial sector and we are looking for synergy and consensus. An example is the possibility for citizens to log into the citizen portal through bank identity, and we can use the login information for online banking to log in for state services. We want to support synergies that will provide citizens convenience and simplification. We need to map life events in which people and companies find themselves and provide them a convenient solution online in one place and not burden them with what the state itself should do.

TARGET 3:

Interconnected data fund

All the systems and records maintained by the state about the citizen will be used and will not be required again and again from individuals or companies. In practice, it will also mean pre-filled forms. By developing the so-called interconnected data fund, it will be possible for the state to share the data efficiently, use it, and subsequently provide the data back to the market in the form of open data. All systems and databases, which are being developed, must, and do as a matter of course meet the highest security requirements. In recent years, the Czech Republic has been presented in poor positions in comparison with other countries in digitization. We are succeeding in changing that and soon, also thanks to these targets, we will move up these charts.
Digital technologies are an integral part of health and healthcare, they help to support health and the quality of life and enable more efficient ways of providing health and social services. The national electronical health strategy of the Czech Republic for the period of 2016-2020 goes beyond the horizon of 2020, in which it focuses on creating the cornerstones of healthcare digitization. It is especially about creating organisational and legal framework and information infrastructure with the aim to reach mutually cooperating (interoperable) environment for all the users of shared electronic services in healthcare. By far the prioritised themes were the identification of the patients, healthcare professionals and providers and effective sharing of information on the state of health. The key projects and legislative works aim at solving electronic identity, professional ID cards, departmental authoritative and reference registers, integrated data interface, National health information portal and digitization of medical documentation. The services related to the ePrescription, eFit note, Patient Summary, including the support of cross-border healthcare, are being developed globally. A number of activities aim at developing cybernetic security and protection of privacy.
In the next period, digitization will serve more to support the reform of healthcare services and the access thereto, will enhance possibilities to take care of one’s own health and at the same time the overall efficiency of the healthcare system. It will help the transition to the integrated, individual based care models and facilitate the transition from treatment to prevention. Digital technologies and innovations will facilitate the achievement of strategical goals in the field of public health. For the period after 2020, the emergence of new digital technologies and practices in the field of personalized medicine, clinical applications of artificial intelligence, practical applications of shared health record models, including the use of blockchain technology and the use of Big Data concepts, will be characteristic. Increasingly, mobile health technology (mHealth) and telemedicine will be more and more involved in the healthcare. Digitization of the health literacy development of the population, especially workers in healthcare, and building up the trust in digital health services among citizens and healthcare professionals, will be of key importance.
eHealth

TARGET 1:

Pharmacy record

The beginning of fully functioning electronic prescription, including the planned functions of the 2nd phase of the ePrescription, is successfully continuing in accordance with the Action plan to the National strategy of electronic healthcare of the Czech Republic in 2016-2020. New functions are on the increase and the system is broadly used by the doctors, pharmacists and the patients. This year, the prepared legislative changes are expected to enable the implementation of basic form of a pharmacy record, accessible to the authorized healthcare professionals. We aim to provide a global and fully functioning digitization of all the key processes associated with prescribing all types of medication, medication delivery and history of all prescribed and delivered medication and keeping the patient’s full pharmacy record as part of his or her personal health record. We are preparing the conditions for solution of duplicity controls and interaction; the system will also support the exchange of prescriptions in cross border contacts. Following the adoption of the Act on the electronical healthcare and finishing the key components of information infrastructure of electronic healthcare (project IDRR) the electronic prescription shall become one of the integrated and major services in the framework of electronic healthcare.

TARGET 2:

National health information portal

There is currently a large number of unofficial sources, but a clear and reliable public source of information is missing. Therefore, the National health information portal has been designed and is being developed, which will use data from other sources, put them in context and create a comprehensive, well arranged and reliable source for both the lay and professional public.
After passing the necessary legislation, it will also be a place where the an individual’s personal health information will be available and the place from which it will be possible to access digital services in healthcare. Legislative support will be part of the draft Act on electronic healthcare. We plan to launch its pilot in the first quarter of 2019.

**TARGET 3:**

**Authoritative register and reconstruction of National health information system**

It is necessary to complete the three key registers, which create the referential basis of functional electronic healthcare and should in particular serve as authoritative registers for ensuring the functionality of eHealth, which are still missing. It is not possible to further develop eHealth in the Czech Republic without them and their development is being discussed or completed in most of the countries in the EU. We are talking about the Authoritative register of healthcare providers (ARPZS), healthcare professionals (ARZP) and patients (ARP). The specific measures are reflected in the intended proposed Act on digitization of healthcare. It concerns non-public registers, with minimal number of parameters, serving only for identification purposes, and they will be part of the National health information system. In 2018 the reconstruction of National health information system was completed, and it will start to fulfill the complex referential statistical role. The key element is the National register of paid healthcare services, which unifies data reported to all health insurance companies. It will in particular enable the referential statistical services, which will gradually be available also as online reporting. New data components of the National health information system will further allow for a new system of monitoring of healthcare services or serious diagnostic groups.
Today, artificial intelligence is one of the main trends not only in the private sphere, but it is gradually penetrating public services. It follows from the current trends of Industry 4.0 and robotics, however, today it focuses especially on sectors of finance and services, security, autonomous transport and number of other sectors. The European Commission has introduced a plan how to catch up to the dramatically dominant United States and China in this field and it identified investment and development of AI as one of the main priorities of the EU for the following period of 2021-2027. For the Czech Republic, as a highly industrialized country, the development of AI presents the key opportunity to shift the
Artificial Intelligence

whole economy to high added value and, thanks to this, natural wage growth. On the other hand, the failure to manage this fundamental transformation of the economy would mean a loss of competitiveness and a fundamental threat to our further prosperity. Therefore, we have to build especially on the top-class research and support the development of business connected thereto, so that we can join the cutting edge in Europe. At the same time, it is necessary to prepare for socio-economic impacts not only in industry, but also in services and for an overall transformation of the entire labour market. Therefore, the key factor is state policy, in particular in the field of education.
TARGET 1:

National AI strategy

The key for support and development of such a dynamic field as artificial intelligence, is close cooperation between the private and public sector. Therefore, the Platform for AI of the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic concluded a Memorandum of cooperation in this field with the government of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Industry of the Czech Republic. The first objective of the joint effort is to prepare and push through the National strategy following the concept of the government Digital Czech Republic – Digital economy and society and the governmental Innovation strategy 2030. For the evolving technological fields it is not possible to lay down rigid rules and plans, therefore the National strategy should, according to the examples set by the Western countries, primarily identify key fields, set goals and tools to achieve them and determine who is coordinating them and who is primarily responsible for them. The basis for the strategy is the Research report of AI potential in the Czech Republic, prepared by the team of leading experts for the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. The National AI strategy should be adopted within the time limit set by the European Commission for the first half of 2019.

TARGET 2:

European centre of excellence for AI in Prague

The centrepiece of the European Commission plan is to establish the European research centres of excellence in AI, funded from the EU resources. The first proposal was published in the Communication from the European Commission – Artificial Intelligence for Europe dated 25 April 2018, on 7 December 2018 the Commission subsequently issued the more detailed
Coordinated plan on Artificial Intelligence. The Czech Republic has a unique chance to get one of the European centres of excellence in AI to Prague, thanks to the world-leading expertise at the Universities united into the Prague.ai platform (Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Institute of Informatics, Robotics and Cybernetics of the Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Information Technology of the Czech Technical University in Prague, Charles University Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Czech Academy of Sciences), in cooperation with the National cyber security centre in Brno (National Cyber and Information Security Agency, Masaryk University) and National supercomputing centre (HPC) IT4Innovations in Ostrava. The Czech Republic would thus become the regional European technology centre alongside London, Paris, Helsinki or Tallinn. Prestige would not be the only benefit for the Czech Republic, also attracting the top experts whose research would cause establishing new companies with high added value.

TARGET 3:

Future of work and education

Artificial Intelligence and automation will have a major impact on the labour market. Up to half of the jobs will change, the old ones will cease to exist and will be replaced by new ones with new required qualifications. The key is therefore not only the preparation of measures in the social sphere to cope with this transition but, above all, the change of the education system. Czech education no longer reflects the needs of the digital economy, and this problem will only grow with increasing automation. Education has never played a more important role than in today’s digital and data-based economy, where the pace of innovation is steadily increasing. We therefore need to adapt our education system properly to make the Czech Republic fully achieve its potential for economic and social growth. Therefore, the State must, in cooperation with the private sector, commit itself to a set of specific steps and reforms that will transform our education to the needs of the 21st century.
Mobility, especially in the form of automotive, transport, transit and logistics, is absolutely crucial for the open and export-oriented Czech economy. It is this area that undergoes major changes in relation to the take-up of alternative fuels instead of internal combustion engines and, in particular, autonomous driving systems and related new models such as shared transport. For our future prosperity and competitiveness, it is therefore essential to become one of the European leaders in this area. The Czech economy and society cannot simply afford to underestimate the forthcoming technological disruptions in this area. On the contrary, it must become one
of the leaders and therefore it is necessary not only to support the private sector but also create suitable conditions. Especially it is necessary, in a timely manner, to adopt the essential rules for effective and, at the same time, safe development of new forms of mobility.
TARGET 1:

Impacts on the automotive industry

The influence of digitization, in particular in the form of autonomous mobility or the fundamental transformation of driving, particularly in the form of switching to electric cars, will have far-reaching consequences for the automotive industry. It is one of the main drivers of the Czech economy, it accounts for almost one tenth of our GDP, it forms one-fourth of the export and employs 400,000 people in the whole ecosystem. The fate of the Czech Republic is thus closely related to the fate of the automotive sector, and it is in our national interest to help it successfully undergo the digital transformation. Today, we in fact do not know who the major player in the field of mobility will be. Whether it will be digital platforms such as Uber, Lyft, or BlaBlaCar, a traditional car manufacturer that is currently testing a number of innovative projects, or IT giants such as Google or Apple. A major role will also be played by the suppliers of automotive technologies such as Bosch and Valeo. On the international level, we do not even know whether it will be Europe, the USA or China who will play the major role in the development of mobility. It is therefore crucially important to continue in fulfilling the measures intended for support of the automotive industry to which the government of the Czech Republic has already committed itself in the memorandum with the Automotive Industry Association two years ago.

TARGET 2:

Autonomous vehicle rules

Self-driving cars are not just around the corner, but they are not exactly in the distant future either. Especially semi-autonomous vehicles are practically already available. One of the fundamental conditions for their further development both in testing and in real-life operation is the correct setting of the
legal framework – especially for the protection of other road users, but also in the area of liability and insurance. A quick and clear solution to these complex regulatory problems directly determines the further development of this area in the Czech Republic and will directly affect our further economic development. Given the natural cross-border nature of transport, it is not possible to act alone. If we want to become one of the European and world centres of autonomous mobility, we must actively engage in adopting these rules both at the European and international level.

TARGET 3:

Shared mobility and digital platforms

In the Czech Republic, it is currently necessary to set clear rules for the legal functioning of services of the so-called sharing economy and transport, headed by the platforms such as Uber and Taxify. It is essential to open up the market to new competitors that push for lower prices and higher quality for the benefit of consumers, similar to what happened in Slovakia. On one hand, people should not fear pointless bureaucracy, when they want to make some extra money, on the other hand it is necessary to ensure the security, liability for possible damage and proper performance of tax and other duties. It is therefore necessary to complete the intended legislative change and liberalization of road transport, which will remove obsolete standards that hinder the development of digital platforms and the arrival of new players to the market. In addition, the digital economy is supranational in nature and needs to be tackled actively at the European level and involved in the development of pan-European rules in this area as well.
The progress in the area of financial technology brings not only faster transactions and higher efficiency of financial systems, but also extends the access to the financial services and opens up new sources of capital – especially for the innovative and thus more risky business plans. Alternative and sustainable models of financing are moreover essential for the development of the digital economy, new business models and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, augmented reality or decentralized registers. The governmental concept of Digitization Czech Republic – Digital economy and society covers also the support and use thereof. Moreover, the innovations in a highly regulated financial sector, such as blockchain technology, is often hindered by obsolete legislation, which represents the barriers to the rapid development of new services, restricts the competition and slows down the entry of more user-friendly and cheaper solu-
Blockchain and Finance

Non-existent and unclear regulation, on the contrary, brings uncertainty to investors and the potential risk to consumers and, generally also to financial stability and market integrity.

The legal regulation of financial services must be as flexible and technologically neutral as possible. The prerequisite for this is the regular monitoring of the innovations by the legislator and close communication with the representatives of the market, for example within the innovative departments and hubs. In any case, the future of finance cannot get by without the support of the state, whereas it represents one of the greatest opportunities for digitization.
TARGET 1:

Favourable blockchain legislation

Technology of the decentralized register whose most famous example is the blockchain, has long been the basis not only for the operation of cryptocurrency, but it penetrates into all traditional industries. It brings acceleration of transactions and reduction of costs in administration, today especially in the area of finance, international transport and trade. However, the states have to adopt global standards for recognition of electronic documents. One of these is the Model law on electronic transferable records (MLETR), which sets out the basic rules for recognition of electronic securities, such as bill of lading. The Czech Republic has been intensively involved in its preparation within the United Nations Commission and should adopt it as one of the first states, also in connection with the recently approved government strategy Digital Czech Republic which explicitly relies on the support of regulation in favour of the use of blockchain.

TARGET 2:

Fintech action plan

The crucial step in the modernization and development of the Czech financial sector is the identification of technological trends and legal barriers encountered by innovative companies. In relation to the Action plan of the European Commission and Agenda for fintech of the International monetary fund, the Czech Republic should adopt its own action plan for fintech, that takes into account the specificities and needs of the market and focuses primarily on open banking and common standards: cooperation and fair competition
between the banking institutions and fintech companies is the only chance for the success of the Czech companies in the globalized digital market. It is necessary not only to supervise the opening of Czech banks in line with the spirit of the European directive PSD2, but also to ensure a unified standard for the connection of third parties to the banking interface (API).

TARGET 3:

Support for investments and availability of capital

An important source for new technologies and innovative solutions is not only the European Structural and Investment Funds, but also private resources and funding methods that play a global key role in this area. In particular, support to investment and capital markets is crucial in their financing of digital transformation of the society, as well as more flexible and new alternative forms of funding and the provision of resources for high-risk capital for the development of innovative ecosystem.
Creating a real digital economy requires at the first place high-speed fixed and mobile Internet connections in all households and public places. This is not only the prerequisite for eGovernment implementation, but also, for example, an opportunity to attract investors to less developed regions. Access to digital services will increase the competitiveness of businesses, which has the potential to further boost the economic growth. To make cheap and fast internet available to everyone, we need a new optical infrastructure, the removal of easements and an affordable price level for mobile data. Affordable Internet access for citizens is one of the government’s priorities and this year in this regard a major opportunity for the 5G frequency auction opens up, which also promises to further develop the digital economy.
Another important area is the regulation of the complex issue of cyber security, which concerns not only digital but also traditional businesses, as well as the security of public IT systems, networks, data retention, and the entire so-called critical infrastructure. Regulation thus affects the entire digital sector and virtually all the major branches of the economy. The ability to provide cyber security and protection will, in the future, be seen as a competitive advantage at the state level, and the Czech Republic can take advantage of its outstanding reputation in the field. As the first country in the EU, we have adopted the Cyber Security Act. Though, international cooperation is essentially important. However, given the very dynamic development, it is still necessary to support cyber security and protection intensively. The government should invest significantly in this area so that the Czech Republic remains the top-achiever in Europe, investment should especially go into research, education and further development of human resources.
International Conference
Digital Czech Republic 2019

7th to 8th February 2019
Czernin Palace, Prague
Program 7th February 2019

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

08:00-09:00  
**New European Economy Forum – AI in Europe**  
(per invitation only)

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

Roberto Viola  
Director General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology,  
DG CONNECT (European Commission)

08:15-09:00  
**Registration for the conference**

09:00-09:30  
**Welcome speech**

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

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

Tomáš Petříček  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

09:30-10:00  
**Keynotes**

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

Dita Charanzová  
Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair, Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), ALDE/ANO (Czech Republic)
10:00-10:20  **Scene Setter**

Roberto Viola  
Director General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology, DG CONNECT (European Commission)

10:20-11:45  **PANEL 1: Czech Republic as AI Heart of Europe**

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

Michal Pěchouček  
Professor at the Czech Technical University in Prague, Head of the department of Computer Science (Czech Republic)

Petr Očko  
Deputy Minister for new technology, Ministry of Industry and Trade (Czech Republic)

**Moderator:**  
Jan Klesla  
Independent Expert, Institute for Politics and Society (Czech Republic)

11:45-12:45  **Lunch**

12:00-12:45  **New European Economy Forum – Future of Work**  
(per invitation only)

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

Taavi Rõivas  
Former Prime Minister, former Vice President, Member of the Estonian Parliament (Estonia)
12:45-14:15  **PANEL 2: Intelligent Mobility and Transportation**

Dan Ťok  
Minister of Transport, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

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

Bohdan Wojnar  
Škoda Auto Board Member for Human Resources Management (Czech Republic)

Tomáš Svoboda  
Chair of Department of Cybernetics at Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague (Czech Republic)

Mark Boris Andrijanič  
Public Policy, Central and Eastern Europe, Uber (Slovenia)

**Moderator:**  
Ivan Hodač  
Founder and President of the Aspen Institute Central Europe (Czech Republic)

14:15-14:30  **VIP Talk: Cybersecurity in the Age of Thinking Machines**

Ondřej Vlček  
Chief Technology Officer of Avast Software (Czech Republic)

14:30-16:00  **PANEL 3: Future of Work**

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

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

Aleš Chmelař  
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for European Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Czech Republic)

Nicolas Colin  
Co-Founder and director of “The Family” (France)

**Moderator:**  
Milena Jabůrková  
Vice President, Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)
16:00-16:20  **Coffee break**

16:20-17:50  **PANEL 4: AI Regulation and Ethics**

Milan Zubíček  
Public Policy and Government Relations Manager, Google (Czech Republic)

Zsuzsanna Mátrai  
Corporate Affairs Director for Central and Eastern Europe, Microsoft (Hungary)

Daniel Braun  
Deputy Head of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality (European Commission)

Alžbeta Krausová  
Researcher at the Institute for State and Law, Czech Academy of Sciences (Czech Republic)

**Moderator:**  
Alex Ivančo  
Head of International Law Unit, Ministry of Industry and Trade (Czech Republic)

17:55-18:00  **The closing ceremony of the first day of the conference**

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

18:00-19:00  **Networking with a glass of wine**
## Program 8th February 2019

Organised by the Institute for Politics and Society

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<td><strong>Business Breakfast: Czech Digital Government</strong> (per invitation only)</td>
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<td>(Czech Republic)</td>
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<td>Margrethe Vestager</td>
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<td>Commissioner for Competition (European Commission)</td>
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11:20-12:30  **PANEL 1: Czech Blockchain Republic**

**Pēteris Zilgalvis**
Head of Unit for Digital Innovation and Blockchain, Digital Single Market Directorate, DG CONNECT (European Commission)

**Roberto Mancone**
Chief Operating Officer, We.trade Innovation DAC (Italy)

**Miroslav Lukeš**
General Manager of Mastercard for the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Austria (Czech Republic)

**Alex Ivančo**
Head of International Law Unit, Ministry of Industry and Trade (Czech Republic)

**Moderator:**

**Maria Staszkiewicz**
Chairwoman of the Board of Directors, Czech Fintech Association (Poland)

12:30-13:30  **Lunch**

12:30-13:30  **New European Economy Forum – Brave New Decentralized World** (per invitation only)

**Pēteris Zilgalvis**
Head of Unit for Digital Innovation and Blockchain, Digital Single Market Directorate, DG CONNECT (European Commission)

**Roberto Mancone**
Chief Operating Officer, We.trade Innovation DAC (Italy)

13:30-13:50  **VIP Talk: Bohemia Internet and Data**

**Jaromír Novák**
Chairman of the Council, Czech Telecommunication Office (Czech Republic)
13:50-15:20  PANEL 2: Education for the Digital Age

Robert Plaga
Minister of Education, Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Republic)

Annika Agélii Genlott
Project manager at National action plan for the digitalization of education (Sweden)

Louise Palludan Kampmann
Director, Division for Digital Overview and Communication, Danish Digitalization Agency (Denmark)

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

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)

15:20-15:30  The closing ceremony of the second day of the conference

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

15:30-16:30  Networking with a glass of wine
Partners of the Institute for Politics and Society

Google

General partners of the Digital Czech Republic policy program

Microsoft

Partner of the Digital Czech Republic policy program

mastercard. UBER

Partners of the Institute for Politics and Society

mafra mediální skupina

General media partner

SVĚTCHYTŘE.cz

Media partner
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.
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 Charles University, Prague.

Margrethe Vestager is a Danish politician serving as the European Commissioner for Competition since 2014. She previously served as a member of the Folketing from 20 November 2001 until 2 September 2014, representing the Danish Social Liberal Party (Radikale Venstre). She was the political leader of her party from 2007 to 2014, and served as Minister of Economic Affairs and the Interior from 2011 to 2014. She has been described as “the rich world’s most powerful trustbuster”.

Věra Jourová
CZECH REPUBLIC
Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, European Commission

Margrethe Vestager
DENMARK
Commissioner for Competition, European Commission
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 the 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.

Marta Nováková graduated from VSB – Technical University of Ostrava and has a management certificate from Sheffield Hallam, UK. She first worked in the private sector, and since 1991 she has been doing business. In 2014, she was elected President of the Union of Trade and Tourism of the Czech Republic, and since 2015, she has worked in leading positions of the Chamber of Commerce, lastly as Vice-President. She was the winner of the Businesswoman Year Awards 2016, and became the Manager of the Year 2016 in the category big business companies. Marta Nováková speaks English and Russian. She has two adult children. She is not a member of any political party.
Tomáš Petříček was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs on October 16, 2018. Tomáš Petříček was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, in charge of setting the overall policy and strategic goals of the Foreign Ministry. He previously served as Deputy Minister of Social Affairs of the Czech Republic. He is a member of the Czech Social Democratic Party. Before joining the government, Mr Petříček was a senior advisor in the European Parliament and had a successful career in local government in the City of Prague. He also served as a lecturer in International Political Economy at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. He holds a PhD in International Relations and is fluent in English and conversational in French.

Robert Plaga was born on July 21, 1978 in Ivančice. He is married and has two children. Since 2017 he has been serving as Minister of Education, Youth and Sports, as a nominee of the ANO movement. He graduated from the Faculty of Business and Economics at Mendel University in Brno, where he received his master’s and doctoral degrees (1997-2002 Ing., 2002-2010 Ph.D.). Robert Plaga worked as an assistant professor at Mendel University in Brno in 2002 and 2013. In 2013-2015 he served as a Director of the Technology Transfer Center. Since 2015, he was Deputy Minister of Education, Youth and Sports for the Department of Higher Education, Science and Research.
He graduated from the Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Engineering. He also attended an annual management course at Insead University in Paris, a two-year management training program for ABB senior management, and training programs for Senior Management RWE and Skanska in Lausanne. From 1983 he worked in První brněnská strojírna, from 1992 he worked as the Director of the Boiler Division. From 1996 he worked in leading positions in ABB Energetické systémy, ALSTOM, Jihomoravská plynárenská, KKCG Industry B.V. From 2008 to 2014 he served as Chairman of the Board and Managing Director of Skanska, a.s. He was a member of the Scientific Board of the Brno University of Technology, the Regional Business Chamber in Brno and President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Czech Republic.

Adam Vojtěch has a master’s degree in Media and Communication Studies and another one in Law, both from Charles University in Prague. He also completed a one-year internship at the University College Dublin, the National University of Ireland. During his studies, he led the Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers and was member of the managing board of Randa Foundation that awards scholarships to talented and/or socially disadvantaged students. In addition, Vojtěch worked as a trainee in Brussels. In 2018 he graduated from Advance Healthcare Management Institute in Prague and got the title Master of Healthcare Administration. After completing his studies, Vojtěch worked as a corporate lawyer and subsequently as a secretary to the Czech Minister of Finance specialized in health care. He focused primarily on economic efficiency within health care; he was an executive board member of the General Health Insurance Fund and a supervisory board member of the Czech Industry Health Insurance Fund as an appointee of the Ministry of Finance. Since October 2017 he has been a Member of the Parliament and on Dec. 13, 2017, he was appointed Minister of Health of the Czech Republic.
List of Participants

Mark Boris Andrijanič

SLOVENIA

Public Policy, Central and Eastern Europe, Uber

Mark Boris Andrijanič is a member of Uber’s Public Policy team, responsible for Central and Eastern Europe, where he leads Uber’s efforts to establish partnerships with governments and cities. Prior to joining Uber, Mark Boris was a Visiting Fellow at the Martens Centre for European Studies in Brussels, where his research focused on EU’s foreign and energy policy. He worked closely with Members of the European Parliament and senior European Commission officials on key EU policy issues. Before coming to Brussels, Mark Boris advised the Government of Sierra Leone on natural resource governance reform. In his native Slovenia, he co-founded and led some of the leading NGOs aimed at promoting active citizenship and entrepreneurship. He became a David Rockefeller Fellow at the Trilateral Commission and Millennium Fellow at the Atlantic Council in 2017. He received his Master's in public policy from the University of Oxford and has a degree in law from the University of Ljubljana.

Annika Agélii Genlott

SWEDEN

Project manager at National action plan for the digitalization of education

Annika Agélii Genlott is a consultant at the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and regions (SALAR) leading the work of developing a National action plan for the digitalization of education in Sweden. The national action plan will be handed over to the Government on the 1st of March 2019 and is directly connected to the digital strategy of Sweden, decided in October 2017. The process of putting together a National action plan includes cooperation not only with the Government and Ministry of Education but also all actors surrounding education. In order to be able to do that a completely new process including digital interaction (through digital proposals and voting) with citizens in Sweden is a crucial part of the action plan that Annika is leading. Annika Agélii Genlott has since 2010 been active in organizing the digitalization in one of Sweden’s most digital municipalities and is also a researcher at Örebro University School of Business. Annika’s research concerns the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in education. The research involves dissemination of innovations and organization of transformational change.
Nicolas Colin is a co-founder & director of The Family, an investment firm supporting ambitious tech entrepreneurs in Europe. His 2018 book Hedge: A Greater Safety Net for the Entrepreneurial Age discusses the urgent need to invent a new Safety Net for our economy driven by computing and networks. Nicolas began his career in the French civil service and then brought his senior policy experience to his work as a tech investor. He has co-authored several other works on technology, including a 2013 Report on Taxation in the Digital Economy. He sits on the board of Radio France, the French national radio broadcasting corporation, and has previously served as a member of the board of the French personal data protection authority.

Daniel Braun is the Deputy Director of the Cabinet of Commissioner Vera Jourova. His portfolio includes fundamental rights, the digital economy, inter-institutional relations, economic and monetary affairs. He stood behind the European Commission and major IT platforms that resulted in the adoption of the Codex on Illegal Racism on the Internet. Previously, he was the first Deputy Minister for Local Development responsible for the EU Structural Funds. He led the team that prepared the strategy for European funds in the 2014-2020 programming period in the Czech Republic and was also the head of the Czech negotiation team with the European Commission. Daniel Braun is a graduate of the University of Economics in Prague and the Central European University in Budapest.
Martina Dlabajová

Member of the European Parliament; Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), ALDE/ANO; Vice-president, ELF

Martina Dlabajová (ANO/ALDE) 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?”).

Vladimír Dzurilla

Chief Digital Officer, Government of the Czech Republic

Vladimir Dzurilla graduated from the Slovak Technical University in Bratislava, he also studied as an exchange student in the 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. His 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 serves as an advisor to the Prime Minister and IT agent in the current government.
List of Participants

Ivan Hodač

CZECH REPUBLIC

Founder and President of the Aspen Institute Central Europe

Ivan Hodač is a Founder and President of the Aspen Institute Central Europe. He was Secretary-General of the European Automobile Manufacturers’ Association (ACEA) from 2001 until October 2013. He was among others, a member of a special Advisory Group of experts, which was advising the European Commission in negotiation of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership with the United States (TTIP), and an advisor to the Czech Government on European issues. He is also a Senior advisor at Teneo CabinetDN, a leading consultancy on the EU. The Financial Times listed him among the most influential personalities in Brussels politics. Before joining ACEA, he was Senior Vice-President and Head of the Time Warner Corporate office for Europe. Previously he was Secretary-General of the trade organization IFMA/IMACE, Senior Economist at Didier &amp; Associates, and Assistant Professor at the College of Europe, Bruges. He was born in Prague, where he studied mechanical engineering. He completed his education in economics and political science at the University of Copenhagen and the College of Europe in Bruges (European studies).

Aleš Chmelař

CZECH REPUBLIC

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for European Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Aleš Chmelař is the State Secretary for European Affairs. He was appointed in June 2017. Prior to joining the Czech Office of the Government, he worked as a financial markets researcher at the Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS), the largest and oldest think-tank in Brussels. Since 2014, he has worked as head European analyst at the Office of the Government and Head of EU Economic Policy Coordination Department. Aleš Chmelař graduated from the Sciences Po Paris (BA, European Affairs) and the London School of Economics and Political Science (MSc, European Political Economy). He’s fluent in English, French and German and regularly publishes in professional journals and traditional media.
Alex Ivančo is Head of the International Law Unit at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic and Head of Secretariat of the Czech National Contact Point for the Implementation of OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. He holds a Ph.D. in Law from Charles University. Alex is interested in the dispute resolution outside of the formal state-sponsored judicial systems, design of dispute resolution systems and the use of modern technologies in the dispute resolution. Previously he also worked for the Czech Trade Promotion Agency in São Paulo, Brazil, and as an election observer for the European Union.

Milena Jabůrková graduated from social policy at Charles university and she received 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. In 2015 she was elected to the managing board of Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic and since April 2017 she has been the Vice-President of Confederation, where she directs digital economics and education.
The Division for Digital Overview and Communication has the overall responsibility for the development of “My Overview” – a system that is to provide Danish citizens with a state-of-the-art digital overview over their personal profile and running cases in the public system. Dealing with public authorities through a digital interface should be easy and quick and leave the citizen confident that private data is not misused. It is, therefore, very important that the use of data in public authorities is completely transparent. On the long term “My Overview”, therefore, is to provide citizens with clear information about the type of data the public authorities is registering. The system will be implemented in steps towards 2024. The Division has the responsibility to create the digital base that allows for the development and the daily work of “My Overview”. This is done through thorough and holistic analysis of demands and needed IT-architecture. The Division cooperates closely with all relevant authorities (ministries, regions and municipalities) to pin-point which data to include into “My Overview”.

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 Head of the economic column. Lastly he worked as economics commentator for LN. In the long term, he deals with the digital economy, investment and regulation, particularly in the area of technological disruption of traditional industries.
Alžběta Krausová is a legal researcher at the Department of Private Law of the Institute of State and Law of the Czech Academy of Sciences, an external lecturer at the Faculty of Informatics of the Czech Technical University in Prague and at the Faculty of Law of the Charles University in Prague, a public speaker, and a member of the Expert group on New Technologies and Liability at the European Commission. Her research specializes on legal aspects of artificial intelligence, robotics, brain-computer interfaces, and merging technology with organic life. Alžběta received her LL.M. in law and legal science from Masaryk University Faculty of Law in 2007 and her LL.M. in intellectual property and patent law from University of Haifa Faculty of Law in 2014. She is currently a doctoral student at the Institute of Law and Technology at Masaryk University Faculty of Law. In the past, Alžběta also worked as a researcher at the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law and Information Technology (ICRI) at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium.

Pavel Kysilka studied at VŠE in Prague. 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 the 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 the 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. He deals with the economic, business and social impacts of the digital revolution. He is founder and a Chairman of the Board of Trustees of 6D Academy.
List of Participants

Miroslav Lukeš

CZECH REPUBLIC

General Manager of Mastercard for the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Austria

Miroslav Lukeš graduated from the University of Economics in Prague, where he specialized in Finance and IT Management; he also studied Economics at the Joint European Studies Programme and did a international MBA programme at the French Business school INSEA, where he finished as the best graduating student. Currently, he works as a general manager of MasterCard in the Czech Republic, Austria and Slovakia. He has contributed to the creation of bank strategies at GE Money Bank and worked as a consultant at McKinsey & Company for seven years, where he led projects related to strategies, business and marketing in the field of finance, hi-tech, telecommunications and retail trade.

Roberto Mancone

ITALY

Chief Operating Officer, We.trade Innovation DAC

Chief Operating Officer of we.trade Innovation DAC, the Joint Venture owned by 12 European Banks (Caixa, DB, Erste, HSBC, KBC, Natixis, Nordea, Rabobank, Santander, SogGen, UBS, Unicredit), developing, executing the strategy, designing the operating model of the company, and licensing the innovative Trade Platform in 14 countries in Europe. Previously he worked at Deutsche Bank AG as Global Head of Disruptive Technologies and Solutions for Private Wealth and Commercial Clients Division, Global Head of Commercial Banking Products and Vice Chairman of the Global Credit & Deposit Product Executive Committee, and BNL – BNP Paribas Group. He holds an Executive MBA from SDA Bocconi in Milano and Master of Science in Economics, Statistic and Econometric from the University Federico II of Napoli. MIT Sloan School of Management Certificate in IoT. He is Vice President of EFMA, Chairman of the Digital Advisory Council of EFMA, member of European Corporate Governance Institute, and Member of the Advisory Committee of The Floor in Tel Aviv.
Aleš Michl was born in Prague on 18 October 1977 and graduated from the Faculty of Finance and Accounting at the University of Economics in Prague. He started his professional career as an economic journalist during his studies and later as an economic adviser to Deputy Prime Minister for the Economy Martin Jahn. He worked as an economic and investment strategist at Raiffeisenbank in 2006–2015 and as an external economic adviser to Czech Minister of Finance and later Czech Prime Minister Andrej Babiš, specialising in macroeconomic analysis and government debt stabilisation. He founded Michl Fund Management s.r.o. in 2016, which subsequently co-founded Robot Asset Management SICAV a.s., which carries on the activities of an investment fund for qualified investors with the Quant sub-fund. He is not and has never been a member of a political party. Aleš Michl was appointed a member of the CNB Bank Board on 1 December 2018.

Zsuzsanna Mátrai joined Microsoft in September 2017 after 20 year diplomatic career with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary. She is based in Budapest focusing on Microsoft’s corporate and government affairs across Central and Eastern Europe and an advocate of Microsoft’s core values and philanthropic activities ranging from AI through privacy and security issues to education. In cooperation with Microsoft’s Brussels she is involved with strategic planning to positively shape the debate and public policy outcomes on issues important to the ICT industry. Prior to joining Microsoft, her diplomatic career focused mainly on Hungary's European integration process and included various external communication responsibilities. In her last diplomatic role for the Hungarian Embassy in Paris, she was responsible for analyzing and addressing a broad range of public policy issues across the entire European region, as well as engaging at senior level with leading influencers from the public and private sectors, intergovernmental organizations, academics and civil society. She holds degrees in economic sciences and European law.
List of Participants

Jaromír Novák
CZECH REPUBLIC
Chairman of the Council, Czech Telecommunications Office

Petr Očko
CZECH REPUBLIC
Deputy Minister for new technology, Ministry of Industry and Trade

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 working 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 the 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. The Chairman of the Council of the Czech Telecommunication Office was appointed by the Government in May 2013, and was subsequently appointed by the CTO Board in May 2017 as the Chairman of the CTO Council until 2020.

Petr Očko graduated from Information Management and European Integration at the University of Economics in Prague and from Ph.D. studies of Information Economics at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague. Since August 2007, he has worked in the private sector as an EU project coordinator for Telefónica O2. In 2009, he returned to state administration as Chief Executive Officer for EU Budget and EU Funds at the Ministry of Transport, and since August 2010 he served as Section Director for EU Funds, Research and Development at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, where he was in charge of key programs to support industrial research and development, innovation and entrepreneurship. Since 2015, he headed the Department of Financial Instruments and Project Management at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and prepared mainly the National Innovation Fund project or the transformation of the Czech-Moravian Guarantee and Development Bank. In March 2016, he was appointed by the Government as chairman of the Czech Republic’s Technology Agency and successfully helped to develop support for applied research in key areas of the Czech Republic, including industry 4.0.
Michal Pěchouček
CZECH REPUBLIC

Professor at the Czech Technical University in Prague, Deputy head for research at Department of Computer Science

Michal Pěchouček is a full professor in Computer Science at the Czech Technical University (CTU). He has studied and worked at several foreign universities. He has ran several research contracts funded by the FAA and has collaborated on two additional research grants funded by NASA. He is the co-founder and investor of several successful start-ups in the field of artificial intelligence. He was a director of the R&D centre of artificial intelligence and computer security of CISCO in Prague and a strategist for nex technologies as well. He is also the Founding Director of the Open Informatics, a research-oriented computer science study programme at CTU-FEL. In 2015 he has been put on the New Europe 100, the list of outstanding challengers who are leading world class innovation from Central and Eastern Europe.

Taavi Rõivas
ESTONIA

MP, Former Prime Minister, former Vice President, Estonian Parliament

Taavi Rõivas was educated at Tallinna Reaalkool (Tallinn Secondary School of Science) 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 an elder of the Haabersti city district of Tallinn.
List of Participants

Maria Staszkiewicz
POLAND
Executive Director, Czech Fintech Association

Maria Staszkiewicz 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. Since 2010, she has been living 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 FinTech 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.

Tomáš Svoboda
CZECH REPUBLIC
Chair of Department of Cybernetics at Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague

Tomáš Svoboda is an associate professor and researcher in artificial intelligence with a particular interest in applications on autonomous robots and vehicles. He spent three years at ETH Zurich, and now he is the chair of the Department of Cybernetics, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague. He co-founded the Open Informatics, a research-oriented computer science study programme and he is also founding director of EECS bachelor study programme at CTU-FEL. He has been working on European projects Nifti and TRADR pushing frontiers in search and rescue robotics. He is now leading CTU team in EU project Enable-S3, working on automating validation and verification of autonomous systems. His research interests include machine learning for analysis of image and depth data where he collaborates with Prague R&D Valeo center.
Ondřej Vlček graduated from Mathematical Modelling at the Faculty of Nuclear Sciences at the Czech Technical University in Prague. Through books he found his passion for programming as a little boy. Later he began working with Avast’s founders as a trainee in 1995. In 2003, he became the leader of development at Avast and participated in the development of the first antivirus program for Windows. Gradually, he became the president of the consumer segment. He is also a minority shareholder of the company. Ondřej Vlček is one of the most prominent figures in the Czech Internet and IT community. He is married, has three children, drives a Tesla Model S and collects Italian wines.

Roberto Viola is Director General of DG CONNECT (Directorate General of Communication, Networks, Content and Technology) at the European Commission. He was the Deputy Director-General of DG CONNECT, European Commission from 2012 to 2015. Roberto Viola served as Chairman of the European Radio Spectrum Policy group (RSPG) from 2012 to 2013, as Deputy Chairman in 2011 and Chairman in 2010. He was a member of the BEREC Board (Body of European Telecom Regulators), and Chairman of the European Regulatory Group (ERG). He held the position of Secretary General in charge of managing AGCOM, from 2005 to 2012. Prior to this, he served as Director of the Regulation Department and Technical Director in AGCOM from 1999 to 2004. From 1985-1999 he served in various positions including Head of Telecommunication and Broadcasting Satellite Services at the European Space Agency (ESA). Roberto Viola holds a Doctorate in Electronic Engineering and a Master’s degree in Business Administration (MBA).
List of Participants

Bohdan Wojnar
CZECH REPUBLIC
Škoda Auto Board Member for Human Resources Management

Bohdan Wojnar graduated from the University of Chemistry and Technology in Prague (Economics and Management programme) and in 1993 he completed his international studies at European Business School, also in Prague. After finishing his university studies, he started working for Kaučuk in Kralupy nad Vltavou in 1983. In 1985 he joined ŠKODA AUTO where he held various positions in the financial sector. In 1996 he became head of ŠKODA AUTO Controlling department. From 2006 Bohdan Wojnar was a member of the Board of Management for Finance in Volkswagen Slovakia, a.s., and from 2008 he was a member of the Board of Management for Finance as well as Human Resources in Volkswagen Slovakia, a.s. From 2009 to 2010 he was a member of the company´s Board of Management for Human Resources. Since 1 January 2011 he has been a member of the Board of Management of ŠKODA AUTO, a.s. responsible for Human Resources. From 2011 to 2016 he held the position of Vice-President of the Czech Chamber of the Automotive Industry Association, and since 2016 he has been its President.

Peteris Zilgalvis
LATVIA
Head of Unit for Startups and Innovation in the Digital Single Market Directorate in DG CONNECT, European Commission

Pēteris Zilgalvis is the Head of Unit for Digital Innovation and Blockchain in the Digital Single Market Directorate in DG CONNECT and is the Co-Chair of the European Commission FinTech Task Force. He was nominated on the list of CoinDesk’s Most Influential People in Blockchain 2017. He was the Visiting EU Fellow at St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford for 2013-14, where he is an Associate of the Political Economy of Financial Markets Programme. From 1997 to 2005, he was Deputy Head of the Bioethics Department of the Council of Europe, in its Directorate General of Legal Affairs. In addition, he has held various positions in the Latvian civil service (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment). He was Senior Environmental Law Advisor to the World Bank/Russian Federation Environmental Management Project and was Regional Environmental Specialist for the Baltic Countries at the World Bank. He has been a member of the California State Bar since 1991, completed his J.D. at the University of Southern California, his B.A. in Political Science Cum Laude at UCLA, and the High Potentials Leadership Program at Harvard Business School.
Milan Zubíček works as the public policy and government relations manager at Google in Brussels, where he covers topics related to online platforms liability and disinformation. Before moving to Brussels in September 2018, he worked for two years at Google’s Central and Eastern European public policy team, coordinating data governance in the region and being responsible for government relations in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Previously he was the program manager at the Aspen Institute Central Europe and a public affairs consultant at an international agency Grayling.
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