

# Annual Report

## 2022



THE ASPEN INSTITUTE  
CENTRAL EUROPE

**Ideas Impacting Society**



**Aspen Institute Central Europe o.p.s.**

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# Preface

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Annual Report of Aspen Institute Central Europe from the year 2022. The year was carried in the spirit of the 10th anniversary since the Institute's establishment in Central Europe, and I am sincerely proud of how this platform has been able to establish itself in this relatively short time and raise the interest in our main priority topics. These topics are mainly quality education, effectiveness of civil service, technological topics and, last but not least, values-based leadership programs.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Aspen Institute Central Europe, we organized an event attended by significant personalities from Central Europe. I greatly appreciate that among the speakers at this event were Miloš Vystřčil, President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, and Olena Zelenska, First Lady of Ukraine. Her speech emphasized the importance of values in these extremely difficult times that Ukraine, and subsequently Europe as a whole, are facing right now. The significance of democratic values was always also pointed out by Madeleine K. Albright, to whom we paid tribute during the official program due to her significance as a personality who also participated in the foundation of Aspen Institute Central Europe ten years ago.

On behalf of our Institute, I would also like to emphasize that we are expressing full support to the Ukrainian nation during these difficult times. In this war, the Czech Republic is a strong and active partner to Ukraine, supporting not only the country itself, but also the refugees who fled from the war to the Czech Republic. Aspen Institute Central Europe, thanks to its know-how, has actively supported the government in the coordination of refugee integration into a new environment.

Our activities were fundamentally affected by events in Ukraine. More than ever, the topics of values, freedom, safety and transatlantic cooperation were reflected in the Institute's activities and outputs. The details of all the activities, which we carried out this year, can be found later in this Annual Report.

I am also proud of the projects we organized in cooperation with the Aspen Institute Global Network. In addition to several debates put together with Aspen Institute Kyiv, we cooperated with Aspen Digital at events focused on disinformation and freedom of the media in our region or participated in the Global Cyber Group which met in Prague. At the end of the year, a major meeting of the Aspen Ministers Forum attended by former foreign ministers was also held in Prague. Among the guest speakers were Hillary R. Clinton, Malcolm Rifkind, Tzipi Livni, George Papandreou, and additional important guests such as Wendy R. Sherman and Amina J. Mohammed.

Last but not least, I am very glad that we continue to cooperate with the Alumni of our Leadership Programs. Not only do we organize a joint meeting every year, but we actively support them in each country of Central Europe. I see as our success that we have been able to send 15 of our Alumni abroad to actively participate in Aspen projects in the US and Europe.

Finally, let me thank and praise the work of the entire team for the professionalism with which they have approached all our activities. Thank you for your interest and support and I look forward to cooperation and encounters in our future projects.



**Milan Vašina**

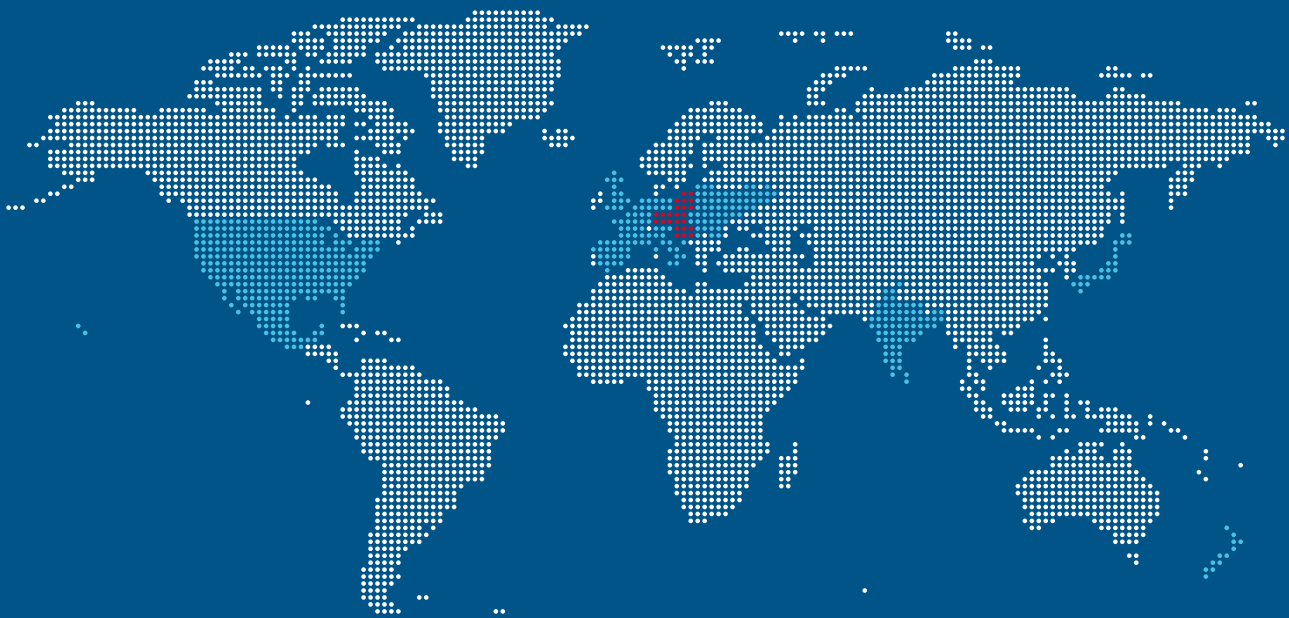
Executive Director  
Aspen Institute Central Europe



# Aspen as a Network & Independent Platform

Aspen Institute Central Europe is the regional partner of the global Aspen Institute network. It serves as an independent platform where political and business leaders, as well as leading artists, athletes and scientists can meet and interact. The aim of the Institute is to facilitate interdisciplinary cooperation and support young Central European leaders from various sectors in their personal and professional development.

Founded in 1950 in the United States, Aspen Institute is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and the network includes 12 offices in the **Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Romania, Spain, Ukraine** and the **United Kingdom**. The Institute in Prague was established in 2012 as a public benefit company and serves the entire Central European region, primarily operating in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.



# Open Dialogue, Multiple Points of View

## Who we are

Aspen Institute Central Europe is an independent platform that mediates interdisciplinary and regional cooperation and supports young Central European leaders in their personal development. With the participation of experts from politics, business, and public institutions as well as

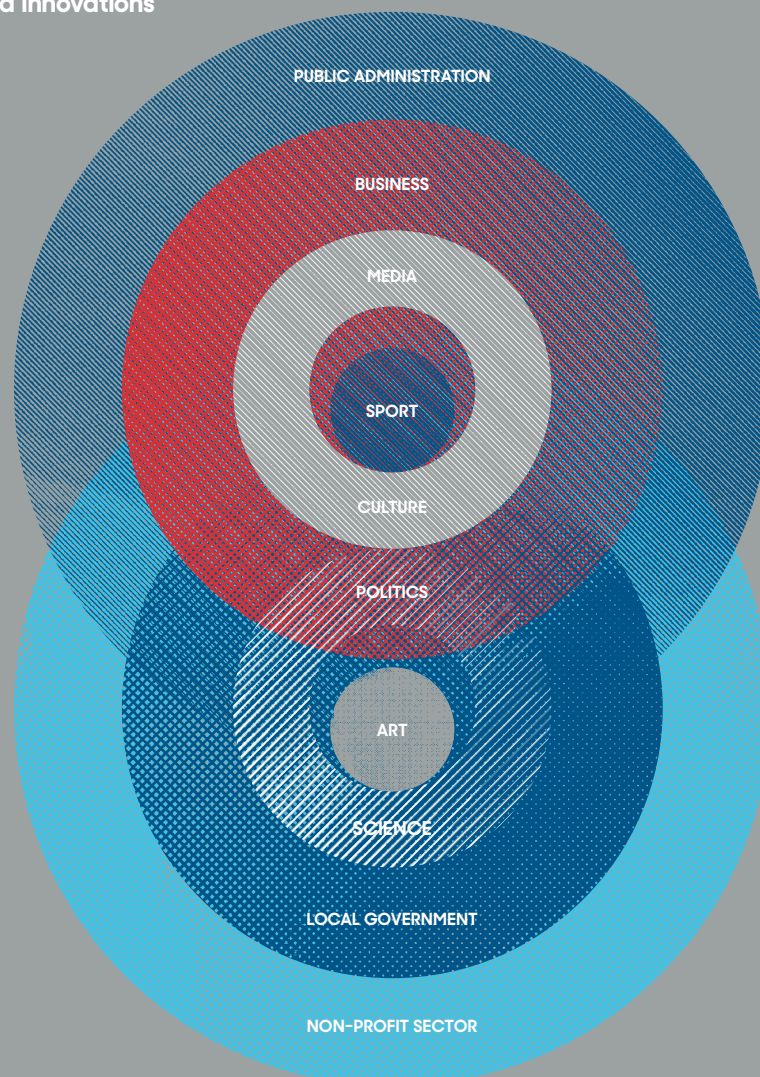
personalities from the arts, sports and science, we organize public conferences, seminars, workshops and professional discussions.

## Our mission

We connect and inspire people who are passionate about improving society.

## 5 Main Program Priorities of Aspen Institute Central Europe

1. Values-based Leadership
2. Effectiveness of Civil Service
3. Education
4. Transatlantic Topics and EU Relations
5. Technology and Innovations





# Our Programs

## Multiplying the Potential of Leaders: The Leadership Program

The Leadership Programs convene exceptional leaders across various fields and disciplines from Central Europe in order to step away from the daily routine to reflect upon various aspects of values-based leadership. The participants are challenged to explore their core values and engage in dialogue about complex issues critical for society's development. The Alumni become part of an international informal group with the objective of promoting professional ties with one another and triggering further cooperation.

## Looking for Answers to Current Challenges: The Policy Program

Aspen Institute Central Europe's Policy Program serves as a nonpartisan forum that allows for a multifaceted dialogue between policymakers, influential business and public figures. They

address themes that reflect education, the effectiveness of civil service, the impact of innovation and technology on the development of society, democracy, quality of life, change and formation of public opinion and its role in decision-making. Global issues, transatlantic relations, and the problems that Europe and the Central European region are facing are discussed.

## Highlighting Topics of Public Interest: The Public Program

The Public Program aims to actively involve a large number of participants in debates and analyses related to current Central European issues and opportunities for regional development. The Institute organizes debates and conferences for a broader audience of interested individuals who wish to discuss fresh ideas and look at a wide range of social, political and economic issues from a new perspective. The highlight of the public program is the Aspen Annual Conference where the results of the year-round work of expert groups are presented.



# 10th Anniversary of Aspen Institute Central Europe

In 2022, Aspen Institute Central Europe celebrated ten years since its establishment in the region, and in honor of this special occasion, the Institute organized a networking event with the attendance of key personalities from Central Europe. The main speeches were delivered by the President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, Miloš Vystrčil, and by the First Lady of Ukraine, Olena Zelenska. Her video-message was delivered

just a few hours after her husband, the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, delivered his own speech to the members of Czech Parliament. During the event, a tribute was paid to Madeleine K. Albright, an inspirational person who was at the beginnings of Aspen Institute Central Europe ten years ago and played an active role throughout the whole decade of its functioning.





# Aspen Annual Conference

The Institute's flagship event, Aspen Annual Conference entitled *The Shape of (Central) Europe 2022*, was held on 30 November 2022, following up on the previously successful editions of this evaluative project organized since 2015. This year, the conference was held again at the Prague Crossroads Centre with an in-person audience while also being streamed online.

The aim of the conference is to comprehensively evaluate political, economic, and social developments not only in the Czech Republic, but also in other Central European countries. The main topics of this year's conference were Values-based Leadership, Security – Innovations, the Future of the Czech Labor Market, the Education and the Effectiveness of the Czech Civil Service. The discussions were based on comprehensive studies of the expert groups of Aspen Institute Central Europe and the consulting companies The Boston Consulting Group, McKinsey & Company, and PAQ Research, which provided not only analysis of the areas in question but also specific recommendations for improvement.

This year's opening speech was presented by the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Petr Fiala, who underlined the importance of values, namely freedom, solidarity and responsibility. The main theme of the conference *The Role of Values in Turbulent Times* was also addressed by the former President of Slovakia, Andrej Kiska. This was followed by an online speech by Alexander Stubb, former Prime Minister of Finland and currently Director of the EUI School of Transnational Governance.

The individual panels were the culmination of the topics covered by the Institute throughout the year in public debates and expert meetings. The audience was engaged in the discussion by asking questions via the application Sli.do throughout the conference. The most pressing problems in the given areas and a draft of recommendations were traditionally summarized at the end and addressed to those who decide about the future of the region.

The topics of the Aspen Annual Conference will be discussed in greater detail in public debates and expert seminars over the course of 2023.





# Aspen CE Madeleine K. Albright Leadership Award

The Institute annually bestows the Award on young successful professionals for excellence in the areas of active promotion of responsible citizenship, values-based leadership, innovations and/or innovative policies with a positive societal impact in Central and Eastern Europe.

It is a great honor for Aspen Institute Central Europe that as of 2022, the Award has been renamed after the former US Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright. Newly entitled the **Aspen CE Madeleine K. Albright Leadership Award**, it will continue to be annually bestowed on young emerging professionals with outstanding achievements.

The Award carries the name of a native of Prague and a friend of Aspen Institute Central Europe, to honor her life-long mission of educating and encouraging young leaders to carry a strong values system and contribute to the growth of society. With the Award, the Institute recognizes representatives of this generation who demonstrate great leadership early in their careers, show extraordinary potential to inspire

others and impact Central European society positively.

The 2022 laureates are **Jana Hlaváčová**, a Patient Advocate, Co-Founder of a patient involvement agenda at the Ministry of Health, who actively promotes democratic principles and innovation in public policy, and **Zuzanna Krzątała**, a Project Coordinator of Humanity in Action Poland, an Active Citizen and Volunteer involved in helping Ukrainian refugees with setting up and running a shelter for women and children in Poland.

The Award ceremony was held on the occasion of the Aspen Annual Conference *The Shape of (Central) Europe 2022*. It was opened by Elliot Gerson, Executive Vice-President of Aspen Institute (US), who shared a letter from the Albright family on this special occasion of the first year of the Award carrying the Albright name. The Laureates received the Award from Miloš Vystrčil, President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, and Pavel Řehák, President of the Aspen Institute Central Europe.



# Aspen Young Leaders Program

Each year, Aspen Institute Central Europe invites outstanding young professionals from Central Europe, representing various fields, to debate the development in the society and the challenges we together face.

Held in the remote reaches of Central Europe, which allows the participants to step away from their daily routine, the four-day program consists of inspiring lectures, discussions, and workshops with the common theme of leadership. The program is unique due to the strong emphasis on the quality and diversity of the speakers involved as well as the broad array of topics and participants. The balanced mix of speakers and participants from business, politics, the arts, media, sports, and the non-profit sector guarantees provocative debates with intriguing ideas for interdisciplinary and international cooperation.

**“AYLP inspired me to forget my fears, be more visionary and try to achieve and work on the goals I have been dreaming about for years.”**

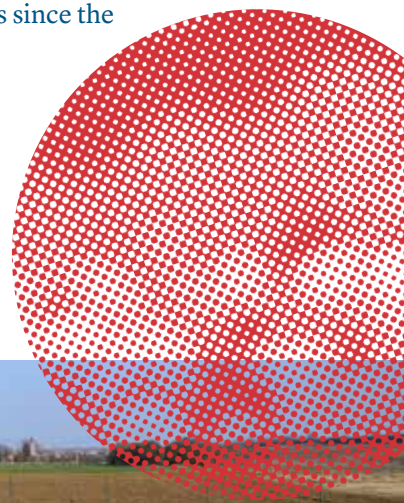
In 2022, Aspen Young Leaders Program (AYLP) took place twice, firstly, in South Moravia (CZ) and secondly, in the Low Tatras (SK). This year, a total of 65 participants from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia participated for four days in this program to discuss questions relevant to our region in the context of values-based leadership. This time young leaders had the opportunity to participate in an open discussion with representatives of the European Parliament,

politics, businesspeople, journalists, or leading representatives of the non-profit sector. The program also featured leaders in the areas of documentary filmmaking, cyber security or, for example, mountaineering.

**“It’s perfect for stepping out of the box, I appreciated the diversity of the topics, the mixture of participants from fields I would never have met elsewhere. I learned a whole bunch of new things and I am refreshed with new thoughts and opinions.”**

## Alumni of Leadership Programs

AYLP Alumni become part of the Aspen Institute Central Europe network within which the Institute supports the further development of cooperation and education, in particular with opportunities for them to participate in unique events organized by other Aspen Institute branches around the world. In 2022, for example, five Alumni participated in the Aspen Ideas Festival in Aspen, USA, 13 of them attended Bloomberg CityLab in Amsterdam, and one was awarded a financial grant from the McNulty Foundation, all within the Aspen Institute Global Network. The entire AYLP Alumni network includes more than 370 members since the establishment of the Institute.





# Leadership & Values Seminar

## Leadership Seminars

These seminars, aimed at supporting values-based leadership, are part of the unique Aspen programs, which are special due to the format of a moderated discussion based on philosophical, sociological and political texts. Hidden away from the demands of the daily routine and in a small group of accomplished leaders from across various fields and disciplines, the seminar provides space for stimulating discussions emphasizing reflections on what it means to be a good leader in the context of the given region. It allows the participants to become engaged in a critical discussion on other topical political and social issues, as well as encouraging them to critically examine their core values.

**“I am convinced that business leadership must be based on values and a sense of purpose. Any discussion about values like this one among business leaders is of great use.”**

Martin Zák拉斯ník

Member of the Board at German-Czech Chamber of Industry and Commerce

**“An amazing and useful program. It offers an opportunity to look at important current problems outside the toxic froth of the everyday routine.”**

Martin Kratochvíl

Jazzman, Businessman and Film-Maker

## Socrates Seminar 2022

The first Socrates Seminar in Central Europe was organized from 29 September to 1 October 2022, in cooperation with the Aspen Institute Socrates Seminar. It is another of the Aspen Institute's highly acclaimed seminars that focuses not only on values-based leadership, but also on critical issues for society. During the seminar, numerous intellectual, open and in-depth debates are held in which participants share not only their views, but are also challenged with new perspectives thanks to an interdisciplinary group of participants.

The seminar brings together a small group of successful and experienced leaders from different fields and actively engages them in a critical examination of their core beliefs and values. The aim of the seminar is not to provide ready-made answers, but to lead a meaningful dialogue among a group of people with opposite views while asking difficult questions.

The topic for the first Socrates Seminar in Central Europe was new technologies and innovation, and the seminar was entitled *The Next Wave of Tech Innovation: What It Means for How We Live and Do Business*. The discussion was moderated by Wilson L. White, Vice-President for Government Affairs & Public Policy at Google.



# Effectiveness of Civil Service

Only a civil service that can manage the administration of partial tasks as well as the preparation and implementation of long-term goals, and that is able to respond flexibly to current challenges and is an attractive employer offering an innovative, developing and goal-oriented work environment led by quality managers, is effective.

In 2021, under the theme of effective civil service, the Institute focused on four pillars (focus on outcomes and their measurement, flexibility in the organization of public administration, attracting and developing the most capable talent, digitalization and data-driven decision-making) that form the cornerstones of effective civil service. These pillars, based on data analysis and evaluation of international best practices, can help improve the efficiency of the government. This year's study revisits these pillars and provides concrete practical

measures that have proven successful in response to the crisis and could help strengthen the capacity of the government and civil service as such to cope with extraordinary challenges. Beyond traditional management, it highlights the importance of a supra-ministerial implementation unit within the Office of the Government, which should be responsible for implementing the government's main priorities and potential crisis situations.

This model of crisis management has been tested and implemented by the Czech civil service with the support of an expert group of Aspen Institute Central Europe and McKinsey & Company in the context of the Ukrainian migration crisis. This unit and other recommendations are described in the study *Effective Civil Service – Inspiration for Urgent and Complex Challenges*, which was presented and discussed at the Annual Conference *The Shape of (Central) Europe 2022*.





# Education and Upskilling

## The Future of the Czech Labor Market

In collaboration with The Boston Consulting Group, Aspen Institute Central Europe presented a unique model of Czech labor market development, working with the labor market forecasting system of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs called Kompas, local factors, ten global megatrends, and an analysis of 131 occupations in 31 sectors. The study *The Future of the Czech Labor Market* predicts the development of the labor market until 2030 and highlights the main changes that will affect even the following decade. The study also provides specific proposals for solutions for the civil service, companies, and employees to ensure that the Czech Republic will successfully meet the challenges of the anticipated labor market changes.

During the year-long work on the study, an expert group was formed to provide opposition and input during work sessions on each topic. The outputs of the study were presented to the public at a press conference in August and directly to the Ministers of the Government of the Czech Republic. An extended version of the study was also presented during the Annual Conference entitled *The Shape of (Central) Europe 2022* in November. Members of the expert group spoke on a panel in discussion with civil service and policy representatives.

## The Role of School Principals

This year concluded the online debate series *Elementary School Principals*, which was launched in 2021 as part of the Education program priority. The latest online debate, entitled *Elementary School Principals: How to Choose the Right Principal?* was organized in cooperation with the editorial board of *Řízení školy* magazine. Tomáš Feřtek, an Expert Consultant at EDUin, moderated the debate. Experts from the ranks of principals, statutory authorities, and state administration discussed the issue of the small number of applicants for the position of school principals, the lack of specified career rules, and the level of readiness of the candidates themselves for the position.

Education was also debated live in a panel discussion entitled *How to Improve Communication in Schools?: Statutory Authorities Should Understand School Principals and Teachers Not Only in a Crisis Situation* which took place at the 62nd Zlín Film Festival. The debate reflected the current situation of the arrival of Ukrainian children to schools and the need for principals and teachers to set up better mutual communication.

In cooperation with the team of Opero, the Prague Innovation Institute, and the National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic (NPI CR), Aspen Institute Central Europe co-organized the second edition of the conference *FutureEdu: The Future of Education in the Digital Age*. This year's conference theme was the future of advanced technologies in education.



# Technology and Innovations

Aspen Institute Central Europe has also promoted interdisciplinary dialogue in the program priority highlighting the themes of technology and innovation. In 2022, the Institute focused significantly on the digital economy sector. The aim of the expert seminars within the framework of the *Dialogue on the Digital Economy in the Czech Republic* was to provide a platform for representatives of the digital economy and the civil service to share experiences and formulate those needs of the state that are essential for its further development and optimization of processes that contribute to the growth of the Czech economy. This series opened up the topics of e-commerce and cyber security, which has taken on a different dimension and importance due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

For the fifth year running, the social impact of new technologies has been the subject of debates in the *Society 4.0* series, organized by Aspen Institute Central Europe in cooperation with Opero, ABRA Software and the Neuron Endowment Fund. The debate *Society 4.0: Quo Vadis, Democracy?*, which was organized on the occasion of the commemoration of 17 November, opened up questions of values, democracy and its basic principles. The aim was to provide space for reflection on both small or big answers to solving the current crisis of democracy, including in relation to modern technologies that affect our private and public lives. In the May debate *Society 4.0: The Future of the Green Deal for Europe* speakers discussed energy security in the context of the upcoming Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union, as well as the role the Czech Republic will play in shaping the updated pan-European strategy.





# Transatlantic Topics and EU Relations

As part of its program priority on Transatlantic and EU topics, Aspen Institute Central Europe promotes dialogue on critical and topical issues relevant to today's society. The interdisciplinary and opinion-diverse debates address issues of geopolitical and geo-economic importance with the aim of bringing opposing viewpoints to the audience, thus promoting open dialogue and democratic values.

Under the leadership of Aspen Institute Kyiv, virtual online debates were held throughout the year with the entire network of Aspen International Partners. The debates entitled *#UkrainianDialogue* discussed pressing issues in the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Aspen Institute Central Europe co-organized two debates for the Central European audience, *Ukraine's Defense of Freedom* and *Ukraine-EU: A Closer Look*.

With the participation of NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoana, a debate entitled *The Evolving Role of NATO in Global Stability* took place in Prague. The event was organized in cooperation with the Centre for Transatlantic Relations and Jagello 2000 under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. The aim of the debate was to discuss with students and the general public not only the current security situation, but also to get acquainted with the new NATO Strategic Concept.

In cooperation with Aspen Digital, a debate entitled *The Future of a Free Press in Central and*



*Eastern Europe* was held in November in Prague. The opening speeches were delivered by Mark Gitenstein, US Ambassador to the EU, and Petr Dvořák, Director General of Czech Television. The panel featured independent journalists and experts from the Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and Ukraine, who explored press independence in the region and how to counteract rising hostility towards journalists. Both panel discussions focused on the growing trend of disinformation, the conflict between independent journalism and politically governed media entities, and how to reverse the current downward spiral.



The Aspen Ministers Forum, founded 20 years ago by Madeleine K. Albright, gathered in Prague to convene former Foreign Ministers from around the world. Among the guest speakers were Wendy R. Sherman, Hillary R. Clinton and Amina J. Mohammed. With a deep understanding of foreign policy, this group makes a significant contribution to international reform. On the occasion of this important gathering of leaders, Aspen Institute Central Europe, Aspen Ministers Forum, Bertelsmann Foundation and Charles University organized a debate on *Leadership in Action*. Former foreign ministers Susana Malcorra, Federica Mogherini, Marina Kaljurand, Tzipi Livni, Don McKinnon and George Papandreou participated in this exceptional panel discussion. The debate focused on values-based leadership during challenging times and current issues in international relations.

# Aspen Review Central Europe

Aspen Review is a publication in which Aspen Institute Central Europe provides space for a wide range of views on topical issues that resonate in society. Aspen Review publishes on a weekly basis online articles, analyses, interviews, and commentaries by world-renowned and Central European public figures, journalists, scientists and academics.

The latest annual issue, which was published in the printed version, was on the occasion of the Annual Conference *The Shape of (Central) Europe 2022*.

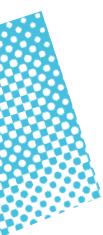
It was a selection of the most popular articles from 2022 and was entitled *Central Europe Reloaded*. Out of 49 expert articles, we have chosen e.g. Robert Schuster's interview with Jiří Švejcar, Partner at The Boston Consulting Group, on the topic *Regular Training and Education Increases Productivity*, Tomáš Klvaňa's interview with the world-famous Portuguese politician Bruno Maçães on the topic *Is Europe an Emerging Geopolitical Union?* or the article *Who Will Create the Brave New World?* by Polish entrepreneur Zuzanna Lewandowska on AI and technological growth.





# Summary of Aspen Institute Central Europe Activities in 2022

Date and venue	Event	Details
January – December (weekly)	<b>Aspen Review</b>	Every week, a new article of Aspen Review is published online, which offers analyses, interviews and commentaries by world-renowned and Central European public figures, journalists, scientists and academics.
January – June (biweekly)	<b>Effectiveness of Civil Service: expert group</b>	Regular meetings of the expert group on Effectiveness of Civil Service based on McKinsey & Company's study from 2021 that continued its efforts in implementation of the recommendations and cooperated with the Czech government.
February 8 online	<b>Role of School Principals: How to Choose the Right Principal?</b>	Fourth expert public debate organized in a series focused on primary school principals and educational leadership, discussing the selection procedure and related complications which statutory authorities and applicants have to endure.
March 15 Prague and online	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	The first in a series of regular meetings of an expert group on Upskilling and Reskilling, which worked with The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) study to formulate recommendations and strategies for eliminating identified long-term risks on the Czech labor market.
March 23 Bratislava	<b>Regional Alumni Network Dinner</b>	Informal network meeting of the Slovak Alumni of the Aspen Young Leaders Program.
March 24–27 Hnanice	<b>Aspen Young Leaders Program</b>	The eleventh edition of the leadership program for emerging Central-European leaders from different fields focused on values-based leadership. The participants are challenged to explore their core values and engage in dialogue about complex issues critical for society's development.
March 28 Prague and online	<b>NATO's Evolving Role in Global Stability</b>	Public outreach event on the occasion of strategic seminar of North Atlantic Alliance countries with the participation of NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoana and other important guests. The event was held in cooperation with the Prague Center for Transatlantic Relations and Jagello 2000 under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic.

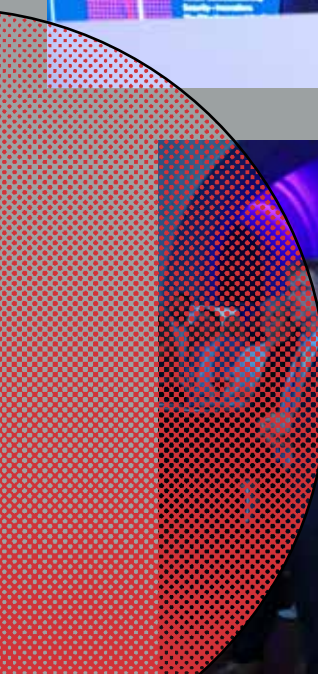


March 30 Prague and online	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	The second in a series of regular meetings of the expert group on Upskilling and Reskilling, which worked with the BCG study to formulate recommendations and strategies for eliminating the identified long-term risks on the Czech labor market, this time focused on labor force reskilling.
April 5 Prague and online	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	The third in a series of regular meetings of the expert group on Upskilling and Reskilling, which worked with the BCG study to formulate recommendations and strategies for eliminating identified long-term risks on the Czech labor market, this time focused on a detailed model of the labor market.
April 21 Warsaw	<b>Regional Alumni Network Dinner</b>	Informal network meeting of the Polish Alumni of the Aspen Young Leaders Program.
April 25 Prague and online	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	The fourth in a series of regular meetings of the expert group on Upskilling and Reskilling, which worked with the BCG study to formulate recommendations and strategies for eliminating identified long-term risks on the Czech labor market, this time focused on retirement & maternity/parental leave.
April 28 online	<b>The Visegrad Group, a Collateral Victim of the War in Ukraine?</b>	Public debate with Jacques Rupnik on the topic of the Visegrad 4 countries in the context of the war in Ukraine, organized in cooperation with Aspen Institute France.
May 2 Prague and online	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	The fifth in a series of regular meetings of the expert group on Upskilling and Reskilling, which worked with the BCG study to formulate recommendations and strategies for eliminating identified long-term risks on the Czech labor market, this time focused on productivity.
May 9 online	<b>Russia-Ukraine War: Will It Change the World?</b>	Public debate held in the series Ukraine's Defense of Freedom organized under the auspices and in cooperation with Aspen Institute Kyiv reacting to the current geopolitical situation in Ukraine.
May 17 Prague and online	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	The sixth meeting of the expert group on Upskilling and Reskilling, which worked with the BCG study to formulate recommendations and strategies for eliminating identified long-term risks on the Czech labor market, this time providing an overall review.
May 24 Prague	<b>Society 4.0: The Future of Green Deal for Europe</b>	Public debate held in the series Society 4.0 organized in cooperation with Opero, ABRA Software and Neuron Endowment Fund on the topic of the new Czech position on energy and the Green Deal in reaction to the new geopolitical situation and in relation to the upcoming Czech Presidency in the Council of the EU.
May 30 Zlín and online	<b>How to Improve Communication in Schools?</b>	Public debate organized on the occasion of the 62nd Zlín Film Festival for Children and Youth in the block Děti bez hranic; (Children without borders;) focused on effective communication between the statutory authorities, school principals and teachers not only in crisis situations.
May 31 Prague	<b>Dialog on Digital Economy in Czechia: Cybersecurity</b>	The first in a series of educational closed workshops with the aim of formulating the needs of the digital economy businesses from the civil service to further develop and optimize processes related to the state, which focused on cybersecurity.
June 3-5 Bořetice	<b>Alumni Network Meeting</b>	Informal network meeting of the Alumni of the Aspen Young Leaders Program.
June 15 Prague	<b>Aspen Institute Central Europe's 10th Anniversary</b>	Event organized on the occasion of the Institute's anniversary.

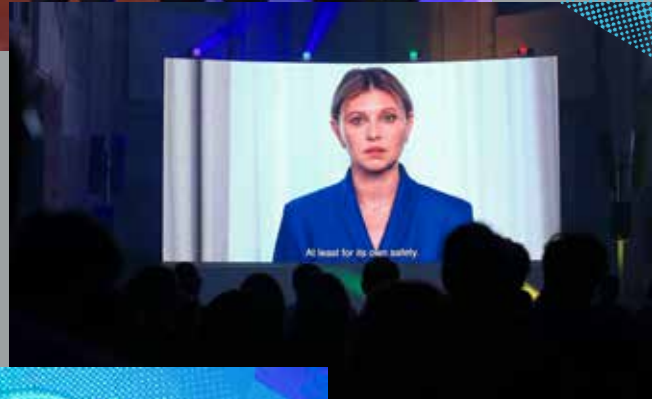


July 20 online	<b>Ukraine-EU: Closer Look</b>	Public debate held in the series Ukraine's Defense of Freedom, organized under the auspices and in cooperation with Aspen Institute Kyiv, discussing Ukraine's candidacy in the EU.
August 24 Prague	<b>Upskilling &amp; Reskilling: expert group</b>	Press conference held to introduce the expert study The Future of the Labor Market prepared in cooperation with BCG and consultation of the expert group and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic.
September 14 Prague and online	<b>FutureEdu: The Future of Education in the Digital Age 2</b>	Expert conference that aimed to discuss modern technologies in education. The event followed up on the 2021 conference and was again organized in cooperation with Opero and the Prague Institute of Innovation.
September 29 – October 1 Liblice	<b>Socrates Seminar: The Next Wave of Tech Innovation</b>	The Socrates Seminar for experienced leaders from various fields, based on a reading and interpretation of professional texts, was led by experienced moderators who accompanied participants in discussions on current topics, values and their anchoring in today's world. The topic of the seminar was technology and innovation.
October 4 Prague	<b>Dialog on Digital Economy in Czechia: E-commerce</b>	The second in a series of educational closed workshops with the aim of formulating the needs of the digital economy businesses from the civil service to further develop and optimize processes related to state, this time focused on e-commerce.
October 9-12 Tále	<b>Aspen Young Leaders Program</b>	The twelfth edition of the leadership program for emerging Central-European leaders was focused on values-based leadership. The participants were challenged to explore their core values and engage in dialogue about complex issues critical for society's development.
October 12 Budapest	<b>Regional Alumni Network Dinner</b>	Informal network meeting of the Hungarian Alumni of the Aspen Young Leaders Program.
November 8 Prague and online	<b>The Future of a Free Press in Central and Eastern Europe</b>	A debate on the future of independent media in Central and Eastern Europe organized for editors, reporters, academics and other professionals to assess the current situation and discuss how to ensure that citizens have access to the information they need to engage in society.
November 16 Prague	<b>Society 4.0: Quo Vadis, Democracy?</b>	Public debate held in the series Society 4.0 organized in cooperation with Opero, ABRA Software and Neuron Endowment Fund on the topic of democracy, values and the influence of new technologies on society and its organization.
November 30 Prague and online	<b>The Shape of (Central) Europe 2022</b>	The Aspen Annual Conference is organized in cooperation with the Economia Media House. It provides an overview of the political, economic and societal development of the Central European region and the Czech Republic. The discussions are based on expert studies and apart from the analysis of this region, the studies formulate recommendations addressed to political representation.
November 30 Prague	<b>Aspen Gala Dinner and Aspen CE Madeleine K. Albright Leadership Award</b>	Gala dinner organized on the occasion of the Aspen Annual Conference. The Aspen CE Madeleine K. Albright Leadership Award was bestowed for the first time on young successful professionals.
December 9 Prague and online	<b>Leadership in Action</b>	Public event exploring the experiences of select former Ministers of Foreign Affairs from across the globe and their leadership in times of crisis, who shared their insights gained on the front lines of world politics. This event was co-organized by the Aspen Ministers Forum, the Bertelsmann Foundation and Charles University.









# Support for our Activities

The Central European branch is financially independent and strives for variety in its own funding. This includes contributions from foundations, corporate and individual donations, commercial partnerships, as well as public support.

**The following companies and institutions supported the efforts of our organization by donating gifts in 2022:**

Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala  
Aspen Institute International Partners  
Bakala Capital s.r.o.  
Bloomreach SK, s.r.o.  
Česká spořitelna, a.s.  
Direct pojišťovna, a.s.  
Home Credit International a.s.  
ŠKODA AUTO a.s.  
T-Mobile Czech Republic a.s.  
The Boston Consulting Group, s.r.o.  
VIGO Investments a.s.

**The Institute received donations from the following individual donors in 2022:**

Jan Barta  
David Holý  
Uršula Králová  
Dušan Šenkypl

**The companies and institutions who supported us are listed below:**

**1) Corporate partnerships:**

ABB s.r.o.  
AT&T Global Network Services Czech Republic s.r.o.  
E.ON Energie, a.s.  
Google Czech Republic, s.r.o.  
Microsoft s.r.o.

**2) Grants, institutional, in-kind support or cooperation on projects:**

Avast Foundation  
Bubeník Partners  
Česká televize  
Český rozhlas  
Economia, a.s.  
McKinsey & Company  
The Boston Consulting Group, s.r.o.

In 2022, the company's total revenues amounted to CZK 16.731 ths. and total expenses to CZK 18.805 ths. The types of income and expenses arising from such income and expenditure are shown in the profit and loss account.



# Organizational bodies

## Board of Directors

Pavel Řehák	President of Aspen Institute Central Europe, Chair of the Board at Direct pojišťovna, a.s.
Endre Ascsillán	Vice-President, GE Hungary ( <i>until July 2022</i> )
Jan Farský	Vice-Chair of the STAN party
Dita Charanzová	Vice-Chair of the European Parliament
Uršula Králová	Chief People Officer, Bloomreach
Tatána le Moigne	Country Director, Google Czechia, Hungary, Romania & Slovakia
Marek Procházka	Founding Partner, PRK Partners, attorneys at law
Tomáš Salomon	CEO and Chairman of the Board, Česká spořitelna
Tanja Vainio	Country President Switzerland, Schneider Electric
Tomasz Wardyński	Founding Partner, Wardyński & Partners
Martin Zák拉斯ník	Member of the Board, German-Czech Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Michael Žantovský	Director, Václav Havel Library ( <i>Honorary Member of the Board</i> )

## Supervisory Board

Ivan Hodáč	Chair of the Supervisory Board, Aspen Institute Central Europe ( <i>from February 2022</i> )
Michaela Bakala	Entrepreneur and Philanthropist
Zdeněk Tůma	Chair of the Supervisory Board of ČSOB, a.s.

## Founders

Ivan Hodáč	Chair of the Supervisory Board, Aspen Institute Central Europe
Pavel Řehák	Chair of the Board at Direct pojišťovna, a.s.

## Executive Team

Milan Vašina	Executive Director
Josef Müller	Deputy Executive Director ( <i>from September 2022, parental leave</i> )
Kateřina Polanská	Program Manager ( <i>until to July 2022</i> ), Deputy Executive Director ( <i>from July 2022</i> )
Pavla Losová	Program Manager
Kristýna Omelková	Program Manager
Tomáš Fridrich	Program Manager ( <i>from October 2022</i> )
Jitka Rašková	PR and Communications Manager
Milana Semenova	Office Manager

# Financial statements

(in CZK thousand)

## Balance sheet

Assets	Account	Row No.	Accounting period	
			Balance at the first day	Balance at the last day
<b>A. Fixed assets</b>	<b>A.I.+...+A.IV.</b>	<b>001</b>	<b>+41</b>	<b>+10</b>
A. I. Fixed assets total	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+185	+185
A. I. 1. Research and development	012	003	-	-
2. Software	013	004	-	-
3. Valuable rights	014	005	-	-
4. Low-value intangible fixed assets	018	006	-	-
5. Other intangibles	019	007	+185	+185
6. Intangible assets under construction	041	008	-	-
7. Advances for intangible fixed assets	051	009	-	-
A. II. Tangible fixed assets total	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	010	-	-
A. II. 1. Land	031	011	-	-
2. Artworks and collections	032	012	-	-
3. Buildings and structures	021	013	-	-
4. Movable assets and their sets	022	014	-	-
5. Orchards and vineyards	025	015	-	-
6. Livestock (herd and draught animals)	026	016	-	-
7. Low-value fixed assets	028	017	-	-
8. Other tangible fixed assets	029	018	-	-
9. Tangible fixed assets under construction	042	019	-	-
10. Advances for tangible fixed assets	052	020	-	-
A. III. Long-term financial assets total	A.III.1+...+A.III.x	021	-	-
A. III. 1. Investments in subsidiaries	061	022	-	-
2. Investments in associates	062	023	-	-
3. Bonds, debentures and similar securities held until maturity	063	024	-	-
4. Loans to organisational units	066	025	-	-
5. Other long-term loans	067	026	-	-
6. Other long-term financial assets	069	027	-	-
A. IV. Accumulated depreciations of long term property total	A.IV.1+...+A.IV.x	028	-144	-175
A. IV. 1. Depreciations to immaterial results of science survey	072	029	-	-
2. Accumulated depreciations of software	073	030	-	-
3. Accumulated depreciations of valuable rights	074	031	-	-
4. Accumulated depreciations of long-term immaterial property	078	032	-	-
5. Accumulated depreciations of other long-term property	079	033	-144	-175



6.	Accumulated depreciations of buildings	081	034	-	-
7.	Accumulated depreciations of movable assets and sets of movable assets	082	035	-	-
8.	Accumulated depreciations of cultivated areas	085	036	-	-
9.	Accumulated depreciations of livestock	086	037	-	-
10.	Accumulated depreciations of small long-term property	088	038	-	-
11.	Accumulated depreciations of other long-term property	089	039	-	-
<b>B. Short-term property total</b>		<b>B.I.+...+B.IV.</b>	<b>040</b>	<b>+8 776</b>	<b>+6 604</b>
B. I.	Inventory	B.I.1+... +B.I.x	041	-	-
B. I. 1.	Materials in store	112	042	-	-
2.	Materials in transit	119	043	-	-
3.	Work-in-progress	121	044	-	-
4.	Semi-finished products	122	045	-	-
5.	Finished products	123	046	-	-
6.	Livestock (herd and draught animals)	124	047	-	-
7.	Merchandise in store	132	048	-	-
8.	Merchandise in transit	139	049	-	-
9.	Advance payments for inventory	314	050	-	-
B. II.	Receivables total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x	051	+1 399	+1 343
B. II. 1.	Customers	311	052	+575	+998
2.	Bills of exchange to be collected	312	053	-	-
3.	Receivables for discounted securities	313	054	-	-
4.	Advance payments made	314 - ř. 51	055	+265	+280
5.	Other receivables	315	056	-	-
6.	Receivables from employees	335	057	-	-
7.	Receivables from social security and health insurance institutions	336	058	-	-
8.	Income taxes	341	059	+14	-
9.	Other direct taxes	342	060	-	-
10.	Value added tax	343	061	+545	+65
11.	Other taxes and fees	345	062	-	-
12.	Subsidies receivable from state budget	346	063	-	-
13.	Subsidies receivable from self-governing local area's budgets	348	064	-	-
14.	Receivables from participants in an association	358	065	-	-
15.	Receivables from fixed-term financial transactions	373	066	-	-
16.	Receivables from issued bonds	375	067	-	-
17.	Sundry receivables	378	068	-	-
18.	Estimated receivables	388	069	-	-
19.	Depreciations to receivables	391	070	-	-
B. III.	Short-term financial assets total	B.III.1+...+B.III.x	071	+7 370	+5 253
B. III. 1.	Cash on hand	211	072	+18	+13
2.	Stamps and vouchers	213	073	+1	-
3.	Bank accounts	221	074	+7 351	+5 240
4.	Shares and similar securities for trading	251	075	-	-
5.	Bonds, debentures and similar securities for trading	253	076	-	-
6.	Other bonds, debentures and securities	256	077	-	-
7.	Cash in transit	261	078	-	-
B. IV.	Other assets total	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x	079	+7	+8

B. IV. 1.	Deferred expenses	381	080	+7	+8
2.	Accrued revenue	385	081	-	-
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>A.+B.</b>	<b>082</b>	<b>+8 817</b>	<b>+6 614</b>

Liabilities	Account	Row No.	Accounting period	
			Balance at the first day	Balance at the last day
<b>A. Own resources</b>	<b>A.I.+...+A.II.</b>	<b>001</b>	<b>+6 831</b>	<b>+5 306</b>
A. I. Equity	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+6 682	+5 306
A. I. 1. Own equity	901	003	-	-
2. Funds	911	004	+6 682	+5 306
3. Gains or losses from revaluation of assets and liabilities	921	005	-	-
A. II. Profit or loss	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	006	+149	+0
A. II. 1. Profit and loss account	+/-963	007	xxxxxxxxxxxx	+0
2. Profit or loss to be approved	+/-931	008	+149	xxxxxxxxxxxx
3. Retained earnings, accumulated losses from previous years	+/-932	009	-	-
<b>B. Not-own capital total</b>	<b>B.I.+...+B.IV.</b>	<b>010</b>	<b>+1 986</b>	<b>+1 308</b>
B. I. Reserves Total	B.I.1+...+B.I.x	011	-	-
B. I. 1. Reserves	941	012	-	-
B. II. Long - term payables total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x	013	-	-
B. II. 1. Long-term bank loans	951	014	-	-
2. Own bonds issued	953	015	-	-
3. Payables of lease	954	016	-	-
4. Long-term advances received	955	017	-	-
5. Long-term bills of exchange to be paid	958	018	-	-
6. Estimated payables	389	019	-	-
7. Other long-term payables	959	020	-	-
B. III. Short-term payables	B.III.1+...+B.III.x	021	+1 654	+942
B. III. 1. Suppliers	321	022	+924	+156
2. Bills of exchange to be paid	322	023	-	-
3. Advance payments received	324	024	-	-
4. Other payables	325	025	+25	+8
5. Employees	331	026	+309	+330
6. Other payables to employees	333	027	-	+9
7. Payables to social security and health insurance	336	028	+164	+175
8. Income taxes	341	029	-	+28
9. Other direct taxes	342	030	+45	+56
10. Value added tax	343	031	-	-
11. Other taxes and fees	345	032	-	-
12. Payables to state budget	346	033	-	-
13. Payables to self-governing local area's budgets	348	034	-	-
14. Payables for unpaid subscribed shares and participations	367	035	-	-
15. Payables to participants in association	368	036	-	-
16. Payables to fixed-term financial transactions	373	037	-	-
17. Sundry payables	379	038	-	-
18. Short-term bank loans	231	039	-	-
19. Credits for discounted securities	232	040	-	-



20.	Short-term bonds issued	241	041	-	-
21.	Own bonds issued	255	042	-	-
22.	Estimated payables	389	043	+187	+180
23.	Other short-term financial assistance	249	044	-	-
<b>B. IV.</b>	<b>Other liabilities</b>	<b>B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x</b>	<b>045</b>	<b>+332</b>	<b>+366</b>
<b>B. IV. 1.</b>	<b>Accrued expenses</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>046</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
2.	Deferred revenue	384	047	+332	+366
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		<b>A.+B.</b>	<b>048</b>	<b>+8 817</b>	<b>+6 614</b>

## Profit and loss statement

Profit and loss statement		Account	Row No.	Current period		
				Main	Business	Total
<b>A.</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>A.I.+...+A.VIII.</b>	<b>001</b>	<b>+18 392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+18 392</b>
A. I.	Consumed spendings total	A.I.1+...+A.I.x	002	+11 679	-	+11 679
A. I. 1.	Consumed materials, energy consumption, consumption of other non-inventory items	501, 502, 503	003	+300	-	+300
2.	Merchandise sold	504	004	-	-	-
3.	Repairs and maintenance	511	005	+11	-	+11
4.	Travelling expenses	512	006	+720	-	+720
5.	Representation expenses	513	007	+2 485	-	+2 485
6.	Other services	518	008	+8 163	-	+8 163
A. II.	Change in work-in-progress and activation	A.II.1+...+A.II.x	009	-	-	-
A. II. 7.	Change in work-in-progress	561, 562, 563, 564	010	-	-	-
8.	Activation of material, goods and internal services	571, 572	011	-	-	-
9.	Activation of intangibles	573, 574	012	-	-	-
A. III.	Personnel expenses total	A.III.1+...+A.III.x	013	+6 530	-	+6 530
A. III. 10.	Wages and salaries	521	014	+4 809	-	+4 809
11.	Legal social insurance	524	015	+1 585	-	+1 585
12.	Other social insurance	525	016	-	-	-
13.	Legal social security expenses	527	017	+136	-	+136
14.	Other social security expenses	528	018	-	-	-
A. IV.	Taxes total	A.IV.1+...+A.IV.x	019	+2	-	+2
A. IV. 15.	Taxes total	531, 532, 538	020	+2	-	+2
A. V.	Other expenses total	A.V.1+...+A.V.x	021	+122	-	+122
A. V. 16.	Contractual fines, interest on late payments, other fines and penalties	541, 542	022	-	-	-
17.	Write-off of receivables	543	023	-	-	-
18.	Interest expense	544	024	-	-	-
19.	Foreign exchange losses	545	025	+90	-	+90
20.	Gifts	546	026	+1	-	+1
21.	Shortages and damage	548	027	-	-	-
22.	Other expenses	549	028	+31	-	+31

A. VI.	Depreciations, sold property, additions to reserves total	A.VI.1+...+A.VI.x	029	+31	-	+31
A. VI. 23.	Depreciation expenses of intangible and tangible fixed assets	551	030	+31	-	+31
24.	Net book value of intangible and tangible fixed assets sold	552	031	-	-	-
25.	Shares and ownership interests sold	553	032	-	-	-
26.	Materials sold	554	033	-	-	-
27.	Additions to reserves and provisions	556, 559	034	-	-	-
A. VII.	Membership fees total	A.VII.1+...+A.VII.x	035	-	-	-
A. VII. 28.	Membership fees and operating contributions paid to branches	581, 582	036	-	-	-
A. VIII.	Income tax	A.VIII.1+...+A.VIII.x	037	+28	-	+28
A. VIII. 29.	Income tax	591	038	+28	-	+28
<b>EXPENSES TOTAL</b>			<b>039</b>	<b>+18 392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>+18 392</b>
<b>B. Revenues</b>			<b>040</b>	<b>+16 647</b>	<b>+1 745</b>	<b>+18 392</b>
B. I.	Operating subsidies	B.I.1+...+B.I.x	041	-	-	-
B. I. 1.	Operating subsidies	691	042	-	-	-
B. II.	Accepted contributions total	B.II.1+...+B.II.x	043	-	-	-
B. II. 2.	Received operating contributions	681	044	-	-	-
3.	Received donations	682	045	-	-	-
4.	Received membership fees	684	046	-	-	-
B. III.	Revenues from own production and goods	601, 602, 603	047	+1 713	+1 745	+3 458
B. IV.	Other revenues total	B.IV.1+...+B.IV.x	048	+14 934	-	+14 934
5.	Contractual fines, interest on late payments and other fines and penalties	641, 642	049	-	-	-
6.	Revenue from written-off receivables	643	050	-	-	-
7.	Interest income	644	051	+2	-	+2
8.	Foreign exchange gains	645	052	+33	-	+33
9.	Accounting for funds	648	053	+14 846	-	+14 846
10.	Other revenues	649	054	+53	-	+53
B. V.	Revenues from sales of assets	B.V.1+...+B.V.x	055	-	-	-
B. V. 11.	Revenues from sales of intangible and tangible fixed assets	652	056	-	-	-
12.	Revenues from sale of shares and ownership interests	653	057	-	-	-
13.	Revenues from sales of materials	654	058	-	-	-
14.	Revenues from short-term financial assets	655	059	-	-	-
15.	Revenues from long-term financial assets	657	060	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>			<b>061</b>	<b>+16 647</b>	<b>+1 745</b>	<b>+18 392</b>
C.	<b>Profit (loss) before taxation (r. 63 - 33)</b>	<b>B. - A.I.1-...-A.VII.x + C. x.</b>	<b>062</b>	<b>-1 717</b>	<b>+1 745</b>	<b>+28</b>
D.	<b>Profit (loss) after taxation</b>	<b>B. - A. + D. x.</b>	<b>063</b>	<b>-1 745</b>	<b>+1 745</b>	<b>+0</b>



# Notes to the Financial Statements

Aspen Institute Central Europe o. p. s.

Year ended December 31, 2022  
(in CZK thousand)

## 1. Characteristics and primary activities

Aspen Institute Central Europe o.p.s. (the “organization”) was founded on July 11, 2012.

The main purpose for setting up the organization is to provide the general public with a politically and ideologically neutral platform for democratic discussions about global political, economic and social issues, such as the future of European integration, energy security and promotion of equal opportunities, as well as the issues of basic human rights and respect for them, in the form of seminars, conferences, and educational, cultural and other social events. Through conferences and seminars intended for the general public, pertaining especially to civic involvement, it aims to promote the functioning and development of democratic values and an open society. It also aims to financially support the involvement of talented individuals, especially in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, excelling in their profession, be it in the humanities or the natural sciences, through international conferences, seminars and professional educational internships.

### Registered office

Aspen Institute Central Europe o.p.s.  
Palackého 740/1, Nové Město  
110 00 Prague 1  
Czech Republic

### Registration number

242 47 073

### Members of the Board of Directors as of December 31, 2022

Marek Procházka, Taťána Le Moigne, Pavel Řehák, Dita Charanzová, Jan Farský, Tomasz Wardyński, Tomáš Salomon, Tanja Vainio, Endre Ascsillan, Uršula Králová, Martin Zák拉斯ník

### Statutory body as of December 31, 2022

Milan Vašina – Executive Director

### Members of the Supervisory Board as of December 31, 2022

Michaela Bakala, Zdeněk Tůma, Ivan Hodáč

### Organization founders

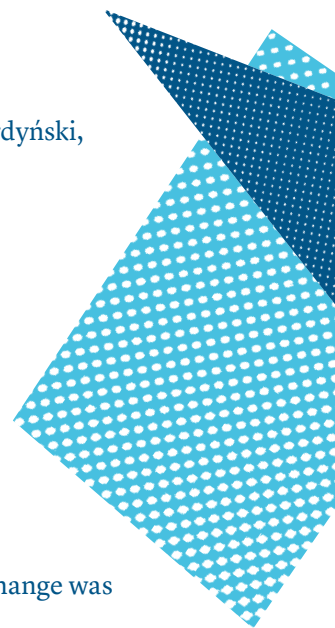
Ivan Hodáč, Pavel Řehák

### Changes in the Register of Public Benefit Companies

During 2022, the following changes in the Supervisory Board took place:

On February 1, 2022, Mr. Ivan Hodáč became a new member of the Supervisory Board. This change was registered in the Register of Non-Profit Organizations on May 17, 2022.

The ongoing conflict in Ukraine and related sanctions against the Russian Federation may have an impact on the European and world economy. The entity has no significant direct exposure to Ukraine, Russia or Belarus. However, the impact on the overall economic situation may require a revision of some assumptions and estimates.



In case that the supporters of our activities will be fundamentally affected by the overall economic situation, this may lead to a decrease of their financial contributions. At this stage, the management is not able to reliably estimate the impact as events develop from day to day. Although the specific influences of the current global situation on the organization's activities in 2022 were not so significant, due to the assumption of continuous duration of conflict, it may affect the activities of the organization in the future. However, as of the date of these financial statements, the organization continues to meet its obligations as they fall due and therefore continues to apply the going concern basis of preparation.

## **2. Basic accounting procedures used by the organization**

The organization's accounting is maintained and the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Act No. 563/1991 Coll., on Accounting, as amended, Decree No. 504/2002 Coll., which implements some provisions of Act No. 563/1991 Coll., on Accounting, for reporting entities, which are not principally engaged in doing business, if they keep the double-entry bookkeeping records, as amended, and in accordance with Czech Accounting Standards for these accounting entities, as amended.

The accounting follows generally accepted accounting principles, in particular the historical cost principle (unless stated otherwise below), the principle of material and chronological context, and the principle of prudence and the assumption of the entity's ability to continue in its activities.

The company's financial statements have been prepared as of the balance sheet date of December 31, 2022, for the accounting period from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022. The comparable period is the accounting period from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.

Financial data in these financial statements are expressed in thousands of Czech crowns (CZK), unless stated otherwise.

### **a) The method of processing the accounting records and the method and place of their storage.**

Accounting is kept externally by VGD, s.r.o. in the Byznys B6 system. Accounting documents are stored at the address of this company.

### **b) Fixed assets**

Fixed tangible and intangible assets are recorded at their acquisition price. Fixed tangible assets with the acquisition price of up to CZK 40 ths and fixed intangible assets up to CZK 60 ths are not recorded in the balance sheet and are charged to expenses in the year of acquisition. Other fixed intangible assets (webpages) are depreciated on a straight-line basis over a period of 72 months.

### **c) Foreign currency conversion**

The organization uses the Czech National Bank's daily exchange rate to convert transactions in foreign currencies. During the course of the year, the organization only accounts for realized foreign exchange gains and losses.

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are converted as of the balance sheet date according to the foreign exchange rates promulgated by the Czech National Bank. Realized foreign exchange profits and losses are recorded in the balance sheet.

### **d) Received and provided donations**

The organization accounts for funds received based on donation agreements to the Funds account from which these received funds are accounted for according to the nature of their use as follows:

- to the profit and loss account against the Utilization of Funds account up to the amount of the costs spent on various projects (cost centers) or operations in the accounting period in question;
- against the Bank account in case of the provision of funds to third-party projects that were selected as part of the organization's various projects.



### 3. Fixed assets

#### Intangible fixed assets

	Other intangible assets	Total 2022	Total 2021
<b>Acquisition price</b>			
Balance as of January 1		185	185
Additions		-	-
Disposals		-	-
Transfers		-	-
Balance as of December 31		185	185
<b>Depreciation</b>			
Balance as of January 1		144	113
Depreciations		31	31
Accumulated depreciation		-	-
Transfers		-	-
Balance as of December 31		175	144
<b>Net book value as of January 1</b>		<b>41</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Net book value as of December 31</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>41</b>

The organization owns no tangible fixed assets.

### 4. Off-balance sheet tangible and intangible fixed assets

In accordance with Note 2(b) of basic accounting procedures, the organization recorded part of its tangible and intangible assets into expenses in the year of their acquisition. The overall cumulative acquisition price of these tangible and intangible assets that are still in use is as follows:

	Balance as of December 31	2022	2021
Tangible fixed assets		-	-
Intangible fixed assets (software)		10	41
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>41</b>

### 5. Bank accounts

The funds are held in current accounts in the currency of CZK. The balance in the bank account as of December 31, 2022 amounts to CZK 5 240 ths (2021 – CZK 7 351 ths).

### 6. Receivables and payables

#### a) Receivables

Receivables total CZK 1 343 ths (2021 – CZK 1 399 ths), of which CZK 274 ths (2021 – CZK 61 ths) is overdue. These receivables had been paid by the date of the financial statements compilation. The organization does not have receivables with a due date longer than 5 years.

#### b) Payables

Short-term payables total CZK 914 ths (2021 – CZK 1 654 ths), of which CZK 6 ths (2021 – CZK 842 ths) is overdue. The organization does not have payables with a due date longer than 5 years.

### 7. Deferred expenses

Deferred expenses amount to CZK 8 ths (2021 – CZK 7 ths) and represent mainly the deferrals for domain and insurance.

## 8. Equity

	Funds	Profit / -loss of the current period	Total
<b>Balance as of January 1, 2021</b>	<b>1 176</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1 176</b>
Received donations	17 202	-	17 202
Utilization of funds	-11 696	-	-11 696
Result of 2021	-	149	149
<b>Balance as of January 1, 2022</b>	<b>6 682</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>6 831</b>
Received donations	13 321	-	13 321
Utilization of funds	-14 846	-	-14 846
Result of 2021	149	-149	-
<b>Balance as of December 31, 2022</b>	<b>5 306</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5 306</b>

### The most important donors include:

Foundation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala, Česká spořitelna, a.s., Direct pojišťovna, a.s., T-Mobile Czech Republic a.s.

*A complete list of donors is included in the annual report.*

## 9. Employees and executives

### Average numbers of employees and executives, and personnel expenses for 2022:

2022	Average number of employees	Wage expenses	Social security and health insurance expenses	Social expenses
Total employees (including the Executive Director)	6	4 809	1 585	136

### Average numbers of employees and executives, and personnel expenses 2021:

2021	Average number of employees	Wage expenses	Social security and health insurance expenses	Social expenses
Total employees (including the Executive Director)	6	4 667	1 509	137

## 10. Remuneration and loans to members of Board of Directors and Supervisory Board

During 2022 and 2021, no remuneration or loans were paid out to the members of the Board of Directors or the Supervisory Board. Nor were any contracts concluded binding the organization to pay out any benefits in the case of terminating the activities of individual members of the Board of Directors or the Supervisory Board of the organization.

## 11. Social security and health insurance payables

Social security and health insurance payables amount to CZK 175 ths (2021 – CZK 164 ths), of which CZK 122 ths (2021 – CZK 114 ths) represent social security payables and CZK 53 ths (2021 – CZK 50 ths) health insurance payables. None of these payables are overdue.

## 12. Other direct taxes

Tax payables arising from other direct taxes amount to CZK 56 ths (2021 – CZK 45 ths) and represent payables from income tax from employees in the amount of CZK 40 ths (2021 – CZK 37 ths) and payables from withholding tax in amount of CZK 16 ths (2021 – CZK 8 ths). None of these payables are overdue.

## 13. Subsidies and grants

The organization did not receive any subsidies in 2022.

## 14. Deferred revenues

Deferred revenues amount to CZK 366 ths (2021 – CZK 332 ths) and represent accrued income from promotional activities.

### 15. Information about the organization's projects

During 2022 and 2021, the organization split its activities into three main areas, namely into Leadership, Policy and Public programs.

All the projects are described in detail in the Annual Report of the organization. The list of donors is included in the report as well.

### 16. Income tax

In 2022, the organization reported a tax liability in the amount of CZK 28 ths (2021 – CZK 0 ths) from its activities subjected to corporate income tax. In the calculation of the corporate tax base, a deduction under Section 20 (7) of the Income Tax Act was used in the amount of CZK 300 ths (2021 – CZK 299 ths).

### 17. Administrative expenses

The organization's administrative expenses for 2022 amounted to CZK 3 108 ths. Their structure is as follows:

2022	Total expenses	Of which administrative expenses
Consumed purchases and services	11 679	938
Personnel expenses	6 530	2 076
Taxes and fees	2	-
Other expenses	122	35
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustments	31	31
Income Tax	28	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 392</b>	<b>3 108</b>

The organization's administrative expenses for 2021 amounted to CZK 2 802 ths. Their structure is as follows:

2021	Total expenses	Of which administrative expenses
Consumed purchases and services	7 484	651
Personnel expenses	6 313	2 074
Taxes and fees	-	-
Other expenses	89	46
Depreciation, assets sold, creation of provisions and adjustments	31	31
Income tax	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 917</b>	<b>2 802</b>

### 18. Revenues from sales of services

For the year 2022, revenues from sales of services amounted to CZK 3 458 ths (2021 – CZK 5 455 ths).

The organization classifies the part of the revenues that does not directly relate to the main activity of the organization and arises rather from the purpose of a public benefit company as economic activity.

Revenues from this economic activity amounted to CZK 1 745 ths (2021 – CZK 5 296 ths) and were derived mainly from promotional activities.

### 19. Material subsequent event

The organization's management is not aware of any events that have occurred since the balance sheet date that would have any impact on the financial statements as of December 31, 2022.

#### Date:

May 16, 2023

Signature of the statutory body or natural person that is the accounting entity:



**Milan Vašina**

Executive Director



# Independent Auditor's Report

**Deloitte.**

## **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Aspen Institute Central Europe o.p.s. (hereinafter also the “Company”) prepared on the basis of accounting regulations applicable in the Czech Republic, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2022 and the profit and loss account for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of Aspen Institute Central Europe o.p.s. as at 31 December 2022, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with accounting regulations applicable in the Czech Republic.

## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Act on Auditors and Auditing Standards of the Chamber of Auditors of the Czech Republic, which are International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), as amended by the related application guidelines. Our responsibilities under this law and regulation are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the Act on Auditors and the Code of Ethics adopted by the Chamber of Auditors of the Czech Republic and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## **Other Information in the Annual Report**

In compliance with Section 2(b) of the Act on Auditors, the other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and auditor's report thereon. The Statutory Body is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. In addition, we assess whether the other information has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with applicable law or regulation, in particular, whether the other information complies with law or regulation in terms of formal requirements and procedure for preparing the other information in the context of materiality, i.e. whether any non-compliance with these requirements could influence judgments made on the basis of the other information.

## **Based on the procedures performed, to the extent we are able to assess it, we report that:**

- The other information describing the facts that are also presented in the financial statements is, in all material respects, consistent with the financial statements; and
- The other information is prepared in compliance with applicable law or regulation.

In addition, our responsibility is to report, based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company obtained in the audit, on whether the other information contains any material misstatement of fact. Based on the procedures we have performed on the other information obtained, we have not identified any material misstatement of fact.

## **Responsibilities of the Company's Statutory Body and Supervisory Board for the Financial Statements**

The Statutory Body is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting regulations applicable in the Czech Republic and for such internal control as the Statutory Body determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Statutory Body is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Statutory Body either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. The Supervisory Board is responsible for the process of financial reporting in the Company.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

## **As part of an audit in accordance with the above law or regulation, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:**

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Statutory Body.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Statutory Body's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Statutory Body and the Supervisory Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*In Prague on 16 May 2023*

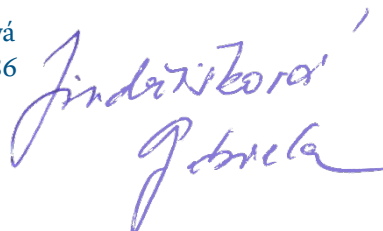
### **Audit firm:**

Deloitte Audit s.r.o.  
registration no. 079



### **Statutory auditor:**

Gabriela Jindřišková  
registration no. 2486



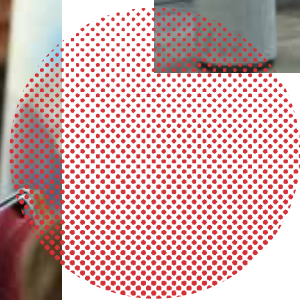
# Partners



**Individual Donors:**  
Uršula Králová  
Dušan Šenkypl  
Jan Barta  
David Holý











**Aspen Institute Central Europe o.p.s.**

Palackého 740/1  
110 00 Prague 1  
Czech Republic

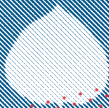
+420 222 524 747  
office@AspenInstituteCE.org  
AspenInstituteCE.org

The company is registered in the Register of Public Benefit Companies maintained by the Municipal Court in Prague, Section O, File 954. The Aspen Institute Prague changed its name to the Aspen Institute Central Europe on 27 December 2016.

ID No.: 242 47 073  
Tax ID No.: CZ 242 47 073

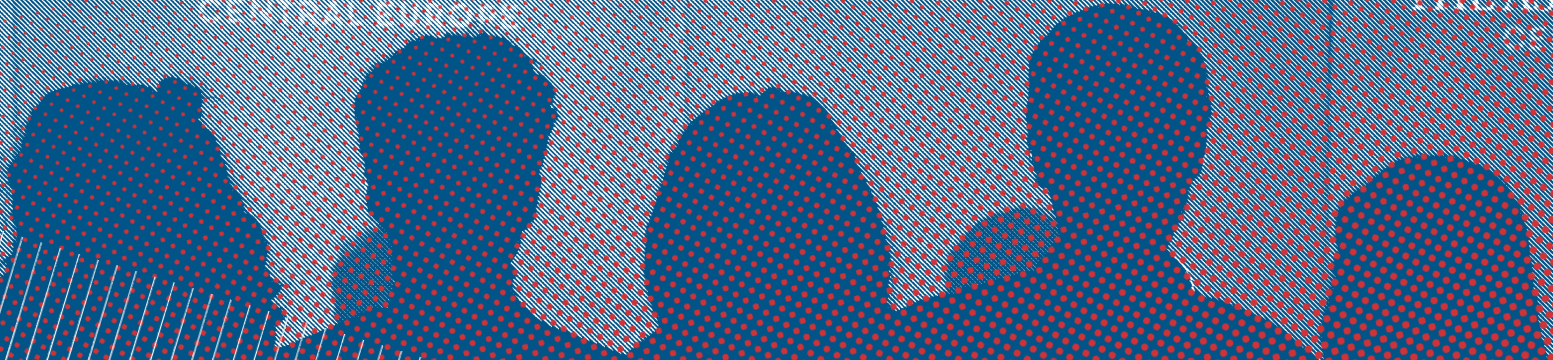






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