

**Aspen Institute Prague
Annual Conference
9–10/10/2013**

OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO GROWTH

Organized in cooperation with PRK Partners,
attorneys at law.

Held under the auspices of the Governor
of the Czech National Bank, Miroslav Singer.



ASPEN INSTITUTE
PRAGUE

P/R/K
P A R T N E R S
attorneys at law

FOREWORD

This year the Czech Republic celebrates its twentieth anniversary. The last two decades have been marked by great changes and challenges. Many political, social, economic and psychological barriers had to be overcome. At the same time, the transformation and its fundamental reforms opened the door to positive economic trends, gave rise to a number of prosperous brands and facilitated the emergence of numerous outstanding personalities, whose significance has often transcended the country's borders. The success of such individuals and companies may well not have been possible without the fundamental changes of economic structure, public administration and the political system.

The anniversary is a fitting occasion to recall achievements and highlight examples worth following. At the same time, it provides an opportunity to review the mechanisms that still need improvement, be they in public administration, the business environment or the education system.

This conference seeks to stimulate debate on the future of the Czech Republic and of the region. While its first day has a domestic focus, the second one revolves around the future of transatlantic relations. Following our 2012 conference, which debated that relationship in the midst of an economic crisis, this year's event is centered on removing the barriers to growth in the Euro-Atlantic area. The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and the US is expected to stimulate growth and support innovative technologies by tackling existing constraints to trade and economic development. But is the TTIP a sufficient measure to address today's economic obstacles on both sides of the Atlantic, given the reservations and qualifications of some of the major players? And how can the Czech Republic and Central Europe benefit from it?

Any future strategy can only be enhanced by recalling and analyzing the achievements and the failures of the past. And any reflection on the past is worthless unless its lessons are applied to addressing the opportunities and challenges of the future. We hope therefore that this event will initiate a periodic assessment of the state of play both in the Czech Republic and the Central European region. Please join us in this endeavor.

Michael Žantovský
President
Aspen Institute Prague

Radek Špicar
Executive Director
Aspen Institute Prague

Marek Procházka
Partner
PRK Partners

DAY 1
OCTOBER 9, 2013

FIRST DAY SESSION

**20 YEARS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC:
THE KEYS TO SUCCESS AND THE ROOT CAUSES OF PROBLEMS**

VENUE

The Congress Centre of the Czech National Bank,
Senovážné náměstí 30, Prague 1

13.30–14.00

REGISTRATION

OPENING REMARKS

14.00–14.15

RADEK ŠPICAR / Executive Director, Aspen Institute Prague
MIROSLAV SINGER / Governor, Czech National Bank

LANGUAGE

CZECH

PANEL I

14.15–15.45

CZECH TRANSFORMATION: SUCCESSES AND SETBACKS

LANGUAGE

CZECH

PANELISTS

MICHAELA BAKALA / Chair of the Board, Fondation Zdenek
et Michaela Bakala, entrepreneur
GABRIEL EICHLER / Founder, Benson Oak Capital
MICHAL HORÁČEK / writer, lyricist
PETR PITHART / politician, political scientist
MAREK PROCHÁZKA / Partner, PRK Partners, attorneys at law

CHAIR

MICHAEL ŽANTOVSKÝ / Ambassador, President, Aspen Institute Prague

QUESTIONS

- What have been the most important economic, social and political achievements and developments of Czech society over the last twenty years? What were the biggest obstacles? What lies ahead?
- What is the DNA of success? Ideas, individual circumstances or leaders' personalities?
- How to recast individual success stories in promoting the self-confidence of the country?
- Is it possible to apply the collective experience and know-how of individuals and companies to the field of public administration?

15.45–16.15

COFFEE BREAK

DAY 1
OCTOBER 9, 2013

PANEL II
16.15–17.45

TWO DECADES OF CHANGES, WHAT'S NEXT?

LANGUAGE

CZECH / ENGLISH

PANELISTS

JIŘÍ DĚDEČEK / songwriter, poet
MARKUS DETTENHOFER / Executive Director, CEITEC
MARTIN DOKTOR / Sports Director, Czech Olympic Committee
ZBYNĚK FROLÍK / CEO, Linet Group SE
LIBUŠE ŠMUCLEROVÁ / General Director, Ringier Axel Springer CZ

CHAIR

RADEK ŠPICAR / Executive Director, Aspen Institute Prague

QUESTIONS

- What barriers need to be overcome to further develop the Czech Republic economically and socially both within Central Europe and the European Union?
- How to further support the development of individuals, companies and the country?
- Can we speak of a Czech way to success?

19.30–22.00

ASPEN ANNUAL DINNER (by special invitation only)

LANGUAGE

CZECH / ENGLISH

OPENING REMARK

MICHAEL ŽANTOVSKÝ / Ambassador, President, Aspen Institute Prague

KEYNOTES

JIŘÍ RUSNOK / Prime Minister of the Czech Republic
ELLIOT GERSON / Executive Vice-President, The Aspen Institute

CLOSING REMARK

MAREK PROCHÁZKA / Partner, PRK Partners, attorneys at law

DAY 2
OCTOBER 10, 2013

SECOND DAY SESSION

TRANSATLANTIC MARKETPLACE

VENUE

The Congress Centre of the Czech National Bank,
Senovážné náměstí 30, Prague 1

8.30–9.00

REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

PANEL I
9.00–10.45

**STRONGER IN THE GLOBALIZED WORLD – TRANSATLANTIC
PARTNERSHIP FROM THE BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE**

LANGUAGE

ENGLISH

PANELISTS

MATT BLUNT / President, American Automotive Policy Council
KAMIL ČERMÁK / President, Czech Institute of Directors
IVAN HODAČ / Founder and Member of the Board, Aspen Institute Prague
PETER STRAČÁR / CEO, General Electric Central & Eastern Europe

CHAIR

MARTIN POVEJŠIL / Ambassador, Head of the Czech Permanent
Representation to the EU

QUESTIONS

- What can the EU and US economies gain / lose from the partnership?
- Should the agreement be as comprehensive as possible or are there areas and sectors better omitted?
- How would a possible agreement affect the global economy? Can it support further global liberalization of trade?
- What are the economic implications for Central Europe? Is there a single regional perspective or do significant differences exist?

10.45–11.15

COFFEE BREAK

DAY 2
OCTOBER 10, 2013

PANEL II
11.15–13.00

TTIP: A NEW BOOST FOR THE WESTERN ECONOMIC MODEL?

LANGUAGE

ENGLISH

PANELISTS

KAREL DE GUCHT / EU Commissioner for Trade
PETER CHASE / Vice-President, US Chamber of Commerce
MALCOLM HARBOUR / Chairman, Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, European Parliament
JAN KOHOUT / Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
KOJIRO SHIOJIRI / Ambassador of Japan to the European Union

CHAIR

JIŘÍ SCHNEIDER / First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

QUESTIONS

- What would be the benefits and costs of removing trade barriers between the US and the EU?
- What are the main obstacles that need to be overcome in reaching an agreement?
- To which areas might Europeans and/or Americans be particularly sensitive?
- How does the TTIP relate to other ongoing negotiations such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the EU – Japan FTA?

13.00–13.45

BUFFET LUNCH

SPEAKERS



MICHAELA BAKALA

Michaela Bakala is a Czech manager and entrepreneur. Since 2009, she has been active in the Zdeněk Bakala Foundation as the Chair of the Board. In 2012, she became a member of the Board of Trustees of the Václav Havel Library. She also serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Swiss Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala. In the business area, she has focused on building Luxury Brand Management, a lifestyle business group that aims to become the leader in its field in the retail luxury goods market in Central Europe. She also utilized her experience from modeling, production and communications in 2004, when she established the Czech Miss competition, of which she is still the General Director. She worked as head of communication at an international business company and for one of the most important Czech political parties. She also founded her own PR agency. During her studies at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, she participated in the production of the International Film Festival in Karlovy Vary.



MATT BLUNT

Governor Matt Blunt is the President of the American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC) and the former governor of Missouri. He was elected Missouri's 54th governor in 2004. As governor, he erased a \$1.1 billion budget deficit, fostered a business climate that created over 70,000 new jobs, and increased education funding by \$1.2 billion. In 2011, Governor Blunt was appointed AAPC president, the three member companies, Chrysler, Ford and General Motors noted his leadership of one of the U.S.'s top automobile and component producing states. Prior to his election as governor, Governor Blunt served in the Missouri House of Representatives and as Missouri's Secretary of State. Governor Blunt graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1993. Upon leaving active duty in 1998, he remained in the Naval Reserve for nearly ten years and was mobilized for six months after the September 11, 2001 attacks.



KAMIL ČERMÁK

Kamil Čermák was elected President of the Czech Institute of Directors in 2010. He graduated from the University of Economics in Prague and completed his Master of Business Communication degree at Erasmus University Rotterdam. He started his career as a reporter and anchor of the main evening news on public Czech Television. From 1994–1995 he was an advisor and spokesman to the Minister of Trade and Industry of the Czech Republic, Vladimír Dlouhý. From 1996 to 2004 he worked for Czech Telecom, the last three years as Chief Sales Officer. After that he joined Czech Airlines as Vice President for sales and marketing. From 2005, he held various top management positions within the ČEZ Group in Prague as well as abroad and until 2012 he acted as the Chief Executive Officer of the Polish subsidiary of ČEZ in Warsaw. Kamil Čermák is the Executive Director of BM Management since January 2013. He also serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Economia (and acting CEO), as a Board member of the LBM Group or as a Board member of Fondation Zdenek et Michaela Bakala.

SPEAKERS



PETER CHASE

Peter Chase joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in April 2010 and became Vice-President for Europe in August 2012. Prior to joining the Chamber, he was a U.S. diplomat with more than 30 years' experience in promoting U.S. business interests abroad. He served as the Minister-Counselor for Economic Affairs in the U.S. Mission to the European Union (2007–2010) and as Director of the State Department's Office of EU Affairs (2004–2007). Other relevant assignments include two years as Director for Investment Affairs at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, as well as two years advising then Senator Bill Bradley. His earlier career was oriented toward China. Chase has a Master of International Affairs degree from Columbia University's School of International Affairs and a bachelor's degree in Chinese language and literature from the University of Washington.



KAREL DE GUCHT

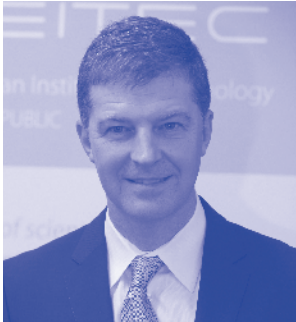
Karel De Gucht became EU Commissioner for Trade in 2010 after his tenure as Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid. He has a law degree from the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB) and from 1976 till 2001 he practiced law. In 1980, Mr. De Gucht was elected as a Member of the European Parliament and was in that office until 1994. Since 1977 he is a member of the Bureau of the PVV-Open Vld political party, from 1995 till 2003 he was a Member of the Flemish Parliament, from 2007 till 2009 Mr. De Gucht was Belgium's Minister for International Trade and he also served as the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mr. De Gucht currently lectures in European law at the VUB. Since 2002, Mr. De Gucht has the honorary title of Minister of State in Belgium.



JIRÍ DĚDEČEK

Jiří Dědeček is a popular Czech song writer, poet, text writer, translator, book writer and author of many radio and television shows. He studied library and information sciences at the Charles University and screenplay and dramaturgy at the Film University in Prague. From 1973 to 1985 he worked and performed together with Jan Burian. His work includes the 1992 novels Songs (Písničky) and Plebs' Representative (Reprezentant lůzy), articles, books for children, and an extensive discography. Jiří Dědeček is, since 2006, the President of the Czech Center of International P.E.N. He supports various movements and foundations, and was also politically involved in parliamentary elections in 2002 and 2006.

SPEAKERS



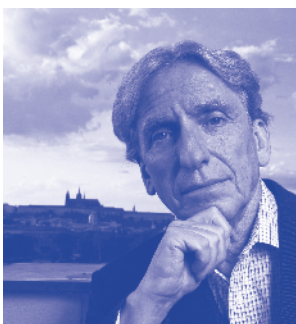
MARKUS DETTENHOFER

Markus Dettenhofer studied microbiology and immunology at the University of California at Berkley and gained his Ph.D. in molecular microbiology and immunology in 1999 at the Johns Hopkins University. In 2001–2005 he undertook post-doctoral studies at the Harvard Medical School, carrying out experimental genetic research. In 2005–2008 he worked as a scientific programme manager at the Meigen Biotechnology Corporation in Massachusetts. He participated in the first study analysing the conditions for the successful development of sustainable innovative biomedical economics in Panama and was a lecturer in genetics at the Harvard Medical School. Before joining CEITEC he ran research projects in the company Crucell (Johnson & Johnson) dealing with e.g. the discovery of antibodies and vaccines. His work has been published in a range of renowned scientific journals.



MARTIN DOKTOR

Martin Doktor is a Czech canoe sprinter and a double Olympic champion at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta (500 meters and 1000 meters races). Since 2013 Martin Doktor is the Sports Director of the Czech Olympic Committee. He won two silver medals at the 1995 Canoe Sprint World Championship both in the 500 meters and the 1000 meters races. At the 1997 Canoe Sprint World Championship he won the 500 meters race and he ended second in the 200 meters and the 1000 meters races. Between 2010 and 2012 Martin Doktor was the Head Coach of the Czech national canoe sprint team. He graduated at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport of the Charles University in 2001, five years later he received his PhD.



GABRIEL EICHLER

Gabriel Eichler is the Founder of Benson Oak, a central European investment banking and private equity boutique. He obtained university degrees in economics and international relations in the USA and Canada. He acquired his initial international banking experience at Bank of America where he was chief International Economist and earlier Regional manager in Europe. From 1994 to 1998 he was the Vice Chairman of the Board and CFO of ČEZ, the Czech energy company. Until January 2001, Gabriel Eichler was the Chairman of the Board & CEO of VSŽ, the largest steel company in Central Europe. He is the Vice Chairman of the Supervisory Board and former Executive Chairman of AVG Technologies (traded on NYSE). He was a Supervisory Board member of several large Czech and Slovak financial institutions, a member of the Board of the EastWest Institute and of the Atlantic Council of the US. In the early nineties, he advised the Czechoslovak government on economic transformation.

SPEAKERS



ZBYNĚK FROLÍK

Zbyněk Frolík graduated in cybernetics at the Czech Technical University. He worked at the Czech Academy of Sciences between 1978 and 1988, later becoming technical director of the Motol Hospital in Prague. While working at the hospital, he got the idea of starting a business in hospital equipment. LINET was founded in 1990 and has gradually grown into one of the top three global hospital and institutional care bed manufacturers. The entire holding company, LINET Group SE, currently produces more than 70 000 beds per year, sold to more than 100 countries worldwide. The group has several branches in the EU and the USA. Zbyněk Frolík and his company have been awarded many prestigious domestic and international awards including the presidential Medal for Distinguished Service, the Entrepreneur of the Year award or the European business award Ruban d'Honneur.



ELLIOT GERSON

Elliot Gerson is an executive Vice-President of the Aspen Institute, where he is responsible for the Institute's Policy Programs, its Public Programs and its relations with its international partners. He is a graduate of Harvard, Oxford and Yale Law School. He was a Rhodes Scholar and a U.S. Supreme Court clerk and has had a career including the practice of law, executive positions in state and federal government and a presidential campaign, was president of two leading insurance and healthcare companies, has executive experience in two technology start-ups, and has served on many non-profit boards, especially in the arts and humanities. Also, as American Secretary of the Rhodes Trust, he manages the U.S. Rhodes Scholarships.



MALCOLM HARBOUR

Malcolm Harbour was elected to the European Parliament in 1999, and re-elected in 2004 and 2009. The areas he follows closely as a member of the European Parliament is the EU single market, industry, science and technology policy. He is the Chairman of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee and he is a member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group. In 2010, he was voted the Internal Market MEP of the Year. In 2012 Euractiv named him the 3rd most influential Briton in EU policy. Before his election to the European Parliament, Malcolm Harbour spent 32 years in the automotive industry. He studied at Bedford School and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he got a degree in Engineering, and at the University of Aston where he gained a Diploma in Management Studies.

SPEAKERS



IVAN HODAČ

Ivan Hodač is the Founder and a member of the Board of Directors of the Aspen Institute Prague. He was the Secretary-General of the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) from 2001 until October 2013, where he represented Europe's foremost automobile manufacturers. He now works as Special Advisor to the ACEA Board of Directors. Financial Times recently listed him among the most influential personalities in the Brussels politics. Before joining ACEA, Ivan Hodač 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 & Associates, and Assistant Professor at the College of Europe, Bruges. Ivan Hodač was born in Prague, where he studied mechanical engineering. He completed his education at the University of Copenhagen (economics and political science) and the College of Europe in Bruges (European studies).



MICHAL HORÁČEK

Michal Horáček is a graduate of American Studies at Macalester College in Minnesota, USA. In 2011, he obtained his Ph.D. in Anthropology at the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University in Prague. In the 1970s he started publishing in Australia, only to continue in Great Britain and in America. His articles won him the Excellence in Journalism award in 1982. He is the author of several books including How the Ice Was Broken (Jak pukaly ledy) with Václav Havel's foreword. Michal Horáček contributed to ten music albums and received several prestigious music awards. For three years he served as the Chairman of the Board of the Czech Academy of Popular Music. He is the author and producer of Kudykam, a theatrical lyrical piece. His essays reflecting on current affairs in society have been published in Czech dailies as well as in book form.



JAN KOHOUT

Jan Kohout was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic in July 2013. After graduating from the Faculty of Arts at the Charles University he was a member of the research staff at the Institute for International Relations in Prague from 1985 to 1990. From 1990 he served in various positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1995 to 2000 he served as the Deputy Head of Czech Republic permanent mission to the UN, OSCE and other international organizations based in Vienna. From 2000 to 2001 he worked as the European correspondent and the Deputy Director of the European Union and Western Europe section. Between 2002 and 2009 he served as Deputy Minister and the permanent representative of the Czech Republic to the European Union. In 2009 he was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in the government of Prime Minister Fischer.

SPEAKERS



PETR PITHART

Petr Pithart was one of the first signatories of Charter 77. In 1989 he was among the leaders of the Civic Forum. In 1990–1992 he served as the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic (then part of Czechoslovakia). He was elected to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic in 1996 and he was re-elected twice, in 2000 and again in 2006. Between 1996 and 1998 and between 2000 and 2004 he was the Chairman of the Senate. During 1998–2000 and 2004–2012 he served as its First Deputy Chairman. Since 1990 Petr Pithart is a lecturer at the Faculty of Law of the Charles University in Prague, where he also graduated. He holds several foreign awards and the Honorary Medal of T. G. Masaryk for loyalty to his legacy.



MARTIN POVEJŠIL

Ambassador Martin Povejšil took up the post of the Czech Permanent Representative to the EU on 3 September 2012. Prior to that, he served as the Czech Ambassador to NATO since August 2009. Martin Povejšil was born in 1961. He graduated from the Palacký University in Olomouc with a doctorate in modern philology and linguistics. He joined the then Czechoslovak foreign service shortly after political changes in his country in 1990. Throughout his career, Ambassador Povejšil has held a variety of senior posts in the Czechoslovak and Czech Ministries of Foreign Affairs as well as in diplomatic missions abroad. His professional portfolio has comprised development issues and bilateral relations as well as European and security affairs and multilateral diplomacy. Ambassador Povejšil is married and has three daughters and a son. He speaks English, Spanish, German, Russian and French.



MAREK PROCHÁZKA

Marek Procházka is an attorney at law in the Czech Republic and in Switzerland and the founding partner of PRK Partners, attorneys at law. He specializes in the areas of dispute resolution, banking law, mergers and acquisitions. He obtained his degrees from universities in Switzerland and the United States. After graduating from the University of Bern, he worked in the Department of Banking Law in the university's law faculty. Afterwards, he obtained a master's degree from Georgetown University Law Center, in Washington, D.C. Recent cases involve international litigation and arbitration in various jurisdictions, regulatory advice to banks, and a number of successful mergers and acquisitions. Marek Procházka is the President of the Chamber of Commerce Switzerland – Czech Republic and he is involved in charitable activities.

SPEAKERS



JIŘÍ RUSNOK

Jiří Rusnok is the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic since June 2013. He began his career in 1984 in the department of long-term outlooks at the State Planning Commission. Later he served in the Federal Ministry for Strategic Planning as the head of the Department of Social Strategy, and he was briefly employed at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. From 1992 to 1998 he served as an adviser and the Head of the Social-Economic Department of the Czechoslovak Confederation of Trade Unions. Beginning in 1998 he held the position of the Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, and from April 2001 to July 2002 he was the Czech Minister of Finance. From July 2002 to March 2003 he served as the Czech Minister of Industry and Trade. He repeatedly served in the position of the President of the Association of Retirement Funds of the Czech Republic, and he is now a member of its Supervisory Board. He is currently the Chairman of the Board and the General Director of ING PF a.s., a retirement fund. From 2006 to 2009 he was the Chairman of the Committee for the Financial Market, an advisory body of the Czech National Bank Board. Since 2009 he has been the President of the Council for Public Supervision over Audits. He completed his studies in 1984 at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Economics in Prague.



KOJIRO SHIOJIRI

Kojiro Shiojiri was appointed as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the European Union in 2011. After graduating from the Faculty of Economy at the University of Keio Mr. Shiojiri joined the Japanese Foreign Ministry in 1973. In the 1980s he served as the Second Secretary and later as the First Secretary of the Japanese Mission to the European Community. In 1992 Mr. Shiojiri was appointed as the Director of the International Economy Division of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also served as the counselor and as a minister at the Embassy of Japan to the Republic of Korea. After completing his tenure as a Deputy Ambassador to the United States, Mr. Shiojiri was appointed as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of Indonesia.



JIŘÍ SCHNEIDER

Jiří Schneider is currently First Deputy Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic. He is also a member of the Supervisory Board of the Aspen Institute Prague. He started his political career in 1990, when he was elected to the Federal Assembly of Czechoslovakia. He held various positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs during 1993–2005 and served as Czech Ambassador to Israel during 1995–1998. In 2002 he received the International Policy Fellowship at the Central European University in Budapest. In the period 2005–2010, he was Program Director at Prague Security Studies Institute, a leading Czech security think tank. He graduated from Czech Technical University in Prague and earned a diploma from the University of Cambridge.

SPEAKERS



MIROSLAV SINGER

Miroslav Singer is the Governor of the Czech National Bank (CNB) since 1 July 2010. Mr. Singer was appointed a member of the CNB Bank Board and CNB Vice-Governor in 2005. He was previously a member of the statutory bodies of financial and industrial corporations such as Česká pojišťovna and Expandia Holding. Between 1995 and 2005, he held managerial posts in a number of companies, for example PricewaterhouseCoopers Czech Republic. From 1993, he also worked as a researcher and lecturer, and later as Deputy Director for Research, at the Economics Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and the Centre for Economic Research and Graduate Education at Charles University. After graduating from the University of Economics in Prague (1991), he obtained a postgraduate fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh, where he was awarded a Ph.D. in 1995.



PETER STRAČÁR

Peter has been the CEO for GE Global Growth and Operations in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) based in Prague since 1 January, 2013. CEE is an important growth region for GE, which today represents a \$4.0 billion market for the company. It is also a major technology, engineering and manufacturing location for GE's aviation, energy and healthcare businesses with 26'000 employees, has 18 factories, 5 technology centers and 3 banks. Prior to joining GE, Peter was President of Asia Pacific, Hilti Corporation based in Hong Kong as his last assignment of an 18-year-career there. Born in Slovakia in 1965, Peter holds a Master's Degree in Electronic Engineering & Computer Science from the Technical University of Kosice/Slovakia, and started his career at IBM Eastern Europe.



LIBUŠE ŠMUCLEROVÁ

Libuše Šmuclerová graduated from the Faculty of Journalism at Charles University in Prague. She completed her studies in 1986 and then joined Czechoslovak Television. She contributed to the creation of Studio Contact in CT and in 1993 she moved to Nova TV, where she worked until 2004. During this time she worked among others as the Program Director and the Executive Director of CET 21. Since March 2007 she has been CEO of the largest domestic multimedia publishing company Ringier Axel Springer CZ. Libuše Šmuclerová was named one of the twenty most important Czech female managers. She was twice awarded the "Woman of the year" title by the independent organization Comenius.

SPEAKERS



RADEK ŠPICAR

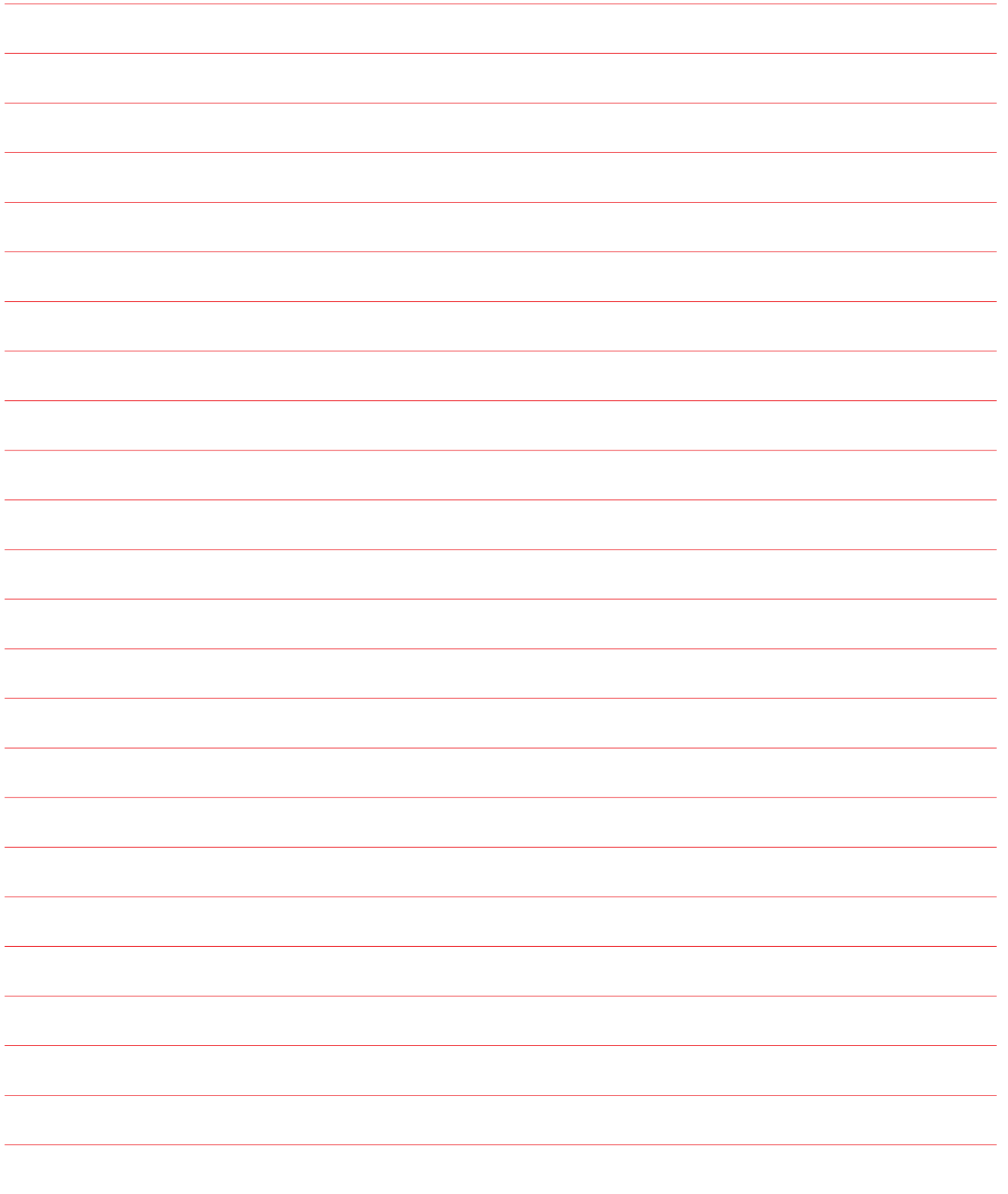
Radek Špicar is the Executive Director of the Aspen Institute Prague. He graduated from the University of Cambridge and then he spent one year as a Fulbright scholar at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. After his return to the Czech Republic, he joined the government and later became a Deputy Minister for Economic Affairs. Until recently, he worked in the Czech Republic's largest private company, Škoda Auto (Volkswagen Group), as Head of External Affairs. He serves as Vice-President of the Federation of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. He is also active in the non-profit sector and academia as a member of the Corporate Council of Václav Havel's Forum 2000 Foundation and as a lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, and at the Diplomatic Academy of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



MICHAEL ŽANTOVSKÝ

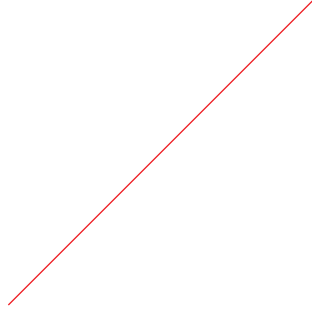
Michael Žantovský is the President of the Aspen Institute Prague. He was appointed Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United Kingdom in 2009 after serving as Ambassador to Israel during 2003–2009. Since 1980, Michael Žantovský has worked as an author and freelance translator, rendering more than 50 works of contemporary English and American fiction, poetry, drama and nonfiction. In November 1989 he was among the founding members of the Civic Forum. In January 1990 he became the Spokesman and Press Secretary for President Václav Havel. In July 1992 he was appointed Ambassador to the United States. In 1996 he was elected to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and served as the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security. He studied psychology at Charles University in Prague and McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

NOTES



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NOTES



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